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The Northwood Anchor

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Briefs

Northwood blood drive set for June 4

Using the guidelines of the CDC and LifeServe Blood Center of Iowa the Northwood Lions Club will be holding its second blood drive of 2020.

The first drive of the current year was the largest held in recent years. The area people of Worth County are to be commended for this turnout. For every pint donated it can serve as many as three persons needing a transfusion.

The upcoming blood drive will be held next Thursday, June 4, at the VFW Hall, 609 Eighth Street North, in Northwood, with an extended hour. The drive will be from 1:30-6:30 p.m. Organizers encourage persons who have never donated blood before to join those who have given gallons. Donors are asked to make appointments so that social distancing can be

Blood, see Page 2

Fireworks fundraising begins

While several Fourth of July events have been postponed, and more are still in question, one event will go on as normal, the annual fireworks display at the Northwood airport.

The explosive show is made possible with community contributions.

Those interested in contributing to the Ol' Crackers fireworks fund drive may drop off donations at Farmers State Bank in Northwood or at the Northwood Anchor office.

As donations begin, the Northwood Anchor will publish the names of those contributing to the fund.

People may also support the fund drive by donating cans in the

Fireworks, see Page 3



The Week's WEATHER

by National Weather Service Observer John Podgorniak

Date	Hi	Lo	Prec.
Tues. May 19	64	50	0.03
Wed. May 20	66	54	
Thurs. May 21	59	56	
Fri. May 22	65	55	0.02
Sat. May 23	74	57	0.26
Sun. May 24	79	64	0.37
Mon. May 25	76	61	0.48



Remembering our veterans for Memorial Day

Many volunteers from the area volunteered their time to place American flags on graves in the Sunset Rest Cemetery in Northwood this past Wednesday afternoon, to recognize veterans in advance of Memorial Day. Pictured above is Laura Fritz helping her niece Lidia Hanson guide the flag post at one of the veterans grave sites. Looking on are Tami Hanson and Sharon Pillatzki.

More Iowa restrictions lifted on businesses, schools, cultural locations for summer

On Wednesday, May 20, Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds further eased restrictions in Iowa, opening summer school activities and sports, along with movie theaters, zoos, aquariums and museums, with some limiting restrictions in place. Pools will open, but only for lap swimming and lessons. Bars will also be allowed to reopen tomorrow, Thursday May 28, with guidance not yet announced.

In a proclamation, Reynolds made it effective that on Friday, May 22, movie theaters, museums, aquariums and zoos could reopen, along with wedding reception venues and pools.

At movie theaters, similar restrictions will be in place as other businesses, such as restaurants. Theaters will limit their patrons to 50% of normal operating capacity. The theater must ensure that there is six feet of distance between groups or individuals in individual theaters. They must also meet other social, hygiene and public health guidelines set by the State.

Live theater and performance venues remain closed.

Museums, aquariums and zoos may reopen, but only as they are able to require social distancing, increase hygiene practices and take other public health measures.

Swimming pools in Iowa were also allowed to reopen on May 22, but only to offer lap swimming and for swimming lessons. Again, pools can only open with social distancing and increased hygiene and public health measures in place.

Wedding reception venues were allowed to open on May 22 as well, and must operate with the

Iowa, see Page 2

N-K prepares for potential distance learning in 2020-2021 school year

At their regular meeting on May 14, the members of the Northwood-Kensett Board of Education discussed plans for the next school year and ways to be prepared to continue or return to a distance learning environment. At the same time, the district planned for increased food expenses with slight increases in meal costs.

At the previous meeting, the board had discussed the possibility of starting the 2020-2021 school year five days early. However, since that meeting, direction from the State of Iowa required that those be additional days, and could not be offset with days off throughout the year, as was the plan for N-K.

With that in mind, the school year, for students, will still begin on August 24.

However, that may not happen in classrooms, as the status of COVID-19 education guidelines for returning to school were unknown.

Based on the uncertainty, N-K asked its teachers to end the current school year early and begin the next early,

School, see Page 2

Primary election set for Tuesday

With the primary election on the way Tuesday, voters are still encouraged to vote safely from their homes by casting an absentee ballot. There will be one in-person voting site open on Tuesday.

The June 2 primary will decide which candidates will represent the Democratic and Republican parties in the November general election, for county, state and federal offices.

Appearing on ballots for the nomina-

Primary, see Page 4

Schiltz recognized as 'Outstanding Early Career Ag Teacher Award'

By JoAnn Lower

Nick Schiltz recently received the Outstanding Early Career Ag Teacher Award by the Minnesota Association of Agricultural Educators. "It was a humbling experience," he said. "I was speechless."

After filling out an extensive nine-page application, in competition with high school and college teachers throughout the state, Schiltz was nominated for the award by the region's FFA advisors. He has just completed his third year of teaching at Riverland Community College in Austin.

With agricultural education continually faced with a shortage of qualified teachers and as a means of encouraging young teachers to remain in the profession, John Deere, as a special project of the National FFA Foundation, sponsors this award. The award will be presented to Nick at a meeting of the Minnesota Association of Agricultural Educators in July.

"I want to thank all the teachers I had growing up – elementary and high school – as well as the support I received from the community," he said. "I've learned from the best, and I want to thank them all."

"I thank my students for allowing me to be a part of their lives and to give them a chance at their professional careers. I thank the Riverland faculty, staff

Schiltz, see Page 4



Nick Schiltz (kneeling, in front) is pictured with a group of Riverland Community College Agricultural Science majors taking a soil sample with a soil probe.

May is Beef Month — See Page 2B

Virtual fair exhibit plans discussed

While there will be no face to face Worth County Fair this year, the young people that have spent weeks or months preparing for the shows that are a central part of the event learned more last week about how their participation can continue with a "virtual fair."

ISU Extension and Outreach staff joined Worth County Fair and show judging representatives in a phone conference on May 21 to provide tentative plans, dates and information on how Worth County youth will still take part in some form of fair activities.

Extension 4-H Youth Development Specialist for the region Gail Castillo explained that the goal is to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of the young people that would normally have the fair as a chance to share their talents and show what they've learned.

With that in mind, the participants in the various shows will have more than the five days that they would for fair exhibitions.

Worth County Youth Coordinator Mindy Tenold explained the process for the 4-H Exhibit and communication projects.

For non-communication 4-H exhibit projects, the current plan is to have from June 8-June 30 to submit entries. Communication projects will have from July 1-15. Results would be announced in time for everyone to qualify and prepare for the Iowa State Fair, whether or not that fair is held in person or if there is a virtual option at the state level too.

Instructions for how to enter and take part in exhibit judging will be shared online and all 4-H'ers will be contact with that information.

Extension office manager Lacey Waller explained the plans for livestock entries. Electronic entry forms are being prepared and will be due by June 8. They will be sent to exhibitors based on the species of livestock they wish to enter. Completed entries can be returned by mail, in a dropbox at the Extension office or by sending a photo of completed entries via smartphone.

As to how the different livestock shows will be held, it depends on the type of livestock, the number of youth taking part and whether the judges are local or making their evaluations remotely.

In the case of the dairy show, a majority of the animals are already located on the same farm, which will serve as the judging arena. Social distancing will be observed and exhibitors will be required to wear masks.

The rabbit show presents its own complications. A disease has begun to appear amongst rabbits that is creating concerns above and beyond the threat of COVID-19 to the human presenters.

With the potential danger to the rabbits, they will be kept apart and local judges will travel to each home to view the animals. The judges will take COVID-19, as well as well as rabbit disease, precautions, hygiene and health measures between their visits.

For poultry, video conferencing will be used to allow a judge to evaluate the showmanship skills of those taking part, as well as providing feedback.

Other shows, such as beef and swine, are currently looking at various online platforms, where those taking part will use their smartphones or tablets to video themselves presenting animals in a similar manner to how they would at the fair. There was also discussion about providing an opportunity for judges to provide feedback via video conference.

Worth County Extension education specialist Dennis Johnson explained that, while it may be possible to have one family or small group evaluated at a time, typical horse shows require the involvement of several volunteers to coordinate and conduct. He said that horse show organizers are trying to find a way to move forward without gatherings of more than 10 people.

When all is said and done, the normal fair week would close with a ribbon auction. However, that will not be possible this year. The fair board has decided on an alternate opportunity for local family members and businesses to show their support for the virtual fair exhibitors.

There will be an opportunity for ribbon buyers to instead donate towards a shared fund that will be divided evenly amongst all those that would normally be entered into a ribbon auction. The camaraderie and good-natured competition will be absent, but the support for the youth will not.

A portion of that money will also still go to Worth County Extension, to offset some of the lost fundraising from the 4-H foodstand and other fair events.

School
Cont. from Page 1

with additional days preparing to either begin with distancing learning, or to prepare in case a rise in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations occurs in the fall or winter, forcing the school facilities to shut down again.

Besides teachers taking extra time to prepare, the district will also repurpose and purchase technology that will allow all students, K-12, to have access to devices that will provide them with online learning resources.

In a normal school year, students in grades 5-12 had been given laptops to take home for their classwork. Laptops and tablets had been used in the K-4 classrooms, but remained at the school at the end of the school year.

When school buildings were closed in March, laptops were sent home with fourth graders. Younger students were given paper packets or provided other options for the distance learning provided by N-K.

However, when the 2020-2021 school year begins, if they can't return to school buildings, or if they have to shut down any time in the next school year, N-K teachers, staff and administrators are preparing to begin offering classes that will be required, instead of the optional education opportunities at the end of the current school year.

More technology will be need to make that happen. So the district plans to send home other devices with lower grades, that previously stayed at the school. They will also buy 80 iPads and child-friendly cases, at a cost of roughly $25,000, which will be sent home to make sure that all students, grades K-12, have access to online educational resources.

If the school remains open, the extra devices will be put to use in classrooms, and will not be sent home with students on a daily basis.

While there is still some uncertainty about how meals will be offered, with cafeteria settings one of the most crowded gatherings of students on a daily basis, one thing is certain, the cost of meals is expected to increase.

Even without the current uncertainty in food prices, the district hasn't raised the cost for students in at least two years, according to superintendent Mike Crozier, and to keep the district's costs down, prices needed to increase slightly.

The board approved increases that include a 5 cent increase, to 45 cents for an extra milk and 10 cent increases in student breakfasts, to $1.45; lunches to $2.55 for grades K-6, $2.65 for 7-12 and $3.85 for adults. Adult breakfasts would also increase 15 cents, to $1.85.

