The Northwood Anchor

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Briefs

N-K meal program continues into summer

While the school year will now end on May 14, the Northwood-Kensett meal program will continue through the summer, with some changes.

Since shortly after Iowa schools were shut down in March, N-K has offered food for students that would normally rely on the school for meals each day, delivering them on bus routes and offering pick up spots in Kensett and Northwood.

Meals, see Page 2

Library offers curbside services

While its doors are remaining closed to the public, the Northwood Public Library will be offering patrons a chance to begin borrowing books with curbside services.

Curbside services will be available on Mondays, from 1-5 p.m., and Thursdays, from 1-6 p.m.

Those looking for a book or DVD may contact the library at 641-324-2340 and leave a message, email at northwoodlibrary@mchsi.com or message via Facebook.

A list of books and DVDs available at the library can be found on the website, online at www.youseemore.com/NILC/Northwood. People may also contact library director Morgan Johnson with what authors or books they like and she will help pick out books.

Messages with book requests should include a person's name, their request and a time to pick up items.

When people checking items out arrive, they should remain in

Library, see Page 2



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

Date	Hi	Lo	Prec.
Tues. April 28	73	47	.22
Wed. April 29	65	42	T
Thurs. April 30	57	38	
Fri. May 1	67	40	
Sat. May 2	78	52	
Sun. May 3	72	56	
Mon. May 4	74	38	



In for the landing

This beautiful eagle came in for a landing in the backyard of a local photographers who lives on the Shell Rock River. Jodie Bachtle was able to get pictures of him coming in for a landing and taking off. This picture shows the strength of an eagle with wings spread for landing. With the advantage of living on the river, Bachtle sees a lot of wildlife on the banks and in the water. Bachtle loves animals, those she meets while out shooting photos for the 'Front Porch Project,' and this amazing eagle.

Photo taken by NV Studios and Jodie Bachtle Photography

N-K sets graduation delay, early school year end and early start for 2020-21

At a special meeting held on April 28, the Northwood-Kensett Board of Education made decisions about how education will be offered through the end of the school year, alternate graduation dates, how students will be graded for the abrupt end of the current school year and when the next school year will begin.

With schools in Iowa shut down through the end of the year, the first decision to be made was on whether or not to continue with voluntary education options past April 30, the expiration of the board's previous decision.

Since April 13, that has been how N-K has offered classes to its students, with teachers providing class work and resources online and in packets sent to homes, and students not required, but encouraged to take part.

The N-K school board opted to continue offering classes that way through the end of the school year.

That has left grades and credits for the second semester in question. Schools closed with just a few days left in the third quarter. With that in mind, the school will use the grades students had when school closed, in the third quarter, as their final grades for the second semester, and the credits they will receive for the second semester.

The school will offer opportunities for students to improve their grades before the start of the next school year. According to superintendent Michael Crozier, grades won't be final until required classes begin again in August.

While this year's graduating seniors have missed out on many traditional experiences, the school is working with students and families to make sure they will still

N-K, see Page 2

Many area restaurants sticking with carry-out and delivery despite Governor's order

By Erin McCord

On Friday, May 1, Iowa Governor Reynolds allowed limited re-openings of restaurants, fitness centers, stores and religious gatherings in 77 Iowa counties.

Restaurants must limit seating to 50% of normal capacity and arrange tables so they are at least six feet apart. They also must limit dining groups to no more than six people, and they may not offer buffets, salad bars or self-serve beverage areas.

Locally, many churches and restaurants are adopting a more cautious, wait-and-see approach. As of press time, only Strike Zone in Northwood, Carpenter Bar and Grill and R-80 in Kensett are open for dining-in.

Gobbler's Roost in Grafton is allowing patrons on the

Limited, see Page 3

Churches remain cautious, opt to continue online services

By Erin McCord

With the governor's relaxing of statewide closure orders for 77 Iowa counties, area churches have had the option of re-opening their doors to parishioners. Locally, many churches are waiting to return to regular operation.

A statement signed by 21 ecumenical church leaders from across Iowa also stated that they felt the Governor's order was premature and that they would be waiting to open their church doors.

All churches in the Worth County area are continuing with online services for the time being.

Crossroads Church in Albert Lea is holding drive-up services with parishioners remaining in their cars for the service.

The Anchor will update as individual parishes make further decisions regarding the return to regular, in-person services.

Absentee voting continues for primary

Absentee voting is underway for the primary election that will be held on Tuesday, June 2.

In the primary election, voters will choose a Democratic or Republican Party ballot, as they choose who will represent those parties as candidates for county, state and federal offices in the November general election.

With COVID-19 a concern, the Iowa Secretary of State's office has taken steps to encourage Iowans to take advantage of the alternative to voting in person by mailing in their ballot.

The Secretary of State's office mailed absentee ballot request forms to all Iowans last week. The forms included prepaid postage for return mailing to county auditors.

Iowans can request absentee ballots through May 22. County auditors have begun mailing ballots.

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 or at www.worthcounty.org.

Polling sites will be open for the June 2 primary election, but many will be combined with other precincts. In Worth County, the Kensett Community Center will be the combined place for all in-person voting on June 2.

Absentee, see Page 3



Lunch time

A local squirrel looks like he had a comfortable winter. He and many of his friends know just where to go for a good meal and treats. Sometimes there are more than just one waiting for the good stuff.

Photo taken by NV Studios and Jodie Bachtle Photography

Happy Mother's Day!





Construction begins on interchange development

While the biggest business, the Diamond Jo Casino, at the Interstate 35/Highway 105 interchange, has come to a standstill due to COVID-19 concerns, the Worth County supervisors have proceeded with plans to develop property south of the casino. They hope that, once the pandemic has passed, new businesses will want to build there.

The 22 acre area is located between Wheelerwood Road and Interstate 35, south of the interstate on ramp. The project will include street and sewer and water infrastructure, as well as other utility connections to develop 11 lots to put up for sale.

The northern area of the project had previously been the property of the casino's owners, but they were expected to complete a transfer to the county to encourage further development shortly. One of the developed lots may be deeded to the casino as a part of that exchange.

The project involves leveling the area, extending water and sewer, paving the streets and accesses and landscaping. The total estimated cost of construction, as of early March 9, was about $1.7 million. The total cost, with engineering fees and other costs outside the main construction, would total roughly $2.3 million, according to Jason Petersburg of Veenstra and Kimm, the firm engineering the project for the County.

The County has planned to use tax increment financing (TIF) to finance the project. Those TIF funds could come from existing property taxes in other developments in the county.

Work on the project began last Friday and was expected to be completed in the fall.

While the current pandemic situation and the potential economic impacts have been a part of the discussion, much of the project's initial mobilization had begun prior to when COVID-19's impacts began, and the Supervisors have said that they hope that things will pass and development will come, even if it takes longer than they initially hoped.

N-K
Cont. from Page 1

take part in the final high school tradition, commencement, eventually.

According to high school principal Keith Fritz, who has been in discussion with the students and their families, the decision has been made to delay the graduation ceremony until June 28. If gatherings of 50 or more are not allowed on that date, commencement will be pushed back again, until July 19. If graduation can't be held then, a virtual graduation ceremony will be held, along with a vehicle parade.

While Sunday, May 17, will no longer be graduation day, N-K administrators and teachers are working to use the date to present an online ceremony to announce honors to be awarded to the seniors, including Fine Arts and academic awards and scholarships. That will include the scholarships typically awarded during graduation.

Tentative plans are also in place to hold Prom, originally set for April 25, on June 13 instead.

One other decision also came before the board, when should this school year end and the next begin?

With the governor waiving the requirement that school begin for the 2020-2021 school year no earlier than August 23, the suggestion was made that school could begin five days earlier, to give a jump start on the return to classes and to give extra time, to assess where students will be at after the extended break and how to prepare to get them to catch up as much as possible.

However, there would be two ways to do so, when it comes to the school's teachers and the overall length of the school year.

Teachers could be asked to transfer five days from their current contracted school year to the next. With that approach, there would be five additional days for the next school year for students.

If teachers were to work under their current contracts for the current and coming school years, then the five day head start would be offset with a few days without classes scattered throughout the coming school year.

While there were some logistical questions about how that will be handled, if the five days are to be transferred, the days of optional learning in the current school year would have to end sooner.

The school board came to a consensus that, with a decreasing amount of student involvement in optional educational opportunities, it would be in the best interest of the students to end the current school year's optional educational opportunities early, on May 14.

Doing so gives teachers the chance to plan for the end of this school year and gives the board time to decide whether or not to ask teachers to work five days less in this school year and five more in the school year that will begin in August.

The school board also agreed that it would be best to start the next school year early. However that decision will not be formally made until the public is given a chance to weigh in on an updated school calendar, which would need to be approved by the June board meeting.

Meals
Cont. from Page 1

That will continue this summer, with deliveries ending. Instead, there will be pick up locations in Kensett, at the high school and on the east side of Northwood. Sites will be announced soon.

Those that would like to take part in the meal program may contact the junior/senior high school at 324-2142, ext. 200 or email chelgeland@nkvikings.com or tjohnson@nkvikings.com.

Those looking for meals should leave their name, and the number/names of the students they're calling to reserve meals for, as well as whether meals should be delivered or picked up, until deliveries stop.

Parents are asked to call-in at least once a week to ensure meals will be prepared for their children.

Library
Cont. from Page 1

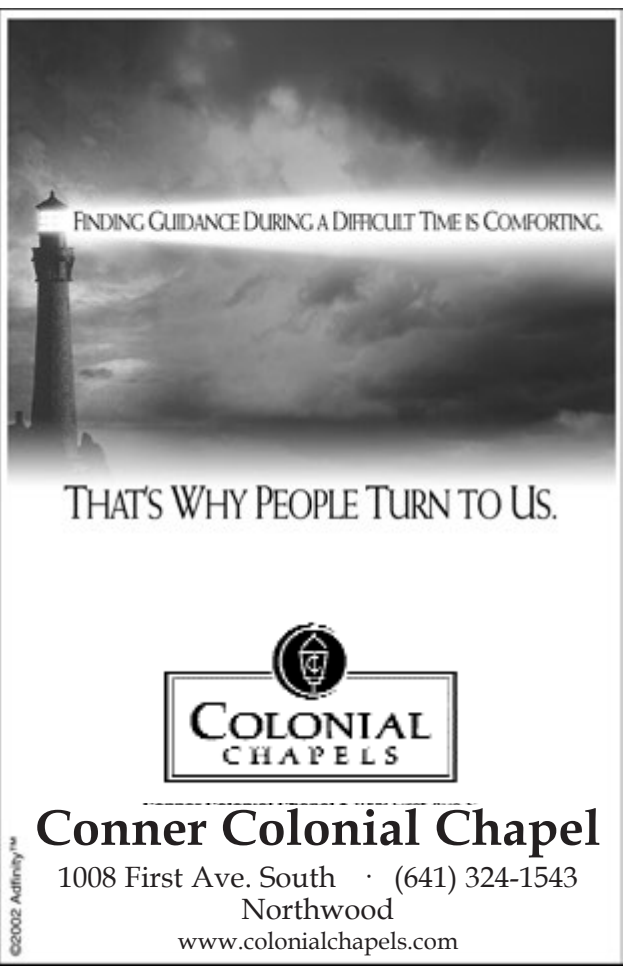
their vehicles and the books will be brought to them.

