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Do your part to hoist firefighters memorial

Last weekend's community garage sale raised about \$4,600 for the Anderson Township Firefighters Memorial.

That brings the fund-raising drive, which was started in 2001, to almost one-third of the goal.

"We have a total of \$200,000 budget and we have raised about \$65,000 so far," said Mark Owens, chairman of the Anderson Township Firefighters Memorial Committee.

"We've been really working at this for some time," Owens said.

Owens, a firefighter/paramedic, hopes to follow up the garage sale's success with this weekend's Las Vegas Nights. "We're hoping people come out and support us for that," he said.

Games of chance, food, drinks and a reverse raffle will take place Friday and Saturday, April 23-24, at the American Legion Post 318, 7551 Forest Road (across from Anderson High School). Hours are 7 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Ground should be broken this year for the memorial's first phase. It will be [located](#) at Beech Acres Park. A 5-foot granite pedestal will support a 7-foot, bronze statue of a firefighter holding a child.

"We wanted to put together a memorial of some sort to honor firefighters we'd lost over the years," as well as those who've served the department since 1941, Owens said.

Besides the fund-raisers, Owens hopes corporate donations - which have been slow to materialize thus far - will step up this year.

If you can't make the Las Vegas Night but wish to donate, call Owens at 624-3800.