Celebration Banquet Keeps Raising the Bar

Wednesday, Nov. 1, was a night for treats, following a blustery Halloween in Iowa. It was the night of the Hoover Presidential Foundation Celebration Banquet, held at the Coralville Marriott. About 250 attended to hear keynote speaker Chris Whipple discuss his new book, The Gatekeepers: How the White House Chiefs of Staff Define Every Presidency.

The evening began with patriotic songs by The Extension Chords, from Merno Mix Chorus. KCRG-TV news anchor Bruce Aune emceed the program, introducing Charlie Becker, Foundation board past president, who delivered the invocation.

Following a delicious meal, Allan Hoover III presented crystal awards etched with a 3-D depiction of Hoover’s birthplace cottage to two Uncommon Public Service Award winners, Iowa state senator Rob Hogg and state representative Zach Nunn. Rep. Nunn, who was on a business trip in Israel, asked his colleague Rep. Bobby Kaufman to accept the award on his behalf.

“I am incredibly humbled to be selected by peers and fellow Iowans for this recognition,” Kaufman read through a prepared statement from Nunn.

Robert Downer, Foundation president, spoke next about the

— Continued on page 8

Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg dropped by Herbert Hoover Library-Museum

The long term goal at the Iowa Department of Transportation is to provide a six-lane highway from the Quad Cities all the way across Iowa to Des Moines, and they’re ready to start the next section.

Different phases have been completed, but it will take many more years to achieve the goal. The increase to six lanes already includes an eight-mile stretch from the I-380 interchange and heads east, past Iowa City to mile marker 217, just seven miles shy of West Branch.

The added lanes have greatly helped move Hawkeye sports traffic through Iowa City, and the benefits of extended lanes are easy for regular travelers to see. The next expansion would continue east from Iowa City to about a half mile east of the West Branch exit. But will there be a cost to the Herbert Hoover National Historic Site?

The preferred plan would be to keep the grassy median between the east- and west-bound lanes. But existing overpass structures would not accommodate the

— Continued on page 9
Executive Director’s Message
Jerry Fleagle, IOM, CAE

Members Continue to Impress

We recently completed a membership drive in the area and have seen positive results in early returns. It’s great to see such interest in membership with the Hoover Presidential Foundation! As a reminder to all of our members, we encourage you to take part in the VIP Exhibit Preview Reception (the next one is Jan. 19), discounts at the Library’s Gift Shop (perfect for Christmas shoppers!), and free admission to the Hoover Presidential Library-Museum and all the other National Archives and Records Administration Presidential Libraries!

We’re also hard at work on the Foundation’s annual fund drive. In October, we mailed over 8,000 letters to friends of the Foundation, supporters, and neighborhood names. We’ve become very good at bulk mailing, thanks to a dedicated group of volunteers that have worked hand-in-hand with staff members Brad Reiners and Joan Maske.

So watch your mailboxes for an opportunity to support Foundation programs beyond what is covered by membership dues. The Hoover Presidential Foundation actively supports the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum and Herbert Hoover National Historic Site with funding for visiting speakers and authors, travel expenses for school field trips, support of S.T.E.M. programs at the Library, community events, scholarships, and a whole lot more! We’re happy to be an active part of the fabric of West Branch!

I’d be remiss not to thank the great group of volunteers who regularly help with our mailings, filing, and other duties around the Yellow House. Our volunteers help us keep costs down so we can have a larger impact on the programs we support. We’re blessed to have their help and the Hoover Presidential Foundation is better for it!

The efforts taken on by the Library-Museum, National Park, and Foundation instill a sense of pride for Herbert Hoover here in West Branch. But the work accomplished on the Hoover campus doesn’t just happen. We need your help to continue the work and to share Hoover’s ideals with generations who have never heard his story. Please look for our mailings in the coming weeks and consider support above and beyond a membership to help us accomplish great things in 2018! If you’ve moved or don’t receive our mailings, you can participate online at www.HooverPresidentialFoundation.org. Thank you — and we wish you a joyous and happy holiday season!

Author Presents New Hoover Biography

Author Kenneth Whyte came to the Hoover Campus on Oct. 15 to speak about his just-released book, Hoover: An Extraordinary Life in Extraordinary Times, a definitive biography of Herbert Hoover. This revisionist account of Hoover will help change the way Americans understand the man, his presidency, and his battle against the Great Depression. Kenneth Whyte fully captures the rich, dramatic life of Hoover, who is seen by many as a failure as president because of his handling of the Great Depression.

