

Sugarcreek Township

An Open Space Community

Preliminary Plans/Considerations for the Sugarcreek Township Veterans Memorial



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Sugarcreek Township Leadership



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A Memorial to Honor Veterans from the Six Military Branches



- Air Force
- Army
- Coast Guard



- Marine Corps
- Navy
- Space Force

Memorial Design/Concept Ideas



Paver Brick Fundraiser



- Our Memorial Vision includes a fundraiser where all Military Active Duty and Veterans (*Red Bricks*) as well as Community Members, First Responders, and Businesses (*Gray Bricks*) are invited to participate by purchasing a brick
- Team is coordinating with the same company that did the bricks at Youngs Jersey Dairy
- <https://4everbricks.com>



- Located in Bellbrook (West Franking Street near Vemco)
- Same location at the Basketball Court and Tennis Courts
- Question, “Why does the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Community need two Memorial parks?”

Why a Separate/New Veteran's Memorial? Benefits for the Community

- Proposed locations are very Visible to draw citizens in
- Proposed design will be Personalized
 - Dedication Bricks for loved ones
 - Active/Veteran Military (Red)
 - Community Members (Gray)
 - First Responders (Gray)
 - Businesses (Gray)
- Proposed locations are easily Accessible and walkable to the High School, Middle School, Bike/Hike Path, Bellbrook Cemetery, and the majority of Sugarcreek residents
- Proposed locations are Adaptive
 - Design will accommodate large numbers of people for JROTC Cadet and Community Patriotic Ceremonies (Parking available)
 - Design will also allow for quiet contemplation and remembrance (Benches)



Potential Locations for the Memorial



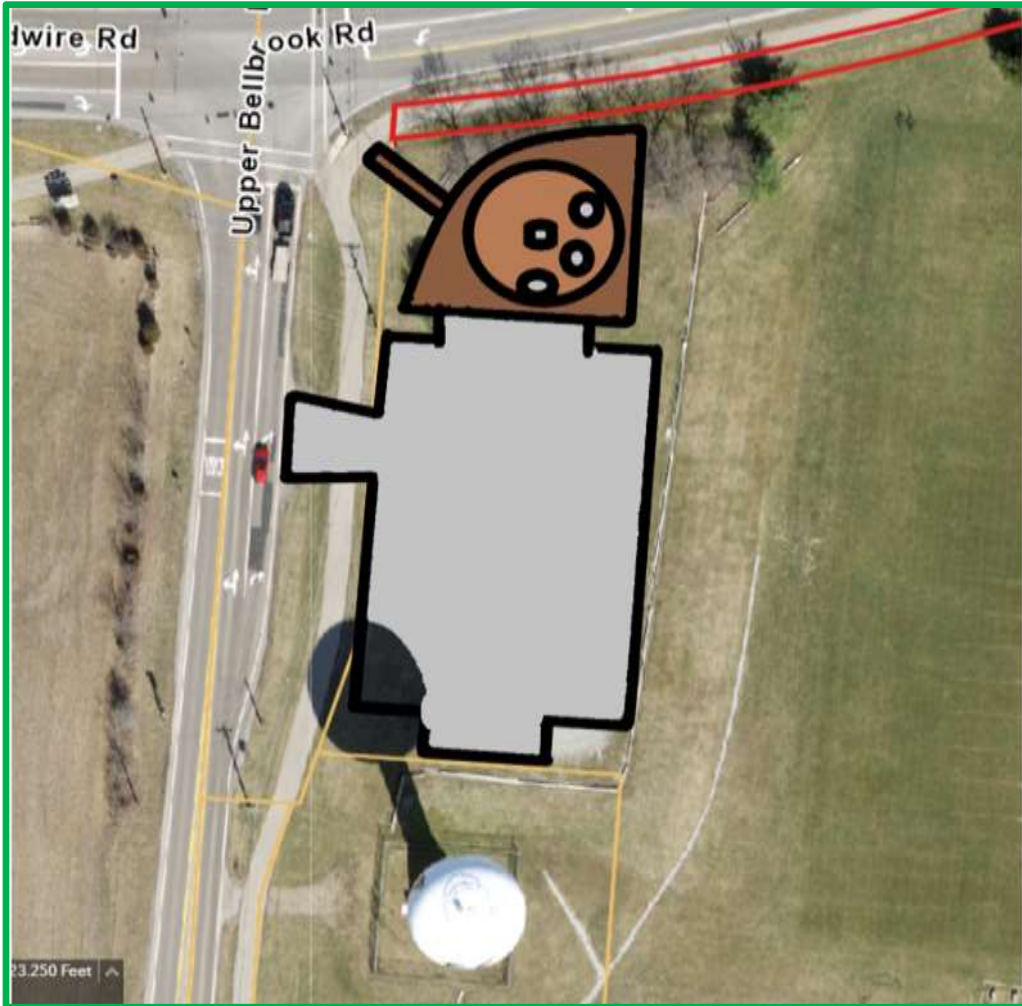
- We are interested in the two locations listed below in order of our preference...
 - Pine Court - northeast corner of the intersection of Upper Bellbrook and Feedwire Roads
 - North of High School Water Tower - southeast corner of the intersection of Upper Bellbrook and Feedwire Roads
- Why the “ask” of the School and Park Districts versus putting the Veteran’s Memorial on Township property that we already own?
- Vision is for a Gathering Spot that is visible, accessible, adaptive, and a magnet for **Community Activities**

