

JOHNSON COUNTY VIETNAM MEMORIAL PLAZA

AS WE CELEBRATE THE 198th BIRTHDAY OF OUR NATION AS AN INDEPENDENT AND FREE COUNTRY, I FEEL IT IS ONLY PROPER THAT WE ALSO GIVE APPROPRIATE RECOGNITION TO THOSE AMERICANS WHO HAVE SACRIFICED SO MUCH TO SUSTAIN AND SECURE OUR FREEDOM _____ -- TO THOSE WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES IN DEFENSE OF THE FREEDOMS WE TODAY ENJOY AND CELEBRATE.

IN PARTICULAR I WOULD LIKE TO FOCUS ON A PROJECT WHICH IS UNDERWAY TO COMMEMORATE THE APPROXIMATELY ~~60~~ ONE TIME JOHNSON COUNTY RESIDENTS WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE VIETNAM CONFLICT. A VOLUNTARY GROUP OF JOHNSON COUNTY CITIZENS HAS DEVELOPED PLANS FOR A JOHNSON COUNTY VIETNAM MEMORIAL PLAZA TO BE ESTABLISHED IN ANTIOCH PARK AS A MEMORIAL TO THESE PATRIOTS. THE DESIGN OF THE PLAZA HAS BEEN COMPLETED, THE PARK BOARD HAS APPROVED THE PLANS AND AGREED TO ACT AS A TRUSTEE FOR DONATIONS, BUT ONLY \$11,000 ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF THE \$11,000 NEEDED FOR THE PROJECT HAS BEEN RAISED,

I FEEL THIS IS A MOST COMMENDABLE AND WORTHWHILE PROJECT. WHETHER WE AGREED OR DISAGREED WITH OUR INVOLVEMENT IN VIETNAM, WE ALL ARE ABLE TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND APPRECIATE THE SACRIFICES MADE BY MANY AMERICANS AT THE CALL OF THEIR COUNTRY. I AM SURE THAT WE ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT IT IS THIS SPIRIT OF COMMITMENT AND SACRIFICE THAT MAKES THIS COUNTRY WHAT IT IS TODAY. AS WE CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY I FEEL IT IS APPROPRIATE THAT WE RECOGNIZE AND PAY TRIBUTE TO THE AMERICAN SPIRIT WHICH HAS MADE THIS DAY POSSIBLE.

THE SUPPORTERS OF THE JOHNSON COUNTY VIETNAM MEMORIAL PLAZA HAVE A BOOTH SET UP HERE IN THE PARK THIS EVENING, AND I WOULD URGE ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENJOY THIS INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION , TO STOP BY THE BOOTH , LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MEMORIAL PLAZA WHICH IS BEING PROPOSED, AND HELP OUT WITH THE PROJECT IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE JOHNSON COUNTY VIETNAM MEMORIAL PLAZA

MEMORIAL TITLE: JOHNSON COUNTY VIETNAM MEMORIAL PLAZA

PURPOSE: COUNTY WIDE MEMORIAL TO THE APPROXIMATELY 60 JOHNSON COUNTY RESIDENTS WHO DIED IN VIETNAM.

PROPOSED LOCATION: ANTIOCH PARK

COST : \$11,000 (\$3500 HAS ALREADY BEEN RAISED THROUGH VOLUNTARY DONATIONS)

ADMINISTRATION: HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE PARK BOARD WHICH WILL ALSO ACT AS THE TRUSTEE FOR THE DONATIONS THAT ARE RECEIVED.

FUNCTION: IN ADDITION TO SERVING AS A MEMORIAL, THE PROJECT IS ALSO TO SERVE AS THE LOCATION OF AN ANNUAL VETERANS DAY MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE ON NOV. 11th. THEY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE IT COMPLETED FOR THE SERVICE THIS YEAR.

PRIMARY SUPPORTERS:

mary jo WIDLIAWS - has been the main contact with our office in addition to John Franke.

Pat Lavery- her brother died in vietnam in 1969

> Charlie Plumb- Honorary chairman/

Larry Jones- donated architectural work on the proposed project

Roger sellars- donated engineering work

Charles Humphrey

Vic Kerns-

MEL DINKLAGE - CARL DURSO - JOHNNIE LINGLE
(ANXOR-LEVERA)

BACKERS OF THE MEMORIAL WILL HAVE A BOOTH SET UP AT SHAWNEE MISSION PARK TO RECEIVE DONATIONS.

Booth is in Shelter House
#1