The Northwood Anchor

USPS 398-060
ISSN 8750-922X
Volume 125
Single Copy - $1.00

10 Pages | Wednesday, April 15, 2020 - No. 16 | Northwood, IA 50459

Briefs



Update on the Worth County Fair

From the Worth County Fair Board:

The Fair Board feels the current situation is too fluid to make a final decision on the status of the 2020 Worth Count Fair this far in advance. The board understands projects need to be planned, animals need to be purchased/prepped, and those time and financial commitments are not trivial.

For that reason, we plan to make a final decision on whether or not the Worth County Fair will be held as scheduled by May 15. The board would appreciate your patience as we continue to monitor the current situation, follow the guidelines set forth by federal, state and county officials and we vow to keep everyone informed as more decisions are made.

2020 Young Naturalist Program

Worth County Conservation is sponsoring a Summer Young Naturalist program. The schedule is now open for sign-ups.

Those interested may visit the Worth County Conservation Board Facebook page to find the form or e-mail Dakota at dakota.popp@worthcounty.org.



The Week's WEATHER

by National Weather Service Observer John Podgorniak

Date	Hi	Lo	Prec.
Tues. April 7	55	39	
Wed. April 8	71	39	
Thurs. April 9	51	29	
Fri. April 10	38	23	.23
Sat. April 11	47	44	
Sun. April 12	59	33	
Mon. April 13	33	18	.83



Sunshine to snow

Last Saturday, local farmers west of Northwood were in the fields putting anhydrous on their field with the temperatures in the upper 50s or higher. Sunday came roaring in with sleet and snow, with drastic temperature changes, which put a halt on field work. Looking at the upcoming forecast, the temperatures will be climbing by the weekend.

N-K board discusses learning options, adapting traditions

The N-K school board discussed whether to require learning options, as well as alternate and delayed traditions and ceremonies as the COVID-19 keeps the district's facilities closed to students.

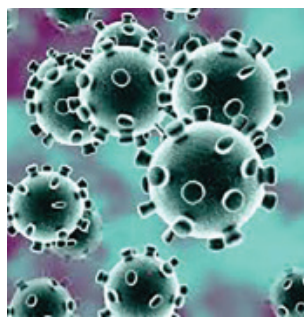
The Northwood-Kensett Board of Education had a decision to make at their meeting last Thursday, that being whether or not the district's students would be required to participate in online and distance learning through the month of April.

As the State of Iowa extended school closures through April 30, they set in place a deadline of April 10 for the state's schools to make a decision on whether or not alternate education options would be required. If the school made no decision by the deadline, the district would have to make up the time between April 13, the state's previous school closure date, and April 30.

The Iowa Department of Education had provided districts with three options, to continue as is, making participation in online and distance learning voluntary; to make those learning options man-

N-K, see Page 2

First COVID-19 case confirmed in Worth County



Worth County's first case of COVID-19 was made official last week, announced by Worth County Public Health. And while confirmation of the virus' presence may be alarming, public health officials stressed that the same prevention methods that have been in place for weeks remain the best way to avoid the effects of the coronavirus.

On April 7, Worth County Public Health officials confirmed that a case of the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been confirmed in a resident of Worth County.

According to WCPH, the individual with the COVID-19 diagnosis is someone in the 41-60

COVID-19, see Page 2

Clean Up Days start April 22

The City of Northwood's annual opportunity to help residents clean up homes begins next Wednesday with the twice a year Clean Up Days.

The City will provide dumpsters for Northwood residents at the Northwood city yard, located on the east side of Northwood along Highway 105.

Clean Up Days are intended for discardable items that would not be icked up through nor-ıal garbage collection, ıeaning regular day-to-ay garbage will not be ccepted.

Other items that will ot be accepted include ɔmputers and accesso-ies, construction ebris, tires, batteries, aint, hazardous and flammable items and fluorescent light bulbs and tubes.

Appliance pick up will take place during the fall clean up days in October.

In addition to the items being accepted by the City of Northwood, containers will be available at the site for those that wish to dispose of scrap metal and automotive batteries. Those items will be sold, with proceeds donated to the Relay For Life of Worth County.

The City is asking that the public not remove any items from the dumpsters during clean up week.

The dumpsters at the Northwood City Yard will be open on Wednesday, April 22, and Friday, April 24, from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.; on Thursday, April 23, from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; and on Saturday, April 25, from 8 a.m. to noon.

The following week the City will pick up piles of brush trimmings throughout the city.

More information is available by contacting Northwood City Hall at 324-1075.

A number of the items not accepted during clean up days may be disposed of at the Worth County Recycle Center.

All Worth County residents may dispose of used tires without rims, old appliances, waste oil and scrap metal.

Clean up, see Page 2



A 'Picture of Hope'

The opportunity to get out and enjoy spring weather was appreciated in recent weeks. And for some that has brought some of the beautiful sights of spring. That included Suzie Reyerson, who took this picture, labeled "Picture of Hope." Reyerson took the picture from the downtown parking lot that overlooks Swensrud Park and the Northwood Civic Center.

LRH keeps active — See Page 5

N-K
Cont. from Page 1

datory; or to vary those choices by grade. Voluntary classes would not count for grades or credits. Required classes would.

Secondary principal Keith Fritz said that people at most of the other schools he's talked to would be sticking with the voluntary classes. Crozier added that, of the 53 public school districts in the Central Rivers Area Education Agency, 46 were staying with voluntary classes. N-K's administrators recommended to the board that they do the same.

Fritz and Crozier noted that the resources available to students are not the same at home and it would be a challenge to require work and provide all students the same level of educational opportunities as a result.

As to how much participation there has been thus far, Fritz said that roughly 60% of the junior high students were taking part in classes while 45-50% were at the high school. Elementary principal Brian Costello did not have numbers, but characterized the participation amongst the students with laptops, those in grades 4-6, as high. He also said that parents of those in grades K-3 had shared that they were appreciative of the homework sent to them.

The N-K school board voted to continue with the voluntary option, which will be in effect until April 30, which is the current end date of the school closures in Iowa. Crozier said that if that is extended the board will meet again to decide whether or not to close out the school year with required learning or continue with volunteer classes.

It was also mentioned that if the school does not re-open and the district doesn't switch to required learning, there may be opportunities for students who did not have a passing grade before schools shut down to do additional work to raise their GPA and get credit for those classes.

In regards to the potential re-opening on May 1, Crozier was asked what the district's options would be if they didn't think it was safe.

Crozier said that, speaking hypothetically, the district would have to make up any dates after the state allows schools to open again.

As to what the district's response would be if a parent kept their children home, Crozier said that the school's staff would have to be understanding and would work with concerned parents.

Fritz shared information on what is being considered for activities that would normally be held in April and in May, should the district remain closed through the school year.

Fritz explained that there are two activities that will have to be delayed, that would normally be held or begin in April.

Fritz said that driver's education classes will be delayed until gatherings of 30 or more are allowed at the schools.

In regards to prom, Fritz said that the tentative plan is to hold the ceremony in the middle of June.

The other ceremony that the district may have look at alternatives for is graduation.

Fritz said that surveys were sent to the families of N-K seniors with three options for commencement exercises. One would be to delay the ceremony until midsummer, assuming large groups would be allowed by then. Another option would be to hold a ceremony in mid-May, but to hold a senior parade, with seniors wearing gowns and caps and decorating their vehicles while driving through Northwood and Kensett before driving by to pick up diplomas. The other option would be to invite all the seniors back to receive diplomas as a part of the next school year's homecoming week.

Fritz added that the school will be in contact with the seniors' families once they know whether or not the school will reopen in May.

In one other piece of business, the school board voted to continue paying hourly employees through the end of the school year, roughly the end of May, regardless of whether the school opens and they can get back to work.

Clean up
Cont. from Page 1

There are fees associated with disposing of tires and appliances. Waste oil, scrap metal and computer towers are accepted at no charge.

More information on the Worth County Recycle Center, including hours of operation and fees, is available at the Worth County website, www.worthc ounty.org, under the departments link at the top of the page, or by calling the Recycle Center at 641-845-2200.

COVID-19
Cont. from Page 1

year old age range. They are currently self-isolating at home.

"While this is Worth County's first case, it may not be the last, and that's why we encourage all residents to continue to make prevention a priority," said Jessica Reyerson, Worth County Public Health Director.

As for neighboring counties, as of press time on Monday, there were officially 13 cases in Cerro Gordo, 2 cases in Mitchell, 2 cases in Winnebago and 24 cases in Freeborn County in Minnesota.

WCPH echoed the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control:

• Washing hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds each time.

• Covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue or elbow/upper arm.

• Staying home when ill.

According to information shared by WCPH, approximately 80% of Iowans infected with COVID-19 will experience only a mild to moderate illness. Most mildly ill Iowans do not need to go to their healthcare provider or be tested to confirm they have COVID-19. Sick Iowans must stay home and isolate themselves from others in their house.

The guidelines for when to stay home and isolate from others in the house last until:

• The person feeling ill has had no fever for at least 72 hours, or three full days, without the use of any medicine that would reduce a fever; and

• all other symptoms have improved; and

• at least seven days have passed since any symptoms first appeared.

