



DEA Friend of Education

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Monarch Booster Club

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Pinewood Derby

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Sounds of Jazz

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Vol. 1 | No. 37

SERVING DENISON & CRAWFORD COUNTY, IOWA

March 14, 2024

DMS Principal Patti Ryan named Middle Level Principal of the Year

BY GORDON WOLF

Denison Middle School Principal Patti Ryan received a surprise message last week Wednesday.

Since the school's landlines were not working, she received a text from Toby Young, middle school principal with MMCRU (Marcus-Meriden-Cleghorn/Remsen Union) that she had been named the 2024 Iowa Middle Level Principal of the Year by the School Administrators of Iowa (SAI).

"It is truly an honor to be selected," Ryan said. "It is exciting to represent Denison Community Schools and the State of Iowa. The first thing I did was tell my kids!"

Ryan, a 1985 Denison High School graduate, has been the Denison Middle School principal since 2017, and a secondary curriculum director.

Before becoming the middle school principal, she served in school



Patti Ryan

improvement/human resources for Maple Valley-Anthon Oto Community School District. From 1997 to 2005, Ryan taught seventh grade math at Denison Middle School, and before that taught fourth- through sixth-grade math for four years at Ar-We-Va. She served as a substitute teacher for two years when her children were young before entering the education field full time in 1993 at Ar-We-Va.

RYAN, PAGE 3

By the letters



PHOTO BY GORDON WOLF

Ben Bruck smiles at his mother (off camera) after forming part of his name with strips of Play-Doh. The activity was part of Math and Literacy Night at Denison Elementary School last week Thursday. See more photos inside.

First installment paid on Washington Park playground equipment



PARK, PAGE 3

Denison agrees to mutual benefit arrangement with prison industries

BY GORDON WOLF

The Denison City Council last week voted in favor of an agreement that would help to jump start projects in the city while also benefitting individuals who are incarcerated at a minimum-security facility with the Iowa Department of Corrections.

The city council voted to allow City Manager Jessica Garcia to sign an incarcerated individual work agreement with Iowa Prison Industries (IPI).

The agreement is for one year. The city envisions using incarcerated individuals from the Department of Corrections North Central Correctional Facility in Rockwell City

to help the public works department with tree removal and the parks department with park maintenance.

Rod Olson, director of public works, has had training in the program at Rockwell City. Garcia said she would also like to have Sam Ellis, parks and rec director, and Manny Barroso with the parks department receive the same training.

Under the return-to-work program certain individuals who are incarcerated are certified for work. The program assists with lower recidivism rates, helps individuals obtain workforce skills and helps them earn money to pay fines and restitutions, Garcia explained.

WORK PROGRAM, PAGE 3

Biomass plant opening in Odebolt; will have Crawford County reach

BY DOUGLAS BURNS
For The Denison Free Press

Corn stover remaining after harvest in fields around Odebolt soon can be used for producing a corn board, which can be used in products like skis and delivery pallets, at a facility being developed in Odebolt, the company's founder and CEO Lane Segerstrom told The Denison Free Press.

The for-profit company is early in the stages of breaking ground and building a complex that will produce 10 million square-feet of corn board for flat-board pallets for distribution and manufacturing centers.

The facility will be a mile and a half west of Odebolt on Highway 175. It rests on 40 acres and will be 50,000 square feet under roof in

multiple buildings.

"We are hoping this spring or summer to break ground," Segerstrom said.

He expects the project to be completed within 18 months.

The radius for farmer contracts will stretch about 20 miles. Corn Board expects to need 50 tons of stover and could have contracts with up to 80 farmers.

"There was a group of farmers that really wanted us to come there and it seemed like it was fitting as I am from that area," said Segerstrom, an Ida Grove native. "It seemed like all the things were aligning."

Corn Board expects to have 35 employees, full-time.

CORN BOARD, PAGE 3



Lane Segerstrom

Rhonda Rauch named Friend of Education by DEA

The Denison Education Association (DEA) presented Rhonda Rauch with its Friend of Education Award for 2024 at its March meeting.

Rhonda works as a project analyst at Professional Computer Services in Denison, but her passion is photography. It started as a hobby when her kids were younger, and it has blossomed into her own business, RhondaR Photography. She takes pictures at almost every event that takes place at the school.

From basketball games to musicals, FFA Tractor Day and speech competitions, she makes sure she gets pictures of all students participating in their activities. Many of these pictures are posted in places for parents to see; she shares Facebook albums with hundreds of shots of the kids participating in the activities they love.

She also has recently joined the newest paper, The Denison Free Press, as their chief photographer.

She keeps herself busy, heading to schools at the start of each sports season for team and individual pictures



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Peter Bekkerus, president of the Denison Education Association (DEA), presents Rhonda Rauch with the DEA Friend of Education Award for 2024.

of each sport.

For the first decade of taking pictures, Rhonda was working full time as a project analyst and still taking and editing photos for the schools and

students. On average, she spent about two to three hours taking pictures of activities during the week. After each event, she would sort through roughly 600 photos to find the best ones to

edit, and she would upload about 200 photos to Facebook. This process of sorting and editing a single event takes a couple of hours.

Just about two years ago, she was able to cut back on her hours as a project analyst so she could dedicate even more of her time to taking pictures of events. This allowed her to attend anywhere from eight to 16 hours of school activities per week - even some out of town activities.

People will also find Rhonda attending any state event that involves a Denison athlete. From the state wrestling meet to playoff football games, she makes sure that these athletes are recognized for their hard work and dedication to their activity with lots of photos available to their families.

The impact she has on the Denison Community School District and its students does not go unnoticed. Almost every student involved in activities at the school will recognize Rhonda and the crazy photography angles she likes to get. Many parents are appreciative of the photos she posts or sends out. It is clear to the Denison Education Association that Rhonda puts in an immense amount of time and energy for this passion to make a difference in students' and families' lives.

Denison and Schleswig musicians take part in honor choir

On Tuesday, March 5, eight fifth grade students from Broadway Elementary and six fifth and sixth grade students from Schleswig took part in the Southwest Iowa Choral Directors Association Elementary/Middle School Honor Choir.

Pictured left are the students from Denison. Front, from left: Manasseh Santamaria, Jaxon Edick and Ezra Bygness. Middle: Jamila Parr and Bryan Elizondo. Back: Ashley Medrano, Seth Ullrich and Malia Potts.

Pictured right are the students from Schleswig. Front, from left: Morgan Jepsen, Calvin Segebart and Brenna Bubke. Back: Sophia Luth, Averi Valentine and Izzi Miller.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS



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WORK PROGRAM, FROM PAGE 1

Garcia said many other cities that are within Region XII use the program as an opportunity to get some extra assistance and work done within their departments.

Garcia explained that there are two programs. One is a supervised group in which from three to up to 20 individuals come to the community to work and have a supervisor along with them. The city pays a flat rate per hour based on the number of individuals that come to the community to work.

Garcia said she discussed with Olson that one of those projects would be to take down dying and deteriorating trees in the city right of way at a quicker rate, using a larger number of workers.

