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Briefs



Clocks fall back Sunday

While many may be looking for a quick passage of the days before the election, there will nevertheless be one additional hour afforded this week, thanks to Daylight Savings Time.

Daylight Savings Time ends at 2 a.m. on Sunday. The Anchor reminds readers to set clocks back before going to bed on Saturday, or for night and early morning owls, right as 2 a.m. arrives.

County burn ban lifted

Just a week ago, a burn ban was in place in Worth County, following an extended dry period and the start of fall burning underway. Rain, snow and colder weather brought a change.

On October 16, Worth County Sheriff Dan Fank requested a burn ban in the county, on behalf of the county's fire departments. With sufficient moisture, on Thursday, October 22, Fank requested an end to the ban.

County launches election website

Worth County voters have a new user-friendly website to find all of their election information.

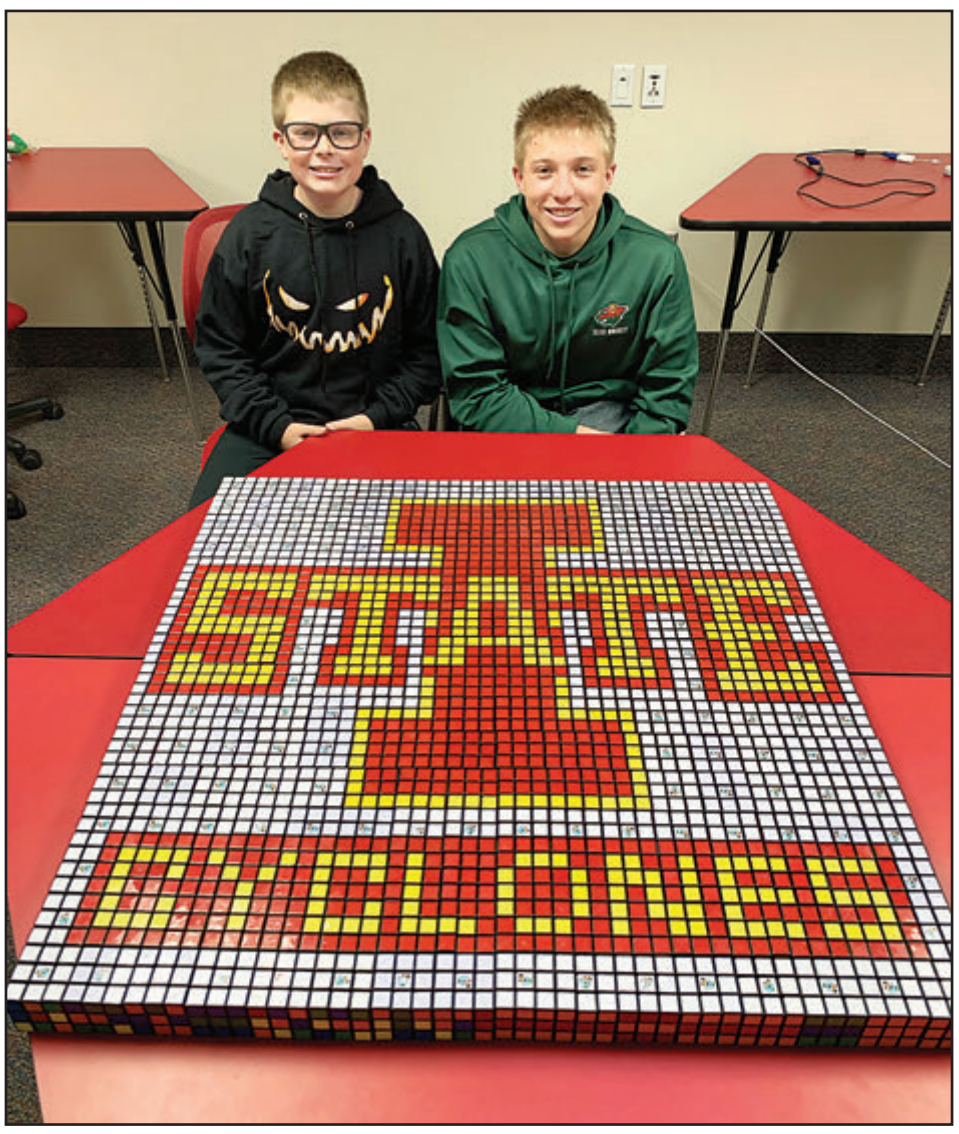
Worth County Auditor and Commissioner of Elections Jacki Backhaus announced that elections.worthcountyiowa.gov is now online.

Website, see Page 2



The Week's WEATHER
by National Weather Service Observer
John Podgorniak

Date	Hi	Lo	Prec.
Tues. Oct. 20	34	27	T
Wed. Oct. 21	39	30	.26
Thurs. Oct. 22	40	32	.07
Fri. Oct. 23	34	32	.37
Sat. Oct. 24	34	16	T
Sun. Oct. 25	31	18	.02
Mon. Oct. 26	27	16	.16



Cube by cube

Pictured is the result of a couple of weeks of careful twisting and rotating by Weston and Wyatt Willand. The design above is created entirely from Rubik's cubes, solved so that the corresponding colors would present a design with some Cyclone pride. Over the course of two weeks, using 256 cubes, the brothers laid out the pattern and twisted the cubes to fit.

Northwood set for safe Halloween fun Saturday

On Halloween, this Saturday, the Northwood Area Chamber of Commerce will sponsor the annual Halloween parade and costume contest for children up to 10 years old.

This year, those taking part are encouraged to practice social distancing and wear masks for safety.

The parade begins at the City Hall parking lot at 5 p.m. on Halloween, this Saturday, October 31. The costumed kids, and their accompanying adults, costumed or otherwise, will parade to the basketball courts in Central Park.

At the park, a contest will be held, with prizes going to the winners in three age groups, children three and under, 4-6 and 7-10. All kids under the age of 10 taking part will receive a bag of candy, while supplies last.

Following the parade,

Halloween, see Page 2

Polling place changes in effect on Election Day

As voters in Worth County go to the polls this Tuesday, many will do so in a new place for their district, with temporary and permanent changes to voting locations in place for this election.

Bethany Lutheran Church remains the temporary voting location in Joice, which includes those living in Precinct 2-1, including Bristol and Silver Lake townships and the city of Joice.

The Kensett Community Center is the new permanent voting location for those living in Precinct 2-2, which includes Brookfield and Kensett townships and the city of Kensett.

Those voting in Northwood, those in precinct 3-1, will also do so in a new location, at the Worth County Fairgrounds Community Room. This includes those that live in Deer Creek Township, in sections 7-9 and

Polling, see Page 2

Election set for Tuesday

This Tuesday, those that have not cast their ballot absentee will take to the polls to participate in an election for county, state and federal offices, including for the president of the United States.

Those registered can also currently vote absentee in person before Tuesday's general election.

Absentee voting in the Worth County Auditor's office continues through November 2. Curbside assistance will also be available in the north parking lot of the courthouse by calling the auditor's office.

Election, see Page 2

City, school discuss shared road project

At recent meetings, the Northwood City Council and Northwood-Kensett Board of Education have discussed the possibility of combining resources to build a road to access projects for each.

At their September 28 meeting, the council discussed the joint effort to build a street that would provide access to a potential housing development for the city and to a new transportation center/bus barn for the Northwood-Kensett school district.

The street would come west off of Seventh Street North, on the north side of the N-K Junior/Senior High School property.

At their October 8 meeting, the school board continued its ongoing discussion of plans to build a new enclosed transportation center off the northwest corner of the school property.

The facility, as tentatively designed, would allow the district to store and maintain its buses and vehicles in an enclosed 60x244 foot building capable of holding 10 buses and 6 other vehicles, with wash and maintenance bays and office and break spaces.

The school would need to build a road to access the transportation center at its proposed location. The district has also been considering building a loop around the high school campus, which could include the street, in an effort to improve traffic flow.

The City has been working with a nearby landowner with plans to potentially develop a new housing development and the area that has been a primary focus would start in the same corner of District and City property as the proposed transportation center. One of the initial parts of the development project would be to build road access to the area.

Another part of the discussion was the potential trade of unused city property to the district, on which they would build the transportation center.

In trade the City would potentially gain

Project, see Page 2

A good farm dog can live forever in our memories

By JoAnn Lower

The love of a dog is a powerful force, perhaps the most powerful on earth.

"Can we have that one, Dad?" my brother Jimmy asked, pointing to the litter of eight, fat black puppies. "Can we have the biggest one, the one with white on his chest?" Dad dug deep into his overall pocket, paid the farmer four quarters and we took our puppy home.

My brothers and I had already decided we wanted our dog to be just like Lassie. Lassie was a farm dog. But our dog was a boy dog so we named him Laddy – close as we could get to Lassie.

Funniest thing. Our puppy wasn't at all like Lassie. All he wanted to do was play and sleep.

It was around his first birthday when we noticed that our black Labrador/German shepherd Christmas present had become a serious dog.

We all had jobs on the farm. Dad said our dog needed to work, too. So Jimmy stepped up to teach Laddy his first lesson – to bring the cows up from the pasture at milking time. Turns out he was a quick learner. In almost no time at all, Jimmy's help was no longer needed. Laddy brought the cows from the pasture to the barn all by himself.

After that our dog took upon himself the job of keeping all of our animals safe in their pens and out of harm's way – Dad's Holsteins, the pigs and my sheep.

With Laddy on duty, not one of Mom's chickens or fat, juicy capons were lost to a fox or a raccoon. Middle of the night gasoline stealers quickly learned to stay away and not to tangle with "that Ostrander dog."

Frightening as Laddy was to predators and strangers, is as loving as he was to us. Every day after school he'd wait at the end of the driveway for us to get off the bus. With a welcoming wag of his thick, ropy tail and a stick in his mouth, he'd say, "Welcome home, wanna play?"

One Saturday night after our family grocery-shopping trip to Thompson, we returned home to see Laddy sitting in the middle of the driveway. No wagging tail, no stick, just steadily focused on the south field.



Jimmy and Laddy

What we saw when

Memories, see Page 3

Fall season sports wrap up — See Sports Page 8

Halloween
Cont. from Page 1

from 5-8 p.m., children will be trick or treating throughout Northwood.

Those handing out candy are asked to turn on their porch lights to signal that they are welcoming trick or treaters. They are also encouraged to consider creative ways to hand out candy and observe social distancing.

Possible options include placing a bowl of candy on a porch with hand sanitizer, setting up a table in a driveway with small cups or bags of individual treat portions, using long kitchen utensils to give candy to children, placing or hiding candy in yards for a treat hunt or even decorating and setting up a candy chute to drop candy into bags or buckets.

