

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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**News  
Release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Memorial Day Weekend Events at Vietnam Veterans Memorial State Park**

**Angel Fire, NM** – As part of the State of New Mexico's ongoing tradition of honoring fallen veterans, Vietnam Veterans Memorial State Park is hosting a series of events for Memorial Day weekend. "Memorial Day weekend is a special time of healing and reflection at the park. Please consider honoring all our Veterans on this special weekend," said State Parks Director, Christy Tafoya.

### **Sunday, May 28th**

#### **Candlelight Vigil 5:45 p.m.-7:00 p.m.**

This ceremony honors all servicemen and women who didn't make it home. There will be a musical prelude by the 44th Army Band and speakers from Gold Star Wives will be featured. Dress in layers as the ceremony is planned for the amphitheater, weather permitting. In case of inclement weather, it will be held in the visitor center.

### **Monday, May 29th**

#### **Memorial Day Flag March 8:45–9:30 a.m.**

Join us for a visually stunning display as the American Legion of New Mexico leads a giant American flag up the hill to the Memorial. Volunteers to carry the flag are always needed. Kids are especially appreciated. If you'd like to help, assemble at the blinking light intersection of US 64/NM 434 no later than 8:45. For observers, make sure you get up the hill to the Memorial before 9 a.m. as the highway will be closed during the march.

**Flag Raising – 9-9:30 a.m.**

On Memorial Day, the flag is flown at half-staff until noon -- to both honor the sacrifices of those who gave their lives and to inspire those who continue in their stead.

**Memorial Day Ceremony 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

Please join us as we honor our veterans. The keynote speaker for this year is Kenneth Cordier. He is a former United States Air Force Colonel and Aviator who was an American prisoner of war in North Vietnam for over six years during the Vietnam War. There will be a Twenty-one-gun salute by the American Legion Post 112 from Leupp, Arizona. Bring lawn chairs, blankets and beach towels since seating is in our outdoor amphitheater.

Please call Vietnam Veterans Memorial State Park at 575.377.2293 if you have questions. For more information about this and all New Mexico State Park events, please visit [www.nmparks.com](http://www.nmparks.com)



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*The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies.*