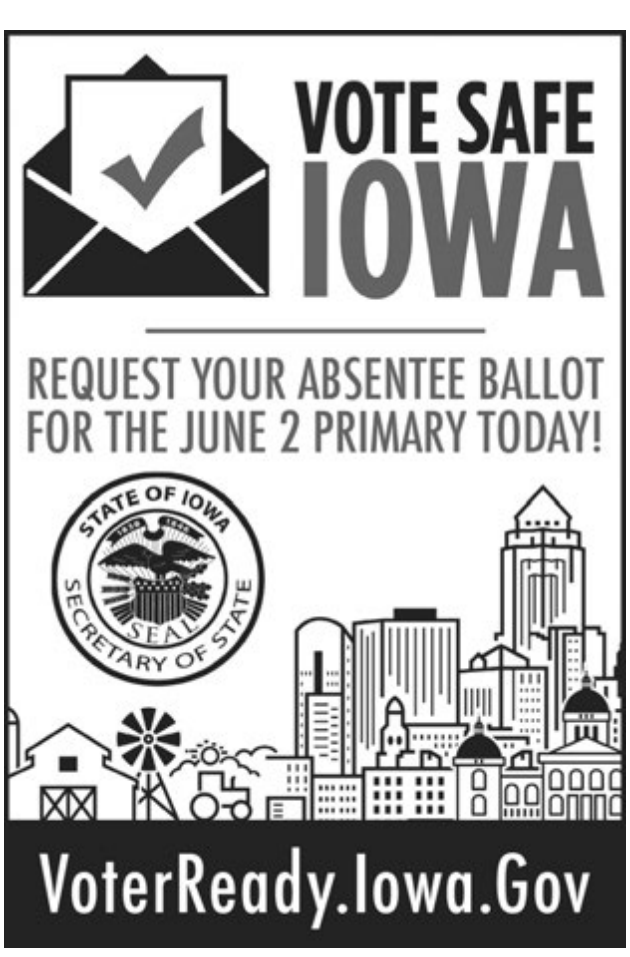
Books will not be ready the same day as they are returned, as they will be sanitized before being made available again.

For more information, including online options, see the Northwood Public Library newsletter in this week's Anchor.

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Ditch Spraying NOTICE

The Worth County Weed Commissioner / Secondary Roads Department are about to begin spraying road ditches. You **MUST** contact the Worth County Engineer's Office and fill out the required paperwork if there are any areas that you do not want sprayed. A special color-coded and labeled flag is available at the office to mark your areas. If you have these flags from previous years, you may re-use them, but you will still need to make sure you are registered for the program. Replacement flags are also available.

For registration details and more information, please contact Mike at 641-390-0268.







Manly blood drive set for June 5

The Edward Tosel American Legion Post 110 and Women's Auxiliary will host a Manly community blood drive on Friday, June 5, from 2-5:30 p.m. at the post home, at 110 E. Elmore Street in Manly.

The drive is being held with LifeServe Blood Center.

To address concerns about safety:

• LifeServe team members only report to blood drives if they are feeling well and health.

• Only healthy volunteers will be allowed to give blood. Donors will be encouraged to use their own devices, such as smartphones, tablets, etc., to complete donation questionnaires. Hand sanitizer will be available.

• Blood donation environments will be set up to allow for safe social distancing.

• Team members will clean donor beds and change cloves between every donor interaction.

• The donation site will follow stringent cleaning and disinfection schedules for all equipment, as well as commonly used services, such as door handles, etc.

With social distancing and other safety protocols in place, blood donors must make an appointment. No walk-ins will be accepted for this blood drive.

Appointments may be made by texting LIFESERVE to 999-777, calling 800-287-4903 or online at lifeservebloodcenter.org.

Anyone with questions can also contact local blood drive organizer JoAnn Andera at 641-454-2451.



On track

A crew of railroad workers has been in the area recently, removing and replacing railroad ties, as well as resurfacing crossings in the area. Pictured above are the machines and manpower that was used as they worked on the tracks on the east side of Northwood.

Stay Home Order extended in Minnesota

Last week, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz extended the Stay Home Order in the state until Monday, May 18. In an effort to get more Minnesotans back safely to work while the order remains in effect, the Governor announced that retail businesses and other non-critical businesses will resume operations with curbside pick-up.

"From building out critical hospital capacity to launching a landmark testing strategy, Minnesota has made meaningful progress in preparing for the worst of the COVID-19 pandemic," Walz said. "Minnesotans have made this possible by staying home and holding down the rate of infection. But now is not the time for sudden movements. There's more work to be done, and we need to keep this virus at a simmer, not a boil. Our action today prioritizes the safety of Minnesotans while taking cautious, strategic steps toward getting people safely back to work."

Also as part of the Executive Order, Walz strongly encouraged all Minnesotans to wear a manufactured or homemade mask at all times when they leave their homes to any place where social distancing is difficult.

"Minnesotans look out for one another – we're asking that they continue to protect their neighbors and slow the spread of this virus," said Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan. "We must continue to stay home, practice safe social distancing and wear cloth masks while in public so we can carefully and responsibly turn the dial toward reopening society."

By extending the Stay Home Order, the Governor said the state will: slow the spread of COVID-19 and slowly build herd immunity; protect those working on the front lines by increasing access to personal protective equipment; ensure the health system can care for all who require care; gradually allow more Minnesotans to return to work; and safely and slowly resume in-person contacts and other activities that are critical for our well-being.

"Our public health workers are putting in a tremendous effort to protect people from this terrible pandemic, and Minnesotans across the state have stepped up to help by following the social distancing guidelines and slowing the spread," Minnesota Commissioner of Health Jan Malcolm said. "The Governor's extension of the stay-at-home order gives us a better chance to limit the impacts of this pandemic. It buys us more time to trace and isolate cases, and to work upstream to prevent infections from jumping into new and vulnerable groups. More time means more lives saved."

As of Tuesday, May 4, retail businesses and other non-critical businesses could offer curbside pick-up. According to the Governor's office, this would put up to 30,000 Minnesotans back to work in a safe, coordinated way.

There were several requirements for business to open with curbside pick-up:

• Develop and publicly post a plan for how to open safely.

• Use online payment whenever possible.

• Employees and customers should wear masks and protective equipment.

• In curbside pick-up scenarios, social distancing guidelines apply. If possible, customers should not leave their vehicle.

• In delivery scenarios, items should be deposited outside a customer's residence.

Minnesotans should also continue to telework whenever possible, wear face masks in public, screen for symptoms and regularly check their temperature and maintain physical distance from each other.

"Listening to Minnesota business and labor leaders on how to ensure the safety of workers and customers is at the core of our decision-making process," said Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development Commissioner Steve Grove. "Today's announcement is the right next step to help more Minnesotans safely return to work and to reopen more businesses to get our economy ramping up again."

In the time Minnesotans have bought by staying home, Minnesota has:

• Announced a landmark testing strategy that will allow us to complete up to 20,000 tests a day and test every symptomatic Minnesotan.

• Built hospital capacity and finalized a lease on an alternate care site to make sure that all Minnesotans who need care can receive it.

• Worked to acquire more personal protective equipment to protect our frontline workers.

Limited
Cont. from Page 1

patio.

Signature's in Northwood has been running a Facebook poll to find what option patrons prefer. The restaurant continued with carry-out and delivery this past weekend. As of Monday, the results showed that 76% opted to stick with takeout.

All other area restaurants, including Tequila's, Bean and Bistro, Cafe Mir and Sue's Corner Post will continue with their carry-out and delivery options until further notice.

Absentee
Cont. from Page 1

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 or at the Worth County website, www.worthcounty.org.

More information is available online at VoterReady.Iowa.gov. People may also contact the Worth County Auditor's office at 641-324-2316 for more information.

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Northwood Anchor Northwood

Paige DeArmoun honored as NIACC student leader



PAIGE DEARMOUN

On April 10, North Iowa Area Community College (NIACC) recognized 25 student leaders as part of the Pathways to Success program.

Honorees were nominated by NIACC faculty and staff for their academic achievement, positive attitude, character, teamwork and ability to inspire others.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic students were recognized virtually on the NIACC website and on NIACC and NIACC Alumni Association social media pages.

Paige DeArmoun, of Northwood, was a Pathways to Success honoree.

NIACC's 30th annual Pathways to Success virtual event was sponsored by the Cerro Gordo County Board of Supervisors, Tony and Sue Coloff and the NIACC Student Government.

The NIACC Alumni Association was formed in 1991 and is structured under the NIACC Foundation. The NIACC Alumni Association's mission is cultivating relationships with alumni to support, advance, and ensure the mission of the college.



LINDSEY DAVIDSON
NORTHWOOD-KENSETT



JENNIFER OVERY
CENTRAL SPRINGS

Local students named to 2020 Iowa Governor's Scholar Program

Iowa's top academic students have been chosen for the 2020 Governor's Scholar Program. The Governor's Office, the Iowa High School Athletic Association and its title sponsor, the Iowa Farm Bureau, are presenting this recognition, which began in 2003.

The 424 seniors being honored were selected by their high schools as the highest academic achievers. All students will receive a recognition plaque and certificate to commemorate their achievement. In addition, each student's most influential teacher will also receive a certificate of appreciation.

The in-person ceremony for this year was canceled due to COVID-19 and the ongoing guidelines concerning public gatherings. With that in mind, the student honorees were announced via social media and the IHSAA website.

"The principles learned through academic success, like those learned from participation in school activities, help develop outstanding young leaders," said IHSAA executive director Tom Keating. "The partnership between the IHSAA and the Iowa Farm Bureau, along with the great cooperation of the Governor's Office has made this prestigious program possible for many years."

In addition to being recognized as the state's brightest students, more than 99 percent of the group participates in school activities. More than 60 percent plan to pursue their post-secondary education in Iowa.

Students from Worth County schools that were recognized include Lindsey Davidson from Northwood-Kensett and Jennifer Overy from Central Springs.

Robb achieves award for individual sales production



JULIE HAGEN ROBB

CENTURY 21 Preferred has announced that CENTURY 21 Real Estate Corporation recently recognized Julie Hagen Robb, Broker Associate, with the System's Masters Ruby Award.

Ruby level status is awarded to an agent who has met minimum sales production of 34 closed transaction sides within a calendar year.

Robb is a member of the Greater Mason City Board of Realtors, the National Association of Realtors and the Iowa Association of Realtors.

Those with real estate needs may contact Julie at the Northwood CENTURY 21 Preferred Office at 641-324-2733.

Mask Makers

By Elaine Bergan

No, people wearing masks in public are not on the way to a masquerade party. They are certain at-risk or cautious individuals protecting themselves from the contagious COVID-19 virus.

After commercial mask inventories were quickly depleted, the medical profession has reached out to home seamstresses and quilters. There are numerous on-line patterns and instructions available to willing volunteers. But the one I'm familiar with is the "Olson mask," which is preferred by many hospitals.

Quilters save leftover quality fabric scraps for future small projects. Should you see masks with strange patterns, it is due to the quilter's leftover scrap supply. An existing problem is that many fabric shops are closed and have also depleted their inventory of the 1/3" elastic used to make loops for the ears to hold the masks in place. Sewers have been improvising by using ponytail holders, using bias tape or sewing their own from fabric, stripping bungee cords for elastic inside or ripping strips of old cotton T-shirts.

Daughter Kathy and friends have made the Olson masks for Allan Memorial Hospital in Waterloo. They are now making masks and including inserts for the missionary in India that their Waterloo church supports. The fully-lined cotton masks have an inside pocket with openings at both ends where an insert is added for further protection over the nose and mouth. The mask can be reused several times by removing the insert, laundering it and replacing a new insert. Inserts can be made by cutting pieces of interfacing, plastic, coffee filters or material from furnace filters.