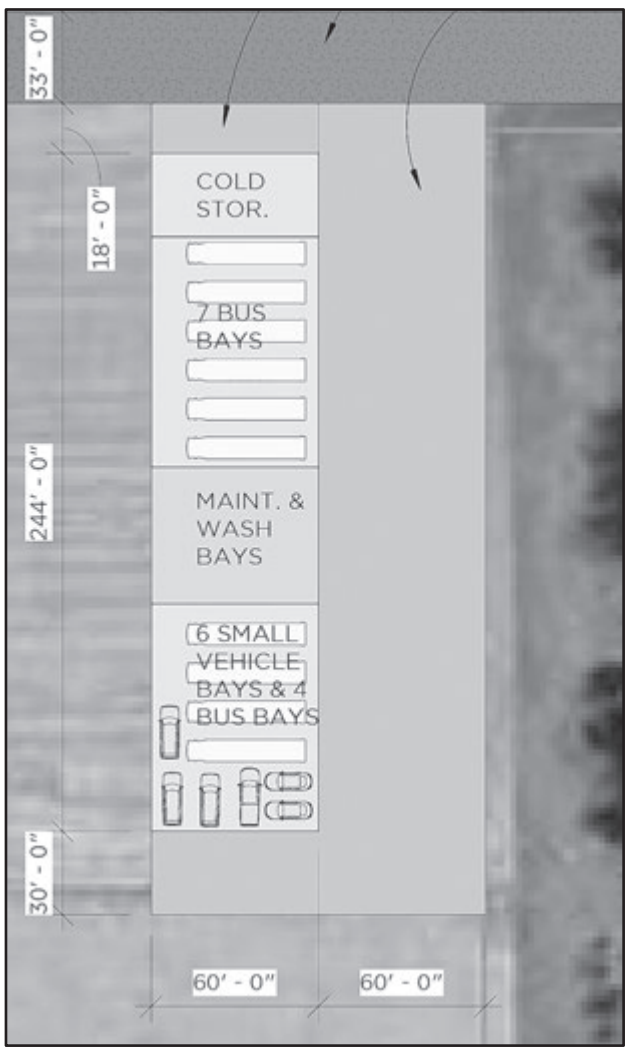
Project
Cont. from Page 1

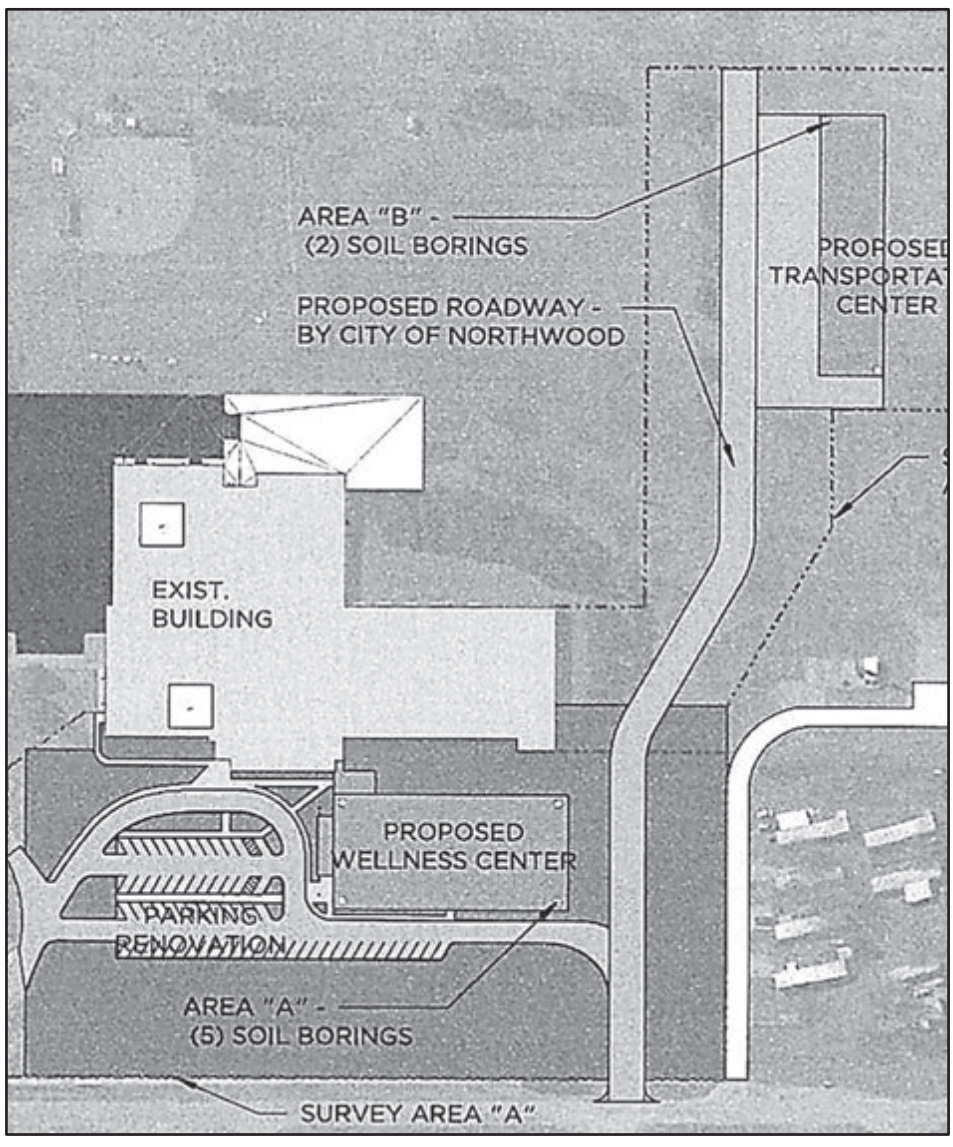
property to spur some housing development.

The City and district officials are considering the potential sharing of the cost of building the road to access both of their projects. After it's complete, the road would likely become the property and maintenance responsibility of the City.

Both projects remain in the planning stages and the City has not committed to its support of a development in that area.

At their October 8 meeting, the school board approved continued discussion with the City to share the costs of building the road.





Seen above is the layout of Northwood-Kensett's secondary campus, including the Vikings Activity Center and a proposed transportation center. The N-K school board and Northwood City Council have discussed sharing in the costs of building a road to the transportation center, which could also lead to a proposed housing development that the City has been working to support.



Polling
Cont. from Page 1

16-21; Grove and Hartland townships; and the city of Northwood.

Other polling places remain unchanged.

That includes the Grafton Community Center for those in Precinct 1-1, which includes Deer Creek Township sections 10-15 and 22-36; Barton and Union townships; and the city of Grafton.

Manly City Hall is the voting location for those that live in Precinct 1-2, which includes Lincoln Township and the city of Manly.

Those living in Precinct 2-3, including Danville Township and the city of Hanlontown, will vote at the Hanlontown Community Center.

Those living in Precinct 2-4 will vote at Fertile City Hall. This includes Fertile Township and the city of Fertile.

Website
Cont. from Page 1

Backhaus said the site will be easier to navigate to find election information, register to vote or find a form to request an absentee ballot.

"We've been working for some time on ways to improve displaying information about elections on our Worth County site," Backhaus said. "We believe that voters will find everything they need in a user-friendly format at this site."

Backhaus said the site also includes past election information and a section listing officials voted on by Worth County voters. The site also converts to a mobile format for those looking up information on their mobile device or tablet.

"Neapolitan Labs presented us with a great platform for this site that was affordable and they have been great to work with," Backhaus said. "We encourage Worth County voters to check out the site and find how clean it looks and how easy it is to use."

Electtion
Cont. from Page 1

For those looking to vote absentee at the auditor's office, regular office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The auditor's office will be open this Saturday, October 31, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for voter registration, in-person voting and returning absentee ballots.

On Monday, November 2, the auditor's office will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for voter registration, in-person voting and returning absentee ballots.

On Tuesday, November 3, from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. absentee voters may return their absentee ballot to the auditor's office.

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Election Day.

Mailed in ballots must be postmarked by midnight the day prior to the election, on November 2, or dropped off at the auditor's office before the polls close on Election Day, November 3.

New for this election, an election drop box has been installed inside the Sheriff's entrance to the courthouse for 24 hour a day, 7 day a week convenience.

Anyone with election questions may contact the Auditor's office at 641-324-2316.

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Worth County Supervisor, District 2

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COVID rates on the rise in Worth County

With a larger weekly increase in cases since press time last Monday, Worth County has seen a jump in positivity rates as well.

As of October 26, at press time, Worth County had 144 COVID-19 cases, up 18 from 126 on October 19.

With 1,975 Worth County residents tested, that made a positivity rate of 7.3%, up slightly from last week's rate of 6.7%.

Meanwhile, the 14 day positivity rate in Worth County increased to 6.7%, up from 3.6% on October 19. That number is one of the considerations for Iowa schools as they decide if they need to take additional precautions.

A rate of 6.7% means that Northwood-Kensett remains in the category of minimal to moderate transmission, in the range where schools are recommended to use basic COVID-19 safety measures, reduce group events, limit encounters with other schools and limit interactions amongst groups of students and staff.

Central Springs falls within three other counties. Amongst those, the highest 14-day rate was in Mitcchell County, with 12.8%. All four counties that include Central Springs were in the minimal to moderate range. The lowest rate for CS counties was in Worth County.

Of the cases currently confirmed in Worth County, 22 are in those 0-17 (up 2), 60 in the 18-40 age group (up 6), 39 in those 41-60 (up 4), 19 in those 61-80 (up 4) and 4 over the age of 80 (up 2).

In Worth County, there are 108 COVID-19 cases listed as recovered, with 36 potentially remaining active.

In counties that border Worth, there were a total of 5,104 cases, as of Monday, up 394 or 8.37%. Cases in neighboring counties include 491 in Winnebago, 319 in Hancock, 1,366 in Cerro Gordo, 435 in Floyd and 280 in Mitchell counties in Iowa, and 684 in Freeborn and 1,529 in Mower in Minnesota.

A list of COVID-19 symptoms can be found online at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html.

Those with symptoms, or who may be interested in being tested can also take an assessment and get more information at testiowa.com.

Information and resources on COVID-19 in Iowa can be found online at coronavirus.iowa.gov.

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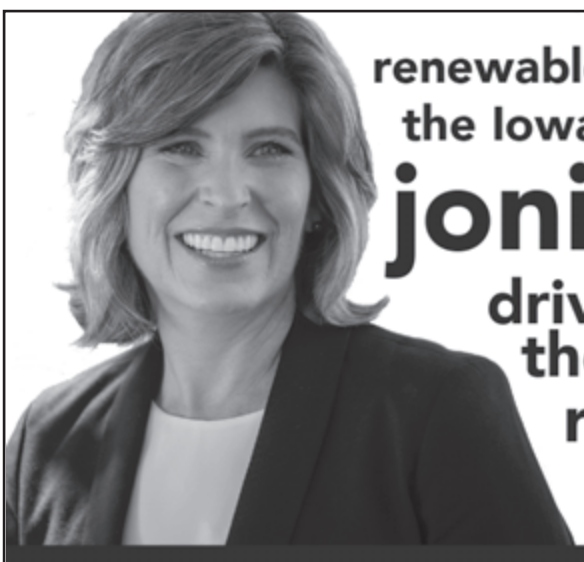
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- Stopped EPA's Scott Pruitt cold in his tracks when he tried a **"NODA" regulatory gimmick** to cut RFS biodiesel volumes.
- Convinced Pres. Trump to reject Texas Sen. Ted **Cruz's "10-cent fake RFS credits"** scheme.
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Memories
Cont. from Page 1



Laddy

Dad shined the car lights toward the field sent shivers down my spine. The 25 steers shipped to our farm just days before had broken through the fence and made their way to the corn field, trampling and devouring as much as their stomachs could hold. Twenty-five steers with horns!

It was late. Should we call the neighbors to help? "No," Jimmy said. "I have an idea." Climbing out of the car, he placed one hand on Laddy's head and looking into his steely brown eyes said in a low quiet voice, "Bring 'em' home," and Laddy sprang into action.

Single-handedly he rounded up those wild steers, barking and biting the terrified critters' heels all the way up the driveway, past the barn and back through the broken fence.

Laddy's brave deed that dark night was rewarded with Mom presenting him a huge chunk of beef from the basement freezer. He gobbled it down, didn't even seem to notice it was frozen.

But it was those summer days when my brother Donnie secretly grabbed his homemade fishing pole and headed for the Myre Slough to catch bullheads that Laddy loved to make himself a use.

Walking the mile of gravel between our farm and the Myre Slough was dangerous for anyone, let alone a 7-year-old. That is, unless your best buddy trots alongside, keeping you safely on the side of the road nearest the ditch.

Soon as Mom would see her youngest son walking up the driveway with a bucket of bullheads, she didn't have to ask where he'd been. She'd just start cooking fish, saving the biggest for Laddy.

The scariest time of my young life was seeing Laddy hit by a car and Dad loading him into the back of the pickup. Sobbing, I screamed, "Dad, where are you taking him?"

I waited. About midnight the pickup lights finally came up the driveway. Gathering all my courage, I ran outside and peered into the back of the pickup. I couldn't believe my eyes. There was Laddy, in a deep anesthetic sleep, snowy white casts on two broken legs. He was alive! He would be okay!

Laddy was 16 years old when Mom and Dad moved off the farm to a house in town, and it didn't take long for them to discover their "big black dog" was not welcome in Lake Mills. Why didn't the neighbors understand that half a squirrel left on their doorstep was a gift from Laddy? In no uncertain terms my parents were told to "Get rid of that dog!"

It was then that Mom and Dad took our beloved friend to spend his last days at my grandparents' farm two miles south of Buffalo Center.

Grandma did her best to take care of him, but he missed us. Surely he remembered days long ago on our farm south of Thompson when he had jobs to do, important jobs, three kids to play with, and hiking to the Myre Slough to help Donnie fish for bullheads.

Even though nearly blind and deaf, Laddy one day discovered he could still be a use. It happened on a Sunday afternoon when my grandparents were away visiting that he sensed Grandpa's young pigs breaking out of their pen in the barn.

Knowing the pigs would be afraid to come near him, Laddy positioned his long muscular body in the open barn door to keep them from running out into the road. Next spring Grandpa sold those pigs to make his last farm payment. Laddy had become Grandpa's business partner, too.

His death? My heart breaks to speak of it.

