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The Northwood Anchor

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CHIEF
BLAKE SEVERSON



EMS CAPTAIN
CHAD WURTZEL



FIREFIGHTER/EMT
BRANDON OLDFATHER

Northwood EMS expands ability to offer life-saving treatments

Three members of the Northwood Fire & EMS recently completed training that will allow them to offer more medical options when they respond in emergenies.

Chief Blake Severson, EMS Captain Chad Wurtzel and Firefighter/EMT Brandon Oldfather recently completed and successfully obtained their National Registry of EMTs - Advanced certification.

"The course was a combination of lecture, in person lab and clinical rotations in the hospital emergency department as well as on the ambulance," said chief/service director of Northwood Fire & EMS Blake Severson. "AEMTs perform focused advanced skills and pharmacological interventions that are engineered to mitigate specific life-threatening conditions, medical and psychological conditions with a targeted set of skills beyond that of an EMT. Locally, our EMS protocols authorize Advanced EMTs to be able to treat our patients with more than different prehospital medications, along with obtaining IV access, and other advanced skills. Our goal is to continue to advance our skill set and capabilities to be able to provide the highest level of care to our patients."

"There are more medications and advanced therapies that will be able to be used on a higher percentage of calls due to the increase in ALS providers. This shows the agency's continued dedication to improving EMS in Northwood and the surrounding area," said Dr. Brian Kuchay, Northwood Fire & EMS / Worth County Medical Director.



Christmas kicks off December 7 in Northwood

Northwood will kick off the holiday season with Christmas in Northwood on Saturday, December 7. The day will include a number of events and activities to get everyone in the holiday spirit.

That will include the lighted parade. People, family, groups and businesses are invited to take part in the parade. Entries need to be at the fairgrounds in time to leave at 6 p.m.

Other events during the day include Chapter ES PEO selling cookies and poinsettias from 9 a.m. to noon.

Hot dogs and hot chocolate will be served at the Northwood Community Center at 5 p.m.

A candy cane hunt will be in Central Park at

Christmas see Page 2

Briefs

Holiday Hope set for Nov. 27

The Holiday Hope event will once again be held the week of Thanksgiving. Local families, groups and businesses have been invited to create and donate trees, pots, wreaths and other items to be auctioned. Funds raised go towards people facing challenges this holiday season.

The items will be on display on Wednesday, November 27, from 5-9 p.m. at the Timbers in Northwood.

The items will be auctioned on Facebook that night.

Those that have questions or that would like to donate may contact organizers on the Holiday Hope Facebook page or by email at holidayhopenorthwood@gmail.com.



The Week's WEATHER

From
National Weather Service
information

Date	Hi	Lo	Prec.
Tues. Nov. 5	49	36	0.32
Wed. Nov. 6	50	33	
Thurs. Nov. 7	54	33	
Fri. Nov. 8	58	38	
Sat. Nov. 9	50	41	0.10
Sun. Nov. 10	53	48	0.83
Mon. Nov. 11	45	27	

Winter parking policy in effect

The City of Northwood has officially made its notice that the winter parking ordinance is once again in place.

The City's parking policy states that no one is allowed to park on public streets during a snow emergency, unless snow has been cleared and it is no longer snowing.

Parking tickets will be issued when vehicles

Parking, see Page 2

Weather forecasters vary on winter warmth, wetness

With fewer hours in each day, and the holidays on the way, the change of seasons is just around the corner. Many people may be wondering what weather may be just around the corner this winter. Predictions are predictably uncertain, with sources offering varying suggestions for the season to come.

Throughout the year, the National Weather Service presents forecasting maps, showing what weather conditions may be expected over three month periods.

Those maps don't provide much in the way of forecasting the winter weather for Worth County this year.

Those three-month maps show that, from November

Weather, see Page 2

WCPH now offers recommended vaccines

Worth County Public Health has begun a new service, offering a chance to prevent illnesses or lessen their impact. The department is offering all recommended vaccines at home in Worth County.

Working with a company called VaxCare, WCPH is offering the vaccines recommended by the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

That includes vaccines for RSV, influenza (regular and high doses), shingles, MMR (measles, mumps and rubella), varicella (chickenpox), MMRV (MMR and varicella), Tdap and DTap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis), Hepatitis A and B, HIB (a type of influenza), HPV, Meningitis vaccines, rotavirus and polio. WCPH also expects to have the latest COVID vaccines available soon.

"We can offer all the recommended vaccines, for all

WCPH, see Page 2

Worth and Cerro Gordo County Crop Pesticide Clinic meal sign-up by Dec. 4



ERIC WEUVE



DR. ERIN HODGSON

Worth County Extension Education Specialist Dennis Johnson is inviting all area corn and soybean producers to this year's annual Corn and Soybean Clinic/Pesticide Recertification meeting that is being held on Friday, December 6, at the Bethel United Methodist Church along Highway 9 at the east edge of Manly at 9:30 a.m.

Farmers will have the opportunity to renew their

Clinic, see Page 2



Veterans Day at N-K

Students at Northwood-Kensett Middle/High School started their Veterans Day with a program honoring community veterans. The program included patriotic music, with the middle school choir singing "Standing Up for Freedom" and the high school choir performing "Grateful to be American." VFW member Jerry Bakken recognized students for their patriotic essays, for Patriot's Pen winner Riley Schoon (right) and Voice of Democracy winner Olivia Willsher (left). The Veterans Day speaker was Don Broskoff, uncle of of FACS teacher Megan Thorson. After the program, veterans and guests were invited to the Viking Activity Center community room for some breakfast, prepared and served by members of the school's FCCLA chapter. See more pictures on page 3.





N-K Cheer team succeeds on the way to State — See Sports Page 10



The Northwood Anchor and Manly Junction Signal publisher Kris Kenison getting his flu vaccine at Worth county Public Health from nurse Lexee Anderson.

WCPH
Cont. from Page 1

ages. Whether that's vaccines for birth, for those starting school or for those later in life," said WCPH administrator Shana Butler. "As long as you qualify for a vaccine, we can help."

The VaxCare system also allows public health nurses and staff to help guide people to the vaccines they need, depending on their age and other conditions.

For public health, the VaxCare system eliminates the challenges that have prevented them from offering the vaccines in the past.

"This lets us do this at a considerable savings," Lexee Anderson, WCPH clinical manager. "We don't have to worry about vaccines expiring or going unused, and then having to absorb those costs."

There is no cost to the WCPH for the service.

For those receiving vaccines, WCPH will accept a number of payment options as well, including Medicare and Medicaid, private insurances, cash and others.

The VaxCare system allows WCPH to review payment options and let people know how much a vaccine will cost.

WCPH offers vaccines at its offices during business hours Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Vaccines are available to Worth County residents, as well as those that don't live in the county, but can come to the WCPH office.

When arriving at the WCPH office, those receiving vaccines need to bring their licenses or IDs and insurance cards or information.

For those that can't come to the office, WCPH nurses can offer vaccines to those that can't leave their home. They can also offer vaccines at other times than regular office hours.

People looking for a vaccine should contact WCPH at 641-324-1741 with questions and to schedule appointments, to make sure a nurse is available, or if they need someone to bring a vaccine to them.

"We haven't been able to deliver this before," said Butler. "We're very happy to add all these vaccines to what we can provide."

Weather
Cont. from Page 1

through March, there are equal chances of above or below average temperatures and precipitation in this area.

The closest indicators of potential predictions come in the November through January period, when Worth County is near the area predicted to have above average temperatures; in December through February, near the above average precipitation range; and in January through March, when Worth is close to the area expected to have below average temperatures.

One of the chief resources to predict the coming winter weather is the potential presence of a La Niña weather event.

La Niña conditions refer to the presence of cold ocean surface temperatures in tropical regions, which can impact weather worldwide. The La Niña is the opposite of the more widely recognized El Niño state with warm sea surfaces.

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's blog about El Niño/La Niña predictions, La Niña conditions typically bring colder temperatures across the north Central U.S., sometimes dipping into North Iowa.

However, this year's La Niña conditions, should they develop, are expected to be a weak variety of the event. In the last nine winters with weak La Niña situations, above average snowfall was the result, moreso than during regular La Niña conditions.

The NOAA blog also notes the impact of climate change on winter weather. According to the blog, climate change is shifting snowfall totals downward. Seasonal precipitation is not down, but more comes in the form of rain than it has in the past, over most of the U.S.

For the short term, Iowa State Climatologist Justin Glisan said that the rest of November is likely to be warmer and wetter than normal. That should provide some relief from the month of October, which was the second driest on record.

Glisan said that having that moisture in place should help prevent the ground from freezing as strongly or deeply over the winter.

Glisan agrees that La Niña may provide the best look at the winter weather to come.

According to Glisan, La Niña conditions overall provide a good predictor for other areas of the country, but for much of Iowa, not so much. Glisan said that for north central Iowa specifically, December through February would favor wetter conditions with La Niña in place.

Glisan said that, during weak La Niña events overall, like the one expected this coming winter, Iowa generally experiences above normal snowfall, 4-6 inches above on average.

That is, unless the currently developing La Niña follows trends of persisting conditions. The most recent La Niña events were in place over a three year span, from 2020-2022, just the third time that has happened since 1950. During that stretch, temperatures varied, but the winters were drier than normal.

