The Northwood Anchor

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Briefs

N-K elem. holiday concerts online

With COVID-19 limitations in place, Northwood-Kensett Elementary wasn't able to fill the gym for its student holiday performances this year. Instead, students were recorded in the classroom and their talents will be shared online.

Students in grades K-1 and 2-4 had their performances recorded recently. They will be available to view on the school's website, www.nkvikings.com, on Monday, December 21, through the holiday break.

Santa visits continue

With just nine days before he makes his global journey, Santa Claus will make two more visits to Northwood's Swensrud Park.

While Santa can't welcome children in his village in Central Park, he has been able to take precautions and will be welcoming young visitors at the shelter house in Swensrud Park.

Santa will visit the shelter this Saturday, December 19, and on Thursday, December 24, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day.

Those visiting must follow social distancing rules and wear a mask when they visit Santa.

Free movies continue at Northwood Theatre

The Northwood Theatre is once again offering free movies as Christmas approaches.

Local businesses are sponsoring the free movies, along with a

Briefs, see Page 2



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

Date	Hi	Lo	Prec.
Tues. Dec. 8	46	27	
Wed. Dec. 9	53	27	
Thurs. Dec. 10	53	27	
Fri. Dec. 11	40	32	
Sat. Dec. 12	34	17	
Sun. Dec. 13	29	20	
Mon. Dec. 14	21	10	

Birds of a feather find new home together

By JoAnn Lower

The phone rings. It's Wednesday 8 a.m. The caller's smiling voice gives me the news I've been waiting for. "Hi, JoAnn. We have a small box here with your name on it." My voice trembles, "They're here?"

With no time to apply make-up or comb my hair, I grab my favorite red plaid cap.

The garage door groans open. I nervously back my Honda Civic out of the driveway and head to the Northwood Post Office.

The woman whose voice matches the one on the phone steps through the door and hands me a cardboard box. I listen for tiny peeps, but there are none. "Are they alive?" I wonder out loud.

I hurry home, open the box and peer inside. My voice cracks and tears fill my eyes. "Hello little ones."

Two 3-day-old Cayuga sisters tilt their heads, squinting to take in their first glimpse of light and the woman whose voice both frightens and

Birds, see Page 2



Annie, Nettie three days old, and JoAnn

Iowa COVID-19 guidelines extended

On December 9, Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds extended portions of the emergency public health declaration in the state in the short and long term.

Reynolds' December 9 proclamation extended some measures for the short term, expiring on December 16, up for review on incoming data, according to the governor.

Measures extended until December 16 included altered limits on indoor gatherings, and some adjustments to current limits on businesses.

Limits on gatherings included no more than 15 people indoors or 30 outdoors.

Sporting and recreational gatherings were once again allowed for youth and adults, with the same restrictions as high school, college and professional events.

COVID-19, see Page 2

N-K ranks 42nd for district experience

Each year, the Iowa Department of Education shares data on teachers in Iowa, and how they compare amongst districts in salary, experience, age and other factors.

The Northwood-Kensett school district is below average in certified enrollment, while its teachers are above average in experience and in salaries.

Information on how N-K compares to other Iowa districts comes from Department of Education data for the 2019-2020 school year.

According to the figures, in 2019-2020 N-K had a certified enrollment of 508.8, 226th in the state, out of 327 school districts in the DOE information.

Teaching those students were a total of 45 teachers, 44 full time, and one part time.

When it comes to teaching experience, N-K teachers ranked 96th. N-K's full time teachers averaged 14.9 years of teaching experience. The state average was 13.5 years in education.

N-K ranked near the top of the state when it came to how long its teachers have stayed in the district.

With an average of 12.7 years of district teaching experience, N-K ranked 42nd. The state average was 10.3 years.

The average age of teachers at N-K was

Ranked, see Page 2



Bruns is N-K's new school nurse

By JoAnn Lower

Kaitlyn Bruns is Northwood-Kensett's new school nurse – Preschool and K-12.

Asked what inspired her to go into nursing, she replied, "My grandma was a nurse, and I wanted to be a nurse as well – to help and be there for people."

Raised in a farm family in Fertile, Iowa, Kaitlyn is the daughter of Richard and Joely Bruns. "My dad is a farmer, my mom the post office clerk in Joice." Her three brothers are Josh, Riley and Ryan.

After graduating from Forest City High School, Ms. Bruns attended NIACC for her two-year nursing degree and is currently enrolled at the University of Iowa, where she will graduate in May with her BSN degree.

"I have the best of

Bruns, see Page 2

Board considers Highway 105 project

The project to resurface a western portion of Highway 105 was questioned at a recent meeting of the Worth County supervisors.

Worth County engineer Rich Brumm brought the project, and the lack of planned funding, to the attention of the supervisors at their December 7 meeting.

Brumm said that he was working on plans for road construction projects, due later this month, and that the Highway 105 project would put the County's current secondary road budget in the red by around $2.6 million.

Brumm explained that, as has been planned, the Highway 105 project includes a 6 inch concrete overlay and three foot shoulders, with a projected cost of $2.8 million.

Brumm said that he needs to submit a budget amendment and that he was looking for guidance as to whether amended figures should include tax increment financing (TIF) or other sources of revenue to cover $3 million, which would include the 105 project and would leave

Highway, see Page 2

State, local agencies prepare for vaccine rollout

With the FDA officially approving one COVID-19 vaccine last week, and Iowa agencies announcing the initial phases of vaccine rollout in the state, local agencies are preparing for their parts in the process.

Earlier this month, an announcement was made about the size of Iowa's initial vaccine availability and Iowa agencies released drafts of the State's vaccination strategy, which outlines the first phases of who would receive the vaccine.

According to Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds, Iowa agencies have been told to expect 172,000 doses of the vaccine in December. To be successfully vaccinated, people need two doses, spaced 21 or 28 days apart, based on which of the initial types of vaccine they receive.

The State expects to have enough doses in place for the follow up shots when the time comes.

The first two groups that will receive the vaccine are health care workers and long-term care facilities, those that are most vital to care for those sick, and those most likely to have conditions that put them at highest risk if they contract COVID-19.

Vaccines will be given to health care facilities to distribute and partnerships have been formed with pharmacy chains to distribute vaccines to long-term care facilities.

Worth County Public Health officials expect to receive the first share of vaccines by December 21, and will distribute them according to state guidelines, going first to healthcare workers and nursing home residents.

As state guidelines

Vikings score wins — See Sports Inside

Briefs
Cont. from Page 1

free small pop and small popcorn.

The movie this Saturday, December 19, will be "Frozen 2," starting at 10 a.m.

On Christmas Day, Friday, December 25, the theater will show "Home Alone" at 7 p.m.

Anyone coming for a movie is asked to wear a mask, except for when they are eating or drinking.

N-K FCCLA collects items for heroes

The N-K FCCLA group is taking part in Operation Gratitude, an organization that seeks donations for items and expressions of thanks, and then shares them in the form of care packages for those serving in the military and their families, veterans and first responders.

The local FCCLA group is looking for donations through tomorrow, Dec.17.

Items to be donated include protein snacks (salty snacks, trail mix, beef jerky, etc.), drink mixes, hygiene wipes, leisure items (puzzle, crossword or word search books, for example) and handwritten letters.

N-K elementary students were also set to write letters to be sent in the boxes.

Those that would like to contribute may take items to boxes at the N-K Junior/Senior High School, Fallgatter's, Kelly Hardware and others.

WCDA grants open January 1

The WCDA will once again distribute grants to local and regional recipients this spring. Applications for the grants will be accepted starting on Friday, January 1, through Friday, January 29.

Anyone with questions may call the WCDA office at 641-324-1618.

Birds
Cont. from Page 1

soothes. Carefully I pick up the long-awaited soft, fluffy creatures and thank God for their safe arrival. To the one in my left hand I say, "Your name is Annie." To the one in my right, "You are Nettie." Can't start too early to teach them their names.

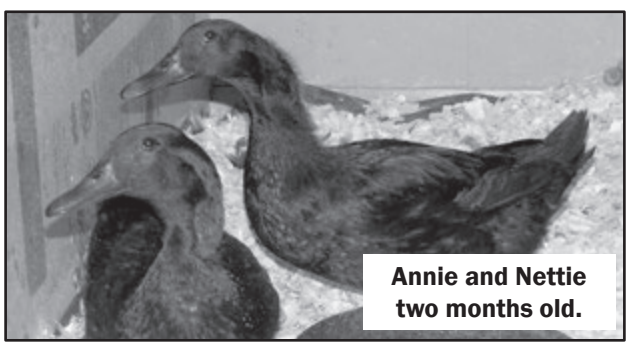
Two days in a straw-filled box all the way from California, and two little ducks are ready for their first taste of food. I dip their beaks into water to teach them to drink, and they take it from there. Baby chick food feels good in empty tummies as does quenching their thirst in the only thing they can reach – water poured into a jar lid.