Beginning with his difficult childhood and continuing through his incredible mining career, his work saving hundreds of thousands of lives during World War I, his presidency, his loss to Roosevelt, and his return to public life during Truman’s presidency, Whyte is able to bring to life Hoover’s complexity and contradictions as well as his political legacy.

“There is so much more to be said and discussed about him,” Whyte said during his speech. “He was a fascinating individual. He stands out even among the elite few who have lived in the White House. Among the 44 chief executives, he’s one of the most intelligent and most erudite, none has ever worked harder.”

Whyte began his day in West Branch with a book signing at the Visitor Center. He then presented a synopsis of his work at the Hoover Presidential Library-Museum to a crowd gathered in the Piggie Auditorium. Whyte conducted a question and answer period following his presentation, then signed a few more books in the lobby.

Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg Visits Library-Museum

Continued from page 1 —
Hoover repeatedly warned of the dangers of buying stocks on margin.

Schwartz noted that Hoover did not have his own speechwriters like modern presidents.

“He really knew his stuff,” Gregg agreed. “His speeches were full of substance but not a lot of flash.”

Touring the section devoted to Hoover’s years as secretary of commerce, Schwartz showed how Hoover helped to standardize numerous products, from milk containers to brick sizes to the number of threads on bolts.

“That seems like common sense now, but it wasn’t then,” Gregg noted.

Accompanying Gregg on his 90-minute tour were wife Carl, son Jackson, daughter Lauren and Gregg’s parents, Larry and Carol Gregg. ★

Lt. Gov. Gregg takes a selfie with his children and President Hoover. HPF photo ★
New Facility Manager at HHPLM

"Hi, I'm the new Rolly," said a new face at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum. Actually, he's Todd Greath, and he's ready to help 'sell the Hoover brand' as the new facility manager. He fills the position formerly held by Rolly Owens, who retired in May after 17 years with the Library-Museum.

Todd is not new to Iowa—he grew up in northeastern Iowa near Guttenberg, then enlisted in the Army at age 17. He started out as an equipment operator and ended a 21-year career as a general engineering instructor for the Engineer Officer Basic Course and the captain's career course. "It was a really good way to cap things off," he said. After retiring from active duty, he worked as an engineering technician for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at the Missouri Area Office in Fort Leonard Wood. Todd comes to us after a stint with the U.S. Army Health Center in Vicenza, Italy, where he has served as the facility manager since early 2011.

Todd met his wife, Susan, through his military service. Her father also served in the Army, was stationed for many years in Vicenza, Italy, where he met Susan's mother and where they raised their family. Susan also works for the Department of Defense as a training and education specialist for U.S. Army Africa. Todd and Susan have two children, a daughter, Sabrina, 15, and a son, Gabriel, 10.

At this time, Susan and the kids are living near her family in Vicenza. Todd says it's not unusual in the overseas military community for married couples to have periods of geographic separation. "It's near that if we can't live and grow in the place I consider home, that at least my kids have the opportunity to live and grow in the place Mom considers home," he said. They do have opportunity to reconnect from time to time and enjoy Todd's Iowa roots, and for Todd, visiting the wife and kids is about as good of an excuse as one can have to visit northern Italy.

They're hoping Susan will find a government position in Iowa and move back to the states soon. "It's all about timing," Todd says, as those positions are scarce (in Iowa), and with the emphasis on government spending in recent years, those open positions don't always get filled.

As facility manager of the Hoover Presidential Library-Museum, Todd works to keep the facility and its systems in shape but also believes that a facility manager must be proactive in long-term strategic planning for the facility and notes facility management isn't just maintenance like in the old days, it's about ensuring that the facility is ready for the mission. He knows condition and appearance need to present a strong first impression to visitors, "It's about how we present the Hoover brand," Todd explains. "I'm excited to work with the staff to use this space as effectively as possible."

Please give Todd a warm West Branch welcome the next time you see him! ★

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Christmas Past 2017
A West Branch Tradition

Step back in time Friday and Saturday, Dec. 1 & 2

Tree lighting ceremony • Kids T-Shirt Decorating • Homemade Donuts • Visit with Santa
Horse-drawn Carriage Rides through Hoover Park • The Gibson Trains • Hot Dog Roasting • Silent auction
Carolers and music galore • Free admission to the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum • Much more!

OVER 40 VENUES TO EXPLORE!

