

**Veterans Day Ceremony
Florence Veterans Park
November 11, 2009**

The Florence Veterans Park will hold its 2nd Annual Veterans Day Ceremony at 11:00 a.m. on November 11, 2009. One of our nation's highest ranking soldiers, Lt. General William G. Webster, Jr., Commanding General of the Third US Army, will be the featured speaker.

Scheduled as part of the Veterans Day events are the unveiling of the Veterans Parks newest monument, the Military Order of the Purple Heart monument to honor those who have earned the Purple Heart Medal. This monument will occupy a prominent location near the northwest entrance to the park. Plans are also being made to unveil the newest names of area veterans on the Wall of Honor.

Immediately following the ceremony, the American Soldier Photo Exhibit, located upstairs in the Florence Civic Center, will open to the public. This free tribute parallels the history through photography of the American ground forces and includes dramatic, larger than life photos. The exhibit will run from November 11, 2009 through February 2, 2010 at the Civic Center and will have several special events associated with it during this time period.

Veterans Park Center Obelisk

The American Institute of Commemorative Art (AICA) held its annual convention last week in San Diego, California. The institute is comprised of the fifty leading designers and builders of private and public memorials from the United States and Canada. The Florence Veterans Park center monument was voted first place in the design competition for "Public Memorials and Features". The centerpiece of the park features a large three column obelisk on top of which sits a bronzed American Bald Eagle.

