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City of Duluth - Communications Office

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SUBJECT: City Unveils WWI Memorial at Memorial Park

BY: Kate Van Daele, Public Information Officer

City Unveils WWI Memorial at Memorial Park

[Duluth, MN] The City of Duluth will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new World War I memorial at Memorial Park (5315 Grand Avenue) on August 3rd, at 10 a.m. The previous memorial was created in 1928 that included planting 23 ash trees where small brass plaques were placed at the foot of each tree, honoring the names of the 22 West Duluthians who had served and died in WWI.

In May, construction began after many of the plaques had been damaged, destroyed, or went missing. Work on the site included landscaping, a concrete slab, sidewalk, flag pole, and a memorial made out of Mesabi black granite. The new monument honors the original 22 West Duluth soldiers in addition to Duluth's 167 Gold Star men and women.

Speakers at the ribbon-cutting include Mayor Emily Larson, Congressman Pete Stauber, Senator Erik Simonson, State Representative Liz Olson, Saint Louis County Commissioner Beth Olson, Duluth City Councilor Arik Forsman, Jessica Peterson, Manager of Parks & Recreation Division, and Dwight Nelson. Members of the VFW and 148th Honor Guard will present the colors.

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