

Phoenix Veterans Share Personal Reflections on Service and Coming Home During Times of Conflict

Veterans Forum anchors lead-up to 30th anniversary of the Honoring America's Veterans Phoenix Veterans Day Parade

PHOENIX, AZ, UNITED STATES, May 1, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Honoring America's Veterans, Veterans [Forum](#) brings three generations of war veterans together in Phoenix to share personal reflections on what it means to serve in [conflict](#) and what they need to reintegrate when they return home.

What: Honoring America's Veterans Forum, Generations of [Service](#), 250 Years of Freedom, 30 Years of Honor


Topic: 250th Anniversary of our nation and 30 Years of Honor from the HAV Phoenix Veterans Day Parade, history of service presentations followed by a panel discussion featuring veterans from the Vietnam War, the Somalia conflict, and Operation Iraqi Freedom sharing firsthand experiences of service, sacrifice, and what they need after returning home from conflict.

When: Thursday, May 7th, 2026, 8 a.m.

Where: Aunt Chilada's Restaurant, 7330 N. Dreamy Draw, Phoenix AZ 85020

Special Guests:



- Secretary of State Adrian Fontes, US Marine Corps Veteran will highlight the states efforts for the 250th Anniversary
- HAV Executive Director Paula Pedene, US Navy Cold War and Desert Storm Veteran will highlight the historical timeline of wars and the impact both veterans and the community have






Generations of Service
Veterans Forum | 250 Years of Freedom, 30 Years of Honor

7:30 a.m. Breakfast
May 7, 2026
Aunt Chilada's Restaurant | 7330 N. Dreamy Draw, Phoenix, AZ 85020

8 a.m. Program

 Remarks Adrian Fontes, Arizona Secretary of State, USMC-Veteran	 Presentation Paula Pedene, US Navy Veteran Generations of Service, The Human Story
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Panel Presentation: The Needs of Veterans Returning from War

 Rick Romley, Retired Maricopa County Attorney, US Marine Corps Veteran, Vietnam War	 Aaron Dudney, US Army Veteran, Somalia Conflict, Retired IT Team Leader, APS-Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station	 Brian Ishmael, US Army Veteran, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Synchrony Financial
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RSVP
honoringamericaveterans.org/2026-veterans-forum/

Join us for the following:
Veterans Business Summit, July 23, BBB Phoenix
Veterans Grand Marshals, Competition, Online, July
High School Essay Competition, Online, August
Tattered Flag Event, September 11
HAV Veterans Day Parade, 30th Anniversary Year, November 11
Pearl Harbor Day Ceremony, December 5, Wesley Bolin Plaza
honoringamericaveterans.org

HONORING AMERICA'S VETERANS VETERANS FORUM

Veterans Forum: Generations of Service

shared for our freedom

- Rick Romley, US Marine Corps Veteran, Vietnam, will highlight what veterans need when they return home from war
- Aaron Dudney, US Army Veteran, Somalia, will highlight what veterans need when they return home from war
- Brian Ishmael, US Army Veteran, Operation Iraqi Freedom, will highlight what veterans need when they return home from war

Why this matters:

As current events bring renewed attention to global conflict and military service, this forum offers timely, firsthand perspectives from those who have served.

The event also serves as a key lead-in to the 30th anniversary of the HAV Phoenix Veterans Day Parade, one of the nation's largest parades honoring veterans, and aligns with this year's theme: 250 Years of Freedom, 30 Years of Honor.

For nearly three decades, Honoring America's Veterans has led efforts in Phoenix to recognize military service across generations, ensuring that veterans' sacrifices are remembered and honored by the community.

To attend, please RSVP by May 4: <https://honoringamericasveterans.org/2026-veterans-forum/>

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