In other business at the meeting, the school board discussed a potential location for the district's new bus barn.

District officials are looking at an area northwest of the secondary building, between the area of the practice football field and the treeline to the north.

The new building would house the district's vehicles and transportation staff. It would be enclosed and provide a climate-controlled facility to maintain those vehicles throughout the year. Construction is currently planned for 2021.

Iowa
Cont. from Page 1

same restrictions as restaurants. That would include social distancing between tables, limits of six per table and other hygiene and public health measures.

The May 20 order exempts receptions held under those guidelines from the ongoing limit of 10 people at social gatherings.

Starting on Monday, June 1, schools in Iowa will be able to open for education and for other activities. They are only able to do so by meeting social distancing, hygiene and public health requirements, as well as guidelines set by the Iowa Department of Education and, for sports, the Iowa High School Athletic Association and the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union.

See more about those school guidelines in this issue of the Northwood Anchor.

In opening the schools, the Governor also exempted them from the limit of 10 people at social gatherings, provided that social distancing and other health measures were observed.

While Reynolds announced at a press conference on Wednesday that bars would be allowed to open on May 28, Wednesday's proclamation did not mention the guidelines for bars to reopen.

The proclamation made on May 20 also allows outdoor auctions of more than 25 people, which was the previous limit, provided that social, hygiene and health guidelines are met.

Blood
Cont. from Page 1

accomplished. All who donate will also be seated at least six feet apart from other donors. Social distancing will also be required as people wait for their appointed times and as they stop at the canteen before leaving.

The need for donations is very high at this time for surgeries that have been delayed because of COVID-19.

"Please join the other newcomers to donate your life saving blood. It will be beneficial to others and make you feel better know you have saved a life."

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

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Graduation Greetings Announcements

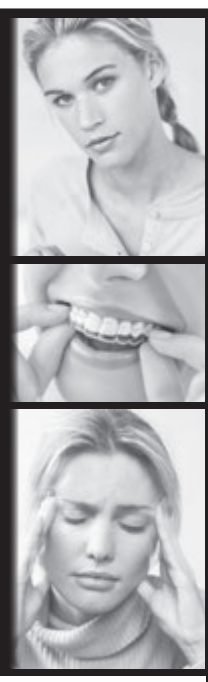


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Jolene Cotter gets a client trimmed up at the Beauty Nook.



Tyler Nitcher, owner of Xquisite, washes Addie Bachtle's hair. Nitcher, like other stylists in the area, has been very busy since she re-opened.

Shaggy heads getting sheared as Northwood salons reopen

By Erin McCord

Northwood residents ready to bring back the bowl cut can put down the scissors and tableware- area professionals are open for business.

Several local stylists report that they have been very busy since Governor KimReynolds allowed them to open back up on May 15. Salons had been closed since March 22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Asked how busy he was, barber Kenny Stambaugh said, "I'm swamped. I've even had people calling from up by the Cities, looking for a hair cut." Stambaugh has been extending his hours to get his clients trimmed up.

Jolene Cotter of the Beauty Nook said she is booked two weeks out right now, and has been working through lunch getting her clients caught up.

"It just doesn't seem real," she said of the shutdown. "You just never expect something like this."

Cotter said she has done a little kitchen beautician fixing, and she is grateful for her loyal customers who waited to come back to her.

As for keeping their salons safe for customers, the Iowa Department of Health has issued guidelines for salons to follow. The list includes regular cleaning and disinfecting of non-porous surfaces, displays, containers, work stations and tools; throwing away used items that cannot be disinfected; washing linens and capes; having hand sanitizer available; and covering headrests and treatment tables with a clean towel, sheet or paper for each client.

Donna Navratil of Mane Street Cuts said she and her co-worker, Lorna Christianson, "have been hosing this place down with Barbicide, Clippercide, Lysol... you name it."

The stylists who spoke to the Anchor are also following the IDPH's guidelines for social distancing and customer interactions, which suggest that businesses only schedule one client at a time, maintain six feet distancing between chairs when possible, leave time to clean between clients and not allow clients to gather in waiting rooms.

Most of the salons also have signage asking clients to reschedule if they have any signs of fever or a cough.

Many people- both clients and stylists- have been wondering whether they have to wear a mask.

The IDPH checklist encourages workers to "consider" wearing a mask on their Optional Ongoing Safety Considerations list. Kathy Christianson of Kathy's Cuts said that she chose to wear one while working, while some other stylists in town were forgoing them.

With precautions for hygiene and distancing being practiced, people in the Northwood area can look good and be safe, thanks to our local stylists.

Minnesota governor announces plans for outdoor dining, salons

Last Wednesday, May 20, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz announced the phases in his Stay Safe Plan, including a "cautious, strategic turn of the dial" to allow limited outdoor dining at restaurants and bars starting on June 1. The governor also announced that salons and barbershops will be allowed to open on June 1 at 25 percent occupancy to ensure the safety of both the employees and the customers inside.

In both industries, customers will be either strongly recommended or required to wear masks, make reservations and adhere to social distancing requirements to keep themselves, other customers and employees safe.

"Our restaurants and bars are an integral part of the social fabric of Minnesota, and it has been heartbreaking to see this pandemic wreak havoc on our hospitality industry," said Walz. "While the virus won't yet allow for business as usual, let's do what we do best after winter in Minnesota and head outside. Whether it's a Juicy Lucy, a plate of tamales, or a walleye dinner, Minnesotans can support their local restaurant by enjoying a socially distanced meal outdoors."

Outdoor dining can begin on June 1, with restaurants maintaining social distancing and seating no more than 50 patrons at a time.

In addition to outdoor dining, restaurants and bars will be able to continue to offer takeout, curbside and delivery services, which have been permitted throughout the pandemic in Minnesota.

While Minnesota has ranked first in the nation for takeout and delivery patronage during the outbreak of COVID-19, restaurants and bars have been closed for in-person dining since March 17. Since then, the State of Minnesota has worked with the health care sector to expand health care capacity and procure ICU beds, ventilators and personal protective equipment.

"This is a measured approach that matches the thoughtfulness and generosity of our restauranteurs, who have found creative ways to safely feed their neighbors throughout this pandemic – but making this work relies on all of us," said Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan. "Supporting your favorite businesses means following health and safety rules at all times – making an appointment or reservation, maintaining social distance, washing your hands, and wearing a mask. It also means that workers are protected if they report concerns about the health and safety practices of their workplace. That's how we can keep each other healthy so we can continue safely turning the dial in Minnesota."

"It's important for all Minnesotans to remember that they have a big role to play in making this reopening process successful," said Minnesota Department of Health Commissioner Jan Malcolm. "By continuing to follow social distancing guidelines, wearing masks, washing hands and staying home when sick, we can limit the spread of COVID-19 and protect our most vulnerable friends and family members."

Outdoor dining and limited salon occupancy are part of phase II of Governor Walz's Stay Safe Plan. This phase will go into effect on June 1 and will include the opening of campgrounds and other recreational activities. Also opening on June 1, according to the Stay Safe Plan, are school buildings, for the purposes of summer learning, if they meet Minnesota Department of Health and CDC guidelines.

Fireworks
Cont. from Page 1

receptacle located underneath the water tower in downtown Northwood. Organizers say that these can donations have had a significant impact on raising the funds needed for the annual show and they expect an entertaining display for this year's Fourth as a result.

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Northwood Anchor Northwood

Did you know?

By Ann Hendrickson



Once again, it is spring and time to plant fields and gardens. Colorful bluebells and violets can be seen in the wooded areas as the birds return to nest.

In the mid 1800s, pioneer families in this area planted, but not with an automated tractor. They used a horse or ox to pull a breaking plow as the farmer walked behind. Their seeds may have come from the "old country" and were sown into the seams of their clothes for safe transport. The small village of Northwood might have been miles from their cabin. Church and school attendance was irregular. They hunted, cultivated a garden and raised a family. The work was hard and they persevered.

Again, people were challenged.

Until next time…

Worth County nature programs canceled for June

According to Worth County Conservation Naturalist Dakota Popp, all young naturalist programs and public programs in June have been cancelled due to COVID-19.

The County Conservation Board will meet in mid-June and discuss if programs will continue in July.

County parks will be open to foot traffic. Everyone is asked to follow all rules about parking in streets and in parks that have parking lots.

Those with questions or concerns may call 641-324-1624 or message the Worth County Conservation Board on Facebook.

Popp would also like everyone to remember to keep going outside and stay healthy.

Iowa schools can reopen June 1

Iowa schools have been closed since March 14. Following an announcement by Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds, made on May 20, buildings will reopen on June 1, and students will be allowed to return for summer school and other activities at that time as well.

The Iowa Department of Education issued guidance for summer learning and activities, as well as the use of school facilities on May 20, following the governor's latest proclamation.

Schools will be required to develop plans for summer activities, in compliance with the DOE and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines.

That includes:

• Teaching and reinforcing handwashing for 20 seconds after various activities, as well as reminding students to avoid touching their eyes, nose and mouth.

• Making tissues readily available, as well as hand sanitizer, when soap and water aren't.

• Students and staff will be encouraged, when feasible, to use cloth face coverings, with information on their proper use.

• Signs will have to be posted on how to stop the spread of COVID-19, wash hand, promote protective measures, wear a face covering and stay home when showing any symptoms or after having contact with someone with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis within 14 days.

• Parents will be required to drop off children at the front door, making accommodations for students with disabilities.

• Students and staff will be kept distant during instruction by limiting group size, increasing spacing and limiting mixing between groups.

• Students and staff will be screened upon arrival, for temperature and other symptoms.

• Establish plans for when someone becomes sick, including isolation rooms and locations, cleaning procedures and sending sick staff home immediately.

• Ensuring ventilation systems are operating, and increasing outside air exposure with open windows and doors, fans, etc.

• Encouraging students and staff to bring their own water containers, or using disposable cups and water jugs. Water fountains should not be used.

• On July 1, schools may begin their plans for returning to regular education.

Buildings will be open with specific guidelines that include:

• For use by school sports and other school-sponsored activities or uses that can be considered a community benefit or enterprise, not school related;

• Facility uses will have to be consistent with decisions made by the school board;

• Those affiliated with the school, including students and staff, will not be allowed to use a facility unless they are doing so in a school-related function or as a part of a community group using the facility;

• Those using facilities must comply with policies and procedures set by the school, to make sure that State guidelines for social distancing, hygiene and other public health procedures are followed.

