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## **Welcome Center celebrates 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary**

An open house to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the opening of one of Iowa's most unique Welcome Centers will be held Friday, May 15 and Saturday, May 16 at the Sergeant Floyd River Museum & Welcome Center from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Guided tours will be offered at 20 minutes past each hour. Light refreshments, prizes and special activities for all ages will be available.

The *M.V. Sgt. Floyd* was built in 1932 to perform light towing, survey and inspection work along the Missouri River. After the boat was decommissioned, city leaders brought it to Sioux City. In 1989, the now permanently dry-docked vessel opened as a combined state tourist welcome center and river museum. For 20 years, volunteers and staff have helped people from around the world discover Sioux City's unique history and area attractions.

The history of the Missouri River is chronicled through displays and dioramas primarily on the second deck of the boat. Many of the rooms in the third floor pilot house have been restored to their original appearance. Among the recent upgrades have been new carpeting, a life-size steamboat piston model, and newly acquired photographs of the *M.V. Sgt. Floyd* on the Missouri River. Recently added audio effects sound 14 distinct steamboat whistles.

The Sergeant Floyd River Museum & Welcome Center is located on the riverfront at 1000 Larsen Park Road, Sioux City. It is one of four sites of the Sioux City Public Museum.

Regular hours for the Sergeant Floyd River Museum & Welcome Center are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily through Labor Day. For more information, visit [www.siouxcitymuseum.org](http://www.siouxcitymuseum.org).

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