Follow the West Branch Community Development Group on Facebook, or for complete details and a schedule of events go to www.mainstreetwestbranch.org and click on the Community Events tab.
Director of Development's Message

Mundi McCarty, Director of Development

Retirement Plan Assets - Planning Matters!

You've worked hard throughout your career and you may have accrued substantial retirement savings through an IRA, 401(k), or 403(b) plan, Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP), or other plan.

Congratulations!

You may be at a point in your life where in addition to ensuring that you are able to enjoy a comfortable retirement, you're thinking about your estate plans. Of course, you want to see that your heirs are well provided for with as few burdensome taxes as possible. A solid estate plan is essential to meeting that goal.

As a recipient of this American Road newsletter, I'd guess you may also have a passion for local history, presidential history and the Hoover Presidential Library-Museum or Hoover National Historic Site. Making a charitable bequest to support Hoover campus programs, events and exhibits that are especially meaningful to you provides a way to establish your philanthropic Hoover legacy. Savvy estate planning is also the key to achieving that goal.

To make sure your heirs are not unnecessarily taxed on their inheritance, while also leaving crucial support for the Hoover campus, you might consider using a portion of your retirement assets to make a charitable bequest to the Hoover Presidential Foundation.

Here are a few ways a bequest from your retirement assets help achieve your financial and charitable goals:

- You can direct your gift to a Hoover Campus purpose you choose.
- As much as 70 percent of retirement plan assets can be eaten up by taxes, leaving your heirs only pennies on the dollar. However, these assets are tax-exempt when you leave them to a qualified charitable organization like the Hoover Presidential Foundation. So, you protect more of your hard-earned retirement assets from tax liabilities. Many other assets are not subject to income tax on retirement income, so it is better to leave those for your loved ones if you have that option.
- You retain total control over your gift if your or your heirs' financial needs change.
- Making a bequest of retirement plan assets is easy. After contacting us to let us know about your gift, simply contact your retirement plan administrator for a 'change of beneficiary designation' form and name the Hoover Presidential Foundation as a beneficiary.

We recommend consulting with your financial advisors before making substantial gift commitments to the Hoover Presidential Foundation. We would be delighted to help you. Make a Difference on the Hoover Campus today! Please contact Mundi McCarty, Director of Development, at MMcCarty@hoover.org by phone at 319-643-5327 or visit us online at www.hooverpresidentialfoundation.org/giftplanning.

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Hoover's Caribbean Vacation

By Thomas S. Mann, Director
Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum

In March, 1931, Herbert Hoover decided to take a Caribbean cruise. He had taken only one brief vacation during the first two years of his presidency, and badly needed some rest. The battleship Arizona had just finished a two-year overhaul and was scheduled to make a “Shakedown” cruise off the east coast, so the President decided to go along for the ride. (Yes, this was the same Arizona that met her tragic fate at Pearl Harbor, ten years later.)

As usual, Hoover could not resist mixing work with pleasure, and arranged to stop in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. He was accompanied by Secretary of War Patrick Hurley and Secretary of the Interior Ray Lyman Wilbur, a few aides, and 25 members of the press. (Mrs. Hoover stayed in Washington.) Arizona left from Old Point Comfort, Virginia, on March 19, 1931. For four days, Hoover relaxed on board, taking long naps and playing medicine ball on deck. In the evenings he watched movies with members of the crew.

On March 23, Hoover landed at Ponce and traveled overland by car to San Juan, where he addressed the Puerto Rican legislature. Puerto Rico was still recovering from a devastating hurricane in 1928 in addition to years of economic distress, and the new governor, Theodore Roosevelt Jr., had made great progress. He had spearheaded private fundraising in the U.S. and lobbied repeatedly before an indifferent Congress. He had also become very popular with the natives because he had worked very hard to learn Spanish and began his speeches with the phrase “we Puerto Ricans.” President Hoover’s visit gave him the opportunity to see firsthand the problems and progress that Gov. Roosevelt had described.

On March 24, Hoover crossed the island again and rejoined Arizona at Ponce. Hoover’s second stop was the U.S. Virgin Islands, which had been purchased for use as a naval base during World War I. A week before Hoover’s visit, his order transferring the administration of the islands from the Navy to the Interior Department were in effect, and the new governor, Dr. Paul M. Peck, had just arrived. On March 25, Hoover landed for a few hours at St. Thomas. The U.S. Virgin Islands were in worse shape than Puerto Rico — their shaky economy had been almost entirely dependent on producing rum, which was outlawed when Prohibition went into effect ten years earlier. Politically it was impossible at that time to consider allowing the resumption of rum production, so President Hoover concluded that the only option was to ask Congress for increased economic assistance for the islands.

