



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY AT THE ANTHEM VETERANS MEMORIAL HONORS THE FALLEN

Anthem, Ariz. – The Anthem Community Council invites the public to attend the annual Memorial Day Ceremony at 9 a.m. Monday, May 29, at the Anthem Veterans Memorial. “A Day of Remembrance” honors the service and sacrifice of veterans who have fallen while serving our nation.

This year’s ceremony will mark a change of time for this annual event. Due to the trend of high temperatures at the end of May, the ceremony will now take place at 9 a.m., rather than the previous 10 a.m.

Highlights of the ceremony:

- Lt. Col. David Clukey, United States Army Special Forces, will present the keynote address. Lt. Col. Clukey conducted eleven overseas deployments including seven combat tours, six to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. His previous assignment was as a Deputy Chief of Current Operations at Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC). He currently serves as the commander of the Phoenix Army Recruiting Battalion in Anthem, which opened in December.
- Lt. Col. John Simmons, United States Air Force (Retired), will serve as Master of Ceremonies. Lt Col. Simmons is the Commander of the Sandra Day O’Connor Jr. Air Force ROTC, and his cadets will also participate in the ceremony. He was a F-15E Instructor Weapons Systems Officer, and commanded the 12th Combat Training Squadron in Ft. Irwin, CA. He also served at the Pentagon as Chief Fighter Assignments, Air Force Colonel’s Office for three years.

- ProMusica Arizona, under the direction of Patti Graetz, Assistant Chorale Conductor, will provide ceremony music, including “Taps,” which will close the ceremony with a moment of silence.

The ceremony is expected to run approximately 45 minutes. Seating and parking are limited; attendees are encouraged to arrive early and bring lawn chairs. The Anthem Veterans Memorial is located at Anthem Community Park, 41703 N. Gavilan Peak Pkwy.

For more information about the Memorial, visit OnlineAtAnthem.com/AVM.

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Note to editors: As previously released March 17, Col. Tom Kirk was slated to present the POW/MIA ceremony. Unfortunately, Col. Kirk will not be able to attend. Thank you.

About the Anthem Veterans Memorial

The award-winning Anthem Veterans Memorial (AVM), a project of the Anthem Community Council (ACC), is located in Anthem Community Park. The Memorial was dedicated Nov. 11, 2011, and received Arizona Historic Landmark status six months later. Fundraising efforts and the sale pavers in the Circle of Honor continue. To donate or to learn more about the Memorial, visit OnlineAtAnthem.com/AVM.