

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 25, 2011

## **Mission Honored: A Dream Achieved**

A Community Celebration for the Dedication of the Veterans Wall of Honor

"Mission Honored: A Dream Achieved" is the theme and spirit of a community celebration on May 30, 2011, by the Veterans Wall of Honor Committee marking the dedication of the sacred place where we honor those who have served our country. Join hundreds of members of the community on Memorial Day to celebrate a "Mission Honored: A Dream Achieved."

For years, residents of our community have envisioned a peaceful place where veterans who have protected this great land could be forever remembered. The mobilization, fund-raising and awareness campaign began in earnest 18 months ago at the joint initiative of the Alpine Community Center and the Alpine Kiwanis Club. And, now, thanks to hundreds of donations and the unparalleled leadership of County Supervisor Dianne Jacob, the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians, and the Alpine VFW Post 9578, the Veterans Wall of Honor is a dream come true.

On May 30, 2011, at 1:00 pm, the Wall of Honor will be unveiled, including a tile to acknowledge our own Medal of Honor recipient, the late Lt. John Finn, whose name is the first to be placed on the Wall of Honor.

"John Finn represents the best in all of us," said Dan Foster, Chairman of the Wall of Honor Committee. "If his name were all alone on this wall, it would be a great place. But Lt. Finn, rest his soul, will be joined by hundreds of others, grandfathers and grandmothers, moms and dads, sons and daughters, who sacrificed in the armed services to keep our country safe. This is truly a dream come true."

At the dedication on May 30, scores of tiles will be unveiled on the Veterans Wall of Honor. Bob and Debbie Jackson are working hard to verify applications and arrange for production of the tiles that permanently honor our veterans on the wall. "Families from all over the community are excited to have their loved ones on this wall. In the process, it has been amazing what we've learned together – about service and heroes and incredible deeds of valor. Just being a part of this is an honor for me and Debbie," said Bob Jackson.

Jackson adds, "There is no deadline. The Wall can hold 952 tiles. If the applications can be processed in time for the Memorial Day celebration, great. If not, they will still go up on the Wall as we complete sections. The important thing is to take care with these tile applications and make sure our veterans are properly honored, since their tile will be up on the Wall forever."

Mark your calendar. Remember the date. May 30, at 1 pm at the Alpine Community Center, 1830 Alpine Blvd. Music. Food. Friends. Patriotism. A Special Day to Honor our Veterans!

For more information, contact: Herb Cawthorne, 619.977.6480