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Girls' wrestling

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# The Denison Free Press

Local News  
Local Journalists  
Local Ownership

FREE  
TAKE ONE!

Vol. 1 | No. 31

SERVING DENISON & CRAWFORD COUNTY, IOWA

February 01, 2024

## City considers bonding needs for FY2025

Public hearing set

BY GORDON WOLF

During past meetings, the Denison City Council and city staff have been discussing the bonding needs for fiscal year 2024-2025 and are proposing an amount not to exceed \$4 million.

A public hearing has been set for the February 20 council meeting.

The approval of the bond issue does not mean the city would use all of the funds. Use of the funds will have to be approved by the city council for the individual projects as they arise.

The bond resolution is divided into three sections, according to the type of work.

One section of the bond is for an amount not to exceed \$3.4 million. This is proposed for the Washington Park new playground project (\$1.3 million), about \$1.8 million proposed for streets, and for streetlight equipment and for airport improvements.

The second section is for an amount not to exceed \$265,000 for the construction, furnishing and to equip the Crawford County Wellness Center. This amount is a pledge from the city to the project, rounded up.

The third section is for essential purpose bonds in an amount not to exceed \$365,000 to replace the indoor and outdoor filters at the aquatic center.

At its January 2 meeting, the Denison City Council provided direction to Scott Stevenson with the DA Davidson office in Des Moines to proceed on the premise that the city would bond for \$4 million in fiscal year 2024-2025, while noting that they may not necessarily use the entire amount.

Stevenson said \$4 million is the maximum that the City of Denison can bond without increasing the debt service levy. In fact, that levy would decrease slightly, he added.

By bonding for that maximum, the city could reinvest the money and earn interest at a rate above the borrowing rate.

Proceeds from the bond don't have to be spent until three years from its issuance.

Stevenson said the interest rates on municipal bonds had come down in the last 45 days (as of the January 2 meeting), and the city could probably

BONDING, PAGE 3

## Bigger than Calf Show Days Schleswig 125<sup>th</sup> Celebration set for September



PHOTO BY DAN MUNDT

The town of Schleswig, which was established in 1899, will celebrate its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in September.

BY DAN MUNDT

"We've been planning for quite a few months, already," said Shannon Cose, who is co-chair, with Jodi Bruhn, of the Schleswig 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Celebration. "We have multiple committees set up that are hard at work organizing everything from food, 125<sup>th</sup>, PAGE 3

It's been a while

## Heiden to retire after 44 years at Job Corps

BY DAN MUNDT

Job Corps had just come into existence when Kim (Bergman) Heiden was hired as a clerk/typist. "My first day was November 12, 1979," she said.

HEIDEN, PAGE 8



PHOTO BY DAN MUNDT

After 44 years at Job Corps, Kim Heiden will retire on Monday.

Help WESCO help the community

## WESCO seeks foundation board members



BY DAN MUNDT

WESCO Industries, of Denison, is looking to expand membership of the WESCO Foundation Board of Directors.

The foundation board is separate from the WESCO Board of Directors, WESCO, PAGE 4

## Safety concerns discussed with Summit rep

Landowner pushes supervisors to enact ordinance

BY DAN MUNDT

Part 2 of 2

Riley Gibson, representing Summit Carbon Solutions, visited the Crawford County Board of Supervisors meeting on January 23 to give an update on the status of Summit's plan to build a pipeline to carry carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) from Midwestern ethanol plants to North Dakota, where it will be permanently buried underground.

Supervisor Ty Rosburg asked Gibson about the precision of the company's dispersion models, which show how the CO<sub>2</sub> would spread from a break in the pipeline.

Gibson said the modeling is very detailed; multiple tools and programs

PIPELINE, PAGE 3

Jack of all trades

## DHS graduate wins Kennedy Center award

BY DAN MUNDT

Jack MacGregor, a 2021 Denison High School graduate, has been awarded the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) Region 5 National Award for Scenic Design.

MacGregor is a junior at Northwestern College in Orange City, where he is majoring in theatre.

He was one of eight undergraduate and graduate scenic design students in the nation whose scenic designs will compete at the KCACTF National Festival from April 22-26 in Washington, D.C.

MacGregor received the award for his scenic design of the February 2023

Northwestern College production of "Silent Sky" by Lauren Gunderson.

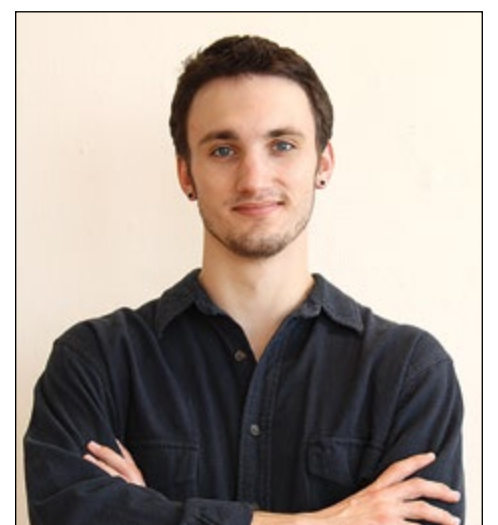
The play was inspired by the true story of Henrietta Leavitt and her astronomical discoveries at Harvard University in the early 1900s.

MacGregor credits his teachers at DHS with helping nurture his interest in pursuing theatre as a career.

"Theatre is not necessarily a field a lot of Denison High School alums go into. My education often felt more STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) targeted, and rightfully so since they're vital fields for our society to function," he said. "I was extremely blessed to have (language arts teachers)

Laurel Olsen and Cynthia Koster encourage me to study theatre while in high school. They both developed me as a speaker and actor, and gave me a love for seeing literature come to life. They both reminded me that the world needs art just as much as it needs science and math. I also had Laurel take me under her wing to build and design scenery for shows because she noticed my creative eye. My work was shoddy at times, but Laurel was so patient and constructive, no matter what. It's because of Laurel and Cynthia that I am where I am today. They gave me hope."

To MacGregor, Northwestern



Jack MacGregor

College feels like the best place he could possibly be.

"My professors know me personally; they're invested in supporting the path

MACGREGOR, PAGE 8

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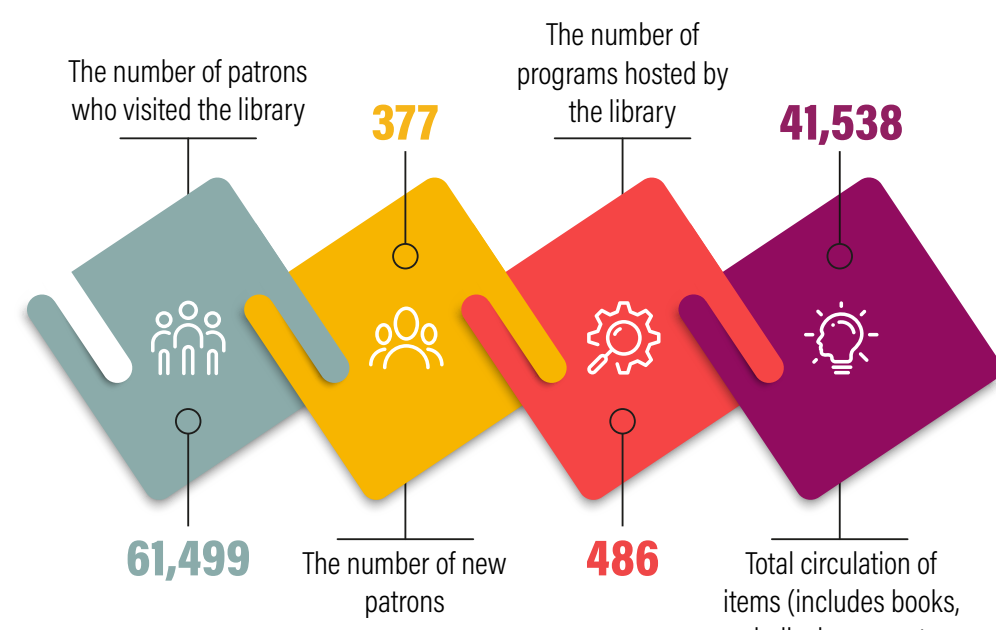
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### By the numbers

## 2023 at Norelius Community Library



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## Supervisor wants Summit Carbon Solutions to be a “good neighbor”

PIPELINE, FROM PAGE 1

were used to account for the variable terrain along the pipeline route.

He said the company wants area emergency management to have the proper tools in case of a worst-case scenario; two other representatives from Summit will give a presentation to first responders in the near future.

Tim Baughman, who has property that will be affected by the pipeline project and joined the discussion via Zoom, asked if Gibson had any update on a proposed valve station on R Avenue near Baughman's neighbor's property.

Baughman said the plume modeling he had seen doesn't look favorable in the event of an issue with the valve station, given the terrain in the area, and asked for an update.

Gibson said he didn't have new information about that valve station and noted that valves will be located where the company can get an easement from a landowner willing to take the valve station.

He said the valves in Crawford County are fairly close together (one is planned southwest of Denison and one is planned northwest of Denison) and pointed out that the valves are safety features added specifically because of the high-density population in Denison.

Rosburg asked if the Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration (PHMSA) requires setbacks from homesteads.

Gibson said PHMSA only regulates dispersion modeling for “high-consequence areas,” and noted that Summit's entire pipeline route only has two miles considered to be in that category.

He said the general federal rule calls for a 50-foot setback; he said Summit initially wanted to stay 500 feet away from everything, but it wasn't possible to do that for the entire route.

Gibson said he would be surprised if the closest house in Crawford County is less than 250 feet from the pipeline.

Rosburg said he had concerns about the exposed pipe at a valve station being susceptible to being hit by a vehicle that went off the road or an automated vehicle that was recalculating its route at the wrong time.

He said that the wind energy company building a wind turbine field south of Westside had gone the extra step to protect lives in the county.

Rosburg said he had concerns about first responders risking their lives in the

event of a problem with the pipeline.