Annie and Nettie's first two weeks are spent in a Rubbermaid tote under a heat lamp in the bathroom, but it doesn't take long before I realize they need more room. In the meantime I've brought an old playpen into my office, painstakingly tying screen around the sides with red and blue shoelaces to keep them from crawling through the slats. A few days later the playpen is too small, the colorful laces shredded.

The transition from my office to their insulated house in the garage is easier than I thought possible. Cuddling together in soft bedding under the warmth of a heat lamp soon seems as natural to them as bug hunting in the backyard.



First bath with Charlie looking on.



Annie and Nettie two months old.

Before ordering these two little ones, I researched to find the quietest duck (doesn't fly and won't bother my neighbors), a duck that makes the best pet (to be my storytelling partner). My Google answer: "Cayuga."

On September 23, I hold one in each hand. Two months later they are full-grown, with silky black feathers mixed with iridescent blues and greens. At first blush, you can't tell one from the other. Even as their "mom," I can only distinguish Annie from Nettie by their personalities. Annie is timid, follows closely behind me, but does not like to be picked up. Nettie is bold, fearlessly protects her dried mealworms, but loves to cuddle.

Of course, they are alike in a couple of ways. They are social eaters (will only eat if I sit with them) and they both love to tell me stories.

You all know I'm a cap-loving, overall-wearing Iowa farm kid who refuses to grow up. Animals are my life. Charlie my Yorkipo, Mindy my cat, and Annie & Nettie bring peace to my life – a peace that passes understanding.

Ranked
Cont. from Page 1

40.5 years. That ranked 185th in the state. The average age of all full time teachers in the state was 40.7 years old.

Salaries at N-K, like other districts, are based on the years in teaching, other degrees and credentials and additional teaching and extracurricular duties.

N-K ranks 100th amongst Iowa school districts, in regards to the average regular salary of teachers, which refers to the money they are paid for their direct teaching responsibilities.

N-K's average regular salary in the 2019-2020 school year was $55,602. For the state as a whole the average regular teacher salary was $58,110.

When factoring in additional pay teachers receive as advisors, coaches and in other roles with extracurricular activities, and other duties, N-K's full time teacher total salary averaged $57,874, 94th in the state. The state average for total salary was $60,050.

The minimum total salary for the district in the last school year was $38,439, 130th in the state. The maximum salary was $86,760, 78th in the state.

In the state of Iowa, the minimum total salary was $33,500, in 14 school districts. The highest salary listed for Iowa's public school teachers was $162,962, in the Cedar Rapids Community School District.

COVID-19
Cont. from Page 1

That includes requiring social distancing between spectators and limiting to two spectators per participant. The participants that could have spectators attend was expanded to include athletes, performers, competitors and staff. That includes those students supporting teams, such as cheerleaders or pep bands.

Business limits were also extended and expanded.

Restaurants, bars and other places that serve food and beverages could only be open until 10 p.m. daily.

That was extended to include food and beverages served in casinos, which were not addressed previously.

Other restrictions in food and beverage businesses included limiting groups to eight people, unless all live in the same household and with other limits mentioned above for indoor gatherings.

Measures that were extended through January 8 include requiring that masks be worn by all those two years of age and older in indoor spaces when they may be within six feet of each other for 15 minutes or longer, with limited exceptions.

Reynolds was expected to extend or alter the measures following a press conference on December 16. See the Northwood Anchor in print or online at www.nwdanchor.com for information as the state's public health measures are updated.

Highway
Cont. from Page 1

some funds in case of emergency road or equipment needs over the winter.

Brumm said that the supervisors need to decide whether to proceed with 105 this year before they seek bids for the project.

Outgoing supervisor Mark Smeby, whose term ends in 2020, said that the road needs to be done, but that how it's funded should be left to the new board.

That board will include existing chairman AJ Stone, Gary Hanson, who begins with the new year, and a third supervisor to be elected in January.

Stone said that Brumm should continuing planning for the projects and that the supervisors would discuss how or if it would be funded before bid letting would begin.

Vaccine
Cont. from Page 1

As state guidelines allow, the vaccine will be made available to other groups.

While it is still early, Lutheran Retirement Home Administrator Scott Halbach said the Lutheran Retirement staff would be looking at the information on the vaccine and working to inform staff and residents about what is involved before any of them agree to be vaccinated. He expected that would begin in mid-January for those that want the vaccine.

Kayla Gomez, administrator at Manly Specialty Care, said that the facility is in a similar place. Not much is yet known about how the vaccine will be distributed, but staff and residents of Manly Specialty Care will be informed and given the option when it is available.

With a limited initial supply, COVID-19 will be a concern for some time. With that in mind, WCPH reminds people to continue following public health recommendations on social distancing, mask wearing, hand hygiene, cleaning and disinfecting and staying home when sick.

Anyone with questions about COVID-19 may find more information online at coronavirus.iowa.gov.

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COVID-19 increase slows again

Over the course of the last week, State data collecting changed how it reported deaths due to COVID-19, leading to a shift in those numbers. In Worth County, where the first death was announced on December 4, another death has been attributed to COVID-19.

As of December 7, Iowa updated how it counted COVID-19 deaths. Previously, deaths were only attributed to COVID-19 if one type of test (PCR) showed that the deceased had the virus. Deaths are now attributed to COVID-19 if the virus is listed as the cause or a contributing factor.

While a second Worth County resident is reported to have died from the virus, cases continue to rise at a decreasing rate.

From November 30 to December 7, cases increased from 364 to 401, or 10.2%. In the past week, from December 7 to December 14, cases increased from 364 to 434 an increase of 8.2%.

At the same time, positivity rates saw an increase. Positivity rates are the amount of residents with COVID-19, out of those taking a test. From November 30 to December 7, the rate increased 0.9%, to 14.8%. From December 7 to December 14, the rate increased 0.8% to 15.6%. A total of 2,780 Worth County residents had been tested as of December 14.

As of December 14, 6,889 tests had been taken by Worth County residents.

Another figure that has been a focus, as an indicator for schools, is the 14 day positivity rate, the measure of how many residents have tested positive over the past 14 days, out of those tested.

In Worth County, the 14 day positivity rate, as of December 14, was 12.6%. That was down from 13.0% on December 7.

The rate would put Northwood-Kensett back in the minimal to moderate category.

Central Springs falls within four counties, including Worth. Besides Worth, CS county rates included 168% in Mitchell County, 15.0% in Cerro Gordo and 14.8% in Floyd. that would put Central Springs in the substantial controlled category.

If student absences increase significantly, local districts may consider switching to hybrid or remote learning. However, current absenteeism levels would not be an issue. Administrators at both districts have said a shortage of staff would be a bigger consideration.

In Worth County, there are 276 COVID-19 cases listed as recovered, with 158 potentially remaining active.

In counties that border Worth, there were a total of 13,077 confirmed cases, as of Monday, up 662 from the previous week. Cases in neighboring counties included 1,031 in Winnebago, 1,027 in Hancock, 4,017 in Cerro Gordo, 1,197 in Floyd and 909 in Mitchell counties in Iowa, and 1,791 in Freeborn and 3,105 in Mower in Minnesota.

Including Worth's COVID-19 related deaths, 179 have died in the region because of COVID-19, up 28 from last week, which includes new deaths and updated figures from the State of Iowa.

Those with symptoms, or who may be interested in being tested should contact their health care provider, or take an assessment and get more information at testiowa.com.

Information and resources on COVID19 in Iowa can be found online at coronavirus.iowa.gov.

N-K addresses COVID situation

Earlier this week Northwood-Kensett released a COVID-19 notification while also preparing for one grade to finish the calendar year learning from home.

A message went out to students, staff and parents on Monday that the district had six active cases of COVID-19, the level at which the district notifies those involved.

Parents of fourth graders had also received a message that those students would be switching to remote learning due to an increase in COVID cases, starting on December 15 and ending after the holiday break.

N-K staff are working with state and local public health agencies to inform those that may have been in contact with those testing positive. Staff and students with any symptoms were also reminded to stay home and contact their physician.

Supervisor candidate filing underway

A special election to fill the vacancy of the District 3 seat on the Worth County board of supervisors will be held on Tuesday, January 19, 2021. Filing is currently underway for those non-party candidates that want to appear on ballots.

The last day to file nomination papers with the auditor is Monday, December 28. This includes non-party candidates, candidates nominated by petition and those nominated by the Democratic and Republican parties. The auditor's office will be open until 5 p.m. that day.

Only those living in District 3 will vote in the election. District 3 consists of the city of Northwood; Deer Creek Township Sections 7-9 and 16-21; and Grove and Hartland townships.

The voter pre-registration deadline is on Friday, January 8, 2021. The County Auditor must receive all registration forms no later than 5 p.m., unless postmarked on or before Monday, January 4, 2021.