His spirit? Of this I can speak. People have said that when driving around the Myre Slough a Labrador/German shepherd will appear suddenly running beside their vehicle. The mysterious big, black dog is said to leave no footprints, is completely silent and greeting him brings you great joy.

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Free meals extended through school year

Since the abrupt end of in-person learning in March of this year, Iowa students have had access to free meals through a program designed to keep kids fed in the summer. Access to meals through the program was recently extended through the end of the 2020-2021 school year.

The Summer Food Service Program is designed to make sure that students that depend on schools for healthy meals can do so when classes aren't in session. With financial stresses ongoing from the impact of COVID-19, the federal government recently announced that it was extending access to the program's funding through the end of the current school year, in June 2021.

What that means for students at N-K is that all students will have access to free breakfast and lunch through the end of the school year, or until the funding for the program is gone.

There are no income guidelines for the funding and all students qualify.

N-K will still offer extra portions of meals and a la carte items at regular prices.



Garden and gift shop makes the cut

Northwood's new business opened last week with a grand opening and a ribbon cutting. Modern Floral and Gifts opened last Friday at 105 14th Street South. The business offers gifts and floral arrangements, with repairs and renovations planned for the future to offer even more. Pictured above making the cut at the Northwood Chamber ribbon cutting is Bethany Smith, surrounded by chamber members her shop helpers. See more in next week's Anchor.

CDC updates close contact definition

Last week, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) updated its definition of what counts as a close contact, in terms of COVID-19 encounters.

When someone testes positive for COVID-19, contact tracing takes place, in which those that are deemed "close contacts" are contacted and advised of actions they should take.

Previously, the CDC defined a close contact as someone that has been in contact with a person with COVID-19 within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more at a time.

The new definition of a close contact is someone within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period. That starts from 2 days before the person became ill or 2 days before they were tested, if they did develop COVID-19 symptoms.

The CDC recommends testing for all close contacts.

Those testing positive should self-isolate for 10 days and after 24 hours with no fever and with other symptoms improving.

The CDC recommends that those testing negative self-quarantine for 14 days, monitoring for the onset of any symptoms.

Information on COVID-19 from the CDC can be found online at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV.

Customers urged to follow natural gas safety practices as heating season begins

With the arrival of cooler weather, people are turning on their furnaces and using natural gas. Alliant Energy urges customers to follow carbon monoxide and natural gas safety practices.

"Our number one priority is the safety of our customers," said Richard Sublett, Alliant Energy Senior Manager of Compliance and Operational Performance. "With winter approaching, we want customers to be safe when they turn on their furnaces and increase usage of other natural gas appliances."

The two main dangers during heating season are carbon monoxide poisoning and natural gas leaks. Those that think they're experiencing either, shouldn't mess around and leave the premises immediately. Once they are at a safe location, they should call Alliant Energy at 1-800-ALLIANT (800-255-4268).

Carbon monoxide poisoning

When a furnace or gas appliance malfunctions, it can produce carbon monoxide - a deadly, odorless gas.

Warning signs: Dizziness, shortness of breath, headaches, confusion, nausea and fainting.

In an emergency: People should leave home immediately and seek medical attention.

Be proactive:

• Install carbon monoxide alarms and follow the directions for operation, placement and maintenance.

• Have a professional inspect all fuel-burning appliances and all heating and venting equipment.

Natural gas leaks

Although rare, natural gas leaks are dangerous and can result in fire, explosions, injury or death.

Warning signs: Rotten egg smell; hissing, roaring or whistling sounds near a gas appliance, meter or pipeline; dead or dying vegetation where the surrounding area is green; blowing dirt or bubbling water in a puddle, river, pond or creek.

In an emergency:

• People should leave the area immediately and evacuate everyone from the home or building. Then, call Alliant Energy at 1-800-ALLIANT (800-255-4268). The company will investigate the leak for free.

People should call 911 if natural gas is blowing from anywhere in their home or from a pipeline outside.

In those, cases, people should not stop to look for the leak or to open windows and not use anything that might create a spark, such as a cell phone, light switch or garage door opener.

Be proactive:

• Install a natural gas detector and follow the directions for operation, placement and maintenance.

• Have a professional inspect all fuel-burning appliances and all heating and venting equipment.

• Never place a fire pit above a buried gas line.

Find more gas safety information at www.alliantenergy.com/gas.

Sukup receives state tax incentive award for Manly expansion

Sukup Manufacturing was recently approved for a tax credit award to expand its facilities near Manly.

The Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) recently announced that Sukup was one of three Iowa companies to qualify for awards through its High Quality Jobs (HQJ) program.

The program provides tax incentives for companies that plan to invest in new projects in Iowa that will add additional jobs.

According to the IEDA, the project that Sukup is undertaking will expand the company's existing facilities in the Manly Logistics Park, adding 24,000 square feet of metal building space, including new equipment. The project is a capital investment of $4.7 million and is expected to create 10 jobs at $19.09 per hour.

Based on the scope of the project and adding 10 new jobs, Sukup would qualify for up to 3% investment tax credits and a sales tax refund.

Other HQJ awards announced included one in Des Moines and one in Benton County. With the Sukup project, the IEDA approved projects that would bring 36 new jobs and more than $17.5 million in capital investment.

2020 Northwood Chamber of Commerce Members

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Frank and Julie Fox of Fox Auction Company recognized as September Entrepreneurs of the month

The NIACC John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center and North Iowa Area SBDC recently announced Frank and Julie Fox of Fox Auction in Mason City as the September 2020 Entrepreneurs of the Month.

Frank Fox founded Fox Auctions in 2004. Frank grew up on a farm and was familiar with the world of auctions and farm sales, the excitement of bidding, the camaraderie, the thrill of the win, the captivating power of the auctioneer. While working at a civil engineering firm, he decided to go to auctioneering school and discover if he could forge a new career path.

Frank said, "I wanted to make a business of it. Not just punch a clock for someone else, but be in charge of managing my own time and profit."

In order to get their business off on the right foot, Frank and Julie enrolled in FastTrac (the predecessor to the Pappajohn Center & SBDC's eight week entrepreneurship training program Launch & Grow).

"It really helped us realize how much value there is to every hour when you're an entrepreneur, and how important it is to have a business plan to focus you and make the most out of your time. With the business plan, you know where you want to go and you can keep checking your milestones to make sure you're staying on track," Julie said.



FRANK AND JULIE FOX

Frank and Julie have continued their relationship with the NIACC Pappajohn Center & SBDC, working with Ted Bair (former North Iowa SBDC Regional Director) and later Brook Boehmler, current Regional Director.

"Working with the Pappajohn Center & SBDC has been invaluable. They asked us tough questions and made us think about the future," Julie said.

Frank and Julie have utilized the Pappajohn Center & SBDC for additional training and expertise and connections to expert mentors for the managerial expertise necessary for a business in the growth phase.

Fox Auctions provides a variety of services: land auctions, farm equipment sales, hay sales twice per month, farm retirement sales, estates, real estate, business liquidations and commercial equipment. Frank and Julie pride themselves on providing a full range of auction services, catering to each client's specific needs.

Fox Auctions also regularly holds benefit auctions for local organizations (e.g. The Friendly Garden Plant Club of Clear Lake, 4-H), nonprofits (Ducks Unlimited, Salvation Army) and individuals in need.

"This is one of the best businesses to be in to use your talents to give back to the community," Frank observed.

Over the last 10 or 15 years, the internet has irrevocably changed the way people buy and sell. Frank, who has a background in technology and computer aided drafting, quickly realized that the internet would shape the future of the business. Fox Auctions was an early adopter, one of the first in the region to develop a website and utilize online bidding technologies like webcast bidding and online auctions, as well as important strategies like digital marketing and drone footage for land sales.

But although Fox Auctions has nimbly adapted to technological advances, the core of the business remains the same: relationships.

Frank said, "It all comes down to the relationships with our clients and our bidders and buyers. Our reputation is the best word-of-mouth marketing." Auctions are based on trust between seller, auctioneer, and buyer.

Julie added, "We're there for a big event in someone's life. When you're conducting an estate sale, it's a representation of that person and it's important."

Frank and Julie had a few final words of advice to entrepreneurs, "Work through the process, and keep moving forward through the mistakes or failures, because you will make them. Find your cheerleaders and keep them close. It's amazing how many people want to help you when they see who you are and what you represent – not just friends and family, but also your bankers and mentors, your community."

The NIACC John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center is the expert in rural business innovation and success. In partnership with North Iowa's Small Business Development Center, together they provide tools, support and resources to Iowa's entrepreneurs. They counsel both new and existing local businesses, from Main Street to industry leaders. They're growing Iowa's entrepreneurial culture through grade school initiatives, college and community programs, and business training and development.

The NIACC Pappajohn Center may be contacted at 641-422-4111 or pappajohn@niacc.edu.

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Supervisors discuss zoning, including countywide expansion

With an interim administrator in place, the Worth County supervisors have been reviewing and discussing the County's zoning laws, including the possibility of expansion countywide.

Jeff Gorball, the County's interim zoning administrator, was at the October 19 meeting for clarifications of zoning regulations in the County. That included a discussion of whether or not zoning should be expanded.

As was discussed at the meeting, zoning began in the county along with the construction of Interstate 35, to provide some guidance for the use of adjacent land.

Since then only three townships in the county have been zoned, including Hartland, Brookfield and Danville. Those are the townships through which the interstate passes.

Gorball has reviewed zoning in the county since he agreed to take on the role in September. Amongst the questions and observations he has presented to the supervisors was about the potential expansion of zoning.

Gorball had mentioned that the County's zoning ordinance only briefly mentions that it is intended to cover just the interstate townships. He suggested that the ordinance should be altered to make that more clear, or that the County should consider expanding zoning.

Gorball noted that, according to the County and Iowa's guidelines, zoning is to be used to preserve and protect agricultural land uses. Zoning would guide how other land uses would enhance agriculture in the state.

Gorball noted that he understands that some property owners in the county may not want to have additional government control in place, but said that zoning would provide some guidance and protections. And currently there are no restrictions on what can be built outside of the three zoned townships.

Gorball noted that most agricultural land use would be exempt from zoning ordinances.

Supervisor Mark Smeby said that expanded zoning would only put in place an extra process before building. As long as a property owner follows a few steps, they would be able to build what they wanted, Smeby added.

The County officials at the meeting said that zoning hadn't stopped any landowner or business that wanted to build in the zoned townships.

Also mentioned was the time that an owner of adult entertainment venues had shown interest in building in Worth County and the supervisors had discussed but not pursued countywide zoning as a way to guide or prevent that. Currently a similar business could open anywhere outside of the zoned townships and zoned cities.

Auditor Jacki Backhaus noted that at the same time, countywide zoning would provide more information, so that people could find out about construction that may impact their property.

Backhaus noted that having a zoning permit process in place would bring new residents to County offices, where they could find additional information helpful.

Also mentioned was that even if someone wanted to take on a project that didn't fall in line with zoning, they could apply for a variance.

The process of adding language or expanding zoning would begin with the County's planning commission, who would recommend any changes. Their recommendations would then be brought to the supervisors for approval.

Gorball asked if that was something the supervisors wanted him to pursue, as an interim administrator.

The supervisors said that Gorball should bring the possibility of expanding zoning to the necessary boards to discuss their thoughts and start the process, if that was their choice.

However, there are currently only two out of three supervisor seats filled, following the death of Ken Abrams. Supervisors Smeby and AJ Stone agreed that any zoning expansion shouldn't happen until after a new supervisor is elected in March.



Pickleball potential

This cement rectangle was recently added to the Swensrud Park landscape. It is the beginnings of a pickleball court, paid for by funds that the City of Northwood received for healthy activities. With the base in place, the court is expected to be completed by the spring.

My Community Ride coordinates transportation for those in need

A new transportation assistance program has been developed to meet community needs and combat social influences of health with the purpose of supporting access to care. It is sponsored by MercyOne Community Benefit Ministry to support the implementation plan of meeting unmet needs in the community.

My Community Ride coordinates transportation to assist individuals in locating the best mode of transportation to meet their needs, at no cost.

My Community Ride is available to individuals who are at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level, living independently within the Region II transit area, and who are in need of transportation for medical appointments or to assist individuals in combating social influencers of health.

Requirements for service include proof of income - all income must be from the same time period.

- Most recent 30 days of income or most recent federal income tax return
- Include check stubs, award letters from social security, etc.
- FIP/child support/ pension/dividends/all other income sources.

Names and dates of birth for all household members.

Household size and FY 2020 200% Poverty Level. One person - $25,520; two people - $34,480; three people $43,440; four people $52,400; five people 61,360 and six people $70,320.