Gibson said he hated to bring up the story of Satartia, Mississippi, where a CO2 pipeline ruptured in 2020, but pointed out that the first responders in that incident didn't know the pipeline was there.

He said Summit would be around for a long time, providing information so first responders know about the pipeline.

Gibson said extra protection might be needed to make sure valves aren't damaged by vehicle accidents.

Chairperson Jean Heiden asked if Summit still plans to have a “pig launcher” station on Vernon Voss Road (with the “pig” being a pipeline testing device the company would insert into the line at that point).

The plan for the launcher has not changed, Gibson said.

Baughman said that in light of the discussion about plume modeling and the distance to residences, he recommended that the supervisors reconsider enacting an ordinance that would give the county and landowners a say in where the pipeline is installed – rather than just accept what the company says it is going to do.

Supervisor Kyle Schultz said he was not taking sides, but wanted to thank Summit for offering information for first responders that would save critical minutes if a pipeline rupture occurred.

He pointed out that the county has no idea what is being hauled by the railroads on local tracks – and the first thing first responders would have to do during an accident would be to try to find out what the train was carrying.

Gibson said the company had made some mistakes in the past and had learned lessons, but said the big push is to provide information so that the county could be prepared in a worst-case scenario.

He also said the company understands that the project has made a lot of work for “people who aren't getting paid any more to be here and deal with us...”

Heiden said the supervisors want to keep the pipeline on the front burner.

“If it's coming, we need to be prepared ... and if we need to make an ordinance, we may need to revisit that and figure out what we can do to keep our citizens and our landowners as safe as possible,” she said.

Gibson said the county attorney might be able to offer insight into relevant procedural rulings in the Northern District Court of Iowa.

Rosburg said he wanted to stress the “good neighbor policy,” meaning that if Summit acts as a good neighbor, everyone benefits.

He said that would help rectify a lack of transparency and bully tactics some say the company has used.

BONDING, FROM PAGE 1

borrow for a 10-year period for slightly over 3%. He added that number had been perhaps closer to 4.45% just at the end of October.

“You have three years to spend the money. I don't know if you should go into it thinking we're going to sit on the money for three years. Right now, you could reinvest it with IPAIT (Iowa Public Agency Investment Trust) and get 5% while you're borrowing at 3%,” Stevenson said.

The city has more than enough needs to use the entire \$4 million, but the city council members did not necessarily want to spend \$4 million in bond proceeds in the coming fiscal year.

One reason the city could bond for \$4 million for FY 2024-2025 is the debt that is to be retired at the end of the current fiscal year on June 30 will be more significant than the debt that rolled off last year.

In addition, the taxable valuation for the city is going to grow by about \$23

million, about a 10% boost in tax base, Stevenson told council members.

“The city has had a very consistent practice of borrowing over only a 10-year period and doing that consistently, so almost every year you have some debt rolling off,” said Stevenson. “So going forward you maybe have a smaller window of what you could borrow next year, but nonetheless you would have a drop off in that existing debt service burden that you could backfill again with another borrowing next year.”

Councilman Greg Miller asked if the city would affect its bond market rating with a \$4 million bond issue.

Stevenson responded that the city's total outstanding debt is just under \$10 million, including the \$4 million concept.

“That's utilizing only 50% of the city's debt limit, so comparatively speaking, I have plenty of other clients the same size of Denison that regularly are at 75% or 80% of their debt limit utilized, so even with this, it is still a relatively low debt burden compared to your peers,” he said.

## More volunteers will be needed to put on the celebration

125<sup>th</sup>, FROM PAGE 1

to the parade, to entertainment, the carnival and so much more. We started about six or eight months ago, and we've been meeting with a different committee every week.”

The Schleswig 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration will take place on September 13, 14, and 15 which, as the second weekend after Labor Day, is the traditional weekend of Schleswig Calf Show Days.

“A lot of the things we normally do for Calf Show weekend will still be in place,” Cose said. “We didn't want to miss out on Calf Show Days nostalgia for a lot of the people and families that are coming back for the weekend, but for the most part the focus will be celebrating the 125<sup>th</sup> for the town and doing some new events on a larger scale.”

She noted that the weekend of the event does not fall on the same weekend as the Tri City BBQ Fest this year.

“That should be a great selling point,” she said. “There will be plenty of fun stuff to go around for everybody.”

The event will kick off on the night of Friday, September 13.

“We have multiple bands lined up, but we haven't done our official announcement of who they all are,” she said. “We'll have a very large tent, and all the entertainment events will be on the stage underneath the tent.”

Contests with a German theme will take place on the stage.

“That's kind of the overall theme for the weekend,” Cose said. “We're encouraging people to come and participate and put on lederhosen, or go buy a dirndl, which is the German women's dress attire, and just have fun with it. We've got some fun things planned that go along with the German theme.”

The event will feature a beer garden, a carnival and a parade.

“The church will do their nice chicken dinner, the school will have their food stand, and we will be bringing in other food vendors,” she said. “There will be an all-school reunion, as well.”

Schleswig's history will be a central feature of the event.

“We plan to have something of a museum on display that goes through the history of the town over the last 125 years,” Cose said. “They're working on bringing in some memorabilia and artifacts and things that are associated with Schleswig. We encourage anybody, if they think they have something that is rare or unique from the history of Schleswig, to get in touch with us to let us know if they'd be willing to let us borrow it for the weekend.”

As preparations for the 125<sup>th</sup> weekend pick up steam, more volunteers will be needed.

A goal is to have enough volunteers so that each individual only has to work two hours over the three days of the event.

“Then everybody gets to enjoy the weekend,” she said. “We're definitely going to be scouting out volunteers to help from Friday to Sunday.”

Cose noted that many individuals are already contributing lots of time to the event.

“We have such great people who are willing to be the head of different committees; it's taking a village to put this together,” she said. “It's going to take the support of the community and everybody's help to get this accomplished.”

An online storefront on the Schleswig 125<sup>th</sup> Celebration Facebook page will sell merchandise for the event.

“You can order items beforehand – which will be great for those who won't be able to be around for the weekend,” Cose said. “The online store will open and close multiple times so that way they can get that merchandise made and shipped off and then they can reopen it again.”

A website, at Schleswigia.com, will go live in a few weeks.

“As we get closer, it will have all the information anybody could need,” she said. “That and our Facebook page will be best ways to keep up to date on what's happening and what we've got going on.”

Cose said the organizers are hoping for a big crowd at the 125<sup>th</sup> celebration.

“We're going to have great entertainment and it will be fun to celebrate Schleswig,” she said. “We're all happy to be part of it and we hope everyone feels the same way.”

## Scouting for Food

### Scouts chili supper is Sunday

BY DAN MUNDT

The “Scouting for Food Chili Supper,” organized by Boy Scout Troop 55, Cub Scout Pack 49, and Girl Scout Troop 274, will take place from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. this Sunday, February 4, at First United Methodist Church in Denison.

The chili supper will provide funds and supplies for T.A.P., the Woodbine Community Food Pantry, and the Emergency Food Pantry at First United Methodist Church.

The event is in its 18th year.

Troop 55 Scoutmaster Troy Gehlsen has been involved with the chili supper for nine of those years.

“We do this to help stock food pantry shelves. We're donating to the Woodbine Community Food Pantry because we had two scouts from Woodbine join our troop last year,” Gehlsen said. “We want to give to all the communities where we draw scouts from.”

He noted that food pantry supplies tend to start to be depleted when cold weather arrives.

“This is a good way to help replenish their shelves,” Gehlsen said.

The chili supper is in addition to the spring drive when scouts collect canned goods.

“This works really well because you get chili for your donation,” Gehlsen said. “There's no set price that you pay to get your chili; you can come in and give a monetary donation that we'll distribute to the food pantries to go buy the items they need, or you can

bring in nonperishable goods.”

Two types of chilies will be available. “We'll have roasters of red bean chili and we'll do a roaster of white chicken chili, which is really, really good,” he said. “We always do grilled cheese sandwiches, and we'll have a lot of homemade desserts.”

The scouts will make most of the desserts.

“Some get purchased, but most of them are homemade,” Gehlsen said.

Scout leaders, parents and scouts make the chili and sandwiches.

“The scouts are in there cutting up onions and things like that,” he said. “A lot of them are in charge of certain things, and they do a pretty good job with responsibility.”

The chili supper will feature dining in the church and carryout.

“The side door on the (United Methodist Church) kitchen goes out the alley,” Gehlsen said. “That will be the pickup place for carryout because all we have to do is walk out that side door, instead of running down the hall into the parking lot with somebody's food. They can drive through the alley and we can open the door and hand them their food.”

In addition to providing supplies for food pantries, the chili supper is a good teaching tool for the scouts.

“It teaches them how to be active in their community, and it teaches them how to give back to their community,” Gehlsen said. “It can be easy to go through life and think everything is just fine and people around here don't need any help, but people do need help. T.A.P. has been around for a long time and they are a good resource for people in need. This is a way for these scouts to give back, and it's also community service for them. And they all have fun.”

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#### Contact Our Staff

**News & Feature Writer: Gordon Wolf**  
gwolf@denisonefreepress.com

**News & Feature Writer: Dan Mundt**  
dmundt@denisonefreepress.com

**Publisher & Sales: Lorena López**  
sales@denisonefreepress.com

**Design Director: Meriah Blakley**  
sales@denisonefreepress.com

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# Local Calendar

## FRIDAY

FEBRUARY 2, 2024

**Schleswig Fire Department Ladies Staggette fundraiser;** doors open at 6 p.m. at the Schleswig Community Building. Catered by Staley's. Tickets are \$75 in advance from any fireman, \$100 at the door.

## SATURDAY

FEBRUARY 3, 2024

**Family Saturday;** Dental Awareness at Norelius Community Library, 10-11 a.m.; Games, craft-making and free dental kits while supplies last.

## SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 4, 2024

**Bingo in Deloit,** 1-4 p.m. at the Community Hall. Doors open at noon. Everyone is welcome.

## MONDAY

FEBRUARY 5, 2024

**Monday Funday,** 1-4 p.m. at the First United Methodist for children from TK-5th grade. Drop-off times are from 12:30-1 p.m. and pick-up times are from 4-30 p.m. Activities include crafting, storytelling, group games, science, board games, recreation, and a lesson connected to living a Christian life and a mid-afternoon snack. All denominations welcome.



## TUESDAY

FEBRUARY 6, 2024

**Color Me Calm and Family & Teen Coloring** at Norelius Community Library, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

**Euchre Night at the Community Building in Ricketts** starting at 7 p.m. Entry fee is \$5 and there is no need to bring a partner.

## WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 7, 2024

**Storytime at Norelius Community Library,** 2-3 p.m. Stories, songs and special activities for children up to 5 years of age.

**Euchre Night at the Charter Oak Community Building;** games begin at 7 p.m. No partners needed.

## THURSDAY

FEBRUARY 8, 2024

**Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS)** meets on Thursdays at United Presbyterian Church in Denison. Doors open at 7:30 a.m.; meeting begins at 8:30 a.m. Coffee provided. Call Carmen Swertzic at 712-269-6689 for more information.

**Grim Readers Book Club at Norelius Community Library,** 5:30-6:30 p.m. A true crime and true mystery book club for teens and adults. Call 712-263-9355 in advance to register.

**Storytime at Norelius Community Library,** 6-7 p.m. Stories, songs and special activities for children up to 5 years of age.

# Fundraiser contributed \$4,000 to the Crawford County Fair in 2023

WESCO, FROM PAGE 1

which is the organization's governing board.

"The foundation board meets quarterly; their function is to raise money for WESCO, to support it and focus on community integration," said Clay Adams, executive director of WESCO Industries.

"What we want to do is expand the foundation board; we're looking for at least five to six new members to be on it, so it will have a total of 12 members."

People from all walks of life are needed.

"You don't have to be a finance person, you just have to want to make Denison a better place and help WESCO make Denison a better place," Adams said.

He said that many people may not realize that WESCO is Crawford County's fifth largest employer.

"We have about 140 employees, and we also serve about 180 clients," Adams said. "If you put those two together, it's a big chunk of people that live and work in the county; well over 300 between the staff and the clients we serve."

WESCO's members currently provide staffing for 27 area businesses.

"When you go to Walmart, Fareway or Hy-Vee to shop, or Pizza Ranch to eat out, or the Bake Shop, or similar businesses in town, you're generally in a business that employs somebody from WESCO," he said. "Helping WESCO helps the city of Denison because we're still in a staffing shortage. There's not a lot of people that aren't hiring right now."

WESCO is more stable and stronger in 2024 than in any of Adams's previous 12 years as executive director.

"We've grown a lot, we've strengthened a lot, and through all those years, people came to help us through volunteerism

and donations and things like that, and now we want to return the favor," he said.

"We're looking for people who are into fundraising, into community action and into community integration (of WESCO's services)."

The kind of people working on the Crawford County Wellness Center project, the new inclusive playground at Washington Park, the Immigrant Heritage Festival, the Tri City BBQ Fest, Hot Summer Nights, and similar efforts, are the kind of people WESCO wants on its foundation board, he said.

For about a decade, WESCO put on an annual golf tournament that was the organization's fundraising tool.

"Last year, we did the First Annual WESCO Duck Float, and that's going to be the foundation's new major fundraiser for the year," Adams said. "We're going to continue to give 50% of the profits right back to a local charity, a local family in need, or a local entity that needs help."

The fundraiser contributed \$4,000 to the Crawford County Fair last year.

A focus for the WESCO Foundation Board will be to identify the people and places in Denison and Crawford County that need help and then find ways to provide that help.

"The board's purpose is to integrate into the community and support WESCO," Adams said. "I think we can do that at the same time that we help out people in the community."

Individuals interested in joining the expanded WESCO Foundation Board of Directors are encouraged to contact Starla Webb, WESCO business director, at 712-263-6141.

"You don't need any certifications to be on this board," Adams said. "You just have to be someone who wants to help. That's what we're looking for."

# COURTHOUSE NEWS

January 19-25, 2024

## SCHEDULED TRAFFIC

- + Gilberto Jeffrey Garcia Rubio, Denison, violation of instruction permit limitation, \$175.75.
- + Austin Arden McCollough, Vail, operating non-registered vehicle, \$135.50.
- + Luis Angel Garcia Rubio, Denison, motorcycle/ moped license violations, \$112.50.
- + Jonathan P. Knudtson, Bellevue, NE, no valid driver's license, \$503.50.
- + Adam Castillo, Charter Oak, failure to maintain control, \$210.25.
- + Quynn Angela Marie Rackham, Denison, failure to maintain or use safety belts, adult, \$135.50.
- + Stacy Marie Sporleder, Glidden, failure to yield half of roadway, \$211.

## SPEEDING (21 MPH AND OVER)

- + Luis Angel Garcia Rubio, Denison, \$227.50.

## SPEEDING (16-20 MPH OVER)

- + Alma Dayami Lima Lima, Denison, \$193.
- + Janelle L. Jackson, Lincoln, NE, \$193.

## SPEEDING (11-15 MPH OVER)

- + Maximillian Christopher Wenderoth, Denison, \$175.75.

## SPEEDING (6-10 MPH OVER)

- + Amanda Nicole Birks, Ida Grove, \$149.88.

## SPEEDING (1-5 MPH OVER)

- + Cheryl Lynn Johnson Naggatz, Carter Lake, \$106.75.
- + Meghan Ashlee McConville, Council Bluffs, \$89.50.
- + Adam Stephen Espenhover, Carroll, \$89.50.
- + Mayre Margarita Garcia, Denison, \$106.75.

## SMALL CLAIMS

- + Against: Russell L. Coenen, Dow City. In favor of: Midland Credit Management Inc. Amount: \$1,816.19 plus \$95 costs.
- + Against: Debra Kay Landgraf, Kiron. In favor of: Discover Bank. Amount: \$3,255.59 plus \$95 costs.
- + Against: Brandon Marvin Gosch, Denison. In favor of: United Bank of Iowa. Amount: \$1,825.24 plus \$95 costs.
- + Against: Fonseca Corporation, Manilla. In favor of: Ike Auen Distributing Company, Inc. Amount: \$1,220.45 plus \$95 costs.
- + Against: Diana Huffman, Manilla. In favor of: Midland Credit Management, Inc. Amount: \$2,135.95 plus \$95 costs.

# Learning about Rotary



PHOTO BY GORDON WOLF

JJ Johnson, president of the Denison Rotary Club, talks to people gathered at the Bake Shop on last Thursday evening about the possibility of adding a second weekly meeting for those who cannot attend the weekly noon Rotary meeting. He and Aubrey Sholty (pictured at left) said the meeting can be on a time and day that works the best for people who are interested. Johnson explained that Rotary is about "service above self" and doing things to improve the community and county.

# LWML Denison Zone "Hour of Prayer" set for February 12

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) Denison Zone "Hour of Prayer" will take place on Monday, February 12, at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Denison.

Christ Lutheran LWML is hosting the morning event and service written by Rev. Michael Mattil. His service, "Grace, Mercy, Peace," is based on I Timothy 1:2b, 2 Timothy 1:2; and 2 John 1:3.

Christ Lutheran Pastor Ted Torreson and Pastor Merle Mahnken, Denison Zone LWML counselor, will lead the service.

Coffee will be served at 9 a.m. with the prayer service beginning at 10 a.m.

Everyone is invited to take part in the morning fellowship time and worship service.

# Denison Kiwanis lottery winners for January 31

The following winners in the January 31 Denison Kiwanis lottery will each receive \$25.

- + Dave Nemitz, Denison
- + Robert Lauderdale, Denison
- + Walmart, Denison
- + Sharon Livingston, Denison
- + Steve Rogers, Denison
- + Jeanie Mork, Denison
- + Allen Nepper, Denison
- + Terri Groth, Denison
- + Tim Weber, Denison
- + Allen Nepper, Denison
- + Ten Point Construction, Denison
- + Mary Bell, Denison
- + Walmart, Denison
- + Jim Harms, Denison
- + Mike Welch, Denison
- + Joe Listopad, Denison
- + Lonya Mathys, Denison
- + Crawford County Bank, Denison



# Letters TO THE EDITOR

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## Christ Lutheran welcomes pastor

Ted Torreson's sermons are a dialogue with congregation

BY GORDON WOLF

Ted Torreson's move from Jackson, Missouri, to Denison to become Christ Lutheran Church's first pastor was a simple matter of miles.

But in a spiritual distance, the journey was filled with valleys of adversity and a climb to a deeper faith in God.

Ted was installed as Christ Lutheran's pastor on December 3 and conducted his first service on December 10. Just this past Sunday, Christ Lutheran became chartered through the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.

Ted grew up in a Christ-centered family but as a young adult had drifted away from his faith.

He attended Immanuel-St. James Lutheran in Grand Rapids, Michigan, the same school where his father taught English, and then attended Union High School, where he developed his talent for art. After community college, Ted enrolled at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Michigan, to study art.

"I decided I needed to make money, so I went into art education," he said.

But while sitting in class, Ted counted the number of students in the room and then imagined all the art-education students at all the colleges and universities and compared that with the possible number of job openings for art teachers. The chances of getting a job teaching art were not great, he decided.

Although he only needed two courses to receive his degree in art education, Ted switched his major to history, which had been his minor emphasis at college.

This, as it proved, was a momentous decision, and not just because he was starting on another career path.

While sitting in one of his history courses, the professor said, "Most Christians don't believe God created the earth."

Immediately, Ted heard somebody say, "No sir, you are wrong."

And to his surprise, that somebody was Ted. He had stood up and put out his arms and told the professor he was wrong.

Ted was amazed at what he had done because by that time he had fallen away from his faith and was living a broken life.

"I was the last person to make waves," he said. "My goal was to be focused, keep my head down and do my courses."

Then he had a similar experience in another class when the professor said, "Most Christians don't believe Jesus is the only way to heaven."

