



# Alpharetta Post 201

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Thursday, Aug. 24, 2023

## **'Kabul 13' Remembrance Ceremony At Newtown Park Veterans Memorial Walk Scheduled for 9:30 a.m. Saturday**

John's Creek Veterans Association (JCVA) will host a special Memorial Dedication & Kabul 13 Remembrance Ceremony starting at 9:30 a.m. Saturday at the Veterans Memorial Walk in Newtown Park.

The ceremony commemorates the second anniversary of the bombing of the Abbey Gate of Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul which took the lives of 13 U.S. service members and 163 US Afghan allies and civilians seeking safety behind those very soldiers while fleeing from the Taliban.

A welcome and gathering at 9:30 a.m. will start the ceremony. This will be followed at 10 a.m. by the formal opening lead by Fr. Joseph T. O'Callahan of the Knights of Columbus Assembly 3441. That will be followed by the "Toast to the Fallen" made by guest of honor, Daniel "Santa6" Stinson.

Stinson, who was on the ground in Kabul just before the bombing, was a leader of the Veteran volunteer team which was instrumental in the evacuation of over 15,000 Afghan Allies and their families into the UAE.

"The US service men and women I saw and spoke with at Abbey Gate were the epitome of what is best in America during crisis - stalwart, honorable, compassionate, and brave service to those in need," said Stinson. "Their sense of duty, of pride, of honor was evident in each of them."

When he responded to the invitation to participate Stinson said, "I recall walking back from Abbey Gate through the checkpoints when a small pickup truck loaded down with Marines was heading to that gate with 3 or 4 female Marines on the tailgate. Their boots dangling, dirt and sand covered, but laughing and joking with one another as they rode towards just another shift. We as Veterans, and all Americans, must never forget to 'Say Their Names' out loud and with great pride and genuine gratitude so their service and sacrifice will always be remembered," he added.

"It is a great honor to the mission of our Johns Creek Association & Veterans Memorial Walk to welcome "Santa6 Actual" to share his personal experiences on the ground in Kabul in the days leading up to this tragic event before boarding one of their C-17 Globemaster III Evac flights just before that fateful day", said JCVA President and retired Army LTC Michael E Mizell.

“This will be a moving and memorable event and this year’s Ceremony keeps true our promise last year to the families of the Kabul 13 that their names will be remembered in kind, each and every year going forward,” Mizell added.

The ceremony will conclude with lunch and refreshments, then guided tours of Johns Creek Veterans Memorial Walk. Those wishing to attend are asked to please RSVP to the Johns Creek Veterans Association as soon as possible due to limited space. [Click here](#) for more information and phone numbers to RSVP for the event.

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## **Fulton County Says Post 201 No Longer Needed as Voting Site**

The Post was notified yesterday that its ballroom facilities are no longer needed as a Fulton County polling location. In an email to the Post, Elections Equipment Manager Corey Henson said that “serving as a Fulton County Election Day Polling Site (has) provided an impactful contribution to our department and the citizens of Fulton.”

However, he said the Post was dropped as a polling location based on research “conducted regarding Election Day voter turnout to determine possible precinct mergers to streamline our election processes. Due to the reduction in our voting precincts, your location will no longer be required as a polling site,” he wrote in his email notification.

He said the Election Commission would place appropriate signage to guide voters to their new polling locations at visible entry points (to the Post) during the upcoming election cycle. He also said the elections staff will ensure the placement and retrieval of all signage following the 2023 Municipal General Election and Runoff.

But just in case, he did leave the door open to the future writing, “If circumstances change and our need for additional polling locations increases, we would like the opportunity to revisit or resume utilization of your location with the proper/reasonable reservation protocol as needed.”

