Battlefield park gets historical nod

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

FORT MADISON - What is now being dubbed the battlefield park, currently under construction on Fort Madison’s east end, was approved by a state historical preservation group Friday.

According to Andy Andrews, president of the North Lee County Historical Society, the Iowa Historical Preservation Board approved the application for the War of 1812 Battlefield park. It can now be presented for a designation to the National Register of Historical Places through the National Park Service.

“This will open up some grants and additional funding for us,” Andrews said. He said the group worked up an application for the Historical Board preservation nomination board.

‘Angela Collins with the state archeology office prepared that for us and because of all the digs there and Dr. (Eugene) Watkins’ research, ours only drew one comment,” Andrews said. “I was happy with that because the other seven that were nominated have to go back and clean up their paperwork. But they were all approved, ours just didn’t have as much debate.”

Andrews also said he was happy that one of the Battlefield park’s benefactors covered the cost of the application process. “Christy Rickers paid for that for us. She’s the one that put us over the top on purchasing the land. Every time I see her I almost tear up,” Andrews said.

The $500,000 park project is located south of Avenue G between 4th and 5th streets. Earlier this year the land was grated up and sand and dirt were added and the lot was leveled out to prepare it for grass seeding.

Andrews said he would’ve liked to have the lot disked on Saturday, but the ground was very dry until this weekend. So he’s hoping they can get that work done shortly. He said it may have also been too dry to plant the trees. The first trees in will be a windbreak on the west side of the park.

“We hope to have the grass seed planted yet this month and maybe have the flag pole in the center erected yet this fall,” Andrews said.

The group is still taking donations and they can be mailed to P.O. Box 285, Fort Madison, Iowa 52627.

With the state approval the plan will now go directly to the National Park Service for approval at a similar meeting in November in Washington D.C., where, if approved, it would be announced in December that they have been added to the National Register of Historical Places.

“Once that designation is made and we get that bronze plaque down there that opens us up for grants and everything from state Historic Preservation Office to Vision Iowa, and the American Battlefield Association,” he said. “It just opens up grants and enables us to get the replica War of 1812 tombstones for the 22 soldiers of the 1st Infantry unit buried in that location. I should say in that area because we don’t know exactly where they’re buried.”

The park has also been awarded a $4,150 Trees Forever Grant through Alliant Energy. Andrews said he doesn’t really know how many trees that See PARK, page 8
Obituaries/Area News

Great River Hospice sets 5K run

Fundraiser set for Nov. 4 on Hospice campus in West Burlington

WEST BURLINGTON - The 10th annual Miles & Memories 5K Run/Walk is scheduled at 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 4, beginning on Great River Health Systems’ campus, 1221 S. Gear Ave., West Burlington. The event is presented by Two Rivers Financial Group. Proceeds will support Great River Hospice.

Participants who register for the 5K run/walk or the one-mile stroll by Tuesday, Oct. 17, will pay an entry fee of $20 and receive a long-sleeve T-shirt. The entry fee will increase to $25 beginning Wednesday, Oct. 18, and shirts are not guaranteed.

The top three males and females of each the 5K age groups will receive medals. Homemade baked goods and other refreshments will be available to all participants after the race.

Online registration is available for a small processing fee at https://register.chronotrack.com/r/31996. Entry forms are available at Great River Hospice House, 1306 S. Washington Road, West Burlington, and at any Two Rivers Financial Group location, or by calling Missy Allen at 319-768-3352. Forms also may be downloaded at www.greatriver-hospice.org.

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

MON 16 Oct
Clear Skies
High– 55.0º F | Low – 43.3º F

TUE 17 Oct
Clear Skies
High– 63.6º F | Low – 51.5º F

WED 18 Oct
Clear Skies
High– 63.6º F | Low – 57.2º F

THU 19 Oct
Clear Skies
High – 67.2º F | Low – 56.3º F

FRI 20 Oct
Clear Skies
High– 66.9º F | Low – 66.6º F

OBITUARIES

ROBERT “BOB” E. DAUGHTERS

Robert “Bob” E. Daughters, 74, of Montrose, passed away on Friday, October 13, 2017 at 6:13 PM at his home.

He was born on June 14, 1943 in Keokuk, IA to Clifford and Ruby Thompson Daughters. On July 4, 1964 he married Harretta Metcalf in Keokuk.

Bob worked for Anchor Metals from 1964-1977, then worked for the City of Ft. Madison in the cemetery department and also Matt’s Greenhouse. He enjoyed playing horseshoes, shooting pool, golfing, bowling, planting flowers and going on drives and looking at animals.

Survivors include his wife, Harretta Daughters of Montrose; a son, Doug Daughters of Ft. Madison; three grandchildren, Wyatt, Kyhlie and Aberdeen; a brother, Leroy Daughters of Sun City, AZ; three nephews; four great nephews and one great niece. He was preceded in death by his parents and a son, Steven.

Per his wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory and there will be no formal services at this time. Online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

Be a Great River Hospice Volunteer

Volunteers are an important part of our services to patients at end of life and their families in Lee, Des Moines, Henry and Louisa counties. They provide companionship to patients and respite for family caregivers, or they help with household tasks or errands.

Volunteer training
Hosted by the Soroptimist Club

12:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 25, Nov. 1, 8, 15
Atlas Steak and Smokehouse*
709 Avenue H, Fort Madison

*Join other volunteers for pay-for-your-own lunch at 11:30 a.m.

