

PRESS RELEASE

Salisbury National Cemetery Annex – Wreaths Across America™ event to honor veterans is taking place in Salisbury NC on December 10, 2011.

The Patriot Guard of NC has volunteered to conduct the Wreaths Across America ceremony again this year at the Salisbury NC National Cemetery Annex (directly behind the VA Hospital) at 501 Statesville Blvd on Saturday December 10th, starting at 12:00 noon. The ceremony will place wreaths to remember those that have served in the Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines and POW/MIA's to honor their sacrifices and teach our children about the high cost of freedom. This ceremony will be conducted simultaneously at over 600 participating locations around the world.

Many civic groups have and will play important roles in the ceremony. The Crossed Rifles Motorcycle Club of Harrisburg NC has done fundraising activities throughout the year to fund the record number of wreaths to be placed on the veterans gravesites. The Triad Blue Star Mothers and the Iredell County Composite Squadron CAP also have contributed to raising wreath sponsorships and will assist in placing the ceremonial wreaths to honor the branches of service along with members of the Crossed Rifles MC, Iredell County Civil Air Patrol Cadets and the Salisbury High School Air Force JROTC students. The Patriot Guard, Crossed Rifles MC, American Legion Riders Post#520, the Viet Nam Veterans MC and the Legacy Veterans MC will arrive at the ceremony in a procession of motorcycles paying respect to our fallen heroes.

Following the ceremony, as signified by the 3 shot Rifle Volley and the playing of "Taps" by the United States Marine Corp Honor Guard, more than a thousand wreaths will be respectfully placed on headstones at the National Cemetery Annex. Those ceremony attendees that have loved ones buried at the Annex will be given the first wreaths to place at their loved one's gravesite(s).

This year's ceremony will mark the 6th year that local civic groups have joined with the non-profit WreathsAcrossAmerica.org to promote sponsored wreaths to be placed on National and State veteran's graves, monuments and community centers all across the Nation. In 2008 and 2009 the United States Congress unanimously decreed the second Saturday of December as National Wreaths Across America™ Day.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend to learn more about how we may **Honor** the fallen, **Teach** the children of the sacrifices and **Remember** those who gave us the Freedoms we enjoy today.

For more information about this ceremony and how you can become involved please contact:

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