Those that think they may need additional healthcare should call a doctor first. Medical providers will assess whether someone needs to be seen in the office or if they can recover at home. There may also be options for people to talk to a medical provider from home using technology.

Up-to-date information on COVID-19 is available at the Iowa Department of Public Health website, online at, idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus and by following the department on Facebook @IowaDepartmentofPublicHealth and on Twitter at @IAPublicHealth.

Senior Moments

By Sandy Olson

Things in the lives of Northwood area seniors have certainly changed a LOT since last month.

We are now at home most of the time to stay safe and healthy so the Northwood Senior Center is closed for all activities, including Congregate Meals. Meals on Wheels, however, is continuing to deliver hot lunches to those who order them and there is a fund in place to pay for meals if someone cannot afford the cost of a weekly/monthly plan.

Please call Judy at the Center at 324-1244 between 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. to sign up and let her know if you will be asking for help to pay for the meals. Please don't be reluctant to ask; this is not the time to let pride get in the way of being well-nourished and safe until better days arrive.

Although the Senior Center building is closed for activities, it's not sitting still. There is a new remodeling project underway and when it re-opens it will be with fresh new paint, better lighting, more natural light from the window in the front of the building with additional improvements to come.

It's the goal of the Board of Directors as well as the Activity Committee that Northwood have a friendly, cheerful and happy place for those over age 60 to eat, play, learn and come together as a community. Northwood has not had this type of a Senior Center in the past so it takes a bit of getting used to but it's the hope of all concerned that men and women will come to enjoy the friendship, fellowship and fun we have planned for the future.

Keep watching for the grand re-opening after the current health crisis is over.

Kenison Publishing, Inc.
Publishers of
The Northwood Anchor
USPS 398-060
Kris Kenison,
Publisher
Ph. 641-324-1051
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anchor1@nwdanchor.com

The Northwood Anchor, USPS 398-600, published every Wednesday for $38.00 and $46.00 per year by Kenison Publishing, Inc., 801 Central Ave., P.O. Box 107, Northwood, IA 50459. Periodical postage paid at Northwood, IA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Northwood Anchor, Box 107, Northwood, IA 50459.

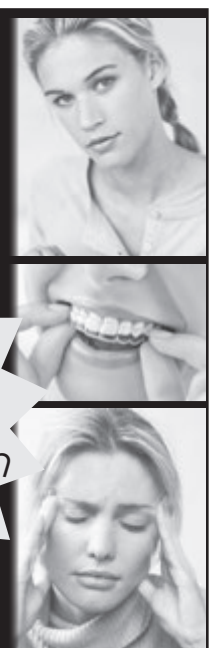
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Northwood City Clean Up Days

April 22 - 25



The City of Northwood will provide Dumpsters for Northwood Residents Discardable Items at the Northwood City Yard

Located on Highway 105 East

Open Wednesday, April 22 from 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Open Thursday, April 23 from 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Open Friday, April 24 from 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday, April 25 from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Assistance available by calling City Hall at 641-324-1075.

The City does NOT authorize the public to remove discarded items from the dumpsters.



RULES: Regular day-to-day garbage will not be accepted.
Following items will not be accepted: Computers & Accessories; Construction Debris; Tires; Batteries; Paint; Hazardous & Flammable Items; Fluorescent tubes/bulbs.

Appliances will be collected in October.

In addition, the City will be picking up brush trimmings in the following weeks.

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Absentee voting for primary begins April 23

The absentee voting period will begin next Thursday, April 23, for the primary election that will be held on Tuesday, June 2.

With COVID-19 a concern, the Iowa Secretary of State's office has extended the time for absentee voting to encourage Iowans to take advantage of the alternative to voting in person.

The absentee voting period has been extended to 40 days for those that will vote by mail in the primary. The extension allows more time to send in ballots and allows county auditors more time to process votes.

The absentee voting period for mailed ballots in the June primary will begin next Thursday, April 23.

The Secretary of State's office planned to mail absentee ballot request forms to all Iowans in advance of the absentee voting timeframe. The forms will include prepaid postage for return mailing to county auditors.

Iowans can request absentee ballots through May 22. County auditors will begin mailing ballots on April 23.

For the first time, Iowans who are 17 years old and will be 18 by November 3 can vote in the June primary.

Iowans can register to vote online or download a printable voter registration form at sos.iowa.gov/registertovote.

Polling sites will be open for the June 2 primary election, but many will be combined with other precincts. Voters should check with their county auditor before going to the polls. That and other voting information will also be printed in the Northwood Anchor.

Curbside voting is an option for Iowans with disabilities, those who might have trouble entering a polling place and Iowans who are in the Center for Disease Control's at-risk population for COVID-19.

Iowans can download a printable absentee ballot request form online at sos.iowa.gov/elections/pdf/absenteeballotapp.pdf.

More information is available online at VoterReady.Iowa.gov.



Making room for new rooms

This home on the corner of 10th Street South and First Avenue South was recently demolished to make room for new construction. It is one of two properties on the street that will soon have new residences in place, with another house in the beginning phases on the corner of First Avenue South and Eighth Street South.

Minnesota Stay at Home order extended through May 4

Minnesota's Stay at Home order has been extended, keeping residents of the state in their homes through Monday, May 4.

The Stay at Home order issued by Minnesota Governor Tim Walz previously expired on April 10, before an extension was issued last week.

"What we are doing is working, Minnesota," said Walz last Wednesday. "We are taking this seriously, and we are staying home. While Minnesota is showing lower rates of infections than our peers across the country, now is not the time to let up or allow that trajectory to change. Updated federal guidance and our own public health experts are showing that if we keep staying home, we will save lives – which is why I made the data-driven decision to extend the Stay Home Order until May 4."

The Governor's order to stay home is intended to slow the spread of COVID-19, push out the peak of the disease and allow the state to continue key preparations for the pandemic. These preparations include building new hospital capacity and buying ventilators and masks, planning for how to protect those most at risk, expanding testing and freeing up time for the development of treatments for the virus.

The Stay Home Order is now extended to 11:59 pm on May 3, 2020.

The extension includes the ongoing closure of bars, restaurants and other public accommodations and outlines exemptions to the Stay Home Order, including exempted activities and critical sector workers.

Under the extended order, Minnesotans may leave their residences only for a select few activities, including:

- Relocating from an unsafe home environment;
- For health and safety activities;
- To take part in outdoor activities, while observing social distancing guidelines;
- To obtain necessary supplies such as groceries, food and fuel;
- Traveling into and out of the state;
- Taking care of family, friends and pets in other homes;
- Those that move between shelters if they have no home;
- Those that are moving to a new home or residence;
- To vote;
- To attend funerals, and only of there are 10 or less taking part; and
- Tribal activities.

Minnesotans are also allowed to leave their homes if they work in critical fields and can't work from home. Critical sectors include:

- The minimum basic operations of a business, such as maintaining inventory, payroll, etc.;
- Health care and public health;
- Law enforcement, public safety and first responders;
- Food and agriculture;
- Energy;
- Transportation and logistics;
- Public works and infrastructure support services;
- Communications and information technology, including news media;
- Other community-based government operations and essential functions;
- Critical manufacturing;
- Hazardous materials;
- Financial services;
- Chemical;
- Defense industrial base;
- Commercial facilities/essential supply stores;
- Residential/shelter facilities and services;
- Laundry and hygiene products and services;
- Tribal governments;
- Government employees;
- Faith leaders and workers working to provide electronic and alternative means of services;
- Education;
- Construction and critical trades;
- Childcare providers;
- Hotels, residential facilities, and shelters;
- Charitable and social services organizations;
- Legal services;
- Critical labor union functions;
- Animal care and veterinarians; and
- Real estate transactions.

Did you know?

By Ann Hendrickson



"Remembering our roots keeps us down to earth."

The members of the Worth County Historical Society deal with, think about, work around, discuss, take care of, provide information, receive phone calls and involve ourselves in the community, to preserve the memories given us. We keep the "roots" of heritage alive.

Area residents are "down to earth" in their lives, their actions and their thoughts. We can take a lesson from a woodpecker to "use our heads" when it comes to preservation of the past. As we live through uncertain days, our strong history and heritage will carry us through when remembering our "roots" and the strong descendants we have.

Not everyone is interested in preserving the past as those who are involved with historical artifacts and stories. (Honest! We won't hold that against you.)

The Historical Society members will just continue working to preserve the past as we continue to enjoy the present. We invite you to join us.

Until next time…

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Patients and visitors required to wear masks when at Mayo facilities

As the COVID-19 pandemic evolves, Mayo Clinic Health System continues to assess and adjust practices to best protect the safety of patients, visitors and staff.

As of Monday, April 13, patients and visitors will be required to wear a personal homemade or cloth mask while on any Mayo property and are highly encouraged to bring their own cloth masks to help conserve the supply of surgical masks for front-line medical staff. For those that do not have a mask, Mayo Clinic Health System will provide one. Visitor restrictions will remain in place until further notice with few exceptions.

This decision is based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Mayo Clinic experts.