Voters may request an absentee ballot at the auditor's office at any time. If the ballots are not at the office at the time of request, they will be mailed to the voter as soon as they are available. The deadline to request an absentee ballot be mailed is 5 p.m. on Friday, January 8, 2021. Voters may request and vote ballots at the auditor's office until 5 p.m. on Monday, January 18, 2021.

Polls will be open at the Worth County Fairgrounds Community Room on January 19, 2021, from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Bruns
Cont. from Page 1

both worlds," smiles this busy young woman. "Monday through Friday I work at school, weekends in the Pediatric Unit at Mercy One in Mason City."

"At the hospital I care for more seriously ill patients. At school parents call, kids come to me, I do contact tracing, and work with the Public Health Department."

Real heroes don't wear capes. They wear scrubs, work in schools and hospitals. They are called nurses. Kaitlyn, you are a Superhero!





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Anchor Sports



TJ WHITELOW

Stat of the Week: *One of the most polite and thoughtful kids off the court, N-K's TJ Whitelow turns into a vocal, talented baller when he steps on the court. It's no more Mr. Nice Guy to his opponents once the clock starts. In the Vikings' four games so far this season Whitelow has proved to be one of the team's leaders on and off the floor. On the floor the talented senior is leading the team in nearly every category, including field goal percentage (47.4), 3-point percentage (40.0), rebounds (17), assists (7), steals (6) and blocked shots (5).*



CARLY HENGESTEG

Stat of the Week: *After suffering through a nagging injury for most of last season, an injury that limited not only her time but limited what she could do on the court, N-K's Carly Hengesteg is making up for lost time this season. The talented junior led the team with 16 points in its two games last week and is now averaging a team high 9.8 points per game. But scoring is not all she does, she also is at or near the top in nearly every statistical category, including blocks (2), steals (2), assists (4), rebounds (16) free throw percentage (71.4) and field goal percentage (35.9).*



N-K's Emma Davidson splashes a 3-pointer in last Friday night's 41-31 TIC East win over Rudd-Rockford-Marble Rock. Davidson went 2-9 from behind the arch against the Lady Warriors, hitting the team's only two treys on the night.



Lady Viking Marli Backhaus puts up a shot in last Friday's 41-31 win over RRMR. Backhaus, a crowd favorite, pulled down two defensive rebounds in her short time on the floor, helping her team secure the TIC East win.

Hengesteg, Costello lead Lady Vikings to first win of the season

By Mike Simmons
Sports Editor

Junior Carly Hengesteg and freshman Chloe Costello led the Lady Vikings to their one and only win of the young season last Friday night in Northwood when the talented duo combined for 20 points, four blocked shots, two steals, two assists and five rebounds in the team's 41-31 win over Rudd-Rockford Marble Rock.

Northwood-Kensett took its first lead of the game when Ruthie Conlin, who head coach Daryl Love describes as a ball magnet on the boards, grabbed one of her team high eight rebounds and put it back up for two points, giving N-K an early 3-2 advantage.

After a Lady Warrior trey evened the score at 10-10 at the first quarter buzzer, N-K came out to start the second quarter and responded quickly when Emma Davidson splashed a 3-pointer to give the lady Vikings a 13-10 lead.

RRMR evened the score again at 15-15 with just :55 seconds remaining but junior Hayley Wallin stepped to the free throw line and drained two free throws that gave the lady Vikings a narrow 17-15 lead at the halftime break.

Costello gave the Lady Vikings their biggest lead of the game so far when she opened the third quarter with a basket and a foul for three points, giving N-K a solid five-point advantage that it expanded on at the close of the third when freshman Ella Leonard came off the bench and grabbed an offensive board and scored as the buzzer sounded to give her team a 26-19 lead heading into the final eight minutes of play.

The Lady Warriors did try to make a game of it in the fourth quarter, but every time it looked like they would get a run going, the Lady Vikings would respond, eventually widening the gap to 41-31 as the final buzzer sounded, giving N-K its first win of the season.

That was a huge factor in this win, the fact that the girls played four quarters, consistently putting points on the board, something they had failed to do so far this season.

"Well yeah, we played four quarters tonight when, in our other games, we really only played the way we're capable of playing for maybe two out of the four quarters," said coach Love. "We just haven't been consistent, but tonight I'm very happy to say that we showed up and played all four quarters. When you do that you give yourself a shot at winning."

Unfortunately for the Lady Vikings they did not show that level of play in their game on Tuesday night at West Fork when the Warhawks ran out to an early 15-0 lead, holding N-K scoreless in the first eight minutes of play on its way to a 26-point win over the visitors from Northwood, 48-22.

Despite the lopsided loss all of the Lady Vikings starters contributed in some way with all of them scoring. Leading the way were freshman Madalynn Hanson and Davidson, who scored seven and six points respectively.

With the win over RRMR the Lady Vikings are now 1-3 overall and 1-3 in the Top of Iowa Conference East. They had a game on Monday at North Union and will finish this week's schedule on Friday with a trip to Mason City to face the Knights of Newman Catholic.

TIC East Standing

	TIC East	Overall
Saint Ansgar	3-0	4-0
West Fork	3-0	3-0
Nashua-Plainfield	2-1	2-1
Osage	2-1	2-1
MC Newman	2-2	3-3
Central Springs	1-2	1-3
North Butler	1-3	1-4
Northwood-Kensett	1-3	1-3
RRMR	0-3	1-4

Roberts 20-point game not enough as Vikings fall in overtime

By Mike Simmons
Sports Editor

The Vikings' sharpshooting guard, Caden Roberts, did everything in his power to deliver the Vikings their first win of the season last Friday night in Northwood against Top of Iowa Conference East rival Rudd-Rockford-Marble Rock, pouring in a game high 20 points on 8-19 shooting from the field.

But unfortunately for the Vikings the effort by Roberts and his teammates wasfor naught when the Warriors slipped out of Northwood with the 55-53 overtime win over the hometown team.

The treys were flying to start the game as the Vikings trailed 13-9 after the first eight minutes of play with all of N-K's scoring coming from behind the arch, including 3-pointers by Roberts, Kael Julseth and Jason Hanson.

The scoring picked up in the second quarter when the Vikings poured in 13 points in eight minutes of play, including nine points from Roberts, but still trailed by one at the halftime break, 23-22.

Coming out of the locker room after halftime the Vikings put together perhaps their best eight minutes of play yet this season when they averaged two points every minute, putting 16 points on the scoreboard and taking a one point advantage into the fourth quarter of play at 38-37.

Holding onto that one-point lead the Vikings once again played their hearts out in the fourth trying to hold on for that elusive first win, but RRMR had other things in mind and with a one-point advantage in the fourth quarter the visitors from Rockford forced an extra session with the game knotted at 50-50.

In that overtime the Vikings offense could muster just three points and they fell in a heartbreaking loss to the Warriors, 55-53.

Roberts wasn't the only Viking to have an outstanding game, TJ Whitelow scored nine points and pulled down a team high five rebounds while Hanson added eight points, four boards and a team high five assists.

N-K's other game last week was one the team would rather forget after it traveled to Sheffield and came away with a lopsided 90-16 loss to the Warhawks of West Fork.

The Vikings failed to put the ball in the hoop in the first eight minutes of play, trailing 30-0 after the first quarter. From there things took a turn for the worse after N-K was outscored 50-8 in the first half and 40-7 in the second half of play.

Like many other teams in the TIC East, the Vikings are 0-24 against the Warhawks dating back to the 2009 season.

With the two losses last week the Vikings are now 0-4 overall and 0-4 in the TIC East.

N-K went on the road on Monday to face North Union and will finish this week's schedule on Friday when it travels to Mason City to face Newman Catholic's Knights.

TIC East Standings

	TIC East	Overall
Osage	3-0	3-0
West Fork	3-0	3-0
North Butler	3-1	3-2
Nashua-Plainfield	2-1	2-1
MC Newman	2-2	3-2
RRMR	1-2	2-3
Saint Ansgar	1-2	1-3
Central Springs	0-3	0-4
Northwood-Kensett	0-4	0-4



N-K's Jason Hanson gets off a shot with a defender's hand in his face last Friday night in Northwood. Hanson had eight points, four rebounds and a team high five assists in the Vikings' 55-53 OT loss to RRMR.



Viking Caden Roberts drains a 3-pointer from the top of the key in last Friday night's 55-53 OT loss to the Warriors of RRMR. Roberts led N-K with a game high 20 points on 8-19 shooting, including a 4-11 performance from behind the arch.

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

People become famous for various reasons. This week's cookbook promises to make the reader famous for his or her desserts. "101 Desserts to Make You Famous" by Yvonne Young Tarr (1970, Lyle Stuart Inc., NYC) states on the fly leaf, "This book has one objective... to make you famous for your desserts. The recipes that follow..... are meant to be, and are, spectacular desserts for special occasions.." Well, with the December holidays upon us, what time is more deserving of a really unusual and awesome dessert? Since the recipes are long with many steps in some of them, we're concentrating on only two of many. Don't worry; they are not difficult, just lengthy.

