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May 15, 2007
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

2007 Navajo/Hopi Honor Run Ride for Freedom Across America

Rolling Thunder across America: Operation Carry the Flame
Honoring Our Fallen Warriors: "You Are Not Forgotten"

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – This year's Navajo/Hopi Honor Run Ride for Freedom across America Honoring Our Fallen Warriors: "You are Not Forgotten" is scheduled for 1 p.m. Thursday, May 17 at the Navajo Nation Veterans' Park in Window Rock, Ariz.

The event is scheduled to begin with the Tohatchi Veterans Organization raising the flags. Lolorna Cisco will sing the National Anthem, and Navajo Blue Star Mother Jessie Williams will give the Invocation.

The Memorial Day message will be delivered by Jocelyn Billy, Miss Navajo Nation 2006-2007, and Representative Albert Tom of the Arizona House of Representatives.

The Honoring Ceremony is centered on those Warriors who are Missing in Action; Prisoners of War and those Killed in Action. A Call to Prayer is scheduled for the POW/MIA/KIA by Angela Barney Nez of the Office of the Speaker, and a Lighting Ceremony is scheduled. There will be a Blessing of the Flame by Milt Shirleson, Chaplain, of the Tohatchi Veterans' Organization.

A Gold Star Salute is scheduled with women veterans, Gold Star dads, Gold Star families and Rose petal ceremony with Blue Star Mothers and Gold Star Mothers.

Honorable council delegate Orlanda Hodge-Smith (Cornfields/Greasewood Springs/Klagetoh/Wide Ruins) will speak about the contribution of military families to the armed services.

The arrival of the Navajo Honor Run, the Rolling Thunder across America and Carry the Flame are scheduled to arrive at 4 p.m.

A welcome address is scheduled by the Honorable Speaker Lawrence T. Morgan of the 21st Navajo Nation Council. The presentation of the National Flame is scheduled to be by King Cavalier, President of Operation Carry the Flame. The speaker is a representative from the National Gold Star Mothers, Inc. organization.

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Special presentations to the Gold Star Families will be featured. There will be a wreath laying by the Honorable Speaker Morgan and Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley Jr.

There will be closing remarks and a Journey Song by the Beshbito Gold Star Family. The Cedar Blessings will be provided by the Dilkon Veterans and Walk with the Warriors, LeRoy Thomas and William Singer.

Supper will be provided by the Todacheeny Gold Star Family of Lukachukai, Ariz. at the Navajo Education Center.

The schedule for the 5th Annual Navajo-Hopi Motorcycle Honor Run is scheduled for May 15-17, 2007.

The motorcycle Honor Run is scheduled to begin with registration at 8 a.m. Tuesday, May 15. The Honor Run is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. The run will include Ganado; Besh Bito; Keams Canyon; the Hopi Veterans Memorial Park and the Piestewa home in Flagstaff.

For the second day of the Motorcycle Honor Run is scheduled to begin with a riders assemble/safety meeting at 8 a.m. The Run will include Tuba City and the Kayenta Veterans' Park.

For the third day of the Motorcycle Honor Run is scheduled to begin with a riders assemble/safety meeting at 8 a.m. The run will include a stop at the Shiprock Chapter House and end at the Navajo Nation Veterans' Park in Window Rock.

The motorcycle riders will join in for the program hosted by the Office of the Speaker and the 21st Navajo Nation Council.