Patients and visitors will see staff providing direct patient care wearing surgical masks. In procedural areas, additional personal protective equipment will be worn by staff, according to Infection Prevention and Control guidelines. This additional equipment may include eye protection. Staff working in non-patient care areas also may be wearing a mask.



Light up Iowa

Northwood-Kensett will join other schools and athletic directors around the state of the Iowa in a program called "Light Up Iowa" by lighting up athletic facilities at 8 p.m. each Friday night. Starting on Friday, April 17, at 8 p.m. they will turn on lights to show students, athletes and fans that they are missed, that they'll be back in stadiums competing and the coronavirus will not defeat us. "Be safe and keep practicing the social distancing guidelines so that we can fill those stadiums sooner than later, thanks. Go Vikings."

ISU Extension and Outreach Week celebrates always serving Iowans

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Week is April 13-18. Although this year's celebration is taking place virtually given the COVID-19 pandemic, as Iowa's 100 county extension offices will be thanking Iowans for their support of extension efforts throughout the state to build a strong Iowa.

"While many things have changed drastically for Iowans in recent weeks, one thing that has not changed is ISU Extension and Outreach's commitment to serving all Iowans," said Vice President for Extension and Outreach John Lawrence.

"For over 100 years, we have been engaging all Iowans in research, education and extension experiences to address real-life challenges. We are prioritizing the health and safety of our staff, faculty and communities and are following public health and Iowa State University guidance. While our in-person contact is limited during this challenging time, our service to our communities and all Iowans continues. We support what Iowans value: a strong Iowa," Lawrence said.

For example, Iowans value clean water, so ISU Extension and Outreach educates farmers and agribusinesses. They learn about soil health, proper manure storage and application, nutrient retention, safe crop input application and more so they can protect the environment.

Iowans value a safe food supply, so ISU Extension and Outreach educates foodservice professionals with ServSafe, a certified food protection manager course. Participants are well qualified to implement essential food safety practices in food service establishments in local communities.

Iowans value sound rural economies, so ISU Extension and Outreach builds skills in business owners, entrepreneurs, volunteers and other local leaders and government officials. They are improving their capacity to increase community economic development.

Iowans value young people ready to lead, so ISU Extension and Outreach reaches K-12 youth through 4-H. These programs prepare youth for higher education and careers as they build STEM, communication, leadership and other skills.

ISU Extension and Outreach is part of the federal Cooperative Extension Service — a nationwide network of land-grant institutions, including Iowa State University, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture serving communities and counties across the United States. Every county in Iowa has an elected extension council that decides how to support ISU Extension and Outreach educational programs at the county level.

More information about ISU Extension and Outreach is available online at www.extension.iastate.edu or by contacting a county ISU Extension and Outreach office.

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LRH works to keep seniors active and connected, despite COVID precautions

By Scott Halbach, M.H.A., Administrator, Lutheran Retirement Home, Northwood Pines Assisted Living, Maple Court Independent Living Apartments





The COVID-19 virus has changed the way the world thinks about a great many things. The uncertainty of the virus has many people concerned and frightened. This has been a very unique situation that will most certainly change many things that we take for granted. This fast-moving virus has been shown to affect all age groups but the most vulnerable are those over 60 and those with underlying health and respiratory issues.

In an effort to protect the community at the Lutheran Retirement Home, Pines Assisted Living and Maple Court, residents continue to be under flu lock down protocols since we enacted the policy on March 11.

This means we cannot allow visitors into the building for the safety of our residents. As we continue to receive guidance from federal and state governments it is clear that the current lock down situation will continue through the month of April.

The lock down protocol enacted by the government is making many things more difficult, but staff and residents continue to make the best of this situation.

Since we are currently unable to serve our residents as a group in our dining room, residents have begun to enjoy their meals in their rooms. Several members of the staff now look forward to the opportunity to pitch in and deliver a meal and enjoy a one-on-one conversation.

We can no longer host group activities, so the staff are being even more creative with ways to promote some social interactions while still maintaining the required safe distancing. Some group activities residents enjoy the most have been modified, such as bingo. Instead of bringing everyone into the dining room, residents are provided with a tray table in the doorway to their room with everything they need to play along while staff call the numbers aloud on a karaoke machine in the hallway. Residents have also been able to sit in their doorways to participate in sing-a-longs.

Residents continue to enjoy one-on-one activities like crafts, painting and manicures. Sometimes these individual visits are in the comfort of their rooms, and other times they can go into the activities room to enjoy a change of scenery.

As the weather continues to improve, staff have been able to take residents on outdoor courtyard walks, which have been very popular.

Family and friends are encouraged to stay in contact with their loved ones here at the Retirement Home, Pines and Maple Court throughout this pandemic. Most of our residents are used to routinely hearing from family and friends and we don't want that to stop. Here's a few suggestions of ways to work within these safety restrictions:

A traditional phone call is always nice, but we are happy to share that an Apple iPad has been gifted to our home through the LRH Auxiliary enabling families to visit virtually with their loved ones through Skype or Facetime (contact the Activity Department for details). It will put a smile on their face! Also, we are still allowing cards, letters and deliveries of flowers, candy, etc., so don't hesitate to send something through the mail or call ahead to make a delivery at our front door.

Staff here continue to utilize infection control protocols to minimize the potential for community spread of the virus. All resident and staff interactions involve staff wearing masks, with our nursing and housekeeping staff also wearing gloves and protective eyewear throughout their shifts.

As this situation continues to develop, all of us will likely know of someone who will contract the virus. We will continue to strictly follow infection control policies in order to protect our seniors. This virus has proven that even the best precautions may not be enough to avoid an encounter, so we all need to work together and be extra diligent.

Even though our residents do not leave the building, our staff still need to go home, get groceries, etc. They are practicing social distancing when outside the facilities but need your help. For the social distancing plan to work EVERYONE must participate!

Please do your part to help our community stay healthy so we have a better chance of staff being there to keep our residents healthy. By working together, we can all reduce our chances of contracting the virus. We have an obligation not only to ourselves, but our families, friends, co-workers and community at large.

We are all frustrated by the limitations currently in place, but we can still find joy in knowing your elderly loved ones are being cared for in the best way possible.

We would like to extend a thank you to all the community members who have donated homemade masks, they are being utilized daily by staff and are really helping with the shortage of supplies that we face. We would also like to thank The Flower Forager and those of you who have donated money for flowers for our residents, they really help brighten residents' days and remind us that Spring really is here!

Stay safe!





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Former schoolhouses in Northwood

Information was recently posted on Facebook by the Forgotten Iowa Historical Society that shared the location of 10 former rural schoolhouses that were relocated into Northwood and, for the most part, turned into homes. The Anchor is sharing a current look at these homes, along with information from the Historical Society. Pictured at top is the home located at 303 10th Street North, which is the former Grover No. 3 schoolhouse, also known as the Rustad School. Pictured below is the former Grove No. 1 school, also referred to as the McWilhy School, now a home at 507 10th Street North.

Stay safe during this spring fishing season



As temperatures warm up this spring, many Iowans are wondering if they can still fish in light of the COVID-19 health emergency. The answer is yes, but only if they be careful and responsible.

Iowa's ponds, rivers and streams are open for fishing, and all regulations and license options are unchanged. However, it's important to abide by the physical distancing protocols recommended by the state to help stop the spread of COVID-19, along with other protocols.

People can keep their family safe when fishing this spring with these tips:

Try a new fishing spot — if a regular fishing location is popular and busy, try out a new one where less people are fishing. People can find a list of dozens of easy-to-get-to stocked lakes and ponds in parks and along trails at www.iowadnr.gov/fishlocal.

Once a person finds a spot, keep at least six feet of distance between people and other groups.

Stick with the immediate family, but keep groups to fewer than 10 people.

Bring lures from home instead of buying bait to minimize interaction with other people.

Bring hand sanitizer and wash hands often.

Buy a fishing license online (if anyone hasn't already) at GoOutdoorsIowa.com — download it right away and print at home or store it on a phone.

MercyOne Care Management teams redirect work to meet needs of at-risk Iowans during COVID-19

MercyOne, one of Iowa's largest health care systems, is working to ensure the needs of those at-risk for COVID-19 are being met through personalized phone calls. MercyOne's Population Health Services Organization has redirected the focus of 70 MercyOne colleagues to proactively reach out to at-risk patients to ensure their needs are being met during this difficult time. The team is working to connect with more than 1,000 patients daily.

"The outreach to help patients stay well is directly in-line with our Mission – to serve as a healing ministry of Jesus Christ to transform the health of our communities," said Bob Ritz, MercyOne President and CEO. "Much has changed due to COVID-19 across the world as well as in our health system, but we remain fully committed to providing personalized care for all those in need."

MercyOne Care Management team members individually call patients who have a chronic condition, including heart failure (CHF), COPD, diabetes, end stage renal disease or hypertension. During the conversation, the MercyOne team members assist the individuals with:

- Assessing if they have any COVID-19 symptoms
- Reviewing medication and medical device instructions, supply and delivery
- Inquiring about food supply and access
- Checking for a safe and secure living environment
- Ensuring access to virtual care or transportation is available for medical appointments
- Confirming access to a support network if an unexpected need were to arise
- Supporting overall mental health and providing resources if the patient is fearful or anxious

"Through these conversations, we are able to connect patients with community resources, schedule virtual or in-person visits with their health care providers and offer a personal connection," said Derek Novak, President, MercyOne Population Health Services Organization. "Our team was able to pivot our work quickly and adapt existing technologies to reach at-risk patients multiple times to help ensure they continue to successfully manage health conditions to stay well."