The DOE guidance also addresses graduation ceremonies.

It is noted that commencement ceremonies are not required, enforced or regulated by the DOE, beyond rules about charging inappropriate fees.

As such, graduation ceremonies are left to local decisions, as long as schools work with local public health and safety officials. The DOE has also encouraged Iowa schools to postpone graduations until June, as state guidelines may change. Northwood-Kensett's graduation has currently been postponed until June 28.

Schiltz
Cont. from Page 1

and administration for their support and help during my early days, as well as those in the community and agricultural industry members who have shared in this collective vision of building and growing an Agricultural and STEM program. I'm very lucky to have had the support and help of great people during my early days."

Nick graduated from N-K in 2010, then went on to earn his undergraduate and masters degrees from South Dakota State University. He lives in Albert Lea and continues to farm with his dad, Leon, near the Glenville state line.

Nick's mother, Polly, a much-loved special education teacher at N-K for 41 years, sadly passed away about a year ago. When nominated for this award, Nick's wish was that his mom would have been there to see it.

"She would be proud," Nick said. "She would say, 'My son belongs in teaching, and he's in the right area.'"

"Mom was my strongest advocate, the person in my corner, always there to support me. I have no doubt that she's looking down and still with us today, knowing her legacy will live on."

Primary
Cont. from Page 1

tions for the Republican party will be, for U.S. Senator, Joni Ernst; for U.S. Representative for District 1, Thomas Hansen and Ashley Hinson; for State Senator from District 26, Waylon Brown; for State Representative for District 51, Jane Bloomingdale; for County Auditor, Jacki Backhaus; for County Sheriff, Dan Fank; and, for those living in Supervisor District 2, three candidates are seeking the Republican candidacy for Worth County supervisor, including incumbent Mark Smeby, Gary A. Hanson and William Schulte.

Appearing on ballots for the Democratic party nominations will be, for U.S. Senator, Michael Franken, Kimberly Graham, Theresa Greenfield, Eddie J. Mauro and Cal Woods; for U.S. Representative for District 1, Abby Finkenauer; and for State Representative for District 51, Jane Podgorniak.

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.

While voters were encouraged to vote by mail, polling sites will be open for the June 2 primary election. However, many will be combined with other precincts. In Worth County, the Kensett Community Center will be the place for all in-person voting on June 2.

Voting on the day of the primary will be open from 7 a.m. until 9 p.m.

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.

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.

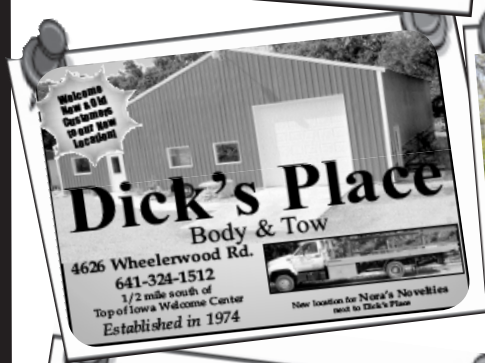
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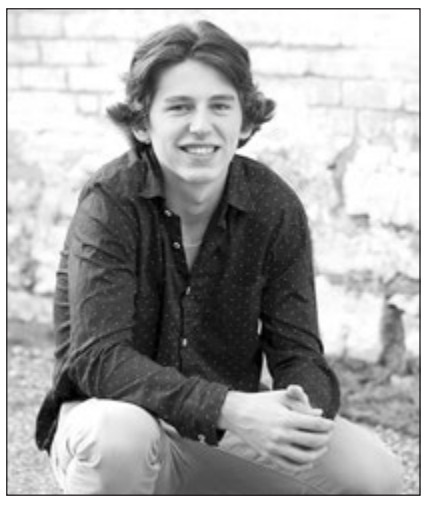
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Waylon Brown

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88th General Assembly:

This weekend families all across the state will be celebrating Memorial Day. While it may look different this year than others, I think it is important we remember what Memorial Day is for and why we celebrate it.

Memorial Day, which used to be known as Decoration Day, is much more than the unofficial beginning to the summer season. It became an official holiday in 1971, but had been observed many years before, starting with tributes to soldiers who died during the Civil War. Over time a number of communities started holding their own ceremonies and placing flowers on graves. Now we use the day to honor all those who have lost their lives fighting for our country and the freedoms we have. We may take these freedoms for granted sometimes, and more recently we are learning more about what those freedoms mean to us and how they affect our daily lives. Observing Memorial Day could be as simple as the freedom to go where we please, see our family and friends, and go about our day as we see fit. Or this day could be spent celebrating the freedoms and principles that our country has been built upon, like freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

One Iowan, and one of my colleagues in the Iowa House of Representatives, travels the state and paints murals on large boulders to help give some recognition to our state's veterans. Ray (or Bubba as many know him) Sorensen, is known for painting the original Freedom Rock near Menlo and his tour across the state to put a smaller Freedom Rock in every county. You can find a map on the Freedom Rock website, www.thefreedomrock.com. The website shows the location of the rocks in each county, as well as which ones are done and which ones are still a work in progress. I'd encourage you to see one in your area as part of your holiday celebrations, and as a reminder of why we celebrate Memorial Day.

There is also a National Moment of Remembrance on Memorial Day at 3 p.m. local time. In lieu of the parades or public events common on Memorial Day, a number of events are happening online. However you celebrate this year, please take a moment to reflect and remember our country's fallen heroes, the courage and bravery it took to go fight for our country, and the sacrifice they made to protect our nation and its freedoms.







Heroes at work

Just in case it was unclear, signs recently added at the Lutheran Retirement Home and Northwood Pines Assisted Living illustrate the heroic nature of the nurses and other staff members that support the senior members of the community that call the facilities home.

Northwood Public Library

By Morgan Johnson
Library Director

We are happy to announce that the library will begin opening to the public on a restricted basis starting on June 2! Please work with us as we adjust to protocols deemed necessary by our new world with the coronavirus. We are excited to be working our way back to "normal." Also parents make sure to read on to learn about our Summer Reading Program for this year!

Curbside services will still be offered on Mondays from 1-5 p.m. and on Thursdays from 1-6 p.m. Please contact the library ahead of time to reserve your materials. We will run the items you have requested out to your car for you at your designated time.

Starting on June 2 we will begin offering entry to the library on Tuesdays from 1-6 p.m. and on Fridays from 1-5. Computers, the restrooms, the reading room, kids' toys/games and the makerspace will remain closed to the public. The number of patrons in the library at one time will be limited to 10. Those visiting must practice social distancing of maintaining six feet distance from others and practice good hygiene. Masks are also encouraged but not required. We ask patrons to limit their time spent in the library and keep their visit to 15 minutes or less. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. All returns must be dropped off in the drop box. Do NOT set returned items on the circulation counter. We will be increasing our disinfecting of surfaces, and returned library books and DVDs will be set aside for 1 week to allow for decontamination.

Again due to the coronavirus, we have had to make adjustments to our Summer Reading Program (SRP). We will still be offering a program but it will be a "no-contact" type summer as we all know that gatherings are still not allowed. This year every child is encouraged to reach a goal of 1,000 minutes! Prizes will be awarded at 250, 500, 750 and 1000 minutes. In lieu of our traditional programing and activities we will offer to-go craft kits, online story times, fun challenges, and at times a "chapter a day" read aloud. If your child wishes to participate please search Facebook for our private group titled "Northwood Public Library SRP 2020." All necessary information will be provided via this group. If you don't have access to Facebook please contact the library by phone at 324-1340, and we can get you the necessary information.

For a list of new titles at the library this month please check Facebook as I continue to post new videos with the new titles we add to our collection. If you have any questions or concerns please contact us at 324-1340 or e-mail us at northwoodlibrary@mchsi.com.

We hope you are all staying safe, healthy and happy! And we look forward to your return to the library as soon as you feel comfortable to do so!

Bolan

You are invited to access the "Bethel of Manly" Facebook page on Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. to see the live worship service with Pastor Cory Allard, and at a later time you are able to go to the Bolan Trinity UM Church Facebook page for the service.

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In the furnace and on the anvil



Often in life we feel that we are either in the furnace and being burned up or on the anvil and being hammered. Perhaps this metaphor is apt. In order to grow and develop we may need to be heated to the melting point and then pounded into shape. The trials and tribulations of life are often sources of growth and development, if only we can learn from them. This can be an easy thing to accept in the cool of the afternoon, when things are going smoothly and we have time to reflect, or even when the trials and tribulations are small and are better described as irritants. As the trials grow and increase in size from mere irritants into serious problems—car crashes, deaths, and job losses—it becomes increasingly more difficult to affirm them as opportunities for growth. It may, at times, be wrong to think of them this way, as it would be heartless to say that someone's loss of a loved one or a cancer diagnosis is an opportunity to grow and develop. But inwardly, we sometimes have to believe this, to believe that God is shaping us for higher things through this cosmic furnace and anvil. Otherwise, we despair. How strange and wonderful are the ways of God. –Christopher Simon

"Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."
– James 1:2-4 NIV

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Cook Bookin'



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

Bulwer Lytton, Edward Robert

by Sandy Olson

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

It seems Coca-Cola® isn't just for drinking anymore. Of course, lots of people have made the crock pot beef roast that calls for a can of real coke (no diet stuff here) but on a trip to Vicksburg, Mississippi, I discovered a book at the official Coca-Cola Museum that takes this popular household stand-by to new heights. "Coca-Cola® Recipes" (2016, Publications International, Ltd., Morton Grove, Illinois) has recipes for everything from appetizers to desserts containing Coke. The following were adapted from the chapter titled "Beef & Pork."

Fruited Pork Chops

4 Iowa Chops, 3/4" thick
1 medium cooking apple
1 medium lemon or orange
1 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons packed brown sugar
1/8 teaspoon black pepper
1 tablespoon cornstarch
1/8 teaspoon ground ginger
1/2 cup regular Coca-Cola®

Trim excess fat from the chops, then brown them on each side in an ungreased non-stick skillet. Lay the chops in a shallow baking pan. Make only one layer; don't overlap. Sprinkle with the spices. Core the apple but leave it unpeeled. Cut it crosswise into 4 thick slices and place one on each chop. Cut the lemon into 4 thick slices, removing seeds, and place atop the apple slices. Sprinkle evenly with the brown sugar and pour the Coke® around the chops. Cover tightly with foil and bake for 45 minutes at 350 degrees F. Remove pan from the oven but leave the oven on. Blend the cornstarch with 2 tablespoons of cold water and stir into the meat juices. Bake, uncovered for another 15 minutes or until the chops are fork-tender. Spoon the sauce over the fruit and chops to glaze.

