

News and stories

Fundraiser planned for Gold Star monument

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Cooke County residents and visitors will have an opportunity to meet three national icons who have joined together to recognize those who have died in service to the country and their surviving family members.

Medal of Honor Recipient Hershel "Woody" Williams will host a fundraiser for Gainesville's Gold Star Family Memorial March 9, just a few weeks after being chosen by the NFL to perform the ceremonial Super Bowl coin toss. He will be joined by special guest Medal of Honor Recipient Hiroshi H. Miyamura.

Also joining him for the 7 p.m. fundraising event will be four-time Super Bowl Champion Terry Bradshaw. Both will speak at the Crossroads Baptist Church, 2201 W. California St., in Gainesville.

The free event will include a live auction of signed jerseys and other autographed memorabilia. There will also be a patriotic choir and honor guard recognition of service members and Gold Star family members. There will be a live auction of personally autographed memorabilia by the Iwo Jima Medal of Honor Recipient and Bradshaw. All proceeds will be used to build Gainesville's own Gold Star Families Memorial Monument.

At 10 a.m. on March 10, Williams will be the featured speaker at the groundbreaking ceremony for the Gold Star Families Memorial Monument adjacent to the Cooke County Veterans Memorial at Leonard Park in Gainesville.

Once completed, Gainesville's Gold Monument will join Williams' nationwide effort to have at least one such memorial in all 50 states. Today there are 31 memorials dedicated, 39 states represented and 50 memorials monuments in progress.

One side of the black granite monument bears the words "Gold Star Families Memorial Monument, a tribute to Gold Star Families and Relatives who have sacrificed a Loved One for our Freedom."

The other side tells a story through the four granite panels: Homeland, family, patriot and sacrifice. The scenes on each panel are a reflection of each community's Gold Star Families and their fallen Heroes. At the center of this tribute is the cutout silhouette represents the service member who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom.

For more information visit the website

<http://hwwmohf.org/gainesville-tx.html> and follow the Facebook page GoldStarFamiliesMemorialGainesvilleTexas

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