"Please understand this is not to replace the work of any other full-time employees," Garcia told the council members. "It says that right in the agreement that we're not using this to replace hiring any other full-time individuals."

Garcia said that in conversation with Martin Chase, off-grounds supervisor with IPI, the end of May or early June is as soon as the City of Denison could get on the calendar for workers.

Garcia explained the second option or program is an off-site incarcerated individual work agreement. In this option, the workers have to be supervised by someone who has gone through the training with the IPI, like Olson.

"We've been in conversation with Martin (Chase) about Sam (Ellis) and Manny (Barroso) going to the next training so that they can get some help with painting shelters, renovating shelters and doing some of those pieces of work," said Garcia.

She added, "The individuals that get approved to do off-site work, whether it is supervised or unsupervised, have to go through a specific set of certifications. They do not certify anybody who has had any violent crime offense or anybody who has an offense that would land them on the registry. Those individuals are prohibited from being certified to do work."

"What we were told is most of the individuals will be low level offenders, people that have to do a few months for maybe drug or alcohol violations and usually are individuals that are within a very close timeline of being released," Garcia continued.

She added that the agreement with IPI has gone through the city's insurance agent and city attorney. The state insures the incarcerated individuals so they are not considered employees of the city.

The city also does not pay the money

directly to the individuals but pays IPI. IPI keeps track of the work hours of the individuals and disperses the pay according to their rules and regulations.

Olson said the incarcerated individuals who are certified to work, work hard for that opportunity.

He said it is a great opportunity for the individuals.

"These are good people. They just made the wrong choice at one time," he added. "Most are trying to make money to pay the fines, but then again they're trying to make money to get started when they get out."

Asked if the work program was a seasonal option only, Garcia said she had not gotten into that detail with Martin Chase, if there is work that the individuals can do or would be interested in doing in the winter. Right now, it is seasonal work.

She added that she is in an email chain with five other communities that are in the geographical line from Rockwell City, to work on a way to lower transportation costs.

"We have to pay per loaded mile, so we're trying to find a way where, if it is approved by all of our respective councils, that we can find similar days so that we can get one group of individuals, so maybe it's a Thursday and Friday, but then Region XII only does one day of transportation, drops them off and picks them up, and they do all the transportation."

Meals are sent with the individuals. Garcia said the incarcerated individuals do not show up in orange jumpsuits. Olson added they wear orange jackets or pullovers.

The rules for the incarcerated individuals are strict, and city employees must also observe the rules of the IPI and the Department of Corrections. The incarcerated individuals can't have access to tobacco, alcohol, cell phones or anything like that. If city workers would give items like that, the city would be in violation.

Garcia said as soon as the incarcerated individuals get back to Rockwell City, they are tested for nicotine, alcohol or any other substances, and if any substances are found, they would lose the privilege of going out to work.

Garcia said if the council is fine with the program, the city would like to start with the large, supervised group option to get the individuals to town to help with trees or street patching, fixing pieces of recreation trails and other types of work.

The individuals will be trained according to the type of work they will be doing.

RYAN, FROM PAGE 1

In a release, SAI Executive Director Lisa Remy said, "Patti Ryan has been selected by her peers due to her exceptional leadership and dedication to the Denison school community. With her unwavering commitment to student success, Patti has made a profound impact on her school community by working tirelessly behind the scenes. Her passion for education and steadfast advocacy for students sets a shining example for educators everywhere."

A committee of Iowa middle level principals selected Ryan, and she will be recognized at the association's annual conference in August.

SAI, a statewide organization founded in 1987, represents 2,200 Iowa educational administrators. SAI's mission is to support, encourage and develop Iowa's educational leaders and learners.

Ryan earned her bachelor's degree in elementary education from Buena Vista University, a master's degree in teaching from Morningside University, her PK-12 principal and PK-12 special education supervisor certification from Iowa Principals Leadership Academy in Storm Lake and her advanced studies certificate for the superintendency from the University of Northern Iowa.

Her career in education received direction from a number of mentors

over the years.

"Teachers I had in the Denison district were some of the best role models," she said in an email interview with The Denison Free Press.

"Mrs. Collette Huntley was certainly a standout for me as a new middle schooler struggling to fit in and to be myself at the same time. As a new teacher, Mr. Bob Gress, former Ar-We-Va elementary principal, was so encouraging and supportive and I still think often of his advice to always keep learning," Ryan said.

She said she loves what she gets to do every day at Denison Middle School.

"The things that are most fulfilling are watching students and teachers grow and learn," Ryan explained. "Middle school students mature so fast, and when we send them off to high school, they are young adults where they came to us as 11-12 year olds. That is second on my list, and on the top is seeing them graduate just four short years later, ready to take on what is next in their adult lives."

"We are all working to have a thriving culture in our school, and the people I get to work with - from the transportation department that get the kids to us safely to the maintenance staff that keep everything up and running to the kitchen staff who joyfully feed our kids to the leaders, teachers, and support staff who guide our kids - all simply amaze me."

Klein and Weber to receive DC-A Greyhound Award this year

Banquet on May 23

The Dow City-Arion (DC-A) Alumni Committee announced that the 2024 Greyhound Award recipients are John "Ernie" Kline and Mike Weber.

The awards will be presented at the DC-A Alumni Banquet in May.

Kline is a 1979 graduate of Dow City-Arion and has dedicated his life to the athletic department at the Dow City-Arion and Boyer Valley schools, serving as statistician for numerous teams over a 40-year span as well as coaching and serving as a public address announcer.

Weber graduated from Dunlap in 1985 and spent most of his career at Boyer Valley, nine years as a teacher and 18 as principal. These are only a few of the positions he's had at the school. Weber has also served the community through numerous volunteer positions including those for his church, the Dunlap community and those that supported his children as they grew up.

The Greyhound Award is presented each year to the recipient or recipients who have demonstrated outstanding contributions to the Dow City-Arion School, the Alumni Association, and/or the community.

Previous recipients of this prestigious award have included James Kloewer, Melvin 'Crip' Miller, and Vernon Shotwell in 2003; Albert Ordal in 2004; Helen Turner Hartwig in 2005; Clarice Rule in 2006; Pat Garrett in 2007; Gene Harre, Joan North, and Marvel (Popp) Heistand in 2008; Laura (Artgotsinger) Westermeyer in 2009; Becky Eimermann, Bill Eimermann, and Glen Cary in 2010; Nellie Brasel, Phyllis TenEyck, and Robert Custer

in 2011; Lois Brasel, Rena Riley, and Patricia Blankman in 2012; Linda and Verle McCutcheon and Christine Brink in 2013; Doris Kahl and Susan Weber in 2014; Charles and Jane Smith and Marilyn Keuck in 2015; Alan and Maxine Garrett and Jim Steinkuehler in 2016; Vincent Leinen in 2017; Peggy Christie, Helen McCoid, and Elisabeth (McAllister) Petersen in 2018; Ace and Marilyn Ertleman in 2019; Jack Ahart and Victor Thomsen in 2022; and Jeri Vogt in 2023.