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## **~ ~ Military- Veterans Related News ~ ~** *(Not likely to be published locally in other media.)*

**Next PACT Act Deadline: Health Care Enrollment for Vets Who Deployed to Combat Zones** [Click here to read.](#)

**Where to Get Help Filing a PACT Act Claim**  
[Click here to read.](#)

**It’s Time for a National Security Strategy for Military Recruiting**  
[Click here to read.](#)

**Pentagon Lowering Recruitment Standards Again: Report**  
[Click here to read.](#)

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# Upcoming Post 201 & Other Veterans Related Activities

**Thursday, Aug. 24, 6 p.m. Johns Creek Veterans Association** monthly meeting. Park Place at Newtown Park.

**Monday, Aug. 28, 7 p.m., VFW Post 12002.** Meets 4th Monday of every month. For more information contact Ron Cowan, 404-509-1700, [roncowan@bellsouth.net](mailto:roncowan@bellsouth.net) or Jim Davis, 770-235-4858, [jim.davis@comcast.net](mailto:jim.davis@comcast.net).

**Saturday, Sept. 2., 8 a.m., First Saturday Informal Pot Luck Breakfast** for members of the Post family and first responders.

**Monday, Sept. 4. Labor Day.** Clubroom/Bar opens at 1 p.m. A cook-out is being planned along with a membership retention activity. Watch this space for more details.

**Tuesday, Sept. 5, 6:30 p.m. House Committee Meeting.**

**Tuesday, Sept. 12, 6 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting.**

**Tuesday, Sept. 19, 7 p.m., General Membership Meeting.** Dinner will be served in the 6 p.m. time frame.

**Wednesday, Sept. 20, 7:30 a.m. Vet Buds.** Uptown Cafe, 9850 Nesbitt Ferry Rd., Johns Creek. Meets third Wednesday each month. [Click here](#) for more information.

**Thursday, Sept. 21, 7 p.m. Order of the Purple Heart.** Meets 3rd Thursday each month

**Thursday, Sept. 28 - Sunday, Oct. 1.** Georgia Military Officers Association of America State Conference. University of North Georgia, Dahlonega. [www.gmcmoaa.org](http://www.gmcmoaa.org)

**Friday, Sept. 29, "Sinatra & Friends Show" at Post 201.** [Click here for details.](#)

**Saturday, Sept. 30, "Married with Laughter"** featuring Jeff Norris and Renee Delorenzo, two stand-up comedians who have been married for 10 years, This is the fifth show in the *Laughter at the Legion* series. [Click here for details.](#) Tickets may be purchased online or at the Clubroom/Bar.

**Wednesday, Oct. 11. SAL's 6th Annual Rick Gimpel Memorial Golf Tournament** at The Golf Club at Bradshaw Farm in Woodstock. [Click here](#) for more information on corporate sponsorship. Contact either Derek Garmon 770-294-4259 or Kevin Solik, 404-483-3230 for more information.

**Saturday, Nov. 11. Veterans Day.**

**Sunday, Nov. 12, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Annual Cruz-In.** Planning Lead: Tommy Youngblood. Email - [youngbloodtom@att.net](mailto:youngbloodtom@att.net). Mobile: 678-462-9023. Leave message if no answer.

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## Club 201 Dance Activities

Visit both [www.club201dance.com](http://www.club201dance.com)  
and the [Club 201 Dance FaceBook Page](#)  
for detailed information about  
all dance activities and schedules.  
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## **Resource Links**

**Post 201 Walk of Memories** - [Click here](#) for more information.

**Survivor Assistance Checklist** - [Click this link.](#)

**Benefits for Georgia Veterans** - [Click this link.](#)

**Past Issues of Post 201 E-Newsletter** - Visit [www.legion201.org](http://www.legion201.org) and click on the "Weekly eNewsletters" box at the top right of the landing page.

**Post 201 Website** - [www.legion201.org](http://www.legion201.org).

**VA Telephone Hotline** - 1-877-222-8387

**Veterans Crisis Line** - 1-800-273-8255 Press 1

**Post 201 Service Officer Hotline for Vets-at-Risk** - 631-720-6022

**Emory Healthcare Veterans Program** - [888-514-5345](tel:888-514-5345) or [click here](#) for more info.

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**Post 201 - Serving Vets for 75 Years**  
*November 26, 1947 - November 26, 2022*

***"It's not the price you pay to be a member,  
It's the price you paid to be eligible."***

