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CITY OF PALMDALE *NEWS RELEASE*

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24 Hour Access to Mobile Vietnam Veterans Memorial for the Antelope Valley
Begins Friday at the Palmdale Amphitheater

PALMDALE – The *Mobile Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall for the Antelope Valley* (AV Wall) will be on display from Friday, Nov. 6 at 1 pm through Thursday, Nov. 12 at 8 am at the Palmdale Amphitheater, 2723 Rancho Vista Boulevard in Palmdale. Admission is free.

Hosted by the City of Palmdale and Point Man Antelope Valley, the AV Wall will be open to the public 24 hours a day while it is on display. This year's theme is "Women of the Vietnam War," and ceremonies will include female veteran speakers, performers and other participants.

An official opening ceremony will be held on Friday, Nov. 6 at 6 pm. Taps will be played nightly at 10 pm.

On Saturday, Nov. 7 at 9 pm, there will be a Candlelight Memorial Walk to honor the eight American military women who died while serving in the Vietnam War and the 76 soldiers from the Antelope Valley - AV 76 - whose names are inscribed on the Wall.

Then on Veterans Day, Wednesday, Nov. 11 at 11 am, the annual Veterans Day service co-hosted by the Antelope Valley Service Organization (AVSOA) and the AV Wall organization will take place. Taking part in the ceremony will be emcee Bobby Breech of the AVSOA, Highland High School AFJROTC as Color Guard, The Sunday

Night Singers and members of the Palmdale High School Chamber Singers performing the National Anthem, Bruce Robertson reciting the poem "Freedom's Wall," George Palermo presenting "What is Veterans Day," and a recognition of all veterans in attendance during a performance of the "Armed Forces Medley."

The viewing of the AV Wall will end on Thursday, Nov. 12 at 8 am.

For more information, please call 661/524-6408, or visit www.avwall.org.

ABOUT THE AV WALL

The AV Wall is one of the rarest home-grown memorials of its kind in the nation and represents the Antelope Valley's commitment to the men and women who served their country. The AV Wall was designed and fabricated by Signs and Designs, Inc. of Palmdale.

The six day display is staffed completely by volunteers, Veterans, local service organizations and others. The volunteers attend an in-depth training so they can provide visitors with the best possible experience during their visit to the wall. Volunteers help look up names in the computer database, assist in locating the names on the wall, and provide information about the wall design and layout.

The AV Wall is one of the rarest home-grown memorials of its kind in the nation and represents the Antelope Valley's commitment to the men and women who served their country. The AV Wall was designed and fabricated by Signs and Designs, Inc. of Palmdale. From 2005 through 2009, over \$100,000 was raised locally to build the wall. It was dedicated at a ceremony at Joe Davies Heritage Airpark at Palmdale Plant 42 on Nov. 13, 2009.

The AV Wall has been visited by thousands of men, women and children since its dedication and has provided education, healing and a gathering place for Vietnam Veterans to mourn and remember. A visit to the AV Wall offers a chance to show respect and honor those who lost their lives in Vietnam.

For more information, please call 661/524-6408, or visit www.avwall.org

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