



**PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:  
Sparky Prisby Trustee  
Cherry Valley Mens Club  
815/494-0856, [sparkyprisby@comcast.net](mailto:sparkyprisby@comcast.net)**

## **CHERRY VALLEY ARMED FORCES MEMORIAL**

Cherry Valley Men's Club is proud to announce it has received a \$5000 grant for the Cherry Valley Armed Forces Memorial. The grant was awarded by the Dr. Loius & Violet Rubin Fund of the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois' Community Grants Program as well as an additional \$620.17 grant was awarded by the Mary S. Damman, Regent of the Daughters of the American Colonists, Robert Hempstead Chapter of the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois' Community Grants Program.

### **TIMELINE OF PROJECT GOALS:**

**December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020:** Cherry Valley Men's Club met with the Cherry Valley Village Board to propose partnering with the Village of Cherry Valley to construct an Armed Forces Memorial on South Mill Road near the intersection of Mill and US 20. The Village Board agreed to move forward with the project.

**May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021:** Through generous donations from the community and local businesses, the Cherry Valley Men's Club was able to fund Phase I which included five 30-foot flag poles for five major branches of the Armed Forces and one 35-foot flagpole for the American Flag. Phase I of the project was completed on Memorial Day 2021.

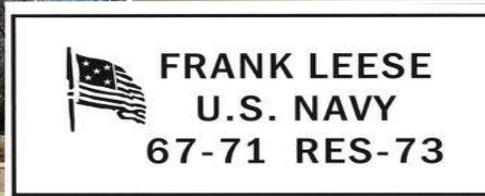
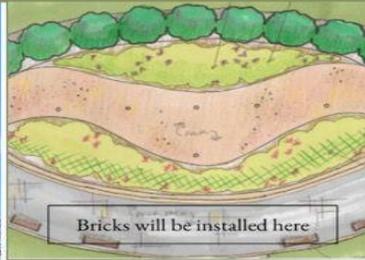


**October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022:** Completed Step 1 of Phase II which included plantings and a memorial wall, in front of the existing flag poles.



**March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023:** A Personalized Brick Paver Campaign to raise funds for the Cherry Valley Armed Forces Memorial began. Personalized bricks can be purchased with the name and military info of a family member or friend that has or is currently serving in the Armed Forces. Bricks are also available for businesses, loved ones, family, or cherishing a special date.

## CHERRY VALLEY ARMED FORCES MEMORIAL **BRICK PAVER CAMPAIGN**



Celebrate a special moment in life, honor a loved one, or cherish a special date. Become a CVAFM Brick Paver owner today!

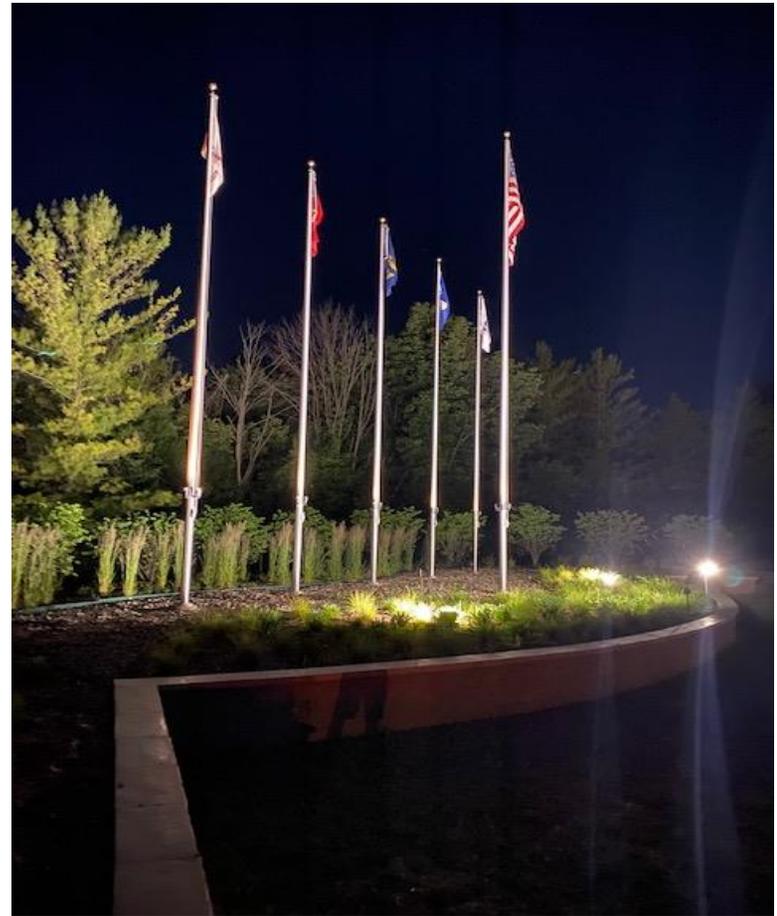
Each brick paver is \$150. If you'd like to include a military icon it will be an additional \$10.



To personalize your brick paver please scan QR code or visit: <https://forms.gle/z16z9ZgRN2LnBg32A>

Brought to you by the Cherry Valley Men's Club, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization Fed Tax # 90-0674903

**July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023:** Upgraded lighting of the flagpoles as part of Step 2 of Phase II.



**November 11th, 2023:** Completed Step 2 of Phase II which included installation of the brick patio as well as additional landscaping lights to illuminate the memorial wall and brick pavers. A brick patio from the base of the existing memorial wall was installed that includes approximately 100 engraved bricks. Orders of bricks continue to be received for future installation of the engraved bricks in 2024.





The Cherry Valley Men's Club has partnered with the Village of Cherry Valley to construct an Armed Forces Memorial on South Mill Road. Our Vision is to display five Service Flags and an American Flag flying proudly in honor of our Veterans as you enter (or exit) the Village. Many of us have friends and family members that have served and continue to serve in the Armed Forces and understand that if it were not for these brave men and women, we would not have the freedoms we have today. The Cherry Valley Men's Club believes **ALL** Veterans should be remembered for their courage in protecting our homeland.

As you can see by the timeline provided, this project has had some aggressive goals that started back in December 2020 when we first approached the Village of Cherry Valley. With the assistance from grants similar to what CFNIL provided, donations that we continue to receive and other grants both locally and afar we continue to show progress on this project. Our vision when we first started was to convert the property that was owned by the Village of Cherry Valley into a Cherry Valley Armed Forces Memorial that ALL could be proud of. With the completion of Step 2 of Phase II we are extremely proud of the progress we have made in 3 years. Phase III is to add the ability to access the Memorial by providing parking and a walkway for those that want to reflect near the flags. The Village is actively pursuing this as we continue to accept brick paver orders and maintain the area. We will continue to push forward with Phase III with the goal of providing a better access to this already Beautiful Memorial.

The Cherry Valley Men's Club is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Your contribution is deductible in the manner and to the extent allowed by the Internal Revenue Code. Our "*Mission is to support activities that enrich the lives of the Cherry Valley residents, with a focus on the children of the community.*"

For more information on the Cherry Valley Men's Club and how you can support this amazing project as well as others that we are involved in, please go to the CV Men's Club Website located at <http://www.cvcvcv.org>

About :

About the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois: The mission of the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois is to inspire endowment and promote philanthropy for the current and future needs of the people of Northern Illinois. Since its founding in 1953 CFNIL has granted more than \$85 million for charitable purposes. Learn more about CFNIL's history, grantmaking, and commitment to endowment at <https://cfnil.org>.