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**ANTHEM VETERANS MEMORIAL RAISES \$193,000
Committee Seeks \$25,000 to Offset Costs**

Anthem, Ariz. (December 30, 2011) - The Anthem Community Council announced today the Anthem Veterans Memorial Planning has raised over \$193,000 to date and is looking for the final \$25,000 to offset the build costs and establish a maintenance fund.

The Committee used various fundraising means which included: the sale of commemorative veteran pavers; family, business and organization pavers; bench and Armed Forces seal sponsorships; Friend of the Memorial (donations over \$500); and, corporate sponsorship programs.

Tells Liz Turner, Memorial Marketing and Communication chair/volunteer, "We are grateful to the many veterans, families, local businesses, organizations and corporate sponsors who assisted in financing this project. We are looking for a few more corporations or individuals who are able to assist us in fully funding the project."

The Veterans Memorial, under the Anthem Way Foundation, was granted 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt status in May 2011. All donations, minus paver costs, are tax deductible.

A highlight of the Memorial occurs at precisely 11:11 a.m. every Veterans Day, November 11, when the sun's rays pass through elliptical openings in the Memorial's five pillars and perfectly illuminate a mosaic of The Great Seal of the United States. The marble-covered pillars of diminishing sizes represent the five branches of the Armed Forces. The pillars and Great Seal are set in an honor circle of brick pavers engraved with the names of nearly 900 Veterans. There is room for another 1200 veteran pavers in this area.

The Veterans Memorial Planning Committee was composed of Anthem residents who donated their time over the past two and a half years to the project. The Memorial was designed by Anthem resident and volunteer Renee Palmer-Jones. Chief engineer for the project, Jim Martin, also is an Anthem resident and volunteer. The Memorial was constructed by Haydon Building Corp who donated materials and assumed no profit from the project.

"It is our hope the Veterans Memorial in Anthem will honor veterans in a way that touches the hearts of every citizen who visits it," says Ron Tucker. "We are all so proud to see someone visiting this Memorial daily since the dedication ceremony. It was an honor to serve our country, and it was a great privilege to have worked on this project," adds Tucker.

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The Memorial Planning Committee is the process of transitioning its responsibilities to the Anthem Community Council staff. The Anthem Community Council designated space in the Anthem Community Park for the Memorial and provided up-front funding of the project. It assumed responsibility for the maintenance, as well.

To purchase pavers or donate to the project, go to www.OnlineAtAnthem.com, click on Veterans Memorial, click on Purchase Pavers/Donate. For additional information on corporate sponsorships or donations, email: elizabethturnerus@yahoo.com.

Photo Caption: Sun's rays pass through ellipses of five Armed Forces columns.

Photo credit: Mike Spinelli

Anthem

Anthem is a master-planned community located in Maricopa County, Arizona. The Anthem Community Council, Inc. serves as a unifying entity for the Anthem development. The mission of the Anthem Community Council, Inc. is to make Anthem the most desirable community in which to live, play, work and do business.

About the Anthem Veterans Memorial

The Anthem Veterans Memorial, a project of the Anthem Community Council, will be constructed in the Anthem Community Park. The Memorial was dedicated November 11, 2011. The five pillars, symbolizing the five branches of the Armed Forces, are designed with elliptical openings. At 11:11 a.m. on every Veterans Day, the sun will pass through the openings to illuminate a mosaic of The Great Seal of the United States. Donations and paver sales offset the costs associated with the Memorial.

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