

## **Country Thunder Presented a Proclamation and Key to the Town**

The Town of Florence, AZ annually partners with Country Thunder and KMLE, recently hosting the fifth annual Road to Country Thunder. This is a pre-festival concert event, featuring up and coming country artists, activities for the family, food, drinks, and lots of fun! This FREE event is brought annually by the Town of Florence, Country Thunder, and KMLE. At this event, a proclamation was read into record declaring April 6-14, 2019 as Country Thunder Days in Florence, Arizona.

Country Thunder is an annual music festival that has operated in Arizona since 1996. The festival offers entertainment on multiple stages throughout the venue. The main stage hosts the biggest acts, with new upcoming talent playing throughout the day. The side stage gives local artists the opportunity to perform. Country Thunder Arizona is held on the Canyon Moon Ranch in Florence, Arizona. The festival runs Thursday through Sunday, typically during the first week of April. Fans can purchase a single day pass or a weekend pass that allows them access to the festival for the entire weekend. The festival also offers reserved seating.

This year, the Town of Florence wanted to do something special for Country Thunder, as we are thankful for their continued partnership and the positive light they bring to Florence, AZ annually. Last year, they brought national attention to our Town as Country Thunder Arizona was named Festival of the Year by the Academy of Country Music Awards. The 2018 lineup included Jason Aldean, Luke Bryan, Toby Keith, and Cole Swindell. In the addition, Luke Bryan was named the Country Music Artist of the Year and Jason Aldean was named the Country Music Artist of the Decade.

In closing, we are appreciative of the annual visitors that visit our Town and experience Country Thunder Days. This event takes the year to plan and prepare for at all levels. I'd also like to take a moment to thank all of our public safety agencies who strategically worked together, across multiple agencies, to ensure a safe environment. All of this is possible because of the strong partnerships that have been built over time. We are looking forward to continuing our partnership and working together providing an experience for people of all ages. There truly is something for everyone to enjoy at the event.

