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PRESS RELEASE **For Immediate Release**

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Oregon Elks Observe Veterans Remembrance Month this November

Portland, OR

In an effort to recognize and support our nation's veterans, Elks National President Keith Mills has proclaimed November to be Veterans Remembrance Month in advance of Veterans Day on November 11th.

This month, we urge all Americans to join the Elks in service to the veterans in your community. Let us remember the words of Elk member and President John F. Kennedy who said, "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words but to live by them."

"There exists a reason every day to recognize and thank our Veterans, but November 11th is special and as Elks, we want to impress upon every American the significance of those who have served our country with honor and dignity. I am an Air Force and Air National Guard Veteran, and my wife, Pam is an Oregon State Elks Association Veterans Volunteer of the Year, and we are proud parents of Captain Richard S. Shipley, US Army who served in Iraq. We are extremely grateful for the continued opportunity to work with other Elks and Veteran support organizations to ensure that all Veterans are offered any help and assistance they may need and to always remember those that have served." Said Oregon State Elks Association President Rick Shipley

Despite the challenges of the last year and a half, the Elks lived by their pledge to never forget our veterans. When the pandemic created a crisis for many veterans, Elks across Oregon and the nation were there. Our members repurposed funds from hastily cancelled events to buy masks, hand sanitizer and protective equipment for veterans and caregivers at risk of Covid. When VA food pantries shut down and veterans' dinners were canceled, Elks packed and delivered food baskets directly to local veterans. Elks have also supported hospitalized veterans by delivering books, art supplies, snacks, iPads to communicate with friends and family, and more to VA Medical Centers and the Oregon Veterans Home in Lebanon. And in a year when home was the safest place to be, Elks allowed thousands of veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness to stay or become housed, giving them not only shelter but supplies, furniture and food.

To learn more and to join us in service, visit www.elks.org and www.oregonelks.org. For membership information visit www.Join.Elks.Org.