

Park to become proud centerpiece of patriotism

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Island, is the project manager and is on the site all hours of any given day with members of his team. Much like he led the team that built the Miracle League Field in Veteran's Park, this project has become a labor of love and honor for Drexelius. While disappointed he will not see the most elaborate celebration in town history occur in less than two months, he will now focus on completing the fundraising goal.

What impresses the entire committee is that the park will be more than just a tribute to DeGlopper, a soldier who posthumously received the Medal of Honor, the highest award given by the United States military. He gave his life in the Battle of Normandy campaign during World War II.

Located at the intersection of Baseline Road and Grand Island Boulevard, the DeGlopper Memorial Park will honor and recognize all Grand Island residents past, present and future who have proudly served this country as a member of the military. The expanded site will include a memorial to all branches of the Armed Forces. In addition, the Gold Star of bricks around the statue was set in place to honor the Gold Star Mothers.

"Our veterans deserve a park they can be proud of and they will be proud of this park," Anderson said.

The park will be a learning experience for kids and for people to be able to see family members' names on a wall or pavers. It will be a place to learn more about Charles N. DeGlopper and a list of others who gave their lives for our freedom, but also a place for members of the Grand Island community to return thanks.

For more information, or to donate, visit www.degloppermemorial.org.

Meal distribution has not gone unnoticed

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Sidway became headquarters for "The COVID-19 Alternative Grand Island School Meal Program" with 13 staff and volunteers working from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m., wearing gloves and masks and working in a socially distant assembly line to fill paper bags with breakfast items, as well as fresh fruit, juice, milk, sandwich and a snack for lunch. This follows the state meal requirements for schools.

Distribution days are Monday, Wednesday and Fridays, with pickup sites at Sidway and William Kaegebein Elementary (1690 Love Road).

Theresa Alizadeh, the district's transportation supervisor, arranged four buses and drivers to transport teachers and staff who deliver bags to student homes by knocking on the door and leaving the bag without any interaction with student or parent. The team averages 70 deliveries with meals for two days and to several houses that have more than one student residing there.

"We are taking every precaution we can to prevent exposure," Smith explained. "I just cannot say enough about the team I have here. They are all going above and beyond, and I am so proud of them. It has also been great working with transportation department on this project. They have been very accommodating."

The district's meal distribution to the Island's thousands of students has not gone unnoticed. Smith said they have received so many compliments from parents since this began, including many who now find themselves unemployed.



From left, Mi Mi and Ariel Fulbright preparing sandwiches in a kitchen at Charlotte Sidway Elementary.

Grand Island Supervisor John Whitney, PE, said he is equally impressed.

"It is just fantastic that our students, who are now able to use technology to learn at home, are receiving daily meals from the district," he said. "Once again, it just shows how our great community is pulling together, and God bless the staff and volunteers who are putting their lives on the line to help prepare and deliver these meals."

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2020 Grand Island Easter Coloring Contest Winners
Thank you to everyone who entered!

Ages 4-6	Ages 7-9	Ages 10-12
1st Place – Mara Gravino	1st Place – Matilyn Wolski	1st Place – Reese Johnson
2nd Place – Dominic Patti	2nd Place – Allison Hall	2nd Place – Molly Fiebelkorn
3rd Place – Hazel Nabozny	3rd Place – Kate Zilbauer	3rd Place – Dominic Hojnalki
4th Place – Emerson Loncar	4th Place – Aiden Loncar	4th Place – Avery smith

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PTSA raffle

The Grand Island High School PTSA is currently holding its 36th annual plant sale. This year, the PTSA needs your support more than ever. The proceeds from this fundraiser will help raise funds for the Senior Class of 2020 scholarships. The PTSA also donates each year to the post-prom celebration for the seniors.

There is a large variety of plants, including hanging baskets and beautiful patio pots.

Orders may be placed with a credit card online through this link, <https://www.grandisland-schools.org/Page/1184>, or by printing a paper copy of the form and mailing it along with a check to Tracey Shickluna at 43 Island Park Circle.

All orders are due by Wednesday, April 29. Pickup will be from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Friday, May 22, at the Building and Grounds garage behind Sidway. Orders will be placed in one's car when they pull in. There will be no personal contact.

For more information, contact Tracey at 774-8947.

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Your gift will not only help us with printing costs, but you'll be taking a step to support your local community. Be a local hero and keep people informed, as we all work together to flatten the curve and reopen society.

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