The annual alumni banquet will take place on May 23 at 6:30 p.m. at the Boyer Valley North School (former DC-A School) gymnasium in Dow City. Alumni and faculty can make their reservations to attend the banquet by sending \$20 per person (\$30 per person for responses paid or postmarked after May 17) to Dow City Alumni Association, P.O. Box 163, Dow City, IA 51528, or by paying via PAYPAL to DCAalumni@hotmail.com. Include with your payment the year of your graduation and, if applicable, your preference to be seated with your class or with your spouse's class.

Those whose responses are postmarked or paid after May 17 may not necessarily be seated with their respective graduating classes. Phone reservations are not accepted. The alumni committee encourages alumni to bring guests who are 16 years of age and older.

For more information about the 117th DC-A Alumni Banquet, contact Tracey Ertleman Schechinger at 712-269-2413, or email DCAalumni@hotmail.com.

CORN BOARD,

FROM PAGE 1

The company has been around for 13 years and has a research-and-development facility in Texas.

The Odebolt facility will likely reach beyond Sac County into Crawford and Ida counties.

"We are pretty much in the central part of Crawford County," Segerstrom said.

PARK, FROM PAGE 1

BY GORDON WOLF

The new playground equipment for Washington Park in Denison is now ordered.

Last week the city council approved the payment of the first installment on the equipment. That installment was in the amount of \$231,215, or 50% down on the equipment.

The first installment guarantees the city will receive the equipment at the 2023 prices.

The city council approved the proposed renderings of the playground equipment prior to approving the payment of the first installment.

crews are present. InRoads, LLC of Des Moines was awarded this \$10.3 million construction project.

The latest traveler information is available anytime through the DOT's 511 system. Visit 511ia.org; call 511 (within Iowa) or 800-288-1047 (nationwide); stay connected with 511 on Facebook or Twitter (find links at https://iowadot.gov/511/511-social-media-sites); or download the free app to your mobile device.

Project on Highway 39 to affect motorists beginning Monday

The Iowa Department of Transportation said drivers on Iowa 39 between Odebolt and Deloit in Sac and Crawford counties need to be aware of an asphalt paving and resurfacing project that may impact their trip beginning on Monday, March 18, until late June, weather permitting.

Intermittent lane closures with flaggers and pilot cars will be in place to assist motorists through the work zone when construction

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Local Calendar

SATURDAY MARCH 16, 2024

VFW & American Legion Pancake Breakfast, 7:30-11 a.m., Denison Senior Center, free-will donation with proceeds to go to the Crawford County Wellness Center project.

Little Hawks Shoe Drop Off, 9-11 a.m. at the old lunchroom doors of Little Hawks Childcare in Manilla, or leave shoes on your front porch and call Pat Palmer at 712-269-4217 or Ann Lockwood at 712-269-7709.

STEAM Saturday at the Children's Library at Norelius Community Library for children ages 8-13, 10 a.m. Each activity will be science, technology, engineering, art or math themed.

St. Patrick's Day Parade, 1 p.m. in Uptown Denison. Lineup begins at noon on 1st Avenue North by the post office. For more information contact Susan Brosnahan Grau at 712-253-0725.

5th annual Schleswig Trivia Night at Schleswig Community Building. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Meal at 6:30 p.m. with trivia game to follow. \$25 per person. Proceeds to go towards Schleswig's 125th celebration. Register your team with Shannon Cose at 712-269-8697 or Jodi Bruhn at 515-491-3349.

St. Patrick's Dinner at The Klondike Hotel in Manilla. Corned beef and cabbage or Irish stew, salad, potato, carrots, dessert and drink. Reservations required; \$25. 5:30 or 7:30 p.m. Take-out meals also available. Contact Sandi Gruhn at 712-579-8939, Doris Gross at 712-571-0018, Nancy Kremin at 712-654-8362 or Sandy Kaufmann at 712-579-1631.

WIBO Easter Bunny Visit at the Santa House in Uptown Denison, 12-1 p.m. and then 1:30 to 2 p.m.

SUNDAY MARCH 17, 2024

Little Hawks Childcare Center Shoe Fundraiser. Help raise funds by donating gently worn, used and new shoes. Drop off shoes at Manilla City Hall. Contact Pat Palmer at 712-269-4217 or Ann Lockwood at 712-269-7709. Deadline extended to April 1.



MONDAY MARCH 18, 2024

Monday Funday at the First United Methodist Church in Denison on the Mondays of Denison School's teacher inservice. Program runs from 1 to 4 p.m. and is for children from TK-5th grades. Drop-off times are from 12:30 to 1 p.m. and pickup times are from 4 to 4:30 p.m. Activities include crafting, storytelling, group games, science, board games, recreation and a lesson connected to living a Christian life. A mid-afternoon snack is also part of the day.

Euchre at Denison Senior Center, 6 p.m.

TUESDAY MARCH 19, 2024

Crafternoon at Norelius Community Library, for ages 12 and older, 4 to 6 p.m. Work on crafting projects and techniques.

Staley's drive-through chicken dinner fundraiser for Eventide Foundation. 4:30-7 p.m. at Stables at Copper Ridge in Denison. Price is \$13. Includes 2 pieces of fried chicken, 2 sides, dinner roll and cookie.

Euchre Night at the Ricketts Community Building, 7 p.m. A fun night of card playing, socializing, treats and beverages. Entry fee is \$5 and there is no need to bring a partner.

WEDNESDAY MARCH 20, 2024

Storytime at Norelius Community Library, 2 p.m. For children ages 0-5. Stories, songs and a special activity at the end. Storytime lasts approximately 30 minutes including playtime.

Euchre Night at the Charter Oak Community Building, 7 p.m. No need to have a partner before the game. You will be "partnered" up randomly throughout the night.

THURSDAY MARCH 21, 2024

Game Night at Norelius Community Library, for ages 12 and older. Pizza and snacks at 5:30 p.m. and stay to play when the food is gone.

ON THE SCANNER

March 8, 2:10 a.m.: The Crawford County Sheriff's Office investigated a single-vehicle accident that happened on 130th Street. Ana Yicel Ramirez Flores, 55, of Charter Oak, was driving a blue 1998 Ford Econoline and was traveling in a northwest direction north of Meeves Ridge Road, entering a right curve to travel north. The roadway was snow covered and slick. The driver lost control of her vehicle. It entered the west ditch and rolled, coming to a rest on its right side. The driver and passenger received minor injuries and were transported by Dunlap Ambulance to Crawford County Memorial Hospital. The vehicle received \$6,500 damage and was towed by Wadrich Towing.

March 8, 7:40 a.m.: The Crawford County Sheriff's Office investigated a single-vehicle accident that happened on Highway 59. Luis Alfonso Portillo Bermudez, 32, of Schleswig, was driving a white 2000 Chevrolet K1500 pickup. His pickup slid on a

thick layer of ice on the highway. The driver lost control of the vehicle. No one was injured. The vehicle received \$10,000 damage.