Ted again found himself standing up and saying, "No sir, you are wrong."

"In both cases I heard the words spoken as if another person said them, but it was clear that they came from me," he said. "I think God took hold of me."

The experiences set Ted on a quest to learn about the evidence for Christianity. He also delved deeply into the evidence for all religions and worldviews.

"I realized that Christianity had more historical evidence, more eyewitness testimony, more prophecies fulfilled, than any other religion out there, and even had better evidence than naturalistic explanations of the world.

"I came to realize how lost I was and how lost my friends were," he said.

When Ted was told he should become a pastor, it struck a chord because he saw it as a way to help his friends who were living a broken life, as he once had.

But after he started seminary in 2005 at Concordia in St. Louis, Ted became interested in church planting. He became an associate pastor and church planter at St. Paul Lutheran in Jackson in 2009. By 2013, he had planted The Exchange Community, described as a church for people who don't like church and where they can come as they are and experience God's love.

Things were going well. Ted married Megan Krohe in June 2010 and by 2020 they had four children: Areli (12), Eden (10), Noah (6), and Ephraim (4).

Then a health issue that year challenged Ted's life and faith. It started with a tingling spot on the left side of his face about the size of a nickle. Then over the next day, Father's Day 2020, it grew to about the circumference of a golf ball.

That evening, Ted and Megan sat down at night to watch a 45-minute program. The tingling feeling quickly spread from his left eye down to his jaw, and then across then across his face and then to the back of his head. When Megan asked him if he was ready to go to bed, Ted responded, "I'm ready to go to the ER."

A CAT scan revealed that Ted had



a brain tumor, which turned out to be benign, and he was also told he had a brain bleed.

After a two-hour ride to St. Louis in an ambulance, Ted was in a hospital room, expecting to be prepped for emergency surgery. But after 14 hours, he asked to talk to the surgeon, who told him that the brain bleed had been a misdiagnosis.

And then the surgeon asked, "What do you want to do?"

"Do I have a choice?" Ted responded.

Ted was told he would eventually have to have surgery to remove the tumor. He decided to go home.

"At first, I decided to put off surgery because I didn't get a chance to say goodbye to my kids and say all the important things I wanted to say, and I wanted to get my affairs in order," he explained.

Ted started on a vegan diet and started taking supplements, thinking that would shrink the size of the tumor naturally.

"Every MRI after that showed that the tumor had not grown," he said.

In June 2021, about a year after he first had symptoms, surgeons removed the tumor. Ted still has to be examined periodically.

Troubles never come singly, it seems. During the time Ted was dealing with the brain tumor, Megan gave birth to the Torresons' fifth child, Gideynn, who came into the world with her own medical issues. The left side of her heart didn't develop correctly, and she needed surgery.

In August 2021, she had her first open heart surgery at just under one week old. In a Facebook post remembering that day, Ted said, "That was the longest day of my life, probably matched the day I put my wife through the month before when I had brain surgery."

Gideynn had a second open heart surgery later.

The surgeries were not the only times that Ted and Megan had to be carried by God. While at the doctor's office in May 2022, Gideynn began to turn blue because of a low oxygen level. Ted and Megan had to watch their baby daughter being put on a helicopter to fly to a hospital in St. Louis. Megan was devastated. Ted assured her it would be OK.

"How?" Megan asked.

Ted responded, "I've given you and my children up to God."

He told Megan how, on his ambulance ride to St. Louis, he had written five letters on his phone, one to Megan and one to each of his children.

"God is faithful," Ted said. "He will take care of you no matter what."

Today, Gideynn is thriving, and Ted said he treasures the good health he and his family have.

He added that he is thankful that the brain tumor provided an experience to strengthen his faith.

Ted relied on that faithfulness of God when he prayerfully considered moving to Denison after receiving a call in October. He had also felt a call to reconfirm to The Exchange.

"I wanted to stay with the church plant but every time I prayed to God, I heard Him say 'Go.' When God says 'go, you go!'"

At Christ Lutheran Ted delivers his message in a dialogical manner, a question-and-answer, a give-and-take study of the Bible verses for the day's message.

Ted said the church is all about opening doors.

"It doesn't matter what you did last night," he said. "It doesn't matter what you believed the moment you walk through the doors. You will be loved here and have a safe space to learn about God and His great love for you."

## ON THE SCANNER

**January 22, 4 p.m.:** Yosselin Artheelia Cano, 23, of Denison, was driving a gray 2002 Dodge R15 pickup in the parking lot near The Pub and struck a pothole. The vehicle received \$1,000 damage to the undercarriage and was disabled. A tow was privately arranged.

**January 22, 1 p.m.:** Blake Edward Smith, 28, of Fort Dodge, backed a white 2018 Kenworth semi into a black 2020 Subaru Ascent that was legally parked on South 20th Street. The Subaru received \$8,000 damage to the rear driver side. The semi was not damaged.

**January 25, 10:25 a.m.:** The Crawford County Sheriff's Office investigated a two-vehicle accident that happened on Highway 30. Ryan Curtis Mann, 45, of Ringsted, was driving a gray 2009 Kenworth east on Highway 30, just east of the 2 Mile Road intersection. Jerry Lee Radcliffe, 79, of Denison, was driving a red 1999 Jeep Cherokee west on Highway 30 just east of the same intersection. Radcliffe's vehicle lost control and collided with the left rear tires of the trailer connected to the Kenworth. Radcliffe and his wife, Eva, were transported to Crawford County Memorial Hospital by Crawford County Ambulance and Dow City Fire Department. The Radcliffe vehicle received \$5,000 damage and was considered totaled. It was towed by Waderich Towing. The semi-trailer received \$5,000 damage, was repaired and was driven away. Radcliffe was

cited for failure to maintain control. January 26, 10 p.m.: Kevin Alexis Ramirez, 18, and Dylan Parker Wood, 18, both of Denison, were arrested and charged with possession of a controlled substance – marijuana, 1st offense.

**January 27, 11:31 a.m.:** Ryan Paul Schultz, 55, of Denison, was arrested on a warrant.

**January 28, 8:38 p.m.:** Maria Guadalupe Lopez, 29, of Denison, was backing a gray 2008 Hyundai Accent onto 2nd Avenue North when the vehicle struck a silver 2019 Chevrolet Cruze, which was legally parked along the street. Lopez's vehicle received \$1,000 damage to the rear passenger side corner. The Chevrolet Cruze received \$1,000 damage to the middle driver side.

**January 29, 7:15 a.m.:** The Crawford County Sheriff's Office investigated a single-vehicle accident that happened in Schleswig. Lucas William Schneider, 14, of Schleswig, was driving a dark blue 2008 Ford Ranger pickup and was traveling north on Highway 59. As the Schneider vehicle approached the intersection with Maple Avenue and Highway 59, he attempted to set his cruise control. The road was frosted over, and Schneider lost control of his vehicle. The vehicle rolled onto its top. Schneider and his passenger were uninjured. There was approximately \$5,000 in damage to the vehicle. It was towed by Waderich towing.

## LAND TRANSACTIONS

January 19-25, 2024

### Warranty Deeds

+ Robert L. Poggensee, Marjorie Poggensee, Kenneth W. Jepsen, Betty Jepsen, Roger H. Jepsen and Becky S. Jepsen to Robert M. Ehlers and Pamela J. Ehlers: N1/2 NW1/4 Section 34, Willow Township; \$783,400.

### Court Officer Deeds

+ Howard A. McMinimee Estate, Rex McCollough, Executor to Jerry Arthur Boettger, Patti K. Boettger and Kati Ann Boettger: W1/2 NW1/4 Section 8, East Boyer Township; E1/2 NE1/4 Section 7, East Boyer Township; SW1/4 NE1/4 Section 7, East Boyer Township; \$1,311,779.

### Quit Claim Deeds

+ Rhondee Leigh Cranston, Rhondee Leigh Knudsen to Martin Marc Knudsen: N1/2 NE1/4 Section 9, Morgan Township.  
+ Michael J. Fink and Patricia J. Hoemann to Michael Fink Revocable Trust, Michael Fink, Trustee:

S1/2 SE1/4 Section 14, Goodrich Township; SW1/4 SW1/4 Section 13, Goodrich Township; NW1/4 SW1/4 Section 13, Goodrich Township; NW1/4 NW1/4 Section 24, Goodrich Township; NE1/4 NE1/4 Section 23, Goodrich Township; NW1/4 SW1/4 NE1/4 Section 23, Goodrich Township.

### State Tax Liens

Iowa Department of Revenue against Thomas C. Neemann: \$32,346.79.

### Contracts

+ Brian L. Wickersham and Teresa A. Wickersham to Jerry Brus Sr. and Jerry Brus Jr.: Lot 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, Block 162-1/2, City of Denison; Lot 1 and Lot 2, Block 168, City of Denison; \$300,000.

### Sheriff's Deeds

+ Crawford County Sheriff against S&S Construction Company LLC: Lot 5, 6, 7, Block 6, City of Denison; \$35,345.27.

## NORELIUS COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

### Welcome Back to library month

February is "Welcome Back" to your library month. The Norelius Community Library is offering a special program during February to patrons who owe money for lost or damaged items prior to and up to 2019.

During February any amount paid towards a bill will be matched dollar for dollar in fee forgiveness by the library.

The library invites anyone who owes fees to take advantage of the opportunity to clear their account so they can start to check out items again.



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# Monarchs

## DENISON-SCHLESWIG MONARCHS WRESTLING

### Monarch girls qualify two wrestlers for Friday's state meet

Taya Adams and Angie Rivera wrestled their way into the state meet, which will take place this Thursday and Friday, February 1 and 2, at Xtream Arena in Coralville. Overall, the Monarch girls scored 90 points and finished eighth out of 24 teams at the regional meet in Sioux City on January 26.

"We are so proud of the resilience and fight our girls showed," said Head Coach Jacob Brawner. "It was a long and emotional day. There were a lot of tears, both happy and sad, throughout the day, and we took a pretty tightknit group of girls that never failed to support each other."