The return journey, like the outward leg, was warm and sunny. When the President landed at Hampton Roads on March 30, he was visibly refreshed and tanned, and was ready to get back to work. The press contingent on the trip had enjoyed their vacation too. At the single press conference Hoover held during the cruise, he had admonished them, “These days are to sleep and I do not think that anyone expects you to send many news dispatches...I think 3 days of sleep would do us all good.”
Wreath Laying Marks 53rd Anniversary of President Hoover’s Passing

Friday, Oct. 20, commemorated the 53rd anniversary of President Hoover’s passing with a ceremony at Herbert and Lou Henry’s grave site, atop the hill overlooking Hoover’s birthplace cottage.

About 300 people were in attendance, including nearly 100 students who walked down from Hoover Elementary School just a few blocks north of the Hoover National Historic Site. The students would get a rare look at a Presidential memorial service.

Angie Miller, a teacher at Hoover Elementary, said her students really look forward to coming to the Hoover campus. “They love to listen and learn more about Hoover,” Angie said. “This gives them a glimpse into real life history, it’s just more meaningful for them.”

The program began with a short introduction and the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Hoover Presidential Foundation executive director, Jerry Flagg. The ‘Star-Spangled Banner’ was then performed by a group of nine ladies from Cedar Rapids called The Extension Chords.

Pete Swisher, Park Superintendent of the Hoover National Historic Site, presided a greeting and message on behalf of the National Park Service. He was followed by Brig. Gen. Randy Warn of the Iowa National Guard. “I’ve been all over this world and I can tell you there isn’t any place better than this country, and no better state than Iowa,” Warn said.

Warn’s message was crafted with the third and fourth graders in mind. He related topics like ‘character,’ ‘virtue’ and ‘integrity’ to both President Hoover and the students. “Let’s talk about integrity,” Warn said. “When you say something, you mean it. You don’t change your mind later, which leads into honesty.” Warn explained that when we say things honestly, it leads to trust. “What you say is what you mean and that’s your bond and that’s who you are. People can trust you,” he continued. “When you say, ‘I’m going to get this assignment done, teacher, I’m going to do the best I can,’ your teacher knows they have your best effort.”

Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum director Thomas Schwartz offered a message on behalf of the Presidential Library, which was followed by the Extension Chords rendition of ‘America the Beautiful.’

The keynote speaker for the program was U.S. Rep. Dave Loebback of Iowa City. “Herbert Hoover had a difficult upbringing,” Loebback began. “Having lost both of his parents by the age of nine, it took a lot of character, it took a lot of strength, but he did persevere. That’s something I think we Iowans share as a value.”

“Inspired by his Quaker roots, he dedicated so much of his life to public service and especially to helping those who were less fortunate, never forgetting his own roots,” Loebback continued. “There’s a lot we can learn from his legacy as an Iowan. President Hoover taught us that when we set aside the small things that divide us, we can overcome even the most difficult periods in our history.”

Following the congressman’s address, wreaths were laid by Brig. Gen. Warn on behalf of the White House and by Foundation board secretary, Gene Anderson, on behalf of the Hoover family.

The program concluded with the sound of a single trumpet playing ‘Taps’ off in the distance.★

Did You Know?

We changed our name to Hoover Presidential Foundation in April 2014. We have since removed all uses of Herbert Hoover Presidential Library Association in our printed material, web site and everywhere else. Our dedication to the support of the Herbert Hoover National Historic Site and Hoover Presidential Library-Museum remains the same. Please explore www.HooverPresidentialFoundation.org to see our new web site and LIKE us on Facebook.com/HooverPresFoundation.
30th Annual Hoover-Ball Tourney: New Teams, Same Tough Challenge

Saturday morning, Aug. 5, launched the 30th Annual Hoover-Ball National Championships in West Branch. Over 40 teams participated in a grueling 11-hour battle in both Men’s and Women’s divisions.

Taking first in the Women’s division were the ‘Peacocks’, with Madi Meier, Haley Poulas, Heather Poulas and Gabby Holmes. They defeated ‘Jarod’s Finest’, comprised of Allyson Simpson, Allie Russell, Abby Knoop, Madison Russell and Becca Haganman. Third place was awarded to the ‘Heave Ho’, with Monica Tylle, Erin Senio, Ashley Finegan and Lynsey Atkinson.