March 9, 9:21 p.m.: Crawford County Dispatch received a call of a train vs. car accident at the Highway 30 and Nelson Park Road crossing near Dow City. The vehicle, a white 2008 Chevrolet Equinox, owned by Jorge Saldana Vargas, was not occupied. Vargas lives just down the road from where the accident happened. Vargas told the investigating sheriff's deputy that he was at Nelson Park and was going home. He turned onto the tracks, thinking it was the highway, and his car got stuck. He then walked home to get a vehicle to pull the Equinox off the tracks, and before he got home, a train hit the Equinox. Vargas then went home and called in to report the accident. The Equinox received \$15,000 damage and was towed by Wadrich Towing.

Historic Preservation Commission seeks grant submissions

The Crawford County Historic Preservation Commission is now offering grants to be distributed this summer. Eligible recipients are groups that are improving historic sites that are open to the public.

The commission is able to send applications to all who qualify. Applications can also be picked up at the auditor's office on the second floor of the Crawford County Courthouse.

Details and qualifications are as follows.

- The site must be located in Crawford County, can be publicly or privately owned, and must be accessible to the public. Properties used for personal residence and/or private use do not qualify.
- Improvement projects have been started and completed between May 31, 2023, and June 1, 2024. Projects completed before May 31, 2023, do not qualify.
- Improvements include things like landscaping, painting, wallpapering, refinishing wood, minor repairs, etc. Projects must enhance or improve the historic value of the property.
- Receipts for completed projects must be submitted. Estimates in the form of vendor statements or written estimate quotes must be submitted for all projects started or contemplated. All

evidence statements must be submitted with the grant application form.

- No applications will be considered that are postmarked or hand delivered to the county auditor's office after May 15.
- All projects must be completed on or before June 1, 2024.
- Grant funds will be paid after the completion of the project.

The commission encourages improvement projects, regardless of whether they involve sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Crawford County is full of historical sites, several of which are on the National Register of Historic Places. Local sites on the registry include the John Carey House, Clarence Chamberlin House, W.A. McHenry House, the Park Motel, Denison Opera House, Crawford County Courthouse, all in Denison; the Klondike Hotel in Manilla, the Dow House in Dow City, and the Z.T. Dunham Stock Farm near Dunlap.

The commission is dedicated to assisting all persons interested in maintaining and/or creating places of historical significance for public use and enjoyment. For more information, or to request a grant application form, contact Amy Pieper at the Crawford County Auditor's Office on the second level of the courthouse or call Pieper at 712-263-6416.

Hunger Fighters food distribution on March 19

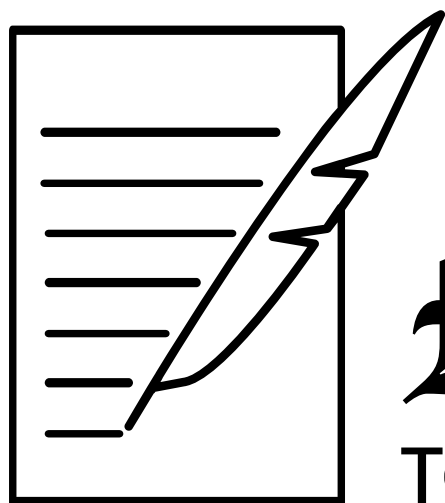
The Crawford County Hunger Fighters drive-through food distribution is planned for Tuesday, March 19, at the United Presbyterian Church, 205 North 24th Street in Denison. Pickup will be from 2:30 to 5 p.m.

Families in need of food assistance will verify their income level eligibility with the TEFAP form which is completed once every year. Forms may be picked up in advance in the bench in front of the Presbyterian Church or

filled out that day.

Proxy consent forms, used for picking up another person's food, will not need to be renewed unless there are changes. People are asked to abide by the policy of one allotment of food per household. Monetary donations made to Crawford County Hunger Fighters may be dropped off at V&H Tire, The Hoffman Agency, or Our Savior Lutheran Church. Listen to KDSN for any weather-related cancellations.

The food distribution would not be possible without volunteers. Those who would like to volunteer and help serve the community on the day of distribution should call the Presbyterian Church office at 712-263-4130.



Letters TO THE EDITOR

To submit a letter visit, denisonfreepress.com

The Denison Free Press is not responsible for the content in the Letters to the Editor section. The Denison Free Press reserves the right to choose not to publish submissions. Letters not be more than 300 words.

NORELIUS COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

Denison Library Friends annual sale in April

The Norelius Community Library will host the Denison Library Friends annual White Elephant, Book & Bake Sale on April 6 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The library will be accepting donations for the sale now through April 5. All proceeds from donations benefit the Norelius Community Library. Call 712-263-9355 for more information.

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LAND TRANSACTIONS

March 1-7, 2024

Warranty Deeds

- Robert Evan Blakely and Meriah Ruth Blakely to William Daniel Mundt: Lot 6, Block 45, City of Denison; \$166,475.
- Luis Claudio Navar and Guadalupe Navar to Luis Angel Navar: SE1/4 NE1/4 Section 10, Denison Township; \$200,000.
- Wynn K. Dau Revocable Trust, Wynn K. Dau, Trustee to CGPK Farm LLC: E1/2 SW1/4 Section 6, Boyer Township; \$915,000.
- Delores Greene Trust, Richard Greene, Trustee to Dennis M. Mordhorst Living Trust, Dennis M. Mordhorst, Trustee: E1/2 SE1/4 Section 36, Soldier Township; \$1,015,150.
- Daniel L. Schechinger, Rita Schechinger, Terence J. Schechinger, Jody Schechinger, Dale A. Schechinger, Kathleen Schechinger, Randy J. Halbur and Renee Halbur to John Fitzgerald Pauley: SE1/4 Section 17, East Boyer Township; \$1,032,960.
- Delores Greene Trust, Richard Greene, Trustee to Aaron Gress and Debra Gress: W1/2 SW1/4 Section 31, Morgan Township; W1/2 NW1/4 Section 31, Morgan Township; \$875,325.
- Antonio Rodriguez to H&S Services, LLC: SW1/4 NE1/4 Section 19, Otter Creek Township; \$93,155.62.
- Silvero Cruz and Maria De Los Angeles Cruz to Seiner A. Loarca Martin and Jamileth G. Oropeza Martinez: Lot 6 and Lot 7, Block 5, City of Vail; \$33,500.
- Larry Maack and Leila Maack to Lonnie Kastner LE and Kurt Kastner:

- SW1/4 Section 10, Otter Creek Township; NW1/4 NW1/4 Section 15, Otter Creek Township; \$358,360.
- Kurt Kastner, Angela Kastner and Lonnie Kastner to Leila Maack: E1/2 NW1/4 Section 32, Otter Creek Township; \$300,000.
- Jerrod R. Reimer, Jerrod E. Reimer and Tricia Reimer to Todd Jepsen and Tara Jepsen: S1/2 NE1/4 Section 34, Morgan Township; NE1/4 NE1/4 Section 34, Morgan Township; \$1,310,000.
- Todd Jepsen and Tara Jepsen to Doyle R. Slavik Revocable Trust, Doyle R. Slavik, Trustee: S1/2 NE1/4 Section 34, Morgan Township; NE1/4 NE1/4 Section 34, Morgan Township.
- Doyle R. Slavik Revocable Trust, Doyle R. Slavik, Trustee to Todd Jepsen and Tara Jepsen: NW1/4 Section 19, Morgan Township.

