

May 20, 2026

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For Immediate Release

Flags, Flyovers, and Freedom: Memorial Day 2026 at Coachella Valley Cemetery

May 20, 2026 (Coachella, CA) – The Coachella Valley Public Cemetery District will honor the nation’s fallen heroes during its annual Memorial Day 2026 Ceremony on Monday, May 25, at 9:00 a.m., in collaboration with American Legion Post 739, Indio. The ceremony will take place at the cemetery grounds, located at 82-925 Avenue 52, Coachella, CA.

This annual observance pays tribute to the courage and sacrifice of the men and women who served in the United States Armed Forces and gave their lives defending our country.

“Memorial Day is not only a time to reflect on the lives lost in service to our country, but also a moment to gather in unity and gratitude,” said Ernesto Rosales, Chair of the Board of Trustees for the Coachella Valley Public Cemetery District. “It is our privilege to host this ceremony on sacred ground, where so many of our veterans now rest in peace. Their sacrifice is forever honored here.”

The ceremony will be led by Master of Ceremonies and City of Indio Mayor Elaine Holmes and will begin with a commemorative flyover by the historic C-47 Transport Plane, made possible through the support of the Palm Springs Air Museum and Conserve LandCare.

The morning program will include the introduction of local dignitaries and honored guests, followed by an invocation delivered by Deacon Francisco Sanchez, Diocese of San Bernardino, USMC Veteran. The National Anthem will be performed by the Coachella Valley High School Choir. Jaden Carney will read General Logan’s historic Memorial Day Order, reminding us of the origins and purpose of this day of remembrance. A special flag-folding ceremony will be conducted by members of Scouting America Troop 1701.

The American Legion Riders of Post 739 will lead the Pass in Review, a moving tribute to fallen veterans. This will be followed by the solemn presentation of wreaths, with presenters announced by Mayor Holmes. A rifle volley salute will be carried out by the American Legion Post 739 Honor Guard, and the traditional playing of Taps will echo through the cemetery in honor of the departed. The ceremony will continue with a rendition of “Amazing Grace” and a selection of patriotic songs performed by the Coachella Valley High School Choir.

The Coachella Valley Public Cemetery District is proud to host this free event and encourages all members of the community to join in honoring the legacy and sacrifice of our nation’s heroes. For more information, visit CVPCD.org

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About the District: *The Coachella Valley Public Cemetery District was formed August 8, 1927, under Section 8890 of the California Health and Safety Code. District boundaries include approximately 3,450 square miles. The District has performed over 24,000 interments and set over 15,000 grave markers. The Coachella Valley Public Cemetery District is a Special District; a special-purpose governmental unit that exists independent from local governments such as counties and cities. The Coachella Valley Public Cemetery is one of over 265 public cemetery districts in California.*

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