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Local News
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Local Ownership

The Denison Free Press

FREE
TAKE ONE!

Vol. 1 | No. 39

SERVING DENISON & CRAWFORD COUNTY, IOWA

March 28, 2024

Wiebers to remain as DHS principal

Dave Wiebers, who has dedicated four decades to the district, previously announced his retirement as Denison High School (DHS) principal effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. He has now agreed to continue to serve as high school principal through the 2024-2025 school year.

A press release from the school district says the decision comes at an important moment for the district as it undergoes leadership changes. Current Denison Community School District (DCSD) Superintendent Mike Pardun will retire at the end of this school year, and Wiebers' continued leadership will help ensure a smooth transition.

"Mr. Wiebers' willingness to extend his tenure with us is a testament to his dedication to our community and the ongoing education of our students," said Pardun. "He has had a pivotal role in enhancing our educational landscape over the years. His leadership will be crucial as we navigate this phase of transition, particularly with the arrival of Dr. Kim Buryanek as DCSD superintendent."

A DHS graduate himself, Wiebers has served as high school principal since 2016. He also was the district's activities director and head football coach and is a member of the Iowa Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame. However, his profound impact extends beyond his official roles, having impacted numerous lives through his dedication to teaching, coaching and leadership.

"I was moved to reconsider my retirement realizing that my time with the Denison Community School District is not yet complete," said Wiebers. "My commitment to our students' success and our community's wellbeing remains as strong as ever, and I'm excited to continue serving our students, staff and families for another school year."

The district also acknowledges the retirements of Business Manager Scott Larson and Superintendent Pardun and extends its gratitude for their service and dedication to the district.

Pardun will conclude a 35-year career in education, including two

WIEBERS, PAGE 3

Driving to school in style



PHOTO BY GORDON WOLF

Members of the Denison FFA drove to school in style – ag style – on Friday. The annual Denison FFA tractor drive started at 7 a.m. at the Fareway parking lot, proceeded through town and ended at the Denison High School south parking lot. Pictured, Grace Collins, Nevaeh Brandt and Jordyn Linn enjoy a celebratory moment after the drive. See more photos inside.

Veterans should not pay for services they can receive for free

BY GORDON WOLF

Louise Galbraith, veterans affairs director for Crawford County, and County Recorder Sara Meseck are advising veterans to not pay for services they can receive for free at the courthouse.

They said as early as 2022 and likely before, third-party companies have been advertising that they can locate and file military discharge papers for a cost.

But those services are performed locally for free.

Veterans can file their DD214 (for active military) and NG22 (for National Guard) and Reserve military discharge papers for free, and the Veterans Affairs Office and recorders office can help search for lost discharge papers.

"Everybody needs to file their

discharge papers with the recorder's office, just because when you need them, they're on file," said Galbraith. "If you lose yours, you can see Sara or me, and we can give you a certified copy."

"It's important for veterans to file their discharge papers in the county they live in," said Meseck. "If you move, file it again in the county you moved to. The records will be on file forever in the recorder's office."

Just prior to this interview, Galbraith searched online and found a third-party company that was charging veterans to file their discharge papers. The price was \$89.95.

"They're going to do the same thing that we do for free," Galbraith said.

"Third-party companies are trying to charge veterans to file their

VETERANS, PAGE 3

We're moving

Beginning Monday, April 1, the office for The Denison Free Press will be in the lower level of the Chamber & Development Council of Crawford County building, located at 109 North Main Street, Denison.

All other contact information will remain the same.

We look forward to continuing to serve Denison and Crawford County from our new location.

County voters to have primary election choices

BY GORDON WOLF

Voters in Crawford County will have choices to make in the June 4 primary election.

Two Republicans will be facing each other for the nomination for the sheriff's position and four Republicans are running for the two seats up for election for county supervisor.

The Republican candidates for sheriff are Roger E. Rasmussen, chief deputy with the sheriff's office, and Yovan G. Cardenas, captain with the Denison Police Department.

The incumbent sheriff, James Steinkuehler, is not running for reelection but instead is one of the four Republican candidates running for the board of supervisors. The others are incumbents Ty Rosburg and Jean Heiden, and Paul Outhouse.

