

Paying Tribute to Those That Have Fallen

The United States Congress in a joint resolution has designated May 15th of each year as Police Memorial Day. It is on this day that ceremonies are conducted nationwide to recognize the law enforcement officers that have been lost in the line of duty. In Tullahoma we remember the five (5) officers that have died while serving the citizens of our community. In a tribute to those fallen officers, the Police Department and the Police Chaplains are making plans to erect a memorial. The Chaplains have agreed to spearhead the fundraiser for this memorial and assist with the necessary planning and logistical needs. The memorial monument will be placed on the grounds of the South Jackson Civic Center at the flagpole. The memorial will serve as a reminder of law enforcement's selfless service to our community, citizens, and visitors, and will represent the community's gratitude for their sacrifice. The memorial monument purchase, placement, and construction needs will be dependent on the generosity of the community. Preliminary estimates for the memorial and construction needs are five thousand dollars (\$5,000). It is our desire to have the memorial in place and ready for public display on May 15, 2014, Police Memorial Day.

A Police Chaplain, Pastor Elbert Smith, and Hospice Volunteer Coordinator Tim Keller have stepped forward to act as the co-chairpersons for the fundraiser. An account is available for contributions to the memorial construction. Contributions should be designated, *Police Memorial*, and sent to the Tullahoma Ministerial Alliance (TMA), PO Box 687, Tullahoma, TN 37388. Any funds that are received in excess of the memorial needs will be designated to the national COPS (Concerns of Police Survivors) program for the needs and scholarships of fallen officer's children. Any questions about the memorial may be directed to Pastor Elbert Smith at 273-4854, Tim Keller at 247-4201, or Chief Paul Blackwell at (931) 455-0530 or pblackwell@tullahomatn.gov.