

Senator Dinniman requests your help once again with the Medal of Honor Grove

Subject: Senator Dinniman requests your help once again with the Medal of Honor Grove.

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To: Webmaster

From: Buddy Rhoades, buddypurpleheart@hotmail.com

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From: DWOOLSON@pasenate.com

Hello all,

Some of you were involved in the Senator's fall clean up days. The job you and the other 980 volunteers did over those 3 days was incredible.

The Senator was asked by Comcast for a project in his district for their Comcast Cares Day on April 30th. The Senator immediately said the Medal of Honor Grove at Freedoms Foundation. He then wrote a letter to Mike DiYeso and introduced him to the contacts at Comcast. It appears that clean up will be picking up sticks and branches. Mike said no cutting of trees or landscaping at that time. There will be Comcast employees, families (including small children) and the day has been opened to the community. This will be a Comcast event, not a Dinniman event so I'm not sure how coordination will go. It's a short day from 800a-100p.

The Senator offered the Freedoms Foundation our capable volunteers from last year to clean up after the Comcast Cares Day. Cleanup would be, at this point, moving the debris off the helipad and taken once again to the Compost Site, with Jay's approval of course.

So I write on behalf of the Senator to ask if you would all consider doing this for our Medal of Honor Recipients again this spring?

This cleanup day will be directed by Bill Fields and a date planned after he assesses what Comcast has done. A few of you are new volunteers and Bill will be in contact with all of you once we know more.

This week the coordinators are finally going to visit the grove and Bill Fields and I will join Mike in his meeting with them. Bill Fields and I will offer our experiences from last year-what worked what did not.

Please contact me if you are once again kind enough to help. I'll compile your information and send to Bill who will contact you. The good news is that the Freedoms Foundation, Senator Dinniman, Wally Nunn (Medal of Honor Foundation) and a group of dedicated supporters are working together on a plan that would allow a newly created non-profit organization to assume maintaining and enhancing this sacred memorial. We are only in the first stages of negotiations however the Freedoms Foundation has put their toes in the water with this announcement on their website.

Updated Statement on the Medal of Honor Grove from the Freedoms Foundation Board of Directors

As most of our stakeholders and the community are already aware, for the last six months the Freedoms Foundation Board of Directors has been engaged in a strategic planning process that will define our organizational priorities for the next several years. That process is now drawing to a close.

Over the next few weeks and months, we will be sharing with our stakeholders and other interested parties, the results of the planning process and specific next steps we will be taking to implement the plan. However, because of the continued interest in the Medal of Honor Grove, we take this opportunity to communicate important information that relates to the Grove.

The plan reinforces Freedoms Foundation's long-term commitment to honoring Medal of Honor recipients. We will continue to utilize the community's support to maintain the Grove in its improved condition. Further, we plan to collaborate with a group of dedicated supporters that includes Medal of Honor recipients, to develop a permanent funding plan to ensure that The Freedoms Foundation continues to provide a proper tribute to the Medal of Honor Recipients. As an educational institution, The Freedoms Foundation intends to use the characteristics exhibited by Medal of Honor Recipients as a part of the educational courses provided to students and adults attending programs on the Freedoms Foundation campus.

We ask for the support of the community in allowing us to implement our plans with your help. Collaboration, not confrontation, will be most effective in ensuring that Medal of Honor Recipients are appropriately honored.

Thank you for your commitment to our nation's heroes. We join you in celebrating their lives and accomplishments on behalf of our country.

The Freedoms Foundation Board of Directors

I look forward to working with you all again,

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