Taya Adams

Adams, a senior, was the sixth seed at 130 pounds going into the regional meet. She placed third in her weight class, while avenging losses to two opponents from earlier in the season.

"We thought she could do it and we kept telling her she could do it, but she put together four great matches in a row to qualify for state," said Brawner. "We can't say enough about the top-notch type of kid that Taya is."

Adams had a bye in the first round, won by fall in the second round and then lost by fall in the quarterfinal round. In her four consecutive match wins, Adams won by fall in 12 seconds, won by fall in 1:53, won by a 5-3 decision and

won by a fall in 50 seconds.

Rivera, a sophomore, placed fourth in the 140-pound weight division to qualify for the state for the second year.

"She's a staple in our lineup and, along with Taya, is a captain," said Brawner. "Angie is as tough as they come and her prior experience at state will undoubtedly help both her and Taya."

Rivera had byes in the first two rounds, won by a fall in 1:39 in the quarterfinal, lost by a fall in the semifinal round, won by a fall in 1:03 in the consolation semifinals, lost by fall in the third-place match and won the fourth-place match by a 10-6 decision.

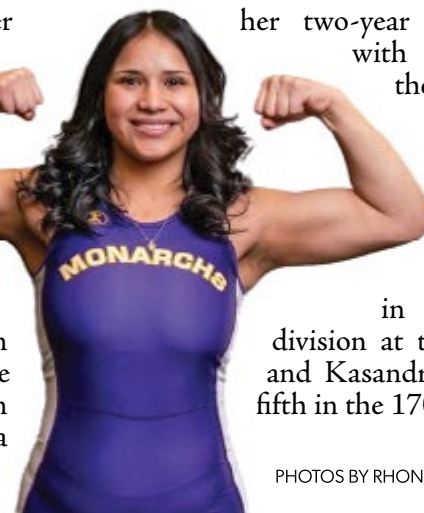
"The remainder of our

lineup fell short of qualifying for state, but we truly have had a great season," said Brawner. "We are miles beyond where we were last season and, with the exception of Taya and Taylor Totten, we will return the remainder of our varsity lineup."

He noted that Totten finished her two-year wrestling career with 36 wins (28 of them by fall) and set the school record for the fastest fall – five seconds.

Totten placed sixth in the 190-pound division at the regional meet and Kasandra Barroso placed fifth in the 170-pound division.

PHOTOS BY RHONDA RAUCH



Angie Rivera

### Monarch boys 10th in H-10 wrestling tournament

The Denison-Schleswig boys wrestling team competed in the Hawkeye 10 Conference tournament on January 27, placing 10th.

"This is an extremely tough tournament," said Assistant Coach

Parker Preul. "To place is a high accomplishment."

He added that for many of the younger wrestlers, it was the first time to experience the level of competition at the conference tournament.

A highlight for the Monarchs was provided by James Lemon at 150 pounds. Lemon made it to the finals in the tournament where he fell to a tough Shenandoah wrestler to take second place.



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## DENISON-SCHLESWIG MONARCHS BOWLING

### Monarch bowling teams top Red Oak in home matches

The Denison-Schleswig boys' varsity team won its match against Red Oak, 2807 to 2293, on January 25 at Lucky Lanes in Denison.

Bowling high games were Ethan Totten with a 224, Jett Paulsen with a 202, Gavin Schmadeke with a 199, Jake Fink with a 199, Blaine Brodsky with a 184, and Grant Fink with a 181.

Paulsen had the high series of 398 with games of 196 and 202.

The boys finished the first round with a total of 1861.

The varsity team was up going into bakers and started off with a 192. Then they threw two great games of 232 and 203. They finished with games of 180 and 139.

The girls varsity team won their match against Red Oak, 2555 to 1466.

High games were bowled by Brianna Musgrave with a 212, Grace Collins with a 197, Haley Lutz with a 194, Nevaeh Brandt with a 187, Daisy Koch with a 178, and Brittany Musgrave with a 168.

Brandt had the high series of 361 with games of 187 and 174.

The girls finished the first round with a total of 1761.

They were up going into bakers and started off with a 194. They continued bowling well, throwing games of 160 and 175. They finished their baker round with games of 158 and 107.

The junior varsity boys won their match 2335-1910. High games were bowled by Lucien Steinkuehler with a 178, Adyn Zenk with a 167, Jackson Steinkuehler with a 161, Cammerin Palmer with a 158, Haiden Fineran with a 150, and Joel Barroso with a 139. Steinkuehler had the high series of 353 with games of 175 and 178. The boys finished the first round with a total of 1571. The JV boys struggled to get started, bowling a 112 for their first game. However, they began to figure things out and bowled a 148 and 164. They finished their baker round with games of 180 and 160.

The JV girls did not have a team to bowl against. High games were bowled by Ashton Randeris with a 140, Tayla Brodersen with a 134, Isabelle Westphalen with a 133, and Maggie Hennings with a 125. Randeris had the high series with games of 132 and 140. The JV girls the first round with a total of 1186. They threw baker games of 110, 110, 108, 105, and 143. Their final score was 1762.

### Monarch varsity bowlers fall to Shenandoah on Monday

The Monarch boys' varsity bowling team lost its match against Shenandoah, 2821 to 2597 on Monday.

High games from the varsity team were bowled by Ethan Totten with a 218, Jackson Steinkuehler with a 189, Jett Paulsen with a 187, and Grant Fink with a 179.

Paulsen had the high series of 368 with games of 181 and 187.

Together the team finished with a two-game series total of 1757.

Adyn Zenk joined the varsity boys during bakers. The boys started off with games of 144, 171, and 180

but struggled to get many strikes throughout bakers. They finished their bakers with games of 168 and 177.

The girls' varsity team lost its match against Shenandoah, 2352 to 2329.

High games from the varsity team were bowled by Brianna Musgrave with a 245, Brittany Musgrave with a 177, Grace Collins with a 177, and Daisy Koch with a 165.

Brianna Musgrave had the high series of 402 with games of 157 and 245.

Together the team finished with a two-game series total of 1604.

The girls were up going into bakers by 48 pins. The varsity girls struggled to get going starting off with games of 147,

129, and 126. By then the tables had turned and they were down 65 pins. They tried to make a comeback with two final games of 188 and 135 but couldn't get there.

The boys' JV team won its match against Shenandoah. High games were bowled by Adyn Zenk with a 206, Haiden Fineran with a 197, Logan Harper with a 189, Cammerin Palmer with a 167, Tag Okwer with a 155, and Lucien Steinkuehler with a 140.

Zenk had the high series of 366 with games of 160 and 206. Together the team finished with a two-game series total of 1667.

For bakers, the JV boys started off with games of 139, 137, and 115. After the third game, they were only leading by 36 pins. They started picking up more spares and finished their baker games with scores of 145 and 151.

The JV boys ended up beating Shenandoah 2354 to 2266.



PHOTOS BY RHONDA RAUCH

Grace Collins shoots for a strike.



Gavin Schmadeke tries to pick up a spare.

# Sports

## DENISON-SCHLESWIG MONARCHS BASKETBALL

### D-S boys, girls sweep Shenandoah

The Denison-Schleswig boys' and girls' teams brought home conference wins from Shenandoah on Friday.

The Monarch girls registered an overtime win over Shenandoah. They outscored their hosts 13-5 in overtime to win 49-41.

Denison-Schleswig started out slow, trailing Shenandoah 8-2 after one period but played Shenandoah even in the second quarter and outscored the host team 28-22 in the second half, ending regulation play in a 36-36 tie.

Kiana Schulz had a double-double, scoring 23 points and bringing down 11 rebounds. She was followed in scoring by Mayah Slater with eight, Whitlee Auen with seven, Gaby Cardenas with five and Addison Inman and Samantha Chandler with three apiece.

Inman pulled in six rebounds, and Chandler, Claire Leinen Slater and Auen each had three. Cardenas and Quinlan Bygness each had one rebound.

The win put the Monarch girls' record at 8-7 overall and 4-4 in the conference.

The Monarch boys improved their

record to 6-7 overall and 6-2 in the conference with a 65-38 win over Shenandoah.

Head Coach Derek Fink said he was a little worried how the team would play out of the gate as the Monarchs were playing back-to-back away games.

He said the Monarchs started out a little slow in the first four minutes but then took control of the game in the final 12 minutes of the first half.

The Monarchs led 18-13 after one quarter, 42-18 at the half and 55-27 after three periods.

Fink said the lead allowed the team to get more players into the game.

"That was important and valuable time to continue to develop our bench and get the younger kids some experience," he said.

Luke Wiebers led the Monarchs with 20 points, followed closely by Lance Arkfeld with 19. Others in the scoring column were Jake Fink, 8; Kole Towne, 6; Blaine Grady, 4; Chandler Perrien, 3; Nash Langenfeld and Easton Emery, 2 each; and Camdyn Nemitz, 2.

In junior varsity action, the Monarch girls fell to Harlan, 51-26, on January 23; fell 54-40 to St. Albert on January 25; and dropped a game to Shenandoah, 53-31, on January 26.

### D-S boys top St. Albert in rescheduled basketball game

In a game that was rescheduled to January 25, the Monarch boys had big first and third quarters and topped St. Albert 68-53.

The quarter scores were 18-4, 34-25 and 49-34, all in favor of Denison Schleswig. The teams played even in the fourth quarter with 19 points apiece.

Head Coach Derek Fink said his team got out to another good start,

playing strong in the first four minutes. St. Albert clawed back in the second quarter.

"In the third quarter, it got tight a few times, but we were able to get enough stops and convert on offense; we got multiple contributions from guys to extend the lead back to double digits for most of the last 10 minutes of the game," said Fink.

Luke Wiebers led with 23 points and Lance Arkfeld scored 14. Others in the scoring column were Easton Emery, 9; Chandler Perrien, 8; Jake Fink and Kole Towne, 6 each; and Blaine Grady, 2.

