

# War memorial volunteer comes through

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Winfield's first veterans memorial came a step closer to reality Thursday after stumbling earlier this week.

Construction worker Mark Meyers, who initially volunteered to do the job, came through in the 11th hour.

Meyers originally offered to dig the foundation but then realized he didn't have the time. In stepped Wheaton resident Michael Oury, who offered his services but then discovered he didn't have the equipment to dig a hole as small as organizers wanted.

Oury referred the project to a colleague, who never returned or-

ganizer's calls, said Jim Stepanek, one of the four organizers.

But Meyers came through late Thursday evening and volunteered to pour the memorial's foundation Saturday morning, said Stepanek.

Meyers says he'll rent the equipment to do the job.

If he cannot, Stepanek said the group would go ahead with Oury's equipment, although it might mean the memorial would need more concrete than planned — and cost more.

The memorial is scheduled to be dedicated after Winfield's "Good Old Days" parade Sept. 9 with a 21-gun salute and possibly a four-helicopter flyover.

Four black granite plaques set in a brick wall will name each of

this century's major wars.

A black granite plaque in front of the wall will be inscribed with gold letters saying: "We don't honor wars, but the Americans who died in them."

The total cost for the memorial is estimated at \$10,000, including donated labor and supplies. Donations still are welcome, Stepanek said.

Additional money would be used to build a sidewalk and bridge to connect the memorial to the north side of the park.

The Winfield Park District donated the land for the memorial, and the chamber of commerce, residents and merchants donated mortar, bricks and money to the project.

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