My other daughter Diane, from Thompson, is also a mask maker. Her daughter from Cedar Rapids, who is a mental health nurse practitioner, recruited her mother to sew masks for the teams in Waterloo and southern Iowa. Jennifer was using the material inside new furnace filters for her mask inserts. Diane made the "flamingo" masks that are shown on YouTube.

Juanita Davidson is a Northwood resident with many talents. She sews while her husband Omer handles meal duty. She is remembered as one of the women who made many commemorative N-K pillows from the old stage curtains given to alumni before the new stage draperies were hung.

Two of Juanita's lovely quilts hang in the Maple Court puzzle room and in the Commons area, where they provide the focal points for seasonal decorations completed by Patti Brekken's expertise. Juanita's quilt making days are on hold as she feels led to making masks after seeing the urgent need. Her hope is to make masks for family, friends, neighbors and others as needed.

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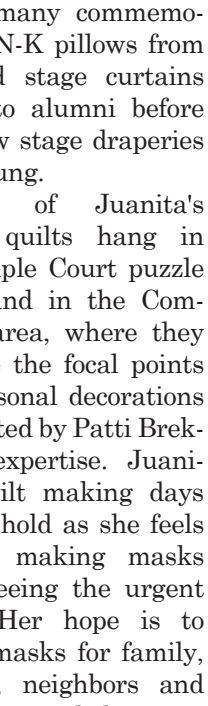
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When the end of the year disappears- local college students describe finishing the school year without returning to campus



TERRAN HABERMAN

By JoAnn Lower

Terran Haberman, a recent graduate of N-K, is a medical student at Riverland Community College in Austin. Already having earned her pharmacology certificate, she will graduate in May with her medical assistant diploma.

"All my classes, including medical management as well as my medication class are through Zoom right now," said Terran. "As a medical student, classes are usually hands-on, so that has been difficult."

Another step in her nursing education, her preceptorship (akin to an apprenticeship for nurses), is on hold until she can return to physical classes for lab and clinical hours.

Besides keeping up with her classes, she is employed at Tequila's, the Northwood Anchor and at Minnesota Maid cleaning businesses. When time permits, she keeps up with friends through social media.

Terran has a virtual commencement on May 25th to celebrate her accomplishments and is looking forward to an upcoming employment interview.

Josie Einertson is busy studying for upcoming finals. A 2019 graduate of N-K, she is attending the University of Northern Iowa majoring in mathematics.

"Part of me was happy because I got to come home early but nervous about school and how everything was going to work out. No one could have imagined this was coming."

"Classes online are going all right, but some classes are easier than others. It's difficult not being able to ask questions directly



JOSIE EINERTSON

on the spot."

Josie is keeping in touch with her college friends through Snapchat or text.

"We hoped we'd see each other again before we left, but we didn't even get to say goodbye."

Besides her online classes, she has been helping out at home. "We have two dogs so I've been staying home with them, playing with them and taking them for walks. The dogs and I have gotten to be good friends."

"It's important to embrace this time," said Josie. "How often will we get to be in a house with our family having quality time together that we would never have had otherwise. I find this time enjoyable."



NATHAN CORDLE

Nathan Cordle is a freshman at the University of Northern Iowa majoring in actuarial science - the discipline that applies mathematical and statistical methods to assess risk in insurance and other industries and professions. He graduated from N-K in 2019.

"At UNI I had my own room and was playing basketball with friends. I miss that. It's a struggle to do all my classes online, but I'm doing okay with it."

Nathan stays in touch with his college friends through Snapchat and has been golfing with a couple of friends since he's been home.

Things Nathan is abiding by: "Be safe, stay inside, social distance, use a mask, and if you have to go out, be smart about it."

Emily Follmuth graduated from N-K in the spring of 2019. That fall she enrolled at the University of Northern Iowa, with a major in elementary education, a minor in special education.

Her freshman year, however, came to an abrupt end on March 19 when she learned that instead of an extended three-week spring break, she was finished for the semester. She came home on March 20.

"It was an unfinished ending to an exciting year," said Follmuth, who is now finishing the semester online through the University's service, Blackboard.



EMILY FOLLMUTH

"It's been stressful because of the unknowns and a struggle with the professors not knowing the technology. This is a big learning curve for them."

Along with her classes, Emily was a swim instructor for younger kids. "We were just beginning the spring session when it was canceled. It was hard to say goodbye to them."

Back in Northwood, she has been trying to find balance between homework, helping her dad, reading, spending time with her family, taking her dog for walks and staying in touch with her friends through social media.

"Even though I feel I'm going through a tough time struggling with schoolwork, etc., I count my blessings. I have such a good situation, nothing to complain about. Some are having a much tougher time. High school seniors are missing out on so much."



LAURA HOPPERSTAD

Laura Hopperstad graduated from N-K in 2019 and is now enrolled at NIACC, working to get into the physical therapy program.

"We were on spring break when first told we couldn't go back to school after the break. Then around the end of March we were asked to stay home and do our classes online. Online classes are okay, but studying anatomy on a computer is difficult when you can't ask questions and don't have a skeleton in front of you."

Besides finishing her classes, Laura has been helping her dad in the field, walking her dogs, finding little things to do around the house and keeping in contact with her friends through social media. She's hoping to work at the pool this summer and will be taking summer classes beginning May 11th, hoping everything is back to normal by fall.

"I practice social distancing with my grandpa and grandma and go to visit my grandma on the west side of town just to say "Hi."



MOLLY HUNCHIS

"Everyone in the world is going through this," said Laura. "We're all in this together."

Molly Hunchis, a freshman at Iowa State University majoring in event management, graduated from N-K in May 2019.

"I really love planning things," she smiled. "It's what I would like to do for the rest of my life."

"The second semester went so quick, and preparing for finals at home is not what I had imagined. With so many distractions, it's hard to study six hours a day, but it makes me feel better that I'm not alone. Every college kid is going through this."

"We are fortunate to have the best technology, and having the support of friends is so important. I facetime with at least two people a day."

"I'm still working on a routine, balancing my time between doing homework in the morning and other tasks in the afternoon. I'm looking forward to planting flowers."

"Because we're isolated, it's important to check in on family and friends."

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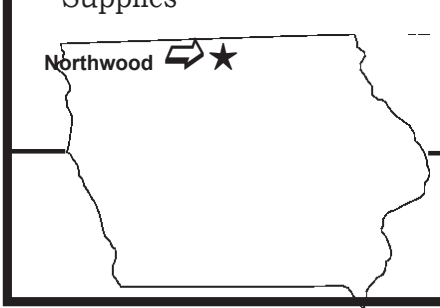
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Northwood - "A Friendly Town"

RSVP honors volunteers for giving back during National Volunteer Week

Now, more than ever, people helping others is worth celebrating. Communities throughout North Central Iowa are stronger thanks to the time and talent shared by Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) volunteers.

RSVP of North Central Iowa recently recognized its members and highlighted the wonderful work they do to fulfill needs and address problems in their communities during National Volunteer Week, held April 19-25, a week to celebrate volunteerism and service to others.

The majority of RSVP volunteers serve in area elementary and middle schools. Reading Buddy and Reading Coach volunteers mentor and tutor students in reading. Pen Pals exchange letters with students. Breakfast Buddies serve at school breakfast programs.

RSVP also provides volunteers for community programs, such as readers for the Iowa Radio Reading Information Service for the Blind and Print Handicapped program at KCMR radio station in Mason City; blood drive volunteers with the American Red Cross; and mentors for the Jail & Prison Ministry Program though Catholic Charities.

While the majority of RSVP programs are on hold currently due to the coronavirus pandemic, a group of extremely dedicated disaster volunteers continues to serve at the COVID-19 Call Center with Cerro Gordo County Emergency Management and a few volunteers are serving from home making masks for organizations in their communities.

This year, RSVP has had 370 volunteers actively serving in the six-county service area. In area schools, Reading Buddy volunteers tutored 533 elementary students and Reading Coaches are mentoring 52 middle school students. In addition, Pen Pal volunteers have exchanged letters with 321 fourth-and-fifth grade students.

"RSVP provides a unique opportunity for intergenerational programming, which is so important in today's society. Older Americans and young students can learn a lot from each other and they often bring joy to each other's lives," said Molly Anderegg, RSVP Director. "RSVP offers a variety of ways for people 55 and older to stay active and involved in their community."

In addition to volunteers serving in their local communities, RSVP also honored its 15 Advisory Council members. The Council helps shape and strengthen RSVP programs throughout North Central Iowa. RSVP saluted council members and volunteers who have served this year:

Advisory Council – Britt: Elaine Weiland; Buffalo Center: Dean Swenson; Forest City: Julienne Friday; Garner: Carol Peterson and Shirley Rasche; Hampton: Kimberly Booth and Claudia Rivera; **Manly: Marilyn Pinta**; Mason City: Karen Dole, Carol Johnson and Colleen Last; **Northwood: Bob Perry and Stephen Wolfe**; Osage: Velda LaCoste; and Thompson: Larry Hill.

Local volunteers (with hours since July 1, 2019):

Emmons, Minn.: Sheri Borcherding

Fertile: Jan Hare and Carolyn Nedved

Grafton: Janice Slater

Joice: Jan Anderson and Beth Stene

Manly: JoAnn Andera, Deb Banicki, Marlene Brown, Val Brunsvold, Gloria Harnack, Caryl Lawyer, Russell Mlack, Joyce Nuehring and Gwen Shackleton

Northwood: Nancy Amundson, Shirley Beal, Genie Foss, Kathy Hanson, Marcia Kraft, Judy Levorson, Jeanne Loberg, William Loberg, Linda Queen, Pauline Ragsdale, Sherry Schmitt, Barb Trenhaile and Joan Watts

Anyone 55 or older that would like to volunteer may contact the RSVP office. More information about RSVP of North Central Iowa is available online at www.niacc.edu/rsvp or by contacting 1-888-466-4222 ext. 4256, 641-422-4256 or rsvp@niacc.edu. RSVP of North Central Iowa serves the counties of Cerro Gordo, Franklin, Hancock, Mitchell, Winnebago and Worth responding to priority community needs by providing meaningful, purposeful volunteer opportunities for people ages 55 and older.



Pieces of artrock

Last week the rock-as-a-canvass artwork that has become increasing prevalent throughout the community was expanded with stones placed in front of several downtown businesses. At top left is the rock found in front of the Northwood Anchor office. At top right is the rock near the door to Tequila's Mexican Bar and Grill. The rock in the bottom left photo was found near Olson Insurance. The art-rock on the bottom right was spotted outside Bean & Bistro. These joined other pieces or art-rock that can be found in parks, at the Worth County fairgrounds, at churches and in various other random spots.

MercyOne North Iowa Cancer Center welcomes Traci Goll

Traci Goll, ARNP has joined MercyOne North Iowa Cancer Center.

Goll received her ARNP from the University of Cincinnati in December 2019. Prior to joining Cancer Care, she was a registered nurse on the pediatric floor at MercyOne North Iowa. She joins the Cancer Care team with over 23 years of RN experience.

Goll pursed her dream of becoming an ARNP because she wanted to make a true difference in the lives of patients.

"The medical field is very fascinating and diverse. I look forward to being challenged daily and making an impact on the people I serve."



TRACI GOLL

MercyOne North Iowa Cancer Center offers patients sophisticated oncology care; including state-of-the-art radiation therapy, immunotherapy, chemotherapy, personalized medicine and surgery, in combination with a survivorship program, a comprehensive breast center, genetic counseling and many support services.

