

Norfolk Insider

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“Traveling War Memorial Passes through Norfolk”



A traveling war memorial, "Remembering Our Fallen", passed through Norfolk Thursday noon making a brief stop at Divots Conference Center west of Norfolk before proceeding on to O'Neill where an exhibit will be set up through the weekend. Members of the City of Norfolk Fire Division, Police Division and the Nebraska American Legion Riders were on hand to pay tribute to the Nebraskans killed on and since September 11, 2001 in the War on Terror. A large U.S. flag strung from two fire trucks at Divots along with firefighters in full uniform were part of the tribute.

Lonnie Ford of Pender was one of the Legion Riders accompanying the exhibit. He lost his son, Joshua, in the Iraq War in 2006. In an Omaha World-Herald article in 2010 he had mentioned that he wished the names of those who had sacrificed for the country's freedoms could be remembered in some way. Bill and Evonne Williams of Omaha read his comments and, with the backing of the Omaha World-Herald newspaper, and financial support of several sponsors set up the "Remembering Our Fallen" war memorial in November 2010. The memorial includes photos of Nebraskans who have died in the War on Terror since September 11, 2001. It has been

traveling weekly throughout Nebraska for more than four years.

According to the website, <http://www.rememberingourfallen.org>, the purpose of the memorial is "to provide comfort to friends and family of the fallen, and to remind others of the tremendous cost paid by some. Its legacy will be that these men and women will never be forgotten and that their names will be remembered and spoken."

"This is fantastic. I told my daughter that I know Josh's name will always be remembered," Ford said.