Quit Claim Deeds

- Triple C. Trading LLC to Richard L. Christiansen and Cathy Mae Christiansen: Lot 7, 8, 9, Block 148, City of Denison.
- Todd Martens to Connie Martens Crawford: SE1/4 NE1/4 Section 11, Goodrich Township.
- Christian Isiah Martens and Molly Martens to Connie Crawford Martens: NW1/4 SW1/4 Section 22, Goodrich Township; SW1/4 NW1/4 Section 12, Goodrich Township; NE1/4 Section 11, Goodrich Township.

Federal Tax Lien

- Iowa Department of Revenue against Martin Asprelli. \$26.11.

COURTHOUSE NEWS

March 1-7, 2024

NON-SCHEDULED TRAFFIC

- Carlos Jesus Martinez Izaguirre, Denison, failure to stop in assured clear distance, \$515.75.
- Chelsea Kristina Renae Willis, Manilla, driving while license under suspension, \$491.25.

SCHEDULED TRAFFIC

- Carlos Jesus Martinez Izaguirre, Denison, no valid driver's license, \$390.
- Brent Allyn Friedrichsen, Littleton, CO, operation without registration card or plate, \$175.75.
- Elizabeth Ann Stamp, Denison, operating non-registered vehicle, \$135.50.
- Emily Rachel Gierstorf, Arion, failure to maintain control, \$210.25.
- Evelyn M. Rodriguez Hernandez, Vail, failure to use child restraint device, \$210.25.
- Evelyn M. Rodriguez Hernandez, Vail, failure to use child restraint device, \$210.25.
- Robert John Korwes, Schleswig, failure to maintain or use safety belts, adult, \$135.50.
- Deacon B. Bratcher, Omaha, NE, operating non-registered vehicle, \$135.50.
- Leslie Marie Mendez, Denison, operation without registration card or plate, \$135.50.
- Sonny Lee Gannon, Granger, dark window or windshield, \$135.50.
- Charles Dean Lahr, Woodbine, dark window or windshield, \$135.50.
- Gerald Ovie Johnson III, Denison, failure to maintain or use safety belts, adult, \$135.50.
- Chelsea Kristina Renae Willis, Manilla, operating non-registered vehicle, \$175.75.
- Maite Vargas Ramirez, Denison, failure to yield upon entering through highway, \$210.25.
- Raumany Millares, Denison, leaving scene of accident, property damage only, \$210.25.

- Erika Estrada Suarez, Denison, operating non-registered vehicle, \$135.50.

SPEEDING (21 MPH & OVER)

- Evelyn M. Rodriguez Hernandez, Vail, \$216.

SPEEDING (11-15 MPH OVER)

- Colleen Wynne Sulsberger, Mapleton, \$175.75.

SPEEDING (6-10 MPH OVER)

- Samantha Beth Burkhalter, Harlan, \$118.25.
- Bradley J. Nelson, Denison, \$118.25.
- Maggie Grace Chapman, Denison, \$118.25.
- Virginia Navarro Castaneda, Denison, \$149.88.
- Elieser Tarano Fernandez, Miami, FL, \$118.25.

SPEEDING (1-5 MPH OVER)

- Levi Lewis Lofton, Fort Dodge, \$106.75.
- Cristian Fuentes Alcaraz, Denison, \$89.50.
- Randy Harold Segebart, Schleswig, \$89.50.
- Omasan C. Edegbele, Omaha, NE, \$89.50.
- Danny Saldana, Denison, \$89.50.
- Kelsey Aleta Emig, Fort Stewart, GA, \$89.50.
- David Leonardo Amaya, Los Angeles, CA, \$89.50.
- Baballa Mohamed Koko, Denison, \$89.50.
- Mut Ochan Toang, Denison, \$89.50.

SMALL CLAIMS

- Against: Randy Duane Varner Jr. In favor of: Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC. Amount; \$1,128.12 plus \$95 costs.
- Against: Jake Hopp and Shelby Kay Hopp, both of Charter Oak. In favor of: Hauge Associates, Inc. Amount: \$1,360 plus \$95 costs.

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DENISON POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 2024

Total Hours Worked: Police: 2,441 hrs. Communications: 841 hrs.
Total Miles Traveled: 7,253 miles Total Fuel Used: 691 gals.

INVESTIGATIONS:	February 2024	YTD 2024	February 2023	YTD 2023
Burglary	0	0	1	1
Thefts	4	9	2	5
Vandalism	0	0	0	0
Drug/Alcohol	12	17	14	31
Accidents	15	48	17	29
General Calls	408	847	278	545
Total Activity	439	921	312	611

CHARGES FILED:

Felony-Adult	8	12	3	4
Felony-Juvenile	0	0	0	1
Misdemeanor-Adult	19	50	32	70
Misdemeanor-Juv	0	0	0	4
Total Arrests	27	62	35	79

TRAFFIC CITATIONS:

Written Citations	70	93	54	114
Written Warnings	102	122	17	48
Verbal Warnings	28	33	49	74
Total Traffic	200	248	120	236

ASSISTANCE:

Persons	439	873	167	338
Other Agencies	1	3	2	8
Public Programs	0	0	0	0
Persons Attended	0	0	0	0
Total Assistance	440	876	169	346

Submitted by: _____
Chief of Police



The latest edition of The Denison Free Press can be found online

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denisonfreepress.com

DMS 7th and 8th grade students take part in solo contest

On March 2, all seventh- and eighth-grade band students participated in a solo festival hosted at the Denison Middle School (DMS). Students were given a rating based on their performance. Possible ratings were I+, I, I- (Superior) II+, II, II- (Excellent) and III+, III, III- (Good). Outstanding solos were selected from three centers as the best performances of the day.

Ratings are as follows.