Matchless Meatloaf

1 1/2 pounds 85% ground beef
2 tablespoons catsup
1 1/2 cups fresh bread crumbs
1 teaspoon salt
1/4 cup minced yellow onion
1/2 teaspoon basil leaves
2 tablespoons minced fresh parsley
1/8 teaspoon black pepper
1/2 cup Coca-Cola®
1 egg, beaten
1 1/2 tablespoons prepared mustard

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. In a large bowl, break up the meat a bit then add the crumbs, onions and parsley. Mix well. Combine the beaten eggs with the rest of the ingredients in a separate bowl. Pour over the meat and lightly toss to blend thoroughly. Use a fork or your clean hands but be gentle. The mixture will be soft and moist. Place in a 9x5x3-inch loaf pan. Bake for 1 hour; let the loaf rest for 10 minutes before slicing to redistribute the juices.

Spicy Pork Po' Boys

Rub:

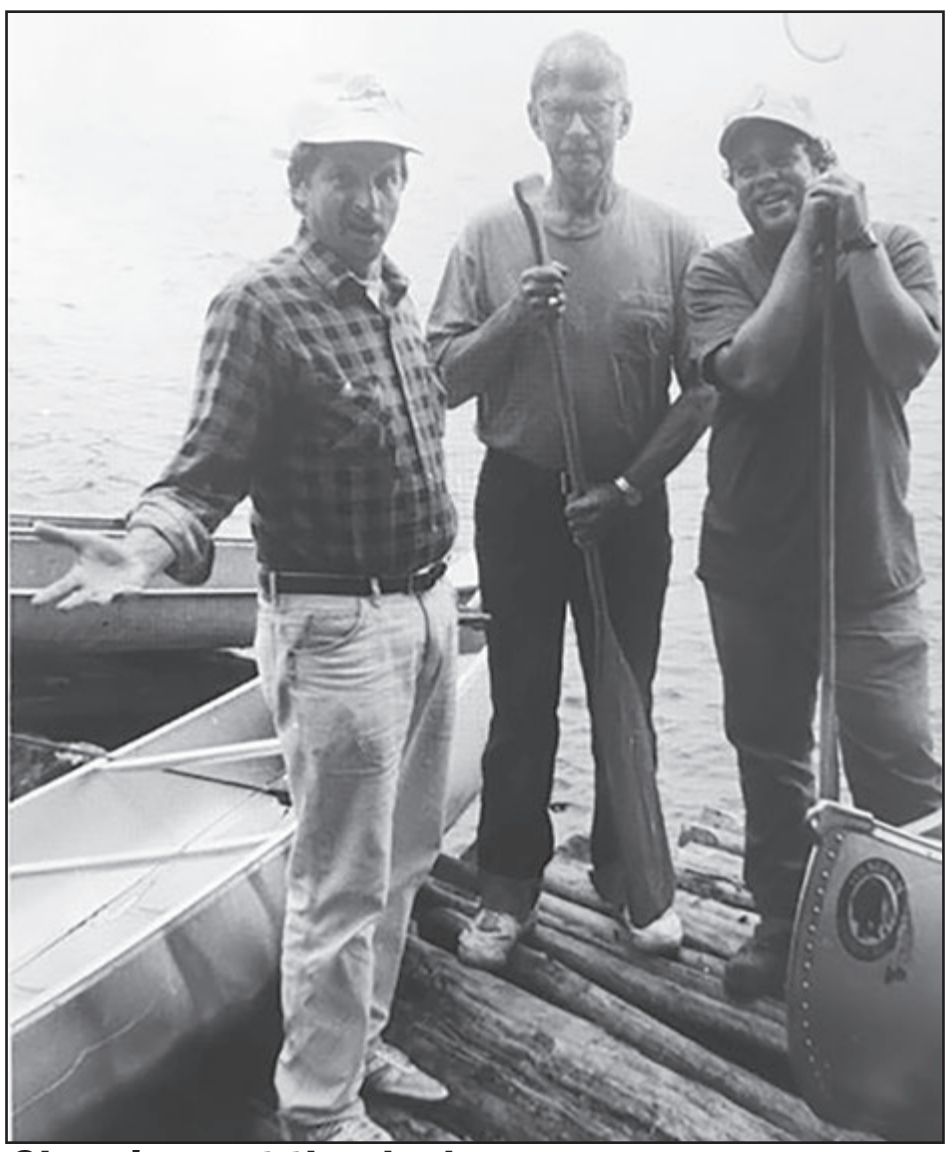
1 tablespoon each of smoked paprika, garlic powder, onion powder, kosher salt and black pepper combined in a small bowl. Add 2 tablespoons chili powder, 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper and mix well.

1 pound boneless pork ribs
1/2 cup regular Coca-Cola®
1 tablespoon hot pepper sauce
1/2 cup catsup
Dash of Worcestershire sauce
1/2 cup prepared coleslaw
4 French rolls, toasted

Coat the pork ribs evenly with the rub on all sides. Let them sit at least 3 hours or overnight in the refrigerator. On serving day, preheat the oven to 250 degrees F. Place the ribs in a covered baking dish or Dutch oven. Combine the cola, hot pepper sauce and Worcestershire sauce to make a sauce. Drizzle this evenly over the pork. Bake, covered for at least 4 hours; the pork should easily fall apart when shredded. Remove the meat from the dish or Dutch oven. Add the catsup to the meat juices and cook for 4-6 minutes on the stovetop or until the sauce has thickened and combined. Pour the sauce over the pork and shred the meat while combining it with the sauce. Serve the pork on the toasted rolls topped with a spoonful of the coleslaw. NOTE: instead of using slaw, you can top with shredded lettuce, diced tomatoes or dill pickles.

I long ago thought I had reached critical mass when it came to owning cookbooks. I really, really didn't need any more! But, when friends offer me gifts of books that have been in their families for years or my sister finds one she thinks I would enjoy, who can refuse? So, when we travel, which is often, I indulge my habit by being drawn to the cookbook section of any gift shop, tourist trap or book store I happen upon. I guess there could be worse addictions; at least this one is legal and helps the economy! And… that's all she wrote.

Northwood Anchor Society



Cleaning out the desk

Retiring Worth County Naturalist Dan Block was cleaning his desk drawer out when he discovered this old picture, featuring members of the Northwood Anchor family. According to Block, the photo was taken 25 years ago on a trip he took to Canada with some local fishermen of varying experience. Shown above are the late Anchor reporter/photographer Ron Olson, the late Anchor publisher emeritus Lloyd Madson and Jason Draheim.

Iowa joins 19 states reporting at least one case of PMIS

By Diane Julius, PA-c at MercyOne Mason City Pediatric & Adolescent Care



DIANE JULIUS

Iowa joined 19 states which are reporting at least one case of a new pediatric multisystem inflammatory syndrome (PMIS). This rare condition is also known as multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C). Once PMIS is detected, the child should begin receiving care. Fortunately, some characteristics of PMIS are similar to other treatable inflammatory diseases. Meanwhile, researchers are looking for possible connections to the COVID-19 virus.

"The providers feel that it is important for infants, children and adolescents to be seen are ill to identify other reasons for illness such as fever, ear infection, pharyngitis, cough, etc.

We have completely separated our sick and well patients so that we can provide care without undue risk to others. Delay in being seen can increase a patient's risk for more serious infections and possible hospitalizations.

We have not seen as of yet, any cases of multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children; but please know that we are keeping up-to-date on the information being presented and we are prepared to provide care if the situation arises."

MercyOne Family Medicine Residency welcomes Patrick Courtney, MD

Patrick Courtney, MD has joined MercyOne Family Medicine Residency as a faculty member and practicing physician. Dr. Courtney received his education from Missouri University of Science and Technology, Medical University of South Carolina and Lincoln Family Medicine Program.



PATRICK COURTNEY

Dr. Courtney is a native of Lansing, Kansas and looks forward to providing care to those who live in the community as well as the surrounding area. "I pursued the medicinal field because I like using knowledge and skills to help patients understand and manage their health concerns. I love Family Medicine's breadth: taking care of all ages with all conditions." – Dr. Patrick Courtney

MercyOne Family Medicine Residency offers a wealth of educational opportunities and experiences in family medicine and is dedicated to providing continual and comprehensive care. They are currently accepting new patients with virtual visit options. To schedule an appointment, call 641-428-7766.

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Front row seat

Thirteen years at the Anchor covering four Davidson sisters



By Mike Simmons
Sports Editor

It doesn't really seem possible, but the 2019-2020 high school sports season is my 13th as the sports editor at the Northwood-Anchor. In those 13 years I have many fond memories and have gotten to know so many kind people while covering their children through their athletic careers at Northwood-Kensett High School.

And while I can't possibly understand what the loss of most of your senior year is like for this year's student athletes, I am nonetheless a bit sad at the prospect of the end of an era for me.

From my first day at the Anchor, way back in 2007, there has always been one constant that I could count on, a Davidson sister playing multiple sports. Steve and Brenda Davidson, as most of you know, have four very lovely daughters, Kjirsti, Maren, Hattie and Clara.

Kjirsti, the oldest, was the starting guard on the Lady Vikings basketball team and was the very first student athlete that I interviewed. I remember it well, it was at Rockford and I had to call her out of the stands. I'm sure I was more nervous than she was but she handled it like a pro.

Following closely behind Kjirsti was Maren, who in my opinion, had she not injured her shoulder early in her career, would have been the greatest softball pitcher in N-K history, and I only saw her pitch as an eighth grader.

After Maren came Hattie, the two actually played alongside each other for a couple of years. Hattie was a natural athlete from the time she was born, by all accounts she is the best youth football player ever.

And last but not least, there is Clara. Clara, in a way, is my favorite, not so much because of her athletic prowess, but because I really never expected to get to know her.

Following in her three sisters' footsteps had to be tough on her and I didn't believe at the time that she would be willing to put in the time that her sisters were willing to do. But Clara surprised me, and by the time she was done she had become one of the better athletes in her class.

Just to put into perspective what the four sisters have accomplished in their careers, in basketball alone they have played in 299 games, grabbed 985 rebounds and scored 2,850 points.

