

## PRESS RELEASE -- BEAN DAY 2017

The pundits say it's the same ol' thing year after year -- Santa Fe Trail this and Santa Fe Trail that.

Well then, get this. Bean Day 2017 is off the trail and this year Wagon Mound citizens will be set on **"Honoring All Veterans"** for the 107<sup>th</sup> Bean Day Celebration. Actually, this is an opportunity for all people of the northern part of New Mexico, the entire state of New Mexico and far beyond its borders, to honor veterans of the United States military.

Indeed. The theme "Honoring All Veterans" promises to enhance this year's Bean Day experience in Wagon Mound come Labor Day weekend, September 1<sup>st</sup> thru the 4<sup>th</sup>.

It all commences Friday evening as volunteers clean the 300 pounds of pinto beans, followed by a fundraiser dinner and live music by a band of Veterans – Peter Vigil y Los Hermanos. The official celebration starts Saturday morning with the Veterans Memorial Service at the newly renovated Veterans Park at 9am.

"We have invited everyone to join us for the memorial service and for the weekend," said Luis Lopez, Bean Day Association president. "Our U.S. Senators, U.S. Representatives, Governor Martinez, Lt. Governor Sanchez, state senators and reps, leaders from our neighboring communities. Everyone is invited."

The New Mexico National Guard will contribute to the festivities with the presence of officers and soldiers, military vehicles in the parade, and entertainment for the kids and families. And there's more.

Three days of open rodeo, softball tournament and car show on Saturday, Mud Bog racing on Sunday, horseshoe tourney, Sunday night dance, vendors of many sorts all weekend. Monday morning starts with the parade and expect many families of Veterans saluting and honoring their own.

"We expect a big crowd for the parade and a very nice, long, parade and a big crowd for the free meal," said Darline Wiggins, treasurer for the BDA.

Can't forget the BBQ meal at noon. It's free. It's delicious.

Honoring, Saluting, Remembering All Veterans; join us in Wagon Mound for this special event!