Outstanding Performances

Jessie Schmidt (percussion), Silvia Salazar (alto sax), Kevin Dionicio (trombone), Lauren Lambert (clarinet), Roselyn Murillo (trumpet), Ella Bahnsen (trumpet), Jessica Ramos (flute), Isaac Flores (tenor sax), Cynthia Ornelas (flute), Jasper Christensen (alto sax), Patricia Collins (euphonium), Lauren Lambert, Alex Corona, Kevin Dionicio and Isaac Flores (mixed quartet)

I+ Rating

Paola Sartun, Lauren Lambert and Kevin Dionicio (duet), Jackson Boettger, Eryn Reisz, Giovanni Acosta, Ana Maria Portillo, Emily Grap, Destiny Romero, Abraham Ramos, Nyadaang Koang, Aubrey Young, Maily Hernandez, Lubia Jimenez, Scarlet Torrey

I or I- Rating

Percussion Ensemble, Mariah Carlson, Emily Ladwig, Yaretzy Garcia-Paz, Alexander Pauley, Naim Rodriguez, Mia Cervantes, Leland Ronfeldt, Kara Korner, Camilla Bonner, Brian Acosta, Kacie Schulte, Autumn Koch, Alejandra Aragon, Carlos Moreno, Catelina Cervantes, Jonathan Marquez, Abdiel Corona, Dominic Cordero, Jayden Ghislandi, Flute Quartet, Woodwind Quartet, Jackson Boettger and Jayden Ghislandi (duet), Stella Mahrt, Jayden Ornelas, Ernest Tremblay III, Claire Olsen, Henry Torres, Jaylinn Koch, Diana Gonzalez, Bentley Zamago, Alondra Rodriguez, Josue Lara, Bryan Lara, Ember Pedersen, Karson Schulz, Alexis Revolorio, Pedro Luna, Kazandra Ochoa, Jacob Toang, Saul Bello, Abigail Valle, Alizee Herrera, Ava Hansen, Milton Lopez, Alexandra Garcia, Brianna Ramirez, Guadalupe



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Pictured are the eighth-grade outstanding soloists from the March 2 solo festival at Denison Middle School. Front, from left: Silvia Salazar, Cynthia Ornelas and Jessica Ramos. Back: Isaac Flores, Alex Corona, Kevin Dionicio and Lauren Lambert.

Soria-Prado, Mia Espinoza-Taylor, Addilynn Nielsen, Randy Cardona, Brody Schillerberg, Simon Htoo, Emily Godinez, Miley Kilnoski, Jareht Jimenez, Lizbeth Barroso, Yoselin Martin, Emmanuel Perez, Brylee Eggeling, Jocelyn Jimenez, Isabel Bradley, Lihley Vrieze, Jaslene Jimenez, Montserrat Renteria, Jazmin Garcia, Samantha Lopez, Paul Ramos, Yazmin Perez, Abigail Hogan, Natasha Ndema, Olivia DeVore, Cailey Garcia, Quinn Vetter, Byron Elizando, Cristy Orellana, Heydy Leanos, Camila Martinez

II (+ or -) or III (+ or -) Rating

Lyrisa Wiese, Jaime Hernandez Jr., Kevin Pineda, Alan Khien, Camilla Bonner, Mia Cervantes and Diana Gonzalez (duet), Autumn Koch, Alejandra Aragon, Catelina Cervantes, Carlos Moreno and Jonathan Marquez (duet), Dylan Alvarado, Anthony Duarte-Valdez, Jess Schmidt, Alex Corona, Jacob Lopez, Filiberto Gonzalez, Valeria Perez, Angelyn Corona, David Raymundo, Andrea Licon, Avery Sieren, Charlie Logan, Henri Gonzalez, Areli Medina,



Seventh-grade outstanding soloists are the following. Front, from left: Roselyn Murillo and Jessie Schmidt. Back: Patricia Collins, Jasper Christensen and Ella Bahnsen.

Valerie Carrillo, Peytin Palmer, Miguel Gonzalez, Darlyn Solis, Sebastian Alanis, Alma Barroso, Jorge Barajas, Manuel Marin, Mareck McGinn, William Mathies, Vivyanna Rubio, Jose Ramirez, Luis Zavala, Alexander Ocampo, Luis Valdez, Ashley Barajas, Kyla Lopez

City extends amended golf course lease for two months

Majestic Hills will continue to operate conference center

BY GORDON WOLF

When the City of Denison's lessee defaulted on its contract to operate Boulders Conference Center, the Majestic Hills Golf Course stepped

in to cover the operations with the agreement that the city would forgive the golf course's rent and utilities for the lower part of the building for January and February.

The golf course's bar and grill was operated by the same lessee and the golf course lost its source of income when it, like the city, asked the lessee to vacate the premises.

Last week Tuesday the Denison City Council agreed to extend the agreement with the golf course for two more months, covering March

and April, during which time money for greens fees will be increasing.

In the meantime, the Boulders Conference Center Commission is awaiting the March 19 deadline for sealed bids for the operation of Boulders.

Bids can be for the management of Boulders, with a payment being made by the City of Denison, or an offer to lease the facility, which would involve paying a fee to the City of Denison.

A third option is a combination of management and lease.

City Manager Jessica Garcia said members of the Boulders Commission would review the bids at their March 26 meeting, with the possibility to make a recommendation to the council.

The council can either accept or reject the commission's recommendation.

If the council accepts the recommendation, the next step would be to start drafting an agreement.

Garcia hopes that if all goes well, an agreement could be reached by May 1.



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Fundraiser for Monarchs



PHOTOS BY GORDON WOLF

The 2024 Monarch Booster Night of Comedy on Saturday night raised funds for the sports programs at the Denison Community School District. The featured performer at Night of Comedy was Jim Flannagan, from Illinois. He entertained with topical humor and even poked fun at a few of the audience members.

One of the items on the live auction was a pair of Monarch bag boards made with reclaimed Denison High School gym bleacher wood. The item, donated by Brandon and Jessie Boger, brought in \$1,500. Another high auction item was an effort to bring Randy Grossman and Tom Hamilton out of retirement to hear them broadcast a game on KDSN Radio. Two people bid \$2,200, so it was decided that the pair would broadcast a baseball and a softball game this summer. The price went even higher when a number of people added \$100 each to the pot.



Also pictured, Brooke Lambert helps Troy Gehlsen choose raffle tickets for prizes.



Rolling on; community-wide Pinewood Derby attracts 26 cars

A first-time community-wide Pinewood Derby contest caught on big time on Sunday at Boulders Conference Center in Denison.

Cub Scout Pack 49 and Boy Scout Troop 55 opened the traditional pinewood derby up to anyone who wanted to enter – youth or adults.

The result was seven cars entered by Cub Scouts, 14 open-class cars entered by youth and five open-class cars entered by adults.

That's more than 100 tires rolling down the track and different times through multiple heats.

Trophies and medals were awarded to the Cub Scouts. Trophies donated by Roger Waderich were awarded to the youth racers and the top car designers. The adult racers competed for bragging rights and pride.



PHOTOS BY GORDON WOLF

Pictured from left are Jaiden Hae, 3rd place heat race; Rhylee Hae, 3rd place heat race and most unique design; Kolt Brown, 2nd place heat race, 3rd place championship race and best workmanship; Andrew Earl, 1st place heat race and 1st place championship race; Jayden Bauer, 2nd place heat race, 2nd place championship race and best paint; Jaxson Jacobsen, 1st place heat race and best detail.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Pictured separately is Kinnick Slechta, 3rd place heat race.



Pictured are three members of the Meseck family who won awards in the open classes. From left are Reed Meseck, 2nd place, youth open; Kerry Meseck, 1st place, adult open; and Isla Meseck, 3rd place, youth open. For design awards, Zach Bielenberg won best paint job and Roger Waderich won most creative design.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Annie Wiges won the youth open race.