In the Men’s division, the champions claimed their fourth consecutive win, under a different team name for the fourth time. This year, the team name was ‘3 Brothers, 3 Championships.’ Their final game took one hour and 16 minutes to complete against ‘Donny’s Plumbing Repair and Installation.’ The champion team consisted of Clay Cook, Cole Cook, Branden Shortt and Sam Perkins. The runners up were Brad Arp, Sam Aspelmeier, Lucas Lamont, Tyler Donovan and Matt Mclrath. Third place ended in a tie with ‘Johnston Landscaping’ vs. ‘I Guess I’ll Play.’

Alexander Hoover, great-grandson of President Herbert Hoover, presented gold, silver and bronze medals from Iowan Games to the winners, a $200 cash prize and the traveling trophy to the champions of each division.

Youth Hoover-Ball Participants Reaches New High

A record 91 youth competed in the 3rd Youth Hoover-Ball Tournament held during Hoover’s Hometown Days on Aug. 4. The youth games divided into three divisions, with seven teams in the 4th and 5th grade Division I, eight teams in 6th and 7th grade Division II and four teams in 8th and 9th Division III.

“We more than doubled last year’s participation,” said Hoover-Ball commissioner and Hoover Presidential Foundation summer intern, Shelby Clorton.

The youth tournament is offered free of charge each year by the Hoover Presidential Foundation and was sponsored by the West Branch Lions Club, McDonald’s of West Branch, Integrated Therapy Specialists and Marcy Willier, Urban Acres Real Estate. The games were played on the Village Green, kicking off Hoover’s Hometown Days festivities on Friday, Aug. 4.
Three Students take Top Honors, $6,000 Each in Uncommon Scholarship Program.

Attention Iowa Juniors: Application Deadline for the next class is March 15!

Uncommon Student Award Winners

Saturday, Oct. 14 was Presentation Day at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum for 14 high school seniors in the Uncommon Student Awards program, sponsored by the Hoover Presidential Foundation.

The students applied for the program as high school juniors back in March. The Foundation selected 14 finalists from across Iowa to participate in the program. Each student developed a philanthropic program of their own design and worked on it over the summer. They returned on Oct. 14 to present their results.

Each student was awarded $1,000 for their efforts. There were selected by a panel of judges for an additional $5,000 scholarship award.

Makayla McMann of Coralville was one of the three. Her project was titled, "Villiusta Summer Day Camp." "I created and implemented a Day Camp in a small town which had not held any day camps for their youth for over 10 years," McMann said. "The camp ran every Monday for five weeks and served students in grades K through 6. "I thought I might get 20 to 25, and was greatly surprised to have 65 show up for the program!" she added.

JJ Kapur of Valley High School in West Des Moines earned a $5,000 scholarship for his project, "Iowa Sikh Turbanator." "I formed a youth-run organization with the goal to "turban-ate" the negative stigmas surrounding the Sikh faith in Des Moines through awareness building and community service events," Kapur said. He said the Uncommon Student Award program was a natural fit for him. "In my life I've always considered myself to be uncommon, particularly because of my appearance and wearing a turban and looking different among my peers. Being part of this program taught me that being uncommon is a good thing and it's something to be treasured."

The third scholarship award went to Kaleb Cook from Linn-Mar High School in Marion. His program, "Dancing Away the Stigma," provided a 10-lesson dance therapy program for Linn-Mar School District special needs students in grades K-12. "It was really inspiring to be an Uncommon Student," Cook said. "As I learned about Hoover's humanitarian work, it was really cool to see the similarities we shared in wanting to impact social change," said Cook. His program would grow to include the general student body and he's working on releasing his curriculum state-wide with hopes of seeing it go national.

Wesley Hanson, Union High School, La Porte City, was recognized as the Mariah Becker Volunteer Leadership Award winner for his project, "STEM of New Opportunities for Youth." This award is presented by the Uncommon Student Alumni group in memory of Mariah Becker, a member of the Hoover Uncommon Student Award Class of 2000. She was a student at the University of Iowa in 2002 when she lost a long and courageous battle with cancer. Hanson received a plaque and his name was added to a permanent display at the Library-Museum. To ensure the STEM program carries on, $250 will be donated to help fund the project when it's turned over to other students at Union High after he steps down to attend college.