### Monarch girls rally but fall short

The Denison-Schleswig varsity girls basketball team outscored Spencer 31-24 in the second half of a game on Tuesday but could not overcome a 30-14 halftime deficit. The final score was 54-46.

Spencer led 10-8 after one quarter and then put 20 points on the scoreboard to seven for the Monarchs. The Monarchs scored 15 in the third quarter to 14 for the Tigers. Denison-Schleswig outscored Spencer 16-10 in the fourth quarter.

Mayah Slater scored 17 points, followed by 12 for Kiana Schulz and 10 for Whitlee Auen. Gaby Cardenas added five and Samantha Chandler

scored two.

Slater grabbed nine rebounds and Addison Inman pulled down eight.

The loss put the Monarchs' overall record at 8-8.



PHOTOS BY RHONDA RAUCH

Mayah Slater goes in for a layup against Spencer.

### Second half rally carries Monarchs to win over Spencer

The Denison-Schleswig varsity boys' basketball team rode a second-half rally to a 62-55 victory over Spencer on Tuesday.

The Monarchs were trailing 34-23 at the half but outscored the Tigers 39-21 in the last two quarters. The Monarchs scored 21 points in the third quarter and 18 in the fourth to 10 in the third and 11 in the fourth for Spencer.

The Monarchs were only two points behind the Tigers at the end of the first quarter, 19-17. Then the Monarchs were worn down a bit by Spencer's full-court pressure, said Head Coach Derek Fink.

"We sped up and turned the ball over too much. In the second half we did a better job of playing at our speed and converted turnovers into points,

broke down their defense, got the ball rotated and knocked down shots," he said.

The Monarchs owned the rebound department in the second half and really locked in defensively, the coach added.

"After being down 11 at the half, we could have felt sorry for ourselves and folded, but I am really proud of the

guys in the way they fought back as a team and came through in the second half," Fink said.

Luke Wiebers scored 17 points, followed closely by Jake Fink with 15. Chandler Perrien scored nine points and Lance Arkfeld and Easton Emery both added eight. Kole Towne rounded out the scoring with five.

The win put the Monarchs' overall record at 7-7.

In the JV game, Denison-Schleswig fell to Spencer 55-32.

### CCMH sponsors 27th annual county EMS conference

The 27th Annual Crawford County EMS Conference, sponsored by Crawford County Memorial Hospital (CCMH), is scheduled for Saturday, March 2, at the Denison High School in the Fine Arts Center.

The conference begins at 8 a.m. with registration beginning at 7:30 a.m. There is no cost to attend but pre-registration is required.

Dana Neemann, nurse director of education for CCMH, said the EMS conference is designed to provide emergency services personnel with up-to-date lifesaving skills and information from outstanding instructors. Several vendors will also have products on display for purchase.

Kelby Eck, director of emergency services, said the investment in the expertise of each first responder, emergency medical technician, paramedic and nurse is vital to providing the best emergency care possible.

"So much of what EMS personnel do in emergency situations is quickly assessing and recognizing actual and potential life-threatening situations. These situations can happen just about

anywhere, whether that's at work, at home, or in the community. Our goal is to enhance the skills of our emergency service professionals to respond in those situations," said Eck.

Instructors will cover a variety of topics including ECG interpretation in the field, pediatric multisystem trauma, autism in an emergency, resuscitation before intubation, cardiac emergencies in special populations, farm injury case study, and more.

"We have planned for a variety of instructors with a diverse and broad background in EMS to present at the conference," Neemann said. "We are excited to have them share their expertise and experience."

Speakers scheduled for the EMS conference are Sami Neville, RN, CRRN; Natalie McCawley, MSN, RN, CCRN-K, Children's Hospital, Omaha; Scott Brown, MSN, RN-CEN, CHI Creighton University Medical Center - Bergan Mercy; Dan Stein, MS, Omaha Fire Department Paramedic Coordinator; Cori Rayevich, NREMT Paramedic, CCMH; Don Luensmann, Dana Neemann, and Kelby Eck, CCMH.

Breakout sessions during the conference include Zombie Escape Room, the effective management of a multi-system trauma patient by Andrea Syrtad, Flight Paramedic, LifeNet;



and SIM Iowa, multisystem trauma/hemorrhage control, and obstetrical care with impending delivery in the field.

Neemann said continuing education credits are available to EMS conference participants.

"We are very pleased to be able to offer continuing education credits for our EMS and nursing professionals. EMS personnel and nursing are able

to receive up to seven contact hours during the conference. This is the first year where attendees can choose what presentations they want to attend and receive credit," Neemann explained.

To pre-register for the EMS conference, go online at [ccmhia.com/medical-services/community-education-outreach/](http://ccmhia.com/medical-services/community-education-outreach/). The deadline for pre-registration is Monday, February 26.

## Funeral Notices

### Mary Lally

Mass of Christian Burial for Mary Lally, 94, of Denison, will be conducted at 11 a.m. Saturday, February 3, at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Denison with visitation two hours prior to the service.

Private graveside services will be in the parish cemetery.

She passed away Tuesday, January 23, at Crawford County Memorial Hospital in Denison.

Survivors include her children, David (Bill), Terry (DeeDee), Carolyn Wyant, Tim (Juan), Martina Turner (Scott), Don, and Maria (Greg); daughter-in-law, Rosie Lally; eight grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; siblings, Ann Whited, Sister Maria Zeimen, Joe Zeimen, Ray (Bev) Zeimen, and Robert Zeimen; and many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Services are entrusted to the Huebner Funeral Home.



### Julie Jepsen

Funeral services for Julie Jepsen, 75, of Denison, were conducted at 11 a.m. Wednesday, January 31, at Zion Lutheran Church in Denison.

Burial was at the Oakland Cemetery in Denison.

She passed away Friday, January 26.

Survivors include her husband, Dennis Jepsen, of Denison; their son, Scott Jepsen, of Denison; daughter, Rebecca and her husband, Dan Schoeppner, of Templeton; two grandsons; four great-grandsons; a sister, Carol Goepfner, of Minnesota; and many other relatives and friends.

Services were entrusted to the Huebner Funeral Home.



### Barb Nemitz

A celebration of life for Barb Nemitz, 74, of Denison, will take place at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, February 3, at First United Methodist Church in Denison with visitation from 9 to 10 a.m. prior to the service.

Inurnment will be at the Oakland Cemetery in Denison.

She passed away Thursday, January 25 at her home in Denison.



Survivors include two sons, Chad (Teri) Gurney, of West Des Moines, and Wade (Andrea) Gurney, of Schleswig; three grandsons; one great-granddaughter; sisters, Connie (Randy) Volkmann, of Denison, Patti (Eddie) Frazier, of Denison, and Sandy (David) Yarnell, of Sergeant Bluff; a brother, Jim (Rebekah) Auen, of Creston; and many other relatives and friends.

Services are entrusted to the Huebner Funeral Home.

### Sandy Luvaas

Funeral services for Sandy Luvaas, 77, of Denison, will be conducted at 10 a.m. Friday, February 2, at the Huebner Funeral Home in Denison with visitation one hour prior to the service.

Burial will be at Crawford Heights Memory Gardens in Denison.

She passed away Saturday, January 27, at Gracewell in Denison.

Survivors include her husband, Louis Luvaas, of Denison; son, Michael Yankey and his wife, Sherry, of Sloan; daughter, Tracy and her husband, Gary Arndt, of Missouri; stepdaughter, Jill and her husband, Grant Thompson, of Sioux City; four grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; a sister, Susan and her husband, Steve Blair, of Omaha; and other relatives and friends.

Services are entrusted to the Huebner Funeral Home in Denison.



### Richard Webb

Graveside services for Richard Webb, 74, of Clinton, will be conducted at 1 p.m. Friday, February 2, at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Cemetery in Denison.

He passed away Friday, January 26, at University of Iowa Hospital in Iowa City.

Survivors include his sons, Luke (Angela) Webb, of Waterloo, and Garet Webb, of California; his mother, LaGene Webb, of Denison; two grandchildren; siblings, Kathleen Hayes, of Texas, Mary Grace Bartlett, of Council Bluffs, Jack (Terri) Webb, of Denison, Jeanne (Craig) Konrady, of Evansdale, and Elizabeth Webb, of Des Moines; and other relatives and friends.

Services are entrusted to the Huebner Funeral Home in Denison.



## Working behind the scenes is his passion

MACGREGOR, FROM PAGE 1

I want to take to make a difference in the world," he said. "I'll admit that at first I questioned if getting my B.A. in theatre was a good idea."

Work in the arts is hard to find, and many people tend to give up, or don't even try, he said.

"But, the more theatre classes I took, the more I got to see the meaningful everyday use of construction, competence with technology, heightened social skills, creatively overcoming obstacles on group projects, and a variety of other abilities along the way" MacGregor said. "Apologies for the pun, but I tend to be a 'Jack of all trades,' so learning a variety of skills is right up my alley. Plus, they're necessary skills for the workforce, so it's a win in my book."

He said his expectations for the college experience were "night and day" apart from the actual experience.

"I thought I'd get bored. I was super busy in high school, and I assumed I'd only be doing one to three shows in my entire college career, which is what usually happens in undergraduate theatre programs," MacGregor said.

"Now, I'm currently working on my 18th show at Northwestern. I never expected to design, act, direct, and construct so many shows. On top of that, I've helped start an arts and crafts club on campus, and I'm a part of my college's worship team. I just didn't expect to be so involved."

He has been involved with plays, musicals, dance concerts, and other student-initiated projects and has worn other hats to help "make the magic happen."

As an actor, he has previously taken on the roles of Orin Scrivello in "Little

Shop of Horrors," and Segismundo in "Life is a Dream" by Pedro Calderón de la Barca, which was one of seven plays selected to be performed at the KCACTF Region 5 festival in 2023.

He is currently rehearsing the title role in William Shakespeare's "Hamlet," which will be performed at Northwestern College in April.

MacGregor said his heart is pulled in three directions where theatre is concerned, but one direction has won.

