

LANCASTER CEMETERY DISTRICT
“Serving the Antelope Valley community for over 100 years”
111 E. Lancaster Blvd., Lancaster, CA 93535
Telephone and FAX 661.942.6110
E-mail: lancastercem@verizon.net

Trustees:

Norman L. Hickling, Chair
Dave Owens
Bruce Macpherson
Richard Cook

Manager:

Dayle DeBry

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Dayle DeBry

FRIENDS OF THE LANCASTER CEMETERY
SUPPORT THE WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA PROJECT

The non-profit organization Friends of the Lancaster Cemetery has teamed up with Wreaths Across America as part of a nationwide remembrance ceremony to take place at Lancaster Cemetery on December 12, 2009. “We are proud and honored to be participating in this national event to pay tribute to our veterans,” said Norm Hickling, chairman, Lancaster Cemetery Board of Trustees.

The goal of Wreaths Across America is to see every grave in the country covered to honor every veteran during the holidays. Individuals or businesses may sponsor a fresh balsam wreath for only \$15. The Wreaths Across America story began over 15 years ago when Worcester Wreath Company (a for-profit commercial business from Harrington, Maine) began a tradition of placing wreaths on the headstones of our Nation's fallen heroes at Arlington National Cemetery during the holidays. Over that period of time, Worcester Wreath has donated 90,000 wreaths which were placed by volunteers in a wreath-laying ceremony each December. But as word spread, the mission to Remember; Honor; and Teach about the sacrifices made by our veterans has captured the hearts and minds of many communities across the country.

With over 600 veterans interred at Lancaster Cemetery District, cemetery manager Dayle DeBry thought this would be a perfect way to honor them. “If you have ever been to Arlington National Cemetery in the winter time you will see row after row of headstones adorned with beautiful green wreaths with large red bows against the white snow. With help from Friends of the Lancaster Cemetery and the local community our goal is to provide over 600 wreaths to adorn every veteran’s grave at Lancaster Cemetery.”

“Ceremonial wreaths will be placed on Saturday, December 12th to remember those who served our country, to honor their sacrifices, and to teach our younger generations about the high price of our freedom,” said Bob Alvis, president, Friends of the Lancaster Cemetery.

From now through November 25th people may honor and pay tribute to local veterans. Anyone may sponsor a wreath for \$15 by stopping by Lancaster Cemetery and filling out a sponsorship form at the cemetery office. Businesses are welcome to sponsor 10 wreaths for \$150. Wreaths may also be sponsored online at www.wreathscrossamerica.com. Sponsors must enter the location ID **CALCDL** for Lancaster Cemetery District and the group ID number **CAFLC001** for Friends of the Lancaster Cemetery. For further details please contact Dayle DeBry at 661.942.6110.

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