Pine Court Location (Option 1)

- The B-S School District gifted for free (or ~\$1) the Pine Court parcel of land to the Park years ago when Dr. Keith St. Pierre was the School Superintendent
- The Township anticipates that the Memorial Site would require ~ 1/2 Acre of Land and is willing to purchase this land at a fair market value
- Park indicated that it's their understanding that they can't provide the land to the Twp.
- May 2021, the three Park District Commissioners voted in favor of allowing the Twp. to build the Memorial here provided:
 - Parks want to maintain ownership of 1/2 acre property
 - Parks want ownership of the Veteran's Memorial
 - Parks want Township to pay for Memorial
 - Township does all future site maintenance indefinitely
- To utilize Capital Improvement Funds & Taxpayer Dollars
Township believes they must own the Memorial and Property vs. Park suggests earmarking \$ through their 501 C(3) non-profit called "Friends of the B-S Park District" through Greene Giving



North of HS Water Tower Location (Option 2)



- The Memorial would sit near/at the current location of the scrubby trees necessitating that they would likely have to be removed for Memorial construction
- The Township agrees to purchase 1/2 acre of land from the School at fair market value as well as paving the attached parking lot at no cost to the School
- The Township has been asked to put up substantial safety barriers between the bike path and the northern portion of Upper Bellbrook road to protect pedestrians should a driver swerve off the street (Perhaps steel posts or concrete bollards)
- Would need to ensure drainage goes toward the practice fields

■ **Need Access to Electrical Power**

- ❑ **Any Featured Flags will need to be lit at night**
- ❑ **Township plans to utilize Flock Remote Cameras for Security**
 - ❑ **The same cameras used by Police Departments**
 - ❑ **Would allow constant recording of the Memorial Site 24 / 7**
 - ❑ **Deters vandalism and provides objective evidence if it does occur**



■ **Township believes we need to own this Veteran Memorial property**

- ❑ **Funding Considerations to Reduce Costs**
 - ❑ **Applying for State Capital Improvement Funds through the Legislators**
 - ❑ **Brick Fundraiser**
- ❑ **Design, Building & Maintenance (Mowing, Snow Removal, etc.) Costs**
 - ❑ **Must own property to use Sugarcreek Funds to supplement site construction and later maintenance costs**

Conclusions – The Ask (Option 1)

- The Township would like School Board consideration for Option 1 or Option 2 and assistance in securing a definitive location for this Veteran’s Memorial
 - ❑ Need firm location by 3rd week of February to apply for State Capital Improvement Funds
 - ❑ (Option 1) Pine Court = First Choice
 - ❑ The Park District originally received this property for free from the School District
 - ❑ We understand that Dr. St. Pierre indicated that the land was originally given to the Park District with no stipulations for later uses
 - ❑ This Memorial benefits the School and Community by having a location that allows for meaningful patriotic events particularly with the JROTC and a scenic area for quiet contemplation (Location is walkable from Bellbrook Cemetery)
 - ❑ If this option has School Board Support, we ask that you work with the Park District to relay the message that you agree that your earlier land transfer does not preclude transferring or selling the Township ½ acre for this worthwhile Memorial site

Conclusions – The Ask (Option 2)

- ❑ (Option 2) North of High School Water Tower = Second Choice
 - ❑ Not as publicly visible as Pine Court location, but is helpful in that parking is already available
 - ❑ This location is conveniently located off the bike/hike path and is walkable for the majority of Sugarcreek residents
 - ❑ Would need to ensure that safety concerns are addressed with adequate barriers to protect pedestrians
 - ❑ If this option has School Board Support, we ask that you expeditiously approve the land transfer or purchase of approximately ½ acre so we can apply for available funding and the Township will, in turn, agree to pave the parking lot and install substantial pedestrian safety barriers





**We thank you for
your time,
consideration, and
efforts in helping
make this Veterans
Memorial a reality for
our Community!**