



Newsletter of the Minnesota Military Family Tribute

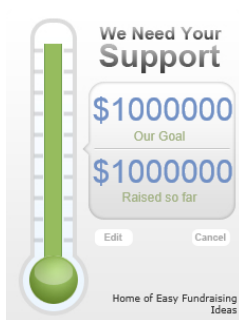
April, 2014

Jenifer Navratil-Skjerven, Editor

MFT FUNDRAISING REACHES \$1,000,000 GOAL!

With the funds raised at the WCCO News Radio 830 Dave Lee Gutter Bowl (see story on page 2), the Minnesota Military Family Tribute is pleased to announce the achievement of the \$1,000,000 goal for the construction of the Tribute.

Teri Popp, President of the MFT, is excited to announce: "We have met our fundraising goal and can now build the Minnesota Military Family Tribute on the grounds of the Minnesota State Capitol Mall. We gratefully acknowledge all of our sponsors who have contributed the first of its kind - tribute. They all understand the importance of military families to our lives. The sacrifices those families have made through the history of our Nation are significant. This Tribute stands as a permanent 'thank you' to the many military families who have given their all."



The Minnesota Military Family Tribute would not be possible without the generous donations from our sponsors.

Five Star Founding Partners



Four Star Sponsors

Hubbard Broadcasting Foundation
K.A.H.R. Foundation
The Nelson Family Foundation
Sexton Family Foundation
Alice Strobel Revocable Trust

MFT Groundbreaking Ceremony Announced

The groundbreaking ceremony for the Minnesota Military Family Tribute will take place on Wednesday, June 4, 2014 starting at 11 am on the Minnesota State Capitol grounds in St. Paul.

Designed to honor the families of active and veteran members of the military, the Tribute will be the first of its kind in the nation. Poised on the grounds of the Minnesota State Capitol Mall, the Tribute will thank those that have made, and continue to make, sacrifices here at home.

Framing the south end of the Minnesota State Capitol Mall, the Tribute will consist of three main components: the *Gold Star Table*, *Story Stones* and the *Thank You Military and Veteran Family Walkway*. The Gold Star Table recognizes the supreme sacrifice of Gold Star Families - the life of a loved one. Its five-pointed foundation resembles the Gold Star. The Story Stones will represent the counties from which Minnesota soldiers hail and will include excerpts from correspondence sent by family members, providing a window into the lives of our military and veteran families and their sacrifices. Finally, the Walkway will respond to the seasons through a majestic row of trees lining the promenade.

For all, the Tribute will serve as a reminder of the sacrifices military and veteran families make to our Nation. The Tribute shows military and veteran families we thank them, we care and we will never forget. The Tribute will forever stand as a thank you to every Minnesota military and veteran family member – past, present and future.

To build the tribute, \$1 million in funds were secured through private donations, including generous contributions from the Tribute's Founding Partners: Davisco, Federated Insurance, Popp Communications, Starkey, and Wells Fargo.

The groundbreaking ceremony will take place June 4th starting at 11 am, with a program beginning at 12pm. Speakers will include: Bill Popp, Chair of the Minnesota Military Family Tribute; Ted Lee, HGA and a Blue Star Family representative; Ken and Julie Drevnick, Gold Star Family representatives; Congressman Erik Paulsen, Minnesota's Third Congressional District; Larry Shellito, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs; and other dignitaries.



MFT GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY
Wednesday, June 4, 2014 • 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
State Capitol Mall

MFT VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP

Ross Altheimer
 Mick Anselmo
 Stephen Brown
 David Chin
 Laura Chin
 Michael Crusham
 Dennis Doyle
 Megan Doyle
 Julie Drevnick
 Martha Eckerline
 Pete Eckerline
 Tom Emmer, Former Representative,
 State of Minnesota
 Katherine Fairchild
 Dorothy Halverson
 Jim Halverson
 LTC (Ret.) Warren G. Herreid II
 John Hines
 Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Joe Kelly
 Senator Amy Klobuchar, State of
 Minnesota Representative,
 United States Senate
 Laurie Kruhoeffer
 Theodore Lee
 Tom Lyons
 Tom McGill
 Tammy Mencil
 Paula Mertens
 Tom Mertens
 Brent Miller
 Kate Miller
 Mary Niemeyer, Past President MFT
 Mike Niemeyer
 Major General Richard C. Nash,
 Minnesota National Guard
 Adjutant General
 Major Lyndsey Olson,
 Minnesota Army National
 Guard
 Col (Ret.) Gary D. Olson
 Master Sgt. (Ret.) Terrence Palmer
 Congressman Erik Paulsen
 Mary Pawlenty
 The Honorable Tim Pawlenty
 William J. "Bill" Popp, Chair MFT
 Teri E. Popp, President MFT
 Kari Rominski
 Dan Rominski
 Paula F. Sattler
 Joe Schmit
 Laura Sahr Schmit
 Brig. Gen (Ret.) Denny Schulstad
 Evonne Shellito
 Lt. Gen (Bvt.) (Ret.) Larry Shellito,
 Commissioner of Veteran
 Affairs, State of Minnesota
 Col (Ret.) Denny Shields
 Maj. Gen (Ret.) Harry Sieben
 Jenifer Navratil-Skjervén
 Adam Soffer, Secretary MFT
 Jill Stephenson
 Maj. Gen (Ret.) Jon Trost
 Karin Trost
 Guy Willis
 Karrie Willis, Treasurer MFT
 Chris Wright
 Representative Kurt Zellers, Speaker
 of the House, Minnesota House
 of Representatives

WCCO NEWS RADIO 830 DAVE LEE GUTTER BOWL 8 RAISES MORE THAN \$65,000

Falling snow and ice-packed roads didn't keep more than 240 bowlers, supporters and volunteers away from the WCCO News Radio 830 8th Annual Dave Lee's Gutter Bowl benefitting the Minnesota Military Family Tribute.

Presented by Walser Automotive Group, Federated Insurance, and POPP Communications, the bowling tournament raised more than \$65,000 to support the development of the Minnesota Military Family Tribute, pushing the total raised for the Tribute to its \$1 million goal.

More than 40 teams competed in the tournament, held February 21st, at Brunswick Zone in Brooklyn Park. The event included live broadcasts from the Morning News with Dave Lee and John Hines, breakfast from Perkins, special gifts, mascot appearances, an extensive silent auction and more. All participants received a Dave Lee's Gutter Bowl 8 bowling shirt, as well as information regarding the Minnesota Military Family Tribute.

The MFT would like to extend special thanks to Dave Lee, Mick Anselmo and Chris Kalis, as well as the staff at CBS Radio and WCCO for making the event a smashing success!



Team Popp Communications



Ken and Julie Drevnick, Gold Star Family, with Dave Lee



Team Walser



Mike Lynch and Dave Lee

Media Sponsors

Telling the story of the Minnesota Military Family Tribute is integral to the success of our efforts to establish the Tribute.

The story would not be told without the help of our Founding Media Sponsors: CBS, Clear Channel and the Minnesota Timberwolves. Due to their support, we were able to secure the Founding Partners by offering on-air recognition for their generous donations.



Minnesota Military Family Tribute
 620 Mendelssohn Avenue North
 Golden Valley, MN 55427
 Phone: (763) 231-2131
 info@militaryfamilytribute.com
 www.MilitaryFamilyTribute.com