The Uncommon Student Awards program annually identifies and honors up to 15 Iowa high school juniors who propose and then accomplish a project of their own choosing and design. Grades, test scores, essays and financial need are not evaluated. Application is open to all Iowa high school juniors and is due by March 15.
**Trustee Profile:**  
**Betsy Sierk Corridan**

**Spouse:** Jim Corridan  
**Children:** Peter and Robert (Bobby)  
**Hometown:** Iowa City

In previous issues of *American Road*, we've introduced our readers to all the members of the Foundation staff. You've learned about our families, hobbies, and interests, and why we do what we do here at the Hoover Presidential Foundation. Now it's time to introduce you to the people behind the scenes—the ones who guide the Foundation along the way...our trustees!

Betsy Corridan, one of our newer board members, has a long family history with the Foundation. Her father, Robert Sierk, was a former member of the board and an honorary trustee. One of Betsy’s favorite Hoover memories was in 1992 when her family was seated behind the Hoover family during the Hoover Presidential Library-Museum renovation dedication.

“It was a stifling hot summer day in West Branch,” Betsy said, “I remember being so impressed that President Reagan would come to West Branch for that dedication. It was very cool!”

Betsy is a graduate of the University of Iowa in Iowa City. Her first job was working on the staff of the Kappa Alpha Theta national office. She would work her way through the ranks where today she serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the organization.

“When I joined the board, I started to read about Lou Henry Hoover, I was excited to learn that she was a sorority woman herself,” Betsy said. “She was an early member of Kappa Kappa Gamma’s sorority at Stanford.”

Betsy just completed her first three-year term on the Hoover Presidential Foundation Board. She cited a love of history as part of her reason to join. It’s one she shares with her husband Jim, who is the State Archivist and Director of the Indiana Archives and Records Administration. “I’m always happy to serve when I can be helpful. I was honored to be asked and with all things considered, it was an easy choice,” Betsy said.

The family connection runs even deeper. We’ve learned that Betsy’s son Bobby shares a birthday with Herbert Hoover. “We were just back for the statue dedication during Hoover’s Hometown Days,” Betsy said, “It’s one of our favorite times to come back to West Branch, and we hope to do it more often now that the kids are older.”

Betsy believes the reason to support the Hoover campus are two-fold. “I really believe anyone with Iowa roots should support the Hoover campus simply because it’s part of who we are,” she said. “I think that most of us can identify with at least a small piece of his life. We can relate to something that occurred in his life or something he has done. I think we all identify with that very practical person who simply did the right thing.” She believes that story needs to be preserved for our families for the future.

“There’s also a need to modernize our story telling. We have to reach more people. If we don’t get out and talk about Hoover, his story, the campus...no one else will.”

Betsy says that the idea that a U.S. President was born and raised in Iowa should make Iowans proud, and that when they hear his whole story, they become even more proud. “We need to share that with the rest of the country!”

We couldn’t agree more, Betsy. We couldn’t agree more.

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**Celebration Banquet**

*Continued from page 1*

activities undertaken by the board and staff of the Hoover Presidential Foundation. He invited the room to consider a donation to the Foundation in support of their efforts.

Author Chris Whipple took the stage next and related tales from his book, supplemented with three video clips of various former chiefs of staff expounding the virtues, or lack thereof, of the job they loved to hate. At the conclusion of his speech, Whipple was joined by Bruce Aune who fielded questions from the audience.

At the conclusion of the program, Mr. Whipple signed books in the lobby and chatted with guests until all those who wanted to meet him were satisfied.

All that was left unanswered was, ‘Who will keynote next year?’ Watch for that announcement soon!

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**Did You Know?**

There are many ways to contribute to the Foundation. Our new director of development, Mundi McCarty, has provided a variety of ways to give with examples of possible tax benefits on our website. On the homepage, simply click the green DONATE button to learn more about charitable contributions to the Foundation. Becoming or renewing membership is also a great way to contribute! Click the JOIN button for details on that. If you have any questions about gifts to the Foundation, contact Mundi at 319-643-5327 or at MMcCarty@HooverPF.org.
Hoover Campus Sets Record with New Citizens

For the last 10 years, the U.S. District Court in Cedar Rapids has taken the show on the road and set up court on the east lawn outside the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum to hold a naturalization ceremony. This year, a record 74 immigrants were welcomed as new United States citizens on Friday, Sept. 15, at the Herbert Hoover National Historic Site.