Out of 152 years of weather records, winter 2020 brought the 23rd warmest and 62nd driest winter; 2021 was the 63rd coldest and 52nd driest; and 2022 was the 69th warmest and 16th driest.

Glisan also added that it will be the fall rains and spring moisture that will have the most impact on relieving drought conditions, noting that every 12 inches of snow only amounts to an equivalent of 1 inch of rain.

The Old Farmer's Almanac's prediction for the winter ahead coincides with the more recent La Niña's history.

The Old Farmer's Almanac uses a secret formula based on the study of sunspots, derived in 1792 by the Almanac's founder, combined with modern meteorological technology, to predict weather.

For the region the Almanac refers to as the Heartland, including all of Iowa and portions of states to the west, south and east, winter overall is expected to be warmer than normal, particular from November through January. February is expected to be cooler, with near normal temperatures through the rest of winter.

Precipitation is expected to be below average over the winter. Precipitation is expected to be below normal through the rest of the calendar year. The new year is expected to have above average snow in January.

Whether recent La Niña history repeats itself, or historic trends prevail, Iowa's winter weather remains unpredictable.

Clinic
Cont. from Page 1

Private Pesticide Applicators License at this meeting.

Johnson said that "the two featured speakers for this year's crop clinic are Dr. Erin Hodgson, Iowa State University Extension Entomologist, and ISU Extension Farm Management Specialist Eric Weuve, who are going to cover information on corn and soybean insect pest management and crop costs and returns.

Angie Rieck-Hinz, Regional Extension Agronomist, will lead the Private Farm Pesticide Recertification session to kickoff the meeting with pesticide applicators pre-registrations at around 9 a.m.

Pesticide applicators and those planning to attend may call Dennis Johnson, Worth County Extension Education Specialist, and Lacey Waller, Program Coordinator at the Worth County Extension Office, at 641-324-1531 for more information and to get their free meal reservation in by Wednesday, December 4.

All North Iowa and southern Minnesota farmers and agribusinessmen are welcome to attend.

Christmas
Cont. from Page 1

Santa's Village at 5:30 p.m.

Following the parade will be the Swensrud Park after glow, which will include a vist from Santa Claus, sloppy joes and cookies, hot chocolate, a bonfire and a chance to see the lighted displays in the park.

The first annual Christmas with Cousin Eddie Party will be held that night after the parade in the Beehive Ballroom above Worth Brewing Company. The party will include food, games, bingo, a raffle, silent auction and more. The party is organized by the Relay For Life of Worth County, Women of Worth and Worth Brewing Company.

Parking
Cont. from Page 1

aren't moved.

Snow emergencies are called by the mayor when times of heavy snowfall begin or are expected, and vehicles on streets may create hazards for the City's snowplows.

Parking is also prohibited in downtown Northwood, in the business district, between the hours of 3-6 a.m. from November 1 through March 31.

Snow emergencies will be declared on social media. The Northwood Anchor's Facebook page will also share when emergencies are declared.

Hanlontown Slough's prairie and wetlands attract wildlife and hunters

From the Iowa Department of Natural Resources:

A narrow strip of land, two plus miles long, with a history of being too wet to farm, has become an important waterfowl production area, home to other species in need of conservation and serving to improve water quality in the Cedar River watershed.

That piece of land, north of Hanlontown in Worth County, has been developed into a high-quality public area, supporting waterfowl, remnant and reconstructed prairie, while positioned as an important basin to improve water quality.

"You talk about a duck hunter and pheasant hunters' dream, this is it," said Rob Patterson, wildlife biologist with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR). "The diversity of hunting and recreation is here."

The Natural Resources Conservation Service brokered the project involving 11 different landowners who sold areas of their farms that were more natural wetlands than natural farmland to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 1998.

Early habitat work focused on diversity and getting the prairie established. Totaling 950 acres, Hanlontown Slough has 13 restored wetlands with 350 acres of wetland habitat bordered by prairie. It's a major stopover for trumpeter swans in the spring, and is a waterfowl production area, managed in partnership between the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Iowa DNR.

Hanlontown Slough stretches from northwest to southeast where visitors can walk more than two miles without stepping off public land. The larger, open water wetland offers paddling opportunities among the wetland plants, where visitors can see Blandings turtles, waterfowl and other wetland wildlife. A boat ramp is on the southwest corner.

Moving southwest along the main dike, a flock of blue wing teal nervously take flight, along with a pair of Canada geese. Two egrets and a raft of coots move to the other side of the wetland.

Habitat management includes targeted grazing, targeted haying and the use of prescribed fire to keep the prairie and wetlands open. The maintained firebreaks are good places to take a walk or to birdwatch. The willow bats and other tree encroachment into the wetlands and prairie will be removed mechanically by pulling or cutting, or by spraying.

Signs of remnant prairie are visible along the wetland outlet where the asters and sawtooth sunflowers were blooming. Pheasants can be heard crowing to the south. Two trumpeter swans are flying over a picked beanfield on this cloudless and calm fall morning.

"It takes a little more coordination between the agencies, but is a great opportunity for us and is a good partnership," Patterson said.

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Students in Worth County schools and 4-H clubs will highlight one of the 40 Developmental Assets each week. The Assets are ways to help create healthy, educated, ethical and productive citizens.

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N-K FCCLA students Bailey Thorson and Maya Johnson.



N-K FCCLA students Quinn Schroeder and Weston Willand.

Students observe driving habits to promote safety

A group of Northwood-Kensett student observers recently spent some time surveying whether or not their classmates operated their vehicles safely.

Students in FCCLA (Family, Career and Consumer Leaders of America) are taking part in the the SAFE (Seatbelts are for Everyone) program.

The SAFE program focuses on making sure people know why it's important to wear seatbelts, in the hopes of reducing injuries and fatalities.

The SAFE program aims to increase seatbelt use, and also to reduce distracted driving amongst Iowa students.

The program provides prizes, messages and other activities during the year.

At N-K, the FCCLA students spent time by the parking lot, counting the number of students that wore seatbelts as they left the school, as well as those that were driving distracted.

On Friday, November 1, the FCCLA students found that 79.73% of the students wore their seatbelts and 10% drove distracted.

FCCLA students plan to conduct another study in the spring, hoping for more seatbelts used, and less distracted drivers.



Pictured are Northwood-Kensett students that took part in the North Central Iowa Honor Choir, including (front row, from left) Aidan Ouverson, Wesley Ballantyne, Logan Trenhaile, Piper Brunsvold, Kenly Solberg, Ivy Urbatsch, Amaya Rugland, Beatrix Koenig-Fierova, (back row) Tegan Trenhaile, Harley Logeman, Makayla Davis, Emma Stephens, Weston Heims, Aleah Neeley and Avarie Skellenger.





N-K singers take part in honor choir

Last week, a group of student performers from Northwood-Kensett traveled to NIACC to take part in the North Central Iowa Honor Choir, held on November 4.

The choir festival invites singers in grades 7-12 from schools across North Iowa to learn, practice and perform together in a variety of group ensembles.

There were 15 singers from grades 7-8 at N-K that took part in the event.

During the day the students learn new songs alongside students from all schools. Guest conductors lead the mixed choirs.

That evening, family and community members are invited to a concert where the students demonstrate what they've learned.

Students from N-K taking part in the honor choir included Wesley Ballantyne, Piper Brunsvold, Makayla Davis, Weston Heims, Beatrix Koenig-Fierova, Harley Logeman, Aleah Neeley, Aidan Ouverson, Amaya Rugland, Avarie Skellenger, Kenly Solberg, Emma Stephens, Logan Trenhaile, Tegan Trenhaile and Ivy Urbatsch.

"They worked hard to learn many challenging songs, and their excellent focus paid off Monday at the honor choir festival at NIACC," said N-K vocal music teacher Loraine Mix

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Alliant offers gas safety tips as temperatures drop

With the arrival of cooler weather, Alliant Energy encourages customers to be safe around natural gas.

"Safety is our top priority," said Adam Marxen, manager of gas integrity and standards for Alliant Energy. "As customers begin to turn on their furnaces to stay warm as temperatures drop, there are some precautions they can take to keep their families and communities safe."

Alliant Energy offers the following tips:

1. Know the signs of a gas leak and what to do.

Signs include an odor like rotten eggs; a hiss, roar or whistle near a gas appliance, meter or pipeline; or blowing dirt, bubbling water or discolored vegetation in an otherwise green area. Leave the premises immediately. From a safe location, call 911.

Symptoms such as dizziness, shortness of breath, headaches, confusion, nausea and fainting can also be signs a furnace or gas appliance has malfunctioned and exposed you to natural gas or carbon monoxide. Leave the premises immediately. From a safe location, call 911.

2. Install carbon monoxide and natural gas detectors.

Detectors help identify odorless threats like carbon monoxide and are especially important for those with a known loss of smell. Additionally, certain soil conditions can strip the rotten egg odorant out of natural gas, making it more challenging to detect without proper equipment. If your natural gas detector goes off, move quickly to a safe location and call Alliant Energy at 1-800-255-4268.

3. Prevent snow and ice from blocking gas vents.

Once winter arrives, snow and ice can damage gas meters and pipes. Use a broom to keep gas service equipment clear. You must clear vents for gas appliances following a major snow or ice storm to enable proper venting and prevent carbon monoxide accumulation.