MercyOne North Iowa shared one example of helping reduce COVID-19 exposure. "In a recent follow up call with a patient we discussed ideas on how to obtain groceries without going into the store," said Gretchen Stone, CMA and health navigator. "We went over some options local grocery stores are offering for either pick up or delivery. Sometimes just brainstorming with patients about how to practice safe social distancing while taking care of normal, everyday tasks is helpful. We want them to know we are here to help and they are not alone in this crisis situation."

In addition to personalized calls to patients at-risk, MercyOne has expanded its Virtual Visit capabilities in light of the COVID-19 crisis. A Virtual Visit allows a patient to meet with their MercyOne primary care or specialty provider through a secure, HIPAA compliant video chat without leaving the comfort and security of their home. Individuals are encouraged to call their provider's office to find out if virtual visits are appropriate for their condition. Learn more at www.MercyOne.org/virtualvisits.

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God's Plan for You



Human beings are social animals, and this fact is easily observed by noticing how we thrive in groups, how readily we help each other, and how we naturally teach and learn from each other. Conversely, we often struggle when we are alone, we are instinctively repulsed by antisocial behavior, and we require a long period of education and socialization to become fully functioning adults. All of this points to something important: our lives have meaning and value to the extent that we are contributing to the common good. Someone who is wallowing in addiction, for instance, cannot believe that God created them to just drink or use drugs all day. People who are unemployed often struggle with depression because they know that they aren't contributing to society through their labor. Oftentimes the best thing for the unemployed to do while seeking a job is to go out and do some volunteer work. This will give them a sense of worth, and might even lead to employment. God has a plan for all of us, and it is always, in one way or another, to serve our fellow creatures. The specific plan is not, however, written in stone, and must be discovered, even created, by each of us as we work through our lives. Some people know at an early age what they are destined to do and be. Many more of us struggle with this at every stage of our lives. But no matter where we are in life's journey, we must work faithfully towards fulfilling God's plan. – Christopher Simon

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." – Jeremiah 29:11 NIV

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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

Das Dutchman Essenhaus is a huge Amish buffet restaurant in Middlebury, Indiana. We enjoyed a meal there while visiting Shipshewanna, Indiana, in the same "neighborhood." Because of the popularity of the restaurant and the requests for recipes for the food they served, the owners, Bob and Sue Miller, had a series of three large cookbooks published. They also included personal recipes from the restaurant staff. Years later they also published mini-books with some of the most popular recipes inside. "Main Dishes: Recipe Sampler from the Amish-Country Cookbook Series" (2000, Evangel Publishing House, Nappanee, Inidana) is one of those smaller books. The following recipes are adapted from that collection of "plain cooking."

Bachelor's Surprise
Jon Helmuth, host/waiter

2 pounds lean ground beef
1 can (15 oz.) stewed tomatoes
4 cups Minute Rice®
1/2 cup canned cut green beans
1/2 cup diced yellow onion
1 can pork and beans
Optional: dash of catsup, mustard, hot sauce.
Grated cheese for topping

Brown the beef in a large heavy pan, breaking it up into small pieces. Drain away any grease if necessary. Add all the rest of the ingredients and stir to combine well. Season as desired, cover and simmer for 30 minutes. Add grated cheese when ready to serve. Serves 4-5 people OR I bachelor for a week!

Chipped Beef Casserole
Edna Fern Schmucker, pie baker

1/4 pound chipped beef, cut up.
SANDY'S NOTE: use dried beef from the deli or chipped beef in a jar if you can find it.
2 hard-boiled eggs, cut up
1 can cream of mushroom soup
1 cup milk
2 tablespoons grated onion
1 cup uncooked elbow macaroni
2 cups shredded Cheddar

Mix the soup and the milk together in a large mixing bowl. Add the rest of the ingredients and combine well. Cover and refrigerate overnight. When ready to cook, preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Pour the casserole mixture into a greased 2 quart casserole dish. Bake, uncovered, for 30 minutes or until hot. Test to see that the macaroni has cooked through. Makes 4-6 servings.

Oven Barbequed Steaks
Martha Miller, cook

3 pounds round steak, 3/4" thick
3/4 cups water
1/2 cup chopped yellow onion
1 tablespoon brown sugar
2 tablespoons vegetable oil
3/4 cup catsup
1 tablespoon prepared mustard
1/2 cup cider vinegar
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon black pepper

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Cut steak into 10 equal portions. In a large, heavy skillet, heat the oil. Brown each piece of steak on both sides, doing them in batches so they brown and not steam in their liquid. Transfer the steak pieces to a large roaster. Add the onion to the oil in the skillet and brown lightly, Add the rest of the ingredients to make a barbeque sauce; simmer for 5 minutes. Pour this sauce over the steak. Cover the roaster and bake for 2 hours or until the meat is tender. Serves 8-10 people depending upon how hungry they are.

Baked Potato Wedges
Alice Risser, Dutch County Gifts, cashier

5-6 russet potatoes, scrubbed and cut into wedges
2 tablespoons Parmesan cheese
1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon paprika
1/2 teaspoon black pepper
1/2 cup vegetable oil

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F. Arrange the potato wedges skin side down in a shallow baking dish. Mix the remaining ingredients and brush or pour over the potatoes, Bake for 45 minutes; test for tenderness.

If you ever in the vicinity of Middlebury, Indiana, I highly recommend this restaurant. The choices on the buffet are many; the food is well prepared and tasty. Life is good in Amish culinary circles. And…that's all she wrote.

Welcome baby Skellenger

Grace Skellenger and James Munson are proud to announce the arrival of their daughter. Mackenzie Jo Skellenger was born on Wednesday, March 18, 2020, at 1:49 p.m. at MercyOne in Mason City.

She weighed seven pounds seven ounces and was 20.5 inches long.

Grandparents are Shelly Krafka-Skellenger of Northwood, Mike Skellenger of Clear Lake and Romie Williams of Joice.



MACKENZIE JO SKELLENGER

Great-grandparents are Sharon and Dean Krafka of Northwood, Marilyn and Ron Skellenger of Northwood and Lucinda and Bill Grouette of Mason City.

ISU Extension finances of caregiving workshop series held from Apr. 30-May 28

The Worth County Extension Office will be offering an online financial management program designed for those individual adults caring for older loved ones.

The program will be a virtual Zoom program and it is being held on Thursdays from 2 to 3:30 p.m. beginning Thursday, April 30, through May 28. The total registration fee is $5 for the five week course.

Those interested may find more information about the meeting and get enrolled by calling Lacey Waller, Worth County Extension Office Manager, or Worth County Extension Education Specialist Dennis Johnson at 641-324-1531.

Northwood Anchor Society

Reflections on the new normal

By JoAnn Lower

A peek into the lives of folks living the new normal – kids and grown-ups.



Aubrey Johnson, daughter of Matt and Morgan Johnson, is really enjoying Storyline, an online program where celebrities read picture books. Her brother Caleb is busy with schoolwork, online math games and reading. As a family the Johnsons are going on nature walks and riding bikes.

"We're not playing in the parks," said Morgan. "We adhere to social distancing."

Haddie and Hallie Hanson love being at home. Their days are filled with schoolwork, eating lunch together, jumping on the trampoline, playing volleyball and tumbling in the backyard.

On April 1 (April Fools Day) their mom told them that school would start the next day. How disappointed they were at finding out this was a joke.

They miss their friends. Even though many of Hattie's friends are having play dates, she is not allowed to join them.

Before this, Mitch, our fire chief, and Jess, who works at Schroeder & Sites, talked about slowing down but never did. Now they are.

"We're doing more as a family," said Jess. "We bake a lot, cook and go on nature walks. We play games and every night drive out into the countryside. I really think God is giving us this chance to be at home – just the four of us."

Kathy and Jim Hanson:

"Jim and I have already cooked the ham for our Easter dinner. We usually have a family dinner at Easter, but this year it will be just the two of us.

"Instead of having the annual Easter egg hunt for our grandkids, we will put candies, quarters and little gifts in gift bags and leave them on their doorsteps.

"Now instead of coming in for a visit, our kids and grandkids stand on the patio, and we wave at each other. We don't get hugs from the little ones, but we're communicating through video chats, where we laugh a lot and create memes.

"It's an adjustment for everyone of every age," said Kathy. "One day our little granddaughter Hilde asked, 'When can we touch each other again?'"

Nancy Amundson has taken this time to clean her attic. After discovering forgotten bags of discarded clothes, she has decided to donate them.

"I will send the clothes to my daughter Heather in St. Paul, who will distribute them to homeless shelters where the need is great."

Funeral directors of Northwood:

Schroeder & Sites:

"Funerals are always a difficult time for families. But when the immediate family consists of more than 10 people and only 10 people are allowed at a service, most are choosing cremation, even though that's not their first choice. In that case, the service will be at a later time – no set date," said Jess.