Many of the immigrants came from Mexico and Canada but in total, 30 countries were represented.

One new citizen, Librado Campos, immigrated from Mexico. He said Friday’s ceremony was a day he would not soon forget. “It’s very important for me to become an American citizen because now I can do more for this country and personally for my family and me and for my wife,” he said.

U.S. District Court Magistrate Judge C.J. Williams presided over the ceremony, replacing retired Chief magistrate Judge Jon S. Sotes. Williams said the group varied in age from 19 to 66 and came from every continent except Australia. For many, they said the road to citizenship was a long one but well worth the wait.

“It took a few years, but finally I got my citizenship,” Eletra Rodriguez said. Rodriguez was brought to the United States at the tender age of six. Today, she’s an adult and stands as an American for the first time. “It means I have the same rights as any U.S. citizen, and that’s just awesome that this country gives the opportunity for immigrants to have the same rights as their citizens so I’m very blessed,” she said.

A crowd of about 250 watched as the immigrants repeated the oath of citizenship and then joined in for the Pledge of Allegiance. As part of their new citizenship, participants were allowed to choose a new name if they so desired, received social security cards and were able to register to vote following the ceremony.

Interstate 80

Continued from page 1 —

additional width, so as the lanes approach bridges, they would have to squeeze together to fit six lanes of traffic under them. It’s likely that both sides would squeeze together before the National Park boundary around mile marker 253 and therefore lessen the need to encroach on park property for the added lanes and shoulders.

“I’m confident the Park Service will work with IDOT folks, but we have not yet had any direct communication with them outside of larger group meetings as to what they think they are going to require,” said Hoover National Historic Site superintendent Pete Swisher. “They’ve indicated a concern over the westbound on-ramp at exit 254, which ultimately could require some type of boundary or right-of-way adjustment to the park.”

There was also talk of building sturdy shoulders on each side, to support emergency parking for trucks and also the possibility of automated vehicle usage in the future.

Another concern is the removal of a bridge crossing I-80 at Lower West Branch Road. While it’s not a heavily travelled road, it’s an important crossing point for farmers.

“From the Park’s perspective, if they close that road, there could be increased traffic of anhydrous ammonia and things like that coming down Parkside Drive which could require a heightened awareness on the part of our ranger staff to protect our visitors and residents alike as well as increased farm traffic through town,” Swisher said.

“We’re also concerned about increased noise in the park,” from increased interstate traffic, said Swisher. The park has a baseline study that indicates higher than normal noise levels expected in the park. IDOT would need to assist with additional noise mitigation with the expansion. The available options would be for wall barriers to be installed or a more natural solution of a tree or bush barrier.

To date, no construction lines have been drawn on the property and the whole project is still in the exploratory and public input phase. “Construction won’t likely begin until 2020 or 2021,” Swisher said.
2017 YEAR IN REVIEW

OUR MISSION
The Hoover Presidential Foundation promotes and supports the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum, National Historic Site, and programs that relate to and enhance the understanding of Herbert Hoover as president and humanitarian.

OUR VISION
By raising sufficient funds, The Hoover Presidential Foundation will support the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum and National Historic Site as they strengthen their internationally-recognized brand.

MEMBERSHIP UNITs
UP by 18.6%

MEMBERSHIP DUES REVENUE
UP by 52%

America Needs Herbert Hoover.
Your membership and donations make a difference.

This year the Hoover Presidential Foundation has undertaken a detailed and lengthy look at where we as an organization are, and where we want to go. To paraphrase Herbert Hoover's words, we strive to be an "Uncommon" Presidential Foundation by focusing on our mission, striving for our vision and involving as many supporters and volunteers as we can, just like Herbert Hoover did a century ago when he saved millions of people from starvation leading the Commission for the Relief of Belgium.

This summer, when we surveyed both members and non-members, they told us overwhelmingly to focus on telling the "Hoover Story." It is one of the best American success stories to be told. It's the reason the Hoover Presidential Library-Museum and Hoover National Historic Site are located in West Branch, where they tell the story in an accurate, inspiring way; and our mission is to support them. Both the Park and Museum are engaging and evolving. The Foundation supports special exhibits and programs throughout the year that bring people back often- and with other guests who learn the Hoover story!