4. Dig safely.

In addition to increased potential gas and carbon monoxide risks when the weather turns cooler, there's also an increased risk of gas pipeline damage as homeowners rush to finish yardwork. Digging incidents are the most common cause of underground natural gas leaks. If you plan to dig, including constructing a fire pit, visit call811.com at least three days ahead of time. This will initiate a free process for utilities to locate and mark underground lines so you can dig safely.

Even minor damage to a gas pipeline such as nicks, scratches, cuts, scrapes, dents and gouges can result in pipeline failure or a major incident in the future if not properly assessed. Call Alliant Energy at 1-800-ALLIANT if your digging equipment or tools contact underground pipelines.

Finally, never place a fire pit above a buried line. If the fire gets too hot, it could cause the gas pipeline below to leak or melt.

"We urge customers to install natural gas and carbon monoxide detectors for greater security," Marxen said. "Customers should replace batteries regularly and get into a routine of practicing their emergency plans annually."

For more information about gas safety, please visit alliantenergy.com/gas.

Harvest proclamation extended

Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds last week signed an extension of the proclamation relating to the weight limits and transportation of grain, fertilizer, and manure.

The proclamation is effective immediately and continues through December 8.

The proclamation allows vehicles transporting corn, soybeans, hay, straw, silage, stover, fertilizer (dry, liquid, and gas) and manure (dry and liquid) to be overweight (not exceeding 90,000 pounds gross weight) without a permit for the duration of this proclamation.

This proclamation applies to loads transported on all highways within Iowa (excluding the interstate system) and those which do not exceed a maximum of 90,000 pounds gross weight, do not exceed the maximum axle weight limit determined under the non-primary highway maximum gross weight table in Iowa Code §321.463 (6)(b), by more than 12.5 percent, do not exceed the legal maximum axle weight limit of 20,000 pounds and comply with posted limits on roads and bridges.

Ernst hosts traveling office hours in all 99 counties

Staff representing U.S. Senator Joni Ernst will be holding traveling office hours in every county throughout the state during November and December.

Representatives from Senator Ernst's office will be available in all 99 counties to assist Iowans with problems and questions about issues involving Social Security, veterans' benefits, military affairs, passports, immigration issues and other federal programs.

"This November and December, we are cutting the bureaucratic red tape and bringing assistance with federal agencies directly to every county in the state," said Senator Ernst. "It's my job to serve Iowans, and one of the best ways to do that is ensuring they can access the resources they deserve. Don't hesitate to stop by when members of my staff are in your area!"

Constituents seeking assistance with federal agencies who are unable to attend the traveling office hours can contact one of the senator's offices directly or submit a casework request online at www.Ernst.senate.gov.

Senator Ernst's staff will be in Worth County on Friday, November 22, from 1-2 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Worth County Courthouse, 1000 Central Avenue, in the Board of Supervisors Room.

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Supervisors

November 4, 2024
Forty-fourth Day

The Worth County Board of Supervisors met pursuant to adjournment with Enos Loberg, Mark Smeby and A.J. Stone, present. All members voting "AYE" unless noted.

Meeting called to order by Stone at 8:30 A.M., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion Smeby/Second Loberg to approve today's agenda and minutes from the October 28, 2024 meeting. Motion carried.

Motion Loberg/Second Smeby to approve the 28E Agreement between the City of Carpenter & Worth County. Motion carried.

Motion Smeby/Second Loberg to approve work order for DD #13/Lat 3 as submitted by Pat Rothove. Motion carried.

Work order for DD #6/Lat 9 was tabled until next week.

Motion Smeby/Second Loberg to approve work order for DD #77 as submitted by Doug Kingland. Motion carried.

Motion Smeby/Second Loberg to approve work order for DD #2/Main as submitted by Doug Kingland. Motion carried.

Motion Loberg/Second Smeby to approve the auditor's quarterly report. Motion carried.

Motion Loberg/Second Smeby to approve the use of $10,000 in opioid settlement funds for prevention programs as submitted by Shana Butler, Administrator, Worth County Public Health. This increases the total for FY25 to $45,000. Motion carried.

Motion Loberg/Second Smeby to approve contract between Crazy Clean and Worth County. Motion carried.

Motion Smeby/Second Loberg to appoint the following to the West EMS District: Mike Thompson, three-year term; Al Wogen, two-year term and Blayne Brunsvold one-year term. These terms will start on January 2, 2025. Motion carried.

Motion Smeby/Second Loberg to appoint the following to the Southeast EMS District: Joe Thompson, three-year term; Jim Dobel, two-year term; and Justin Kruger, one-year term. These terms will start January 2, 2025. Motion carried.

Chairperson Stone recessed the regular session at 9:07 A.M.

Motion Smeby/Second Loberg to open the closed session per 21.5(1)(c) regarding Worthwhile Wind, LLC, Plaintiff v. Worth County Board of Supervisors, Defendant at 9:30 A.M. Roll call: Loberg – Aye; Smeby – Aye; Stone – Aye. Motion carried.

Motion Smeby/Second Loberg to close the closed session at 10:08 A.M. Motion carried.

Chairperson Stone reconvened the regular session at 10:08 A.M.

Motion Loberg/Second Smeby to adjourn at 10:08 A.M. Motion carried.

Jacki A. Backhaus,
Auditor
Aaron Stone, Chairperson

A trip from N-K to the culinary classroom

Students in the Northwood-Kensett Foods class recently took a field trip to the classrooms and kitchens of the Culinary program at Iowa Central College. The students practiced plating and rolling dough in the pastry kitchen. They also practice cutting skills in the Culinary kitchen. Besides their current classmates, they also learned alongside a few N-K graduates that are students of the college's program.







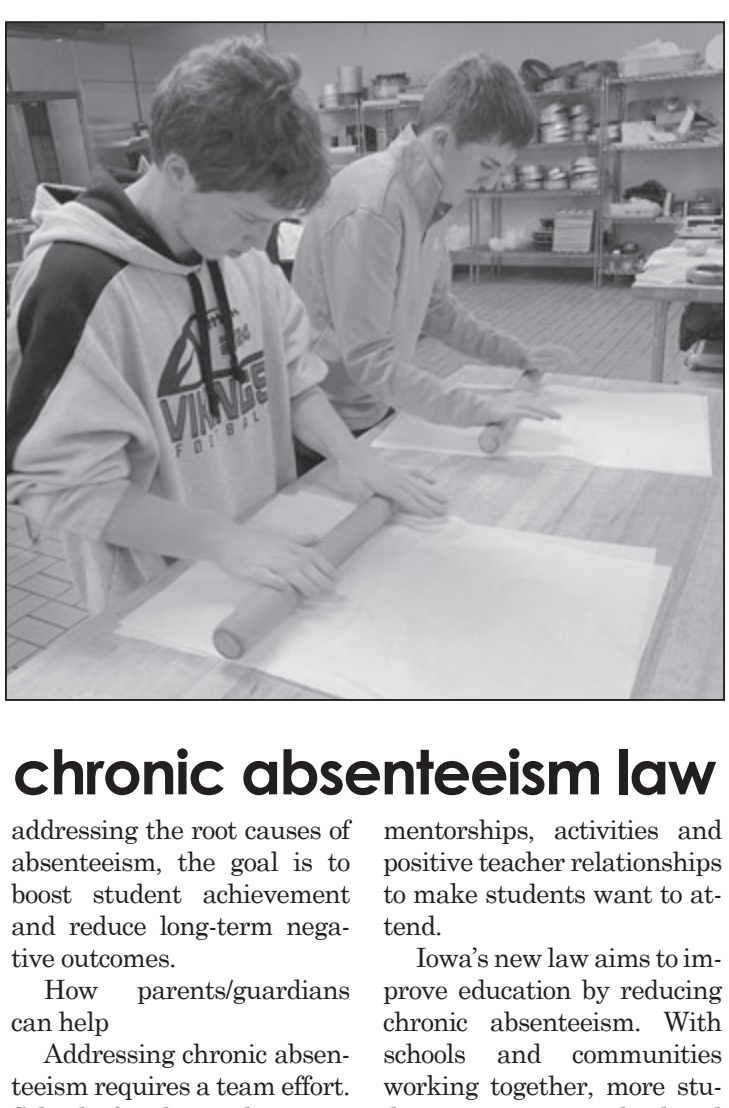




Painting pumpkins

Second graders at Northwood-Kensett welcomed a guest artist to their classroom last week. Northwood painter and artist Carolyn Reeder was there to help inspire them to paint some pumpkins.





Understanding Iowa's new chronic absenteeism law

By Karl Kurt
Assistant Chief Administrator & Director of Human Resources for Central Rivers AEA

KARL KURT

Iowa's new law, effective July 1, 2024, aims to tackle chronic absenteeism by supporting students who miss 10% or more of school days. For a 180-day school year, this means missing 18 days or more. In the 2022-23 school year, 22.6% of Iowa students were chronically absent, raising concerns about their academic progress and well-being.

What is Senate File 2435?

Iowa's Senate File 2435 (SF 2435) aims to reduce chronic absenteeism by requiring schools to address attendance issues early. Schools must create policies, work with families and partner with community organizations to support students. The law's focus is not just on enforcing attendance, but understanding why students miss school, whether due to health, family or economic challenges, and providing the help they need to succeed.