Mayo Clinic begins curbside pickup for prescriptions, medical supplies

To improve service for all patients and to adhere to social distancing requirements, several Mayo Clinic pharmacies and Mayo Clinic stores are now offering curbside service, including locations in Albert Lea, Austin and Owatonna.

When arriving at these buildings with a pharmacy request, a person will receive direction from our staff to obtain medication.

Here is how curbside pickup for prescriptions or medical supplies will work:

When patients arrive at a Mayo Clinic Pharmacy location to pick up a prescription, they will pull up to the main clinic entrance and park their vehicle. Designated parking will be provided.

Patients will call pharmacy staff to inform them that they have arrived. Phone numbers are provided at each site. Patients should be prepared to give the following information: patient name, date of birth, color and make of vehicle. If patients do not have a phone, they can come to the entrance door of the pharmacy. Patients can enter the building, but they should not enter the pharmacy.

A staff member will provide further instructions regarding payment and deliver medications to patients' vehicles when the orders are ready.

To best prepare for and prevent transmission of COVID-19 in communities, Mayo Clinic Health System encourages all patients to call first before coming to any clinic or hospital. When calling first, a person will be triaged to the right setting of care based on symptoms and medical need. In the event of a medical emergency, patients should always call 9-1-1.

The Mayo Clinic Health System COVID-19 online resource site includes contact information and the most up-to-the-minute information about COVID-19 and what to do for those that have symptoms, unrelated health care needs or need to visit someone at the clinic or hospital. Updates can also be found at Mayo Clinic Health System's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram channels.

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Northwood Anchor **Church**

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How to Improve Our Lives



No matter how bad things are, they can usually be made better. How, you ask? By Honesty, Open-mindedness, and Willingness. The acronym HOW is a nice reminder of how to get things on the right track. Because while things can get better, they can also get worse. By lying to ourselves (and others), by being close-minded, and by being unwilling to work through our problems we are on the road to disaster. On the other hand, honestly assessing our lives (and all of the problems that come with it), by being open to solutions and other ways of looking at things, and finally, by being willing to work at improving our lives we can almost always make things better. Another way to look at this is that people can change for the better, but it takes the willingness to look openly and honestly at our faults, and to be willing to do the hard work necessary to change them. The practical application of intelligent planning and goodwill can actually improve our lives and the world we live in. – Christopher Simon

"Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator." – Colossians 3:9-10 NIV

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Cook Bookin'

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Bulwer Lytton, Edward Robert



by Sandy Olson

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

We are in "shoulder season", where on a few days winter is somehow not yet done with us but spring isn't truly here yet. But, it IS coming and with it a craving for salads and fresh foods that are missing during the cold months in Iowa. Produce that has been shipped in over long distances just doesn't cut it when compared with farmers' market offerings. The following recipes are adapted from Look What's Cooking Now! (1985, American Cancer Society, Minneapolis, MN). This is an older book that was printed as a fund raiser for the Minnesota Division of the Society. The chapter is titled "Fresh and Natural".

Mama Mia! What a Salad

Dressing:
1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil
1/3 cup tarragon vinegar
1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar
1 teaspoon sugar
1/2 teaspoon dry mustard
1 teaspoon dried thyme
1 clove fresh garlic, minced
Salad:
1 can (14 oz.) artichoke hearts, not the marinated type
1 head red leaf lettuce, torn into bite-sized pieces
1 green bell pepper, seeded and cut into long strips
1 small can (2.24 oz.) sliced ripe olives
3 ripe tomatoes, cut into wedges. OR…use Romas sliced into rounds
3 tablespoons freshly grated Parmesan (not from a green can!)

Combine all dressing ingredients in a quart jar and shake to combine. Drain the artichoke hearts and cut into quarters. Add to the dressing and refrigerate several hours or overnight. Mix the remaining salad ingredients except the cheese in a large bowl. Pour the artichoke pieces and the dressing over the salad and toss. Sprinkle with the Parmesan.

Gorgeous Greek Salad

1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
1/4 cup vegetable oil
Juice of one fresh lemon
1/2 teaspoon dried oregano
1 pint little grape tomatoes
1/4 cup chopped red onion
1 package (10 oz.) frozen Brussels sprouts, cooked and drained

SANDY'S NOTE: Don't overcook the Brussels sprouts. They become mushy and is the reason most people say they don't like them.

Mix the two oils, the lemon juice and oregano. Put the veggies into a sealed container and pour the dressing over them. Cover and marinate for several hours or overnight. Top with freshly ground black pepper and serve.

Walnut Gorgonzola Salad

1 head, about a pound, romaine lettuce, washed and trimmed
1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
1 tablespoon red wine vinegar
1/2 teaspoon sea or kosher salt
Freshly ground black pepper
1/4 cup Gorgonzola cheese, cut into small pieces
1/2 cup coarsely chopped walnuts

Tear the lettuce into bite-sized pieces and set aside Blend the oil, vinegar, salt and pepper mixing well. Add half the cheese and mash with a fork. Add half of the walnuts; stir to blend. In a large salad bowl, add the lettuce and pour the dressing over it; toss. Top with the remaining cheese and walnuts.

You'll notice none of these salads are our usual iceberg lettuce, tomatoes, onions and ranch dressing. The unique combination of flavors lifts side salads to a new level but does require us to think a bit outside the bowl! I am a huge fan of spices, rubs, blends, mixes etc. to add flavor to things. I just received a jar of fermented Cambodian black peppercorns packed in sea salt. They are soft rather than the hard, dry ones we use in a pepper grinder. Don't know what I'll cook with them yet but they are delicious right out of the jar! And, that's all she wrote.

Northwood Anchor Society



Daffodils in bloom

Spring-like weather has made spring foliage an increasingly pleasing sight recently as manly flowers and other plants have begun to bloom. That includes the daffodils pictured above at the home of Linda Griffith, their gardener.

Northwood Public Library

By Morgan Johnson
Library Director

Wow, where have the last seven weeks gone? Some days go by at a snail's pace and other days I can't believe it's May! The library has been trying to figure out how to best serve our patrons while also following guidelines set forth by the medical community. As guidelines and rules change, we have tried to change with them.

Curbside services are now offered on Mondays from 1-5 p.m. and Thursdays from 1-6 p.m. Please e-mail us at northwoodlibrary@mchsi.com, send a Facebook message or call 324-1340 and leave a message on the library answering machine. Include your book or DVD requests along with your name and time and date for pickup. Please check the library's website for availability of books and DVDs or tell me what authors or books you like, and I will help pick out books for you. Books returned the same day will not be available for checkout until the next week to allow for decontamination.

I will have the books and/or DVDs checked out waiting for you. When you arrive at your designated time, please remain in your car and I will bring the items out to you. During this time all fines and overdue fees will continue to be waved. We do ask that if possible you return items in a timely manner so that others might use them, but again no charges will incur at this time. Returned books should be placed in the book drop.

We also continue to share many of our online services with you via Facebook. Some of our services include Overdrive/Libby as your free option for e-books and Audiobooks! All you need to know is your library card number and you can log in to your account, search for books and borrow them on your choice of electronic device- phone, computer, tablet, etc. If you have trouble logging on please leave a message on the library's answering machine (324-1340) or e-mail the library at northwoodlibrary@mchsi.com and I'll get back to you as soon as possible. You can also prepare yourself for a fun out of the country adventure (when all this is over) by learning a new language with Transparent Language Online. Find out more about it and more services on our website www.youseemore.com/NILC/Northwood.

These times are new and unchartered territory at the library. Currently we are unable to have story hour, so we are offering an online story time on Friday mornings at 10 a.m. This involves a recorded reading of a story book or two followed by a video giving a demonstration of a simple craft. Be sure to check it out!

We hope you are all staying safe and healthy, and we can't wait to see you soon! Until then, please stay up-to-date with us on Facebook!

NRCS announces June 1 deadline for conservation agreement proposals

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is announcing a funding opportunity for agreements that address Iowa-specific conservation issues. The proposal deadline is June 1, 2020.

Through the Iowa Partners for Conservation (IPC) Award, successful projects will leverage NRCS resources, address local natural resource issues, encourage collaboration, and develop state- and community-level conservation leadership.

NRCS seeks agreement proposals that address at least one of the following:

• Conduct on-site (field) monitoring and follow-up of Easement and other Stewardship Lands.

• Promote Soil Health engagement in the agronomic community (private sector) with the help of conservation agronomists.

• Conduct on-site (field) practice certifications and follow-up with producers on conservation seeding establishment.

• Facilitate conversations with NRCS staff and partners at the field level regarding Iowa NRCS' new conservation delivery schedule. The conversations need to result in relationships between field staff and resource team members.

In 2019, Iowa NRCS provided about $2 million through five IPC projects. This year, an estimated $2.5 million will be available for IPC agreements. Funding amounts can range from $75,000 to $1.5 million through 1-to 5-year agreements.

Proposals must be submitted electronically at www.grants.gov/web/grants/home.html (refer to USDA-NRCS-IA-IPC-20-GEN0010749) by 10:59 p.m. CST on June 1, and by email to Judy.Martinson@usda.gov with a cc to Carolyn.Christian@usda.gov.

Additional details are available at www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/ia/people/part ners/request+for+proposals+%28rfp%29/.

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Northwood Anchor **Opinion**

History of Mother's Day

Mother's Day is a holiday honoring motherhood that is observed in different forms throughout the world. In the United States, Mother's Day 2020 occurs on Sunday, May 10. The American incarnation of Mother's Day was created by Anna Jarvis in 1908 and became an official U.S. holiday in 1914. Jarvis would later denounce the holiday's commercialization and spent the latter part of her life trying to remove it from the calendar...

History of Mother's Day

Celebrations of mothers and motherhood can be traced back to the ancient Greeks and Romans, who held festivals in honor of the mother goddesses Rhea and Cybele, but the clearest modern precedent for Mother's Day is the early Christian festival known as "Mothering Sunday."

Once a major tradition in the UK and parts of Europe, this celebration fell on the fourth Sunday in Lent and was originally seen as a time when the faithful would return to their "mother church"—the main church in the vicinity of their home—for a special service.

Over time the Mothering Sunday tradition shifted into a more secular holiday, and children would present their mothers with flowers and other tokens of appreciation. This custom eventually faded in popularity before merging with the American Mother's Day in the 1930s and 1940s.

Ann Reeves Jarvis and Julia Ward Howe

The origins of Mother's Day as celebrated in the United States date back to the 19th century. In the years before the Civil War, Ann Reeves Jarvis of West Virginia helped start "Mothers' Day Work Clubs" to teach local women how to properly care for their children.

These clubs later became a unifying force in a region of the country still divided over the Civil War. In 1868 Jarvis organized "Mothers' Friendship Day," at which mothers gathered with former Union and Confederate soldiers to promote reconciliation.

Another precursor to Mother's Day came from the abolitionist and suffragette Julia Ward Howe. In 1870 Howe wrote the "Mother's Day Proclamation," a call to action that asked mothers to unite in promoting world peace. In 1873 Howe campaigned for a "Mother's Peace Day" to be celebrated every June 2.

Other early Mother's Day pioneers include Juliet Calhoun Blakely, a temperance activist who inspired a local Mother's Day in Albion, Michigan, in the 1870s. The duo of Mary Towles Sasseen and Frank Hering, meanwhile, both worked to organize a Mothers' Day in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Some have even called Hering "the father of Mothers' Day."