My Community Ride is currently available in Butler, Cerro Gordo, Floyd, Franklin, Hancock, Kossuth, Mitchell, Winnebago and Worth counties.

More information is available by contacting NICAO Outreach staff from 8 a.m. - 4:15 p.m., Monday - Friday, by calling NIACA's Family Resource Center at 800-873-1899 or 641-423-7766, emailing nicaooutreach@nicao-online.org or texting 641-530-5428. Calls, texts or emails outside of business hours will be answered the next business day.

If anyone qualifies for the My Community Ride program, there are areas that can be approved for transportation assistance. That includes access to apply for medication assistance programs; medical, dental or physical therapy appointments; apply for affordable housing; apply for services through NICAO; transportation to/from a food bank or grocery store with double up food bucks; mental health or substance use treatment or therapy; apply for SSI or social security disability benefits; apply for food assistance; FIP, child care assistance and medical assistance from DHS; and transportation to/from adult daycare.

Northwood Anchor Church

Fertile Lutheran Church
Sunday, Worship Service with Holy Communion, 9:30 a.m., Sunday School & Confirmation, 10:30 a.m.

Bethlehem Lutheran, Manly
Sunday, Worship at Bethlehem, 10:30 a.m., Grace Outdoor Worship, 9 a.m.

Linda Johnson Prestholt, Pastor

Bethany Lutheran Church/Elk Creek Lutheran
Wednesday, Confirmation; Thursday, MANNA Open, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.; Sunday, Worship - Elk Creek, 9 a.m., Radio Broadcast of Worship on 97.1 FM or Kensettia.com, Worship Bethany, 10:30 a.m., Sunday School - Elk Creek, 9:45 a.m.; Monday, MANNA Open 10 a.m. - Noon.

Pastor Tom Martin

Trinity United Methodist, Bolan
Sunday, Worship in Person, 9:10 a.m., Streaming on Bethel of Manly Facebook Page, 10:30 a.m., Radio Station 97.1.

Pastor Cory Allard

Northwood United Methodist Church
Sunday, Worship Service, 10:45 a.m.

Rev. Rob Lanphere

One In Christ Lutheran Parish
Sunday, Worship Services 10:30 a.m. available online at "One in Christ Lutheran Parish" Facebook Page and YouTube under "One in Christ Lutheran Parish." Sunday Worship Services, 8 a.m. Immanuel, 105 E. 3rd St., Scarville, 641-568-3666; 9 a.m., Bethany, 201 Franke St., Joice, 641-588-3366, Wednesdays 6 p.m., KC (Kids & Christ) Night; 9:30 a.m., Silver Lake, 705 Silver Lake Rd., Northwood, 641-293-5556, Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.; 10:30 a.m., Winnebago, 40029 210th Ave., Lake Mills, Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.; Lunder, 14982 735th Ave., Albert Lea, Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Thanksgiving Eve. Service, 7 p.m. on November 25 at Silver Lake; All services require masks and social distancing.

Check with your local church about online services, updates and changes.

Imprecatory Prayer: Asking God to Smite Your Enemies



An "imprecation" is a curse, and thus imprecatory prayer is one where we ask God to curse, smite or otherwise harm our enemies. There is not much Biblical justification for asking God to smite one's enemies, and much to recommend against it, including Jesus' command to love one's enemies. But, there are a few Old Testament examples of imprecatory prayer, including David asking God to smite his enemies in Psalms 35 and 109. Psalm 35 is basically a prayer asking God to help one in fighting one's enemies: "Contend, LORD, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me." (Psalm 35: 1) Psalm 109 starts out with some relatively mild curses, and then progresses to more serious ones: "May his days be few; may another take his place of leadership. May his children be fatherless and his wife a widow. May his children be wandering beggars; may they be driven from their ruined homes." (Psalm 109:8-10) But, are we to take this Psalm as an indication that God favors this kind of prayer, or is this Psalm simply characterizing a vengeful man? It is only natural for people to call upon God in times of trouble, and that trouble may take the form of someone attacking us, so these prayers are not necessarily a sign of bad character. On the other hand, a true saint would pray to help their enemies rather than to harm them.

"You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven." – Matthew 5: 43-45

The Sponsors of this feature do so with the hope that more people will attend the church of their choice on a weekly basis

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Cook Bookin'

We may live without poetry, music and art; We may live without conscience and live without heart; We may live without friends; we may live without books; But a civilized man cannot live without cooks.
Bulwer Lytton, Edward Robert



by Sandy Olson

To contact Sandy Olson for comments or suggestions, please email her at: midwestfoodie@gmail.com

It's wonderful how many kind people know that I love cookbooks. My latest gift came from Becky Okerlund and is a Junior League book I had not seen before. "Pig Out: Selected Recipes from the Junior League" of Waterloo-Cedar Falls, Iowa (1986, WCF Publications, Waterloo, Iowa) is a thick, spiral-bound beauty that is representative of the well-designed and compiled cookbooks Junior Leagues around the country publish. The beginning of the book has complete menus for gatherings from a tailgate party to a candlelight dinner. The following are adapted from the chapter titled "Entrees." Since chicken is such a popular and versatile meat, it is featured in these recipes.

Hot Mexican Chicken Casserole: Crowd-Sized Meal (Barb Alt Dodd)

3 cans (10.75 oz. each) cream of mushroom soup
1 cup milk (not skim)
1 envelope low-salt taco seasoning
3 tablespoons celery flakes
3 tablespoons instant dried onion flakes
2 cans (4 oz. each) diced green chile peppers, hot or mild, your choice
1 package corn tortillas, medium size
5 whole, boneless, skinless chicken breasts
4 cups Mexican blend shredded cheese

Poach the chicken breasts in chicken broth (canned or made from cubes) for 30 minutes. Drain and let cool. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Cut the meat into bite-sized pieces. Combine the soup, milk, taco seasoning, celery flakes and onion flakes in a bowl. Drain the chiles. Cut the tortillas into 1-inch squares. Spray or oil two baking pans: one 9x13-inch and one 8x8-inch. Layer the ingredients as followed in each dish: 1/3 chicken pieces, 1/3 of the tortilla squares, 1/3 of the chiles, 1/3 soup mixture, and 1/3 cheese. Do this three times for each dish ending with cheese on top. Bake uncovered for 1 hour until bubbly and a bit brown. You can serve one and freeze one if you don't have a large group eating.

Chicken Lasagna Florentine (Mary Jean Adams Clark)

1/2 cup real butter
1/2 cup all-purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon dried basil
3 cups chicken broth, homemade or canned
2 1/2 cups cooked, diced chicken
2 cups small-curd cream-style cottage cheese
1 large egg, slightly beaten
8 oz. lasagna noodles, cooked and drained
1 package (10 oz.) frozen chopped spinach, cooked and drained well
4 oz. mozzarella cheese, sliced
1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese (like in the green can)

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F. Melt the butter in a large heavy saucepan. Blend in the flour, salt and basil. Stir in the chicken broth, stirring constantly, until the mixture thickens and comes to a boil. Remove from the heat and add the chicken. In a medium bowl mix the cottage cheese and the egg. Lightly grease a 9x13-inch baking dish. Place 1/3 of the chicken mixture on the bottom. Top with 1/2 of the noodles, half of the cottage cheese mixture, half of the spinach and half of the sliced cheese. Repeat for another layer ending with the last 1/3 of the chicken then sprinkle the Parmesan cheese on top. Bake 45 minutes. Let stand for 10 minutes before cutting into squares to serve.

Orange Chicken (Terri Dennis Walker)

1/3 cup all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon EACH poultry seasoning and paprika
3/4 cup pineapple juice
1/2 of a 3oz. package of orange gelatin
Vegetable oil, about 3/4 cup.
1 fryer chicken, about 3 1/2 pounds, cut into pieces

In a paper bag, combine flour, salt and seasonings. Shake the chicken in the bag, a few pieces at a time. Heat some oil in a deep heavy large skillet and brown the chicken pieces on all sides. Arrange the chicken in a 9x13-inch baking dish. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. and bake the chicken for 30 minutes. In the meantime, bring the pineapple juice to a boil in a saucepan and dissolve the orange gelatin in it, whisking well. Pour over the chicken and bake an additional 40 minutes or until the meat is golden and tender, basting every 10-15 minutes.

The Junior League cookbooks are always reliable sources of real recipes from real people. This one is no exception. Thank you, Becky! And….that's all she wrote.

Northwood Anchor Society



MARY IRONS

Irons prepares horses for Fall Iowa Thoroughbred Breeders and Owners Association Sale

Mary Irons, a senior Animal Science student at Iowa State University, was one of 11 students enrolled in AnS 317B, Fundamentals of Equine Behavior and Training for Yearlings, this past summer and fall.

As part of this class, each student spent time with 2-3 assigned horses, conditioning and preparing them for the annual Fall Iowa Thoroughbred Breeders and Owners Association Sale that was held on October 8.

The top selling horse at the sale this year was Hop To It (aka Forrest), one of the three horses that Mary was assigned to work with. He sold for $60,000, making him the highest priced yearling sold to date by Iowa State University.

Mary's other two horses were a filly by Midshipman and out of Kristella, who sold for $25,000, and a stud colt, Bizzy Run, that sold for $14,200.

More pictures from the class and from the sale can be found on the Iowa State University Horse Barn and the Iowa State University - Animal Science Facebook pages.

Northwood Lions and Red Cross hold blood drive November 5

A blood drive will be held on Thursday, November 5, from noon until 5 p.m. at the VFW north on Highway 65. Organizers are making a plea for new donors as the need continues to grow from year to year.

Weather related disasters seem to be increasing here at home and throughout the world, and just recently a Lions club member was in need of a transfusion, which demonstrates the local need also.

Both the Red Cross and Lions hope that more people will respond to local, national and international needs.

The organizers were encouraged by the response of concerned citizens as the last two drives have been larger than in recent years. Several new responders and more double red donors have stepped up to requests.

COVID-19 has required new safety measures, which will be a part of donating during the pandemic, but doesn't require a potential donor to take more of their time.

The requirements include taking temperatures, maintaining social distancing, a few questions and increased sanitation measures. These are in place to protect the health of all involved.

Anyone interested may call 641-324-2252 and set up an appointment at a time convenient for their schedules between noon and 5 p.m.

An additional option for potential donors is to go online to redcrossblood.org/RapidPass and do some preliminary work before donating. That is intended to save time for the procedure of drawing blood.

Donors may also call directly to schedule the Red Cross appointment at 1-800-733-2767. Appointments allow organizers to maintain the proper safety measures as suggested by the CDC for blood drives.

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Anchor Sports



BRYLEE HOEPPNER

Stat of the Week: *Despite playing less matches than everyone else in the TIC East this season, winning just three matches out of only 11 played, the Lady Vikings' Brylee Hoeppner nonetheless caught the eye of the other coaches and earned a well-deserved honor, second team all-conference. Hoeppner this season had 52 kills, nine blocks and 87 digs and was 108-115 at the service line, for an incredible 93.9 serving percentage. For her career Hoeppner collected 152 kills.*



HALLIE VARNER

Stat of the Week: *With the Lady Vikings playing the fewest matches in the TIC East this season it's hard to compare numbers but once you look at the per match stats players like N-K's Hallie Varner compare quite well, earning the talented senior all-Conference honorable mention honors. Varner had 170 digs this season and posted one of the best serving percentages on the team, going 77-82 for a 93.9 serving percentage.*

Abbreviated volleyball season ends with loss in regional first round

By Mike Simmons
Sports Editor

Starting the 2020-COVID-19 volleyball season with a philosophy of doing whatever it takes to get to the end with the team and coaches intact both physically and mentally, the Lady Vikings decided early on to forgo any weekend tournaments, assuring the safety of the ones they care about, but, in the process, cutting their own season short by at least a dozen matches, if not more.

And while that was a smart decision medically, it turned out to be not so good for the team's competitive advantage as they fell to 3-8 on the year with last Monday night's 3-0 (7-25, 7-25, 14-25) loss to Saint Ansgar in the class 1A regionals.

The Lady Vikings ended the season losing its last six matches, including losing 15 consecutive sets without a win in the final stretch on the season.

Having said that though, coming into last Monday's regional match, the Lady Vikings were full of confidence, hoping that the regular season loss to the Saints was a fluke, one team having its best night while the other had one of its worst.

As the match got underway though it was obvious that the Saints just had more firepower. Northwood-Kensett led briefly at 2-1 before falling behind 17-6 on the way to a 25-7 first set loss.