Why the law?

Research shows that frequent absences, especially in the early years of school, can seriously harm a child's learning. Students who miss a lot of school tend to fall behind in key subjects like reading and math. Over time, these gaps are harder to close, often resulting in higher dropout rates, fewer chances for higher education and reduced career opportunities. The law is designed to help identify these students early and provide the support they need to stay on track. By addressing the root causes of absenteeism, the goal is to boost student achievement and reduce long-term negative outcomes.

How parents/guardians can help

Addressing chronic absenteeism requires a team effort. Schools, families and communities must work together to create environments where students feel supported and motivated to attend regularly. Here are a few ways communities can get involved:

Raise awareness: Talk about why school attendance matters and how missing days affects learning. Schools can team up with local groups to share this message with families.

Support families: Many students miss school due to problems like transportation, health or family issues. Communities can help by offering resources such as rides to school or support for families facing tough times.

Engage students: Schools can create a welcoming environment with programs like mentorships, activities and positive teacher relationships to make students want to attend.

Iowa's new law aims to improve education by reducing chronic absenteeism. With schools and communities working together, more students can stay in school and succeed!

Visit the Department of Education's website for more information and helpful resources to battle chronic absenteeism: https://educate.iowa.gov/pk-12/student-services/prevention/attendance-chronic-absenteeism.

Karl Kurt is the assistant chief administrator and director of human resources of Central Rivers Area Education Agency, with offices in Cedar Falls, Clear Lake and Marshalltown. He can be reached at kkurt@centralriversaea.org. Central Rivers AEA serves over 5,000 K-12 educators in 18 counties of north central Iowa to improve outcomes for over 60,000 students. Learn more at www.centralriversaea.org.

Northwood Anchor

Church

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

Bethlehem Lutheran, Manly
Sunday, Grace Worship, 10:30 a.m., Bethlehem Worship, 9 a.m.
Linda Johnson Prestholt, Pastor

Bethany Lutheran Church/Elk Creek Lutheran
Wednesday, Conf. at Bethlehem; Thursday, MANNA Open, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.; Sunday, Bethany Worship, 9 a.m., Elk Creek Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., Elk Creek Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Monday, B Council, 9:30 a.m., MANNA Open 10 a.m. - Noon.
Linda Johnson Prestholt, Pastor

Trinity United Methodist, Bolan
Friday, Setup church basement for the Swiss Steak Drive Through Dinner, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday, Worship Service, 9:10 a.m., Coffee Fellowship, 10 a.m., Service drive through dinner, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Pastor Cory Allard

Bethel United Methodist Church
Wednesday, Diner, 8:30 a.m.; Sunday, Bethel Worship, 8 a.m., Trinity Worship, 9:10 a.m., Sunday School, 9:15 a.m., Bethel Worship, 10:30 a.m., Trinity Swiss Steak Meal, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Northwood United Methodist Church
Thursday, Pub Theology at Worth Brewing, 7 p.m.; Friday - Sunday, Nov. 15-17, 9-12th Fall Retreat, Sunday, Worship Service at Northwood, 10:45 a.m., Fellowship
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, 9 a.m., Sunday School, 10 a.m., Silver Lake, 705 Silver Lake Rd., Northwood, 641-293-5556; 9 a.m., Bethany, 201 Franke St., Joice, 641-588-3366; 8 a.m., Lunder, 14982 735th Ave., Albert Lea; 10:30 a.m., Winnebago, 40029 210th Ave., Lake Mills; 9:30 a.m. Immanuel, 105 E. 3rd St., Scarville, 641-568-3666.

First Lutheran Church, Northwood
Wednesday, Confirmation, 4 p.m., Inspire, 6:15 p.m., Choir, SH Youth, 7 p.m.; Thursday, Quilting, 8:30 a.m., Conference Pastor's Meeting FLC, 9 a.m., Prayer Group, 9 a.m., Taekwondo, 6:30 p.m., Pub, 7 p.m.; Sunday, Service with H.C., 9 a.m., Sunday School, 10:10 a.m., DCV with H.C., 10:30 a.m., LRH, 3 p.m., JH Youth, 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday, Manna Truck, Council Meeting, 6 p.m., AA-Al-Anon, 7 p.m.

Peace Lutheran Church, Northwood
Sunday Worship Service with Holy Communion at 9 a.m., Adult Bible Study and Children's Sunday School following service.
Rev. Barbara M. Wills, Pastor

Sacred Heart Church, Manly
Mass Wednesday, 8 a.m.; Mass Saturday, 5:30 p.m.
Fr. Dave O'Connor, Pastor
Fr. Ben Valentine, Associate Pastor
www.sacredheartmanly.org

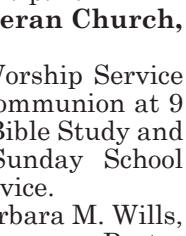
Faith Lutheran Church, London
Sunday School and Adult Bible Class, 9:30 a.m. (Fall through Spring); Sunday, Worship, 10:30 a.m.
Pastor Kent Otterman

First Shell Rock Lutheran Church, Northwood
Sunday, Worship Service, 10:45 a.m.
Pastor Theodore Gullixson

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Breathing Lessons



How much of your life is consumed with worrying about the future or regretting the past? Many of us worry excessively about things which we have no control over, since we cannot change the past, and most of our fears of the future never come to pass. The real problem with spending time worrying about tomorrow or ruminating about the past is that it spoils our enjoyment of the present moment. A good way to bring our focus to the present moment is to concentrate on our breathing, and simply enjoy the sheer sensation of breathing in and breathing out. Get into a comfortable position, either sitting or lying down, and focus on your breathing, making a conscious effort to make it slow, relaxed, and deep. Breathe in deeply and slowly and then breathe out just as slowly. Our breath is truly our life and focusing on breathing is a way to savor that life. Just focus on the here and now of breathing, relaxing and enjoying the moment. And, thank God for the gift of life and the present moment, filled with the simple pleasure of just breathing in and breathing out, a truly divine act.

And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.
– K.J.V. Genesis 2:7

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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

I really miss Herberger's. It was a great department store chain, along with their sister stores, Younkers. Their closing left a big hole in retail shopping in North Iowa/Southern Minnesota. They did, however, leave behind some great food ideas even though there were no restaurants in the stores. "Herberger's Cookbook" was first published in 1990 and went on to have six other editions. I have the 1998 version that is stuffed with such a variety of recipes it's hard to pick out only a few to focus upon. The original was printed for employees only but a huge response from customers and others led the company to expand the distribution and also to compile two other cookbooks with different titles. The following recipes are taken from the excellent family-style collection, complete with names of the contributors.

Southern Apple Pork Chops
(Brenda Guthmiller, Watertown, SD)

6 medium pork chops, 1-inch thick
1/3 cup brown sugar
2 cups apple juice
1/8 teaspoon ground ginger
3 tablespoons catsup
1/2 teaspoon dry mustard
3 tablespoons cornstarch
1 1/2 teaspoons soy sauce
1 large baking apple, sliced into
6 pieces

Season the chops with salt and pepper. In a large heavy skillet, brown the chops on both sides in a little vegetable oil. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Arrange the chops in a roaster or baking dish. Blend the remaining ingredients in a saucepan and cook, over medium heat, stirring constantly, for 5 minutes. Place an apple slice on each chop and pour the sauce over the top. Cover with foil and bake for 1 hour.

German Hamburger Noodle Casserole
(Rice Lake, WI)

NOTE: put this dish together early in the morning for supper or the day before as it needs to sit in the refrigerator before baking.

1 pound lean ground beef
4 oz. cream cheese, softened
1 teaspoon salt
1 cup real sour cream
1 teaspoon sugar
1 small onion, minced
Pinch of black pepper
12 oz. very fine noodles
1 large garlic clove, crushed
1/4 cup shredded sharp Cheddar
1 can (8oz.) tomato sauce

In a large saucepan, simmer the ground beef, garlic, tomato sauce, sugar, salt and pepper. Mix well and cook for 15 minutes. Cook and drain the noodles; leave them a bit firm as they will finish cooking in the oven. In a medium bowl, mix together the cream cheese, sour cream and minced onion to make a smooth sauce. In a two quart casserole dish, layer 1/2 of the cooked noodles, then 1/2 of the meat mixture and 1/2 of the creamy sauce. Repeat for a second layer. Top with the Cheddar cheese. Cover and refrigerate for a full day or overnight. Remove from the fridge about 1 hour before cooking. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Bake the casserole for 40 minutes or until hot and bubbly. Serves 6.

Pumpkin Ice Cream Dessert

2 cups graham cracker crumbs
2 cups canned plain pumpkin
1/2 cup melted real butter
1 cup brown sugar
1/2 gallon good vanilla ice cream
1/2 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons brown sugar
2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice

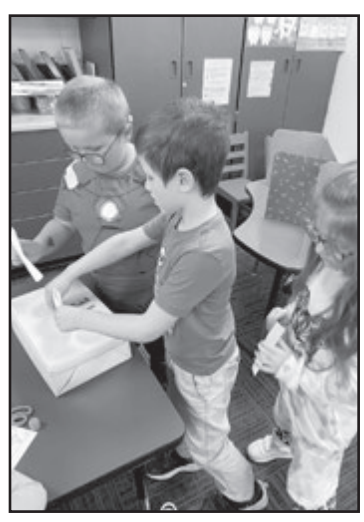
Mix the crumbs, melted butter and 2 tablespoons brown sugar to make a crust. Reserve 1/2 cup of this mixture and press the rest into a 9x13-inch baking pan. Soften the ice cream so it will mix easily. Combine the remaining ingredients, blending well, and pour it over the crust. Sprinkle the reserved crumbs over the top. Place in the freezer. Remove from the freezer about 15 minutes before slicing and serving with real whipped cream on top.