"We have had two graveside services where only eight people were allowed to attend. Adding the pastor and funeral director makes 10.

"Hospitals allow no visitors. Hospice, however, allows three family members to be at the bedside of their loved one."

Conner Colonial Chapel & Crematory:

"We are just taking it one day at a time, trying our best to follow family wishes as well as the guidelines of allowing only 10 people.

"We're stuck in a hard spot. I don't like having to say no to a family. The protections are good, but it doesn't make the grieving process any easier.

"I never realized how much of a physical person I am," said Megan Ott. "Giving hugs, a pat on the shoulder, a gentle touch on the back, are ways I give my support, but they are not an option any more.

"At the funeral home we stay in our respective places, but I miss having a cup of coffee with people and chatting for a while. We have to take care of each other. We are treading through all of this together, but it's very lonely."

Thoughts from this reporter:

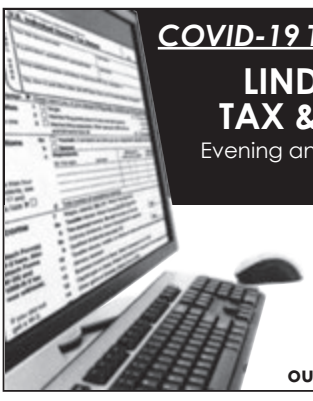
We are not used to being inconvenienced. And although social distancing and being homebound are difficult, let us remember the blessings we so often take for granted – heat, water, electricity, food and the ability to connect with those we love on the phone or through social media.

The other day as I left Fallgatter's with my car's back seat filled with everything I needed, but lost in my own self-centeredness, I happened upon the saddest of sights. I named her Lilliana.

Little Lilliana is just one of the many forgotten kitties in our community. No food, water or shelter, no one to care for her.

While we are isolated in our homes with all this virus stuff going on, what a perfect time to do something good.

Let's reach out to these little lost souls and care for them.



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Manly All School Reunion to be held on June 7

The Manly All School Reunion for the Hanlontown Redhawks, Manly Railroaders, Plymouth Pirates, North Central Falcons and Central Springs Panthers will be held on Sunday, June 7, 2020, at the Central Springs High School in Manly.

The Class of 1970 will be honored for its 50th reunion. Attendees do not need to be graduates of the schools, but need to have attended (or taught) at one of the schools prior to 2019.

The registration and coffee social will take place from 10 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. A buffet meal will be served at 12:30 p.m. The cost is $20 per person and checks may be made payable to the Manly All School Reunion and mailed to P.O. Box 31, Lake Mills, IA 50450 no later than Monday, May 11, 2020.

People planning to attend should indicate their name, graduating class, and choice of portabella mushroom chicken or roast beef. A short program will follow the meal until 2:30 p.m.

Registration/invitation forms may also be found at the Manly Public Library and the Manly Town Hall.

Supervisors

April 6, 2020
Fifteenth Day

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

This was an electronic meeting pursuant to Iowa Code section 21.8 – In circumstances where such a meeting is impossible or impractical due to concerns about COVID-19 and social distancing for the safety of board members and the public. Public access was made available by computer or telephone.

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, Abrams and Smeby. Nays: none. Abstentions: none. Absent: none.

Motion by Smeby, second by Abrams, carried to approve the April 6, 2020 agenda.

Motion by Smeby, second by Abrams, carried to approve the March 30, 2020 board minutes.

Motion by Smeby, second by Abrams, carried to approve Joel Rohne, Worth County IT Director, adding the .gov domain to Worth County's digital inventory for enhanced cyber security.

Motion by Smeby, second by Abrams, carried to approve Resolution 2020.04.06

Resolution setting date for a public hearing on amendment to the urban renewal plan for the Worth County Consolidated Urban Renewal Area

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Worth County, by resolution previously established the Worth County Consolidated Urban Renewal Area (the "Urban Renewal Area") and adopted an urban renewal plan (the "Plan") for the governance of projects and initiatives to be undertaken therein; and

WHEREAS, an amendment to the Plan has been prepared which involves a new urban renewal project in the Urban Renewal Area related to providing additional tax increment financing for expanded infrastructure improvements related to the SW Quadrant I-35/Hwy 105 Interchange Development Project; and

WHEREAS, it is now necessary that a date be set for a public hearing on that plan amendment

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Worth County, Iowa, as follows:

Section 1. This Board will meet at the Worth County Courthouse, Northwood, Iowa, on May 4, 2020, at 9:00 a.m., at which time and place it will hold a public hearing on the proposed amendment to the Plan for the Urban Renewal Area.

Section 2. The County Auditor shall publish notice of the hearing, the same being in the form attached hereto, which publication shall be made in a legal newspaper of general circulation in Worth County, which publication shall be not less than four (4) nor more than twenty (20) days before the date set for the hearing.

Section 3. Pursuant to Section 403.5 of the Code of Iowa, the County Auditor and Joe Myhre of NIACOG are hereby designated as the County's representatives in connection with the consultation process which is required under that section of the urban renewal law.

Passed and approved April 6, 2020.

Aaron Stone
Chairperson,
Board of Supervisors
Attest:
Jacki A. Backhaus
County Auditor

Motion by Smeby, second by Abrams, carried to approve the recorder's quarterly report.

Motion by Smeby, second by Abrams, carried to acknowledge county receipt of manure management plan annual update from Nate & Melissa Moretz for facility #69342 located in Section 19, Kensett Township, Worth County.

Motion by Smeby, second by Abrams, carried to adjourn at 9:08 A.M. The next meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be Monday, April 13, 2020 at 8:30 A.M.

Jacki A. Backhaus, Auditor
Aaron Stone, Chairperson

Notice

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR WORTH COUNTY
CASE NO. EQCV012704
ORIGINAL NOTICE

FARMERS STATE BANK,
PLAINTIFF,
V.
JESSICA J. KALVIG; SPOUSE OF JESSICA J. KALVIG, IF ANY; MICHAEL VELASQUEZ; SPOUSE OF MICHAEL VELASQUEZ, IF ANY; PARTIES IN POSSESSION; AND THE STATE OF IOWA,
DEFENDANTS.
TO DEFENDANTS:

You are notified that a Petition for Foreclosure has been filed in the office of the Clerk of this Court, naming you as a Defendant in this action. A copy of the Petition for Foreclosure (and any documents filed with it) is attached to this Notice.

You must serve a motion or answer within twenty (20) days after service of this Original Notice upon you and within a reasonable time thereafter file your motion or answer with the Clerk of Court for Worth County at the county courthouse in Northwood, Iowa. If you do not, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Petition.

THE CASE HAS BEEN FILED IN A COUNTY THAT UTILIZES ELECTRONIC FILING. PLEASE REFER TO THE IOWA COURT RULES CHAPTER 16 FOR GENERAL RULES AND INFORMATION ON ELECTRONIC FILING. PLEASE REFER TO THE RULES IN CHAPTER 16, DIVISION VI, REGARDING THE PROTECTION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION IN COURT FILINGS.

If you require assistance of auxiliary aids or services to participate in Court because of a disability, immediately call your ADA coordinator at (641)421-0990. (If you are hearing impaired, call Relay Iowa TTY at 1-800-735-2942.)

IMPORTANT: YOU ARE ADVISED TO SEEK LEGAL ADVICE AT ONCE TO PROTECT YOUR INTERESTS.

16-3t

Notice

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR WORTH COUNTY
PROBATE NO.
ESPR009206
NOTICE OF
PROBATE OF WILL,
OF APPOINTMENT OF
EXECUTOR, AND
NOTICE TO
CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JEFFREY GENTZ, Deceased.

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Jeffrey Gentz, Deceased, who died on or about March 22, 2020:

You are hereby notified that on March 30, 2020, the last will and testament of Jeffrey Gentz, deceased, bearing date of March 3, 2020 was admitted to probate in the above named court and that Richard Gentz was appointed executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

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

Dated March 31, 2020.

Richard Gentz
1300 2nd Avenue North
Northwood, IA 50459
Executor of the Estate

John H. Greve
ICIS#: 000001969
Greve Law
736 Central Ave.
P.O. Box 167
Northwood, IA 50459
Attorney for the Executor

Date of second publication 15th day of April, 2020.

15-2t

City of Kensett

The Kensett City Council meet in regular session 3/9/20 at 7:00 P.M. at City Hall with Mayor C. Pulju presiding. Council Members present were Parker, Heiken, & Douglas.

Absent: Pilkington & Woltzen.

Visitors: Diana Parker & Richard Bauer – city maintenance.

Mayor called meeting to order.

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

Motion to approve minutes by Parker, 2nd by Douglas, carried unanimously.

Maintenance discussed water leaks, tables, chairs & carts and new testing requirements from DNR.

Clerk discussed meeting time for March 16th is changed to 6:45, vacation week of March 30th, ordinance review and correspondence.

Visitors: None.

Old Business: Motion to set public hearing for Max Levy Resolution #586 for Monday, March 16th at 6:45 P.M. by Heiken, 2nd Douglas, carried unanimously.

Audit report discussed.

