

IOWA TODAY

Farmers on Mississippi River see crops ruined Nation/World, 7A



SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2011 The Gazette 3A

CORRIDOR

Traffic pattern shifts on C.R. stretch

CEDAR RAPIDS — Traffic was moving in two directions last night on Third Avenue SE between Eighth and 13th streets SE and on 13th Street between Second and Third avenues.

The previous one-way stretches were slated to change to two-way on Monday. The traffic shift is related to the closing of Second Avenue SE between 10th and 12th streets SE to make way for the Physicians' Clinic of Iowa's new Medical Pavilion.

Second Avenue SE between 12th and 13th streets SE also is scheduled to be a two-way street.

Those changes had not been implemented on Second Avenue last night.

City officials could not be reached to explain why the changes were made earlier than had been announced.

Dogs from Mississippi brought to I.C.

IOWA CITY — Ronnie Graves has spent the past two days transporting 30 dogs from Vicksburg, Miss., to various shelters in his Sumter Disaster Animal Response Team truck.

Six of these dogs are now being housed at the Iowa City Care and Adoption Center, ranging from puppy age to several years old. They are not available for adoption but should be soon.

There are four other Sumter Disaster Animal Response Team trucks on the road carrying dogs to shelters.

The dogs were removed from Vicksburg in order to clear space for a large influx of pets expected to need shelter from flooding.

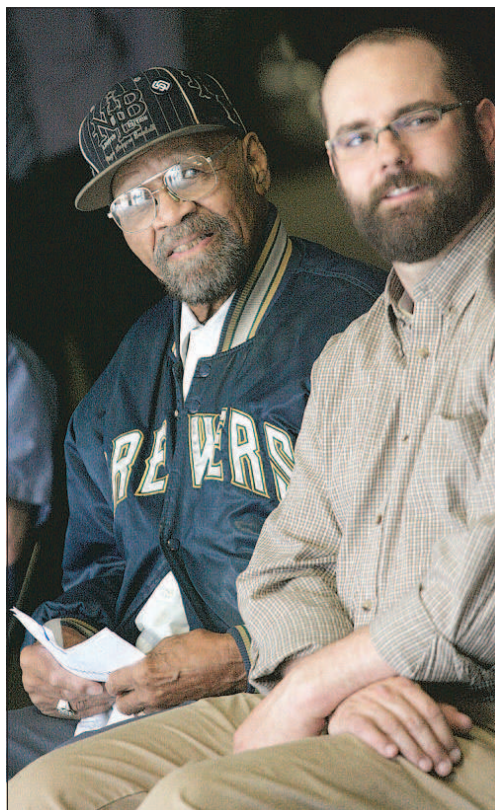
No date set for Czech museum move

'These are not just names'

Oak Hill Jackson Brickstones to be called 'Adam' and 'Pennington'



Sara Todd sits next to her husband, Dale, while holding her son Adam, 12, on Friday during the dedication of an apartment building in Adam's name in Cedar Rapids.



Becky Malewitz photos/The Gazette

Former Negro League baseball player Art Pennington (left) and Billy Valencia of Iowa City watch a ceremony dedicating an apartment building in Pennington's name in Cedar Rapids.

By Rick Smith
The Gazette

EDAR RAPIDS — Developer Jack Hatch says he builds affordable housing in Iowa in a way that is attractive yet sturdy so it will stand the test of time.

Then he says he goes one step further: He names the buildings.

At a community dedication ceremony Friday, Hatch explained to a noontime gathering of about 100 people why he named his two new apartment buildings on Sixth Street SE — the Oak Hill Jackson Brickstones — after 12-year-old Adam Todd and 87-year-old Art Pennington.

Todd, who struggles with epilepsy, is the son of Sara Todd and Dale Todd, Hatch Development Group's regional development director and a former Cedar Rapids City Council member. Pennington, who lives a block and half from one the Brickstones, is a former baseball star who thrived in the Negro Leagues. Hatch said Pennington would have made it to the major league if he

hadn't been a black player married to a white woman.

"Art Pennington and Adam Todd," Hatch said. "These are not just names. This is a statement about injustice, persistence, courage, that we're very honored to have placed on these two buildings."

"Here you have the names of two gentlemen, one who is (12) and another who is a little older. They can inspire us. So when you drive by these buildings, you're going to think about the people who live in the neighborhood, and about people who have fought for their lives, for something, and someone who is going to continue to fight for his life with the courage that he has."

The Adam, with 54 affordable apartments, is now open, and the Pennington, with 42 apartments, is slated to open soon.

Pennington, who turns 88 next week, shared some stories of his baseball days with the crowd, and said he was "very, very proud" to have been thought of by Hatch

and Dale Todd.

"It's something that I just can't believe," Pennington, who moved to Cedar Rapids in 1959, said before Friday's event. "After all these years, and they are all recognizing me. I'm really grateful."

Mayor Ron Corbett thanked Hatch, a state senator from Des Moines, and Dale Todd for putting "heart" into the two new apartment buildings. The mayor said the buildings are helping to replace affordable housing lost in the Oak Hill Jackson neighborhood in the June 2008 flood.

"They say sometimes you have to go through the valley to get to the mountaintop," Corbett said. "And as individuals struggle and go through their little valleys, as Adam does and as Art has done, communities do, too. I think we're through our valley, and we're heading up the mountaintop. And this (the Brickstones) is one great project on that road to recovery."

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