Herberger's was the store where you could usually find just what you were looking for. Clothing for most occasions, shoes, boots, socks and underwear, linens and baby items. Plus, my favorite section: kitchenware and small appliances. I have enjoyed many trips through those aisles and often something came home with me. It was a true department store; no groceries! And…that's all she wrote.

Northwood Anchor Society

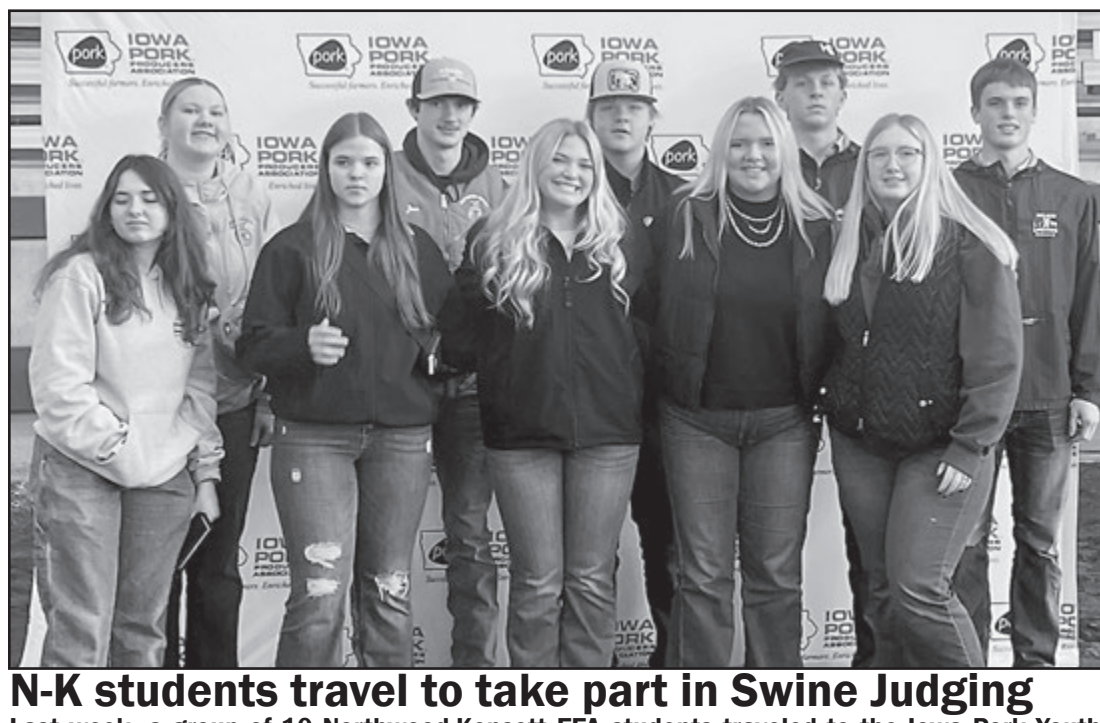






The youth vote

Students in kindergarten classes spent some time casing ballots of their own last Tuesday. They even left school wearing "I voted" stickers. While adult voters chose who would represent them, the young voters picked their favorite foods and pets. After ballots were counted, ice cream won the popular vote (12-3-3) over pizza and hamburgers. Cats won in a tighter race, with 9 votes, compared to 7 for dogs and 2 for hamsters.



N-K students travel to take part in Swine Judging

Last week, a group of 10 Northwood-Kensett FFA students traveled to the Iowa Pork Youth Swine Judging Contest, hosted by the Iowa Pork Producers Association. The industry-focused competition is designed to challege those taking part to judge keep/cull gilts, evaluate traditional classes and assess live carcass classes.

Iowa CSP, EQIP application deadline set for November 22

Iowa farmers interested in signing up for the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) and Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) have until November 22 to submit initial paperwork.

Administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), CSP and EQIP provide financial and technical assistance for producers implementing conservation practices while maintaining agricultural production.

"Programs like CSP and EQIP help farmers meet their conservation goals while alleviating financial risks and improving soil health," said Cynthia Farmer, senior policy associate with the Center for Rural Affairs.

CSP is designed to consider a producer's entire operation and help them take conservation efforts to the next level. To be eligible, producers must demonstrate they are currently addressing regional resource concerns with approved conservation practices and are willing to implement enhancements, or additional practices, into their operation.

EQIP offers assistance for single practices or projects to help producers address a particular resource concern. Several structural practices, such as terraces, can be funded through EQIP as well.

With both programs, the applying producer will develop a conservation plan with support from local NRCS staff to ensure the implemented practices benefit natural resources and meet the producer's conservation goals.

"Whether farmers are experienced in conservation or trying a new practice, these programs provide an opportunity to make big and small investments for the future," Farmer said.

Enrollment in these programs continues to rise. In 2023, more than 360,000 acres were enrolled in CSP and EQIP combined in Iowa, a 10% increase from 2022.

Farmers interested in applying for either program are encouraged to contact their local NRCS office. A list of local offices can be found at nrcs.usda.gov/contact/find-a-service-center.

Swiss Steak Dinner fundraiser held in Bolan Sunday

Trinity United Methodist Church of Bolan will be hosting a "Swiss Steak Dinner" fundraiser this Sunday, November 17, 2024, from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

People may drive to the north end of Bolan to 4214 Tulip Lane and pick up meals to take home.

Menu includes Swiss steak, coleslaw, homegrown sweet corn and squash, mashed potatoes, gravy and homemade chocolate chip cookie, free-will donation. All donations will go toward church restroom upgrades.

Those requesting to pick up a meal should call Pam Anderson at 641-324-1102 by Saturday, November 16 and pick up meals at the Worth County Courthouse, Northwood at Noon.

Trinity holds traditional in-person worship services with Pastor Cory Allard every Sunday at 9:10 a.m., followed by a coffee fellowship time. Everyone is invited and welcome to attend.

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Northwood Anchor

Opinion

Savvy Senior

How to know if you're getting osteoporosis

Dear Savvy Senior,

Can a person in their early fifties have osteoporosis? When I fell and broke my wrist last winter the doctor that treated me told me I might have osteoporosis.

Surprised Susan

Dear Susan,

While osteoporosis is much more common in adults over age 60, it can strike younger people too. In fact, according to the Bone Health & Osteoporosis Foundation half of women and up to 25 percent of men in the U.S. over age 50 will break a bone due to osteoporosis. Here's what you should know.

Osteoporosis, a disease that weakens your bones is also called a "silent" disease because there are no warning signs until a fracture occurs. Around 10 million Americans over age 50 currently have osteoporosis, and an additional 44 million have osteopenia (lower than normal bone density) – 80 percent of whom are women.

Most people, by the time they reach their late 30's, gradually start losing some of their bone mass, but for women, the biggest decline happens in the five to seven years following menopause, when levels of estrogen, which helps to keep bone strong, plummets. Bone loss for men occurs much more gradually. However, by age 75, osteoporosis is as common in men as it is in women.

To help you determine your risk of osteoporosis, the International Osteoporosis Foundation has a quick, online test you can take at RiskCheck.Osteoporosis.Foundation.

Bone Checkup

According to the BHOF all women over 65 and men over 70 should have a baseline dual energy X-ray absorptiometry (DXA) scan, which is a painless measurement of the calcium in your bones. But those at high risk should start around age 50. Factors that make a good case for early screening include having a family history of osteoporosis, a broken bone after age 50, vitamin D deficiency, a smoking habit, medical conditions such as diabetes or rheumatoid arthritis or previous or current use of medications that can weaken bones, like steroid prednisone and certain antidepressants.

Most bone density tests are covered by health insurance companies including Medicare, and are done in hospital radiology departments, private radiology practices and stand-alone clinics.

Bone-Builders

If your bone scan finds that you have osteopenia but have a low to moderate 10-year fracture risk, lifestyle measures are usually the best course of action. Three important things you can do to boost your bone health include:

Get enough calcium and vitamin D: Calcium helps keep bones strong, and vitamin D helps us absorb calcium. Women older than 50 and men over 70 need at least 1,200 mg of calcium per day ideally from foods like dairy, canned sardines, kale, and fortified orange juice. Adults over 50 need 870 to 1,000 IU of vitamin D each day, but that's hard to get from food. Have your levels checked to see if you need a supplement.

Exercise: Low impact weight-bearing exercises like walking, and strength training with light weights or resistant bands several times a week can actually help build bone strength, as well as improve balance and muscle strength.

Don't smoke: Women who smoke a pack of cigarettes per day as adults have less dense bones at menopause.