Anna Jarvis

The official Mother's Day holiday arose in the 1900s as a result of the efforts of Anna Jarvis, daughter of Ann Reeves Jarvis. Following her mother's 1905 death, Anna Jarvis conceived of Mother's Day as a way of honoring the sacrifices mothers made for their children.

After gaining financial backing from a Philadelphia department store owner named John Wanamaker, in May 1908 she organized the first official Mother's Day celebration at a Methodist church in Grafton, West Virginia. That same day also saw thousands of people attend a Mother's Day event at one of Wanamaker's retail stores in Philadelphia.

Following the success of her first Mother's Day, Jarvis—who remained unmarried and childless her whole life—resolved to see her holiday added to the national calendar. Arguing that American holidays were biased toward male achievements, she started a massive letter writing campaign to newspapers and prominent politicians urging the adoption of a special day honoring motherhood.

By 1912 many states, towns and churches had adopted Mother's Day as an annual holiday, and Jarvis had established the Mother's Day International Association to help promote her cause. Her persistence paid off in 1914 when President Woodrow Wilson signed a measure officially establishing the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

Jarvis Decries Commercialized Mother's Day

Anna Jarvis had originally conceived of Mother's Day as a day of personal celebration between mothers and families. Her version of the day involved wearing a white carnation as a badge and visiting one's mother or attending church services. But once Mother's Day became a national holiday, it was not long before florists, card companies and other merchants capitalized on its popularity.

While Jarvis had initially worked with the floral industry to help raise Mother's Day's profile, by 1920 she had become disgusted with how the holiday had been commercialized. She outwardly denounced the transformation and urged people to stop buying Mother's Day flowers, cards and candies.

Jarvis eventually resorted to an open campaign against Mother's Day profiteers, speaking out against confectioners, florists and even charities. She also launched countless lawsuits against groups that had used the name "Mother's Day," eventually spending most of her personal wealth in legal fees. By the time of her death in 1948 Jarvis had disowned the holiday altogether, and even actively lobbied the government to see it removed from the American calendar...

In the United States, Mother's Day continues to be celebrated by presenting mothers and other women with gifts and flowers, and it has become one of the biggest holidays for consumer spending. Families also celebrate by giving mothers a day off from activities like cooking or other household chores.

At times, Mother's Day has also been a date for launching political or feminist causes. In 1968 Coretta Scott King, wife of Martin Luther King Jr., used Mother's Day to host a march in support of underprivileged women and children. In the 1970s women's groups also used the holiday as a time to highlight the need for equal rights and access to childcare.

From The History Channel, online at history.com.



Ponderings from the Batt Cave

By Al Batt writer, speaker, storyteller and humorist.

Echoes from the Loafers' Club Teleconference Meeting

Why do you have a string tied around your finger?

It's floss.

Why do you have floss tied around your finger?

To help me remember to floss.

Driving by Bruce's drive

I have a wonderful neighbor, named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me, such as: I celebrate each day, but give a special whoop on the 20th of every month because in 2020 that provides three 20s in a row. That should be worth something.

Staying home is the new going, but freed from the manacles of my home address by the need to visit the clinic, I felt the lure of the path and took a walk at a state park and bike trail before buying seed for my wild birdies. I felt brazen. I bought gas, paying at the pump — only 70 cents. Of course, I got only 1/2 gallon. I should have preordered. As I drove, I noticed many drivers had cellphones to their heads. The state law allowing Minnesota drivers to use cellphone only through voice commands or single-touch activation went into effect on August 1. Iowa law permits most motorists to make and receive calls, and talk on phones while driving. The drivers I saw must have been in their own private Iowa.

Rural routes

Some years, it seems as if our gravel roads are nothing more than lines connecting frost boils, but that's not true. The roads are good. I've seen photos of old rural roads that were little more than cow lanes through deep mud. Someone said, "The Iowa farmer cannot haul to market when the market is high. He must haul to market when the roads are dry." Iowa township trustees determined the amount of property tax to be levied to support township roads and, at one time, all able-bodied men between the ages of 21 and 45 were obligated to perform two days of labor on the roads (within 3 miles of their homes) annually as a poll tax.

My neighbor Crandall

He has a third car because you never know. He watches both FOX and MSNBC on his TV the size of the national debt because he enjoys being confused. He used to play the triangle, but quit because it was one ting after another and it gave him the heebeegeebees — an unexplained fear of the Bee Gees. He ate an entire pizza while watching "Jaws" and mumbled to himself, "You're gonna need bigger pants."

Thoughts while pumping gas

Never ask a man how long a roll of toilet paper lasts him.

Never ask what kind of pie a pie chart is made of.

Don't panic, but somewhere near you, a coupon is expiring.

A man who sits at home all day in his sweats has gone from being a bum to being a hero.

Never forget where you came from. It's where you left your cellphone.

The old joke department

A cheeseburger walks into a bar. The bartender said, "We don't serve food here."

What do you call a chicken that counts its eggs before they hatch? A mathemachicken.

Nature notes

I listened to white-throated sparrows singing in the rain. Their plaintive whistles, "Old Sven Peterson, Peterson, Peterson," were vocal rainbows. A mourning dove flew into a tree overhead. I looked for a nest, a flimsy assemblage of twigs that allows eggs to be seen from below. I saw red admiral and painted lady (thistle butterflies) butterflies that migrated here and sulphurs that overwintered here as pupae.

I spotted a yellow-bellied sapsucker. Jack Blanchard and Misty Morgan sang a song carrying that bird's name that goes like this: "Well, you can take all your lovebirds stick 'em in a tree. And they look just like a lotta bullfinches to me. Now don't come home with them lovey-dovey words. Baby, that's strictly for the birds. You made me feel like a yellow-bellied sapsucker singin' in a eucalyptus tree. And now I feel like a sap since you made a sucker out of me, oh oh. You made me feel like a wheel like a real big deal then cut. The door to your heart slammed shot. You made me feel like you know what. Well, now I feel like a red-headed woodpecker peckin' at a cast iron tree. Just a huffin' and a peckin' and a bangin' my brains out nothin' but misery. You made me feel like a yellow-bellied sapsucker."

The sapsucker drilled holes in a tree. The stuttering cadence of its hammering sounded as if it were sending a message in Morse Code.

Meeting adjourned

We learned kind words so that we might share them in full measure.

© Al Batt 2020

Fit to print...

Ecumenical statement about religious gatherings

As denominational leaders in the Christian tradition, we are united in our concern regarding Governor Kim Reynolds' declaration to allow spiritual and religious gatherings in Iowa.

It was with surprise we learned of the Governor's proclamation and, as such, we feel compelled to provide clarity and guidance of what it means for congregations to be faithful and safe during these extraordinary times.

In the spirit of ecumenism, we join together in asking congregations and members across the state to take faithful action by refraining from in-person religious gatherings, including worship. We encourage and hope that congregations will worship and gather in community from afar continuing the use of technology and other means. Decisions to return to in-person gatherings in our congregations should be based on science, the best practices recommended by public health officials, and in consultation with the leaders of our faith communities.

It is by our faith that we are compelled to love our neighbor. In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, that love comes to expression by remaining physically apart. Loving our neighbor, and thereby the whole community, includes putting public health and the well being of others ahead of the natural desire to be physically present together in community and in worship.

As faith leaders, our hearts grieve for the immense pain and suffering felt by so many during these times. Whether mourning the loss of a loved one who has died from the coronavirus; facing the economic stress due to the loss of employment, business, or income; feeling isolated or alone; experiencing the stress of managing children and work from home; carrying the burden of uncertainty from the disaster and when a new normal may emerge, we pray you might find strength and hope in God's unending and ever-present love.

For the sake of the common good, we ask all congregations, their leaders, and their members to prioritize the safety and well being of each other, those at particular risk, and those in their broader community. Please love one another and your neighbor by continuing to be in community together from afar.

Rev. Ian McMullen, General Presbyter, Presbytery of North Central Iowa

Bishop Laurie Haller, Iowa Conference of The United Methodist Church

Rev. Brigit Stevens, Executive Conference Minister; Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota UCC Conferences

The Right Reverend Alan Scarfe, Bishop of The Episcopal Diocese of Iowa

Bishop Thomas R. Zinkula, Catholic Diocese of Davenport

Bishop Michael L. Burk, Southeastern Iowa Synod - ELCA

Rev. Lorna H. Halaas, Bishop, Western Iowa Synod, ELCA

Bishop Steven L. Ullestad, Northeastern Iowa Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Rev. John M. Richardson, Interim Regional Minister, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Upper Midwest

Rev. Jacquline L. Saxon, Executive Minister of Mid-American Baptist Churches of Iowa and Minnesota Tim Button-Harrison, Northern Plains District Executive, Church of the Brethren

Rev. David Feltman, Ecumenical Connections of Iowa Coordinator

Rev. Kristin Pike, Presbyterian Church (USA), Stated Clerk of the Presbyteries of Des Moines & North Central Iowa

Pat Shipley, Stated Clerk, Presbytery Missouri River Valley

Rev. Richard Francis, Stated Clerk, Presbytery of Prospect Hill, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Elder Amgad Beblawi, Interim Executive Presbyter, Presbytery of Des Moines

Rebecca Blair, Ph.D., Stated Clerk, Presbytery of East Iowa

Rev. Chaz Ruark, Executive Presbyter, John Knox Presbytery

Nathan Luitjens, Executive Conference Minister, Central Plains Mennonite Conference

Susan Janzen, Conference Minister for Ministerial Leadership, Central Plains Mennonite Conference Amanda Bleichty, Conference Minister for Christian Formation, Central Plains Mennonite Conference

Northwood Anchor Early Files

100 years ago

May 7, 1920

Two old pioneers have passed away—Mrs. Matt Farmer's funeral was held at her home on west Main Street. The Rev. W.A. Hanscom conducted the service. And great was the surprise when it was learned that Comrade John Wroten died at his daughter's home at Taylor Falls. The funeral was at the Northwood Methodist church.

Charles Edmonds, of Postville, spent time with old friends in Northwood while visiting in the home of his daughter, Mrs. Lloyd Sterzbach. Mr. Edmonds has sold his confectionary business at Postville and friends of the family will be glad to learn that they have decided to return to Northwood.

Another of those delightful dancing parties was held at the I.O.O.F. Hall and as usual those who attended had "the time of their lives." The parties are being given for the purpose of creating a fund with which to help entertain the visitors who are expected to attend the district convention of the Rebekah Lodge which will meet here on May 21.

Fifty people were reported killed and more than 150 injured in a storm that is said to have wiped out the little town of Peggs, Oklahoma. Reports to the Muskagee Times-Democrat from Lotus Grove, were that the dead and injured from Peggs are being removed.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. O.J. Thompson, in southeast Northwood, was the scene of a beautiful wedding on May 2, when Pearl Ruby was united in holy wedlock to Mr. Theodore Skjeveland, son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin O. Skjeveland, of Northwood.

75 years ago

May 9, 1945

An attendance of more than 230 is reported at the 57th convention of the St. Ansgar Circuit, Lutheran Women's Missionary Federation held in Concordia church, near Joice. Mrs. Lauritz Larson of Joice, president of the circuit group, presided.

A temperature of 79 degrees brought the first summer weather of the present season locally, and was the warmest day since September 18, 1944, when the thermometer reached 84 degrees. The warmth was of short duration, however, and by Wednesday morning low of 26 degrees was recorded.

