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CITY OF PALMDALE *NEWS RELEASE*

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Opening Ceremony for Mobile Vietnam Veterans Memorial Display at Palmdale Amphitheater Slated for Friday

PALMDALE – An opening ceremony to commemorate the 5th Anniversary Display of the *Mobile Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall for the Antelope Valley (AV Wall)* will be held on Friday, Nov. 7 at 6 pm at the Palmdale Amphitheater, 2723 Rancho Vista Boulevard in Palmdale.

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 from Thursday, Nov. 6 at 1 pm through Tuesday, Nov. 11 at 11 pm. Taps will be played nightly at 10 pm.

On Saturday, Nov. 8 at 9 pm, there will be a Candlelight Memorial Walk to honor the “AV 76,” the 76 men of the Antelope Valley killed during the Vietnam War.

Then on Veterans Day, Tuesday, Nov. 11 at 11 am, the Antelope Valley Service Organization Association will host its annual Veterans Day Ceremony. Led by emcee Bobby Breech, the ceremony will feature remarks from Palmdale Mayor Jim Ledford, Highland High School Travel Ensemble will sing “God Bless America” and the “National Anthem”, Blue Eagles Honor Guard will do the Raising of the Colors, Highland High School Air Force JROTC will do the “Table of Honor Ceremony” and Viola Lawrence with the Daughters of the American Revolution will read “What is a Vet?”

The Veterans Day Ceremony is free and open to the public. The AVSOA comprises more than 30 area service clubs and encourages the community to participate in their events.

The viewing of the AV Wall will end on Nov. 11 at 11 pm.

The AV Wall is one of only two mobile walls that are engraved and the only one laid out in the same design as the original in Washington, D.C. measuring approximately 250 feet long and 6 feet high at the apex, it contains the engraved names of all the 58,299. Vietnam veterans killed in action and missing in action.

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. Point Man Antelope Valley, the guardians of the AV Wall have a dedicated committee to oversee all aspects of the AV Wall.

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

- 30 -

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