



Fort Benning Family & MWR

THE INSIDE SCOOP

BIWEEKLY INFO

INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATION EDITION!

Fort Benning's Annual
**INDEPENDENCE
CELEBRATION**
JUNE 28 • 4-10 PM

Free
Concerts

featuring
MADDIE & TAE

special guest
ERIC PASLAY

Largest Fireworks in the Chattahoochee Valley
Food Trucks | Kids Play Zone
Military Demonstrations
www.benning.armymwr.com

Sponsored by:

FLOOR DECOR & TILE • WOOD • STONE
HEADQUARTER Nissan
TELEMYND Goodwill
FIRST COMMAND
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USAA
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**JUNE
28
2025**

FREE &
OPEN TO
THE PUBLIC!



At Fort Benning, we celebrate Independence Day a little early around here! Our annual **Independence Celebration on June 28** provides Soldiers, their families, and our surrounding community a safe environment to enjoy a free concert, children’s activities and a fantastic fireworks show!

This year’s entertainment includes country duo, **Maddie & Tae**, headlining the free concert on the *Floor & Decor Stage*, and special guest, country artist **Eric Paslay**. **Black Rhino Sound**, the electrifying Texas DJ, will kick off the evening and energize the crowd.

The event will also include a **Kids’ Zone** sponsored by *Headquarter Nissan*, aerial demonstrations by the Silver Wings and a variety of food vendors. The **Maneuver Center of Excellence Band** concludes the evening with a patriotic score choreographed to the *Russell County Commission* fireworks show.

Free & open to the public! Keep reading for all the deets!

**Sponsorship does not imply federal endorsement*

LEARN MORE 



ERIC PASLAY

Special guest **Eric Paslay** is a Platinum-selling, Grammy-nominated songwriter, artist and performer. With five number one hits, including his smash lead single “*Friday Night*,” the country artist has earned numerous songwriter award nominations including Grammy’s Best Country Song, ACM’s Song of the Year (twice) and CMA’s Song of the Year.

MADDIE & TAE

Maddie & Tae took country radio by storm in 2013 with a brilliant counter to bro-county, the Platinum-selling smash, “*Girl In A Country Song*.” Longtime friends and collaborators, Maddie & Tae bring honest songwriting and tight harmonies to the stage. In 2022, Maddie & Tae took home Group/Duo Video of the Year (“*Woman You Got*”) at the CMT Music Awards and were nominated for Duo of the Year at the 59th ACM Awards in 2024.



KIDS’ ZONE

The day will also be JAM PACKED with free fun for the whole family! Gear up for a huge inflatables area in the **Kids’ Zone** sponsored by *Headquarter Nissan*, plus face painting, crazy hair, rock climbing, tattoos, crafts, games, and more!



SILVER WINGS

One of the best parts of the day is what happens in the sky! The **Silver Wings**, Fort Benning's Command Exhibition Parachute Team, will make a freefall parachute demonstration around **8 p.m.**



FIREWORKS!

You don't want to miss this show at **10 p.m.!** The Maneuver Center of Excellence Band concludes the evening with a patriotic score choreographed to an incredible fireworks show, *sponsored by the Russell County Commission.*

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

We encourage you to bring your friends and family to the Independence Celebration, but keep in mind that gate access on the 28th will require 100% ID check. Please share with non-cardholding guests planning to drive themselves that they can plan ahead and get [pre-vetted online](#) and pick up their visitor pass at the Visitor Center at Plumley Gate on I-185 until midnight on June 27. Those who do not get pre-vetted must use Grange Gate just past the National Infantry Museum or the Childers Gate off of AL-165 on the 28th. *Be prepared for random vehicle searches.*

GATE ACCESS PROCEDURES



NO TOKENS, SAY WHAT?!

FOOD & BEVERAGE PURCHASES

Okay, y'all. If you have attended a Fort Benning MWR event, you know that we typically use tokens as a form of payment. Well, **this year's event we will NOT be using MWR tokens for food and beverage purchases. Cash & card accepted.**

**Token refunds WILL be available on York Field for anyone with unused tokens from past MWR events.*



PARKING

Parking will be available in designated areas around McGinnis-Wickam Hall (Building 4), Smith Fitness Center (Building 2874), Meloy Hall (Building 6), and near designated ranges along Ralph Puckett Parkway.



PROHIBITED ITEMS:

Glass Items, Firearms, Grills, Frisbees, Video Recording, Professional Photography & Pets (service animals permitted)



KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Make sure you come prepared!

- No guns, knives, or weapons of any kind are allowed. No professional cameras. No frisbees. For security reasons, please be prepared for random security checks.
- No pets allowed. Service dogs are permitted.
- Coolers are permitted. No glass, alcohol or grills.
- Small canopies / tents in designated areas only.
- Smoking allowed in designated areas only.

OWN YOUR LIMITS

Your safety matters!

If you're planning to consume adult beverages at this year's Independence Celebration, please remember to drink responsibly. Don't drink and drive, call a cab.

706-322-1616

THE OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE DRINKING CAMPAIGN OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE



SERVE HONORABLY. DRINK RESPONSIBLY.

*Wristbands are required to consume alcohol. View the event layout above for wristband locations.

DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE, CALL A CAB!
Call 706-322-1616 or scan QR code.



THANK YOU

to our sponsors

sponsorship does not imply endorsement



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Worth a mention...

ACS is turning 60 on July 25, and you're invited to join the celebration! Mark your calendars for Friday, July 25, from 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at the Breezeway Pool for a splash-tastic party filled with exciting games, food, and prizes!

LEARN MORE 

BONUS: The Library's Summer Reading Program is hosting their end-of-summer foam party at the same place / same time! Both free to attend.

LEARN MORE 

SEE YOU NEXT TIME!

Find all the deets you need for the 2025 Independence Celebration, from the schedule of events to facility closures, at benning.armymwr.com/independence-celebration

#BENNINGMWR
#EXPLOREFORTBENNING
#ADVENTURESATBENNING

EXPLORE MORE DEALS



BOWLING



DINING



**TICKETS &
TRAVEL**



**OUTDOOR
RECREATION**

Forward the fun to your friends! [Sign up for email updates from Fort Benning MWR!](#)
We hate to see you go, but we know the drill. [Click here to unsubscribe.](#)