A shipment of 85 boxes of clothing for refugees of war torn Europe was made from Northwood, with a total weight of 3,500 pounds. Sorting and packing of the donations from Northwood homes and in the surrounding territory was done in the basement of the Methodist church with Mrs. Minnie Johnson in charge.

Orville Julseth, southwest of town, had the assistant two weeks ago of 35 neighbors in tearing down the barn on the Julseth farm which as wrecked in a windstorm early last month. Practically all the lumber in the building was salvaged and will be used in a new barn to be built this summer.

Glen S. Cleveland was re-elected county superintendent of schools for Worth County for a term fo three years at a meeting of the representatives of the town and rural school districts held on Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. at the court house.

50 years ago

May 7, 1970

Jerry Olson, secretary of Worth Mutual Insurance Association presented David Iverson with an award for winning first place in the Soil Conservation District speech contest held last week in Northwood. Glenn O. Tenold is the president of the Association.

Four Viking Relay queen candidates inspired the N-K team to victory at the annual track event. They were Carol Jones, Ivanell Hanson, Diane Johnson and Kathi Haugebak. Diane Johnson was named the queen.

The Northwood-Kensett high school concert band received a "I" rating at the state music contest at Belmont. The vocal Chorus received a division II rating. Both groups competed in Class B against eight other schools of comparable size. George Feuerhelm is instrumental director, and Lowell Gangstad is vocal director.

George D. Lindflott was elected District Junior Vice Commander, and Mrs. John Thompson was elected District Auxillary Chaplain at the Third District VFW meeting held in Clear Lake Sunday. Those attending from the local post included Mr. Lindflott and Mrs. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Holstad, Mr. and Mrs. Art Bendickson, Mr. and Mrs. W.W. Hudson and LuVerne Helgeson.

Terry L. Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold L. Johnson, rural Northwood, was inducted into the Army on April 29 at the Des Moines Induction Center and ordered to report to Fort Lewis, Washington, for basic training. The Worth County Selective Service board has received a May draft call for three men.

25 years ago

May 10, 1995

Life-long Northwood resident Marge Pangburn enthralled a group of youngsters with tales of her pioneer grandparents, Gerhart and Gundla Gabriel, during a recent Northwood-Kensett first-grade outing to the log house the Gabriels built in 1860. Pangburn's great grandson Grayson helped his grandma field questions from his classmates. The log house, situated on its original homestead site, is located approximately one block north of the Northwood Country Club entrance.

Three Northwood boys earned high placings recently in the North Iowa Tae Kwon Do and Karate Championships. Mark and Rodney Skellenger, sons of Ron and Marilyn Skellenger of Northwood, advanced to second place finish in their age groups. Cory Hagen, son of Robert and Annette Hagen, achieved a third-place finish in his division.

Four Northwood-Kensett High School students teamed up to take second place in Quiz Bowl competition at Mason City High School recently. The N-K "quiz kids" include Nicole Dalluge, Matt Throndl, Tessa Julseth and Monica Palmer. They were coached by N-K talented and gifted instructor Deb Nagle.

10 years ago

May 12, 2010

Northwood-Kensett sixth graders traveled to the Northwood Volunteer Fire Company headquarters to lend a helping hand, as they scrubbed, sprayed, wiped, dusted and all around made sure the department's vehicles, including the Rescue Squad vehicle, were as clean as they could be.

It was a cool but busy day for the Northwood-Kensett cheerleaders. They held a car wash at the Northwood Volunteer Fire Department to raise money, also $400, for the Relay for Life of Worth County which is scheduled for June 12 at the Worth County Fairgrounds.

The annual Masonic Spring Fling was held recently at the Masonic Temple in Northwood. The Lodge and Eastern Star organization presented a check to the N-K music department. Caryl Lawyer representing the Eastern Star, Sarah Odom; Alex Breitsprecher; Nicole Marrel, vocal instructor and Dale Arhart, who represented the Masonic Lodge.

As each school year winds down, one of Northwood-Kensett's long-standing traditions has been the annual senior tea. The event a tradition since the 1930s, is attended by graduating senior ladies and their mothers and mother figures. For several years, members of the Twenties Club have hosted the senior tea. Senior Tea was held at the Northwood Country Club, are Twenties Club member Sandy Hyde and N-K seniors Kathy Porter and Alex Nicholson.

Northwood Anchor Obituaries

Maxyne Groe



MAXYNE GROE

Maxyne Helen Anderson Groe was born on March 21, 1936 at Park Hospital, Mason City, Iowa to Clarence and Edna (Turvold) Anderson and passed away on December 29, 2019.

She was the third of four daughters. She attended grade school in Northwood and was a member of the First Lutheran Church. Upon graduation from Northwood High School she attended Luther College in Decorah, Iowa.

In 1957 she was united in marriage to Gerald (Jerry) Groe, also of Northwood. After living a short time in Albert Lea where she was employed by Prudential Insurance they moved to Austin, there she started work at the Mower County Farm Bureau Insurance Company and retired after 30 years.

Jerry and Maxyne were the proud parents of two sons and a daughter, Steven, Craig and Gerilyn. Maxyne enjoyed her family, home, sisters, friends and her work at Farm Bureau.

She was an avid reader and liked working with flowers. Her favorite pastime was traveling, usually with her daughter, which she did extensively. Her travels covered most of the United States and Hawaii, Canada, the Caribbean Islands, Hong Kong, and several cities in both China and Japan. Her numerous trips to Europe included France, Belgium, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Germany, Austria, Scotland, Wales and England, with England being her favorite country.

Maxyne is preceded in death by husband, Jerry (December 27. 1999); her son, Steve (February 9, 2006); her parents; and infant sister, Virginia.

She is survived by son, Craig, of Mankato; daughter, Gerilyn (Mike) Elsen, of Eden Prairie; granddaughters, Sylvia Orth (Eduardo Gavilan), Emmalyn Elsen and Andrea Elsen; great-granddaughter, Ariana Gavilan; sisters, Marilyn (Phil) Peters, of Albert Lea, and JoEllen (Jim) Bailey, of Mason City; beloved nephews, nieces, aunt and cousins.*

Gardening while isolated: Bringing the outdoors inside



Another way to bring some of the beauty of the outdoor world inside while isolating during COVID-19 is to create a terrarium with adapted plants, like succulents. This is an activity that can be performed with students of all ages – as both a horticulture educational lesson and a fun activity.

Succulents are fleshy plants that, because they store water in their leaves, require little watering. Many popular terrarium species evolved under drought conditions in the semi-desert areas of Latin America and the Mediterranean.

In the third video of Iowa State University Extension and Outreach's Gardening While Isolated series (available on the ISU Extension and Outreach Facebook page), "Bringing the Outdoors In" takes viewers to Independence, Iowa, with Cindy Haynes, associate professor and extension specialist in horticulture at Iowa State, to learn about succulents and air plants from industry expert Josh Spece of In the Country Garden and Gifts. At this nursery, viewers will find an immense array of succulents and terrarium plants, including Sedum, Echevaria, Aloe, Kalanchoe, Aeonium, Agave, Senecio, and Crassula species.

Starting a succulent garden

Succulents prefer full sunlight, such as a sunny, south-facing window, although some shade is tolerated. Succulents are drought-tolerant, but you should water your terrarium once, when creating the garden, and then after, only as a deep watering (until water comes out the bottom of the container) once a month.

A once-a-year fertilization with a slow-release organic fertilizer should be sufficient. You can move your terrarium or succulent garden outside in the summer, and move them inside in the winter, or treat them as annual plants and replace them each year.

Potting mix is the preferred medium in which to grow succulents, and it is recommended to mix in additional perlite to mimic a dry, desert soil. If you don't wish to be pampering your plants every day, select hardy varieties like sanseviaria and crassula species. There are many colorful cultivars, but the bright colors may fade unless provided full sun. Cultivars with green, or green and white variegated leases, are easier to grow.

Mixing species

Succulents come in a variety of textures, shapes and sizes, with the most popular being the more compact specimens that would fit in a 10-inch diameter bowl container. For a strappy shape, try miniature Sanseviaria or snake plants, or agaves. The more round-shaped 'Baby Toes' (Fenestraria aurantiaca) creates a moon-like atmosphere in the terrarium. Green varieties tend to tolerate the lowest light levels.

Creating more succulents

Another activity is propagating succulents. With echevaria plants, for example, offsets are produced, resembling "hen and chicks," where the chicks can be separated into individual pots. Individual leaves can also be placed in potting mix, where they will sprout new leaves at their base if kept moist. Other succulent leaves can also be propagated into new plants using this method.

Wish to celebrate the life of a passed loved one?

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On the side

Construction season is in full swing, with the warmer temperatures in recent weeks. That includes the siding of this downtown Northwood building, home of Mane St. Cuts, which has been in the works recently. With the north side done, the alley-facing south side was stripped Friday afternoon to reveal brickwork underneath, to prepare for further work.

Osage woman to challenge Brown for state Senate seat



DEB SCHARPER

On April 14, Osage resident Deb Scharper announced her candidacy for the Iowa State Senate, District 26, the seat currently held by Waylon Brown.

Scharper grew up in Rockford and graduated from Rudd-Rockford-Marble Rock High School, and now lives with her family in Osage. Scharper is an X-ray technician at the Mason City Clinic. She and her husband, Cory, are raising three children. Cory owns and operates Scharper Services in Osage, a small business that provides electrical, snow removal, tree removal and trucking services. They are members of the Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Osage.

Deb serves as an Ambassador for the State of Iowa in the Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration (AFTD). Her duties include building connections at the community level, speaking publicly and working with local healthcare providers, and advocating on behalf of those with frontotemporal degeneration, which is the leading cause of dementia in people younger than 60.

Scharper said of her decision to run, "As many of you know, I have been a strong advocate for individuals struggling with early onset dementia, Alzheimers and mental illness. I have advocated at the local, state and national level and it has become clear to me that we need more legislators who know these issues and are willing to listen, learn and help those in need. I have decided to run to be one of those legislators."

Senate District 26 is comprised of Chickasaw, Floyd, Howard, Mitchell and Worth counties, as well as portions of Cerro Gordo and Winneshiek counties.

Supervisors

April 27, 2020
Eighteenth 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 27, 2020 agenda.

Motion by Smeby, second by Abrams, carried to approve the April 20, 2020 board minutes.

Motion by Smeby, second by Smeby, carried to approve moving the May 18, 2020 drainage hearings to May 19, 2020.

Motion by Smeby, second by Abrams, carried to approve a quote by B & W Control Specialists for tree and brush control in the following drainage district open ditches in 2020: DD #2 Upper Main - $5,500.00; DD #2 Upper Main/L-M - $750.00; DD #2 Main - $5,500.00; DD #5 - $4,500.00; DD #6 - $4,500.00; DD #6/L-9 – 3,500.00; DD #6/L-8A - $750.00; DD #4 - $5,500.00; DD #4/L-1 - $2,500.00(Martinson No Spray, Section 17); DD #1 - $9,500 (no previous treatment).