Chocolate-Iced Cheesecake

Crust:
1 1/4 cups chocolate wafer cookie crumbs
1/8 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 tablespoon white sugar
5 tablespoons real butter, NO margarine, please

Measure the cookie crumbs into a mixing bowl. Add the cinnamon and sugar. Melt the butter and mix with the crumbs. Press over the bottom of a 9-inch spring form pan. Bake for 5 minutes in a 300 degree F. oven. Remove the pan but leave the oven on.

Cheese filling:
2 packages (8 oz. each) cream cheese at room temperature
1/2 cup white sugar
1/4 teaspoon orange extract
1/2 teaspoon real vanilla extract
2 eggs, separated

Use the large mixing bowl of your electric mixer. Beat the cheese until it is light and puffy. Add sugar, orange extract and vanilla. Beat thoroughly. Add the egg yolks, one at a time, beating after each addition. In another bowl, beat the egg whites until they are stiff. Fold them into the cheese mixture carefully, incorporating well. Pour this mixture into the cooled cookie crust. Bake for 1 hour in the 300 degree F. oven. Remove cake but leave the oven on.

Topping:
1 cup real sour cream, not low-fat
1 tablespoon white sugar
1 teaspoon real vanilla extract

Mix the sour cream and sugar together. Add the vanilla and mix well. Spread this topping over the hot cheesecake. Return the cake to the oven for 10 minutes. Remove from oven and cool completely.

Icing:
3 squares (1 oz. each) semi-sweet baking chocolate
2 tablespoons water
1/4 teaspoon orange extract
2 tablespoons white sugar
2 egg yolks
1/4 cup real butter, softened

Place the chocolate, water, orange extract and sugar in the top of a double boiler over boiling water. Heat until the chocolate melts, stirring occasionally. Add the egg yolks, one at a time, beating after each addition. Continue to cook over boiling water, stirring constantly, for about 3 minutes. Allow to cool 5 minutes. Beat in the butter, a little bit at a time, allowing it to melt. Spread this over the cooled cheesecake, reserving a small amount. Add two or three drops of water to the reserved icing and dribble this from the top down the sides of the cake. Chill slightly before serving.

Macadamia Pie

SANDY'S NOTE: This recipe begins with instructions on making the pie crust. Since many readers either have their own favorite recipe or use refrigerated, ready-made crusts, feel free to do either and we'll get right to the rest of the pie. You will need one 9-inch single crust, unbaked.

Filling:
4 eggs
1 1/3 cups light corn syrup
1 cup white sugar
4 tablespoons light rum
2 cups chopped, salted macadamia nuts
3 tablespoons melted real butter
1 1/2 teaspoons real vanilla extract

Preheat the oven to 325 degrees F. Beat together the eggs, corn syrup, sugar and rum. Add the chopped nuts along with the melted butter and vanilla. Mix gently but well. Pour into the unbaked pie crust. Bake for 60 minutes or until the filling is set. Cool the pie completely, then chill it. Serve with dollops of real whipped cream (not whipped "topping") for a rich treat. Serves 8.

These two recipes should make you famous at all the holiday parties you either host or attend. You'll become the person who is always asked to bring dessert; it's one of the crosses to bear when one is famous for something. The praise that is heaped upon the dessert maker these days is music to the ears since many people no longer fuss with recipes that have many steps or long ingredient list. But they never become famous! And...that's all she wrote.

Northwood Anchor Society



R80 makes the cut

The corner of Central Avenue and 10th Street North in Northwood is once again home to a gas station and convenience store, with the second location of R80 open in the county. Members of the Northwood Chamber of Commerce welcomed R80 last week with a ribbon cutting and well-wishes.

Hengesteg receives degree from MSU

Minnesota State University, Mankato, awarded Scott Hengesteg of Northwood with a BS in Law Enforcement, as well as 1,796 other degrees to 1,753 students at the end of the fall 2020 semester, with this fall's graduates celebrated through a special website with commencement videos that were available at 8 a.m. on Saturday, December 12, the day on which the University's three traditional graduation ceremonies were scheduled but cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Each graduate will also receive "commencement-in-a-box" package shipped to their homes. Included in each box are a printed commencement programs, a diploma holder and a few gifts to honor each graduate.

Bloomingdale appointed chair of local government committee

House Speaker Pat Grassley (R-New Hartford) recently announced that Rep. Jane Bloomingdale (R-Northwood) will serve as the Chair of the House Local Government Committee during the 89th General Assembly.

Bloomingdale has served as Chair of the Local Government Committee since 2019.

"Rep. Bloomingdale is a strong leader with a proven ability to get things done for her constituents. I know she will continue to do a tremendous job chairing the Local Government Committee," said Grassley.

The legislative session begins on Monday, January 11, 2021.

Treasurer Fitzgerald reminds Worth Countians to enter college saving Iowa's giveaway

State Treasurer Michael Fitzgerald is reminding those in Worth County there's still time to register to win a $529 or $1,529 College Savings Iowa contribution.

"To celebrate the holiday and gift-giving season, we're giving away 100 gifts of our own," said Fitzgerald. "Each Iowa county will have a $529 contribution winner, and a grand prize winner from all entrants will receive a $1,529 College Savings Iowa contribution."

Those interested can visit Iowa529Contest.com to read the official rules and register for their chance to win before December 31, 2020.

All Iowans are encouraged to register for the giveaway, whether they have a College Savings Iowa account or not.

The gift of education is one that keeps on giving, often leading to more career opportunities. In addition, saving for future education with a 529 plan like College Savings Iowa can help limit the need to borrow and take on overwhelming student loan debt.

"Opening an account for the special children in your life could be the greatest gift of the year," Fitzgerald said. "College Savings Iowa is for individuals and families planning for all types of futures. Your savings can be used to pay for qualified expenses at universities, colleges, community colleges, trade and vocational schools, apprenticeships and more."*

Families can find resources and answers about College Savings Iowa by visiting CollegeSavingsIowa.com today.

Since its launch in 1998, College Savings Iowa has grown to more than $5.5 billion in assets and more than $3.2 billion has been used for qualified educational expenses. The plan has over 254,000 active accounts with an average size of $20,659.

Visit Iowa529Contest.com to complete the registration for the giveaway. To learn more about College Savings Iowa, visit CollegeSavingsIowa.com or call 888- 672-9116. For more information about future giveaways and events, find College Savings Iowa on Facebook and Twitter.



4-H Council food donations

Worth County members of the State 4-H Council have been working with others throughout the state to collect donations for nonperishable food for local food pantries, churches and other groups that provide to those in need, with a goal of collecting 10,000 items, which they were well on their way to surpassing. Those wishing to donate to the cause may drop off items or monetary contributions at the Extension Office. Pictured are (from left) State 4-H Council members Hannah Lanphere, Kelsie Kinne and Cecelia Hill and Dennis Johnson, Worth Extension Education Specialist. Not pictured is Council member Tianna Charlson.

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Gift giving continues for youth in Central Springs by area congregations





In 2020 everything looks different; but the partnership of gift giving with Bethlehem Lutheran, Bethel of Manly and Grace Lutheran-Hanlontown continues.

These congregations have been providing wrapped gifts to families who attend the Central Springs schools. Families sign-up, provide information of some needs and wants for the child. Then suggested gifts are made for each child, and the identity of the child is kept anonymous.

This year, Pastor Linda Johnson Prestholt wondered how information would get out to the people with congregational programming so limited, but they utilized technology at the suggestion of Pastor Cory Allard.

People could sign-up online or continue the traditional way of taking an ornament from the respective congregational site.

This year, Bethel of Manly shared their list with the community via Facebook. This year's effort is truly a community effort, thanks to all who participated in this project to bring a little Christmas cheer.

Coordinator at Bethel, Dawn Haacke shared that they collected over 90 gifts this year and each child will receive two.

Sandra Scholbrock, Grace coordinator, said that she thought they sponsored 32 children this year at Grace and Bethlehem, and presents totaled over 100.

It's not a competition between these congregations, it is a partnership to serve and help the community.

Kathy Kruger, Bethlehem Coordinator shared her family sponsors a family every year and it helps teach her grandchildren the importance of generosity at Christmas.

So even though the church families are not together because of the pandemic, they still are able to continue this gift giving tradition.

Families who signed up and have been contacted will be picking up gifts on December 17. The congregations and community hope this brightens young people's Christmas.

MercyOne North Iowa offers BAM infusion

MercyOne North Iowa now offers bamlanivimab infusion options for people diagnosed with COVID-19.

Bamlanivimab, or BAM, was recently approved by the FDA and is the first of what is likely to be multiple outpatient, non-vaccine, treatments.