Past due water bills reviewed, assessment letters will be sent out as time permits.

New Business: Motion to approve Peg Legs liquor license by Heiken, 2nd by Douglas, carried unanimously.

Motion to purchase new refrigerator for the community center from McCloskey Appliance by Parker, 2nd by Douglas, carried unanimously.

Motion by Parker to approve flushing contract with Herb Thompson at $75.00 per time, 2nd by Douglas, carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: February 2020 Revenues by Fund: General 17,450.08, Utilities 5,463.60, Special 4,728.29. Total Revenues: $27,641.97. Stands approved as read.

Motion to pay bills by Heiken, 2nd by Parker, carried unanimously.

Payable: Alliant Energy 3,194.60, WCTA 269.69, B. Luckason 274.39 (net), S. Overy 444.51 (net), R. Bauer 1141.99 (net), L. McNally 1,4124.05 (net), Federal & SS 1,219.40 (payroll), Ipers 724.23 (payroll), T. Dakin 35.00 (cleaning – general), Doors Inc. 1658.50 (general), Ag Source 25.10 (water test), Kensett Water 98.75 (sewer fees), T. Dakin 50.00 (cleaning – general). L. McNally 61.48 (mileage – general), Waste Management 1,379.20 (garbage & recycling), C. Pulju 184.70 (net), KFD 400.00 (fire protection), Tractor Loan Payment #13 – 321.98 (casino $ – general), Kelly's Hardware 1.10 (bolts – general), R80 30.19 (gas – city – road use), RVS Software 373.90 (supplies), IAMU 558.00 (dues –water), Old Republic Surety 175.00 (clerk bond), Northwood Anchor 257.58 (publications – general), Pioneer Critical Power 859.69 (service – general), Peterson Excavating 12,216.00 (service), Baker & Taylor 150.10, Midwest Tapes 106.45, Culligan Water 4383, L. Albright 100.00, A. Begdale 80.00, Petty Cash 200.00, checks 30.00.

Disbursements by Fund: General 8,142.61, Special 8,676.20, Utilities 5,857.33, Payroll 5,413.27 (gross).

Total Disbursements: $28,089.46.

Motion to adjourn by Douglas, 2nd by Parker, carried unanimously.

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

The Kensett City Council met in special session 3-16-2020 at 6:45 P.M. with Mayor C. Pulju presiding. Council members present were Heiken, Woltzen, Parker, & Douglas. Absent Pilkington.

Mayor opened public hearing for Max Levy Resolution, there being no public comment, hearing was closed.

Motion by Parker, 2nd by Woltzen to approve Resolution #586 – Max Levy, Roll Call Vote taken, all ayes, carried unanimously,

Motion by Heiken, 2nd by Parker to set March 28th at 9:00 a.m. for 2020-2021 budget public hearing, carried unanimously.

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

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

The Kensett City Council met in special session 3-28-2020 at 9:00 A. M. with Mayor C. Pulju presiding. Council members present were Heiken, Woltzen, Parker, Douglas, and Pilkington.

Mayor opened public hearing for 2020-2021 Budget, there being no public comment, hearing was closed.

Motion by Parker, 2nd by Woltzen to approve Resolution #587 – 2020-2021 Budget, Roll Call Vote taken, all ayes, carried unanimously,

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

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

Northwood-Kensett School

The Northwood-Kensett Board of Directors met in a Regular Meeting on Thursday, April 9, 2020 in the Secondary Media Center and Remotely via Google Meet at 7:00 P.M.

Members present in person: Larry Hovey

Members present via Google Meet: John Anderson, Roger Harris, Cindy Pangburn; Susan Kliment

Members Absent: none

(5-0) Approved the agenda; March 10 regular meeting, March 19 special meeting and March 23 special meeting minutes; Financial Reports for March; April bills for payment

President Hovey opened the public hearing for the 2020-21 Budget at 7:08 pm

No written or in-person comments received

Public hearing closed at 7:09 pm

Reports

Elementary Principal: 1) Preschool schedule change will be communicated to parents at a later date 2) Food pantry hours available on Fridays; participation has increased since the COVID-19 outbreak

Secondary Principal: 1) Distance Learning Expectations 2) state waiver from ISASP standardized testing and Conditions for Learning Survey this spring 3) Driver's Education start date postponed indefinitely but goal is to begin as soon as possible 4) Prom and Post Prom are tentatively rescheduled to June 13 5) Graduation ceremony options are being explored; surveys sent to senior parents

Superintendent: 1) COVID-19 updates 2) Thank you to all the employees who have stepped up to work during this COVID-19 closure

School Board: 1) Next regular board meeting scheduled for May 14th. If school is back in session, date will be changed to May 7 due to home track meet on the 14th 2) Will not need to amend the 2019-20 budget 3) May have to do an interfund loan for debt service if property tax payments aren't made on time. 4) Board members have received a letter from a teacher requesting a transfer into a full time position or creating a full-time position

New Business

(5-0) Approved the proposed published budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year

(5-0) Approved the AEA Purchasing Agreement for 2020-2021

(5-0) Approved ratification of negotiated agreement between the NKEA and the Northwood-Kensett Board of Education for 2020-2021 school year

(5-0) Approved issuing letters of assignment for classified personnel for 2020-2021 as presented by Mr. Crozier

(5-0) Approved issuing contracts for Bus Drivers, Director of Transportation, Director of Buildings & Grounds; Director of Technology, Business Manager/Board Secretary and School Nurse for 2020-2021 school year as presented by Mr. Crozier

(5-0) Approved issuing two-year contracts for the principals and superintendent for 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years as presented by Mr. Crozier

(5-0) Approved the first reading of the COVID-19 Pandemic Temporary Supplemental Policy Provisions and waived the second reading.

(5-0) Approved the continuation with voluntary educational enrichment opportunities

(5-0) Approved the continuation to pay hourly employees after April 12

(5-0) Approved an Addendum to Resolution – Pandemic Response and Emergency Suspension of Policy dated March 19, 2020

(5-0) Approved Katie Herther as secondary special education teacher at MA – 6 level, Asst HS Girls Track coach and JH Girls Basketball coach for the 2020-2021 school year, pending background check

(5-0) Approved Allison Clark as secondary English Language Arts and K-12 English Language Learners at MA – 3 level and National Honor Society Advisor for 2020-21 school year, pending background check

(5-0) Approved Annika Della Vedova as Asst HS Volleyball coach and JH Boys Basketball coach for the 2020-21 school year

(5-0) Approved Kimberly Odegaard as Student Council Advisor for the 2020-21 school year

(5-0) Approvef the following signing bonuses to bring new hires up to last year's salary scale as presented to them in interviews: Jackson Abbas $109; Emily Abbas $127; Kinsley Heckert $114; Annika Della Vedova $109; Katie Herther $147; Allison Clark $132

(5-0) Adjourned the meeting at 8:10 pm

Northwood-Kensett CSD
4/9/2020

AGVANTAGE
propane 315.00
AHLERS & COONEY
legal services 1,967.00
AIRGAS, SUPPLIES . 170.38
All Star Pest Control
pest control 75.00
ALLIANT ENERGY
ELECTRICITY.... 10,738.93
Amazon, SUPPLIES 85.12
CARQUEST
SUPPLIES..... 70.29
CenterPoint Energy Services
natural gas 5,899.29
CITY OF NORTHWOOD
water/sewer 733.97
Crozier, Michael
reimb travel..... 16.27
CULVER HAHN ELECTRIC
SUPPLIES..... 98.58
DES MOINES REGISTER
subscription..... 10.69
DES MOINES STAMP MFG
CO, supplies 42.40
DOLLAR GENERAL
SUPPLIES..... 4.28
eReplacementParts.com
supplies..... 274.52
FALLGATTER'S
SUPPLIES..... 164.96
Hopperstad, Jerry
repairs..... 85.00
HOVEY'S LAWN AND GARDEN, LAWN CARE 2,500.00
IA ASSOC OF SCHOOL
BOARDS
assessment 1,600.00
IA ASSOC OF SCHOOL
BUSINESS OFFICIALS
registration..... 75.00
Ia DepT of Ed
tuition 285.00
IA STATE UNIV
registration..... 50.00
Ia Water Management Co
boiler service..... 400.00
Juice Plus Co
supplies..... 81.32
Kelly Hardware
SUPPLIES..... 96.58
MARTIN BROTHERS
supplies..... 4,282.49
MID-WEST 3D SOLUTIONS
repairs..... 1,689.00
NORTHWOOD ANCHOR
PUBLICATION..... 449.92
NORTHWOOD CHIROPRACTIC, physical 100.00
NORTHWOOD ELECTRIC
ELECTRICAL SERVICES .
..... 102.70
NORTHWOOD SANITATION, garbage..... 610.00
TRADING POST
supplies..... 89.99
One Source Background
Check Co
background checks 7.50
OTHER PLACE
meal 12.43
PAPER CORP
supplies..... 70.35
Pony Express Riders of Iowa
refund facility rental 240.00
POSTMASTER
bulk rate postage..... 300.00
United Airlines
air travel..... 60.00
Unity School Bus Parts
parts..... 129.01
VISA, lodging/meals 1,106.76
WCTA, phone service. 924.88
WORTH CO ENGINEER
diesel/gas 2,605.30
Fund Number 10... 38,619.91
Barnes, Jared
reimb supplies..... 162.24
Central Rivers AEA
printing..... 48.80
Efflandt, David
accompanist..... 60.00
IA FCCLA, shirts 180.00
IA HS SPEECH ASSOC
awards 41.00
IA SPORTS SUPPLY CO
supplies..... 399.99
Kelly Hardware
supplies..... 58.23
N-K GENERAL FUND
reimb officials..... 301.42
NAT'L FFA ORGANIZATION, supplies 836.89
Wall of Fame
uniforms..... 194.00
Fund Number 21..... 2,282.57
Mick Gage Plumbing & Heating, plumbing 2,847.32
NORTHWOOD ELECTRIC
ELECTRICAL SERVICES .
..... 903.10
Fund Number 33..... 3,750.42
D & L Equipment
repairs..... 8,673.50
Marco, copier lease.. 1,075.35
Fund Number 36..... 9,748.85
UMB Bank
bond payment.... 307,596.24
Fund Number 40. 307,596.24
ANDERSON ERICKSON
DAIRY, MILK 976.53
FALLGATTER'S
SUPPLIES..... 18.67
Heiken, Melissa
reimb food..... 14.26
Hennigar, Amy
reimb supplies..... 115.48
MARTIN BROTHERS
food/supplies..... 8,163.91
PAN-O-GOLD BAKING CO
BREAD 267.17
Fund Number 61..... 9,556.02

