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Civil War monument planned for courthouse

AARON KEITH HARRIS
Staff Writer

XENIA – The grounds around the Greene County Courthouse may soon have another monument honoring American war veterans, this time with a marker in remembrance of the nation's bloodiest conflict.

The Greene County Civil War Discussion Group and the Sons of Union Veterans were recently granted approval for the space to establish a black granite monument near the cannon on the north side of the courthouse, said discussion group member DeAnn Richards.

If everything goes according to plan, the monument will be dedicated on July 10, 2008, exactly 143 years after the 74th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, the 10th Ohio Battery and the 154th Regiment Ohio Infantry were mustered out from the war.

"People have been trying to get this done for 142 years and now I'm as happy as a kid on Christmas Day," Richards said.

"We're very supportive of memorializing all of our war veterans," said Commissioner Rick Perales. "After all, they gave the ultimate sacrifice."

Monument supporters have worked with Dodds Monuments on a plan to design and build the monument, which would measure 4 feet tall, 30 inches wide and 8 inches deep.

But they still need to raise about \$3,100. That's why Mason jars to receive contributions will be popping up around the county soon, Richards said.

For more information about the project, including how to help raise funds, please e-mail the Greene County Civil War Discussion Group at gccivilwargroup@yahoo.com.

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