"Bamlanivimab is a neutralizing antibody medicine – meaning, it contains man-made antibodies that are like the antibodies of patients who have recovered from COVID-19. These antibodies may help reduce the amount of COVID-19 virus in your body, which could give your body more time to learn how to make its own antibodies," said, Dr. Paul Manternach, Chief Medical Officer at MercyOne North Iowa.

Studies have shown giving this drug early, when diagnosed with COVID-19, can decrease the risk of the virus progressing to the point where a patient would need to be admitted to the hospital.

BAM is not for people who are already in the hospital because of COVID-19 symptoms.

For adults, bamlanivimab may be an option for people with COVID-19 who:

- Are age 65 or older
- Have obesity, with a body mass index (BMI) of 35 or higher
- Have diabetes, chronic kidney disease or a condition that weakens the immune system, or take a medication that weakens the immune system
- Are age 55 or older and have heart disease, high blood pressure or lung disease

For pediatric patients, ages 12–17, bamlanivimab may be an option for those that:

- Have obesity, with a BMI higher than 85 percent of patients your same age and gender
- Have heart disease, sickle cell disease or long-term lung disease
- Have a developmental condition like cerebral palsy
- Regularly use medical technology, like a ventilator or feeding tube

Anyone that is interested in a BAM infusion and meets the criteria above, may contact their primary care provider. Infusions will be given on a doctor's order only. Multiple MercyOne locations are now offering this treatment. More information is available at www.mercyone.org/health-and-wellness/health-answers/covid-19-what-you-need-to-know/covid-19-infusion-treatment.

MercyOne North Iowa Medical Center provides a safe environment for patients and colleagues. They have implemented numerous precautions and safe practice guidelines. They are adhering to all CDC guidelines, including social distancing, mandatory masks for everyone over two years of age and using increased cleaning procedures. In addition to in-person care, patients can also continue to receive the quality care they need from their provider in the comfort of their home with telehealth visits.

Northwood Anchor Church

Fertile Lutheran Church
Thursday, Mary Circle, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday, Worship Service, 9:30 a.m., Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.; Monday, Council Meeting, 7 p.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, 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, 9:15 a.m.; Monday, MANNA Open, 10 a.m. - Noon., Bethany Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
Pastor Tom Martin

Trinity United Methodist, Bolan
Sunday, Virtual Worship on Facebook, Bethel of Manly, YouTube.com, Website at bethel-trinity.com, 10:20 a.m., Radio Station 97.1 (Previous Sunday's Worship Service), 10 a.m.
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.; All services require masks and social distancing.

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

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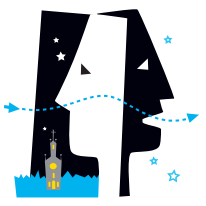
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Breathe



It's easy to take breathing for granted. We've been doing it our whole life and it seems fairly automatic. But, have you ever noticed how anxious you get when your breathing is compromised? Panic attacks are often triggered by the fear that one will run out of air, in an enclosed space, for instance. And, it is with good reason that we are anxious about our breathing. Breathing is life itself; the breath of life is God's most elemental gift. And, while breathing is usually automatic, it need not be so. We can consciously slow down our breathing, which is beneficial when we are anxious. And we can use our breathing as an aid to prayer, breathing in and out in rhythm to our prayer. This is a very ancient method of "abiding in prayer." That is, we repeat a short phrase every time we breathe in and breathe out. Try this, using a short prayer or phrase such as "the Lord is my shepherd" while breathing in, and "I shall not want" while breathing out. (Then repeat a hundred times.) "Praise God" (breathing in) "from whom all blessings flow" (breathing out). Any short prayer or Bible verse will work. "Inspiration" literally means the drawing of air into the lungs, but metaphorically it means to be creatively stimulated. So breathe, and breathe well. – Christopher Simon

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! –Psalm 150:6

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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Northwood Anchor Early Files

100 years ago

December 15, 1920

Mrs. Harold J. Williams and Mrs. M.J. Shauger, of Manly, came up on Wednesday to be present at the wedding of their brother, Arnoldus Krogh to Miss Irene Lundberg, which took place that evening.

Yesterday it appeared that winter had come for sure. A strong wind accompanied by snow prevailed all day and last night and the indications were that a blizzard was on the way. However, today seems more favorable for mild weather, with a bright sun and some indications of a lessening of the near-storm.

The condition of Roy Hysmith, a Hanlontown man who was badly burned when the freight car in which he was taking chickens and eggs to New York, burned at Dougherty early last Thursday morning, is improving daily, according to word from the Story hospital at Mason City.

Miss Clara Quandahl, well known and popular Northwood girl, was married at the home of her sister, Mrs. Charles Cietz, in Mason City, last Saturday to Prof. M. Horton Taubee, of Hillsboro, Ill. Rev. Belsheim of Mason City, performed the ceremony.

Mr. Arthur M. Dahl, of nearly Manly, and Miss Cora Theoline Orpen, of Kensett, were married today, Wednesday, Dec. 15, at Forest City of Rev. L.O. Peterson, formerly of Kensett, in the Lutheran parsonage. The young couple are well and favorably known in the south part of the county.

75 years ago

December 20, 1945

Glenn O. Tenold was appointed as water collector for Northwood at a special meeting of the town council. He succeeds John M. Slosson, who resigned. Compensation was set at $25 per month by the council.

New construction work on the Worth County road system during 1945 totaled 24 miles and this newly built grade was also surfaced with gravel, it was stated at the office of the county engineer. Fifty additional miles of road were resurfaced, making the total close to 100 miles.

Claire E. Shaw of Northwood has been appointed deputy sheriff of Worth County and started his duties in that office on December 15. He was recently honorably discharged from service following his return from the European theater of operations.

Miss Gladys Huso, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A.T. Huso of Northwood, became the bride of Herman J. Smith of Peoria, Illinois, in a ceremony solemnized after at the home of the bride's parents on North Ninth Street. The Rev. A.J. Torgerson of Albert Lea, a former pastor of the Northwood Synod Lutheran Church, read the marriage vows, using the sing ring ceremony.

Mrs. Emmet Johnson, Mrs. Tommy Evans and Mrs. Bert Prestholt were hostesses at the annual business meeting of the Charity Club, held at the Bethany Lutheran Church parlors. The annual report was read by the retiring treasurer, Mrs. H. Oscar Aamodt. Total earnings for the club for the year were $377.63.

50 years ago

December 17, 1970

This is the time for youngsters to dream, to wonder and to wish as they become a part of the busy preparation of the Christmas season. Danny George, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gary George, was pictured in a moment of wonder as the final touches were given the "children Christmas tree" at their home.

Brian Bestul, 6 foot 8 inch center form Northwood, is a member of the University of Northern Iowa varsity basketball team, which began its season last week. Last year's record was 13-12 and the team finished third place in the North Central Conference. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Bestul, Northwood.

The Worth County Bank was established in 1869 by J. Henry Easton, R.C. Pike and William Hunter. The firm was succeeded in 1870 by B.H. Beckett. In 1901, the bank was in its new quarters now occupied by the Northwood State Bank, and Henry T. Toye was president. Pictured at the cashier's window were Sophus Hanson; vice president C.H. Beckett, assistant cashier C.H. Dwelle, and Mr. Toye in the foreground.

About 50 men gathered at the Morris Kalgaarden farm on Wednesday afternoon to complete the corn harvest. The group gathered for dinner at the Elk Creek Lutheran Church parlors, where a group of women provided a mid-day meal. Morris is hospitalized in Mason City for treatment of arm injuries received recently in a corn picking accident at his farm home.

Dennis Mogk, wrestling at 132 pounds, lost by being pinned by Brian Kleckner, St. Ansgar. The Vikings' only winner in the meet with St. Ansgar was heavyweight Jim Anderson, who pinned Ron Hoveland in one minute and 48 seconds.

25 years ago

December 20, 1995

Tiny lighted reindeer pulling a tiny lighted sleigh, festively decorated evergreens and a tractor that diplomatically blinks in alternating red and green lights won Duane and Mavis Roppe of Hartland Township the first place prize in the country division of the 1995 "Town & Country Lighting Contest," sponsored by the Northwood Chamber of Commerce.

Jolly Old St. Nick had to bend low to see eye to eye with Garret Waller when the Northwood five-year-old presented his Christmas list during the "Christmas on the Town" celebration on Saturday at the fire station. Garret is the son of Brian and Sue Waller of rural Northwood.

Midway Cafe proprietor Dale Arhart showed Northwood-Kensett's first-graders how the 100 mechanical Christmas dolls and 35 holiday music boxes in the Northwood restaurant perform last week during the first-graders' downtown excursion.

North Central/ Northwood-Kensett assistant coach Steve Swancutt conferred with NC/N-K co-coach Ron Dodd while NC/N-K co-coach Ken Fuchs shouted instructions to one of trio's mat men at the Viking Invitational wrestling tournament in the high school gymnasium here.