Cooper Gehlsen releases the lever after Noah Hilpiper lines up the cars at the top of the track.



Cubmaster Calista Earl and Scoutmaster Troy Gehlsen watch this heat of cars cross the finish line.

Cub Scouts gather at the finish line to cheer on their Pinewood Derby cars.

Funeral Notices

Ralph Giesman

Visitation for Ralph Giesman, 83, of Denison, will be conducted from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, March 15, at the Huebner Funeral Home in Denison.



Burial will be conducted at a later date in Knoxville.

He passed away Sunday, March 10, at Accura Healthcare in Carroll.

Survivors include his wife, Roseanne (Clare) Giesman, of Denison; two daughters, Alesia (Mark) Jepsen, of Arkansas, and Dawn Giesman, of Denison; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; two brothers, John (Sharon) Giesman, of Buffalo Center, and Fred (Diane) Giesman, of Kellogg; sister, Virginia (Ed) Oxenreider, of Chariton; many nieces and nephews; and other relatives and friends.

Services are entrusted to the Huebner Funeral Home in Denison.

Donna DeMey

Funeral Services for Donna DeMey, 73, of Denison, will be conducted at 12 p.m. Monday, March 18, at the Huebner Funeral Home in Denison with visitation two hours prior to the service.



Burial will be at the Oakland Cemetery in Denison.

She passed away Tuesday, March 12, at Methodist Hospital in Omaha.

Survivors include her husband, Donald DeMey, of Denison; son, Ryan DeMey and his wife, Tabitha, of Newell; daughter, Traci and her husband, Chad Preul, of Dow City; three grandchildren; siblings, Darlys and her husband, Craig Whited, of Florida, Diann and her husband, Kevin Moorman, of Georgia, Dana Vennink and his wife, Staci, of South Carolina, and Danette Vennink, of Carroll; sisters-in-law, Linda Sauvago, of Denison, and Sandy and her husband, Kraig Kitt, of Denison; and many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Services are entrusted to the Huebner Funeral Home in Denison.



Senior Lunch Menu

Served at the Senior Center on South Main in Denison
Call 712-263-4950 before 9:30 a.m.

Friday, March 15:

tuna melt, tossed romaine salad, apricots

Monday, March 18:

scalloped potatoes with ham, green beans, whole wheat bread, fruit cup

Tuesday, March 19:

roast turkey, mashed potatoes with gravy, California blend, whole wheat bread, chocolate chip cookie

Wednesday, March 20:

chili, whole wheat crackers, cole slaw, pears, cinnamon roll

Thursday, March 21:

herb-crusted pork loin with carrots and onions, boiled potatoes, classic mixed vegetables, apple slices

Friday, March 22:

cook's choice

Sounds of jazz

The sounds of jazz rang throughout the Denison High School Fine Arts Center on Friday night for the annual jazz concert, featuring the Denison Middle School jazz band and the high school jazz groups – Jazz Two and Jazz One.



JP Montano, a senior, shows his skill on the drums during a solo during a Jazz One song.



The Jazz One saxophone section was featured during this song.



Brianna Musgrave plays a flute solo during a Jazz Two song.



Christell Salazar plays a trumpet solo during the Jazz One selection of "Catchin' the 'Traine."



Cooper Gehlsen blasts out a solo on the bass trombone during a Jazz One song.



Simon Htoo plays a baritone saxophone solo during a Denison Middle School jazz selection.



The trumpet section of Jazz Two – Christopher Rangel, Lazaro Rivera Acosta and Isabel Jepsen – all had solos during the concert.



The Jazz Two saxophone section was featured during this song.



Jayden Bradley plays a trombone solo during the Jazz One segment of the concert.



The Denison Middle School jazz band was directed by Peter Bekkerus. Ruben Newell and Ryan Meyer directed the high school's Jazz Two and Jazz One.



Maite Arreola plays a flute solo during the Jazz One segment.



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In Remembrance



Larry Joseph Halbur

January 6, 1942 - February 29, 2024

Larry Joseph Halbur was born on January 6, 1942 in Carroll, Iowa, the son of William and Francis (Irlmeier) Halbur. Larry's journey was one filled with hard work, dedication, and a deep love for his family. He completed the first 8 years of his education at St. Augustine School in Halbur, IA. After that he attended St. Henry's Seminary in Belleville, IL for two years. He finally continued on to carve a very successful career path for himself. He was the proud owner of Carpet Specialties from 1974 to 1986 in Denison and continued as a skilled carpet installer until 2004.

Undoubtedly, Larry's proudest accomplishments were centered around family. On November 23, 1963, he married JoAnn Riesberg in Carroll, their union was blessed with five children. In 1986, they made a significant move from Denison to Visalia, CA, before returning to Iowa in 2004.

Larry had a wide range of hobbies and interests that brought him immense joy throughout his life. He was an active member of St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Denison. A passionate Cubs fan, Larry enjoyed attending or watching as many games as possible. Playing softball with his team, The Carpetbaggers, created many fond memories. Post-game gatherings on the deck became treasured moments filled with laughter and camaraderie.

His green thumb was evident in his love for gardening and he enjoyed engaging in lively card games, especially Euchre. One of his favorite pastimes was exploring different parts of the world, particularly Germany, Spain, Costa Rica, and Alaska. Additionally, Larry found solace in playing his harmonica, even if he hadn't learned a new song to play in 60 years. Above all else, Larry loved his family more than anything.

Larry passed away peacefully on Thursday, February 29, 2024 at Gracewell-Eventide Lutheran Home in Denison, attaining the age of 82 years, 1 month, and 23 days. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, JoAnn Halbur; infant son, Dean Halbur; two granddaughters: Harlie and Martha Watkins; brothers: Clete, Norman, and Alvin Halbur; and sister, Dolores Meiners.

Left to cherish his memory are his children: Annette (Ray) Watkins of Vail, Brenda (Bennett) Freese of Denison, Cindy (John) Dinis of Visalia, CA and Ed (Sara) Halbur of Ankeny; nine grandchildren, three great-grandchildren; brother, Bill Halbur of Tucson, AZ; sisters: Margaret (Tom) Denker of Halbur and Pat (Joe) Goblirsch of Jesup; numerous in-laws, nieces and nephews and many other relatives and friends.

Mass of Christian Burial was held 10:30 A.M., Monday, March 11, 2024, at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Denison, Iowa. Fr. Shinoj Jose served as Celebrant of the Mass with interment in the St. Rose of Lima Cemetery. Organist Jean Cornelius provided accompaniment for the St. Rose Choir, Randy Grossman served as lector, Jaden & Brecken Stangl served as mass servers, Addison Halbur & Lilian Dinis served as gift bearers and Kristie Carlson served as Eucharistic Minister. Serving as pallbearers were Scott Halbur, Matt Halbur, Mike Halbur, Gabe Halbur, Dean Watkins, Phil Dinis and Austin Freese. Following the burial, the family invited everyone to the parish center for a time of fellowship and lunch. Services were entrusted to the Huebner Funeral Home.