In the second set the Lady Vikings hoped to come out and make a strong showing but that hope quickly evaporated as they fell behind 6-0. Trailing 13-7, N-K allowed the Saints to go on a 12-0 run to close out the set at 25-7, putting them up now 2-0 in the match.

Never ones to give up, no matter the score, the Lady Vikings battled back and played their best set of the night, despite the loss. The Lady Vikings led just once at 2-1 but pulled to within five points at 14-9 before the Saints pulled away once again to win the third and final set, 25-14.

"We were slow to get started tonight. Saint Ansgar is a really good team that's going to go far in the tournament," said Lady Vikings head coach Heather Rheingans. "This is a group with a lot of personalities and sometimes they clash, but when they're on, it's been fun to watch and it's been a fun group to work with."

Seniors playing the last volleyball match of their high school careers include Jozalyn Munson, Madelyn Berge, Isabella Efflandt, Sydney Welch, Hallie Varner, Brylee Hoeppner, Shallon Batton, Kayla Senne, Ruthie Conlin, Olivia Stilley and Jesslyn Sims.



Playing on a team loaded with other seniors, N-K's Shallon Batton played in seven of the team's 11 matches and started just one. But that didn't diminish her contributions to the team, Batton ended the season with four digs and went 22-23 from the service line for a 95.7 serving percentage, tops on the team this season.



N-K's Addy Bachtle scores a point against Saint Ansgar defenders in last Monday night's 3-0 regional loss. Bachtle, just a junior on a team with 11 seniors, played in all 11 matches this season, starting eight of them.

2020 Top of Iowa Conference
East Division
Volleyball All Conference Teams

First Team	
Ellacyn Coleman, Central Springs	12
Brynn Salge, North Butler	12
Brooke Trees, North Butler	12
Ellie Bobinet, Osage	12
Danielle Johnson, Osage	12
Paige Kisley, Osage	12
Hali Anderson, Saint Ansgar	12
Brooklyn Hackbart, Saint Ansgar	12
Gracie Urbatsch, Saint Ansgar	12
Second Team	
Paige McEachran, Central Springs	12
Makenzie Foelske, Nashua-Plainfield	10
Madison Clipperton, North Butler	12
Sydney Eiklenborg North Butler	12
Brylee Hoeppner, Northwood-Kensett	**12**
Claudia Aschenbrenner, Osage	10
Meredith Street, Osage	11
Kaebre Sullivan, Osage	11
Blayne Koster, Saint Ansgar	12
Honorable Mention	
Kiley Hanft, Central Springs	12
Abbie Hyde, Nashua-Plainfield	11
Kealan Curley, Newman Catholic	12
Kiya Johnson, North Butler	10
Hallie Varner, Northwood-Kensett	**12**
Jaden Francis, Osage	10
Emma Muller, Rockford	11
Kennedy Schwiesow, Saint Ansgar	11
Maddie Hubka, West Fork	11

Player of the Year: Danielle Johnson, Osage
Coach of the Year: Tyler Johnson, Saint Ansgar

N-K cross country teams wrap up season at state qualifying meet

By Mike Simmons
Sports Editor

The Northwood-Kensett cross country team wrapped up the season last Thursday when they competed in the class 1A state qualifying meet in Manly at the Town and Country Club.

While the N-K teams failed to send any runners on to the state meet, it did nonetheless have some success out on the course in horrible weather.

With each qualifying site sending its top 10 runners to the state meet, N-K's Nathan Hannemann missed it by just a matter of a couple of minutes, placing 23rd with a time of 19:01.24.

Following closely behind Hannemann was junior Hayden Moore, who completed the course in 19:12.35, good enough for 28th place, just 14 seconds in front of Drake Tiedemann, who finished 32nd with a time of 19:26.86. Junior Thomas Block placed 38th with a time of 19:35.74

For the girls race, N-K's future star Megan Ocel placed 30th with a time of 22:56.42, while Rachel Hill and Samantha Tindall placed 61st and 78th respectively.

The state meet will be held this Saturday in Fort Dodge.

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- Incentivized the expansion of high-speed internet to rural communities
- Named Legislator of the Year by the Iowa Pet Alliance for efforts to protect pets and animals from torture and neglect

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Care of the home lawn in fall



Even though it may be a bit colder than most people expected at this point in October, fall is a great time to fertilize, control weeds and prepare your lawn for next year. This week's Yard and Garden entry answers some common questions about fall lawn care, and comes from comes from Adam Thoms, assistant professor and extension turfgrass specialist with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.

When can I stop mowing the lawn in the fall?

Continue to mow the lawn until the grass stops growing in the fall. The foliage of cool-season grasses, such as Kentucky bluegrass, stops growing when daytime high temperatures are consistently below 50 degrees Fahrenheit. In central Iowa, bluegrass usually stops growing in early to mid-November. Once the foliage stops growing, the lawn mower can be put away for the winter.

When should I fertilize the lawn in the fall?

Fertilizer applications can be made in mid-September and late October/early November. Mid-September fertilization promotes a moderate rate of shoot growth and helps to thicken the turf. An application of fertilizer in late October/early November (at the time of the last mowing) promotes root growth and early green-up next spring. Apply 1 pound of actual nitrogen per 1,000 square feet in mid-September and late October/early November.

When is the best time to apply a broadleaf herbicide to the lawn?

Fall (mid-September to early November) is the best time to control perennial broadleaf weeds in the lawn with broadleaf herbicides, even after the first frost. In fall, perennial broadleaf weeds are transporting food (carbohydrates) from their foliage to their roots in preparation for winter. Broadleaf herbicides applied in fall will be absorbed by the broadleaf weed's foliage and transported to the roots along with the carbohydrates, resulting in the destruction of the broadleaf weeds. Spring applications are generally less effective than fall applications.

Effective broadleaf herbicides include 2,4-D, MCPP, MCPA, dicamba, triclopyr and others. The most effective broadleaf herbicide products contain a mixture of two or three herbicides, as no single compound will control all broadleaf weeds. Broadleaf herbicides can be applied as liquids or granules. Before applying any herbicide, carefully read and follow label directions.

I just seeded my yard, can I spray for broadleaf weeds?

Most broadleaf herbicides should not be sprayed on newly seeded turfgrass until after the area has been mowed twice. You can start mowing a newly seeded area once the yard has grown to 3 inches tall, and you can mow it at 2 to 2.5 inches height of cut. After you have mowed twice, you can spray most broadleaf herbicides.

Do I need to remove the leaves on my lawn?

Turfgrass plants utilize light, water and nutrients to manufacture food. In fall, lawn areas beneath large trees are often completely covered with leaves. The leaf debris prevents the turfgrass plants from manufacturing and storing food prior to winter. A thick layer of leaves (little or no grass is visible) will need to be raked up and removed, or the mower will need to cover the area in multiple directions to chop up all of the leaves. It's possible to deal with a thin layer of leaves (areas of grass are clearly visible) by chopping them up with a mulching mower. After mowing, the turfgrass should be fully visible.

Pregnancy and postpartum risks trend higher in Iowa

Iowans experienced higher rates of pregnan-cy complications and postpartum depression rates compared to the national average, according to a new Blue Cross® Blue Shield® Health of America Report: Trends in preg-nancy and childbirth complications in the U.S.

The report examined 1.8 million pregnancies between 2014 and 2018 among commercially insured women ages 18-44.

For every 1,000 pregnancies, complication rates in Iowa were 211.3 compared to 196 nationally and the rates for postpartum depression came in at 110 versus 94.6 nationally. Iowa childbirth complications were less common and averaged 13.7 for every 1,000 births compared to 16.9 nationally.

The report also found people who had complications during pregnancy were twice as likely to have childbirth complications as well.

"Regular visits to your health care pro-vider are especially important for an expect-ant parent or those who plan to become preg-nant," said Dr. Tim Gutshall, Wellmark's chief medical officer.

Millennials make up 85 percent of all preg-nancies in the U.S., according to The Health of Millennials report. This age group has experienced a double-digit increase in eight of the top-10 health condi-tions like major depres-sion, hypertension and type II diabetes, which may lead to higher risks of pregnancy and childbirth complications. Since 2014, those pregnant, ages 18-44 have experienced:

- 35% increase major depression
- 31% increase in hypertension
- 28% increase in Type II diabetes

The COVID-19 pandemic is also increasing the challenges around accessing care.

According to the survey, the increase in virtual care options led to 48 percent of pregnant people shifting their prenatal appointments to virtual visits. Another 53 percent reported that they could not have a loved one in the delivery room with them and 15 percent delivered their baby at home. More concerning, one in four skipped a prenatal visit and after childbirth, there was also a nearly 30 percent increase in postpartum depression diagnoses, with the diagnoses being most prevalent in women aged 18-24.

"Even in uncertain times, protecting the health and well-being of those expecting and current parents is vital to preserve the health of future generations," said Gutshall. "It remains important to stay in touch with your health care provider and follow the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists recommendations for expectant parents to stay on track with pre-natal care and postpar-tum appointments."

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Northwood Anchor **Opinion**

How to make your voice heard on Nov. 3

Iowans have options about how we choose to vote. We can cast an absentee ballot from the comfort of our home, in-person at the county auditor's office, or vote at the polls on Election Day. All three methods are safe and secure. Whichever method you choose, it's important to have a voting plan.

A lot of Iowans have been swamped with absentee ballot request forms in the past few weeks. My office sent forms statewide in early September. Other officials and groups have mailed request forms as well.

It's important for Iowans to know that the U.S. Postal Service was well-equipped to handle absentee ballot mailings. Usually during a general election, approximately 40 percent of Iowans vote absentee. Nearly 650,000 Iowans chose that option in 2016. That number could double this year. However, the USPS processes and delivers more than 472 million pieces of mail every day. If every American voter returned their ballot by mail, over 330 million ballots over the course of the elections, it would equal only three-fourths of one day's work.

A longtime, informal motto of the U.S. Postal Service states: "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds." Carriers still come to every home six days per week to deliver mail and collect any outgoing items.

There are more than 4,000 USPS return boxes across Iowa, located in every community throughout the state. In most cases you can drop your mail off 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In fact, while most of us sleep, Postal Service employees in Iowa are working throughout the night to process our mail.

The Secretary of State's Office is in constant communication with the USPS and has been reassured multiple times that they can handle all the absentee ballot mailings for Iowans ahead of Election Day. Voters just need to submit their requests and ballots by the deadlines.

Iowa recently became the first state to require a special machine-read code on every ballot envelope. This Intelligent Mail barcode allows the county auditor and the post office to monitor your ballot through the process. You can track the status of your request form and your ballot at VoterReady.Iowa.gov.

Absentee ballots must be postmarked by Monday, November 2, and received before noon on November 9.

Voting absentee is safe and secure, but if you prefer to vote at the polls, we are taking all the necessary steps to protect you, your vote, and poll workers.

Polls will be open in every county from 7 a.m.-9 p.m. on November 3. Whichever method you choose, the most important issue is for you to make your voice heard. Be a voter.

Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate

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Ponderings from the Batt Cave

By Al Batt writer, speaker, storyteller and humorist.

Echoes from the Loafers' Club Meeting

What has four legs, a tail and meows?

A cat?

Oh, you've heard it before?

Driving by Bruce's drive

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me, such as: I'm not as proud as I should be of being a part of the big snow of Oct. 20. It was too early to even think about snow. We're suffering from early-onset winter. We all get social media goofiness purported to be true forwarded to us from well-intended friends and family. That causes me to consider The Amazing Randi. Randi discredited the self-proclaimed psychic Uri Geller, who touted paranormal powers manifested in an ability to bend spoons. Not a skill welcomed at a local cafe. Randi offered a $1 million reward to anyone who could prove they had paranormal powers. Neither Geller nor anyone else collected. I wonder if Geller could bend a snow shovel?

The cafe chronicles

Back when I could still spit in the palm of my hand before an official handshake, a cafe owner told me there were two things he never washed. One was his grill. I didn't ask what the other was. His hamburgers were the best I've ever eaten anywhere and my favorite grease delivery system. He told me his secret was the grill. When I ate a burger there, I was eating the history of burgers.

