

Help wanted for Healing Field

Sept. 11 memorial flag garden opens Friday along Route 94 in West Manheim

By [TIM STONESIFER](#)

[The Evening Sun](#)

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Local residents looking for a way to remember a painful but important anniversary this week need travel no farther than South Hanover.

The "Healing Field," sponsored by Hanover's Exchange Club, will be taking shape this week and will feature a weekend-long slate of events to honor the memory of those lost in the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. And it will boast 3,000 flags in rows to commemorate the fallen.

The full schedule of free events begins on Friday, at the West Manheim Elementary School on Baltimore Pike, with a 6 p.m. welcome ceremony featuring the national anthem, presentation of colors and playing of "Taps." That will be followed by remarks from several local politicians.

On Saturday, patriotic music will fill the air, and another ceremony will take place starting at 10 a.m. The featured speaker will be Mal Fuller, a retired air-traffic control supervisor who was working in Pennsylvania during the crash of United Airlines Flight 93, which fell outside of Shanksville. Entertainment will be ongoing throughout the day, and another ceremony will begin at 5 p.m.

Saturday evening's program will feature a salute to local military, according to exchange club project chairman Billy Wineholt, with a recognition of local military families and a name-reading session for local veterans.

"We're hoping for a real good turnout all weekend," Wineholt said. "We've worked very hard for two years and want to see it be a success."

The remembrances will continue on Sunday, beginning at 8:46 a.m. with a the reading of names of those who died in the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Doves will be released from the site as part of that presentation.

Music and other entertainment will continue throughout the day, Wineholt said, but there will be plenty of opportunity for anyone who stops to simply wander the field of flags in quiet reflection.

Those American flags - which will be organized in rows on the lawn in front of the elementary school - will remain waving all weekend, Wineholt said, in honor of the occasion.

Local volunteers have helped the exchange club piece those flags together over several recent weekends, Wineholt said. But more help is needed later this week, on Friday, to finally get the field of flags in place. Both



Ed Temple, a member of the Exchange Club of Hanover, unfurls one of the 500 flags placed in a 1,300-flag Healing Field at Codorus State Park in 2004. This year's field, which is to open Friday at West Manheim Elementary, will be nearly three times larger. (FOR THE EVENING SUN - JASON PLOTKIN)

local volunteers and South Western School District officials have been a great help, he said, but work remains to be done.

Anyone who wishes to volunteer can simply show up on Friday at noon, he said.

"We could really use some more volunteers to help this week," he said. "And we hope people do come out to hear the speakers, but also to take advantage of the environment for reflection. We're hoping for a very positive weekend."

Contact Tim Stonesifer at 717-637-3736, ext. 183

TO HELP û

Anyone interested in helping to set up Hanover's Healing Field should meet at West Manheim Elementary School, 2000 Baltimore Pike, on Friday at noon. Volunteers will register and be tasked with helping plant the 3,000 American flags that will be displayed there throughout the weekend.

IF YOU GO û

What: Hanover's 9/11 Healing Field

When: Friday, Sept. 9 through Sunday, Sept. 11

Where: West Manheim Elementary School, 2000 Baltimore Pike, Hanover

Admission: Free to all