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**Tracy Daugherty Miller receives patriotism award from staff member John McCurdy**

Tracy Daugherty Miller, Executive Director of Chariton Valley Planning and Development, was recently awarded the "My Boss is a Patriot" award by the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve.

Miller was nominated by Petty Officer Third Class (USNR) John McCurdy, a community development planner with Chariton Valley Planning and Development, for her support, flexibility, and understanding during his recent two week training period in Japan.

Petty Officer McCurdy wrote in his nomination that "Ms. Daugherty Miller's unwavering support of my obligations as a reservist greatly eased my transition from my civilian employment to reserve duty and back again." Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) is a Department of Defense organization.

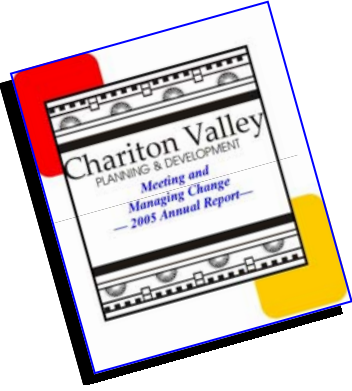
It is a staff group within the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, which is in itself a part of the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

Employers play a critical role in the defense of the nation by complying with existing employment laws protecting the rights of workers who serve in the Reserve component.



Chariton Valley Planning & Development Executive Director, Tracy Daugherty Miller receives an award for patriotism from John McCurdy, Chariton Valley Planning & Development community planner.

The 2005 Chariton Valley Planning & Development Annual Report is available upon request.



**Appanoose County Comprehensive Plan prepares county for future**

A team of residents in Appanoose County have been studying economic and demographic trends for the Appanoose County Board of Supervisors under the direction of Chariton Valley Planning and Development.

As a part of the development of the county's revised comprehensive plan, that will identify goals and objectives for Appanoose County, Chariton Valley Planning and Development has been working with landowners

throughout the county to determine the full potential and prospects for economic development, infrastructure enhancement, and quality of life.

A public meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 22, 2006 at 7 PM at Centerville City Hall to discuss the county's potential and how the new comprehensive plan that is being prepared will identify goals and assign partnership roles for achievement.

Dr. Gary Taylor, professor of Community and Regional Planning with Iowa State University, will explain the importance of a comprehensive plan. Further, Taylor will address how community leaders from Appanoose County and its incorporated cities can use Appanoose County's planning process to strengthen cooperative efforts between governmental agencies, retailers, and industries.

"Dr. Taylor's background with marketing, law, and regional

## Historic Hills annual meeting set for January 26



Volunteers and other activists involved with the Historic Hills, a nine county tourism region in southern Iowa, will hold their annual meeting and luncheon at Manhattan Restaurant in Centerville on Thursday, January 26, 2006.

Throughout 2005 the Historic Hills group has been advocating for regional transportation improvements, improved marketing, regional red bud tree planting, improved community entryway signage, as well as many other initiatives.

The annual meeting program will include a continental breakfast, seminars on culinary tourism and historic preservation, a buffet lunch, annual report, and awards presentation.

The culinary tourism seminar will bring together professionals from the foodservice industry and the public to brainstorm about food and its connection to the southern Iowa tourism experience.

The historic preservation seminar will be led by Jerome Thompson, curator for the State Historical Society of Iowa, and will focus on how local groups can identify, preserve, and

market their historic sites.

The seminars will run from 10:00 PM to 11:50 PM followed immediately by lunch.

The public is encouraged to attend.

A registration fee of \$11.50 covers the cost of the continental breakfast, seminars, and buffet lunch.

To register, contact John McCurdy at Chariton Valley Planning and Development in Centerville, by phone at 641-437-4359.

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planning make him an ideal resource to initiate discussions in Appanoose County about cooperative planning," explains Tracy Daugherty Miller, Executive Director for Chariton Valley Planning and Development. "I am receiving feedback from area leaders that many are looking forward to beginning a county-wide effort."

Dean Kaster, Appanoose County Board of Supervisors' Chairperson notes, "The Board hopes that many residents and business owners will use the opportunity that we have with Dr. Taylor to learn more about getting organized."

Local residents who are assisting the Board of Supervisors with the development of the comprehensive plan and who are hosting the public meeting featuring Dr. Taylor include: Connie Drake, Gene Paris, Beverly Jewett, Rex Petersen, Bill Ward, Roy Downing, Gary Ewing, Barbara Haines, David Haines, Mark Garretson, Sharon Redinbaugh, and John Cosby.



## Planning. What is it?

Chariton Valley Planning & Development relies heavily on the planning profession to accomplish the goals and objectives of its mission statement, but what exactly is planning?



Chariton Valley Planning & Development is a member of the American Planning Association, which defines the planning profession as one that "...works to improve the welfare of people and their communities by creating more convenient, equitable, healthful, efficient, and attractive places for present and future generations."

Planners work with local governments and citizens to assist in problem solving and to help meet the challenges of growth and change.

The Appanoose County Comprehensive Plan is just one example of how Chariton Valley Planning & Development is assisting area leaders to facilitate the growth process.