

Kiwanis grow Field of Honor at City Hall

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Harold Green with the two flags sponsored in honor of his brothers Merle and Albert Green, veterans of WWII.

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SEMINOLE – Four years ago, when the Kiwanis Breakfast Club of Seminole installed its first Field of Honor display at Seminole City Hall during the month of November, the club put only 24 American flags on display. Each flag was available for sponsorship by an

individual, business or organization to honor a veteran. Uncertain of how the project would be received by the community, the group kept that initial number low.

“Those flags sold out pretty quickly,” said David Green, project chair.

Year after year, the number of flags available for sponsorship has grown – 173 in its second year, 212 last year. Each year, demand has exceeded supply, Green said.

This year’s patriotic display has expanded even more to 300 flags, which will spill over from the lawn in front of Seminole City Hall to the grass in front of the post office next door.

“It’s going to be an impressive display,” Green said. “We want people to notice it as they drive down 113th Street.”

The Kiwanis are already thinking about further expansion. Next year, the group hopes to fly flags on both sides of the street and is already in talks with St. Petersburg College about possibly using their property directly across from City Hall.

In the meantime, though, the group’s primary focus is on finding sponsors for the 300 flags purchased for the 2018 Field of Honor. Sponsorship of a 3-by-5 American flag mounted on an 8-foot steel pole is \$35 each. Each flag also has a customized military-style streamer attached for the name of the veteran being honored. The streamer includes the name of the veteran, years served, military service logo, the Kiwanis logo and the 2018 Field of Honor year. Sponsors can keep their streamers as a memento once the display comes down.

A Field of Honor ceremony featuring local officials and a speaker from MacDill Air Force Base will be held Friday, Nov. 2, 10 to 11 a.m., in the City Council chambers at Seminole City Hall, 9199 113th St. This event is open to the public.

To sponsor a flag in Field of Honor, visit the Kiwanis Breakfast Club of Seminole website, www.kiwanisseminolebreakfast.com. Sponsorship applications are also available at Seminole City Hall. The last day to sponsor a flag for the 2018 Field of Honor will be Monday, Oct. 22.

Proceeds from this sponsorship will be used to grow the Field of Honor and will also help to support the club’s other community programs, including Adopt-A-School and Bring Up Grades at six local elementary schools, Family Fun Fishing Days, K-Kids Clubs, “Reading is Fun-damental” and the Special Olympics.



From left, Kiwanis club members Brett Kennedy, Wayne Mckenney, Bill & Cathy Jones, Lee Walters, Lisa Sparacino, Jim Allen & Leah Hoffman installing last year's preliminary Field of Honor flag display.
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Craig Gross, left, with Sheriff Deputy Tony Jurado beside the flag honoring Gross' son, Army Cpl Frank R. Gross, who was killed in action in Afghanistan.
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