Osteoporosis Meds

If, however, your bone density test finds that you have osteoporosis your doctor will probably recommend medications. The first line of treatment is usually bisphosphonates such as alendronate (Binosto and Fosamax), risedronate (Actonel and Atelvia), and ibandronate (Boniva). These oral or injectable drugs slow the breakdown of bone but won't build it back.

For severe osteoporosis your doctor may instead prescribe an anabolic: teriparatide (Forteo), abaloparatide (Tymlos), or romosozumab (Evenity). These are typically given as daily or monthly injections and they increase the amount and strength of bones.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

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Ponderings from the Batt Cave

By Al Batt writer, speaker, storyteller and humorist.

Echoes from the Loafers' Club Meeting

I didn't know you had dogs.

Those aren't my dogs. They are my sister's.

Well, your sisters are adorable.

Driving by Bruce's drive

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. I sat at a table where the conversation covered the weather. It keeps raining. We need the rain. The wind is supposed to pick up. If it gets much colder, it could snow. That wind makes my teeth chatter. The weather is getting worse.

I live where weather swings are common. That means the playground swings can be freezing cold or scorching hot. Those swings prepare children to live in a place where bad weather is just part of the experience.

Merry melodies and mondegreens

When we mishear song lyrics, it's called a mondegreen. A mondegreen is a misinterpretation of a phrase that gives it a new meaning.

Everything was nearly copacetic when I took a break from a lengthy meeting with an extended tea time and headed to a restroom. I spotted it on my right. My mind's band played, "There's a bathroom on the right."

Creedence Clearwater Revival's memorable song, "Bad Moon Rising," includes the lyrics, "There's a bad moon on the rise."

In local news

A local softball team traveled to New Jersey. They thought it'd be the perfect place to buy new uniforms.

Astronomer retires. No more Mister Night Sky.

Local lumberyard offers priority boarding.

The Eat Around It Cafe closed early after running out of grease.

The airport manager's hangar management problems led to his firing.

I've learned

The latest conspiracy theory is that we're being brainwashed by shampoo.

My neighbor became confused by all the lawn signs and voted for a realtor.

You don't know what you have until it's gone—especially toilet paper.

It was a pleasure working once again with a dedicated crew of election judges who provided public service at its finest.

If the soup is too thick, it's probably stew. I used to like orange juice with little pulp. That was pulp fiction. Now, I prefer pulp with little orange juice.

Not everything needs to be run through a political filter.

Chihuahuas were the original wireless doorbells.

Putting memory foam insoles into my shoes didn't help me remember why I'd walked into a room.

Bad jokes department

When my cousin Chumley won the lottery, he made sure everyone around him became rich. He moved to Beverly Hills.

I don't know how I lost a couple of buttons on my calculator. It doesn't add up.

What is the key to peeling a banana? A monkey.

Nature news

I'm an on-demand bird feeder who scattered millet seed on the ground for native sparrows like juncos, white-throated sparrows, fox sparrows, Lincoln's sparrows, Harris's sparrows, American tree sparrows and white-crowned sparrows. I relish the presence of birds, but opossums are nice, too. There were four young ones in the yard—Pogo, Gopo, Opgo and Ogpo. How do I know their names? By the name tags they wore. Opossums are nocturnal, spending the day in dens or protected spots, but they're active at any time of the day, especially when food is scarce. I hear them going bump in the night.

American tree sparrows are present from early November through early April, and they usually arrive and depart with the juncos. Chipping sparrows spend early April through late October in my company. It's a common LBJ (little brown job) or LBB (little brown bird)" in yards. Edward Forbush, a noted 19th-century ornithologist, called the chipping sparrow "the little brown-capped pensioner of the dooryard and lawn, that comes about farmhouse doors to glean crumbs shaken from the tablecloth by thrifty housewives." Its song is a dry, fast, high-pitched trill of chip notes that gives the bird its name and is sometimes mistaken for the sound of insects. The chipper is a dapper little sparrow, handsome and tame. It has been called a hair sparrow because of its habit of lining its nests with hair.

I was happy to see some redbelly snakes this fall. It's Minnesota's smallest snake, about the size of a nightcrawler, is named for its bright red, pink or orange underside. I've heard it called a fire snake, and it feeds on slugs, snails and earthworms.

Wild asparagus turns a lovely yellow. It's the same species as the asparagus cultivated in gardens that have escaped into uncultivated areas where it persists. Now is the time to mark those spots for harvesting next year.

Meeting adjourned

We should T.H.I.N.K. before we speak. Ask if it is true, helpful, inspiring, necessary or kind.

©Al Batt 2024

Fit to print...

Bingo, pizza, and the nature of Christmas trees

It's the time of year when a few traditions and favorite activites return.

One of those is bingo. It will be played over the rest of the fall and winter at the Timbers or at the Whistle Stop Manly Senior Center. It will also be featured as a funderaiser at the Cousin Eddie party during the Christmas kick off events on December 7.

Another staple of this time of year, especially during impromptu gatherings of family and friends is pizza.

With more bingo on the way and National Pizza Month just past, here are some fun facts about both:

What do bingo and pizza have in common? It appears each originated in Italy and are enjoyed across the globe.

Bingo is derived from the Lo Giuoco del Lotto d'Italia, which is the Italian national lottery that has been played since 1530. It is still played every Saturday in Italy.

The game was later introduced to France, where it was known as Le Lotto, and Germany, where it was a child's game to help students learn key subjects.

Bingo soon found itself on American soil, and originally was called "Beano." Players at country fairs would mark their numbered cards with beans after dealers selected numbered discs from cigar boxes. When players won the game, they'd yell out "beano."

An enterprising New York salesman named Edwin S. Lowe came across the game at a carnival in Georgia, and overheard someone accidentally yell "bingo" instead of "beano" upon winning. Lowe renamed the game and hired a Columbia University math professor to come up with a higher number of combinations for playing cards so there would be fewer non-repeating groups. Lowe ultimately marketed the redeveloped game as "Bingo."

Hot facts about pizza

The nation celebrates National Pizza Month each October. There are plenty of reasons to love pizza, and during this special month (and others) pizza lovers can dig into new ways to get their fill of this famous comfort food. Check out these facts that are bound to get you even more fired up about pizza, courtesy of Papa Woody's Pizza, DeNiro's Pizza, Big Mario's New York Style Pizza, and DidYouKnow.com.

• More than 10 percent of food service sales in the United States involve pizza. Plenty of people are ordering pizza to their homes or dining at restaurants that serve this beloved dish.

• Pepperoni is the most popular pizza topping (if you're not counting cheese).

• Pizza consumption tends to be highest during sporting events. Pizza retailers sell millions of pizzas during the Super Bowl every year, for example.

• When pizza originated in Naples, Italy, it was intended to be an option for low-income families, as it was a cheap meal to make at home.

• Researchers at The Artificial Language Laboratory used a computer to order a pizza in 1974 to test the computer's speaking ability. The order was a pepperoni, mushroom, ham and sausage pizza from local pizzeria Mr. Mike's.

• Around 80% of Italian cheese production in the United States revolves around making mozzarella to accommodate the pizza industry.

• Americans love their pizza. Of the more than five billion pizzas sold worldwide each year, approximately 60% of them are sold in the U.S.

• The outer edge of the pizza is known as the "cornicione." Despite the interesting name, chances are someone in your household leaves that crusty goodness behind on the plate after enjoying a slice or two.

• When American World War II soldiers returned home after eating pizza in Italy, they brought their love for this food with them and helped bring pizza to the masses.

• Each year, the International Pizza Expo takes place so that those in the pizza industry can mingle and share information about this delicious food.

Besides bingo and pizza, now is the time that many begin deocrating for Christmas, or are preparing to pick a tree:

Even though the debate continues regarding the merits of artificial and real Christmas trees, it seems there is a winner, at least within the United States.

According to Statista, 47% of American households own an artificial Christmas tree, while 24% purchase real trees. Though real trees might not be as popular as their artificial alternatives, the number of real trees that are purchased each year remains significant. According to the National Christmas Tree Association, roughly 25 to 30 million real Christmas trees are sold annually in the United States. Canadians may favor live Christmas trees, or they're at least skilled in growing them. In fact, Canada exported more than 2.4 million fresh Christmas trees in 2021, and 97.2% ended up in the U.S., according to Statistics Canada. In June 2022, there were 1,895 business locations across Canada in the nursery and tree production industry.

Northwood Anchor

Early Files

100 years ago

November 5, 1924

"Grieg" the men's chorus of Silver Lake, reports a most enjoyable trip to Thor, Iowa, last Sunday when the singers took part in a splendid program given under the auspices of the Teachers Association of the Iowa District of the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America.

The monthly Booster Sale last Wednesday in Northwood seemed to be another success, as some of the merchant's report selling practically all of their offerings at the advertised prices. Others who did not do so well in sales report making new acquaintances and friends and having good sales on other articles.

Rush Wagner, former Northwood boy, and second son of Mr. and Mrs. G.G. Wagner, has gone to Africa to teach the native preachers how to farm so the art of agriculture may be passed on to the natives. Mr. Wagner goes on a five-year contract. His agriculture college knowledge will prove invaluable to him in Africa.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ruffridge drove in from Fort Dodge Saturday evening and spent Sunday with their parents in the Ruffridge and Rustad homes on South 12th Street.