"I love acting, scenic designing, and props designing. I'm content working backstage and being onstage, but I find more fulfillment in working with my hands backstage on the sets and props," he said.

"I've designed scenery for two student projects, a one act festival, and two mainstage productions at Northwestern. I've also designed props for two mainstages and assistant designed props for two other mainstage productions. I'm also a work-study in the scene shop, props master for my department, and a teacher's assistant for one of my theatre professors."

His mission in theatre is to help a story come to life.

"Yeah, it's fun to have the cheap thrill of being in the spotlight, but that's defeating if the audience isn't impacted by the story," MacGregor said. "Theatre can show the brokenness of our world, as well as the beauty and redemption that can happen, if we fight for it at least."

That's what he wants the world to see with his designs and creations.

Although he would love the opportunity to take on acting roles on the side, MacGregor's dream is to get a Master of Fine Arts degree in Scenic Design.

"I hope to be a scenic designer in theatre, as well as design exhibits for museums," he said. "I might become a professor somewhere, but I haven't decided yet. We'll see in a few years."



In a scene from "Silent Sky," Tabitha Thatcher is Henrietta Leavitt and Jack MacGregor is her love interest, Peter Shaw. MacGregor won a Kennedy Center Award for his scenic design for the production.

## A last trip down Opportunity Drive

HEIDEN, FROM PAGE 1

"They were still remodeling and getting the building ready. When I was hired, we didn't have students yet."

After 44 years of watching the school grow and change, Kim has decided to retire.

Her last day will be Monday, February 5.

Kim grew up in Kiron and is a 1977 graduate of Denison High School.

Her brother, Craig Bergman, works at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, and helped land NASA's Perseverance rover on Mars.

Kim might not have applied for the position at Job Corps if not for encouragement from her father, the late Gene Bergman.

"He told me about this new school that was coming to Denison," she said. "I had gone to secretarial school at Iowa Central Community College. I thought the time was right, so I applied and I got hired."

During her first few weeks, she worked in an office at Cottonwood

Square, which is now the location of the St. Anthony Clinic and Carroll Area Nursing on Highway 30 in Denison.

"That's where the staff reported initially, and then we moved out to the center," Kim said. "We did lots of staff training to get prepared for our students; the students first arrived on my birthday, February 4th, 1980. I remember that very well."

She worked several different clerical positions, then became secretary for basic education and vocational training, and then became a receptionist during the early- and mid-1980s.

"In 1988, I applied for the executive assistant position and, to my surprise, they offered the position to me; that's the position I am currently in," Kim said. "I've been doing what I'm currently doing since 1988. So, it's been a while."

As executive assistant, she reports primarily directly to the center director but she takes on many tasks.

"I do a lot of things for a lot of people," Kim said. "I take meeting minutes, I schedule appointments, I do staff travel, and I try to be there for the students if they should need anything. It seems like it's always something different."

She makes herself available for students in a variety of ways.

"If they have an issue or a concern, or maybe they just want someone to talk to, I'll ask them how their day is going, or I'll ask them how far along they are in their trade and when do they think they'll be finishing," Kim said. "If they want to, I'll schedule an appointment with the center director. I just try to do my best to help them in any way that I can."

Working at Job Corps has been a life-changing experience.

"I've worked with wonderful people; the students are wonderful and the staff are like my second family," she said. "I say sometimes we see more of our coworkers than we do of our families. I worked for 10 different center directors. They've all been wonderful to work with and work for, and I've learned something from all of them. I feel very blessed and fortunate."

She has seen many changes over her four-plus decades.

"The one thing I miss, that I wish we still had, is the wonderful child development center/solo parent program," Kim said. "COVID closed that down and it hasn't opened back up, yet, but hopefully someday it will

because there's a need for it."

She said at Job Corps, she always felt she was working in the right place for her.

"The time has just gone by so fast; when I first started, I was a young'un like these students are," Kim said. "And now ... where has the time gone?"

She also wants to give recognition to the only other employee who has been at Job Corps as long as she has been.

"Linda Boyd is our buyer at Job Corps, and we both started on the same day," Kim said.

With her retirement approaching on Monday, she is having trouble imagining that it will be her last day on the job.

"I think it will be emotional because I spent so many hours, days, years out there in the same office," Kim said. "It will be hard driving down Opportunity Drive for the last time."

She said she hopes the school will let her visit or have lunch at the school in future.

"I just realized it's time for me to enjoy my golden years with my husband (Jay), so that's what we're going to do," Kim said.

"I'm so grateful for the opportunity to have worked out there all this time."



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# The story of one of Denison's oldest businesses

BY GORDON WOLF

Roscoe's Jewelry is one of the oldest continuous businesses in Denison – established in 1921 by Earle Roscoe. But the lineage of the jewelry store goes back a couple decades before that.

In 1905, J.V. Barborka moved to Denison and opened a watch repair business on the north side of Broadway, about where The Cottage is today. He later purchased the stock of jewelry from Dr. L.M. Coon's Main Street Jewelry Store. Barborka had learned the watch repair business from his father, who was a builder of clocks, including the clock that stands in uptown Denison. In 1918 Barborka's jewelry store and the clock moved to the south side of Broadway (where the clock is today).

Earle Roscoe and his wife, Florence, and their six-year-old daughter, June, moved to Denison from Omaha in 1920. Earle was employed at Barborka's and within a year was making plans to purchase the jewelry store over a number of years.

June and her husband, George Bagnall, who were married on June 2, 1934, became involved in the business and took it over when Earle passed away in 1962.

A look into the online archives of the Denison Bulletin and Denison Review did not reveal an exact month and day for the establishment of Barborka Jewelry or for Roscoe's Jewelry, but the 35th anniversary for the current owners, Jim and Suzi Barnes, is coming up on March 1 this year.

"We actually bought it in February (1989), but June (Bagnall) wanted to operate it through Valentine's Day because she had already bought the Valentine's Day merchandise," said Jim.

The purchase of Roscoe's by Jim and Suzi is an example of recognizing opportunities when other paths have closed.

Jim grew up working in his father's business, Olson Sporting Goods in Sioux City, and his mother's business, the Knit Nook. As a junior high school student, he would ride the bus to downtown Sioux City to help at the sporting goods store after school, sometimes going to the warehouse or helping with deliveries of sporting goods items to schools. When he turned 16, his father decided he could deliver sporting goods to schools in Sioux City by himself.

After studying business courses at Morningside, Jim decided to stay in the family business, which resulted in a life on the road, calling on schools to sell and deliver sporting goods.

"I started traveling for my dad in 1960 and traveled for the next 28 years," said Jim.

For part of the 28 years, Jim was traveling for himself. He purchased his father's and mother's businesses in 1971 and sold them in 1983.

Just before he sold the businesses, Jim struck a deal to go on the road with Reynolds Yarn Company.

"I was bored and went to a yarn show in Lincoln one day with my staff," Jim explained. "I was wandering around the show and somebody said so and so is hiring."

Jim spoke with Sandy Reynolds with Reynolds Yarn Company and agreed to travel in Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota for the company. Reynolds Yarn Company was later bought by Johnson Creative Arts and Jim became an assistant sales manager and traveled seven states to markets as far away as Dallas, San Diego, New Jersey, New York City, Chicago and Kansas City.

Then health problems arose. "I was on the road too many days and too many long days and developed a blood clot in my leg from so much driving and sitting," Jim explained.

At the time, Jim was living at the family home in Spirit Lake. He returned from a trip on a Friday at the start of an extended Fourth of July weekend and started mowing the lawn, feeling worse all the time. The next day, his leg was swollen, and Suzi, then his fiancée, took him to the emergency room. That eventually led to a trip to a hospital in



Jim Barnes

Sioux Falls for an operation.

After the operation, the surgeon told Suzi that Jim had to find another job because he was sitting in the car too long. That was in July of 1988 (they were married in October that year).

On a trip to Denison, Jim and Suzi went to Roscoe's Jewelry to shop for a wedding ring. Through a conversation with an employee, Ed Drilling, Jim learned that June Bagnall was interested in selling the business. On the way home, Suzi asked what the conversation had been about.

"Evidently, June wants to sell the store," Jim replied.

"When we get home, you call her and tell her we would be interested," Suzi responded.

That was in August, and since June had purchased inventory for Christmas, Jim had to wait. He went back out on the road, but the trips were shorter this time.

Jim had plenty of business experience but not the jewelry store knowledge.

"It was a big learning curve," he said. "June stayed with me for a full year and gave me the gemology tests. She was a certified gemologist."

"Along with that, I learned a little bit from Ed (Drilling) but June had also helped another couple start a jewelry repair business in Council Bluffs," Jim continued. "They helped me more than anybody with repair work."

Jim spent every Tuesday in their shop.

The jewelry store has seen its changes through the years. A number of products they had been carrying were discontinued for one reason or another. An advertisement in 1948 promoted Smith-Corona typewriters. Another advertisement the same year promoted photo equipment.

"We used to do a nice business in China, crystal and silver services – tea pots and coffee makers – but that's gone by the wayside because none of that can go into a dishwasher," said Jim. "With silver, they had not come up with the treatments like they have now – sterling silver rings treated with Rhodium, so they don't tarnish as quickly."

"It seems like the younger generations are more interested in stainless silverware, and I can't blame them," he added.

Jim said he still sells a lot of baby silverware because he can do the engraving.

"The bridal registry for a jewelry store is not that big unless you carry a lot of giftware, and we were not really a giftware store as much as we were a jewelry and watch business," he explained.

The volume in watches is another change Jim has seen.

"There aren't as many people wearing watches. I've never been without a watch, and a lot of guys still like them. But people have their phones today," he said.

For Jim, a big change in selling jewelry was no longer being on the road.

"One thing it allowed me to do is to have lunch at home," Jim said. "All those years on the road, I either ate at the schools I called on or at restaurants. In the last years I was traveling for the art company, I was on the road Monday through Friday, eating at restaurants each day. I got pretty familiar with the restaurants where I stopped."

"And it was a big change for me to be home every night," he added.