10 years ago

December 22, 2010

Santa Claus was all smiles when half-sisters Jayla Varner and Hallie Varner climbed on his lamp to whisper their Christmas wishes to him. Santa is expected to arrive in northern Iowa early Saturday morning to bring presents to all the good little boys and girls. Jayla is the daughter of Amber Varner and Jeremy Varner and Allie is the daughter of Mikki Moretz and Jeremy Varner, all of Northwood.

On behalf of the Northwood Mens Club, president Tom Sculley presented a donation for $2,000 to N-KAC fundraising committee members Kim Hengesteg and Troy Christiansen.

Ry Sloth is a former player for the Iowa State Cyclones and Iowa Barnstormers. He has also coached for several Arena Football League teams, including his current duties on the Barnstormers' coaching staff. He is also the author of "Sammy Sloth Sport Superstar," about the namesake sloth's attempts to find the sport that is right for him. Ry Sloth visited Northwood-Kensett Elementary last Thursday, sharing his story, as well as Sammy's.

Britney Low led the Vikings fast break Tuesday night against the Huskies. Low scored a game high 15 points and had four steals and three assists in the win.

Point-guard Garrett Olson made a strong move to the basket against the Huskies Tuesday night in Northwood. Olson leads the Vikings with 14 assists this season.

Northwood Anchor Obituaries

Glenn Butler

Glenn Iver Butler, 82, of Kensett, died on Thursday, December 3, 2020, at MercyOne North Iowa Medical Center in Mason City.

A graveside inurnment was held at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 9, 2020, at South Shell Rock Cemetery in Northwood, with Rev. Tom Martin officiating.

Visitation was held from 4-6 p.m. on Tuesday, December 8, 2020, at Conner Colonial Chapel, 1008 First Ave. S., Northwood.

Glenn was born on April 3, 1938, the son of Gilman and Jennie (Stormley) Butler in Carpenter, Iowa. He married Karen Swenson on August 27, 1961,



GLENN BUTLER

at the Salem Lutheran Church in Lake Mills, and to that union, three children were born. Karen preceded him in death on August 27, 2006.

Glenn graduated from Kensett High Schoool. He worked for Crystal Sugar Cane in Mason City for over 22 years, while also running a dairy farm.

Glenn was a member of Bethany Lutheran Church in Kensett, the Holstein Association and R80 coffee club in Kensett. He enjoyed horseback riding and raising various animals over the years.

Glenn is survived by three children, James Butler, Jon (Barbara) Butler and Jennifer Butler; two sisters-in-law, Elaine Butler and Mary Ann (Gary) Christianson; nieces, Karrie, Lori and Susan (Brian); nephews, Lynn (Shana), Steven (Teresa) and Erik (Beth); and other relatives and multiple lifelong friends. He was preceded in death by his wife, Karen; parents; two brothers, Luane and Carroll; and many friends.

Sandra Johns

Sandra Sue Johns was born on October 21, 1939, to Albert William Johns and Grace Pauline Wilcox Johns.

Sandra graduated from Perry High School in 1958. She married the love of her life, Larry Botts, on Valentine's Day 1960. Sandy and Larry lived in Hampton, Iowa, before settling in Mason City, Iowa, where they started an upholstery business. They were the perfect team.

In 1970 they moved to Manly, Iowa, where they purchased the Dry Goods store as part of Tom's Country Market. In addition to this store she and Larry established other retail businesses in the same complex, including an upholstery shop, gift shop and TrueValue hardware store. She ended her work years as a salesperson at the Sears clothing department in Mason City, Iowa.

In 1999, Sandy retired and they moved to Macomb, Illinois, to be closer to family, where she enjoyed watching her grandchildren grow up. Sandy and Larry loved attending their grandchildren's activities, including many



SANDRA JOHNS

YMCA Dolphin and high school swim meets. She was a dedicated wife, mother and grandmother and her family was her pride and joy.

Sandy was a member of the Wesley Methodist Church.

Left to cherish Sandy's memory are her husband, Larry; sons, Mitch (Cindy) Botts and Eric (Lori) Botts; grandchildren, Katie (Charlie) Whitaker, Tony (Jackie) Botts, Shelli Botts, Bradley Botts, Meghan (Anthony) Shaw, Hayley Botts and Carly Botts; great-grandchildren, Reese Mabrey, Addisyn Shaw and Cal Botts; sisters, Pat Meier and Linda (Bob) Olson; sister-in-law, Velma Riggens; and many special nieces and nephews.

Proceeding Sandy in death are her parents, Albert and Grace Johns; brothers, Donald and George Johns; sisters, Doris Pantier, Vernas Shipley, Verna Martin and Norma Herridge; mother and father-in-law, John and Thelma Botts; brothers-in-law, Jack Meier, Dale Shipley, Richard Herridge, Bill Martin, Dean Botts, Jack Lientz, Virgil Pantier, Virgil Botts, Don Burke and David Riggens; sisters-in-law, Joanne Johns, Veloy Burke, Alice Botts and Dorothy Botts; nephews, Rod Burke and Kevin and Kelly Herridge; and niece, Debbie Gelbowitz.

A Celebration of life funeral service was held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, November 28, 2020, at Clugston-Tibbitts Funeral Home in Macomb, Illinois.

There will be graveside services at 1 p.m. on Saturday, December 19, 2020, at Violet Hill Cemetery in Perry, Iowa.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given in Sandy's memory to the YMCA Dolphin swim team.

You may leave condolences and sign the guest book online at clugston-tibbitts.com.

Green Thumb Garden Club meets on November 23

The Green Thumb Garden Club met on November 23, 2020 at the Olson room with Cheryl Nitcher as hostess.

Penny Robb presented the program. We were directed to make an arrangement following the guidelines that are used in floral design. She provided small jars and vases filled with dry foam into which the members placed dried flowers and stems of greenery. We had all brought a small ornament to place as a focal point in our arrangement. A Christmas themed printed fabric square provided a touch of holiday spirit to complete the decoration.

The meeting was enjoyed by all.

Nancy Amundson, secretary

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Grants awarded to 167 Iowa renewable fuel retail locations

Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig recently announced the awardees of the Renewable Fuels Retail Recovery program administered by the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, including one in Worth County.

The program offers relief funds to help gas stations, truck stops, co-ops and other renewable fuels retailers recover from the business disruptions and lost demand caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

To date, 101 ethanol projects and 137 biodiesel projects at 167 fuel retail locations around the state have been approved for relief funds.

Fivestar Coop in Hanlontown, with its ethanol availability, was one of the grant recipients.

The Renewable Fuels Retail Recovery grant program is funded by $7 million of CARES Act money allocated by Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds.

"I'm glad we are able to support so many renewable fuels retailers as they continue to battle demand disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic," said Naig. "Renewable fuels are a win for everyone — consumers, retailers, farmers and rural communities. Restoring renewable fuels offerings around the state is a great way to support our farmers and it gives all Iowans access to more affordable, cleaner-burning fuels."

As Americans began spending more time at home to prevent the spread of COVID-19, fuel demands dropped drastically. As a result, more than 70 ethanol plants across the country idled and 70 more cut production capacity, jeopardizing jobs in rural communities and further reducing commodity prices.

As of April 10, national ethanol production had dropped 44 percent compared to the same time in 2019, according to a report by the Renewable Fuels Association.

Iowa leads the nation in renewable fuels production. The state is home to 43 ethanol refineries capable of producing over 4.5 billion gallons annually and 11 biodiesel facilities with the capacity to produce nearly 400 million gallons annually, according to the Iowa Renewable Fuels Association.

A complete list of Renewable Fuels Retail Recovery grant recipients is available at iowaagriculture.gov/grants.

Supervisor

November 30, 2020
Forty-ninth 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 November 30, 2020 agenda.

Motion by Smeby, second by Stone, carried to approve the November 23, 2020 board minutes.

Motion by Smeby, second by Stone, carried to approve special claim in the amount of $32,348.57 as per the following schedule:

Heartland Asphalt Inc., Service-ENG $32,348.57

Motion by Smeby, second by Stone, carried to acknowledge county receipt of manure management plan annual update from Dwayne Christiansen for Facility #59555 located in Section 36, Union Township, Worth County.

Motion by Smeby, second by Stone, carried to adjourn at 9:47 A.M. The next regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be Monday, December 7, 2020 at 8:30

Jacki A. Backhaus, Auditor
Aaron Stone, Chairperson

City of Kensett

The Kensett City Council meet in regular session 11/9/20 at 7:00 P.M. at City Hall with Mayor C. Pulju presiding. Council Members present were Parker, Woltzen, Pilkington, Heiken & Douglas.

Absent: None.

Visitors: Mike Peterson & Richard Bauer – city maintenance.

