



Pen City Current

Monday, October 16, 2017 | 8 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 240

Battlefield park gets historical nod

BY CHUCK
VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

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 graded 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

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EMPTY NEST

BY Curt Swarm



Two years hitched... and counting

Before I forget this (how could I?), I have a book signing scheduled for Oct. 26, at 7 p.m., at SIP in Mt. Pleasant, 120 S Main St. It's a coffee house. I will read a short selection from my book "Protected," answer questions and sign books for those who wish. Books will be available.

Swarms are thriving under their heavenly blue roof. Ginnie and I just celebrated our second wedding anniversary on October 10. I really went all out and took her to Taco Tuesday at my grandchildren's Christian School. Just kidding. Although we did talk about it. What could be funner than seeing the grandkids serve tacos and cookies?

Actually, we went to a very fine restaurant that overlooks the Mississippi River and the Highway 34 bridge. It was a rainy night, and lightening flashed, highlighting a special evening on a special occasion. If the power went out, not to worry. Ninety percent of the customers, including us, had smartphone flashlights. Sign of the times: most people now have on their person a phone, flashlight, camera and constant nuisance.

Two years ago we had a tent set up in the back yard of our new house. Fifty some guests arrived, and the organist played "Going to the Chapel." Ginnie walked across the lawn and our lives changed forever, for the better. No more loneliness, no more cold beds.

We recently watched the movie, "Our Souls at Night," with Robert Redford and Jane Fonda, about two senior neighbors who unite to stave off loneliness. I can totally relate.

In reviewing our wedding vows, I see that I stated, "If I'm willing to bend like the trees right here on the farm have bent in the wind, we will survive and thrive." Every time I drive home and see how the wind has permanently bent the maple trees to conform to the forces of nature, I think about those vows. To bend and not break is the key. It has been good for me to bend, to put someone else first.

Ginnie has changed a lot too. For those of you who know her, you probably know that she is pretty much of

See **SWARM**, page 8



Inside & out

Workers with Schickedanz Construction get in some work on the outside of the old Lee County Bank building last week as part of renovations turning the building into lower-income housing.

Photo by Lee K. Vandenberg/PCC

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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.

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.



DAUGHTERS

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.

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

MON 16 Oct



Clear Skies

High- 55.0° F | Low - 43.3° F

TUE 17 Oct



Clear Skies

High- 63.6° F | Low - 51.5° F

WED 18 Oct



Clear Skies

High- 63.6° F | Low - 57.2° F

THU 19 Oct



Clear Skies

High - 67.2° F | Low - 56.3° F

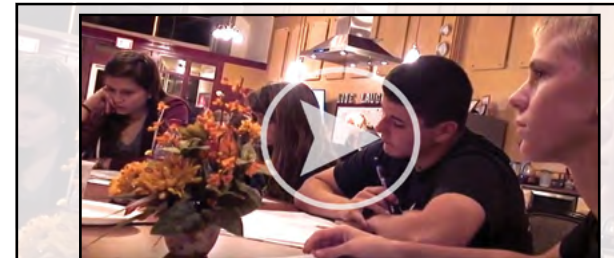
FRI 20 Oct



Clear Skies

High- 66.9° F | Low - 66.6° F

OpenWeatherMap



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Volunteer training

Hosted by the Soroptimist Club

12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Wednesdays, 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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Pen City Current

Founded in 2016



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Pen City Current and www.pencitycurrent.com are products of Market Street Publishing, LLC. Pen City Current is published Sunday through Friday mornings.

Obituaries

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.



SODEY

Jim attended Iowa Wesleyan from 1967 to 1970 where he was a member of Lamda 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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Classifieds

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Executive Director



United Way of the Great River Region which serves Lee County in Iowa, Hancock County in Illinois and Clark County in Missouri is seeking an Executive Director to manage all aspects of a non-profit organization dedicated to improving lives in the area of health, education and financial stability.