For years Roscoe's Jewelry was

advertised as "At The Sign Of the Clock," referring to the 1908-era street clock.

Sometime in the 1970s, when the city was doing some reconstruction on the sidewalks, the clock was taken down, Jim recalled.

The clock was stored in the basement of Hallett's Bootery for 30 years.

When the city embarked on a streetscape project in the early 2000s, Jim objected to having a tree in a planter right in front of the door to his business but instead proposed having the Barborka clock reinstalled. That was done in 2004. Barry Mundt was in charge of dismantling the clock and having it refurbished. Petersen's Manufacturing and Thermal Fab (now Sullivan Supply) put in donated labor to refurbish the clock and make it operational.

Unfortunately, the clock is not operational today because the power supply was turned off.

In 2007 Jim and Suzi Barnes moved Roscoe's to the lower level of the Hartwig House at the corner of North Main Street and 4th Avenue North. Suzi, the granddaughter of Henry Hartwig, is the

fourth generation of Hartwigs to live in the house.

"The lower level has about the same amount of space as was in the store downtown," said Jim.

He added, "We're not on Broadway, but we're here."

The lower level had been his father-in-law's man cave.

Jim and Suzi decided not to purchase Roscoe's Jewelry building on the advice of their banker.

"After Mrs. Bagnell passed away, her sister-in-law's heirs hadn't had anything to do with Denison and wanted to just sell the building," Jim explained.

Downtown Denison was changing at the time and the banker advised against buying the building because of the concern of getting the investment back out.

Jim has a respect for being an owner of a business that's over a century old.

"I've tried to carry on the same traditions - be friendly to the customer, give them the best service I can and carry a nice line of products like the store has always had," said Barnes. "Service is the business. It's the whole thing."

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# Lincoln Highway display at library offers a view of first transcontinental route

BY GORDON WOLF

With a visit to Norelius Community Library in Denison, people can tour the United States through an audiovisual exhibit that tells the story of the Lincoln Highway.

The display will remain at the library through the end of February.

Library Director Monica Walley said the display has been popular with people.

"It's intriguing that the Lincoln Highway runs right through Denison," she said.

The Lincoln Highway is primarily the same route as Highway 30.

Walley added that some people might not know that the Lincoln Highway was the first transcontinental highway in the United States.

She said taxpayer money brought the display to the library.

Walley added she appreciates the city council for providing funds for services, like programming.

Walley learned about the availability of the display through email and forwarded that on to Michelle Hoffman, the programming librarian, who made the scheduling arrangements.

"We're happy to have this on display for the patrons," said Walley. "We're always open for new ideas for programming."

She invited people to come in and see the display.

The library provided the following information about the display.

The Lincoln Highway starts in Times Square, New York City, and travels

through 14 states, ending at Golden Gate Park in San Francisco, overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

There are 16 segments to the audio stories that range from 46 seconds to four minutes and total about 18 minutes.

Four different pamphlets are available for people to take.

One pamphlet is about the Lincoln Highway Association, Iowa Chapter.

Another one is the Iowa Lincoln Highway Activity Guide. That pamphlet has information about places of interest in the counties that the Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway runs through. Some of the listings for Crawford County are the Abraham Lincoln land, the courthouse, the Donna Reed Performing Arts Center and the McHenry House.

A third pamphlet is about the 1919 U.S. Army convoy that traveled the Lincoln Highway.

The fourth is about Preston's Station Historic District in Belle Plaine.

Next to the display are books about the Lincoln Highway that can be checked out.

Additional information is that a Lincoln Highway consul is needed for Crawford County. Those interest should contact Mary Helen Preston at mary@prestonstation.com, or Jeanie Hau at jhau@prcd.org or 515-232-0048.

Hau, who is a byway coordinator for the Iowa Department of Transportation Byway program, said a consul is a volunteer position for each county along the Lincoln Highway in Iowa. Consuls report to the Lincoln Highway Association, which is a volunteer organization that conducts meetings quarterly. The consul would



PHOTOS BY GORDON WOLF

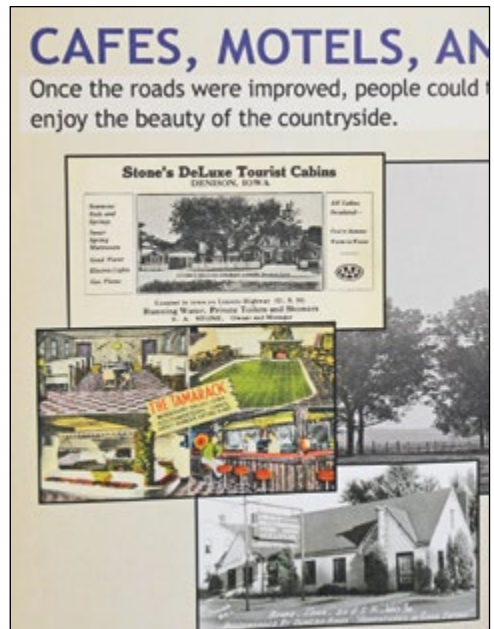
Emily Godinez listens to a recording about the Lincoln Highway and Nicole Aviles also looks at the display at the Norelius Community Library. Emily is in middle school and Nicole is in high school. Nicole is Emily's aunt.

report on any events or construction projects or any other subjects of interest in the county. Photos would be welcomed.

Consuls can also write a story about the Lincoln Highway in their county and submit it to the Lincoln Highway Association newsletter, if they wish.

Consul positions are open in Crawford, Pottawattamie, and Clinton counties. Hau said a person does not need to reside in the county to report on it.

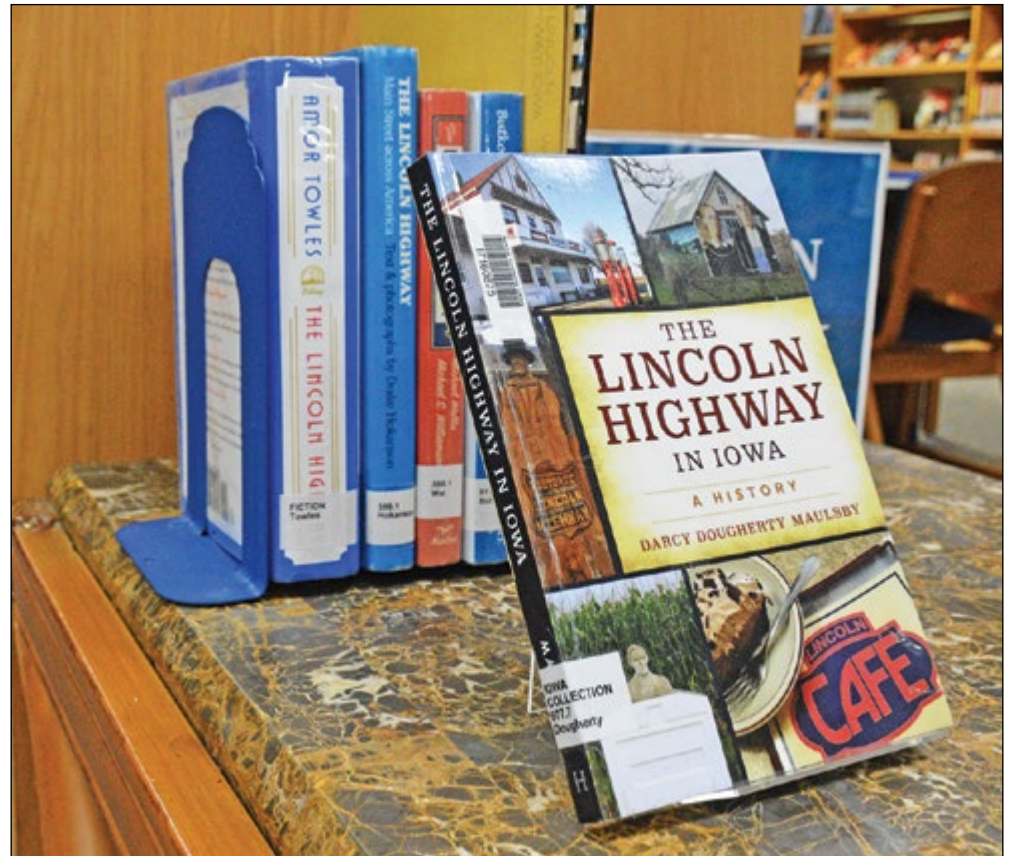
She explained that the traveling exhibit that is at the library was created by a previous Lincoln Highway Byway coordinator at Prairie Rivers, who applied for and received a humanities grant from the state historical society. Prairie Rivers of Iowa houses and schedules the exhibit and only charges for mileage and the byway coordinator's time to travel and set up and take down the display. She said Prairie Rivers can also assist with funding for potential locations.



This section of the Lincoln Highway display shows a picture of a tourism cabin camp that was once in Denison.



People can use this telephone-style device to listen to information about the Lincoln Highway.



Books about the Lincoln Highway are available to check out.

## Sponsorships available for Fiesta Mariachi at DHS

This annual Denison Community School (DHS) Mariachi fundraiser, Fiesta Mariachi 2024, will take place on Saturday, April 13. Sponsors and business partner ticket sales begin this week.

This year's event will feature the Denison school mariachi ensembles in grades 8-12, including DHS's premier mariachi ensemble, Mariachi Reyes del Oeste.

The mariachi ensemble from Storm Lake High School will also perform.

Students from DHS will be contacting businesses over the next few

weeks to sell sponsorships for the event.

Sponsorships are available in the following three levels.

\$40 Amigo de Mariachi (includes two adult tickets and listing on placemats)

\$100 Sponsor (includes four adult tickets and logo on banners and placemats)

\$250 Title Sponsor (includes eight adult tickets and large logo banner on the stage and on placemats)

Fiesta Mariachi is the main fundraiser for the school mariachi program. Funds are used to purchase instruments and help with travel expenses.

This year, a group of DHS mariachi students will be travelling to Colorado in the spring to participate in the "Viva Southwest" mariachi festival.

Individual ticket sales will open online in March.



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