Mayor called meeting to order.

Motion to approve agenda by Heiken, 2nd by Pilkington, carried unanimously.

Motion to approve minutes with correction by Heiken, 2nd by Woltzen, carried unanimously.

Maintenance discussed the lagoon and general maintenance.

Clerk discussed job opening, applications, etc. and general correspondence.

Old Business: Municipal Infractions/Abatements discussed.

New Business: Peterson Excavating will investigate water shut-offs at 906 Elm Street, 400 1st street and 309 5th Street .

Motion to approve temporary liquor license for Signatures at the Community Center by Heiken, 2nd by Woltzen, carried unanimously.

Motion by Douglas, 2nd by Parker to approve having cemetery pay for ½ of the new mower, carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: October 2020 Revenues by Fund: General 41,904.24, Utilities 6,206.36, Special 4,292.69. Total Revenues: $52,403.29. Stands approved as read.

Motion to pay bills by Woltzen, 2nd by Pilkington, carried unanimously.

Payable: Alliant Energy 1770.86, WCTA 275.02, B. Luckason 379.94 (net), S. Overy 523.62 (net), R. Bauer 1410.49 (net), L. McNally 1470.14 (net), Federal & SS 1384.25 (payroll), Ipers 830.71 (payroll), H. Thompson 75.00 (service – water), IAMU 50.00 (water class), Lock Box Fee 40.00 (general), E. Larsen 100.00 (water deposit refund), Post office 379.00 (general), Municipal Management Corp. 800.00 (water – service), T. Rollene 809.38 (mowing – general), K. Stucky 100.00 (cc deposit refund – general), Northwood Anchor 61.17 (minutes – general), Sales Tax 434.00, Green Canopy 150.00 (service – general), Ag Source 1311.25 (water tests), Kensett Water 100.50 (sewer fees), L. McNally 67.86 (mileage – general), Waste Management 1379.20 (garbage & recycling), C. Pulju 184.70 (net), KFD 400.00 (fire protection), Tractor Loan Payment #21 – 321.98 (casino $ – general), Blackburn 94.41 (supplies – water), Staples 116.93 (labels & envelopes – general), R80 95.45 (gas – city – road use), VISA 206.62 (conference – general), Northwood Anchor 58.24 (minutes – general), Kelly Hardware 46.44 (supplies – general), L. McNally 16.08 (food @ conference – general), Pioneer Critical Power 387.40 (service – general), Thofson Plumbing & Heating 70.00 (service – general), Brown Supply 221.10 (water supplies), G Works 1143.85 (annual license and support fees – general), Peterson Excavating 346.31 (service – water), Green Canopy 150.00 (service – general), Menards 138.08 (supplies – general), Baker & Taylor 414.22 (books), Midwest Tape 39.22 (dvd's), Culligan 10.70 (supplies), A. Bergdale 84.00 (service), L. Albright 43.10 (service & supplies).

Disbursements by Fund: General 7,268.15, Special 1,188.83, Utilities 3,850.39, Payroll 6,183.85 (gross).

Total Disbursements: $18,491.22.

Motion to adjourn by Heiken, 2nd by Pilkington, carried unanimously.

Lori J. McNally, CMC, City Clerk
Corey Pulju, Mayor



Ponderings from the Batt Cave

By Al Batt writer, speaker, storyteller and humorist.

Echoes from the Loafers' Club Meeting

I knew one of us would grow up to be an uber-cool and normal man.

You did?

And I knew the other one would grow up to be Al Batt.

Driving by Bruce's drive

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me, such as: Weird is normal. The world can be a bully. Disease, accidents and grownups who don't act like grownups. On December 10 and 11, I did yardwork while wearing a T-shirt and light pants. I could have worn shorts, I was that warm. That task completed, I concentrated on vying to be first in line for the COVID-19 vaccination. I'm sitting at 204,547,935th in line, so it's promising. I eat lefse to maintain my strength. Some foods are only foodlike. Rice cakes come to mind. I love lefse. It's bread, dessert and a napkin all in one.

Big-box blues

There was a mindless din found in busy places. We humans are a noisy lot. I was in a large store and greeted Darcy Sime, who works there. Darcy said, "You said you never shop in big-box stores." Busted! I've no doubt I said that. We humans aren't only a noisy lot, we say a lot. We don't remember all we say. Darcy, without meaning to, pointed out that I'm an idiot. Most of us are. I realized that without reminding, but a nudge doesn't hurt. What's scary is that the higher in the ranks our elected folks become, the bigger idiots they become. I digress. For a long time, I avoided big-box stores as if they were the plague — or a coronavirus. Eventually, a fellow has to go to those stores. I need office products. Besides, what do I know? I wasn't enthused about getting a computer or a cellphone. I woke one day and didn't understand what was going on. I got a computer and a cellphone. I appreciate Darcy and others who work in such stores, which become crazed at Christmas. My mother-in-law worked many years for a big-box store. She enjoyed her work and they treated her with respect. I told Darcy that I'd visited the big-box store just to see her. It was a fib, but that's OK. I'm an idiot.

In the news

Tailor involved in alteration in bar.

Woman's purse charged with being an accessory to her online scam.

Company offers a TV package with only one channel with nothing on it for people who don't like watching TV.

I've learned

You're getting older if sparks fly when you clip your toenails and you'd rather wear out your old clothes than buy new ones.

Never make aye contact with a pirate.

Being self-employed means everything you do is on company time.

The mailbag

Roger Batt from Algona wrote this advice about me going AWOL on ringing the bells for the Salvation Army, "Be safe, not sorry. Covid will go away and we want to be here when it does!" Al adds: Steven Wright said, "I intend to live forever. So far, so good."

Candace Romine Johnson of Monticello wrote this about the recent death due to COVID of our former teacher/coach Jim Clark, "The one thing I remember about him as a teacher was his frequent comments to be consistent in writing assignments. If you spell a word wrong, spell it wrong through the entire assignment." Al adds: As you probably have surmised, Jim wasn't our English teacher.

Nature notes

A windy Christmas is a sign of a good year to come.

If Christmas Day be bright and clear, there'll be two winters in the year.

White Christmas, green Easter. Green Christmas, white Easter.

December changeable and mild, the whole winter will remain a child.

Great horned owl courting pairs hoot duets now before nesting in January or February.

Raccoons aren't true hibernators and may forage when temperatures hit 20°F or above.

Most white-tailed deer bucks shed antlers in mid-January, but some do so in December when stressed by severe weather.

Geese seldom migrate against a strong wind. They wait for the wind to blow from the right direction and go with it.

Tall structures like communication towers have guy wires that can be treacherous for flying birds. The lights on those towers confuse birds in foggy weather, causing them to fly into the wires.

Meeting adjourned

"The real index of civilization is when people are kinder than they need to be." — Louis de Bernieres

"Cameras are everywhere. Smile." — Al Batt

Merry Christmas.

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People's Right to know

Notice

NOTICE OF PROPOSED JOINT PURPA IMPLEMENTATION PLAN OF CERTAIN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES AND PETITION FOR WAIVER

Dairyland Power Cooperative ("Dairyland") and its Member-owners joining in this petition (Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative, Inc., Barron Electric Cooperative, Bayfield Electric Cooperative, Inc., Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative, Clark Electric Cooperative, Dunn Energy Cooperative, Eau Claire Energy Cooperative, Freeborn-Mower Cooperative Services, Heartland Power Cooperative, Jackson Electric Cooperative, Jo-Carroll Energy, Jump River Electric Cooperative, Inc., MiEnergy Cooperative, Oakdale Electric Cooperative, People's Energy Cooperative, Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services, Polk-Burnett Electric Cooperative, Price Electric Cooperative, Inc., Richland Electric Cooperative, Riverland Energy Cooperative, St. Croix Electric Cooperative, Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative, Taylor Electric Cooperative, and Vernon Electric Cooperative) hereby give notice of their proposed Joint PURPA Implementation Plan ("Implementation Plan") to implement jointly their obligations under Section 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 ("PURPA") and under Part 292 of the Regulations of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"). Section 210 was enacted to encourage production of electric energy by qualifying cogeneration and small power production facilities ("QFs"). Dairyland and the Participating Members further give notice that on or after Dec. 29, 2020, they will file with FERC a joint petition for waiver of certain obligations under Section 292.303 of the FERC's Regulations.