LaGene Marie Webb

December 25, 1923 - February 24, 2024

LaGene Marie Webb was born on December 25th, 1923, the eldest child of John Carlisle and Kathleen (Sullivan) Hanigan in Spalding, NE. She was baptized at the Catholic church in Spalding and later confirmed her faith at St. Rose of Lima in Denison, IA. LaGene graduated from Denison High School with the class of 1941. Following high school, she spent time working at JC Penney.

On July 14th, 1947, she married "Bud" O.H. Webb and they made their home in Denison. LaGene stayed home and raised their six children, later returning to work at JC Penney. She eventually transitioned to a personnel manager with Worldwide Meats in Denison, later known as Dubuque Packing, where she remained until her retirement at which time she began crafting in her home.

Throughout her life LaGene remained deeply committed to her Catholic faith. As a member of St. Rose of Lima, she initiated the church's weekly Eucharistic Adoration alongside Fr. Edward Murray shortly after he began his residency in 1999. She was an active member of the Legion of Mary for many, many years and found joy serving as a St. Rose School prayer partner for over 33 years. Prayer was a paramount aspect of LaGene's everyday life. She found strength and solace in it for herself, and she fiercely prayed for her family and friends. She often would remind those around her to "Let go, and let God," reminding each of us to trust in Him and lay our worries and our fears at His feet.

LaGene's foundation, refuge and unparalleled joy was her family. Despite how vast, she had an immeasurable amount of love and devotion for each of them. In her younger years she enjoyed travelling with them, filling her home and especially her kitchen with them, and she took pride in instilling tradition and faith. Later in life she cherished each and every visit, phone call, card or letter and invariably surrounded her family in her daily prayer. Her family adored her kindness and patience, and they appreciated her intellect and wit. She had a talent for getting her point across in a way that was always respectful but blunt, and her thoughts and convictions were always valued. She was someone who could be confided in and trusted, and she often was.

In 2018, at the age of 94, LaGene moved to Silveridge Assisted Living in Denison where she continued to enjoy regular visits from her family and friends and was even able to travel to Colorado at the age of 99 to attend the most recent Hanigan Family Reunion. She inspired others with her strength, and she continued to maintain her intellect, wisdom and wit until God decided it was time to take her home.

LaGene passed away peacefully on Saturday February 24th, 2024, having attained the age of 100 years. She was preceded in death by her loving parents; husband "Bud" O.H. Webb; son Richard Webb; two sons-in-law Hugh Hayes and John Bartlett; grandson Michael Heistand; and siblings Thomas E. Hanigan and Sr. Celeste Hanigan.

Those left to deeply cherish her memory are her five remaining children: Kathleen Hayes of Fort Worth, TX; Mary Grace Bartlett of Council Bluffs; Jack (Terri) Webb of Denison; Jeanne (Craig) Konrady of Evansdale; and Elizabeth Joan Webb of Des Moines; twenty grandchildren; thirty-five great-grandchildren; two great-great grandchildren; siblings: Claire (Bud) Brown of Spalding, NE and Daniel (Joan) Hanigan of Valencia, CA; nieces and nephews whom she cherished; and many other relatives and friends.

Mass of Christian Burial was held 10:00 A.M., Saturday, March 9, 2024 at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Denison, Iowa with Fr. Shinoj Jose serving as Celebrant and Fr. James Ahenkora serving as Concelebrant. Organist Jean Cornelius provided accompaniment for Sarah Wagner singing, "Ave Maria," "In Remembrance" and "Goin' Home" and Sarah Hayes singing "Precious Lord, Take My Hand." Jeana Schultz and Julie Ornelas served as lectors, Meredith Hayes Talley, Kara Webb and Natalie Konrady served as offertory gift bearers, LaGene's grandsons served as pallbearers and LaGene's granddaughters served as honorary pallbearers. Following burial in the St. Rose of Lima Cemetery, the family invited everyone to the St. Rose Parish Center for a time of fellowship and lunch. Services were entrusted to the Huebner Funeral Home.



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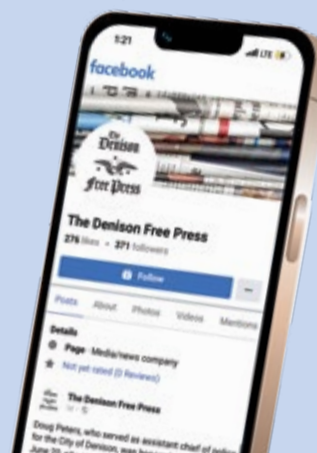
Julie Graeve, ARNP
Family Medicine

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Math and literacy challenges at DES



PHOTOS BY GORDON WOLF

The east hallway and classrooms at Denison Elementary School (DES) were filled with students, parents, teachers and paraeducators last week Thursday for the annual Family Math and Literacy Night. Students and parents could join in on projects that tested their math and reading skills. Pictured, Keira Hartwig, Camryn Koch and Addison Koch play a game of Break Out. The goal was to figure out the combination for a locked box.



Oaklyn and Paisley McMinemee play a game of construction bingo. Each image on the card had something to do with a construction site.



Johan Garcia (looking over shoulder) and Vielman Garcia work on a Blooket project in the art room at DES as their father, Buki Zuniga, joins them.



Reed Myron does some flashlight reading. The book is about puppies.



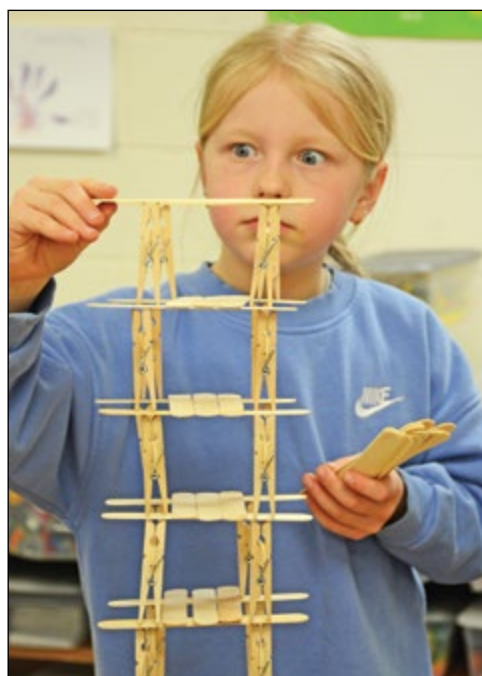
Brysen Point works on a different Blooket challenge with his sister, Camber, and mom, Lara, looking on.



Cristina Urrea watches as her dad, Miguel Urrea, builds a tower.



Kayla and Giselle Landandaverde have fun with a virtual reality challenge.



Finley Boettger had to stand on a chair to build part of her tower, and later had to be boosted on the shoulders of her father, Bob Boettger, to build the tower even higher. She got to the 12th level before the tower collapsed.



Walter Gonzalez, Sara Hernandez, Victoria Hernandez and Genesis Gonzalez create shape art using scraps of paper. Helping them is Sayra Leiva, the mother of the Gonzalez children and the aunt of the other two.