The ladies of the M.E. church will have a bake sale and serve lunches, also sell homemade mincemeat at Jacobson's store next Wednesday.

Headline: President Coolidge and General Dawes elected President and Vice President in a Nation-Wide Landslide.

Mrs. A. Laraway, Union Township correspondent, tells of a visit to Bristol, the first county seat: "We saw the old dilapidated square building which was once the courthouse of Worth County standing almost side by side with an old shed and a large building which had at one time been a flourishing store but is now unoccupied and going to rack and ruin."

75 years ago

November 17, 1949

The Northwood town council at its regular meeting discussed at length the problem of improved street lighting for the business district. A committee composed of J.L. Taylor, Richard Johnson and B.I. Carey was appointed to visit Clear Lake and inspect new lights recently installed there.

The First Lutheran building fund committee has set a goal to finish the general canvass for the proposed new building and parish house by December 1. Approximately $114,000 has been donated and pledged, nearly half of which has been paid in cash. More workers have been enlisted to complete the canvass in the next two weeks.

The Northwood High School adult education classes for farmers will begin next Monday, Howard Rupert, instructor announced today. Mr. Joudreau of the Portland Cement Company will discuss "Concrete Construction On the Farm" at this meeting.

The November 10 Mystery Farm, in last week's Anchor, turned out to be the H.R. Crom 160-acre farm located two miles south and two miles east of Northwood. Mr. Crom and his son Dwight farm it, together with 240 acres that Dwight rents nearby. Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Crom and children live on the farm that they rent.

The board of trustees of the Northwood Baptist and Methodist congregations have contracted for the sale of the Baptist church building and lot to the Methodist group church trustees announced today. Redecoration of the church, began this week under supervision of a joint committee from both church groups. Major items include a new roof, automatic combination oil and gas heating, and interior redecoration. Total cost is expected to amount to several thousand dollars.

50 years ago

November 14, 1974

Farming continues to be the number one industry in Worth County with trainloads of corn and soybeans being loaded for shipment to terminals in Louisiana and other points in the U.S. Crews at the Northwood Co-op Elevator are shown loading cars for shipment as photographed by Bob Thompto, a director of the firm.

Jennifer Block, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Block, Northwood, was recently named for the Good Citizenship Award presented by the Helen Hinman Dwelle Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The winner is chosen by the high school faculty from a list of three voted upon by all members of the senior class. Jennifer, one of four daughters of the Blocks, has participated in an impressive number of school, church and community activities.

Dr. B.H. Osten, Northwood physician, was named a Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians at the recent meeting held in Los Angeles. Dr. Osten received the degree on October 15 in the charter class of the academy, at a ceremony attended by 7,000 persons.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Quam and Mr. and Mrs. Sophus Hendrickson attended the Lakeland District Recognition dinner of the Winnebago Council of Boy Scouts of America, at the United Methodist Church at Garner. Mrs. Sophus Hendrickson received the Scouter's Wife Award for devoted support in making possible her husbands service to the Scouts. Marty Dahl, son of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Dahl was recognized as attaining an Eagle Scout rank, post 33, Northwood.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Chodur, Kensett, announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Karen Jane, to Mr. Lewis J. Thompson, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Thompson of Northwood. A December 29 wedding is planned at First Lutheran Church, Northwood.

25 years ago

November 17, 1999

State representative Dennis May watched last Thursday as Worth County Historical Society president Ann Johnson adjusted one of the many military uniforms now on permanent display at the society's old library museum in Northwood. The uniforms are part of a sizable collection of military paraphernalia willed to the society of the late Northwood native Elliot Neal, who served more than 30 years in the U.S. Army. More than 70 area residents visited the display when the historical society unveiled it on Veterans Day.

Northwood "Our Buddies" VFW Post 6779 commander Jon Christenson and women's auxiliary president Deb Christenson presented checks and plaques to essay contest winners Emily Meyer, Alissa Rathbone and Chad Stucky during Veterans Day ceremonies at the post home on U.S. Highway 65 N. last Thursday.

Northwood-Kensett eighth-graders Allyson Dierenfeld and Katie Sime played in the North Central Iowa Bandmasters Association Junior High Honor Band Saturday in Humboldt. Allyson, the daughter of Mike and Joan Dierenfeld of rural Northwood, plays flute in the N-K junior high band, while Katie, the daughter of Randy and Sandy Sime of rural Northwood, plays the alto sax in the N-KJH Band.

Sarah Berge, daughter of Barb and Mike Berge, Kensett, graduated with honors from Ft. Lee, Virginia, for advanced individual training of the National Guard. In September Sarah had attended basic training at Ft. Jackson, SC.

Dana Okerlund, 1999 Northwood-Kensett graduate, is one of ten freshman who earned a spot of the Viterbo College varsity volleyball team. Okerlund is the daughter of Lee and Becky Okerlund of Northwood.

10 years ago

November 12, 2014

The efforts of the Worth County Beautification Committee continue at the Worth County Fairgrounds, with the arrival of two new statues and the placement of one in its corresponding community. The statue representing Manly is now located near the park area containing Manly's train cars, along Highway 9. The corresponding statue can be found at the fairgrounds along the walking path, just east of the horse arena. The turkey statue can be found north of the horse arena. It's corresponding statue will be placed at a corner of Grafton's downtown main downtown intersection.

The board of the Share Shoppe, located in downtown, made up of representatives from area churches, donated to help feed families in need through the food shelves of Manna of Worth County. Share Shoppe director Mona Pierce is presenting a donation of $1,000 to Manna volunteer Tom Sculley, while Share Shoppe treasurer Joan Doan and Secretary Verna Weitzel look on.

Sarah Odom is serving as a tutor for the 2014-2015 school year at Northwestern College in Orange City, Iowa. Odom is a senior and is majoring in music and writing/rhetoric at Northwestern College. Odom is the daughter of Robert and Dianne Bailey of Northwood.

With the Central Elkader defense plugging the holes in the playoff game, it fell on quarterback Josh Einertson to carry the load. And carry it he did. Einertson rushed for a team high 177 yards and two touchdowns in the Vikings' 44-20 loss. Einertson rushed for 871 yards this season to go along with 522 yards through the air, totaling 1,393 yards and 20 touchdowns.

The NKHS Math Club hosted its first chess tournament of the school year in the library. Many middle school and high school students competed against their peers while a number of students learned the game for the first time. A happy Nick Lombard, put Coleby Bratrud in check mate during the championship round. Lombard won a Math Club T-shirt.

Northwood Anchor

Obituaries

Julie Severtson

Julie Ann Severtson, 76, of Glenville, Minnesota. died peacefully on November 1, 2024, at Thorne Crest of Albert Lea with family by her side, following a six year battle with a rare form of Parkinson's.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, November 16, 2024, at Bayview Freeborn Funeral Home with a visitation to be held an hour prior. Interment will be held at Greenwood cemetery in Glenville following the service.

Julie was born on January 29, 1948, in Albert Lea, the daughter of Hadley and Pearl Harmon. She graduated from Northwood-Kensett High School in 1967. She was united in marriage to Steve Severtson on September 25, 1971 at First Lutheran Church in Northwood. Together they raised two children, Randy and Melanie. Her favorite job was being a homemaker, but she also cleaned houses and was a caregiver for her aunt for many years.

Julie enjoyed many things in life. She loved to camp, garden, do word searches and crochet. She



JULIE SEVERTSON

was an excellent cook and baker. She was always making something new, probably best known for her famous brownies. She enjoyed many fishing trips up North and took many vacations with her husband, kids and grandchildren.

Julie's family was everything to her, and she was everything to them. Julie happily doted on her children and husband their entire life together. She was the ultimate mom, wife and grandma.

The last several years while Julie's illness worsened were not always easy. But she continued to enjoy life. Her family was devoted to helping Julie live life to the fullest her last few years. They took her on many outings, including day trips, afternoon jaunts, scenic drives and time sitting outside enjoying the fresh air, and there was always lots of laughter.

Julie will be greatly missed by her family here on earth, but she is finally reunited with her beloved son, Randy in heaven, and for that we celebrate.

Those left to cherish her memory are her husband of 53 years, Steve Severtson; her daughter, Melanie (Mark) Waters; granddaughter, Kendall (Ricky) Gullickson; grandson, Caleb Waters; great-granddaughter, Raelynn; brother, Keith (Stephanie) Harmon; brother-in-law, Richard Jensen; and nieces, nephews, great-niece and great-nephews and many special cousins.

Julie is preceded in death by her son, Randy; parents, Hadley and Pearl; mother and father-in-law, Marvel and Clayton Severtson; and sister-in-law, Cheryl Jensen.

Water Summary Update: A very dry October concludes with some beneficial rainfall

From the Iowa DNR:

After the driest September in 152 years of records, nearly all of October experienced similar record dry conditions, according to the latest Water Summary Update.

October's preliminary statewide precipitation was 1.90 inches, or 0.79 inches below normal. Total rainfall for September and October was nearly 3.5 inches below normal. Increased rainfall during the last week of October helped prevent worsening drought conditions.

At the end of October, Iowa's Drought Plan showed overall drought conditions have worsened slightly, with all of Iowa carrying a drought watch designation. Statewide temperatures for the month were nearly six degrees warmer than normal. The U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) shows nearly all of Iowa in abnormally dry conditions or drought conditions, with areas of northwest Iowa showing severe drought.

