Proclamation
9/27/2022

September 13, 2022

Here are some photos of a Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) Cemetery Marker installed south of Jacksonville.

The Illinois SAR Society is attempting to put markers at all cemeteries in the state that have Patriots buried there. As of now we have identified almost 100 locations.

The cost of the markers is currently \$2,750 plus installation and the SAR funds the total amount. We will not ask Chatham for any funding. However, in the past in smaller communities like Chatham, the installation has been done by community grounds staff. This saves us about \$650 that we can use for our youth projects. Larger cities like the Chicago and St Louis areas charge for the installation.

We would like to place a marker identifying John Lockridge as a Revolutionary War soldier buried in Chatham.

Once we have approval to proceed the process can take 18 to 24 months as each marker is one of a kind and made to order. The markers are Bronze set on a metal pole secured by concrete.

Each marker is name specific and made by a company in Ohio.

We try to make this a community event when the marker is dedicated. We invite Boy Scouts to help present the Colors along with the American Legion and others.

Additionally, family decedents if any can be located are invited and asked to remove the drape from the marker. I am aware of one descendent who lives in Springfield. It is hoped we would find more.

These markers are high quality and made to last. We have placed one in Oak Ridge Cemetery near the Lincoln Tomb.

We normally place the marker at the cemetery entrance, not near the actual grave as it is easier for the mowing crew to cut the grass. But the final decision is up to you. For Chatham we are thinking either...

- 1) Near the entrance to the new cemetery. The plus for this location is the marker would be viewed by a larger number of people. The wording on the marker could indicate Lockridge is buried across the street in the old cemetery.
- 2) The small drive behind the former VFW building. The plus for this location is the Lockridge plot is located here.

I am happy to come in and talk to the Mayor and or Village Trustees if needed

Toby Chamberlain

O Nice Voice vote.