The clinic chronicles

I emerged from my secret lair long enough to visit a big clinic for my six-month checkup. They run me up on a hoist to rotate my tires and change my oil. It was a Monday morning when I answered questions while they took my temperature (they gave it back) just to be allowed entrance. That's the password of the COVID-19 times. I grabbed an orange sticker reading "Monday." Being a big dummy, I slapped it on my shirt — upside down. I believe my shirt was right-side-up, but I'm uncertain. It's OK to look like an idiot when you are an idiot. The blood lab's giant waiting room was so crammed full of ailing people that many patients stood in the hallway. At that moment, we directed all acrimony at cancer. Many of those battling cancer looked as if their lives needed a backspace key. I wished I had the power to give them one. Without it, they chewed their fingernails to their wristwatches as they waited to talk to doctors with more titles than HBO. As I hustled from one appointment to another, my shoes squeaked. I'm not sure why. They weren't moist. Maybe the floor had just been waxed? Folks might have thought my old shoes were new. I walked for a week and a day. I typically encounter patients I know there, but I've learned I'm not good at recognizing people wearing masks. I did recognize a friend who said, "I don't know who anybody is anymore." And we both smiled, I think.

The mailbag

John Beal of Medford wrote, "Al, You mentioned skunk in your 'things to note in nature.' Reminds me of a story about my Uncle Clarence in Milan, MN. He heated his home with wood. After throwing wood into the basement he forgot to put the window back in. He ended up with a skunk in his basement. A neighbor told him, 'No problem, just put a plank down to him and he will crawl back out.' The next morning he went to check and now he had two skunks in his basement. I do not recall him saying how he got rid of them."

Nature notes

A caller told me that raccoons were running wild. No surprise there. They are wild. Even mice run wild. Squirrels rustling in dead leaves can sound like buffalo, proving our imaginations can run wild, too.

State Farm Insurance produces an annual report on car crashes involving animals. From July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 there were an estimated 1.5 million deer claims and 1.9 million animal-collision claims industrywide. U.S. drivers have a 1 in 116 chance of hitting an animal. West Virginia (with chances of such a collision at 1 in 37), Montana (1 in 47), Pennsylvania (1 in 51), South Dakota and Michigan are the riskiest states. Wisconsin was No. 6 (1 in 57), Iowa No. 7 (1 in 58) and Minnesota No. 9 (1 in 64). Chances increase during October, November and December, the mating season for deer. You're least likely to hit an animal in Hawaii (1 in 649), Nevada and California.

Meeting adjourned

Your true calling might be in calling someone and saying kind things.

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Fit to print...

8 Centuries-old etiquette rules for talking politics

From Mental Floss, mentalfloss.com
By Beth Anne Macaluso

It can sometimes be easy to forget that a civilized political discourse is possible—especially around the holidays, when family members with vastly different viewpoints gather around one table. Doing your best to rise above the fray? Nineteenth century etiquette experts were full of (surprisingly) timeless pieces of advice for discussing issues with friends, colleagues, and family members. Keep this list handy this holiday season, and remember: Politics can get ugly, but the drawing room conversation doesn't have to.

1. EDUCATE YOURSELF BEFORE YOU OPEN YOUR MOUTH.

"It is very needful for one who desires to talk well, not only to be well acquainted with the current news, and modern and ancient literature of his language, but also with the historical events of the past and present of all countries. He must not have a confused idea of dates and history, but be able to give a clear account, not only of the chief events of the recent Rebellion, but also of those of the Revolutions of the past century, and of the period of the Roman Empire, its rise and fall, and of the various important events which have occurred..."

— From Daisy Eyebright's "A Manual of Etiquette With Hints on Politeness and Good Breeding," 1873

2. KNOW WHERE YOU STAND …

"Retain, if you will, a fixed political opinion, yet do not parade it upon all occasions, and, above all, do not endeavor to force others to agree with you. Listen calmly to their ideas upon the same subjects, and if you cannot agree, differ politely, and while your opponent may set you down as a bad politician, let him be obliged to admit that you are a gentleman."

— From Cecil B. Hartley's "A Gentleman's Guide to Etiquette," 1875

3. … BUT DON'T BE A KNOW-IT-ALL.

"Never, when advancing an opinion, assert positively that a thing 'is so,' but give your opinion as an opinion. Say, 'I think this is so,' or, 'these are my views,' but remember that your companion may be better informed upon the subject under discussion, or, where it is a mere matter of taste or feeling, do not expect that all the world will feel exactly as you do."

— From Florence Hartley's "The Ladies' Book of Etiquette and Manual of Politeness," 1860

4. ESPECIALLY NOT AT PARTIES.

"A man is sure to show his good or bad breeding the instant he opens his mouth to talk in company … The ground is common to all, and no one has a right to monopolize any part of it for his opinions, in politics or religion."

— From Arthur Martine's Martine's "Hand-Book of Etiquette and Guide to True Politeness," 1866

5. KNOW WHEN TO CHANGE THE SUBJECT.

"Whenever the lady or gentleman with whom you are discussing a point...begins to sophisticate, drop the subject instantly. Your adversary either wants the ability to maintain his opinion … or he wants the still more useful ability to yield the point with unaffected grace and good humor; or what is also possible, his vanity is in some way engaged in defending views on which he may probably have acted... and no well-bred man goes into society for the purpose of sermonizing."

— From Martine's "Hand-Book of Etiquette and Guide to True Politeness"

6. KEEP YOUR COOL, TOO.

"Even if convinced that your opponent is utterly wrong, yield gracefully, decline further discussion, or dexterously turn the conversation, but do not obstinately defend your own opinion until you become angry … Many there are who, giving their opinion, not as an opinion but as a law, will defend their position by such phrases, as: 'Well, if I were president or governor, I would,' — and while by the warmth of their argument they prove that they are utterly unable to govern their own temper, they will endeavor to persuade you that they are perfectly competent to take charge of the government of the nation."

— From "A Gentleman's Guide to Etiquette"

7. AND DEFINITELY DON'T TAKE SIDES.

"In a dispute, if you cannot reconcile the parties, withdraw from them. You will surely make one enemy, perhaps two, by taking either side, in an argument when the speakers have lost their temper."

— From "A Gentleman's Guide to Etiquette"

8. TRY NOT TO CRITICIZE POLITICIANS … IF THERE ARE POLITICIANS PRESENT.

"It is bad manners to satirize lawyers in the presence of lawyers, or doctors in the presence of one of that calling, and so of all the professions. Nor should you rail against bribery and corruption in the presence of politicians … or members of Congress, as they will have good reason to suppose that you are hinting at them."

— From Martine's "Hand-Book of Etiquette and Guide to True Politeness"

This piece originally ran in 2016.

Northwood Anchor Early Files

100 years ago

October 27, 1920

Mrs. Edith Thompto was hostess to a few young people at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. F.W. Schmidt. Cards furnished the principal entertainment for a pleasant evening.

Misses Agnes and Myrtle Hogan, south of town, were visitors at the parental home. They returned to Mankato, Minnesota, where they are attending school.

The St. Ansgar circuit, which includes the counties of Mitchell, Cerro Gordo, Floyd, Worth, Winnebago, Hancock, Kossuth, Emmet, Palo Alto, Dickinson and Clay, closed a three day meeting at Joice, pastors and delegates from all over the circuit were present.

The opening of the Worth County Union Evangelistic campaign and meetings are being conducted in the big tabernacle on the Chautauqua grounds by Rev. A. Lee Aldrich, D.D., and party. The interest in the campaign is growing fast as shown by the attendance at the tabernacle last evening. Although only a few rehearsals have been held, the singing is already going with a vim that is surprising.

Northwood's second game of football resulted in a closer score than the previous game and the boys played much better, having the advantage of the first game's experience and practice. The game was closely contested and highly interesting and exciting, Nora Springs finally winning by a score of 20 to 19.

75 years ago

November 1, 1945

Stanley Wignes, a 1945 Northwood high school graduate, came home from Waverly, where he has been attending Wartburg College since the opening of school this fall. He left for Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, where he will enter Swarthmore College to begin his naval air cadet training as a V-5 enlistee.

While a few hinters have reported good success since the pheasant season opened, results for most hunters have been fewer birds than the four cook pheasants allowed each day.

The driving attacks of Alton Erdahl and Dean Nerum, Forest City star ball carriers, proved too much for the defense of the lighter NHS Vikings and the Indians won by a 33 to 12 score in Friday night's North Iowa conference football game, played here.

November 12 has been set for the opening session of the "Young Farmers" night school at the vocational agriculture room of the Northwood High School, according to Prof. Rush Wagner, who will lead the class.

Town properties in Northwood have been greatly in demand for the past several months, but the number of sales hit a new high in the last two weeks. Real estate dealers say they just don't have enough listings to meet the demand. In the meantime the housing problem in Northwood is acute, with some new families desiring to move here if living quarters can be obtained.

50 years ago

October 29, 1970

The four-lane Highway 18 from Clear Lake to Mason City is virtually completed, as an aerial view showed. Constructions crews have been working whenever possible in order to complete the road by Thanksgiving Day. Some grading and a little paving is yet to be completed.

The Viking freshman-sophomore football team completed its season on Monday by losing to Belmond 22-8. The Vikings led 8-0 at half time in a game played in a downpour. For the 1970 season, the team won one and lost six games. Their only victory was at home against Buffalo Center.

Army Specialist Four Monte L. Stout, 20, son of Mrs. Faye L. Strouf, Lyle, recently received the Army Commendation Medal while serving with the American Division in Vietnam. Spec. 4 Strouf earned the award for meritorious service as a squad leader near Chu Lai. He entered the Army in April 1969, received basic training at Ft. Lewis, Wash., and was last stationed at Ft. Benning, Georgia. Spec. 4. Strouf is a 1968 graduate of Lyle Public High School and attended Mankato State College.

In the spring of 1880 Hans Madson established the firm of Madson and Enger for the manufacture of wagons on Central Avenue in Northwood. He was a veteran wagon maker who was born in Denmark in 1845. He and his brother, the late Lars Madson, emigrated to America in 1866. The firm later became known as Hans Madson and Sons, the sons being Charlie and Lou, and daughter Elsie, Mrs. Ed Klove. The building now houses the Stoddard Body Shop and Tom Mooney's paint shop.

25 years ago

November 1, 1995

Four-year-old Cari Stoneking and her sister Laura, 8, did their best to fill the air— and their hair— with leaves while frolicking in a crunchy pile near their home last Thursday afternoon. They are the daughters of Dennis and Leann Stoneking of Northwood.

United Parcel Service deliveryman Frank Brcka got a smile and good luck from Northwood Anchor office manager Becky Rheinfels last Friday, his last day on the job. Except for vacations and illness, Brcka (pronounced "birch-ka") has been Northwood's "UPS man" since 1965.

American Red Cross Bloodmobile nurse Lori Smith made sure Rachel Raak's vital signs were in order before taking the Northwood woman's donation last Tuesday afternoon at the First Lutheran Church. Raak, a teacher at Northwood-Kensett elementary, prevented herself from "seeing red" by keeping her eyes glued to a novel throughout the various procedures. Raak was one of 93 area residents who each donated a pint of blood in the effort sponsored by the Northwood Lions Club.

Northwood-Kensett junior tailback Corey Mills was pictured as he put his head and shoulder down to pick up a couple extra yards after a pair of St. Ansgar defenders latched on during the Vikings-Saints Class 1A District 3 finale Friday in St. Ansgar. Mills finished the night with 116 yards on 18 carries to push his season rushing total past the 1,000-yard mark.

10 years ago

November 3, 2010

For many college students, just finding the time to write and research for their myriad classes can be a daunting task. One Northwood-Kensett graduate also found the time to research, write and publish a book in the midst of his collegiate coursework. Ian Schacht is a 2008 N-K graduate and is a junior at Luther College in Decorah. This summer he also became a published author, writing the book "Railroad History of Winneshiek County." Schacht's path to becoming an author began on a walk in Decorah and his observation of trails that led to a depot, with the tracks faded over time.

With no classes last Friday at Northwood-Kensett schools, several high school students took the opportunity to take part in learning of another nature, namely learning how to be a mentor to their younger counterparts, through the peer to peer mentoring program. Kelli Dorsey, director of the Worth Joining Generations mentoring program, led the training, which was held in the basement of the Northwood-Kensett Baptist Church.

To kick-off Red Ribbon Week members of the N-K JEL (Just Eliminate Lies) chapter decorated the football fence on Friday, October 22, for the final home game, to signify JEL as being above influences.

Garrett Olson, Jacob McGrance and Shayne Olson were pictured as they cleared a huge hole for halfback Nik Werner to run through in last Wednesday's 12-10 first round playoff win over Clay Central-Everly. Werner ran for 75 yards pm 12 carries.

Northwood Anchor Obituaries

John Lee



JOHN LEE

John Lee, 76, of Forest City, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, October 13, 2020, from complications of a stroke at St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester, Minnesota.

Funeral Services were held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, October 17, 2020, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Forest City with Pastor Zech Anderson officiating. Services were live-streamed on the Schott Funeral Home facebook page. A face covering was required and social distancing was observed.