The only other county seat up for election is the county auditor. The incumbent, Terri Martens, a Democrat, was the only person to file nomination papers for that office.

The filing deadline was on Friday, March 22. Candidates who filed had until March 27 to withdraw their names.

Rosburg, from Charter Oak, and Heiden, from Denison, were elected to the board of supervisors in 2020. Terms are for four years.

Martens has been the county auditor since 2009.

The filing deadline for federal and state candidates was on Friday, March 15.

PRIMARY ELECTION, PAGE 3

The kindest act of all

Great friendship grows even stronger through kidney donation

BY GORDON WOLF

Samantha (Bernholtz) Krapfl and Camille Bruck have been friends with a strong bond for 25 years, since they were students at Denison Middle School.

This past fall that bond became even greater when Camille donated a kidney to Samantha.

The two graduated from Denison High School in 2005 and both moved to the Des Moines area.

Samantha, her husband, Brent, and their 12-year-old-son, Kryson, live in West Des Moines. Brent works at Local 347 as an electrician. Samantha has operated her own cosmetology business for 14 years. When they aren't working, they are taking Kryson to confirmation, year-round basketball practices and seasonal football practices. They spend a lot of weekends watching their son play basketball and football.

Camille has lived in Des Moines for 18 years. She is in product/project management, driving innovative tech solutions for an insurance

company, to enhance customer experiences.

"As a single mother, my six-year-old son, Lincoln, brings joy with his ambitious energy, and caring nature," said Camille. "Our days are filled with outdoor adventures, travels, sports and cherished moments with families and friends. Life in Des Moines is a beautiful blend of work, family and exploration."

They said their friendship is special. Samantha said it is based on loyalty, empathy, selflessness, trust and respect. Camille described it as a "tapestry of moments, woven through time with strings of laughter, tears and support," and a friendship that's not bound by time or distance.

"We've celebrated each other's victories and shouldered the weight of hardships," said Camille. "Our journey hasn't always been easy, but it's been profound and transformative. We've witnessed each other evolve, not just in milestones we've

FRIENDS, PAGE 10



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Samantha (Bernholtz) Krapfl and Camille Bruck have been friends for 25 years, since they attended Denison Middle School.

The Cottage updating look, business strategy in new Broadway location



Community Leader Taylor Borkowski showcases the new location for her family business, The Cottage. It will be moving from one Broadway location to another Uptown.

BY DOUGLAS BURNS
Special to The Denison Free Press

One of Denison's popular retailers is moving to a more modern building where it will be co-located with other thriving businesses.

And there's a big sale coming. The Cottage, now in the location of the former Treasure Chest, and an enterprise operated by the mother-daughter tandem of Cindy Borkowski and Taylor Borkowski, will be re-locating from its legacy location on Broadway a little east to the former Ben Franklin, 1401 Broadway.

"I'm very excited, but also I'm nervous," said Taylor Borkowski. "I'm confident our customers will follow us no matter where we are at."

The Cottage, a home goods, decor and variety store with a creative inventory developed by the Borkowski co-owners

since its opening in 2020, will join other successful Denison businesses in the complex: Topko, Fit Behavior and El-Ausente.

Before the move happens, though, The Cottage will hold a change-of-location sale at its current spot across the street from the Donna Reed Theater.

The moving sale — which will have 50% mark-downs on all items — will take place from April 1 to April 6 with weekday hours from 10 to 6, and Saturday hours from 10-4.

"We see there is something for everyone here," Taylor Borkowski, who lives in rural Crawford County, just outside of Denison, said.

The Cottage's lease runs out in April and the owners plan to be in the new location by no later than May 1.

The store is one of many that assist Denison with a regional draw. The Cottage regularly has customers from a 30-mile radius and from Omaha and Des Moines.

"We are really very fortunate to be uptown," Taylor Borkowski said. "We have a very strong business district."

For her part, Taylor, a 2010 Denison High School alum and graduate of Western Iowa Tech Community College, has earned a number of community awards, including the Businesswoman of the Year from the Chamber & Development Council of Crawford County. She also organizes the Hot Summer Nights in Denison.

