



NEWS RELEASE

Tarrant County Vietnam War-Era Memorial

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MEMORIAL FUND LAUNCHES WEBSITE

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FORT WORTH – A Tarrant County Vietnam War-era memorial website launches this week in support of local fund-raising efforts to support building a permanent tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice in Southeast Asia.

“We want to get the word out about this unique project,” states Bruce Zielsdorf, publicity coordinator for the memorial fund. “It’s also been designed so that individuals and organizations across North Texas can easily donate to this worthy cause.”

“At least 220 county residents died as a result of the conflict,” according to Jim Hodgson, executive director of the Fort Worth Aviation Museum. “Currently, there’s no local monument to honor those killed in Vietnam, but that may soon be changing.

“We’re proposing a permanent display in Fort Worth’s Veterans Memorial Park on Camp Bowie Blvd. designed by local students to honor American service members for their sacrifices, as well as commemorate the loss to the families and loved ones.”

The proposed monumental effort is backed by a coalition of Tarrant County officials, the Fort Worth Parks Dept., national and local veterans service organizations, as well as patriotic groups and individuals across the region. Representatives of these groups are now meeting to define the logistics of the project.

“The memorial is to be designed, built and installed by mid-September 2020,” Hodgson explains. The dedication ceremony would coincide with National Medal of Honor Society’s annual conference to be held in Fort Worth that month.

Hodgson has assembled a team of volunteers to take on a myriad of challenges related to the memorial project. Over the next several months, those efforts will include:

- Engaging schools and students in the memorial’s design
- Verifying the names of those to be included on the monument
- Spreading the word and raising funds to support the effort
- Dedication ceremony in Veterans Memorial Park

In support of this effort, the memorial fund website (<https://www.vieteramemorial.org/>) was launched to update the public on the committee's activities and as a place for people to donate funds for the memorial's construction.

“The interactive website was developed, in part, as an easy place where online donations can be made. We eventually hope to link the entire virtual community supporting this campaign,” Hodgson concludes.

A Facebook page dedicated to the project has also launched at <https://www.facebook.com/TCVWM/>. It will be linked with the website in an effort maximize public awareness of the memorial project.

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For more information, contact:

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Memorial Website: <https://www.vieteramemorial.org/>

Memorial Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/TCVWM>

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