

# Millers offer to match donations to Two Rivers monument

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(Photo: Submitted)

Donors to the Spirit of the Rivers Monument will have their contributions matched to \$50,000 starting now through the end of July, according to an announcement made this week by the the John C. and Katherine B. Miller Fund of the Lakeshore Community Foundation.

Long-time residents and community advocates of Manitowoc County, the Millers also made an outright donation of \$100,000 for the creation and erection of the three-ton bronze monument that will ultimately stand on the lakeshore across from Aurora Medical Center.

"The Millers appreciated the internationally acclaimed artistic ability of Manitowoc native, R.T. 'Skip' Wallen, as well as the appeal that such a beautiful, history-laden monument would bring to the area," Kate Miller said. "We feel honored to be a part of this momentous project. Mr. Wallen brings a piece of our history to us in measured, carefully researched precision as well as breathtaking beauty. We are pleased to play a role in bringing the Spirit of the Rivers to the lakeshore area where it will be cherished by residents and visitors alike for generations."

The Spirit of the Rivers monument includes three 10-foot-tall Native American figures portaging a birch-bark canoe. Wallen anticipates project completion by the summer of 2016.

Carol Wergin, chairwoman of the fundraising committee reported that 80 percent of the \$750,000 goal has been raised. She added that the Miller challenge has brought a great deal of excitement to their fundraising campaign.

Individuals interested in donating to the project and receiving on-site recognition can access the website at [spiritoftherivers.org](http://spiritoftherivers.org) (<http://spiritoftherivers.org>) and clicking on the Monument Pledge Form or the Paving Brick Form.

The Manitowoc Public Library and the Lester Library in Two Rivers will also make the forms available to the public. Donations may be sent to P.O. Box 513, Two Rivers, WI 5424 and questions can be directed to 920-793-7214.

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