Visitation was held from 4 – 7 p.m. on Friday, October 16, 2020, at Schott Funeral Chapel, 505 North Clark St., Forest City. A face covering was required and social distancing was observed.

He was born on March 19, 1944, in Cook County, Illinois, to Peter and Alice (Nelson) Lee. He attended school in Fertile, Iowa, and Forest City. He graduated from Forest City High School in 1962. He then attended Waldorf College.

John married Beth Collins in August 1965. Two daughters, Monica and Debbi, were born to this union. They divorced later.

John had several jobs: telephone company, Winnebago Industries, Forest City Reserves and the Forest City Police Department. John retired after 28 years with the FCPD. He then worked at the Forest City Golf Course for several years.

John married Francene (Siebrecht) Fox in December 1991.

He was an avid Chicago Bears, Minnesota Twins and Iowa Hawkeyes fan and was very verbal during the games! He raced go-karts several years until he bought his bigger "toy," his corvette.

John had a regular "coffee schedule" every morning and afternoon, where he enjoyed socializing with his friends and solving all the world's problems. He also enjoyed time spent with all his family.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Francene; daughters, Monica (Rob Chapple) Lamoreux of Williston, N.D., and Debbi (Jeff) Marsh of Richmond Hill, Ga.; stepdaughters, Sandy (Rex) Swalve of Garner, Iowa, and Kim (Chris Bachman) Soost of Buffalo Center, Iowa; grandchildren, Mackenzie (Jim) Bitker, Cheyenne (Slade) Walker, Isabelle (Aaron Coley) Marsh, Matthew (Alida) Sandberg, Zach Swalve and April (Cole McDonough) Soost; several great-grandchildren; sister-in-law, Pam Williamson; and niece, Tori (Dan) Tegtmeir.

He was preceded in death by his parents; mother and father-in-law; brother, David; and granddaughter, Courtney Lamoreux.

Arrangements are with Schott Funeral Home in Forest City. 641-585-2685

Online condolences for the family may be left at www.schottfuneralhomes.com.

Chris Mielke



CHRIS MIELKE

Funeral services for Chris Mielke, 53, of East Chain, Minnesota, will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, October 31, 2020, at the East Chain Activity Center. Burial will follow at East Chain Lutheran Church Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. on Friday, October 30, 2020, at the East Chain Activity Center and will continue for one hour prior to the service on Saturday.

Chris preferred to always dress casual (jeans, shirt and his boots) so if you are able to attend the service, he'd like you to dress in your casual attire.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, social distancing and masks will be required and the number of attendees will be limited to 200 people for the funeral service.

The service will be livestreamed and those wishing to view the service may do so at the following link: client.tribucast.com/tcid/44789229

Chris passed away on Monday evening, October 12, 2020, as the result of a motorcycle accident.

The Lakeview Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Fairmont is assisting the family with arrangements.

Chris Richard Mielke was born on July 26, 1967, to Duane and Janyce (Manecke) Mielke in Mason City. He was baptized at Zion Lutheran Church, Northwood, and was confirmed in the First Lutheran Church, Northwood. He attended Northwood–Kensett High School with a dedicated participation in FFA and graduated a member of the class of 1986. He then attended NIACC and Albert Lea Technical Institute, graduating with a degree in diesel mechanics in June 1989.

Patti Stromberg, also attending ALTI and at this time became a permanent part of Chris' life. On September 23, 1989, Chris was united in marriage to Patti Stromberg at the East Chain Lutheran Church.

After their marriage, Chris and Patti made their home in Northwood. They were blessed with three miracle babies, Morgan, Rachael and Derek.

A brief interruption in their relationship occurred but Chris found the love of his life again in Patti and they remarried in Las Vegas, Nevada, on March 10, 2000.

They then made their home in Fairmont, Minnesota, and eventually moved to the Luhmann family acreage in East Chain, Minnesota, in September 2013.

Chris worked as a John Deere service technician for 23 years in Northwood and Truman, Minnesota, and most recently he was working as a highway service technician for the Martin County Highway Department.

You would also find him working in his own shop or out assisting friends and family in their farming operations.

Chris was a member of the Northwood Men's Club and an East Chain 4-H Club leader. He was living a father's dream through Rachael and Derek in the 4-H program and also assisting other youth with their livestock projects throughout the years.

Chris was a member of the East Chain Lutheran Church and served multiple terms on the church council. He enjoyed grilling, reading Louis L'amour books and always looked forward to Sunday Fundays on his motorcycle with Patti and friends.

Chris enjoyed farming and working on farm equipment. He always loved holding a wrench, tractor or semi steering wheel, or the handlebars of his motorcycle in his hands.

Chris was so proud of Rachael and Derek and loved to attend as many of their school activities as he could and especially loved assisting them in livestock shows. Family time was very important to him.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife, Patti Mielke of East Chain; daughter, Rachael Mielke of Pipestone, Minn.; son, Derek (girlfriend, Courtney Blocker) Mielke of Bancroft, Iowa; four legged child, Tucker; mother, Janyce Mielke of Northwood; parents-in-law, Norwood and Janice Stromberg of Fairmont, Minn.; sister, Jessica Bergsma of Dunwoody, Ga.; grandmother, Winnefred Luhmann of Fairmont, Minn.; sister-in-law, Deb Cole of Ringsted, Iowa; brother-in law, Bob (Lisa) Stromberg of East Chain, Minn.; and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, other extended family and many friends.

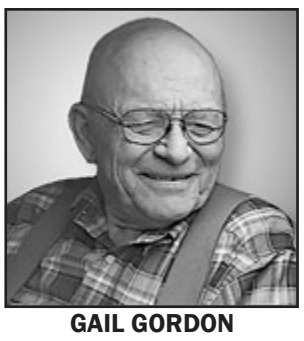
He was preceded in death by his infant daughter, Morgan Mielke; father, Duane Mielke; and grandparents, Russell and Opal Mielke, Ray and Doris Manecke, Ruby Manecke and Clarence Luhmann.

The family suggest that memorials be directed to the Martin County Fair: PO Box 270 Fairmont, MN 56031, and the East Chain Lutheran Church: 411 280th Ave Blue Earth, MN 56013.

Northwood Anchor Obituaries

Gail Gordon

Gail L. Gordon, 82, of Kensett, died on Sunday, October 25, 2020, at MercyOne North Iowa. A graveside service was held at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 27, 2020, at Kensett Cemetery, Kensett, with Rev. Linda Johnson Prestholt officiating.



GAIL GORDON

Gail was born to Gaylord and Marie Gordon on March 24, 1938, in Danville Township, Worth County.

He attended country school through eighth grade and graduated from Manly High School in 1955.

Gail joined the National Guard in 1956 and was Honorably Discharged in 1959. He was then a member of the Army Reserve and was Honorably Discharged in 1964.

On December 30, 1958, Gail married Sharon Link in the First Covenant Church, Mason City, Iowa. To this union five children were born.

His children are Laurene (Neil) Kruger of Grafton, Gaye Gordon Rendon (deceased), Holly Lewis (Don Stabenow) of Urbandale, Jared (Jessica) Gordon of Albert Lea, Minnesota, and Nicholas (Angie Hain) Gordon of Osage. His grandchildren are Travis (Larisa) Kruger of Madison, Wisconsin. and Shea (Michael) Jorgensen of Iowa City; Lexi, Laina and Luke Lewis of Urbandale; Sophia, Grant and Ethan Gordon of Albert Lea; and Chance Gordon of Osage. His step-grandsons are Justin Hain of Colorado and Jordan Hain of Kensett. His great-grandchildren are Evelyn and Margaret Kruger of Madison, Wisconsin, and Finn Jorgensen of Iowa City.

Farming was Gail's life work. He was determined to keep going until the work was done. He very much enjoyed talking to friends and relatives. He was a lifelong member of Bethany Lutheran Church and the Kensett Lions Club. He served on the church council and had been a Sunday School teacher.

He is survived by his wife, Sharon; his children; grandchildren; great-grandchildren; sisters, Marion (Ronald) Helgeson and Joyce (John Helgren) Diedrich; sister-in-law, Karen Gordon; and other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; daughter, Gaye; brother, Donald; sister-in-law, Ellen Blackbourn; and brother-in-law, Duane Link.

How to limit your stress level about the election



In 2020 adults are stressed about many things, such as the pandemic, the recession and the cost of healthcare. However, another significant source of stress is the current election, said David Brown, behavioral health specialist for Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.

"Psychologist Steven Stosny has even coined the term 'election stress disorder.' Dr. Stosny noted that election stress might be impacting you if you feel your body tense before you turn on the news," Brown said. "Negative ads also play a role in increasing our anxiety and they are plentiful during the election season. Once we hear a negative ad that we disagree with, our brain goes into defensive mode and our stress levels tend to increase."

There are, however, some ways to limit election stress, Brown said.

"The first, obvious way is to limit your news and social media intake prior to the election. Instead, do other things such as going for a walk and getting outdoors. Spending time with family members and friends also helps, especially if you are doing things that you enjoy," Brown said.

Consider limiting political discussions with family members, friends and even coworkers, if discussions could erupt into arguments or conflict. Maintaining positive relationships may take priority over scoring political points with friends or family members who are unlikely to change their political opinion.

"We also need to recognize that stress about what might happen is not productive. A more productive use of time may be to join a 'get out the vote campaign' or volunteer to be a poll worker. If an issue is important to you, join a community or advocacy group, such as the National Alliance on Mental Illness," Brown suggested.

It is also important to acknowledge that election stress is just one of many stressors that may affect people right now. The current pandemic, storm damage and the drought have all brought much additional stress and uncertainty to Iowans. Some individuals might become overwhelmed.

"A good resource to contact is always the Iowa Concern hotline," Brown said.

Iowa Concern, offered by ISU Extension and Outreach, provides confidential access to stress counselors and an attorney for legal education, as well as information and referral services for a wide variety of topics. With a toll-free phone number, live chat capabilities and a website, Iowa Concern services are available 24 hours a day, seven days per week at no charge. To reach Iowa Concern, call 800-447-1985; language interpretation services are available. Or, visit the website, www.extension.iastate.edu/iowaconcern/, to live chat with a stress counselor one-on-one in a secure environment. Or, email an expert regarding legal, finance, stress, or crisis and disaster issues.

For more information, contact David Brown at dnbrown@iastate.edu.

Golden Banner 4-H Club meets in October

In our October meeting, we elected our officers for the 2020-2021 4-H year. Our officers are President Kelsie Kinne; Vice President Hannah Lanphere; Treasurer Tianna Charleson; Secretary Cece Hill; Recorder Sydney Schilling; Historians Paige and Blake Barker; Activity Coordinators Marli and Kamryn Backhaus; and Healthy Living Officer Holden Willrett.

A reminder to our Golden Banner members, please register for the year on 4-H Online by December 1 so the club can pay half of your dues. Also, to all 4-H'ers: record books will be due to the County Extension Office on November 30.

If you are considering joining Golden Banner Please contact Mindy Tenold, at the extension office, about joining a meeting via Zoom. Now is a good time to get started with 4-H as it is the beginning of a new year.

If you are already a member of our club we ask that you join our meetings via Zoom, as we cannot meet in person at this time. If you do not have access to our zoom link please contact Mindy Tenold. Finally, Zoom meetings will be held every third Sunday of the month, unless communicated otherwise. The next meeting will be on November 15.

By Sydney Schilling

Bolan

Pastor Appreciation Sunday was observed at Bolan Trinity UM Church on Sunday. Pastor Cory received many cards and some gifts as we all appreciate her ministry especially during this Coronavirus pandemic. Special music featured the taped song entitled, "Pastor's Song."

After worship services on Sunday the Trinity UMC Family held a meeting to discuss the upcoming "Drive Up – Take Out" Swiss Steak Dinner. It will be held on Sunday, November 8, from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. or until the food is gone. This will be a fundraiser for the landscaping planned for the church. Watch the paper for a press release and ads.

Northwood Anchor Legal People's Right to know

Notice

Public Notice
IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR WORTH COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CHARLES E. STOFFREGEN, DECEASED
PROBATE NO. ESPR009233 NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Charles E. Stoffregen, Deceased, who died on or about October 13, 2020:

You are hereby notified that on the 16th day of October 2020, the Last Will and Testament of Charles E. Stoffregen, deceased, bearing date of the 6th day of February, 2020, was admitted to probate in the above named court and that Jaret C. Stoffregen, Connor J. Stoffregen and Evan A. Stoffregen were appointed Co-Executors of the estate. Any action to set aside the Will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.

