

(WASHINGTON)--- Congressman Allen West (FL-22) will honor our fallen American service members by participating in several events in both Washington D.C. and South Florida over the Memorial Day weekend.

Friday, May 27th

10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Stars & Stripes & Spokes Memorial Day Rally

Washington, DC

*Congressman West will be riding in the rally to RFK Stadium Festival Grounds and then speaking at the event.

Sunday, May 29th

10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Rolling Thunder XXIV Motorcycle Rally

Washington, DC

*Congressman West will be riding from the Pentagon to the Korean and Vietnam Memorials and then speaking at the event.

*Rolling Thunder's mission is to educate Americans on Prisoners of War and those Missing in Action.

Monday – Memorial Day

Keynote Speaker, Fort Lauderdale Memorial Day Ceremony

9:00 am

Lauderdale Memorial Park

2001 SW 4th Ave

Fort Lauderdale

South Florida National Cemetery Memorial Day Program

10:00 am

6501 South State Road 7

Lake Worth

6th Annual "A Day to Remember" Memorial Day Service

11:50 am

Palm Beach Memorial Park
3691 Seacrest Blvd.
Lantana

Mizner Park Memorial Day Celebration
7:00 pm
Mizner Park Amphitheater
590 Plaza Real
Boca Raton

Originally called "Decoration Day," Memorial Day is a day of remembrance for those who have died in service to our country. It was first widely observed on May 30, 1868, to commemorate the sacrifices of Civil War soldiers, by proclamation of General John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of former sailors and soldiers.

During the first national celebration, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, after which 5,000 participants helped to decorate the graves of the more than 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers who were buried there. This event was inspired by local observances of the day that had taken place in several towns throughout America in the three years since the Civil War. By the late 1800s, many more cities and communities had begun to observe Memorial Day, and after World War I, it became an occasion for honoring those who had died in all America's wars.

Memorial Day is celebrated at Arlington National Cemetery each year with a ceremony in which a small American flag is placed on each grave. Traditionally, the President or Vice President lays a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. About 5,000 people attend the ceremony annually. In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be celebrated on the last Monday of May.

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