



September 25, 2012

For Immediate Release

4-HEROES PROJECT CONSTRUCTION MOVING FORWARD

Since the beginning of the year, Solano County 4-H youth have been combing area businesses seeking sponsors for the 4-HEROES Project construction. This is a very ambitious project with a construction budget of \$200,000. To date, donations have reached the 70% level with more than 50 Solano County businesses and individuals sponsoring the project. Over the summer, 4-H youth have brought in more than \$15,000 in donations and more are under development.

A Groundbreaking Ceremony was held on May 4, 2012, followed by clearing and grubbing, construction staking and rough grading. Trenching is nearly complete and will be followed by installation of underground electrical and water/irrigation systems, backfill and erosion control. This work is scheduled to be complete by October 15. Work on the memorial grotto and other surface improvements will proceed over the winter.

Army National Guard members, 4-H members and families have volunteered to supply a portion of the labor needed. In addition, we have received commitments for the following major elements:

Platinum Level Sponsor (\$10,000 and above) - Army National Guard 579th Brigade (Earthwork); MTW Group (Project Plans).

Gold Level Sponsor (\$5,000 to \$9,999) - Jelly Belly Candy Co.; Pacific Mountain Surveys (Surveying & Construction Staking); Reyff Electric (Electrical).

Silver Level Sponsor (\$2,500 to \$4,999) - Army National Guard (Memorial Statue); Bay Valley Plastic (PVC piping and fittings); Ferriera Landscaping (labor); Martin's Metal (Memorial Trellis Fabrication); Matson Navigation (storage containers); Rock Source (decorative boulders), Steve Cole (Landscape Labor); Stockton TRI (steel rolling); Valley Iron (Memorial Trellis Steel); and White Cap Construction Supply (erosion control materials).

We have also received numerous smaller donations all of which allows the construction to move forward. However, in order to complete the project, we still need: decomposed granite and bender board; exercise station equipment; concrete material; formwork materials; ironwork labor; masonry materials and labor; plumbing labor; and rip rap & cobble for the dry creek bed.

The mission of the 4-HEROES project is to create Lawson Memorial Park, in memory of Sergeant First-Class Isaac Lawson and others who have sacrificed their lives in service to their country during the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. This is an environmentally respectful, youth driven service-learning project focused on supporting Solano County's local military personnel and their loved ones, through the development of a 1/2 acre memorial and recreational park adjacent to the Fairfield National Guard Armory on Parker Road.



Upon its completion, Lawson Memorial Park will serve 170 military personnel and their 130 families attached to the 49th Military Police Brigade. A quiet grotto area will serve as the focal point of the park, elevated on a gentle hill. It will house the memorial statue honoring all fallen service personnel, and benches with covered trellises for peaceful reflection. At the entrance to Lawson Memorial Park will be a ceremony staging area, to be used by up to 300 military personnel and their families. A small concrete V.I.P. seating area is planned with the Army National Guard Insignia etched into the concrete. Additional amenities planned for the park include a jogging path with exercise stations along the park perimeter and a covered, built-in BBQ area to accommodate as many as 250 to 300 people.

To make monetary, materials or labor donations, contact:

Deb Galway, Solano County 4-H Volunteer at 707-455-8211

or e-mail grndctr@solanowireless.com

OR

Valerie Williams, Solano County 4-H Program Representative, at 707-784-1319

or email vawilliams@ucdavis.edu.