When the Borkowskis took over the business they moved out of the used furniture and home-goods lines.

"We immediately removed that and only offered new," Taylor Borkowski said. "We have grown and expanded multiple areas in our business from that. People love the hydration station where we go live everyday (online) with skinny syrups and do a water of the day."

The Cottage sells the syrups for people to take home.

"We try to do different collections," Taylor Borkowski said. "We just sold out our Easter collection. Christmas is a huge deal here."

The new space will have higher ceilings and an updated look that allow for new strategies for placement of inventory.

Besides the Borkowskis The Cottage has two part-time salespeople: Brandi Krajicek and Tina Gress.



The Cottage is having a change-of-location sale in early April at its current spot, 1310 Broadway.



Cindy Borkowski and Taylor Borkowski are creative in their search for new inventory.



The front of the long-standing home-goods business location, for years The Treasure Chest, and more recently, The Cottage.

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VETERANS, FROM PAGE 1

discharge papers for them when it is a free service, and all they have to do is bring their copy to us," said Meseck.

Galbraith added that some third-party companies pitch the benefit that the veteran doesn't have to stand in line.

"They don't have to stand in line if they come to our offices. Or they can call me or Sara, and we'll help them," Galbraith said. "Sara can do the certified copy. I can scan and send an encrypted email copy or send it by mail. We're very accommodating.

"If it's a next of kin, we can do the same thing when they prove they are the next of kin, because the discharge papers are protected," she added. "If the veteran is still living, we don't typically give a copy to the next of kin unless the veteran is in a nursing home or a similar situation that prevents them from coming in."

Military discharge papers are issued to the service member when they are discharged.

Meseck pointed out that some veterans have multiple discharge papers.

"They should have all of them recorded," she said. "It just depends on how many branches of the service they were in or how many times they were deployed."

Galbraith explained that years ago, a veteran would get a discharge paper every time their term of service was up.

"Now they're just doing one at discharge," she said, "but National Guard veterans will receive a discharge paper for every time they were deployed because they switched from the Guard to active duty. And they will also have a discharge paper for basic training."

Galbraith said it is important for veterans to file their discharge papers as it provides proof of service to file a claim with Veterans Affairs or to claim retirement benefits.

It is also important when a veteran passes away so the family can get military funeral benefits for their loved one.

The last example can be time sensitive.

"We've had a few incidents that were kind of close, but we were able to find the discharge papers," said Galbraith. "That's why we want people to file their discharge papers right away. Even if they think they will never use them for anything, they will eventually. It all comes around."

Another example of when discharge papers are needed is for college scholarships that require proof of service.

"We've had families come in and need a copy of their father's or grandfather's DD214 because the grandchild can get a college scholarship," Galbraith said.

Yet another example is when a veteran is going to assisted living or a nursing home and the children live in another state or an Iowa county that is a distance away, and they need the DD214 for VA benefits or other purposes.

"Or dad moves out of the state and the children don't know they can just call me. If the veteran lived in Crawford County their whole life, we're probably going to have the discharge papers

and we can get a copy to them," said Galbraith.

She said if people go online, they may not want to take the time to order a copy through the National Personnel Records Center and decide they would rather pay a third-party company to do that work for them.

"When in reality all they have to do is call Louise or my office and we can help them for free," said Meseck.

Another way the Veterans Affairs office and recorder's office can help is when military discharge papers have never been filed and they are lost.

"About 90% of the time I can get a copy of the discharge paper the same day by calling the state depository," said Galbraith. "If you are from a surrounding state, they all have those depositories that work with us. If we have to, we can go to the personnel records center and that can take maybe a week at the most, and they send those digitally now."

She added that one of the third-party companies advertises that they can get the discharge papers digitally.

"They send it digitally to everyone. That is not a perk of the company," Galbraith said.

Veterans who aren't certain that their discharge papers are filed with the county are encouraged to call the VA office or recorders office or come in.

"If it is, that's great. If it's not, then let's get a copy and get it recorded before you need it," said Galbraith.

