

News and stories

Monument: Gold Star families deserve recognition

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Families across the Mid-Ohio Valley know the sacrifices made on the homefront when loved ones leave to defend our nation.

“Every community, really of any size, (has) Gold Star families in them, going back to when we first became a nation,” said Hershel “Woody” Williams, whose Medal of Honor Foundation helps bring Gold Star Family Monuments to communities, including Parkersburg.

“It’s about remembering and making sure folks aren’t forgotten for their sacrifice,” said Parkersburg Mayor Tom Joyce.

And, so, as plans are made for bringing a Gold Star Monument to City Park, “There’ll be components that are specific to Parkersburg.”

Of course, it takes a team to bring something like this to fruition. Local veterans, organizations and companies will have to do some fundraising to complete the planned monument; and the city is providing in-kind contributions.

But the end result will be a place where families of fallen soldier can “go and meditate and know that their loved one is not going to be

forgotten," Williams said.

The committee formed to bring this monument to City Park has some important work ahead. Those who set the project in motion are to be commended.

May their effort bring some comfort to those "Gold Star families and relatives who have sacrificed a loved one for our freedom."