Your support has also allowed us to tell the Hoover Story with:

UNCOMMON STUDENTS
Having just completed its 20th year, the program's impact continues to grow year after year. In 2010, Sarah Cronk proposed a project called the "Sparkle Effect," which generates cheer and dance teams including students with disabilities. It has grown to over 200 teams in over 30 states, involving 10,000 individuals. In 2001, Uncommon Student Jerimiah Terhark had a project and an idea. He called it "Web Spec Design: Turning Ideas into Reality." Jerimiah's USA project turned into a company today in Des Moines that employs over 30 people and is viewed as a leader in web design!
S.T.E.M. DAYS
Otherwise known as Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, this is the Hoover Library-Museum’s newest program. On certain days each week during the spring, the Library-Museum partners with the University of Iowa and others for S.T.E.M. days. On those days, special S.T.E.M. exhibits are set up throughout the permanent Hoover Galleries in the Museum that tie in with many projects the “Great Engineer,” Herbert Hoover, did during his life. A great way to bring the past into the present, this program would not happen without the support of Hoover Presidential Foundation members and donors!

UNCOMMON PUBLIC SERVICE
One of Herbert Hoover’s favorite phrases was, “Being a politician is a poor profession. Being a Public Servant is a noble one.” Every year, we honor two Iowa state legislators who exemplify the traits of uncommon public service. Your support helps honor Herbert Hoover’s long-held belief!

TRAVEL GRANTS FOR SCHOLARS
With your support, the Foundation awards travel grants to visiting scholars through a selection process to visit the Hoover Library and research Herbert Hoover. Often, it leads to papers, stories, and books on Herbert Hoover.

SCHOOL BUS GRANTS FOR STUDENTS
Herbert Hoover loved children. With your support, we award thousands of dollars in school bus grants so schools may bring their students to learn about Herbert Hoover. Over 12,000 students visit the Library every year.

INSTITUTE FOR CIVIL ENGAGEMENT
This year, in partnership with the University of Iowa, the Hoover Presidential Foundation brought 26 high school teachers to the Hoover campus to learn about Herbert Hoover’s spirit of public service and how to engage students in civic projects. In its fourth year, teachers have a greater understanding into how to better engage students in their schools and make a positive difference in their communities. The seeds planted with this Institute will continue to grow year after year, making an exponential difference in literally hundreds, if not thousands of young peoples’ lives as the program grows!

Your support – more important now than ever!
Tell the Hoover Story – it’s the story of a young child that overcame the adversity of being orphaned at the age of 9, who became one of the most successful mining engineers and businessmen in the world, then gave it all up to spend the last 50 years of his life in public service. Herbert Hoover’s fate? Being elected President of the United States just six months before the largest stock market crash in U.S. history and a world-wide depression. It becomes the story of an elder statesman who comes back into public life to advise other U.S. Presidents on war reconstruction and efficiency in government.

An inspiring story – one that can be shared today – with your help!
The Hoover Presidential Foundation provides a variety of ways for members and donors to support telling the Hoover story. From gifts of cash, stock, or in your will, a gift to the Hoover Presidential Foundation ensures the Hoover story will continue to be shared. Please contact Director of Development, Mundi McCarty, by email (MMcCarty@HooverFoundation.org) or by phone at 319-643-5327 to learn how you can help tell the Hoover story!
Tales of the Sea Christmas

Come and explore a collection of beautifully decorated Christmas Trees, each themed with a unique Tale of the Sea!

Which one will be your favorite?

- The Sea
- Men of the Sea
- Myths & Legends
- Lighthouses
- Maritime force
- Shipwrecks
- Jaws
- Sea Songs
- America's Cup Race
- King Neptune
- Pirates
- Sea Monsters
- Mermaids
- Biblical Stories
- Places of the Sea
- Vessels
- Titanic

OPEN NOW THROUGH JANUARY 7

Reminder: The Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum will be closed on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.

Coming in January, 2018

to the Quarto Gallery

The Legacy Collection:
Farm Life in Iowa

By A.M. Wettach

Farm Life in Iowa is an exhibition of thirty photographs taken by A.M. “Pete” Wettach (1901–1976) from 1925 to 1960—thirty-five of the most revolutionary years for farming as a way of life in Iowa. Working as a freelance photographer based in Mount Pleasant, Wettach recorded changes in farming practices at the same time as he honored traditional values of family and self-sufficiency. Wettach’s unique interpretation of the family farm comes from his documentary style and keen compassion for his subjects.

January 19 through March 18

Source: State Historical Society of Iowa, Iowa City