Then there's Steve and Brenda, who without them none of this would be possible. I've now known this great set of parents for 13 years, I can't even remember how many times we talked in the gym or walking to our cars about the game that we just watched, but the one thing I do remember, is that not once did they criticize a coach or one of their kids' teammates. Never happened.

So while I'm excited that it now looks like the state of Iowa will be starting summer sports soon, it will never again be quite the same for me without a Davidson sister to cover.



KJIRSTI DAVIDSON, 2006-2010



MAREN DAVIDSON, 2009-2013



HATTIE DAVIDSON, 2012-2016



CLARA DAVIDSON, 2016-2020

Play ball!

Gov. Reynolds, DOE, high school leagues bring back summer sports

By Mike Simmons
Sports Editor

Just when everyone thought that we may not see high school sports again until the fall at the earliest, the state of Iowa and the two high school leagues have come up with a plan to reopen abandoned baseball and softball fields.

Just hours after Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds announced during a news conference on COVID-19 that she would allow baseball and softball to get underway in Iowa, the Iowa High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) and the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union (IGHSAU) agreed to her plan to start the 2020 summer sports season, with guidance provided by the Iowa Department of Education (DOE).

According to the DOE guidelines, practices for both sports may begin on June 1, provided that teams take on the required mitigation efforts.

That includes posting signage that makes it clear that no one is allowed to attend or take part in practice if they have any symptoms of COVID-19 or have been in contact with someone that has been confirmed to have COVID-19 in the last 14 days.

Players and coaches should check their temperatures before attending practices.

Dugouts will not be allowed to be used for practices. Instead players and their items must be lined up against fences, six feet apart.

Parents will not be allowed at practices, unless they stay in vehicles or are only there when it is time to pick up or drop off a student.

Players will be asked to use their own gloves, helmets and bats as much as possible. When that is not possible, coaches are required to sanitize any shared equipment before and after practices.

Also, players will be required to bring their own water or beverages for during and after practice. Players will not be allowed to use drinking fountains, portable hydration stations or coolers.

Coaches will be responsible for ensuring that players are remaining socially distant as much as possible throughout practice. This includes while playing catch, drills and waiting to bat.

Coaches should also be knowledgeable of students with pre-existing conditions and work with school and health officials to take additional precautions in those cases.

Players should bring their own hand sanitizer.

Coaches must ban the spitting of sunflower seed shells.

Coaches will be asked to track absences to help note potential COVID-19 cases, and report when COVID-19 cases are identified.

Baseball and softball games may begin on June 15. At games, the rules above will remain in effect, with a few exceptions and additions.

During games, teams may use the dugouts.

Schools are asked to limit the use of bleachers by encouraging spectators to bring their own chairs or stand, and keep social distancing and other public health guidelines in mind while watching games.

Spectators will also not be allowed to attend if they have symptoms of illness.

There will be no concession sales allowed during games.

All other organized sports are to remain suspended until July 1.



A veteran and Anchor legend

Pictured above is Anchor employee Dawn Batton, who was at Sunset Rest Cemetery to take a photo of volunteers placing flags on veterans graves, and saw Lloyd (LOM, one of our own) Madson's gravesite and was honored to place a flag on it.

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Northwood Anchor Early Files

100 years ago

May 26, 1920

A County Livestock Breeders Association is a big factor in developing the livestock industry of a country. Worth County is in dire need of better livestock. There are a few fine herds, but the majority of them are very ordinary, stated Knute Bjorka, county agent.

Charles Connell's house, west of Gordonsville, was struck by lightning, and considerable damage done, though the heavy rain following put the fire out. Colleen, the two-year-old daughter was stunned, as was Mr. Connell, but all recovered in a few moments.

Gilbert Hanson, one of Northwood's rural mail carriers, and an old resident of the county, surprised his friends when he returned to Northwood with a bride. The marriage took place in Minneapolis. The bride was formerly Mrs. Nellie Webster, of Ray, North Dakota, and is an old friend of the Hanson family. They will be at home on North Eighth street.

J.S. Veenker and Miss Ilah Pease drove to Nora Springs and were guests of Mrs. Norma Banton, of Charles City, who was visiting her mother in Nora Springs.

Mrs. Laura Yoder is making preparations to leave Northwood after several years' residence here, during which time she has endeared herself to a large circle of friends.

Mrs. Ralph Moore and four little children left for their home near Athboy, South Dakota, after having been in Northwood for several weeks. It will be remembered that Mrs. Moore was called here by the illness and death of her father, the late W.H.M. Keller and has since been assisting her mother and Miss Eva.

75 years ago

May 31, 1945

Funeral services for Norman Edwin Burtness, 44, native of Fertile Township, held at the First Shell Rock Synod Lutheran church in Northwood, were conducted by the pastor, the Rev. Martin Galstad. Burial was in the State Line Cemetery three miles north of Northwood.

Lionel Anderson, 62, former resident of Silver Lake township, and an extensive farmer operator for a number of years, died suddenly of heart attack at his home in Albert Lea. His death came as a great shock as he had apparently been in normal health, going frequently to his farm near Albert Lea where his son, Marion resides, he'll be dealing with the work and caring for business matters.

Worth County 4-H girls will hold their annual Rally Day program at the high school auditorium in Kensett. The annual program is enjoyed by all.

Repair work on roofs and sidings, and replacing of 100 of broken windows is under way at Manly, which was hit by a hail storm which lasted over 30 minutes. Damage totaled several thousands of dollars, according to rough estimates.

Mr. and Mrs. E.A. Rachut, Manly, where they operated the E and W grocery for 10 years before they recently sold the business, have bought the Donal Wright grocery in Northwood and will take possession. The transaction does not include the building which is owned by Mr. Wright.

50 years ago

May 81, 1970

All Northwood firms observing holiday closings will not be open for business on May 20 in observance of Memorial Day. In addition, the court house, ASCS, SCS and Extension offices will be closed on May 29. The post office will be open Friday but closed Saturday.

Dean Hendrickson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hendrickson, Northwood, was named winner of a two-year Ford Motor Co. scholarship, in an announcement. Dependents of Ford dealer employees are eligible and Dean was one of 50 recipients in the United States. He is a 1970 graduate of Northwood-Kensett high school and plans to enroll in NIACC next fall.

Steven J. Davis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Emery Davis and Elizabeth Tenold, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Tenold, Northwood and Susan L. Gaarder, Kensett, were among members of the largest graduating class in Luther College's history.

Kathryn Hagen, 18, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Hagen of Wayzata, Minnesota, sustained injuries on May 16, and is hospitalized in St. Mary's hospital, Rochester. Miss Hagen is a student at Stout college at Menomonie, Wisconsin. The girl was struck by a car, the driver of which claims he did not see her. She sustained severe head injuries and a broken leg and has not regained consciousness. Miss Hagen is the niece of Mrs. Curtis Leidal and Mrs. G.J. Stumo, of Northwood.

25 years ago

May 31, 1995

Old Glory lent all its red, white and blue splendor to Sunset Rest Cemetery here over the Memorial Day weekend. Members of Northwood V.F.W. "Our Buddies" Post 6779 and other volunteers erected the traditional Avenue of Flags at the cemetery and struck the colors early on Memorial Day.

Wet weather in early and mid-May has resulted in a later opening for the Northwood swimming pool than originally anticipated. The city crew had to delay filling the pool because painters couldn't finish painting the pool bottom until the water table dropped enough to allow the deep end to drain completely.

Northwood-Kensett superintendent Jerry McIntire shook Leona Kenison's hand at the retirement party the N-K staff held to honor the school's long-time head cook and fellow retirees cook Madelyn Lee, custodian Gene Weitzel and cook Galdys Groe. All told, the quartet had 89 years of experience on the district support staff and N-K administrators, faculty and students agree that they will be missed. All four received miniature replicas of old-fashioned schoolroom desks as mementos of their careers at N-K.

Northwood resident Alice Olson said goodbye recently to a few of the 500 dolls she spent lifetime collecting. Olson sold the results of her life-long hobby at auction earlier this month.

10 years ago

June 2, 2010

This year's Relay For Life of Worth County includes two Northwood residents as honorary chairs. Sandy Madden and Kathryn Mills. The Relay For Life of Worth County will be held on June 12, at the Worth County Fairgrounds.

Diana K. Madson, daughter of Peter and Lauren Madson, Sacramento, California and granddaughter of Lloyd Madson, Northwood, graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science Policy and Management and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Rhetoric with honors - Phi Beta Kappa, on May 21 at Zellerbach Auditorium on the UC Berkeley campus.

The Northwood Lions Club sponsored a Blood Center of Iowa blood drive at First Lutheran Church recently. A total of 48 people turned out to make donations and 48 units of blood were collected. One of those making a donations was Daryl Love.

One of the fundraisers associated with Relay For Life of Worth County has several portable porkers making unexpected appearances in yards throughout Worth County. That included this group of pink pigs that made a stop in the lawn of Hal Johnson recently. While there was no official word as to what made the pigs swarm, there was a rumor that Johnson, a Relay volunteer, had missed a Relay committee meeting, and the pigs wee curious as to his whereabouts.

Northwood Anchor Obituaries

Glen Curtis



GLEN CURTIS

Glen N. Curtis, 79, of Forsyth, Missouri, went to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on May 18, 2020, after a lengthy battle with cancer.

Glen was born on July 21, 1940, in Mason City, Iowa, son of William and Rachel Curtis. After high school, Glen married Elizabeth Wilbur and moved to Northwood, Iowa. Of this union, three children were born, Hope, Lori and Brian. Glen worked at Wilson Foods in Albert Lea, Minnesota, until his retirement.

After retirement, Glen operated a small antique shop in Northwood and he and his partner Nancy Nieman enjoyed traveling the state, antiquing. Glen was an avid trout fisherman and his favorite spots were Burr Oak and Strawberry Point. After Nancy's death, Glen worked for Worth County Transit.

In 2002, Glen married Henrietta Luppen and they moved to Forsyth, Missouri, where he worked for Tri-Lakes Motors in Branson. He was well-known in Forsyth and enjoyed his daily coffee with friends at the local café. Never forgetting his many friends in Northwood, Glen always said the only thing he did not miss were Iowa's winters!

Glen is survived by his wife Henrietta; children, Hope (Curt) Enerson, Lori Thomas, Brian (Lena) Knapp; sister, Rhonda Williams; grandchildren, Caleb (Chelsea) Enerson, Christopher Thomas, Brittni (Tuan) Pham and Arianna Thomas; one great-granddaughter, Kinsey Enerson; his step-children, Doug Santee, Dennis Santee, Steve Santee, Sandra Reams and Cindy Jepson; and several step-grandchildren.

