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The Grand Island

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'Legacy' of Five Points Bank



Independent/Barrett Stinson

After being unveiled, guests look over a bronze sculpture, titled "Legacy," by artist Matthew Placzek during a dedication ceremony for Five Points Bank Founders' Park on Wednesday morning. The park is located at the corner of Stolley Park Road and Brentwood Boulevard.

Five Points Bank Founders' Park dedicated in Wednesday ceremony

Park on corner of West Stolley Park Road, Brentwood Boulevard

By Jeff Bahr

jeff.bahr@theindependent.com

Wednesday morning's gorgeous weather, Kristen Marshall Maser believes, was a clear sign that her late father approved of the new Five Points Bank Founders' Park.

William W. "Bill" Marshall III, who was the chairman of Five Points Bank, died in 2016 at the age of 71.

Maser said while enjoying the sunny, 70-degree weather, "I can assure you our dad in particular approves of this park. We are assured by the fact that this weather is in stark contrast to any other event since his passing in which he has received a recognition or award. Since his passing, I truly believe he has sent bad weather to deflect the attention. This is evidenced by the 20 inches of snow Grand Island had two days prior to his funeral, or the 10 inches of rain we endured the day we were to have the initial groundbreaking of this park and had to cancel it, and finally, when we had a late March snowstorm that even kept Scott Frost from attending the Chamber of Commerce annual meeting where our dad was to receive an award."

Maser said she believes that in at least two instances, "my dad was sitting up in heaven saying to my mom, sister and I 'no more, ladies. Things are getting out of



Independent/Barrett Stinson

Artist Matthew Placzek speaks during a dedication ceremony for Five Points Bank Founders' Park on Wednesday morning.

hand.' However, today, looking from the beautiful weather this morning, I can surmise that our father is content with the park's finished product."

The public park is at the corner of West Stolley Park Road and Brentwood Boulevard. In addition to benefiting the community, the park is meant to honor Bill Marshall III and his father, William W. Marshall Jr., who started Five Points Bank in 1971.

"Our family thinks this memorial park is a perfect way to honor our father, Bill Marshall III, and my grandfather, William W. Marshall Jr., because it intertwines two elements that were incredibly important to both men: their love of their family and their love of their community," Maser said. "And fittingly enough, both elements are able to be interwoven at the perfect corner across from where both men are buried and adjacent

VIDEO
Online:
 ■ Watch the dedication ceremony of Founders' Park at www.theindependent.com/video

to the bank that they helped build over a 40-year period."

Another speaker at the dedication ceremony, Mayor Roger Steele, said Bill Marshall "was a man of service and humility." Steele first got to know Marshall serving on the College Park Board of Directors. Watching Marshall work, "I saw what it meant to be a leader."

After Marshall left the board, he called Steele telling him that he would help him in any way he could. "I will never forget that call," Steele said.

Also speaking was Tom Kelley, chairman and CEO of Five Points Bank.

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Independent/Barrett Stinson

An artist's rendering of the park is seen during a dedication ceremony for Five Points Bank Founders' Park on Wednesday morning. The park is located at the corner of Stolley Park Road and Brentwood Boulevard.

Impeachment investigation

By Lisa Mascaro, Mary Clare Jalonick and Julie Pace

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump pressed the leader of Ukraine to "look into" Joe Biden, Trump's potential 2020 reelection rival, as well as the president's lingering grievances from the 2016 election, according to a rough transcript of a summer phone call that is now at the center of Democrats' impeachment probe.



Nancy Pelosi



Donald Trump

Trump repeatedly prodded Volodymyr Zelenskyy, new president of the East European nation, to work with U.S. Attorney General William Barr and Rudy Giuliani, Trump's personal lawyer. At one point in the July conversation, Trump said, "I would like for you to do us a favor."

The president's request for such help from a foreign leader set the parameters for the major U.S. debate to come — just the fourth impeachment investigation of an American president in the nation's history. The initial response highlighted the deep divide between the two parties: Democrats said the call amounted to a "shakedown" of a foreign leader, while Trump - backed by the vast majority of Republicans - dismissed it as a "nothing call."

The call is one part of a whistleblower complaint about the president's activities that have roiled Washington and led Democrats to move ahead with an impeachment inquiry of the Republican president on the cusp of the 2020 campaign.

After being stymied by the administration, members of the House and Senate intelligence committees took their first look at the complaint late Wednesday. Republicans kept largely quiet, but several Democrats, including Intelligence committee chairman Adam Schiff, called the classified account "disturbing."

Some from both parties want it to be made public. Congress is also seeking an in-person interview with the whistleblower, who remains anonymous.

Trump spent Wednesday meeting with world leaders at the United Nations, a remarkable TV split screen even for the turbulence of the Trump era. Included on his schedule: a meeting with Zelenskyy.

In a light-hearted appearance before reporters, Zelenskyy said he didn't want to get involved in American elections, but added, "Nobody pushed me." Trump chimed in, "In other words, no pressure."

The next steps in the impeachment inquiry were quickly developing a day after House Speaker Nancy Pelosi launched the probe. A rush of lawmakers, notably moderate Democrats from districts where Trump remains popular, set aside political concerns and urged action.

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U.S. aid to Ukraine helps country battle Russian-backed forces

By Lolita C. Baldor and Robert Burns

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — At the heart of President Donald Trump's effort to get Ukraine's help investigating a political rival is nearly \$400 million in critical military aid to help the country battle Russian-backed separatists.



Volodymyr Zelenskyy

That aid had widespread support until the Trump administration put the brakes on it this summer. In a July phone call, Trump pressed Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to "look into" Democratic presidential contender Joe Biden, shortly after the two men discussed potential military assistance for the country. The conversation has raised questions about whether Trump was using the aid as leverage to get help on the Biden issue.

Trump and Zelenskyy met on Wednesday at the United Nations, and in remarks to reporters they didn't discuss the specifics of the U.S. military aid. But Trump repeated his persistent complaint that other countries need to do more.

The amounts and types of military aid to Ukraine have long been points of contention inside the U.S. government, ever since Russia's 2014 annexation of the Crimean Peninsula, a move the U.S. and its allies view as illegal.

In the wake of the annexation, the Obama administration and national security officials clashed over whether to provide Ukraine with offensive weapons, weighing a desire to support the new pro-Western government and worries that it could trigger a wider war with Russia. Ukraine wants to join the NATO alliance, a move firmly opposed by Russia and not supported by some NATO members, due largely to similar concerns about inflaming Moscow.

Ukraine's hope of becoming part of the Western defense alliance is hindered by rampant corruption in government and business, and the five-year conflict with Russia-backed separatists in eastern Ukraine.

The Pentagon in June announced plans to send \$250 million in aid to Ukraine, but its delivery was delayed. One defense official familiar with the Ukraine issue said the Trump administration told the Pentagon that it was not immediately releasing the aid to Ukraine because it was analyzing the extent to which Ukrainian was addressing long-standing U.S. concerns about corruption.

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