



Perris Press Release

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September 11 Remembrance Events

The City of Perris will commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks with a special ceremony honoring public safety officers at American Legion Post 595.

Perris Mayor Pro-Tem Joanne Evans will emcee the event at the Post, which is located at Sixth and D streets.

Evans served in the Marines and is a retired firefighter.

The remembrance will also include the singing of the National Anthem and a prayer. Perris Mayor Daryl Busch will lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Perris City Councilman Mark Yarbrough will deliver remarks during the American Legion Post remembrance. City Councilmembers Al Landers and Rita Rogers also will attend. Students from the California Military Institute will provide an Honor Guard.

Free breakfast will be served to all members of the Riverside County Sheriff's Department and CalFire between 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. American Legion representatives will ring a bell to commemorate the nearly 3,000 lives lost as a result of the terrorist attacks. Those include more than 400 firefighters and police officers.

The Perris Valley Chamber of Commerce is coordinating the remembrance.

Chamber CEO Ted Norton said remembering the events of Sept. 11 help focus Americans on the high cost of freedom and democracy.

"Our history is our anchor," he said. "If we forget where we've been, we tend to forget where we are going. Events like 9-11 mold us as a country. The lives lost on 9-11 were important."

Breakfast will take place from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. and the ceremony will begin at 10 a.m.

Evans said she remembers Sept. 11, 2001 very well. As a spokesman for the Riverside County Fire Department, she was assigned training duty that day to promote use of the 911 emergency call system.

Evans said she was reassigned to helping dispatch local firefighters who went to New York for rescue and recovery operations. As a former New Yorker, she said she was very familiar with the World Trade Center and surrounding buildings that were destroyed or damaged by the attacks.

"This is a date we need to remember, just like we remember Pearl Harbor," Evans said. "We need to remember the people who were lost. It was a pretty tough day. I don't ever want to go through that again."