Glen was preceded in death by his grandson, Brandon Thomas and two nephews, Shawn and Shane Olsen.

Melody Bakken



MELODY BAKKEN

Melody Anne Bakken, 53, of North Liberty passed away peacefully on May 7, 2020, at her home, following a courageous nine year battle with osteosarcoma. She was surrounded by her loving family.

To celebrate her life just as she wanted, services will be held at Terry Trueblood Recreation Area after the Coronavirus pandemic restrictions have been lifted. In lieu of flowers, donations may be directed to the family to be distributed to organizations that were important to Melody.

Melody was born on October 24, 1966, in Sioux City, Iowa, to Richard and Sallie (Raney) Carter Jr. She was raised in Sioux City, where she also graduated from Sioux City North High School in 1985 before attending Buena Vista College in Storm Lake, Iowa where she met the love of her life.

After graduating in 1989 with her bachelor's degree from Buena Vista, she continued her education at the University of Iowa to obtain her dream job of becoming an Embryologist. In 1990, Melody began work as a Public Health Microbiologist at the State Hygienic Lab in Coralville, Iowa. Six years later, Melody began working as an Embryologist at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics where she worked until she passed.

Melody married the love of her life, Jeff Allan Bakken on June 23, 1990, in Northwood, Iowa. The couple lived in Cedar Rapids for 11 years before settling in North Liberty for the last 20 years. Becoming a mother to her three children, Jakeb, Jaclyn, and Jayson was the best gift that she could have ever asked for.

Melody was dedicated to her role as an Embryologist, working for the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics for 24 years. If you knew Melody, you know that no matter what cancer threw at her, it didn't stop her from working. Even in her final weeks, Melody spoke in hope of returning to work. She loved her job, the families she formed, and the friends she made during her time as an Embryologist.

She loved working with her husband around their house to make it a home for their family, spending time on the phone every morning with her oldest son, shopping with her daughter, and watching Marvel movies with her youngest son. Aside from the things she loved doing with her family, she also loved being outdoors, traveling to Wisconsin Dells and Lake Okoboji in her children's early ages, flying to Cancun or Punta Cana for spring breaks, attending games at Wrigley Field to support the Chicago Cubs, reading any and all books she could get her hands on, and keeping her home clean.

Above all, Melody loved her family and time spent with them brought her so much joy. No matter how ill cancer made her, she never missed a school or sporting event. In fact, during her years as a softball coach she still made it to all games and practices even while undergoing chemotherapy. Melody was always the loudest parent in the stands and supported her children wholeheartedly in anything they put their minds to. She was always the first person her children would turn to in times of good and bad news. She was their person and they were hers. Her family will continue to live out through Melody by asking themselves "what would Melody do?"

She leaves behind a legacy which will live on in her loving family, her husband, Jeff Bakken of North Liberty; and their children, Jakeb Bakken of Ames, Iowa, Jaclyn Bakken and Jayson Bakken, both of North Liberty; three brothers, Richard Carter of Hawthorne, Wisconsin, Robin (Cindy) Carter of Omaha, Nebraska, Russell (Anne) Carter of Fernandina Beach, Florida; four sisters, Dawn Hoberg of Surprise, Arizona, Eve Carter of Phoenix, Arizona, Honey (Skip) Yates of Underwood, Iowa, Wendy (Jerry) Solberg of Des Moines, Iowa; her in-laws Jerry and Bonnie Bakken of Northwood, Iowa; two sisters-in-law, Julie (Bill) Cooney of Clear Lake, Iowa and Jennifer (Tim) Haugebak of Anthem, Arizona; along with numerous nieces, nephews, great nieces, and great nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Please share a memory of Melody or send your condolences to the family at www.lensing-funeral.com.

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A life in cattle is a family tradition for Bruns

By JoAnn Lower

Some of life's most important lessons, lessons that make strong values, come from loving cattle, and passing that tradition on.

Dwight Bruns' love of cattle began when he was just 10 years old. "I was a member of Fertile Valley 4-H and showed my first calf at the North Iowa Fair, a Shorthorn/Hereford cross I'd raised as a bucket calf."

In the early 1970s Dwight's father David bought a bare 80 acres between Hanlontown and Fertile. In 1976 he purchased a house from Kensett Homes in Kensett for his kids and his wife Lola, an RN at the Forest City Hospital.

While the Bruns family was settling into their new home, David moved a barn from southwest of Forest City, built on a lean-to, tore down a silo and re-erected it beside the barn. Because he wanted to milk cows.

In 2010 Dwight bought the acreage from his dad. "I swapped houses with Dad. He moved to town, and Kay and I moved to the acreage, the place I'd grown up."

Bruns now has 31 head of fat cattle – mostly Angus, some Angus/Simmental. "I've been raising them since I was a 4-H kid. I've gone all the way from cow-calf to feedlot."

Along with raising and finishing cattle, Dwight partners with his brothers in grain farming. Warren lives just 1/4 mile south and Richard 2 1/2 miles west of Dwight's place.

Like her husband, Kay Bruns is also a farm kid. She grew up on a grain and dairy farm near Burt, Iowa. She is employed at Mercy One in Mason City as a records clerk.

Sons Justin and Cody attended school in Forest City and as high schoolers were active in FFA. After graduation, they enrolled at NIACC.

While in high school Justin received the American FFA Degree, a degree awarded at the National FFA Convention & Expo each year to less than one percent of FFA members, making it one of the organization's highest honors. Jason is also in the Worth County Sheriff's Reserves, a member of the Fertile Fire Department and works as a security guard at Winnebago.

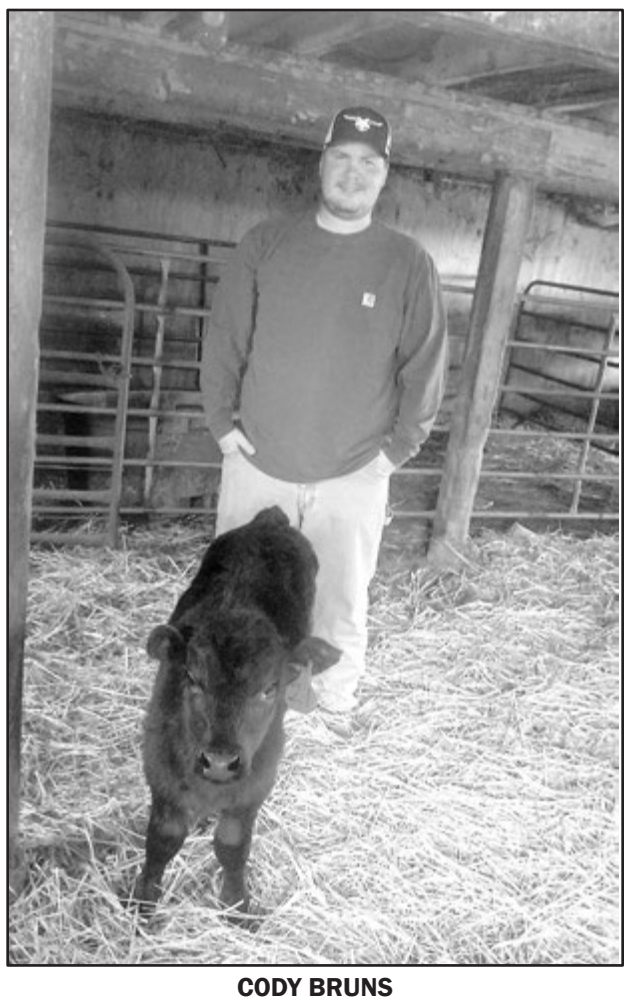
Cody has his own start of a cowherd and works for a farmer who raises baby calves. Both young men help Dad in their free time.

But cattle aren't the only animals at the Bruns' place; there's Molly, the English shepherd. "We bought her to be a cow dog, but she's more interested in being a friend."

Why does Dwight Bruns raise cattle? "It's certainly not for the money I make," he smiled. "It's something I learned as a kid growing up on a farm."



DWIGHT AND KAY BRUNS



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What a different May Beef Month

By Allan Johnson

Each year the Worth County Cattlemen have, for a number of years, done a brief review of the previous year's activities.

May 2020 finds our industry in a very unusual position, market ready cattle, with no one to buy them, or the ability to slaughter them. Local locker facilities booked full out into next winter.

Local fast food restaurants, even with doors closed, cannot get hamburger enough to supply their drive thru traffic.

Market cattle becoming over weight and over conditioned, while consumer demand is not being met, even with inflated meat counter prices.

How many of today's shoppers can remember the last time beef was rationed at the local grocery store? Probably in the 1940s, during World War II, when rationing was government operated and controlled for hundreds of items, including meat.

Beef Month in May 2019 was very normal for the Worth County Cattlemen's group. Preparations for the Worth County Fair, with sponsorship of rate of gain monetary awards, halter presentations in cooperation with Worth County Vet Service, Father's Day dinner served on the last day of the fair. They also sponsored a beef scholarship for the Animal Science Roundup during 4-H State Conference. 2020 will be dramatically different with regard to State Conference and the Worth County Fair.

July 2019 found the Worth County Cattlemen hosting the annual Cattlemen's picnic. Awards were presented that evening, along with a ribeye and corn on the cob supper. Long time supporter of the Cattlemen's programs, including managing the annual Club Calf Sale for many years in a most professional manner, was the Keith Braun family, being placed in "The Worth County Cattlemen's Hall of Fame." Also honored that evening, being named "A Worth County Cattlemen's Friend of the Industry," was Dave VerHelst, for his long term membership and support.

Worth County has also been involved and associated with the Iowa Cattlemen's Association and several of their activities throughout the year. We were represented on three committees at their annual meeting in December. We also purchased from one of our members a steer, which was donated to the Carcass Challenge Program. Several other members also furnished a steer for this program. Both steers represented Worth County very well in competition with 80 other steers. The money from this project helps fund "the Young Cattlemen's Leadership Program."

Several Worth County cattle were entered in the "ICA Performance Bull Test Sales" and sold this spring.

The ICA was represented every day this year in the Iowa legislature by our lobbyist and our legislative director as well. This has been a busy year for these individuals as cattlemen had a number of issues on the agenda this year.

