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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City's New Veterans' Monument to be Dedicated Saturday, June 15

The public is invited to the ceremony and sculpture unveiling

PEACHTREE CORNERS, GA, June 10, 2019 – The formal dedication of the Peachtree Corners Veterans Monument will take place at 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 15. This is significant day for the city as the veterans' monument board, volunteers, donors, dignitaries and veterans celebrate this special occasion. All members of the community are invited to attend.

The monument, located on the city's new Town Center in a prominent place on the Town Green, honors the men and women of the Armed Forces of the United States of America. The new 2,500 square-foot monument features a plaza with a central pillar with an eagle atop the globe representing the presence of the U.S. Armed Forces across the world, five sculptures to represent each of the branches, and one sculpture to honor the veterans of the National Guard, Federal Reserves and Merchant Marines. The bronze statues have been designed by renowned artist Chad Fisher who graciously donated the sculptures.

Saturday's program includes music by the 116th Army Band Georgia Army National Guard and unveiling of the monument sculptures. Maj. Gen. Ronald L. Johnson, USA Retired, a 1976 West Point graduate, will deliver the keynote address. Johnson has received numerous awards and recognitions including the Distinguished Service Medal, Bronze Star, Legion of Merit, and Combat Action Badge among others. He also earned a Master of Science degree from Georgia Tech in 1985.

The idea of creating a veterans' monument began in the spring 2015 when Mayor Mike Mason and a group of residents gathered to discuss the idea. Soon after the Peachtree Corners Veterans Monument Association (PCVMA) was formed, a board of directors selected with Bob Ballagh, a long-time resident and retired U.S. Army colonel, as its executive director.

"We are proud to be able to present this monument as a tribute to the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces," said Mayor Mike Mason. "The PCVMA board and the many volunteers who

contributed their time and efforts have worked very hard the past four years to make this idea a reality.”

The monument also features engraved stone benches and is lined with customized brick pavers honoring loved ones who served or are serving our country. In addition, an interactive component is included providing additional information on the veterans represented.

Saturday, June 15, Program:

- 09:45: Military Music (116th Army Band)
- 09:58: Master of Ceremonies announces arrival of Knights of Columbus Honor Guard and Cub Scout Pack 575
- 10:00: Welcome and Introduction of Guests
- 10:05: National anthem, followed by Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation - Pastor John Purrington
- 10:10: Honor Guard and Scouts seated
- 10:15: Remarks by Mayor Mike Mason
- 10:25: Remarks by Col. Bob Ballagh, USA Retired
- 10:35: Guest Speaker – Maj. Gen. Ronald Johnson, USA Retired
- 10:45: Unveiling of the Sculptures
- 10:55: Presentation of Flagpole and Kiosk Keys to Mayor Mason
- 11:00: Benediction – Pastor John Purrington
- 11:05: Closing Remarks

Monument Visitations

Participants in the Ceremony:

- Col. Doug Heckman, USA Retired Master of Ceremonies
- 116th Army Band, Georgia Army National Guard
- Father Charles J. Watters, Assembly Knights of Columbus
- Cub Scout Pack 575
- Georgia Patriot Guard Riders
- Pastor John Purrington, Simpsonwood United Methodist Church
- Mayor Mike Mason, City of Peachtree Corners
- Col. Bob Ballagh, USA Retired, Executive Director, Peachtree Corners Veterans Monument Association
- Chad Fisher, Sculptor
- Donors and Members of the Board of Directors
- Volunteers of the Peachtree Corners Veterans Monument Association

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