Conditions have improved slightly due to recent rainfall over the past week. Precipitation forecasts from the National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center indicate a likelihood of above-normal rainfall in the upcoming month. If the outlooks hold true, Iowa should show continued improvement in conditions in November.

"Nearly all of October was quite dry, and coming after a record dry September there were real concerns for hydrologic conditions in Iowa. The rains that came during the last week of October, and rains that have continued into early November have really helped improve conditions. The state remains short of rainfall for the fall months, but National Weather Service outlooks are favorable. Continued normal or above normal rain in November and December is critical as we head into the winter months," said Tim Hall, the DNR's Hydrology Resources Coordinator. "If Iowa continues to get rainfall before winter sets in, that will help get next year off to a good start."

For a thorough review of Iowa's water resource trends, visit www.iowadnr.gov/watersummaryupdate.

The report is prepared by technical staff from Iowa DNR, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, IIHR—Hydroscience and Engineering, and the U.S. Geological Survey, in collaboration with Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department.

Bolan

Upcoming on Sunday, November 17, will be the Drive In – Take Out Swiss Steak Dinner at Bolan Trinity UM Church in Bolan, 4214 Tulip Lane, from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m.

This is a free-will donation with the menu being swiss steak, mashed potatoes, home grown sweet corn and squash, coleslaw, plus a homemade chocolate chip cookie. This is a fundraiser for Church restroom upgrade. For questions call Linda Nydegger at 641-420-3048.

There will be a delivery to the front of the Northwood Courthouse at Noon if you call Pam Anderson at 641-324-1102 and reserve a meal by Saturday, November 16.

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The Northwood-Kensett cheerleaders performed their winning routine before their classmates last Friday before they went on to take third place at State the next day.

N-K cheerleaders take win streak to third place at State

Over the course of several weekends, Northwood-Kensett cheerleaders performed in a number of competitions that led them to first place finishes on the way to a top placing at the State competition.

The first event took place at Carlisle High School on October 19. The N-K squad took first place at the event.

The next event took the cheerleaders to Fort Dodge for the Triton Challenge on October 27. It was another first place finish for N-K.

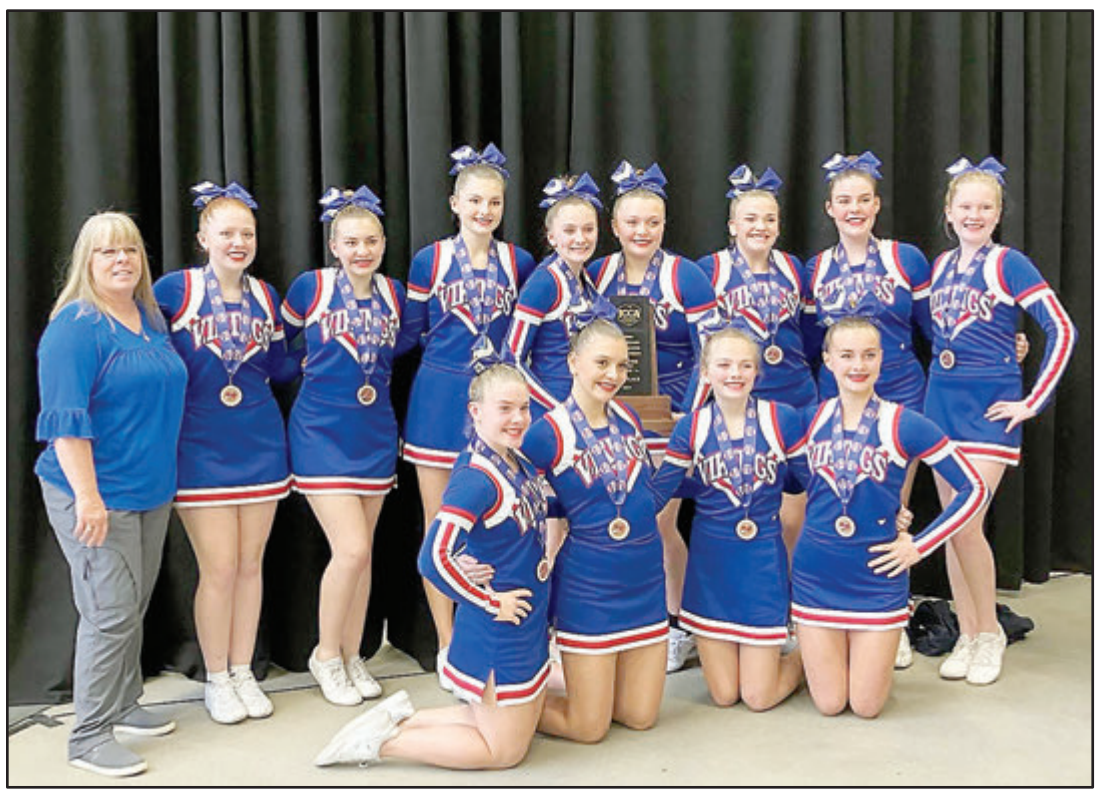
After the two back to back victories, the next event was the State competition. Before they traveled to compete at that event, the cheerleaders performed for the rest of the N-K middle/senior high school students as a send off.

On Saturday, November 2, the N-K cheerleading team traveled to the Iowa State Fairgrounds, where the competed against 16 teams in the class 1A Game Time Spirit division.

After a perfect performance, the N-K cheerleaders took third place.

Cheerleaders on the third place finishing team include Kenedie Berry, Sophia Butler, Topanga Hackenmiller, True Hackenmiller, Lexis McHenry, Camryn Rheingans, Sophie Rye, Quinn Schroeder, Ashlyn Skellenger, MacKensy Tomlinson, Ivy Toresdahl and Emersyn Wahl. Their coach is Cindy Pangburn.

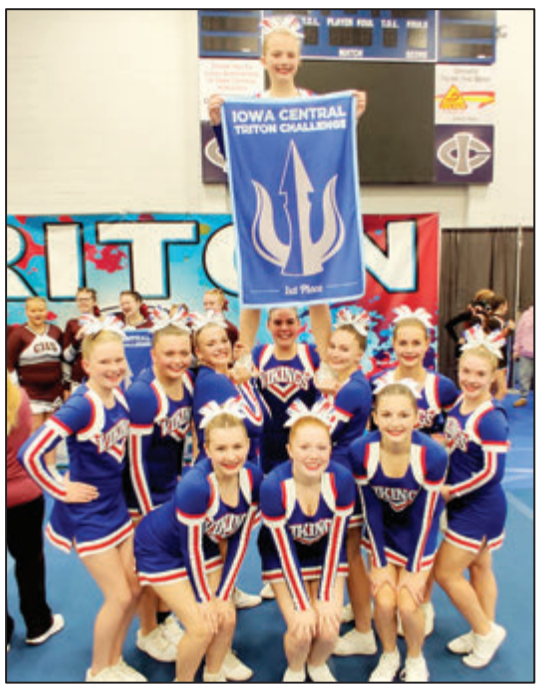
Pangburn said of the team's State success, "I am extremely proud of this squad because of their hard work and commitment to doing the best they could. When they walked off the mat at State after their performance and they hit their routine with zero mistakes they knew they had done their best! It has been a great competition season!"



The N-K cheerleaders placed third at state. Pictured with their medals and trophy are (front row, from left) Lexis McHenry, Ivy Toresdahl, True Hackenmiller, Ashlyn Skellenger, (back row) coach Cindy Pangburn, Camryn Rheingans, Sophia Butler, Sophie Rye, Topanga Hackenmiller, MacKensy Tomlinson, Emersyn Wahl, Kenedie Berry and Quinn Schroeder.



N-K Cheerleaders pictured at the Carlisle competition are (front row, from left) Quinn Schroeder, Camryn Rheingans, Ivy Toresdahl, Sophia Butler, Sophie Rye, (back row) Emersyn Wahl, Kenedie Berry, True Hackenmiller, Topanga Hackenmiller, MacKensy Tomlinson, Ashlyn Skellenger and (top) Lexis McHenry.



N-K cheerleaders pictured at the Triton competition are (front row, from left) Sophia Butler, Camryn Rheingans, Sophie Rye, (back row) MacKensy Tomlinson, Emersyn Wahl, True Hackenmiller, Kenedie Berry, Topanga Hackenmiller, Ashlyn Skellenger, Lexis McHenry and (top) Quinn Schroeder.



N-K third and fourth grade flag football

The 2024 Northwood-Kensett third and fourth grade flag football teams coached by Cody Strand and Tim Christianson included (front row, from left) Abel Wheeler, Evan Krull, Xander Gentz, Sawyer Ogea, Tristan Strand, Cade Hanson, Braxton Batton, Laygen Low, (back row) Isaac Lockey, Tinley Lund, Calvin Christianson, Reese Neilsen, Cayson Amundson, Brekkyn Hengesteg, Beau Anderson, Cole Moretz, Carson Terhune, Julian Davidson and Sophie Hulzhizer. There were two teams. Both finished with four wins and three losses on the season.





N-K Youth Wrestling practice begins

The wrestling season began last week for the young people taking part in the Northwood-Kensett youth wrestling program. Pictured above are coaches and young wrestlers at one of the first practices, held in the wrestling room at the Viking Activity Center.

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