

# MAYOR & COUNCIL AGENDA COVER SHEET

**MEETING DATE:**

April 9, 2007

**CALL TO PODIUM:**

**RESPONSIBLE STAFF:**

**David B. Humpton**

**AGENDA ITEM:**

(please check one)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Presentation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Proclamation/Certificate
<input type="checkbox"/>	Appointment (Reappointments)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Hearing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Historic District
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consent Item
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ordinance
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resolution
<input type="checkbox"/>	Policy Discussion
<input type="checkbox"/>	Work Session Discussion Item
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other: From the City Manager

**PUBLIC HEARING HISTORY:**

(Please complete this section if agenda item is a public hearing)

Introduced	
Advertised	
Hearing Date	
Record Held Open	
Policy Discussion	

<b>TITLE:</b>
Memorial to Those Who Gave Their Lives During Wars/Conflicts

<b>SUPPORTING BACKGROUND:</b>
Please see the attached memorandum with additional information on military plaques and monuments in the City of Gaithersburg.

<b>DESIRED OUTCOME:</b>
Hear presentation and receive guidance.



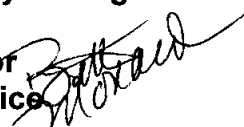
**Gaithersburg**

A CHARACTER COUNTS! CITY

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**TO: David B. Humpton, City Manager**

**FROM: Britta Monaco, Director**   
**Public Information Office**

**DATE: April 3, 2007**

**RE: Memorial to Those Who Gave Their Lives During Wars/Conflicts**

Per the direction of the Mayor and Council to consider ways to recognize those in our armed services who have lost their lives in the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, the informal Patriotic Observance Committee comprised of Dick Knoebel, Capt. Jim Kelley (NJROTC at GHS), Fred Felton, Dorthy Winder, and me, met on March 13.

Two concerns were addressed: (a) Would we be slighting those who fought and died in other conflicts since the Vietnam War if we only recognized those in Iraq and Afghanistan? and (b) Recognizing individuals by name on a plaque during an ongoing conflict would be challenging.

The Committee reviewed the City's existing monuments (see attached for verbiage):

- ***Gaithersburg Veteran's Monument*** – Recognizing all who serve – Concert Pavilion Park in front of City Hall
- ***World War II Service Plaque*** – Recognizing those who served during WWII – Near flagpoles at City Hall (erected by Gaithersburg Homemakers Club)
- ***General Service Plaques*** – Recognizing all who serve – Christman Park near flagpoles (erected by VFW and American Legion)
- ***Gaithersburg Vietnam Memorial*** – Recognizing eight servicemen who died in the Vietnam Conflict – Christman Park
- ***Christman Memorial Park*** – Plaque with Navy Cross Award Citation

The Committee feels it is appropriate for the City to erect a memorial at Christman Park recognizing *all* residents who have given the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country, regardless of the conflict. We would like to announce this initiative at the Memorial Day Service on May 30, 2007, and perhaps dedicate it at the 2008 Memorial Day event.

attachment

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**Council Vice President**  
Stanley J. Alster

**Mayor**  
Sidney A. Katz

**City Manager**  
David B. Humpton

**Council Members**

Geri Edens

Henry F. Marraffa, Jr.

John B. Schlichting

Michael A. Sesma

## **Military Plaques and Monuments in the City of Gaithersburg**

### **City Hall**

#### **Gaithersburg Veteran's Monument – In Concert Pavilion Park**

In freedom, a grateful community honors all men and women whose military service and sacrifice for the nation gives us the privilege to treasure the past, be thankful for each day and plan the future.

#### **World War II Service Plaque – In Front of Flagpoles**

In honor of those who served their country during World War II.  
Erected by the Gaithersburg Homemakers Club

### **Christman Park**

#### **General Service Plaques – Near Flagpoles**

1. This flag pole presented by the members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9862 in honor of our comrades in arms who serve America in a time of conflict.  
April 30, 1988
2. Barber Briggs Post 104 dedicates this flag lighting to those comrades in arms who served this nation.

#### **Gaithersburg Vietnam Memorial – Monolith Stone**

In honor and memory of those who gave their lives in action against an armed enemy in the Republic of Vietnam.

William J. Christman, III  
Charles Richard Dale  
Clayton Eugene Fraley  
John Ault LeCompte  
Frederick Richard Neff  
Francis Frank Novello  
James W. Prather  
James Paul Purkey

Erected and dedicated by families, friends and neighbors.  
We will never forget.

**\*Christman Memorial Park (entire Park named in his honor, with plaque)**

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY WASHINGTON

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the NAVY CROSS posthumously to

SECOND LIEUTENANT WILLIAM J. CHRISTMAN, III  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS RESERVE

for service as set forth in the following:

CITATION:

For extraordinary heroism while serving as a Platoon Commander with Company A, First Battalion, Ninth Marines, Third Marine Division, in connection with operations against the enemy in the Republic of Vietnam. Early on the afternoon of 22 February 1969, Company A was patrolling north of Ashau Valley in Quang Tri Province when its lead element was pinned down by intense fire from a large North Vietnamese Army force well concealed in a heavily fortified bunker complex. Reacting instantly, Second Lieutenant Christman deployed his platoon to the right flank of the lead platoon and skillfully maneuvered his men forward in a coordinated attack until halted and pinned down by the extremely heavy volume of cross fire from the North Vietnamese emplacements and numerous sniper positions in trees. He directed the fire of his machine guns and light antitank weapons against the North Vietnamese emplacements and mounted such an aggressive assault that his platoon moved through the forward enemy positions. Undaunted by the enemy rounds impacting around him, he fired his light antitank assault weapon, and fearlessly charging across the fire swept terrain hurled hand grenades into a hostile emplacement, killing seven North Vietnamese soldiers and silencing their machine gun. Coming under fire from an adjacent bunker, he was mortally wounded while attempting to fire his light antitank assault weapon against the emplacement. With his remaining strength, he resolutely propped himself up on one arm to direct his men in outflanking and destroying the enemy bunker. His heroic actions inspired his men to such aggressive action in a coordinated company attack that 105 North Vietnamese soldiers were killed and a large bunker complex was destroyed. By his courage, bold initiative, and unwavering devotion to duty, Second Lieutenant Christman upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

For the President,  
JOHN H. CHAFFEE  
Secretary of the Navy