Under the direction of the Board of Directors, the Executive Director is responsible for all administrative, fundraising, fund distribution, operations, donor and community relations of the organization. The Executive Director is also responsible for developing key external and internal collaborations, partnerships, relationships and grant writing which include the Board of Directors, community partners, leaders and staff. The Executive Director will manage full-time and part-time staff as well as multiple volunteers with various responsibilities as aligned with the UWGRR strategic plan. College degree with major in business, management or marketing is encouraged. Non-profit experience, particularly with United Way a plus.

This is a full-time salaried position. Salary is negotiable. Benefits include vacation and sick pay. United Way of the Great River Region is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Send letters of application and resumes to:
Pam Bierwirth, UWGRR President
pam-bierwirth@hotmail.com
or PO Box 251, Keokuk, IA 52632
Deadline for application is September 30, 2017

Happily ever after...



1031 Avenue G
3BR • 2BA • 2 car garage
Listing #20166255



721-723 Avenue D
4BR • 3BA • 2 car garage
Listing #20166346



307 9th Street
2BR • 2BA
Listing #20166492



2709 Avenue M
2BR • 2BA • 2 car garage
Listing #20166516



1212 Avenue E
4BR • 2BA • 1 car garage
Listing #20166382



721 Maple Street, Donnellson
3BR • 2BA • 1 car garage
Listing #20166590



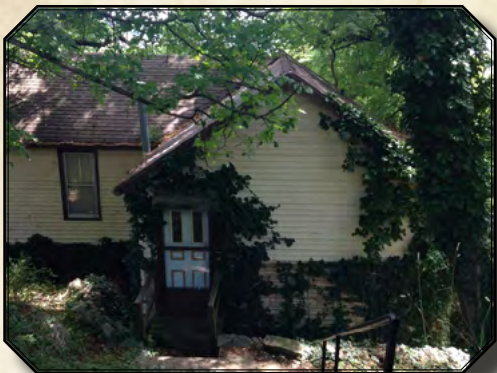
604 Avenue E
4BR • 2BA • 1 car garage
Listing #20165688



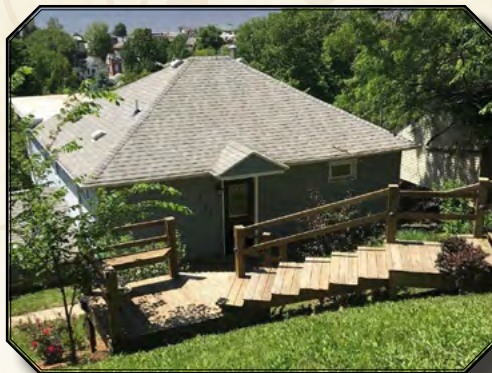
2160 Grand Venture Avenue
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2BR • 2BA • 3 car garage
Listing #20165503



536 Avenue C
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530 Avenue C
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Listing #20166236



307 South 5th Street, Farmington
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Listing #20164117



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4911 Bluff Road
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Listing #20164861



403 10th Street
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Listing #20166615



211 Main Street, Montrose
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Listing #2014279



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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 making 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 serving, 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.

We are surviving and thriving. Happiness is a byproduct of right living.

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 Center that is planned as part of the final piece of the park. The group hopes to have the park completed by 2020.



IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS



10/15 MID-DAY
4 7 7
10/15 EVENING
2 1 3



10/15 MID-DAY
5 3 7 7
10/15 EVENING
6 0 6 7

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8:00am-11:00am

10/18 Donnellson Public Library
11:30am-1:30pm

10/19 Eagle Bluff Apts. Ft. Madison
9:00am-10:00am

10/19 Heritage Center Keokuk
10:00am-Noon

10/19 Rose Michael Gardens Ft. Madison
1:00pm-2:30pm

10/24 Parkview Apts. West Point
10:00am-Noon

10/26 LCHD (#3 John Bennett Drive) Ft. Madison
Noon-5:30pm

Please bring your Medicare card with you to the clinic.

Private Pay cost \$25

Any questions please call (319)372-5225

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