

# Got a flag to donate?

by Edward Lavalley  
City Manager

The City of Venice has a proud heritage of patriotism. The community is rich in organizations and individuals that contribute time and energy to events recognizing the legacy of the courageous development and growth of our country, state, county, and city.

One of the most identifiable symbols of patriotism is the flag. At all levels of government we define our civic commitment to the principles of freedom and democracy by proudly flying our flags. Government institutions lead the way in displaying our patriotic colors and at ceremonial events we are proud to give prominence to this symbol of the sacrifices and achievements of historic and modern day patriotic heroes.

As a feature of ceremonial events, especially memorial ceremonies, often an American flag is presented to groups or individual in recognition of patriotic service.

Recipients of these ceremonial flags typically store them away as keepsakes. While there is sentiment attached to receiving the gift in most cases the flags will not again see the light of day, nor fly proudly from a vaulted site.

The City of Venice is instituting a flag donation program to provide an opportunity for those proud symbols of patriotism to once again fly in honor of our country and those whose courageous acts stand for a free United States of America.

The city will accept donations

of American flags that citizens have received as memorial gifts, or others that individuals or organizations may wish to donate in recognition or memory of a person or institution. The city will accept the flags with the expressed purpose of flying them on public grounds. The donor will receive a commemorative letter of appreciation from the mayor and city council. With their permission, donors will also be publicly recognized for their civic contribution by the city council.

This program provides mutual benefit to donors and our city. Donors are given the opportunity to enjoy the public display of their donated flag. The city is privileged to participate in the recognition of patriots and patriotic events that stand for our liberty and freedom.

Together all celebrate a partnership in displaying our collective tribute to America the beautiful.

For more information, call Public Works, (941) 486-2422, ext. 30021.

## *City of Venice*

### Flag Donation Program

The City of Venice in partnership with its residents is pleased to accept and fly American flags that are donated for public use. The City acknowledges the contribution and applauds the patriotic gift of the donor named herein:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Address*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Phone*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*E-Mail*

**Given in the name of:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Received By*