As May Beef Month approached us this year of 2020, we have, in the cattle industry, many issues and challenges facing us. We have extremely low cattle prices due to a more than adequate supply of market-ready cattle, and an unbelievably limited amount of slaughter and processing facility operating due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

These problems, coupled with packers taking advantage of the situation, by increasing prices to retailers and wholesalers creating extremely high profits for their industry, while cattle feeders, farmers and ranchers struggle with unheard of losses.

The Iowa Cattlemen's organization has been the leading advocate for several years, to attempt to increase the percent of negotiated or cash sales of market-ready cattle. This is in an attempt to bring some transparency to this market and cut back on the number of formula marketed cattle.

How serious is our marketing problem? About two weeks ago, the cut-out value of choice beef carcasses, for several days in a row, set all time record high prices, in the mid $4 a pound range wholesale, out the packing house door. Packers in the same days were buying choice steers on a grade and yield, carcass basis for about $1.70 per pound on the farm. A 1,400 pound yielding an 868 pound carcass, at $1.70 per pound, brings the feeder $1,475. The packer sells the 868 pound carcass at $4.40, which brings the packer $3,819. This leaves the packer over $2,300 for his slaughter and processing costs and profit.

Obviously the marketing supply chain is broken and needs repair. What is the answer? We know a big part of the problem is the pandemic. There are several smaller problems, like too much consolidation of packers, creating a lack of competition and too much packer control of market ready cattle through formula marketing.

The solution will not come easy, but at this time the Iowa Cattlemen's Association is leading the search for the answer and the Iowa senators, along with the senator from Montana, are working on the problem and searching for answers. They have, with the help of several other senators, introduced Senate Bill S3693, which directly addresses solutions to this marketing problem.

Support your cattlemen's organization. We can not solve this problem alone. Just like the virus, we will get through this together.

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Celebrating Beef Month and Supporting Local Producers

Corn yields up in Worth County in 2019

By Erin McCord
erin@nwdanchor.com

As the 2019 crop season came to a close, a look at information from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) showed the results at the end of the season in 2019 and how they compared to 2018.

Estimates released include information on corn and soybean production for both years.

Both sets of estimates showed numbers for area planted, area harvested, yield and production for each season, listed by county and region.

According to a NASS release:

"The Iowa District recording the highest corn for grain production in 2019 was the West Central District with 420 million bushels according to estimates released by the USDA. The West Central District had the second highest production at 388 million bushels.

Kossuth County was the highest ranking county for corn for grain production with 61.6 million bushels produced. Plymouth, Pottawattamie, Crawford and Woodbury rounded out the top five. Other counties with production of more than 40 million bushels were Webster, Buchanan, Franklin and Carroll.

Crawford led all counties in yield with an average of 234.7 bushels per acre. Linn, Marshall, Sac, and Carrol Counties rounded out the top five with yields over 219 bushels. Thirty-five of the published counties surpassed the 200 bushel mark in 2019."

Worth County averaged 196.5 bushels per acre in corn, slightly below the state average of 198 bushels per acre.

Between 2018 and 2019, Worth County increased at all data points, including in acres planted in corn, area harvested, production, and yield.

Among Iowa counties in 2018, Worth ranked 65th in area planted, 65th in area harvested and 66th in overall production. In 2019, Worth ranked 66th in area planted, 66th in area harvested and 60th in production among counties for which data was available.

In terms of yield, a statistic not influenced directly by the size of the county, Worth County ranked 71st in 2018 and jumped to 48th in 2019.

According to NASS county estimates, the area planted for corn in Worth County in 2018 was 111,500 acres. In 2019, the county planted 112,000 acres, a .045 percent increase.

Worth County's acres planted was below the average area of 174,727.27 acres planted in the North Central region, and the statewide average of 136,363.63 acres planted.

The area harvested for corn in Worth County in 2018 was 110,000 acres; the area harvested in 2019 was 110,600 acres, a .55 percent increase.

The North Central region, which includes Worth as well as Butler, Cerro Gordo, Floyd, Franklin, Hancock, Humboldt, Kossuth, Mitchell, Winnebago and Wright totaled 1,888,000 acres harvested in 2019. The regional average was 171,636.36 acres. The statewide average was 131,818.18 acres of corn harvested per county .

Corn yields in Worth County in 2019 averaged 196.5 bushels per acre. In 2018, the average was 180 bushels per acre, an increase of 8.89 percent.

The average corn yield in the state in 2019 was 196.5 bushels. The regional average in corn yield was 198.6.

NASS county estimates show corn production in Worth County in 2018 at 19,802,000 bushels. In 2019, estimated production jumped to 21,732,000 bushels, an 9.75 decrease.

The average corn production for the North Central region of Iowa was in 2018 was 19,802,000 bushels and 21,732,000 in 2019. Statewide, Iowa produced 2,583,900,000 bushels of corn.

The North Central region was the fourth most productive region for corn in 2018 and third in 2019.

In soybeans, according to the NASS release, "In 2019, two Iowa counties had total production of over 10.0 million bushels of soybeans, led by Kossuth County, with 11.7 million bushels. Pottawattamie (10.7 million) also topped the 10.0 million bushel threshold. Woodbury (8.67 million), Crawford (8.64 million) and Benton (8.56 million) rounded out the top 5 highest production counties.

The West Central District produced the highest district average yield at 57.3 bushels per acre, followed by the East Central District at 56.6 bushels per acre. Five counties averaged at least 60.0 bushels per acre. Crawford County had the highest yield with an average of 61.9 bushels per acre. Sioux (60.8), Marshall (60.6), Scott (60.5) and Dubuque (60.2) rounded out the top 5. Webster County recorded the lowest yield at 49.1 bushels per acre."

Between 2018 and 2019, Worth County's soybean numbers showed decreases in acres planted and area harvested, as well as production, but an increase in yield.

Among Iowa counties, in 2018, Worth ranked 61st in area planted in soybeans, 60th in area harvested and 58th in overall production. In 2019, Worth ranked 56th in area planted, 53rd in area harvested and 57th in overall production.

Worth County ranked 55th in 2018 and 73rd in 2019 in soybean yields.

The area planted for soybeans in Worth County in 2018 was 88,100 acres. In 2019, the county planted 83,600 acres, a 5.11 percent decrease.

The average area of acres planted in the counties of the North Central region was 155,000 acres. The statewide average was 92929.29 acres planted per county.

The area harvested for soybeans in Worth County in 2018 was 87,200 acres; the area harvested in 2019 was 82,500 acres, a 5.7 percent decrease.

The regional average number of acres planted in 2019 was 106,090.9 acres. The statewide average was 92,121.21 acres of soybeans harvested per county.

Soybean yields in Worth County in 2018 averaged 53.7 bushels per acre. In 2019, the average was 51.0 bushels per acre, a decrease of 5.03 percent.

The state and regional average yields in soybeans in 2019, were 55 bushels and 53.8 bushels, respectively.

In 2018 Worth County produced 4,686,000 bushels of soybeans. In 2019, estimated production dropped to 4,205,000 bushels, an 11.44 percent decrease.

The North Central region of Iowa produced a total of 62,221,000 bushels of soybeans in 2019. The total bushels of soybeans produced in Iowa in 2019 was 501,600,000.

The North Central region was the 4th most productive region for soybeans in 2015, 2016 2017, 2018 and 2019.

All USDA crop reports are available at https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Iowa/Publications/County_Estimates/index.php.

Iowa farmers encouraged to establish monarch butterfly habitat

With a May 29 application cutoff approaching, Iowa conservation partners are encouraging farmers to consider utilizing a federal program that provides financial and technical assistance to establish habitat, benefiting Monarch butterflies and other wildlife.

The Monarch Butterfly Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) administered by USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) helps landowners establish milkweed and other nectar-rich plants that provide food for Monarchs and other pollinators, such as honeybees, that are vital to agriculture.

The Monarch RCPP project is funded through the NRCS-administered Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP). NRCS accepts program applications on a continuous basis, but only applications filed by May 29 are eligible for the next round of funding.

Jake Swafford, Coordinating Wildlife Biologist with Pheasants



Forever, says monarch plantings can be established in areas of unproductive cropland, in sensitive areas such as buffers around waterways or wetlands, in pastures, used to square up oddly shaped fields, and in other suitable locations. "The Monarch RCPP-CSP also supports new and existing conservation activities on cropland and pastureland," he said, "helping to reduce erosion, improve soil health, control invasive species, provide quality livestock forage, and make agricultural operations more resilient and productive."

NRCS State Conservationist Kurt Simon says Iowa is one of the national leaders in CSP contracts and acres. Last year, 412 farmers signed five-year CSP contracts that will help treat resource concerns on 119,000 acres. "CSP is a very effective tool for private landowners working to achieve their conservation and management goals," said Simon.

More information about the RCPP-CSP monarch project, is abailable by visiting a local NRCS office or going to www.ia.nrcs.usda.gov.

NRCS staff are working and available by phone or e-mail while taking safety measures in response to COVID-19. While access is restricted to the buildings, our services are still available via phone appointment or by email. Please visit www.farmers.gov/connect to find your local office and employee contact information.

Managing a farm's financial condition takes an integrated approach

Farmers face financial uncertainty almost each year, with unexpected changes in the markets and unpredictable weather events.

Last year, farmers across the Midwest dealt with record rainfall and flooding. This year, they're dealing with low commodity prices that have crept even lower amid the market disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

One trusted resource available to help producers gain a clearer understanding of their farm financial situation is the Farm Financial Planning Program at Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.

Six financial planning associates are available to offer one-on-one financial counseling to those who request assistance. The associates conduct a computerized analysis of the farm using FINPACK software, and make recommendations about specific ISU Extension and Outreach specialists who may be able to help the operation improve.

Ann Johanns, program specialist in economics at ISU Extension and Outreach, said farmers are dealing with low prices and disruptions caused by the pandemic. She said working with a financial associate may help the producer look at the situation differently, and possibly find some solutions that were not previously apparent.

The answer isn't always what a producer wants to hear, but Johanns said the associates give an honest assessment about the path forward.

The associate offers a big picture look at the farm, and it's up to the farmer to make specific changes and to contact the specialists who can help. While working with financial associates is important, Johanns said it's equally important to follow up with the specialists the associate recommends.

John Jensen, of Knoxville, Iowa, has served as a financial associate for about four years. He said he likes when clients invite him back after the initial visit, so he can produce a summary statement of what they're doing, and what they should consider.

The summary is useful for the individual, and can also be useful when working with a lender, Jensen said. Information is kept confidential, and he makes recommendations when appropriate.