Part 292 of FERC's Regulations sets forth the requirements regarding arrangements between electric utilities and QFs. Part 292 requires electric utilities to purchase and sell energy and capacity from and to QFs. Under the proposed Implementation Plan (and subject to terms and conditions imposed pursuant thereto), Dairyland and the Participating Members would agree to (1) permit any QF to interconnect with the transmission or distribution system of any Participating Member to the extent such QF is entitled to interconnection under Part 292; (2) if elected by a Participating Member, permit any QF to sell energy and capacity to Dairyland at rates that comply with Part 292 to the extent that (a) such Participating Member would otherwise be required to purchase from such QF and (b) the QF delivers power to the Participating Member's system at a point where the Participating Member provides retail service with energy purchased from Dairyland; and (3) permit any QF, regardless of capacity, to purchase supplementary, backup, maintenance and interruptible power on either a firm or nonfirm basis from a Participating Member at rates that comply with Part 292. The proposed Implementation Plan may be modified based on public comments, FERC's response to the petition for waiver described below, or otherwise as appropriate.

The proposed Implementation Plan is available for review by interested parties at the offices of Dairyland. Copies will be sent to interested parties upon request. Written comments on the proposed Implementation Plan must be submitted on or before Dec. 28, 2020, to Dairyland Power Cooperative, Attention: John Young, Chief Risk Officer, 3200 East Ave. S, La Crosse, WI 54601 or by emailing purpa@dairylandpower.com. Copies of written comments will be made available to interested parties. In addition, any interested party may request a public hearing on the proposed Implementation Plan by submitting a written request to the above address no later than Dec. 28, 2020. If timely and properly requested, one or more hearings on the Implementation Plan will take place prior to the FERC filing referenced below. Details regarding the date, time and location of any such hearing(s) will be sent to each person requesting a hearing. A representative of Dairyland and the Participating Members will be present at the hearing(s).

In connection with the proposed Implementation Plan, and pursuant to Section 292.402 of FERC's Regulations, on or after Dec. 29, 2020, Dairyland, on behalf of itself and the Participating Members, intends to apply for a waiver of certain obligations under Section 292.303 of FERC's Regulations which, if granted, would result in purchases from QFs being made by Dairyland and all sales to QFs interconnected with the Participating Members being made by the Participating Members. More information on the waiver request is provided in the Implementation Plan. Persons wishing to comment on the waiver request should follow the procedures for written and oral comments on the Joint PURPA Implementation Plan.

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N-K wrestlers beat West Fork 30-21 for second dual win of the season

By Mike Simmons
Sports Editor

While it's no surprise that 2020 has been a horrible year for everyone, its passing into oblivion will be welcomed by no one more than the Northwood-Kensett wrestling team.

The Vikings were not only down to just a handful of wrestlers last week because of COVID-19 restrictions, but they also were without the services of their head coach, Jordan Reindl, who is under precautionary quarantine because of the virus.

So in a move right from the past, the Vikings' two coaches' chairs at last Thursday night's triangular at West Fork were occupied by a couple of living legends in Northwood, long time coach Ron Dodd and Iowa Hall of Fame football coach Dave Capitani.

Dodd and Capitani, while staying involved in wrestling over the years (Cap is N-K's Junior. High coach), nonetheless had not coached a wrestling meet at the high school level for over three decades. It was 1990 the last time the two coached together, Dodd as head coach and Cap as his young assistant.

But facing a Nashua-Plainfield team that is packed with talent this season, Dodd and Cap's many years of experience couldn't help the Vikings avoid the 59-18 loss.

Just three N-K wrestlers picked up wins over the Huskies, Mason Thofson started the match with a forfeit and Tyler Mills and Drake Tiedemann both won their matches by fall.

The next dual of the night saw the Vikings take on West Fork, a team that is also very short on healthy bodies at the moment. This dual had just two actual matches, the rest were forfeits or double forfeits.

Thofson, who is much improved from a year ago, lost a close 1-0 decision and Treycen Rollene pinned his opponent in just 1:26, giving the Vikings the 30-21 win, just their second of the season.

By the time last Saturday's individual tournament at Nashua-Plainfield rolled around the Vikings were back up to a seven- member team, including Rollene, Hayden Moore, Brandon Varner, Mills, Tiedemann, Josiah Kliment and Thofson.

On the day, Varner (1-2), Tiedemann (2-2) and Kliment finished their respective brackets with a fourth-place finish while Rollene placed fifth with a 1-2 mark on the day.

The Vikings are now 2-9 in dual competition this season. They were in action on Tuesday at Graettinger/Terril/Ruthven-Ayshire and will finish up the week's schedule on Saturday in Northwood. Teams competing at N-K on Saturday will be Belmond-Klemme, Central Elkader, Humboldt, Rudd-Rockford-Rockford-Marble Rock and Tripoli.



Brandon Varner, 145-pounder, uses the leg of N-P's Mckade Munn to try to put him on the mat last Thursday night in Sheffield. Munn recovered from Varner's offensive moves and won by fall.



N-K's Tyler Mills drives his N-P opponent into the mat in last Thursday night's triangular at West Fork. Mills won this match by fall at 3:04 of the second period. Mills now has a season record of 8-2.

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NOTICE OF VACANCIES

The Worth County Board of Supervisors is taking applications for various county board and commission appointments for the following year. Worth County appreciates diversity in these appointments and welcomes all applicants at least 18 years of age. Terms and dates of appointments vary. These are unpaid positions.

- **County Board of Health**
- **County Veteran Affairs Commission**
- **County Board of Review**
- **County Conservation Board**
- **County Eminent Domain Compensation Commission**
- **County Zoning Commission**
- **County Zoning Board of Adjustment**
- **Civil Service Commission**
- **County Judicial Magistrate Appointing Commission**
- **North Iowa Area Council of Governments**
- **City of Manly – Board of Adjustment**

This list is not all inclusive. The Board of Supervisors is always looking for people interested in serving their community.

Applications are required and can be obtained at the office of the Worth County Auditor or on the county's website **www.worthcounty.org**.

Please submit applications by **December 31, 2020 to the auditor's office**. Additional information may be obtained by calling 641-324-2316.



Festive flowers

Two local florists combined their efforts recently to bring a greeting and touch of color to those living in Worth County's nursing and assisted living facilities. Mary Reyerson, the Flower Forager, and Bethany Smith, owner of Modern Gardens Floral and Gifts, combined their talents and resources to provide the arrangements, courtesy of donations from the community. Residents of the Lutheran Retirement Home, Pines Assisted Living and Maple Court in Northwood and those at Manly Specialty Care received their holiday arrangements last week. Pictured here, assisting with the deliveries was Hailey Smith, Bethany's daughter and an aspiring florist herself.



A concert effort

Students at Northwood-Kensett Elementary weren't able to share their musical talents and holiday spirit with concerts this year. So, instead, they were recorded by vocal music teacher Nikkole Koenig, for a video concert, which will be available at the school's website starting next week. The concerts can be found at www.nkvikings.com starting on December 21, and continuing through the holiday break.

Funds announced to prevent eviction and to regain housing

Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds recently announced that a total of nearly $9 million in assistance is available to assist eligible low-income Iowans who are at imminent risk of eviction and individuals who have lost housing to quickly regain housing stability. The funding will also provide support for homeless shelter operations.

The funds are made available through a supplemental appropriation to the Emergency Solutions Grant program through the federal CARES Act.

"Throughout the pandemic, our focus has always been on protecting the lives and livelihoods of Iowans," said Reynolds. "The funds announced today will assist those at risk of eviction while also providing support to homeless shelters supporting Iowa's homeless population at this critical time. I appreciate the continued collaboration with our federal partners in support of the state's pandemic response."

"Providing housing assistance for Iowans in need remains a top priority," said Iowa Finance Authority Executive Director Debi Durham. "The ability for Iowans to thrive and prosper begins with a safe, stable place to call home and the program announced today will be essential in helping Iowans get back on their feet."

The Emergency Solutions Grant program will help to prevent households from becoming homeless due to eviction, assist Iowans who have lost their home to eviction regain rental housing as well as provide homeless shelters with financial support to assist with operations and outreach as they work to serve Iowans in need and mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

To be eligible for eviction prevention assistance to avoid homelessness, Iowans must have an income of 50% of the area median income or less and be at imminent risk of eviction in addition to meeting other eligibility criteria. To be eligible for assistance in rapidly regaining housing, Iowans must be currently experiencing homelessness.

Examples of assistance available to eligible individuals include rent and utility payments, including in arrears, legal assistance, application fees, security and utility deposits, moving costs, case management and credit repair. All financial assistance is paid directly to landlords and service providers.

Individuals in need of assistance must apply through the Coordinated Entry help line in their area, which is available along with additional eligibility and program information at iowahousingrecovery.com.

Thirty-five agencies were awarded a total of $8.8 million in Emergency Solutions Grant Program funds. The assistance will remain available until all funds are exhausted or September 30, 2022.

The Emergency Solutions Grant program is administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Iowa Finance Authority in partnership with participating Iowa service agencies.

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REMINDER
The WCDA would like to remind organizations that grant applications for the
SPRING 2021 GRANT CYCLE
are due into the WCDA office anytime from
January 1, 2021-January 29, 2021
WCDA
91 8th St N • Northwood
If there are any questions, please call the WCDA office at
641-324-1618