

Memorial Park all started with a vision from Ronald Wanek,

Chairman and Founder of Ashley Furniture Industries, LLC

Among his many philanthropic contributions, Ron Wanek is the lead benefactor of Soldiers Walk Memorial Park and has dedicated over 30 years of his life to make the park what it is today.

Ron, along with Ashley Furniture and the Ronald & Joyce Wanek Foundation, contributed over \$7 Million and donated over 30,000 hours to the development, maintenance and continued improvements of the park.

Off to the left of the Millennial Amphitheater stands a dedicated memorial to Ron Wanek (pictured below). This memorial was designed and placed in Memorial Park by his son Todd Wanek, President & CEO of Ashley Furniture Industries; Ashley employees; friends and the City of Arcadia.



All the memorials were designed by Ron, many of the early ones were sculpted himself.

Community Events

Memorial Park is proud to host annual events throughout the year including:

Ashley for the Arts

Ashley for the Arts is a nonprofit initiative that provides the entire family with world class entertainment, art, exercise and family fun for a remarkably low cost. The organization is one of Wisconsin's largest charity events, donating over \$5 Million since its inception to more than 70 non-profit organizations, including: participating schools, children's charities and medical research. This annual music and arts festival was established by Ashley Furniture Industries in 2009.



Wreaths Across America

Each December, our nation's heroes are remembered with the placement of honorary wreaths on headstones of the fallen service men and women across the country on National Wreaths Across America Day.



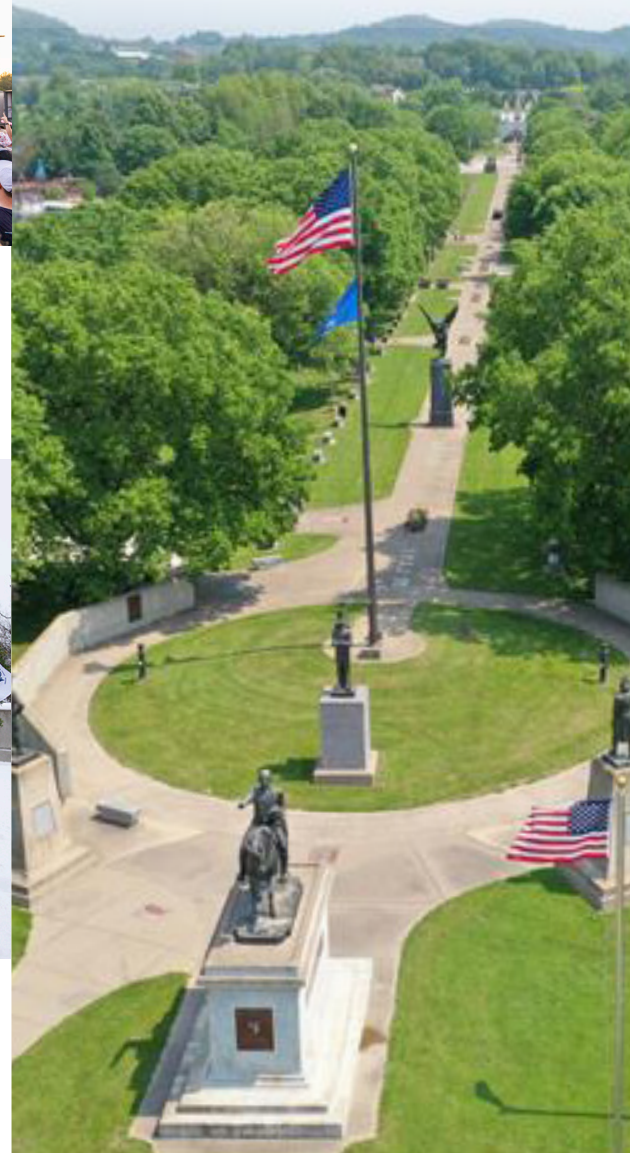
Arcadia Broiler Days Festival

Held on Memorial Day weekend, the Arcadia Lions Club sponsors the annual community festival which features music, fun, and North America's largest indoor chicken pit.

Soldiers Walk



Arcadia, Wisconsin



Welcome to Soldiers Walk Memorial Park!

Honoring All Who Have Served
Past, Present & Future



A 500-meter walk featuring over 30 Historical Monuments

Soldiers Walk pays homage to all U.S. wars and conflicts with monuments and memorials in chronological order beginning in 1848. Memorial Park and its renowned walk are maintained by the City of Arcadia, members of the community and through individual and corporate donations.

