



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Apache and Black Hawk Helicopters to Land on Halifax Community College Campus Grounds for Nov. 9 U.S. Military Expo

WELDON, N.C. – Halifax Community College (HCC) on Nov. 9. will host a range of impressive military assets on its campus grounds to showcase the roles and resources of military service professionals, veterans and STEM careers.

HCC has confirmed that the U.S. Army and the National Guard will be flying in both a Boeing AH-64 Apache and a Sikorsky UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter.

“As we approach Veterans Day, what better way to highlight and honor the presence and commitment of local, state and national military branches,” said Dr. Michael Elam, HCC president. “Our community, especially Roanoke Valley school kids, will have the opportunity to see these aircrafts up close and meet active-duty pilots. These pilots will be on hand to answer questions and share information about the aircraft. Such conversations may open the doors to a future of which they never dreamed.”

HCC’s U.S. Military Expo will kick off with a 9 a.m. panel discussion, in which area veterans from all U.S. military branches, except the Space Force, will share with students about their experiences in the U.S. Military and STEM careers and how these paths guided or improved their lives, their families and their communities at home and abroad.

From 10:15 a.m. – 2 p.m. on the campus lawn, students and visitors will have the opportunity to visit vendors. Different military branches are confirmed with recruiters, booths and hands-on activities for students and veterans.

The HCC and Roanoke Valley community is welcome to attend this free event. **For safety purposes, on Nov. 9 the main entrance to campus will be closed from 9 – 9:45 a.m., reopen 9:45 a.m. – 2:15 p.m. and close again 2:15 – 2:30 p.m.** The access road in the back of campus, located off of Country Club Road, will remain open for the duration of the event.

In addition to the expo, the HCC Foundation, Inc. on Nov. 13 is hosting its inaugural Veterans Gala to raise money to establish a Veterans Scholarship Fund that will benefit veterans and their descendants, including children and grandchildren. The black-tie optional event will take place 6 – 11 p.m. in the Dr. Ervin V. Griffin, Sr. Centre.

In preparation for the gala, HCC will offer community organizations and individuals the opportunity to honor area veterans with sponsorships. In addition to recognizing the event sponsors, the veterans who have been sponsored to attend the gala and those who bought tickets will be showcased in a slideshow with their name, photo, rank, military branch, and years of service. To purchase gala tickets or sponsorships, contact Kimberly Mack at 252-536-7273 or kmack219@halifaxcc.edu.

“These unique events are a testament to HCC’s pledge to promote and uphold educational, cultural, and economic progress in the Roanoke Valley,” said Elam. “This vital collaboration will further strengthen our community advocacy toward veterans and their families.”

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Halifax Community College's Mission

Halifax Community College strives to meet the diverse needs of our community by providing high-quality, accessible and affordable education and services for a rapidly changing and globally competitive marketplace.