Northwood Anchor

Legal

Notice

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR WORTH COUNTY
PROBATE NO.
ESPR009205
NOTICE OF
APPOINTMENT OF
ADMINISTRATOR AND
NOTICE TO
CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF RICK ALLEN JOHNSON, Deceased.

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Rick Allen Johnson, Deceased, who died on or about May 3, 2019:

You are hereby notified that on March 26, 2020, the undersigned was appointed administrator of the estate.

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

Dated March 27, 2020.

Susan M. Johnson
924 400th St.
Kensett, IA 50448
Administrator
of the Estate

Kristen N. Ollenburg
ICIS#: AT0006007
Pappajohn, Shriver, Eide & Nielsen P.C.
103 E. State Street
Suite 800
P.O. Box 1588
Mason City, Iowa 50402-1588
Attorney for the Administrator

Date of second publication 15th day of April, 2020.

15-2t

PROFESSIONAL CARD
Business Announcements

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

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

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

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

Congregate Meals
MEALS ON WHEELS
324-1244

NORTHWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY
Monday & Friday 1-5 p.m.
Tues. - Thurs. 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
Open Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
641-324-1340

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Northwood Anchor Early Files

100 years ago

April 14, 1920

Fire that evidently caught from stray sparks of burning grass and rubbish caused the destruction of the Shell Rock Lutheran Church, one mile west of Northwood. Some of the men of the church who had been appointed a committee to clean up the premises had been burning grass and rubbish during the early afternoon and completed their work.

Work towards rebuilding the Slosson opera house is going forward rapidly and the structure begins to assume form.

For the fourth time the office of Dr. C.W. Sanders was broken into, entrance being gained through the window at the head of the stairway on the outside of the building. So far as could be discovered the man or men who made the entrance this time failed to secure any drugs, which seems to be object of their search.

"The girl with smiles in her voice," is the encomium which Miss Mabel Torgerson, one of the chief operators of the Western Electric Telephone company at Mason City, has won in this vicinity. She has been here for the past week helping out in the local exchange.

After much delay, Ole A. Oleson believes he will soon have material enough to assemble several of his revolving tooth barros and soon have a number ready for delivery. The invention is one that promises to revolutionize the harrowing work on farms and from all indications Mr. Oleson has a good thing in his intervention.

75 years ago

April 19, 1945

Mrs. Ernest G. Berg, county work chairman for the Red Cross, reports that she and Mrs. A.F. Marshall packed and shipped 70 knitted sweaters for the armed forces, including 50 v-neck sweaters, seven turtle-neck sweaters and 13 v-neck sleeveless sweaters. The shipment was for the Army.

Bob Hawk, of radio fame, has acknowledged cooperations given by local residents in his pea for playing cards for wounded service men, in a letter to Mrs. J.O.E. Johnson, who is in charge of the project here.

The first meeting of parents to organize a Cub Sport troop in Northwood was held in connection with the regular Lions club meeting. Parents of 16 boys who were interested in the movement were present. Boys between the ages of 9 and 11 year are eligible to join a Cub troop.

The Rev. Carl B. Ylvisaker, 49, a former pastor of the Northwood Lutheran and Shell Rock Lutheran churches, died in Moorhead, Minnesota, after an illness of several months. Cancer was the cause of his death.

Bruce Hennigar, the youngest of seven brothers in the armed forces, was reported killed in action with the marines of Iwo Jima in an official telegram received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur E. Hennigar, who have lived for the past 12 years on the P.M. Strand home farm, two miles east of Manly.

About 200 4-H club boys and girls and a few of the parents of Worth County members attended the annual Worth County Club party held in the Northwood high school gym.

50 years ago

April 16, 1970

John Thompson and Doyle Boutelle announced that Mr. and Mrs. Larry Wong, Dubuque, have leased the restaurant north of J-D One Stop, and plan to open for business about May 1. Mr. Wong was reared in Albert Lea, and he and Mrs. Wong have six children ages one through 15 years.

Margaret Hagen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert E. Hagen, Northwood, and Carolyn Imlau, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Imlau, Kensett, were presented Good-Home and Country awards at Sion Lutheran Church on Sunday. The Rev. Theo Anderson made the presentation. The award recognized faithfulness and usefulness to the church and a commendable 4-H record. Both recipients are members of the junior class at Northwood-Kensett High School and are members of the Brookfield Belles 4-H club. Mrs. Olger Tenold and Mrs. Truman Hengesteg are leaders.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Lawhorn announced the engagement of their daughter, Julie Ann, to Dennis Dean Hauge, son of Mrs. Leonard Hauge and the late Leonard Hauge.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Lindquist entertained at their home for dinner in honor of their great-grandson's first birthday, Matthew Wood. Guests were his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Wood; his grandmother, Mrs. Phullis Groh; and her children, John, Mary Lou, and Michael and Scott Aulman, all of Mason City.

25 years ago

April 19, 1995

Louisa, the Shetland pony, got a taste of money during the annual Pony Express Ride for Easter Seals. Northwood resident Rose Fredericks was placing a dollar bill in 13-year-old Scott Eilertson's bucket when Louisa, ridden by 9-year-old Jeff Eilertson, decided the bill in Fredericks' other hand had to be some kind of snack. The pony didn't get to munch for too long, however, as Fredericks took only a few second to coax the bill out of Louisa's mouth. The boys are sons of David and Sue Eilertson of rural Northwood.

Rural Northwood resident Brenda Davidson got a head start on J.C. Dawald's free tree giveaway when she dug up a blue spruce seedling. Dawald and his wife Sandy will make 400 seedlings and saplings available free to all comers.

Des Moines Register columnist Chuck Offenburger and his wife Carla visited Northwood-Kensett's fifth-graders to tell them about the Iowa 150 Bike the Offenburgers and other Iowans will undertake to publicize the state's 150th birthday in 1996. The kids became involved when N-K teacher Karen Belville arranged pen pals for them and other Iowa grade schoolers in town along the bike ride's route.

Children's Garden teacher Madelyn Midtgaard displayed the $500 check Northwood Men's Club officers Dave Irons and Paul Krull presented to the preschool.

10 years ago

April 21, 2010

Northwood-Kensett High School senior Sam Arnold will accompany his date, Maya Rose, as they take part in prom festivities on a cruise ship down the St. Croix River. Arnold, a prom veteran, was looking forward to the change of pace in prom festivities. For Rose, the exchange student, any type of prom participation would be a foreign experience, as high school students in Germany do not take part in prom.

Two members of the Northwood Airport Commission thanked the WCDA for the grant they received to build an airport lounge at the Northwood Airport. Mark Fett and Dr. Mike Dierenfeld applied for a grant for a building so pilots who land at Northwood's airport will have access to a telephone, restroom and a way to check the weather. Most of the $96,000 grant will be used for city water and sewer access.

Students in Mrs. Schaub's kindergarten class paid a visit to the offices of Northwood's new dentist, Dr. David Penfold. While there Penfold demonstrated the kid-friendly technology in his offices, including video monitors, coloring pages and music. Penfold also reminded them of dental hygiene tips, before sending them with tooth-shaped brushing timers.

Joel Rohne, vice president of the London-Deer Creek Valley Cemetery Association, presented Marvid Davidson with a plaque in honor of Marvid's 50-plus years of dedication and service to the Cemetery Association.

Northwood Anchor Obituaries

Iola Bakken



IOLA BAKKEN

Iola Hazel Bakken 86, of Omaha, Nebraska, and formerly of Northwood, Iowa, passed away on Tuesday, April 7, 2020, at the Hillcrest Cottages in Omaha, Nebraska.

