

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 25, 2021

City of Menifee Celebrates Memorial Day with Remembrance Ceremony and 5K

Menifee, CA— It is with great pride that the City of Menifee hosts its yearly Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony and 5K. Both events are held to honor those who have lost their lives in active military service.

The Memorial Day 5K will be held virtually this year and residents are still encouraged to register and run, but no official race will be held. Instead, the City shared 5K running routes at La Ladera Park, Audie Murphy Ranch Sports Park, and along the Salt Creek Trail. Residents who register by Friday, May 28 will receive a race bib, finisher medal, and an official race t-shirt. Race packages can be picked up at 29995 Evans Road, Menifee, CA 92586 from May 24 – May 28, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. After the race residents are encouraged to post a photo and tag City of Menifee on our social media channels (<u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, and <u>Twitter</u>) for a chance to be featured on our social media.

An important Menifee tradition, the Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony, begins at 10 a.m. on Memorial Day and will feature special presentations from the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)_and Menifee Police Department Chief of Police, Pat Walsh. There will also be a remembrance message, wreath laying, and words from honored elected officials.

Michael Cano, Commander of Menifee VFW Post 1956, emphasized, "Memorial Day is not just about barbeques and family gatherings, it's a day we pause to reflect and solemnly remember those brave heroes who gave their lives for this great country to protect the freedom we cherish today."

Army Sergeant John C. Barcellano, who was killed on July 10, 2017 while serving in Operation Enduring Freedom, will be honored and remembered during the ceremony. His mother, Lisa Weidmann, shared an important message with the community. "Memorial Day is a day to truly reflect upon the sacrifices made by those in our military; but do not only remember those who gave their lives in service to country, but the families of those who they left behind...EVERY day is Memorial Day for them."

The ceremony will be held at Wheatfield Park (30627 Menifee Road, Menifee, CA 92584) where the Menifee Veterans Memorial is located. The memorial serves as a lasting tribute to past, present, and future veterans of the Unites States. It is a place for family and community members to gather in remembrance of the lives who have been lost in pursuit of freedom.

The City of Menifee feels honored and humbled to hold such an important event, knowing the impact members of the US Military have on the Menifee community.

Pre-registration is required in order to attend the ceremony in person, as there will be assigned seating at Wheatfield Park. Local, county, and state guidelines will be observed. To register for either the Memorial Day 5K and the Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony or to find out more about the events, please visit www.cityofmenifee.us/register.



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ABOUT MENIFEE: Situated in the heart of southern Riverside County along Interstate 215, Menifee is a vibrant, new city of more than 100,000 residents who enjoy a pleasant year-round climate, abundant recreational offerings, reasonably priced housing, and convenient proximity to some of Southern California's premiere attractions and employment centers. Within its 50 square miles, Menifee's business, retail, and entertainment outlets are starting to shape the community's character and this growing economic base is also contributing favorably to the city's strong financial position. Menifee's growing family-oriented population values the city's ongoing commitment to public safety, community events, and smart growth for the future. All of these elements are working together to support the city's strategic vision to make Menifee one of the state's most promising new cities.