Volunteer requirements
• Be at least 18 years old
• Complete an application and pass a criminal background check before training begins
• Attend all four training sessions
• Volunteer at least six hours per year
• Attend at least three inservices per year
• Purchase a volunteer vest or shirt

Great River Health Systems
HOSPICE

For more information or to register, please call toll-free 877-404-4766.

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Founded in 2016

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OBITUARIES

JAMES C. SODEY

James Carleton Sodey, 68, of Lansing, Iowa and formerly of Fort Madison, Iowa, passed away on Thursday, October 12, 2017, at his home. He was born on March 25, 1949, in Ottumwa, Iowa, to Dr. Albert and Mrs. Charlotte Sodey. He married Angela McKenna on September 5, 1970, in Ottumwa, Iowa.

Jim attended Iowa Wesleyan from 1967 to 1970 where he was a member of Lamb Chi Alpha Fraternity. He graduated from the University of Iowa in 1971 with a B.S. in Sociology. He attended Agricultural Lending School at Iowa State University and received a Master's Degree in Banking from the University of Colorado, Boulder in 1984. He taught a variety of classes for the Iowa Banker's Association as well as Junior Achievement classes in Fort Madison.

He worked for different bank holding corporations progressing to bank president at 35 years of age. He was President of Iowa State Bank from 1985 until 1989 when he was named President of Fort Madison Bank and Trust Company. In 2005, he became a financial consultant for Greg Shottenkirk of Shottenkirk Automotive. He retired in 2014. Over the years he became an active part of many civic and community organizations. He was President of Rotary, President of the Ambassadors, President and Treasurer of the Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce, President of Fort Madison's first Main Street program, a member of the Fort Madison Economic Development Corporation Board, a member of the Fort Madison Parks and Recreation Board, a member of the Lee County Condemnation Committee, and a member of the Fort Madison Country Club Board. Jim was an avid boater with a passion for life on the water. He was happiest when at the helm of his 38 foot Carver, sharing this passion with friends and family, especially his children and grandchildren, on the Mississippi River. He enjoyed home improvement shows and woodworking, the Iowa Hawkeyes and the Green Bay Packers football and outdoor adventures in Colorado.

Jim is survived by two sons: Jay (Tara) Sodey of Verona, Wisconsin, Christopher (Heidi) Sodey of Ankeny, Iowa; six grandchildren; his mother Charlotte Sodey of Ottumwa, Iowa; and one brother John (Susan) Sodey of Altoona, Iowa; sisters-in-law Mary McKenna of Incline Village, Nevada, Kathy (Brad) Lichtenheld of Eagle, Colorado, Peggy (Greg) Johnson of Phoenix, Arizona and Jacci (Ken) McKenna Pollock of Eagle, Colorado; numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father, Dr. Albert Sodey.

Friends may call after 2:00 p.m. on Friday, October 20, 2017 with the family to receive friends from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Friday evening at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory in Fort Madison, Iowa. A memorial service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 21, 2017, at the Fort Madison United Methodist Church with Rev. Lane Van officiating. In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established for the City of Fort Madison's Marina or P.A.W. Animal Shelter. A special thank you to Jim's in home caregivers in Lansing, Iowa. Online condolences and a video tribute of Jim's life may be viewed at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

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GRRWA has mandated that electronics cannot be put in the landfill. Please place all electronics in the appropriate bins provided at both the Fort Madison and Keokuk locations. If you are unsure as to where they should be placed, simply ask the Scale Clerk on duty.

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Send letters of application and resumes to: Pam Bierwirth, UWGRR President pbierwirth@hotmail.com or PO Box 251, Keokuk, IA 52632.

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Surviving, thriving after two years

SWARM - Continued from Page 1

a city girl. Life on the farm is completely foreign to her. But she is trying hard and mak-
ing progress. The other day we came home in the late afternoon. We pulled up to the
hen house to gather eggs. Not having a basket, I showed Ginnie how to carry eggs in
her shirttail. Wouldn't you know it, some strangers pulled into our driveway just then
to ask about the new blue steel we had roofed our house with. Here Ginnie was talking
to strangers with a shirttail full of eggs! Isn't that just the picture of a farm gal? Note:
I've seen aprons with pockets for eggs. I'll have to get Ginnie one.

We love the new blue steel roof. It blends in with the sky. Following a hail storm, we
had the asphalt shingles replaced with steel. The wind here on the farm can be ferocious. Every time I look up and see the blue roof blending in with the sky, I think, "This
is heaven."

'To top off our anniversary dinner, we celebrated with Death by Chocolate, one serv-
ing, two spoons. Rest assured, on the way home I swung by the pharmacy and picked
up my cholesterol medication. Quite the romantic outing.

It rained all the way home. We pulled up to the hen house to shut the chickens in for
the night. They seemed nice and cozy, buzzing and burring over the intrusion.

Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, email
him at curtswarm@yahoo.com, or find him on Facebook. Curt's stories are also read at
106.3 FM in Farmington.

Grants to help fund visitor center

PARK - Continued from Page 1

will supply, but it will enable the park group to get started on the windbreak on the
west side of the park and then additional trees as the design comes together.

He said any other grant funds secured will probably go for the Interpretation Cen-
ter that is planned as part of the final piece of the park. The group hopes to have the
park completed by 2020.