Dated this 19th day of October, 2020.

Jaret C. Stoffregen
20524 Javelin Circle
Lakeville, MN 55044
Co-Executor of Estate

Connor J. Stoffregen
1007 17th Street N.E.
Mason City, IA 50401
Co-Executor of Estate

Evan A. Stoffregen
3321 Peridot Avenue
Ames, IA 50010
Co-Executor of Estate

Michael S. Vervaecke
ICIS Pin No. AT0008118
Heiny, McManigal, Duffy, Stambaugh & Anderson P.L.C.
11 4th Street N.E.
P.O. Box 1567
Mason City, IA 50402-1567
Attorneys for Executor

Date of second publication 28th day of October, 2020.

43-2t

Supervisors

October 19, 2020
Forty-third Day

The Worth County Board of Supervisors met pursuant to adjournment with A.J. Stone and Mark Smeby, present.

Electronic public access was made available by computer or telephone via Zoom.

Stone led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Unless otherwise indicated, all of the following motions offered at this meeting were carried with the following vote: Ayes: Stone and Smeby. Nays: none. Abstentions: none. Absent: none.

Motion by Smeby, second by Stone, carried to approve the October 19, 2020 agenda.

Motion by Smeby, second by Stone, carried to approve the October 12, 2020 board minutes.

Motion by Smeby, second by Stone, carried to approve the clerk of court's monthly report.

Motion by Smeby, second by Stone, carried to approve the Class C Native Wine license for Lazy Acre Vineyard, L.L.C.

Motion by Smeby, second by Stone, carried to adjourn at 10:11 A.M. The next meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be Monday, October 19, 2020 at 8:30 A.M.

Jacki A. Backhaus, Auditor
Aaron Stone, Chairperson

Notice

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR WORTH COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ESTHER M. GARDALEN, DECEASED
Case No. ESPR009235
NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE OF CREDITORS

To All Persons Interested in Esther M. Gardalen, Deceased, who died on or about October 8, 2020:

You are hereby notified that on October 21, 2020, the last will and testament of Esther M. Gardalen, deceased, bearing the date of February 28, 2006, was admitted to probate in the above named court and that Marcia M. Monson was appointed executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the District Court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable or thereafter be forever barred.

Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.

Date October 23, 2020.
Marcia M. Monson
Executor of the Estate
14957 Maple Street
Clear Lake, Iowa 50428

Matthew F. Berry
ICIS#: AT0000802
Attorney for the Executor
Matthew F. Berry
Law Office
306 Main Avenue
P.O. Box 187
Clear Lake, Iowa 50428

Date of second publication 4th day of November, 2020. 44-2t

Notice

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR WORTH COUNTY
PROBATE NO. 02981 ESPR009232
NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTORS, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DAVID E. ERICKSON, Deceased.

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of David E. Erickson, Deceased, who died on or about October 7, 2020:

You are hereby notified that on October 16, 2020 the Last Will and Testament of David E. Erickson, deceased, bearing date of April 17, 2013 was admitted to Probate in Worth County District Court and that Lucille Kloppen and Elaine Varner were appointed Executors of the Estate. Any action to set aside the Last Will and Testament must be brought in the District Court of Worth County within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the Last Will and Testament whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the Estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the Estate shall file them with the Clerk of the Worth County District Court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.

Dated October 19, 2020

Lucille Kloppen
13019 Girard Avenue South
Burnsville, MN 55337
Executor of Estate

Elaine Varner
3720 19th Avenue
Moline, IL 61265
Executor of Estate

Richard P. Schwarm,
ICIS PIN No: AT0007119
Attorney for Executors
Schwarm Law Office
110 West Main Street
Lake Mills, Iowa 50450

Date of second publication 4th day of November, 2020.

44-2t

PROFESSIONAL CARD
Business Announcements

VETERINARIAN
WORTH COUNTY VETERINARY SERVICE
Michael E. Dierenfeld, D.V.M.
Clinic: 324-1084
Home: 324-1147

PHYSICIANS
MERCYONE
803 9th Avenue North
Northwood, IA 50459
641-324-1221

NORTHWOOD INSURANCE AGENCY
John Midtgaard, Agent
900 Central Ave., Northwood, IA
Office 641-324-1023 Home 324-1391

Alcoholics Anonymous Alanon
Regular meeting each Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Beginners/12 Step meeting 7:30 p.m. Thursday
First Lutheran Church
For more information call 324-3070

Congregate Meals
MEALS ON WHEELS
324-1244

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Annual Iowa Organic Conference to be held virtually on November 23

The annual Iowa Organic Conference will be held virtually this year on Monday, November 23, in keeping with COVID-19 regulations. A half-day of presentations and interactions with industry experts will take the place of the normal meeting.

The conference, now in its 20th year, is a joint activity between the Iowa State University Organic Ag Program and the University of Iowa in Iowa City. The usual trade show of vendors will be replaced with a virtual show of exhibitors and sponsors, including organic grain buyers, organic seed purveyors, local food system nonprofits and government offices working with transitioning and certified organic farmers.

"The U.S. market for organic products reached $55.1 billion in 2019, and even with 5 million certified organic acres in the U.S., the demand for organic grains and produce continues to exceed supply," said Kathleen Delate, professor and extension organic specialist in horticulture with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. "Growers everywhere are encouraged to consider the potential for organic production to reap premium prices and environmental benefits."

The keynote speaker of the virtual conference is Tom Harding, an international expert in organic marketing and trade. Harding brings a message of hope for surviving the pandemic through organic practices and will discuss how the general public is purchasing more organic products than ever.

Other speakers include Joseph Heckman, soil scientist from Rutgers University and an organic farmer, talking about ways to keep your soil active and productive to support bountiful organic crops and livestock.

Participants can register for the event at www.regcytes.extension.iastate.edu/iowa-organic and be provided log-in instructions for participating that day.

This session will be a tribute to a long-time Iowa organic soil science researcher and favorite conference speaker, Cindy Cambardella, who recently passed away.

Also speaking will be Jordan and Whitney Clasen of Grade A Gardens, a certified organic farm in Johnston, Iowa, famous for its vegetables and COVID-conscious Farmers' Market in Des Moines this year.

A well-anticipated tradition of past Organic Conferences was the conference meals prepared by UI award-winning executive chef, Barry Greenberg, and his team. This year, Chef Greenberg and Anne Watson will present a virtual cooking demonstration, using local and organic produce, meats and dairy products assembled into a gourmet meal.

"The Iowa Organic Conference has been the largest university-sponsored organic conference in the country," said Delate. "We are hopeful that viewers will see the benefit of logging on and learning about innovators in the industry and celebrate the goodness of the organic harvest this year, despite the tremendous challenges from COVID-19, the drought and the derecho."

For additional information, visit the conference webpage or contact Kathleen Delate at kdelate@iastate.edu or 515-294-5116.

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abramatt@yahoo.com

AUCTION
Gene & Audrey Myhre
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1 Mile West and 1 Mile South of Lyle, MN • Watch for Signs!
Saturday, Nov. 7, 2020 • 9:30 a.m.


JD X724 Lawn Tractor, 4 wheel steer, 62C deck w/ JD MC519 vac cart, aux hydraulics, 1787 hrs.


JD Z535M Zero Turn Mower, 25hp, 54" deck, 170 hrs. - like new


Craftsman 10" Radial Arm Saw


1998 GMC 1500 4X4 Truck, 5.7L engine, 137,000 miles, with topper - very clean, well kept, absolutely no rust

Antiques
• Walnut Wardrobe (can be taken apart) - exceptional piece
• Rocker w/Stool
• High Chairs
• Lanterns
• Trunks
• Redwing, McCoy and Haeger Pottery
• Treadle Sewing Machine
• Zenith Radio
• Small Collection of Foreign Coins
• Clocks
• Picture Frames
• Tool Boxes
• Mirror
• Oak Oval Parlor Table
• Old Jewelry
• Large Collection of Original "Snowbabies" Figurines
• Two Cast Iron Hanging Antique Cauldron Pots (big & heavy)

JD Lawn Roller

• Wooden Tomato Cages
• Handmade Wooden Benches and Chairs
• Many Holiday Items
• Small Stack of Barn Boards (1x's) and Batten Boards
• Steel Wheels
• Walking Cultivator and Plow
• Approx. 30-40 Good T Posts
• Wooden Ladders
• 2 Yard/Lawn Carts
• Smoker and BBQ Grills

10,000 Watt Generator on Cart

Household
• Hot Point Electric Range
• 4 piece Wicker Set
• Oak Dining Set with Extra Leaf for Table
• Patio Set
• Dining Table and Buffet
• Reclining Sofa and Rockers
• Kitchen Table with 6 Chairs
• Coffee Table/End Tables
• Lots of Misc Kitchen Items
• Many Cookbooks
• Two Sewing Machines

Shop
• Craftsman 12" Wood Lathe
• Hitatchi F-1000a Joiner/Planer
• Craftsman 10" Direct Drive 2 hp Table Saw
• Craftsman 10" Miter Saw
• Craftsman 12" Band Saw
• Craftsman Router Table
• Ryobi Spindle Sander
• Dayton 1" Belt Sander on Table
• Misc. Hand Tools and Hardware
• Battery Powered Chain Saw
• Lawn Mower Lift

Other Items
• Oak Roll Top Desk - very good condition
• Treadmill


Cow Collection, including Borden's "Elsie" - (very unique)

Auction Terms: Cash or good Check, Photo ID required to obtain bidding number. Nothing removed until settled for. All statements made day of auction take precedence over printed material.

More photos on our Facebook Page

HAMMER DOWN AUCTION COMPANY
Lunch on site by Lisa
COL. JERRY OLSON • 641-390-0105

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Northwood Anchor

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SALES REPRESENTATIVE

We are looking for a outgoing, energetic person who is well organized and willing to work 20-25 hours a week. (Set your own schedule)

Email: becky@nwdanchor.com or stop in.

Halloween Safety Tips

Keep away from open fires

Mason City Glass

Always carry a flashlight.

A & I AUTO Inc.

Wear a watch you can read in the dark.

Welsh Chiropractic

Visit only houses that are lit.

COLONIAL CHAPELS

Conner Colonial Chapels

Know your Phone Number for Emergencies

Fallgatter's Market

Young children of any age should be accompanied by an adult.

Shade Tree Liquors

Unfamiliar animals and pets should be avoided.

Worth County Abstract

Go slow, drivers. Be careful all evening if you're behind the wheel.

True Value
START RIGHT. START HERE.®

KELLY HARDWARE

Remember to walk, and not run, between houses.

KNUDTSON Automotive Services

Props such as a sword or wand should only be flexible toys.

D&L EQUIPMENT

Carry a cell phone in case you need to call home.

R80

In Kensett
"Where the sun always shines."
In Northwood
Coming Soon!

Walk on sidewalks or driveways, not on lawns or flower beds.

NE Northwood Electric Inc.

Jackets should be worn over costumes on cool Halloween nights.

CARQUEST

If there is no sidewalk, walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic.

Injection Technology Diesel Service

Make sure your shoes fit and are tied tightly.

F$B FDIC
Farmers State Bank

Eat dinner before going out to trick-or-treat

GRINNELL MUTUAL

OLSON INSURANCE

641-324-2452 704 Central Ave. Northwood, IA 50459
641-454-2292 103 N. Todd St. Manly, IA 50456
507-406-1203 120 E. Main St., Suite 1 Glenville, MN 56036

Give out healthy alternatives to candy.

Schroeder & Sites FUNERAL HOME

Light your jack-o-lantern with a battery powered light instead of a candle.

State Farm®
Dave Osborne, Agent

Use face paint rather than a Mask.

FEDERALFOAM TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

Costumes should not drag on the ground or be too dark to see.



CENTURY 21 PREFERRED

513 Central Ave. Northwood
641-324-2733
641-390-0007

JULIE HAGEN ROBB
REALTOR®/ Broker Associate

Buy costumes that are made of flame-retardant material.

WCTA
800-592-6105 • wcta@wctatel.net

Plan your route and share it with your family

Tequila's Mexican Bar & Grill

Trick-or-treat only in familiar neighborhoods close to home.

Dewey Kruger Music

Follow all traffic laws and signals.

WORTH Lumber Co

Know how and where to contact your parents.

NSB BANK

Be considerate of other people's property.

Northwood Insurance

Stay on sidewalks as much as possible.

Viafield™
Growing Opportunity.

Only eat candy after your parents have checked it.

VER HELST Drug Center

Never enter a stranger's home.

The Northwood Anchor