"We may not know them...but we owe them."



Take a Walking Tour of Soldiers Walk

To take a guided or narrated video tour of the park, scan the QR code or visit www.soldierswalkmemorialpark.com



Soldiers Walk Monument Guide

The walk is measured in meters, each paved meter representing one year. The flower beds represent a symbolic measurement of each year the particular war or conflict took place. Soldiers Walk also records significant events specific to the Arcadia area on 12"x24" gray granite stones embedded on the walk.

1. Visitors Center

Preview a short flyover video and learn more about the creation and maintenance of the park.

2. Honoring Our POWs and MIAs

3. Honoring Gold Star Families



4. Tyrants and Dictators of the 20th Century

5. M48 Patton Tank



6. George Washington

America's First President and leader of the Revolutionary War.



7. Revolutionary War

8. War of 1812



9. Mexican-American War

10. The Angel of Mercy

11 & 12. Civil War

Including Abraham Lincoln and Boys' War.



13. Spanish American War

14. World War I

If you look closely, the statues have faces of community members which fought in WWI.



15. 32nd Red Arrow Division

The division was made up of 27,000 men from both Wisconsin & Michigan.

16. WWII

Over 700 names from the area are inscribed here.



17. Iwo Jima

An iconic moment of six United States Marines raising the American flag at Mt. Suribachi.



18. Korean War

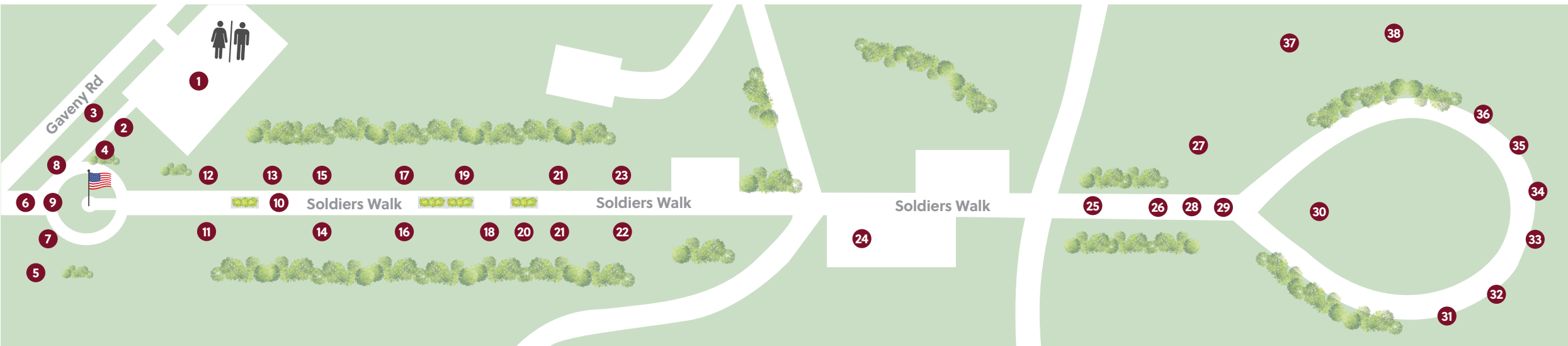
19. Nurse Ruby Bradley

20. War Dog

21. Vietnam War

The gold stars represent those who were in Vietnam.

22. Persian Gulf War



23. 9/11 Monument

The twisted I-Beam came from the World Trade Center buildings.



24. Pavilion

25. The Spirit of Ecstasy



26. Pioneer Farmers

The man's face is sculpted after Ron's father, and the boys' faces are sculpted after his grandsons.

27. James Reed

Mr. Reed was the first permanent, non-native settler of Trempealeau County and Winona. He is also the great, great, great grandfather of Ron Wanek.



28. Pig & Donkey Monuments

Rub the pig's nose for good luck.

29. Tribute to the Pioneer Women

The woman's face is sculpted after Ron's mother. While the girls' faces are sculpted after the likeness of his granddaughters.

30. Millennial Amphitheater

The area directly in front is lined with commemorative bricks honoring and in memory of family members, loved ones and area residents.



General's Overlook



31. John Paul Jones

32. Ulysses S. Grant

33. John Pershing

34. Dwight D. Eisenhower

35. Douglas Mac Arthur

36. George S. Patton

37. F-16A Fighter Jet 78-0058

The first F-16 decommissioned by the military.



38. Ronald G. Wanek

The area directly in front is lined with commemorative bricks to honor the memory of family members, loved ones and area residents.

