

Okaloosa County News Release

1/7/2013

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NR13-4

Florida Fallen Heroes Ceremony Jan. 19 at Eglin Air Force Armament Museum Military Killed in Action in Afghanistan & Iraq Honored at 10:30 AM Ceremony

The Military Order of Purple Heart (MOPH) Chapter 811 and its Commander Sam Houston will host the January 19 Ceremony to honor the fallen from 2012 to 2013. Eglin military members and Eglin Air Force Armament Museum, as well as Blue and Gold Star Mothers also support the Fallen Heroes Ceremony. The public is invited to attend the ceremony and view the Memorial Portrait Mural.

The Memorial Portrait Mural was first installed in January 2007 and has been updated each year with additional photos of those killed in action from the state of Florida. There are currently 347 Fallen Heroes from Florida and more will be added to the Mural in honor of their ultimate sacrifice in 2012. Florida is currently the only state that holds a ceremony each year for Fallen Heroes. Each name is read out loud in recognition of these soldiers with the hope they are never to be forgotten.

“This is the way Okaloosa County shows its appreciation for their sacrifice,” stated Region IV MOPH Commander Bill Everett. Local and state government representatives, as well as families of the fallen are scheduled to attend. Okaloosa County Commissioner Dave Parisot will read a proclamation recognizing January as Military Order of Purple Heart Month, Okaloosa as the First Purple Heart County in Florida and most importantly, 2012 Fallen Heroes.

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