

*Lewiston
History
Mysteries*

VFW Launches “Circle of Honor” Project Lewiston Rallies to Pay Tribute to Vets

New Memorial Will Replace Existing One

The Lewiston Veterans of Foreign Wars (Downriver Post 7487) is embarking on a major project that will transform the current Veterans Memorial at Academy Park into a “Circle of Honor” that will pay tribute to all veterans who have lived or worked in the village or town of Lewiston. Organizers are saying it will become one of the most distinctive small town memorials in America.

It will replace the current memorial at Academy Park which was dedicated in 1955. Visitors to the existing memorial have to take a step down to view the honor stones. The new memorial will be on one level and more convenient and safer for visitors.

Above the eternal flame an inscription will read, “America’s Flame Burns Brightly, Fueled by the Courage and Sacrifice of Those Who Have Defended Our Freedoms.” Volunteer Post Commander Bill Justyk said, “This will stand for generations as a testament to the way Lewiston expresses its appreciation to those who have preserved and protected our freedoms. We want to make Lewiston proud.”

It is hoped that the project will be completed by Veterans Day 2019 or Memorial Day 2020.

Do you have a family member you want to honor?

If you have a relative or loved one, living or deceased, who has served in the military and has lived or worked in Lewiston, he or she is eligible to be included on the memorial honor stones for a donation of \$150. You can download an application form with instructions by going to the VFW website at: lewistonvfw.org Along with your application and donation, please include a copy of your veteran’s honorable discharge papers (DD-214). Veterans who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces since the American Revolution are eligible to have their names inscribed on the memorial.

Questions? Please contact project coordinator Vince Canosa at 716-343-4358.

How You Can Help Support the Circle of Honor

The VFW is requesting help and donations from all segments of the community and is grateful for donations, large and small. You can easily help by donating online at: gofundme.com/circleofhonor (you can also access the site by going to: lewistonvfw.org.) or by sending a check in any amount to: VFW Downriver Post 7487, PO Box 1164, Lewiston, NY 14092.

Individuals or businesses who donate \$100 or more will receive a commemorative keepsake coin that features a profile of the memorial.



Granite Circle Will Feature Eagle and Flame

Two special elements of the memorial will include a new 23 foot diameter granite platform that will feature a large engraved image of the U.S. eagle defense symbol, in addition to the eternal flame that will be positioned in the centerpiece behind glass to keep it safe from the elements and away from children. The memorial will be located at Academy Park.



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Historic Lewiston placemats written and designed by volunteer, Lee Simonson.

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