



# PVAHCS VA Veterans Day Parade Media Advisory

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## Upcoming VA Veterans Day Parade Activities

The Carl T. Hayden VA Medical Center's annual VA Veterans Day Parade has become a staple in the Phoenix community in paying tribute to our nation's veterans on the national observance of Veterans Day, November 11. Parade attendance has grown consistently making the VA Veterans Day Parade the fourth largest Veterans Day parade in the USA.

Featuring nearly 100 parade entries, the VA Veterans Day Parade is a showcase of military and civilian marching units, color guards, military vehicles, equestrian units, floats, balloons, and bands. VA and the City of Phoenix partnered together to create the VA Veterans Day Parade in 1998. In 2003, the Veterans Medical Leadership Council became the primary fundraiser for the event. All three groups now join together to help honor veterans on their special day.

The parade is designed to commemorate and honor our nation's veterans so they will never be forgotten and to build a patriotic spirit and appreciation of our military history in the greater Phoenix community. This year's presenting sponsor is US Airways and the theme, "Serving With Honor" encompasses the meaning of Veterans Day by paying homage to those who serve our country in military operations.

Upcoming Parade Activities Include:

- Thursday, October 23, VA Parade Essay Breakfast 8 a.m., VA's Ambulatory Care Clinic Basement Conference Rooms (NE corner of Third Street and Indian School Road)
- Wednesday, November 5 VMLC Heroes One and All Luncheon, 11-1, Arizona Biltmore
- Thursday November 6, Keynote Speaker Jerry Mollen Visit Throughout Hospital
- Monday, November 10, Celebrity Grand Marshal Connie Stevens Visits Patients, 1p.m. VA Hospital
- Tuesday, November 11, VA Veterans Day Parade, at 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Montecito, Camelback and Central.

Please call VA Public Affairs at (602) 200-6279 for updates on all of these activities.

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*The Carl T. Hayden Veterans Affairs Medical Center, which is part of the Phoenix VA Health Care System, has been serving veterans in Maricopa County since 1951. We currently have 130 inpatient beds for medical and surgical patients, 80 beds for nursing home patients and 48 inpatient beds for mental health patients. We are honored to serve our veterans who have paid the price for us to enjoy our freedoms.*