Motion by Abrams, second by Smeby, carried to approve the following claims in the amount of $206,022.66 as per the following schedule:

At & T, Service-911 ..... 36.94
Alliant Energy
Service-Gsr 4,418.50
Ameripride Services Inc
Service-Eng 200.49
Austin Office Products
Supplies-Shf 67.01
Bmc Aggregates Llc
Rock-Eng 7,391.94
Brian M Kuchay, Md
Ems Contract 100.00
Butler Construction Inc
Service-Shf..... 86.89
Central Ia Distributing Inc
Supplies-Con 1,261.10
Centurylink
Service-911 ..... 348.76
Certified Laboratories
Supplies-Eng 1,019.40
County Social Services
Service-Mha..... 131,379.00
Des Moines Stamp Mfg Co
Supplies-Aud 42.40
Falkstone Llc
Rock-Eng 2,959.40
Farm & Home Publishers, Ltd, Supplies-Asr 130.00
Forest City Veterinary Clinic, Llc, Service-Shf 246.90
Francis Lauer Youth Svcs Inc
Service-Juj 1,259.55
Frank Dunn Company
Supplies-Eng 1,598.00
Heartland Asphalt Inc
Supplies-Eng 1,313.96
Hotsy Equipment
Service-Shf..... 349.61
Ia Dept Of Public Safety
Service-Shf..... 1,794.00
Ia Law Enforcement Academy, Edu-Shf..... 6,650.00
Ia Secretary Of State
Notary-Shf..... 30.00
Iccs, Dues-Con 1,500.00
Itsavvy Llc
Supplies-Dap 175.00
Jessica Reyerson
Reimb-Phd..... 50.00
Joel Rohne
Reimb-It/Gis/Dap & Mileage..... 1,511.11
Joe's Collision & Performance Inc, Service-Shf 142.39
John Deere Financial
Parts-Eng..... 637.89
Knudtson Automotive Service, Service-Shf 700.69
Lawson Products Inc
Supplies-Con 631.54
Lexisnexis
Service-Atty 171.00
Mail Services Llc
Supplies-Trs 333.28
Marco Technologies Llc
Service-Dap 294.58
Mark Smeby
Mileage-Sup..... 227.70
Mason City Fire And Rescue
Service-Mex 250.00
Medline Industries Inc
Supplies-Phd 1,418.24
Napa Auto Parts
Supplies-Eng 42.25
Niacog, Service-Tra.... 430.00
Northwood Sanitation Llc
Service-Eng 130.00
Nuss Truck & Equipment Inc
Parts-Eng..... 1,597.74
Peopleservice Inc
Service-Wat & Wwt.....
..... 16,085.00
Plunkett's Pest Control Inc
Service-Gsr 102.00
Popp Farm Drainage
Service-Eng 467.85
Staples Credit Plan
Supplies-Phd 25.38
State Hygienic Laboratory
Service-San..... 50.00
Sure Service Co
Service-Phd..... 4,200.00
Trading Post
Supplies-Eng 472.79
Ver Helst Snyder Drug
Supplies-Shf 483.43
Verizon Wireless
Service-Eng 387.57
Visa, Service-Ema ... 3,803.71
Waste Management Of Iowa Inc, Service-Sdp..... 2,650.00
Windstream
Service-Eng 14.18
Worth County Engineer
Fuel-Con 746.61
Worth County Sheriff
Service-Atty..... 53.00
Ziegler Inc
Parts-Eng..... 1,006.88
Zoho Corporation
Service-Dap 2,547.00
Grand Total 206,022.66

Motion by Smeby, second by Abrams, carried to approve payroll eligibility verification for Raegen Reyerson at $25.00/hour as submitted by public health.

Motion by Smeby, second by Abrams, carried to adjourn at 9:16 A.M. The next meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be Monday, May 4, 2020 at 8:30 A.M.

Jacki A. Backhaus, Auditor
Aaron Stone, Chairperson

Northwood-Kensett School

The Northwood-Kensett Board of Directors met in a Special Meeting on Tuesday, April 28, 2020 in the Secondary Media Center & 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

Next regular board meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2020 at 7:00 pm

New Business

(5-0) Approved an Addendum #2 to the Resolution for the Pandemic Response and Emergency Suspension of Policy dated March 19, 2020

(5-0) Approved using third quarter grades for the semester grade and award a full semester credit to students for the second semester for grades 7-12. Elementary grades are standards-based and will reflect progress through the third quarter

(5-0) Approved moving graduation to June 28, 2020. If the state is not opened back up for gatherings of more than 50 people, we will move it to July 19, 2020. If the state is still not opened back up for gatherings of more than 50 people, we will put together a virtual graduation and parade to be held on July 19, 2020

Mr. Fritz informed the board that a recording is being made of the Senior Awards Night presentations and Graduation Day scholarships. This will be streamed live on the web on May 17th

Discussed school calendar options for remainder of 2019-20 and start of 2020-21: 1) transfer five class days from end of 2019-20 and move to the start of 2020-2021 school year pending ongoing discussion with the NKEA 2) start 2020-21 school year five days early to shorten the gap between end of 2019-20 and start of new school year, no change in number of class days 3) no changes in either calendar.

The governor has waived the school hours/days requirement for the current school year and waived the start date for the 2020-2021 school year. Board will schedule a 2020-2021 School Calendar hearing for the June 11, 2020 board meeting to recommend moving five days from the current school year to the start of the 2020-21 school year

(5-0) approved the last day of classes of the 2019-2020 school year for students as May 14, 2020. Three snow days will not be made up for students and instead will be used for teacher professional development.

(5-0) Adjourned the meeting at 7:55 pm

PROFESSIONAL CARD
Business Announcements

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

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

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

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

Congregate Meals
MEALS ON WHEELS
324-1244

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Notice

NOTICE OF HEARING OF ANNEXATION TO DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 54 WORTH COUNTY, IOWA

TO: Susan Bergo, Gary W Gordon, Kristoffer M Rugland, Worth County Iowa, Diamond Jo Worth, LLC, owners owning lands described below which are the subject matter of this annexation procedure, lien holders of record, and actual occupants of said lands and to all other persons whom it may concern.

YOU AND EACH OF YOU ARE HEARBY NOTIFIED that the Board of Supervisors, Worth County, Iowa, acting in behalf of Drainage District No. 54, Worth County, Iowa, have adopted a Resolution of Necessity for the annexation of additional lands to Drainage District No. 54 as provided by law.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Board of Supervisors have appointed Jon Rosengren, a qualified engineer, to examine such additional lands, to make a survey and plat thereof showing the relation, elevation and condition of drainage with reference to Drainage District No. 54 and to make and file with the County Auditor a report as provided by law. Said report to specify the character of benefits received. Said report provides as follows:

PARCELS RECOMMENDED FOR ANNEXATION
DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 54
WORTH COUNTY, IOWA
2019

LANDOWNERS	SEC.	TWP.	RNG.	BENEFITED PARCEL	PARCEL NUMBER	BENEFITED AREA (ac.)
BERGO, SUSAN	19	100	21	E 2A OF SE SW	0219300006	.5
GORDON, GARY W	32	100	21	SE NW EX PAR	0232100006	1.3
RUGLAND, KRISTOFFER M	19	100	21	PAR IN NE SE EX 2 RODS	0219400005	.4
RUGLAND, KRISTOFFER M	19	100	21	W 196' OF W 595' OF S 560' OF SE NE	0219200010	.2
WORTH COUNTY, IOWA	32	100	21	PAR IN SE NW (PART OF TRACT B)	0232100004	1.6
WORTH COUNTY, IOWA	32	100	21	NE NW EX PARS (PART OF TRACT B)	0232100009	6.3
WORTH COUNTY, IOWA	32	100	21	PAR "D" IN PAR A EX TRACT E NE NW	0232100016	1.86
DIAMOND JO WORTH, LLC	32	100	21	TRACT E IN PAR A IN NE NW	0232100015	.67
					TOTAL RECOMMENDED ANNEXATION ACRES	12.83

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that said report has been filed with the County Auditor of Worth County, Iowa, and the Board of Supervisors have set the time and place of hearing on said report for May 26, 2020 AT 10 A.M., (see electronic meeting notice). At said hearing the Board of Supervisors shall consider such report, plats and profiles and if satisfied that any of such lands are materially benefited by the district and that such annexation is feasible, expedient, and for the public good, it shall proceed to annex said lands to Drainage District No. 54 as provided by law.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all objections to the proposed annexation of said lands and any claim for damages must be in writing and filed with the County Auditor of Worth County at or before the time set for hearing.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that at such hearing, the Board may hear evidence both for and against the approval of the report or any portion thereof, but it shall not be competent to show that any of the land in the district assessed for benefits will not be benefited by such repairs or improvements to some degree. Any interested party may be heard in argument by himself or counsel.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if you fail to object, the Board of Supervisors can make a final decision to make repairs and/or improvements of DD 54, acquire additional right of way, annex additional lands and reclassify. As a consequence of your failure to object you lose your right to appeal the final decision within twenty (20) days to the Iowa District Court.

THIS NOTICE is published and mailed as provided by law at the direction of the Board of Supervisors of Worth County, Iowa, acting as Trustees of Drainage District No. 54.

At the time fixed for hearing, the Board shall examine said report, and may hear evidence thereon, both for and against the annexation of said lands to said district.

For further particulars you are referred to the Engineer's Report of Annexation which is on file at the County Auditor's Office of Worth County, Iowa or can be viewed at www.worthcounty.org, by clicking on Forms & Documents and going to the Drainage Folder.

Dated this 27TH day of April, 2020, at Northwood, Iowa.

By order of the Board of Supervisors of Worth County, Iowa.

Jacki A. Backhaus
Worth County Auditor

Reinvent family mealtime

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues and dine-in eating establishments remain closed, Iowans are reinventing family mealtime, according to nutrition and wellness state specialists with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.

Ruth Litchfield and Sarah Francis say Iowans are proving that a family meal does not need to be a five-course meal. And, family mealtime is not just about the food.

Today's family meal

A family meal can be simple, Litchfield said. Consider using a slow cooker for a soup- or stew-based meal that can be ready to eat when the family is ready. Doubling some family favorites such as lasagna and placing the second meal in the freezer is another option. Family meals are not required to be made from scratch. Using some convenience items (canned soup or frozen pasta) can help cut down on time in the kitchen. Spend Smart Eat Smart, from ISU Extension and Outreach, offers more tips for cooking at home.

A family meal can also be carry/take out. Said Francis, "As long as the family sits down to eat the meal together, it is a family meal. Take-out pizza or sub sandwiches rounded out with a fruit or veggie salad and milk is a family meal."

Finally, a family meal does not have to take place at home.

"Once the COVID-19 crisis passes, family meals can be shared at a restaurant, park or near the playing field. Just remember to include all family members and all food groups," Litchfield said.

Involve the whole family

Litchfield and Francis suggest making family mealtime a family affair from preparation to clean up, not just at the table. This not only decreases the load on one person, but also builds teamwork, cooperation and family connections.

All members of the family can help with menu planning. Each week, ask each family member to suggest one or two menu ideas for the week. Consider having one family member identify a new food or recipe to try each week as well.

Family members can also help with food preparation. They may be more inclined to help if the menu being prepared was their suggestion. Make sure each family member has a specific task.

Even small children can help set or clear the table, rinse produce, measure or mix simple ingredients, and cut soft fruit or vegetables with a plastic knife.

Assign clean up tasks for all family members. Assign one family member to each of the following tasks: clear the table; repackage leftovers, date and place in refrigerator or freezer; clean dishes, pots and pans; clean counters and food preparation areas; take out garbage.

Benefits of family mealtime

Litchfield and Francis want Iowans to be aware of the benefits of family mealtime.