Following state and federal guidance on gatherings due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a private family service will be held to honor Iola. Public viewing will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, April 17, 2020, at Conner Colonial Chapel, 1008 First Ave South in Northwood. Iola will be buried in Sunset Rest Cemetery, Northwood.

The family of Iola Hazel Bakken has requested that memorial contributions be made to the First Lutheran Church in Northwood, or to one's favorite charity in her memory.

Iola Hazel Bakken was born on August 23, 1933, in Scarville, Iowa, the daughter of Sylvan O. and Sadie M. (Nerem) Bakken. Growing up in Northwood, Iola graduated from Northwood High School in 1951. She continued her education at Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, earning her Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education on August 5, 1961, and later earned her Master of Arts from the University of Minnesota on July 17, 1970.

Iola loved being an elementary teacher and impacted numerous students over her many years of service. She and her sister, Erthl, traveled extensively in the U.S., making trips to Scandinavian countries, Germany, Austria, Italy, Switzerland, Hungry, the Czech Republic and cruised the Caribbean Islands and Hawaii.

Iola was a very active member and former officer for the Lutheran Disaster Response, VFW Auxiliary Post #6779, American Legion Auxiliary #144, Worth County Historical Society and Iowa Retired School Personnel Association. She enjoyed decorating cakes, quilting and traveling with family and friends.

Those left to cherish her memory are her nephew, Jan and Candace Gerber of Nebraska; as well as several cousins and many friends.

Greeting her in Heaven are her maternal grandparents, Thor, Susan and Marie Nerem; paternal grandparents, Henry and Ida (Glassel) Bakken; parents, Sylvan and Sadie Bakken; sisters, Shyrlamae Gerber and Erthl Bakken; as well as many aunts, uncles and cousins.

COVID-19 outbreak guidance for businesses

Preventing Outbreaks

Businesses should implement measures to enable social distancing as much as possible.

- Consider staggering shifts to reduce worker population at any given time.
- Stagger breaks to reduce staff interactions.
- Review procedures to identify ways to increase the physical separation of staff.

Businesses should prioritize hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette among employees.

- Businesses should provide or allow employees to wear their own homemade cloth face masks.
- Businesses should provide hand sanitizer or handwashing opportunities as frequently as possible.

Detecting Outbreaks

Screen all employees by taking their temperature and assessing for cough, sore throat, difficulty breathing or any other respiratory symptom at the beginning and end of each shift. For a screening algorithm visit idph.iowa.gov/Portals/1/userfiles/7/bscreening%20algorithm%2003222020.pdf

Exclude all employees reporting fever or respiratory symptoms (these cases will be directed to stay home and isolate themselves from other people and animals in the home) until they:

- Have had no fever for at least 72 hours (that is three full days of no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers) AND
- Other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have improved) AND
- At least seven days have passed since your symptoms first appeared.

Exclusion criteria must be followed with all symptomatic employees, regardless of whether the testing is completed (even if the employee tests negative for COVID-19 infection).

Please report to the Iowa Department of Public Health when 10% or greater of employees are reporting COVID-19 symptoms (including fever, cough, sore throat, difficulty breathing, or any other respiratory symptom). Report to public health by filling out the survey online at cap.idph.state.ia.us/eys/?s=NRJ4FDMDPN

Managing Outbreaks

Coordinate with occupational health providers to define a pathway to test symptomatic employees.

- Public health will approve State Hygienic Laboratory testing for symptomatic employees during outbreaks.
- The occupational health provider or employees' personal health providers will be responsible for collecting the nasopharyngeal swab for testing and following-up for medical care as needed.

When employees test positive for COVID-19 infection, public health and occupational health will work jointly to investigate cases and identify the following contacts:

- household contacts,
- rideshare partners, and
- co-workers with prolonged contact (within six feet of the case for at least 30 minutes).

All of these contacts will be directed to stay at home and isolate themselves from other people and animals in the home for 14 days after the last known exposure to a person with COVID-19

Businesses should consider excluding high-risk employees when outbreaks are ongoing. High-risk employees would include:

- People aged 65 years and older
- People of all ages with underlying medical conditions, particularly if not well controlled, including:
- People with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma
- People who have serious heart conditions
- People who are immunocompromised
- Many conditions can cause a person to be immunocompromised, including cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplantation, immune deficiencies, poorly controlled HIV or AIDS and prolonged use of corticosteroids and other immune weakening medications
- People with severe obesity (body mass index [BMI] ≥40)
- People with diabetes
- People with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis
- People with liver disease

Business decisions to close should be based upon workforce availability and the ability to follow the recommended measures outlined above.

** Outbreaks are defined as greater than 10% of employees ill with COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, sore throat, difficulty breathing or other respiratory symptoms).*

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Pines residents receive a special delivery

Northwood Pines Assistant Living residents received flowers from the people in the community that donated money so the tenants of the independent living, assisted living and nursing home could receive beautiful flowers. They all enjoyed them and it brightened their days for the Easter weekend.



Ponderings from the Batt Cave

By Al Batt writer, speaker, storyteller and humorist.

Echoes from the Loafers' Club Teleconference

My wife gave me a Fitbit.

How do you like it?

It's great. Now I know exactly how many steps it is from my bed to the sofa.

Driving by Bruce's drive

I have a wonderful neighbor, named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me, such as: I'd been trying to remember what day of the week it was, when in a bold move, I rose from a comfortable chair and tried to teach basic algebra to our cat. How teachers do their jobs, I don't know.

I have many Batt habits and some are bad. I'm trying not to touch anything I wouldn't lick. I'm wearing a baseball glove on one hand and a potholder on the other to keep me from touching my face.

In a world between hope and doubt people struggle to maintain a social distance from refrigerators. Before long, they're tanning by the light of an open refrigerator. Some wear masks at home to keep from eating so much. No one wants their old hula hoop to fit snugly.

A bowling ball named Jerry

I hadn't been bowling since they'd made the balls round and put holes in them, but I did on Leap Day. I thought I might not be able to bowl when I asked for size 14 bowling shoes. The clerk said, "You could just as well wear shoeboxes," but she found me a lovely set of clown shoes.

I had shoes. I needed a bowling ball. I chose a dark-colored one so I could pick it out from the pins. The ball was named Jerry. At least that was the name etched into it. I was afraid I'd roll a no-hitter. I'd pitched them before — in softball.

I commenced bowling. I worried there might be math involved, but the scoring was done automatically. Disproving the old adage that lightning never strikes the same place twice, I threw three straight strikes. A turkey by a turkey. I rolled a 140 and retired.

Those thrilling days of yesteryear

Gary Hansen was a banker in Hartland. A fine man. One day, he was on a stepladder, washing the outside windows of the bank. Tom's Barber Shop was down the street and it was a rascal's lair. The denizens saw Gary, so they called the bank. Gary heard the ring. This was when people answered their phones, which were landlines only. All calls were important. Gary ran into the bank to answer the phone. They hung up before he could do that. One call should have been enough but it wasn't.

Nature notes

I enjoy watching the spring bird shows. They change each day. Birds become more vocal, each having a story to tell. I love to hear the vesper sparrow sing the evening vespers, "Listen to my evening sing-ing-ing-ing."

Male pheasants "crow" throughout the day all year, but especially at dawn and dusk in spring. Roosters also utter a series of loud, two-note calls when flushed.

Blue-winged teal are among the last ducks to return in the spring and leave early in the fall. The drakes defend mates, but not territories. Because of this, their nests are more concentrated than those of other ducks.

My yard entertained many common grackles. A heap of birds in one lump. They are common and widespread, but the North American Breeding Bird Survey shows a population decline of 58% from 1966 to 2014. Grackles dab natural insect repellents on their plumage. This includes ants, marigolds, lemon slices, walnut juice and chokecherries.

I spotted a couple of gray partridges in a field. Often called a Hungarian partridge, their North American Breeding Bird Survey populations declined by 60% from 1966–2015.

Red-tailed hawks were vigilant while perched on posts along roads not far from an old farm place where a wooden corn crib stood. The slatted walls encouraged the drying of ears of corn. Those gaps made such a crib a giant bird feeder. On the farm I grew up on, red-headed woodpeckers found those corn cribs to their liking.

I saw rock pigeons. These are the birds that people think of as barn pigeons or the street-smart birds seen in city parks. Pigeons are interesting and smart. Pigeons pass the mirror test. They realize that their mirrored images aren't real birds. The beginning of Charles Darwin's "The Origin of Species," is more about pigeons than anything else. I watched a pair of pigeons kiss. The male grasped the female's bill and regurgitated food as a courtship gesture. Sweet.

Meeting adjourned

There is someone who'd love to hear from you. Your call, text, email or letter would be a blessing.

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We are grateful for those who have our back in this important time. The list is long, but we want to thank our first responders and front-line workers.

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THANK YOU!

We would like to give a huge **"Thank you"** to all the people in the community that donated money so the tenants of independent living, assisted living, and nursing home received beautiful flowers. They all enjoyed them and it brighten their days. Thank you also to Mary Reyerson from Flower Forager for providing the beautiful flowers. Thanks for thinking of us during this difficult time.

Sincerely,
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