



Monday, May 25, 2026 Memorial Day Ceremony



9:00 am - 5:00 pm | Walk the Pathways of Castaways Park
 11:15 am - 12:00 pm | Patriotic Music
 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm | Ceremony; Lydia Ledesma-Reese and Richard Swinney,
 Emcees

- **“America the Beautiful”:** Madrigal Choir, Costa Mesa High School
- **Welcome Comments**
- **Invocation:** Karen Curreri, Chaplain, American Gold Star Mothers, Saddleback Valley Chapter
- **Honor Guard (Presentation of Colors):** UCI Army ROTC, with pipe and drum accompaniment (Orange County Sheriff’s Department)
- **Pledge of Allegiance:** Homer Bludau, former City Manager of Newport Beach
- **National Anthem:** Bill Edwards, soloist
- **Preamble to Constitution and American Creed:** Jeanette Justus, Daughters of American Revolution
- **Acknowledgment of Dignitaries and Honored Guests**
- **Dignitary Comments**
- **Presentation of Military Branch Flags:** Newport Beach Fire Department, accompanied by the Madrigal Choir, Costa Mesa High School
- **Keynote Speaker:** Captain Thomas Weaver, Navy Seal USNR
- **Flag Folding Demonstration:** Newport Beach Fire Department
- **Young Citizenship Essay Presentation:** Gibson Davis, Fifth Grade, Kaiser Elementary School
- **“God Bless the U.S.A.”:** Bill Edwards, soloist
- **Benediction:** Karen Curreri, Chaplain, American Gold Star Mothers, Saddleback Valley Chapter
- **Closing Remarks**
- **TAPS:** Sergeant Michael Walters, Orange County Sheriff’s Department



Exchange Club of Newport Harbor

17th Annual

Field of Honor



Friday, May 15 to Monday, May 25, 2026

Castaways Park
 16th Street and Dover Drive, Newport Beach

Walk the Pathways
 9 AM - 5 PM
 Free Admission



Thursday, May 21, 2026

Freedom's Legacy



Saturday, May 16, 2026

Armed Forces Day



9:30 am - 10:00 am | Patriotic Music

- Paularino Elementary School Band
- Lincoln Elementary School Choir

10:00 am - 11:30 am | Ceremony; Cynthia Strasmann and Richard Swinney, Emcees

- **Welcome Comments:** Cynthia Strasmann
- **Invocation:** Pastor Dan Erlenbusch, Newport Harbor Lutheran Church
- **Color Guard, Presentation of Colors:** Sons of the American Revolution
- **Pledge of Allegiance**
- **National Anthem:** Lincoln Elementary School Choir
- **Presentation of Military Branch Flags:** UCI Army ROTC
- **Tribute to the Armed Services and Into the Blue:**
Lincoln Elementary School Choir, accompanied by Paularino Elementary School Band
 - Army | Army Goes Rolling Along
 - Marines Corps | The Marine's Hymn
 - Navy | Anchors Aweigh
 - Air Force | The U.S. Air Force
 - Coast Guard | Semper Paratus
 - Space Force | Semper Supra
- **Special Presentation:** Daughters of the American Revolution representing George and Martha Washington
- **Keynote Speaker:** Lisa Moncur, Gold and Blue Star Mother
- **Citizenship Essay Presentation:** Gibson Davis, Fifth Grade, Kaiser Elementary
- **Patriotic Art Awards "Celebrating America":** Kelly Brennan
 - 1st Place | Annika Jowandha, Sonora Elementary
 - 2nd Place | Maiia Vedernikova, Lincoln Elementary
 - 3rd Place | Christ Wu, Eastbluff Elementary
 - Honorable Mention | Axel Nava, Killybrooke Elementary
- **Special Demonstration:** SWAT Team, Newport Beach Mounted Enforcement Unit and Newport Beach Drone Unit
- **Closing Remarks:** Richard Swinney

9:00 am - 5:00 pm | Walk the Pathways of Castaways Park

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm | Ceremony

- **"God Bless the USA":** Macie Rae Lewis, soloist, Corona Del Mar High School
- **Welcome Comments:** Roy Shlemon, Emcee
- **Invocation:** Karen Curreri, Chaplain, American Gold Star Mothers, Saddleback Valley Chapter
- **Honor Guard (Presentation of Colors):** Newport Beach Police Department
- **Pledge of Allegiance:** Homer Bludau, former City Manager of Newport Beach
- **National Anthem:** Macie Rae Lewis, soloist, Corona Del Mar High School
- **Acknowledgment of Dignitaries and Honored Guests**
- **Dignitary Comments**
- **Presentation of Military Branch Flags:** Newport Beach Police Department
- **Keynote Speaker:** Nick Berardino, U.S. Marine Corps
- **Flag Folding Demonstration:** Newport Beach Police Department
- **Young Citizenship Essay Presentation:** Dasha Paulsen, Sixth Grade, Newport Heights Elementary School
- **"America the Beautiful":** Macie Rae Lewis, soloist, Corona Del Mar High School
- **Benediction:** Karen Curreri, Chaplain, American Gold Star Mothers, Saddleback Valley Chapter
- **Closing Remarks**
- **TAPS:** Sergeant Michael Walters, Orange County Sheriff's Department