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OUR VIEW

BOY IN BLUE MONUMENT OUTSTANDING



Thumbs up to the organizers who brought back the Boy in Blue monument as a tribute to the area's Civil War veterans.

The new statue is a replica of the original Boy in Blue dedicated in 1893. It was unveiled last week at a ceremony for the community in Lincoln Park, one of Mankato's most historic residential neighborhoods.

Organizers raised \$190,000 to bring the statute back. Local monument maker Tom Miller and contractor Ron Goodrich collaborated on the base surrounding the monument and the sculpture itself was cast by Alan Gibson, a Texas sculptor.

Local historian Bryce Stenzel and his sister Lori were instrumental in the effort and actually tracked down the blue prints of the original statue, which had been removed in the early 1900s after it had fallen into disrepair.

Fundraising got a big boost by a substantial sum donated by Anne Chesley Herlihy.

It was a great fundraising effort for an outstanding project that will be noted throughout the state and the country.

It puts Mankato on the map as a place for history tourism, and pays a fitting tribute to all the "boys in blue" who sacrificed to preserve the union.

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