But the decisions are still up to the farmer, including reaching out to the specialists Jensen recommends.

Jensen retired from ag and commercial lending in 2013, and like the other associates, he enjoys the opportunity to share his experience and offer up some meaningful advice.

Farmers can locate a Farm Financial Planning Program associate in their area by contacting their ISU Extension and Outreach county office or by visiting the Farm Financial Planning Program website. For questions on whether meeting with an associate is the right step, contact the farm management field specialist in your area.

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All ages may join 4-H Gardening to Give

By Haley Jones
4-H Program Specialist
Cayla Taylor
4-H Youth Development

Iowa 4-H Youth Development has launched Gardening to Give — a hands-on educational gardening program designed for all ages and abilities. Gardening to Give is a six-month, immersive learning experience in gardening with educational resources shared weekly with registered participants.

"Gardening to Give focuses on encouraging all Iowans to grow gardens statewide to provide food for their families as well as local food pantries and food banks," said Haley Jones, 4-H civic engagement and leadership specialist with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.

Registered participants will receive weekly gardening challenges and learning activities focused on a specific gardening topic, ranging from planting, weed control and pollinators to examples of how to share harvested produce with others. The weekly educational lessons are designed to provide applicable learning for small container gardens to large-scale backyard garden beds using seeds and plants that are accessible to the grower.

Participants are then encouraged to share their gardening successes and plans to use their harvested produce through coordinated social media initiatives. Participants are also encouraged to connect with their ISU Extension and Outreach county office to obtain additional horticultural information, connect with local experts and participate in local gardening workshops.

"Gardening to Give provides an extended learning opportunity for youth and adults alike to learn together and share their successes in the garden," said Jones. "The great thing about this program is that participants can engage in this online learning opportunity when it's most convenient for them."

While this educational experience extends over a six-month period, participants can register and choose to engage at any time in select portions of Gardening to Give or the entire learning experience. There is no cost or commitment involved to participate.

Registration for the Gardening to Give program is now open.

"Register now to get your hands dirty and pledge them to larger service by growing a garden with ISU Extension and Outreach and Iowa 4-H Youth Development," Jones said. Visit the Gardening to Give webpage for more information.

USDA reports record enrollment in key farm safety-net programs

Producers signed a record 1.77 million contracts for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs for the 2019 crop year, which is more than 107 percent of the total contracts signed compared with a 5-year average. USDA also reminds producers that June 30 is the deadline to enroll in ARC and PLC for the 2020 crop year.

"Producers for several years have experienced low commodity prices, a volatile trade environment and catastrophic natural disasters," said Richard Fordyce, Administrator of USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA). "Farmers looking to mitigate these risks recognize that ARC and PLC provide the financial protections they need to weather substantial drops in crop prices or revenues."

Producers interested in enrolling for 2020 should contact their FSA county office. Producers must enroll by June 30 and make their one-time update to PLC payment yields by September 30.

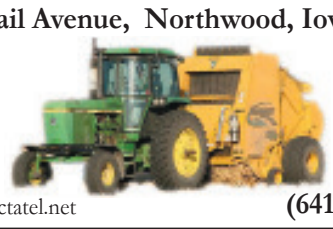
FSA attributes the significant participation in the 2019 crop year ARC and PLC programs to increased producer interest in the programs under the 2018 Farm Bill and to an increase in eligible farms because of the selling and buying of farms and new opportunities for beginning farmers and military veterans with farms having 10 or fewer base acres. Enrollment for 2019 ended March 16.

USDA Service Centers, including FSA county offices, are open for business by phone only, and field work will continue with appropriate social distancing. While program delivery staff will continue to come into the office, they will be working with producers by phone and using online tools whenever possible. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with the FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service or any other Service Center agency are required to call their Service Center to schedule a phone appointment. More information can be found at farmers.gov/coronavirus.

For more information on ARC and PLC, download the program fact sheet or the 2014-2018 farm bills comparison fact sheet. Online ARC and PLC election decision tools are available at www.fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc. To locate the nearest USDA Service Center, visit farmers.gov/service-center-locator.


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Ponderings from the Batt Cave

By Al Batt writer, speaker, storyteller and humorist.

Echoes from the Loafers' Club Zoom Meeting

I got everything done on my list of things to do today.

How many things were on the list?

Just one — make a list of things to do today.

Driving by Bruce's drive

I have a wonderful neighbor, named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me, such as: Life is neat, but not gaudy. I'm staying busy. Washing my hands for 20 seconds every 20 seconds fills a day. I've cut my list of things to do to the point where I can see both ends. I can't remember that ever being possible before. New things have become familiar and old things have become strange. We're all in this together — albeit 6 feet apart.

"How are you?" we ask, politely inviting good news. "Are all you all OK?" is a brief meditation of good wishes. Life isn't normal and it never has been, but we might be living in a "Twilight Zone" episode.

I mowed the dandelions as they tried to watch the sun. Dandelions open early like a bakery. They will adjust to mowing and flower on shorter stems. I pushed the mower under the lofty pole holding our brand new security light bulb. It was exciting to see it (I'm easily entertained) and I tried not to compare it to the old bulb.

My wife gave me a mocha bar for my good work and, thanks to time spent together bonding while sheltering in place, I felt comfortable enough to tell her I don't like peanut-mocha cake bars. I never have. If she'd had made it, I wouldn't have said anything. My mother bought them for me too. I never told her either. It's hard not to accept things from someone being nice.

The phone rang and I answered it

A customer of this column called to ask if I'd been to Whittier, Alaska. The town, named after the poet John Greenleaf Whittier, is an hour south of Anchorage. The road between them includes a 2-mile long, one-way drive through a mountain tunnel that closes at 10:30 p.m. If you're late, you sleep in your vehicle. I've visited this beautiful place and watched black-legged kittiwakes, dainty gulls, look as if they were peeling off rock walls before taking flight. Whittier has a year-round population of 220 and challenging weather. The windy location gets 22 feet of snow and 16 feet of rain annually. School should be canceled for good weather. About 80% of the residents live in one 14-story building (that includes a clinic, convenience store, B&B, church, post office, police department and city government). A school is connected. The rest of the population lives in a smaller apartment complex. There are no single-family homes.

Those thrilling days of yesteryear

I was playing chess with my shop teacher and had decided to ask him how he'd lost a joint's worth of finger. Just as I was going to do that, he sent a classmate to the lumberyard to get a board stretcher. That was funny only because he hadn't sent me.

I've been reading Iowa authors

"The Universal Baseball Association, Inc., J. Henry Waugh, Prop." written by Robert Coover who was born in Charles City. Waugh is an accountant with no family, friends or future at work, who loves statistics and invented a baseball game similar to Strat-O-Matic.

"Andersonville" a Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by MacKinlay Kantor, born in Webster City, captures the heartbreaking story of a notorious Georgia prison holding 50,000 Union soldiers.

"The Spectator Bird" by Wallace Stegner, the dean of Western writers, born near Lake Mills. It's a quiet, reflective, character-driven novel about the human condition. Stegner won a Pulitzer Prize for "Angle of Repose."

Nature notes

There are collective nouns for warblers: bouquet, confusion, fall and wrench. The most abundant warbler I see is the yellow-rumped warbler, nicknamed the butterbutt for obvious reasons. It winters farther north than most warblers because it can digest the wax in berry coatings. It gleans insects from vegetation, ground, air and spiderwebs. It will eat suet and peanut butter.

Common grackles sometimes nest in loose colonies, exhibiting

limited territoriality except in the immediate area of a nest. Ogden Nash wrote this: "The grackle's voice is less than mellow. His heart is black, his eye is yellow. He bullies more attractive birds, with hoodlum deeds and vulgar words, And should a human interfere, attacks that human in the rear. I cannot help but deem the grackle, an ornithological debacle."

As I look out my window, I'm thankful for Winthrop W. Window, the inventor of the window.

Meeting adjourned

You make all the difference. Be kind.

© Al Batt 2020

Northwood Theatre shows championship game DVD on May 28-31

The Northwood Theatre will be showing the DVD of the 2007 Northwood-Kensett State Championship game on Thursday, May 28, Friday, May 29, and Saturday, May 30, all at 7 p.m., and on Sunday, May 31, at 4 p.m. This showings are a fundraiser for the Vikings Activity Center.

More details about the Northwood Theatre's reopening day and the CDC guidelines will be shared on the theatre website at www.northwoodtheatre.com and the theare's Facebook page.

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Supervisors

May 18, 2020
Twenty first 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 Abrams, second by Smeby, carried to approve the May 18, 2020 agenda.

Motion by Abrams, second by Smeby, carried to approve the May 11, 2020 board minutes.

Motion by Smeby, second by Abrams, carried to approve an agreement between Worth County, Iowa and the City of Fertile, Iowa regarding project FM-CO98(77)- - 55-98.

Motion by Abrams, second by Smeby, carried to accept the engineer's report for DD #46/Lat 9.

Motion by Smeby, second by Abrams, carried to approve the warranty easement deed by and between Drainage District 21 W, Worth County.

On April 27, 2020 a motion by Smeby, and second by Abrams approved a quote by B & W Control Specialists. The following is the portion of the quote that was omitted from those minutes: DD #11/M-A - $7,500.00; DD #11/M-C - $1,500.00; DD #11/M-D - $1,500.00; DD # 11/M-F - $3,500.00; DD #11/M-F/L-112 - $250.00; DD #11/M-G - $2,500.00; DD #11/M-J - $3,500.00; DD #11/M-K - $3,500.00; DD #13 Lower - $3,500.00; DD #13 Upper - $3,500.00; DD #13 Upper/L-5 - $750.00; DD #34/M-E - $750.00; DD #19 - $1,000.00; DD #1-22 - $3,500.00; DD #23 - $2,500.00; DD #8 - $1,500.00.

Motion by Abrams, second by Smeby, carried to approve drainage claims in the amount of $23,832.00 as per the following schedule:

Bolton & Menk, Inc., DD #2/Main, Prof Services $2,208.00

Bolton & Menk, Inc., DD #13/Ditch 3, Prof Services..... $18,033.00

Bolton & Menk, Inc., DD #46/Lat 9, Prof Services $3,281.00

Rogness Bros Excavating, DD #38, Repairs $310.00

Grand Total.... $23,832.00

Motion by Smeby, second by Abrams, carried to adjourn at 9:26 A.M. The next meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at 8:30 A.M.

Jacki A. Backhaus, Auditor

Aaron Stone, Chairperson