

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

way behind the chapel. "Dutch elm disease wiped out the original trees which have since been replaced by maple trees," Carey said, "a part of the WWI Memorial restoration efforts that I and my foundation, the Admiral Carey Foundation, are working with the Berlin Area Historical Society as it relates to the placement of the of the individual identification shields by each tree honoring the men who died. Those shields are currently on a display board and are kept in the chapel where, of course, they are not seen by very many cemetery visitors, and thus need to be placed by the individual trees.

"While I and my foundation have, to a degree, been the genesis of this restoration effort, the key driver and what we would identify in military terms as the On Scene Commander, has been the Berlin Area Historical Society and it is they who are handling the local negotiations with city and cemetery officials and do the day-to-day work on this important memorial restoration."

In his interview with the Centennial Commission, Adm. Carey was asked what challenges he faced to make the project a reality. "I have been fortunate in that while many people leave their old home towns after high school graduation, never to return, I have always maintained my ties to Berlin because the area and the people there were very important to my training and education that led to my success in adult life," he said. "I have been involved in other 'memorial projects' there and thus had the contacts and linkages I needed to get these projects to be considered and then brought to fruition.

"In particular, I have worked closely with the BAHS on several projects and given their close ties with the city and library and cemetery board and all the townspeople, they are the On Scene Commanders that have helped make all my Berlin, WI projects come to ultimate completion. In large part, due to my being 1,000 miles distant, the key has been persistence, plus friends and contacts in Berlin who know me and trust me and have learned what I say



PHOTO SUBMITTED TO BERLIN JOURNAL NEWSPAPERS

THE WWI MEMORIAL GATE TO OAKWOOD CEMETERY in Berlin, WI, made from granite mined at the nearby quarry that borders the cemetery. It was erected as a memorial to all the men and women from Berlin who served in military service in WWI. Both Sgt. Carey and Cpl. Carey are buried in this cemetery with official military service plaques marking their graves.

to them or tell them I will do will, in fact, happen.

"Obviously, WWI has application to the veterans organizations and also is a matter of high interest to the historical societies, given its impact on their local communities at the time and the impact it had on local history and local families and any WWI memorials that later came into being. I have always been thankful for the qualities and character instilled in me by local teachers, community leaders and Boy Scout leaders when I was growing up, and thus feel an obligation to 'pay back' to my hometown for all they did for me that later helped to cause my ultimate success in life.

"As such, I do not hesitate to always offer some financial assistance for any local project I am advocating, and this helps to take the pressure off of these local folks that would have to somehow raise all the funds needed. This has proven helpful to getting things started, and also adds to my own personal sense of satisfaction and fulfillment that I *am* 'paying back' for the guidance and character-building that was given me when I was a boy growing up there."

After a 33-year Naval career that also included serving as Chairman of the U.S. Federal Maritime Commission under

President George H. W. Bush, Carey founded the Rear Admiral James J. Carey Foundation, dedicated to programs and projects in support of military veterans and their sons and daughters, grandsons and granddaughters, and nieces and nephews.

Carey is a national public policy leader and the former International Grand Master of The Knights of Templar International, recognized in "special consultative status by the United Nations. Also an Eagle Scout, he is chairman of the Future Leaders for America Foundation, National Chairman of the 3,800-plus Member Organization for military admirals and generals, founder and chairman of the National Defense Committee and Chairman of the Good Samaritans of the Knights Templar Foundation.

"It is important to remember all military veterans," Adm. Carey said, "because there came a time in our nation's history when they stepped forward at a time of national crisis and said, 'take me. I am



PHOTOS SUBMITTED TO BERLIN JOURNAL NEWSPAPERS

ABOVE: SGT. ROBERT EMMETT CAREY. AT RIGHT: VFW POST 2925 CHAPLAIN Mike Trampf plants a memorial flowering pear tree honoring Cpl. John Eugene Carey, a WWI veteran who served in France in the U.S. Army Co. C, First Army Corps Cavalry.



PHOTO SUBMITTED TO BERLIN JOURNAL NEWSPAPERS

PVT. ROBERT E. CAREY in Berlin, WI prior to deploying to France in 1917.

willing to put my life on the line to ensure that my children and grandchildren, my family and friends, and all Americans will continue to be able to live in freedom and liberty.'

"This is a HUGE sacrifice these men and women made—it began in the Revolutionary War and continued on in World Wars I and II, Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan and Iraq, and every other threat to our nation. ALL of these men and women wanted the same chance to have a long life and their own fami-

lies and a chance at happiness just like everyone else, but they came forward when truly evil people threatened our nation and volunteered to put their lives on the line for all of us.

"If we as a nation are to maintain our national dignity and gratitude, we absolutely must NEVER be found wanting in our continued commitment to the memory of these brave men and women who served on our behalf and the many of them who gave their lives for the rest of us."



~ You're Invited to ~
The Princeton VFW Post 10452
Christmas Party
& Raffle!
Friday, December 23rd
Doors open at 3:30 p.m.
Karaoke 7-11 p.m.
Lots of fun and great prizes open to the public!
136 N. Farmer St., Princeton