



Steve Radack, Commissioner
Harris County Precinct 3

NEWS/EVENT ADVISORY
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: STEVE BREWER
Email: steve_brewer@hctx.net
Phone: (713) 274-3103

Annual Precinct Three Memorial Day event scheduled

Solemn ceremony to feature Iraq war veteran as guest speaker

HOUSTON – Precinct Three Commissioner Steve Radack’s annual Memorial Day salute to those who paid the ultimate price defending the United States will be May 26th at the Harris County War Memorial in Bear Creek Pioneers Park.

The event starts at 2 p.m. It is open to veterans, their families, relatives of the fallen and the public. The War Memorial, 3535 War Memorial Drive, is near the park entrance off Eldridge Parkway.

The ceremony will include the presentation and posting of colors and the singing of *The National Anthem* and *America the Beautiful* by Madalyn Hernandez. There will also be opening and closing prayers by Pastor Jonathan Semro of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Copperfield, a wreath ceremony, a 21-gun salute by the Houston Police Department Honor Guard, participation by the Honor Guard from Precinct Five Constable Phil Camus’ office and exhibition drills by the Langham Creek High School Air Force Junior ROTC.

Precinct Three Parks Superintendent Steve Dorman will act as master of ceremonies. This year’s guest speaker will be Col. Richard P. Pannell, district engineer and commanding officer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Galveston District.

Prior to assuming command in Galveston in 2013, Pannell served as Corps engineer in Fort Hood. Originally from Athens, Ga., he graduated from Phillips Exeter Academy in New Hampshire and attended the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he received his commission in the USACE in 1989.

Pannell’s service highlights include postings in Germany, New York, Missouri and Fort Bragg, N.C. He also served as senior engineer observer/controller at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center in Germany in 2005 and 2006 and was an instructor and assistant professor in the Geography and Environmental Engineering Department at West Point from 1999 until 2002. Pannell’s overseas service includes combat tours in the Middle East for operations Desert Shield/Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The Harris County War Memorial was built more than 28 years ago during the administration of former Precinct Three Commissioner Bob Eckels. It carries the names of Harris County residents who died in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the first war in the Persian Gulf, the war in Iraq and the conflict in Afghanistan. In 2011, Commissioner Radack added the names of Merchant Marines killed during World War II to the monument. The names of those who served in the U.S. Coast Guard and died during various wars were also added.

Anyone with questions about the monument or the ceremony can call the Precinct Three Parks Office at (281) 531-1592. Patrons can also visit the Precinct Three website at www.pct3.hctx.net to look up names listed on the county memorial.

16635 Clay Road • Houston, Texas 77084 • (281) 463-6300 • (281) 463-8502
E-mail: pct3@hctx.net • www.pct3.hctx.net