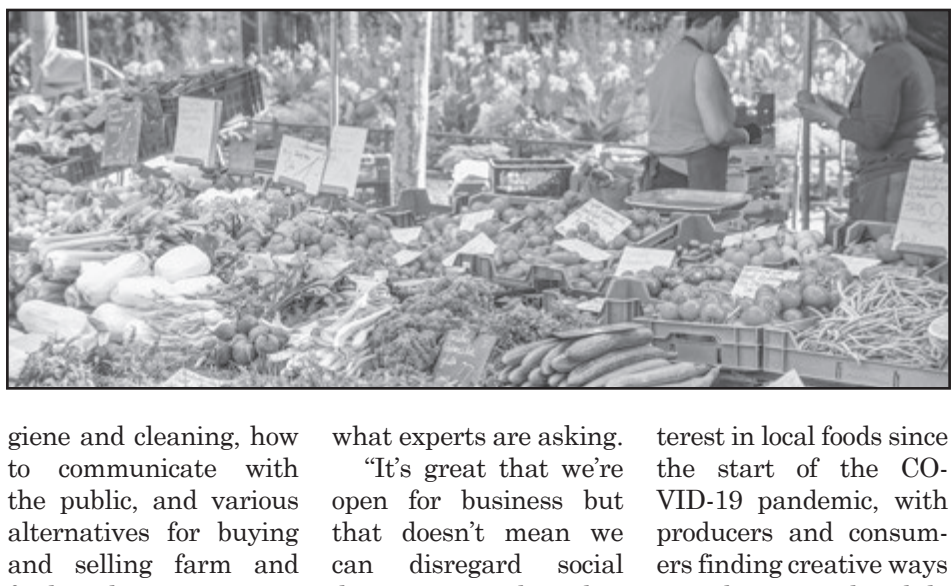
• Better communication. Mealtime conversations let family members share the daily happenings in their lives and get to know more about each other. Mealtime also can be an opportunity to plan family activities and discuss family needs. Make your family mealtime memorable with conversation starter cards. Download a set of age appropriate (adolescents, tots, kids, family) cards to get the table talk started.

• Stronger family bond. Every family has strengths. Eating together increases each family member's sense of belonging and provides a setting for discussions that can reinforce values that are important to the family. Regular family meals create a routine that helps children feel more secure. Stronger bonds make it easier to deal with problems that arise.

• Shared learning. Eating together offers an opportunity to practice social skills, including table manners and conversation, as well as basic food preparation skills. Some studies have suggested that a higher frequency of family mealtime also improves academic performance and peer relationships as well as decreases substance use/abuse and stress.

• Improved nutrition. A more balanced, nutritious meal is likely to be prepared when most or all of the family eats together. Meals prepared at home also tend to be lower in calories, fat and sodium. Preparing your own meals can also save money.

Farmers markets and u-pick operations can sell food, but should follow requirements



Local foods producers and consumers who rely on Iowa's farmers markets for food are able to conduct business as of April 24, according to a decision by Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds.

The governor's Proclamation of Disaster Emergency allows farmers markets to operate, but only to sell food and farm products.

The markets should follow basic social distancing and hygiene and public health measures. Vendor booths are required to be at least six feet apart, and common seating areas are prohibited.

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, along with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, recently put together several publications to help Iowans understand the requirements and additional best practices that should be followed.

"Guidance for Iowa Farmers Markets During COVID-19" is a one-page document that provides an easy-to-follow, bulleted list of what's required and expected.

"Farmers Market and U-Pick Best Practices and Regulations," published by ISU Extension and Outreach, is a seven-page document that provides food safety best practices and examples of the regulations surrounding distribution and shipping of food products in Iowa. Information is available on how to keep employees and visitors healthy, hygiene and cleaning, how to communicate with the public, and various alternatives for buying and selling farm and food products.

Joe Hannan, commercial horticulture field specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach, said the order is important for those who depend on outdoor food markets, but said it's still important to follow what experts are asking.

"It's great that we're open for business but that doesn't mean we can disregard social distancing or the other policies in the order," he said. "We still need to be careful and cognizant of what's going on in the world and how that affects what we do at our food markets."

Hannan said there has been increased interest in local foods since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, with producers and consumers finding creative ways to exchange goods, while keeping their distance.

The best practices guide helps operators of those markets continue to do business, in ways that reduce exposure and promote healthy food sales.

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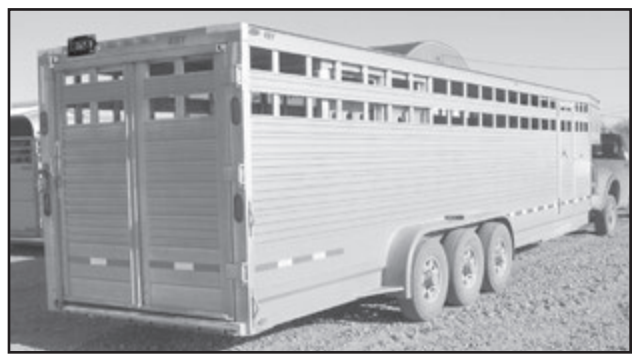
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Beef quality assurance online session offered by Iowa Beef Center, Partners



Although the COVID-19 pandemic doesn't allow Iowa Beef Center to deliver in-person educational workshops and trainings, we are working to provide online and other virtual tools to help people become more informed producers. One of these opportunities is a Beef Quality Assurance training offered in webinar format. IBC, Iowa Beef Industry Council and the Minnesota Beef Council are partnering to help producers become BQA certified through this free virtual session on Wednesday, April 8, from 7 to 9 p.m.

BQA is a nationally coordinated, state implemented program that raises consumer confidence through offering proper management techniques and a commitment to quality in each segment of the beef industry.

Producers are strongly encouraged to become certified, and although voluntary, certification is required to access certain markets. This training and certification session will be interactive and can be accessed from a computer, tablet or smart phone.

Registration is required to access the session and can be done up to the start time of 7 p.m. It is necessary to attend the entire session for certification, so no late access will be allowed.

To register for this event, choose "Register" on the main webinar access page here. Once registered, you will receive an email with a link to join the event the evening of April 8. The training team will be using the online platform called "WebEx." Join the event early if unfamiliar with this platform to ensure that not to miss any of the training. If anyone has any questions, contact Beth Reynolds prior to the event by emailing bethr@iastate.edu or calling 307-761-3353.

More information about the Iowa BQA Program and other upcoming certification trainings in the area, is available by visiting www.iabeef.org. BQA Certification is also offered as an online course at no charge at www.bqa.org.

Avoid pruning oak trees during spring and summer

By Lina Rodriguez Salamanca
Plant and Insect Diagnostic Clinic and
Zach Clemens
Communications Specialist,
Integrated Pest Management

Pruning oak trees from April to July exposes them to a high risk of contracting oak wilt, a serious disease that can infect and kill a range of oak species.

Oak wilt is caused by the fungus Bretziella fagacearum (previously Ceratocystis fagacearum). When oaks are pruned or wounded during the spring and summer, the risk of transmission by beetle vectors that carry spores to newly wounded trees becomes very high.

As temperatures rise, beetles that transmit the fungus become active. Hot and rainy weather causes the fungus on already infected trees to form spores on fungal mats underneath the tree trunk's bark. The beetles are attracted to the sweet odor that the fungus mats produce; they pick up the fungus and then transmit the disease as they are also attracted to the sap that oaks produce when pruned; so, any maintenance pruning should be stopped now until August.

Scouting for fungal mats is important to do in early April and through the spring months. Look for cracks in the bark of oak trees, which is a sign of a fungal mat growing. These mats will emit a fruity smell, and if the bark peels easily, look for blackened, raised, fluffy areas on the sapwood. Have a scouting guide handy, such as this free guide from the United States Forest Service.

If you are not sure, or are considering testing for oak wilt, the Plant and Insect Diagnostic Clinic at Iowa State University Extension and Outreach can help. Make sure to send good quality digital photos; review digital photography instructions and tips.

Red oaks are very susceptible to the oak wilt fungus and can die within four to six weeks. Fungal mats will only form on red oaks (pointy leaves). White and bur oak (lobed leaves) are moderately more tolerant, and therefore no fungal mats will be present. Refrain from pruning all oaks from April to August to keep your and your community oak trees healthy and strong.

Scouting for fungal mats is important to do in early April and through the spring months. These mats will emit a fruity smell, and if the bark peels easily, look for blackened, raised, fluffy areas on the sapwood.





Fort-ified reading

The Northwood Pubic Library recently challenged area readers to create some unique and comfortable reading environments, in the form of forts, and post them to the library's Facebook page. Pictured above are the forts that have been featured so far. Readers in forts should check out the Northwood Public Library Facebook page and add their own submission. Northwood Anchor readers are invited to do the same while reading the paper to find themselves on the Northwood Anchor and/or Northwood Public Library Facebook page.

Mother's Day Dinner

Sunday, May 10 • 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

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Iowa State University Extension
Worth County Office 641-324-1531
Calendar of Events for May 2020

May 6–Region 3 4-H Staff Meeting at Virtual Zoom Connection, 9 A.M. with Mindy Tenold, Worth County Extension Youth Coordinator and Dennis Johnson, Worth County Extension Education Specialist

May 6–Worth County Extension KGLO Radio Interview at Radio Park, Mason City Phone Connection, 9:30 A.M. with Dennis Johnson

May 6–Regional Extension Education Director Web Ex Meeting at Virtual Connection, 3:30 P.M. with Dennis Johnson

May 7–4-H e-Staff Meeting at Worth County Extension Office, Northwood, 9 A.M. and 1 P.M. with Mindy Tenold and Dennis Johnson

May 8–4-H Livestock Judging Educational Web Ex Workshop at Virtual Connection at Worth County Extension Office, 9 to 11 A.M. with Dennis Johnson, Worth County Extension Education Specialist

May 11–Worth County Extension Council Fair planning Teleconference at Tele-Com Connection, 7 P.M. with Jayne Lupkes, Worth County Extension Council President, Donovan Olson, Regional 3 Extension Director and Dennis Johnson

May 13–4-H Region 3 Extension Staff Meeting via Zoom at Virtual Connection, 9 A.M. with Dennis Johnson and Mindy Tenold

May 14–Worth County Fair Board Meeting at Worth County Fairgrounds Community Room, Northwood, 7 P.M. with Dennis Johnson

May 15–Worth County Extension Community Garden Planting Day at 4-H Vegetable Garden Worth County Fairgrounds, Northwood, 3 P.M. with Dennis Johnson

May 20–County Extension Region 3 Directors WebEX Meeting at Virtual Connection, 3:30 P.M. with Dennis Johnson

May 20–4-H Region 3 Staff Zoom Meeting at Virtual Connection, 9 A.M. with Dennis Johnson and Mindy Tenold

May 21–Worth County Fair 4-H Town Hall Virtual Meeting at WCTA Teleconference, 7 P.M. with Dennis Johnson, Mindy Tenold and Lacey Waller, Worth County Extension Office Manager

May 22–4-H Livestock Judging Educational Webinar at WebEx Virtual Connect Workshop, 9 to 11 A.M. with Dennis Johnson

May 22–Master Conservation Planning WebEx Connect Meeting at Virtual Session, 9 A.M. with Dennis Johnson

May 27–ISU Extension KGLO Radio Update at Radio Park, Mason City, 9:30 A.M. with Dennis Johnson

May 28–Worth County Extension Council Meeting at Tele-Com Teleconference, 7 P.M. with Jayne Lupkes, Worth County Extension Council President, Donovan Olson, ISU Extension Regional Extension Education Director and Dennis Johnson, Worth County Extension Education Specialist

June 1–4-Hers for 4-H Due at Worth County Extension Office, Northwood, Noon with Lacey Waller, Worth County Extension Office Manager

June 1–4-H Livestock ID's due to State 4-H Office at Iowa State Fair, Des Moines with Dennis Johnson

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