The number for the veterans affairs office is 712-263-2720, and the number for the recorder's office is 712-263-3643.

Following are some perks to have discharge papers filed in the county of residence.

- Proof of service to qualify for the military tax credit at the assessor's office

- Proof of service to get the veterans designation on a driver's license

- Proof of service to qualify for discounted hunting and fishing licenses through the Department of Natural Resources

"The veterans who typically have not filed their discharge papers are veterans who served in a peacetime period because there was no 'county' reason at the time, but several years ago a change was made to the military tax exemption; if a veteran served in peacetime and served 18 consecutive months, they qualify for the military tax exemption," Galbraith said.

She added that individuals who often seek help from the county veterans affairs office need the papers for a monetary benefit.

"And if they use a third-party company, they're spending money trying to get a DD214 that they could get for free," said Galbraith. "We don't want them to pay anything to get that."

"It's frustrating because you don't want those third-party companies to take advantage of veterans," said Meseck.

"The only thing we take for pay is a smile," said Galbraith.

"When they ask how much they have to pay for their copy, our answer is 'you already paid for it with your service,'" said Meseck. "We're happy to help family members or veterans themselves."

WIEBERS, FROM PAGE 1

decades as superintendent. His career began as an elementary school teacher before becoming a principal in the district.

Larson has spent 35 years with DCSD, serving his first 19 years as a business teacher before transitioning into the business manager role for the past 16 years. His expertise and leadership have been critical to the financial stewardship and operational excellence of the district.

PRIMARY ELECTION, FROM PAGE 1

Federal and state candidates whose names will be on the June 4 primary ballot are the following.

U.S. Representative District 4

- Republicans*
- Randy Feenstra, Hull, incumbent
- Kevin Virgil, Sutherland

Democrats

- Ryan Melton, Nevada

State Senate District 6

- Republicans*
- Jason Schultz, Schleswig, incumbent

Democrats

- No candidate

State Representative District 12

- Republicans*
- Steven Holt, Denison, incumbent

Democrats

- Dustin Durbin, Dow City

Denison Kiwanis lottery winners

The following Denison Kiwanis Club lottery winners for the March 29 drawing will all receive \$25.

Brandon Steinkuehler, Peterson; Travis Beeck - State Farm Insurance, Denison; Quality Truck Service, Denison; Susan Frazier, Denison; Pat Fleshner, Denison; Bradyn Schillerberg, Deloit; Ashley Listopad, Denison; The Anderson's Denison Ethanol, Denison; Taylor Ritter, in care of Jen Ritter, Omaha, Nebraska; Ampride, Denison; Larry Buss, Logan; Joe A. Listopad, Denison; Kathi Gustafson, Denison; Jack Hargens, Denison; David Zach, Denison; Bank Iowa, Denison; Joe W. Listopad, Denison; Carol Skarin, Denison

Alumni group seeking nominations for Wall of Pride

The Denison Alumni Association is seeking nominations for the Alumni Association Wall of Pride

The Wall of Pride honors individuals who have enhanced the reputation of the Denison schools, people who have had a positive and outstanding impact on the school system or students over the years.

The Wall of Pride is located near the circle drive in front of Denison High School.

To make a nomination, send a letter to DCS Alumni Association, Box 373, Denison, IA 51442.

City of Denison property tax hearing on Tuesday

BY GORDON WOLF

The City of Denison will take part in a new state requirement this Tuesday – a public hearing on the proposed property tax levy for fiscal year 2024-2025.

The hearing will begin at 4:30 p.m. and will be the only agenda item for that meeting.

The regular city council meeting will begin at 5 p.m.

Property owners in Crawford County received a letter from the county auditor that contained the dates and times for public hearings on the proposed property tax levies for cities, the county and school districts. The county's hearing took place on Tuesday and the Denison Community School District's hearing was on Monday.

No action is taken at the property tax public hearings. Action on the fiscal year 2024-2025 budgets will take place later in April.

The new process of sending out letters for the proposed property tax hearings is one of the changes brought about by House File 718, which was passed last year.

The City of Denison is proposing a property tax levy of \$18.87289 per \$1,000 assessed valuation. The proposed ag only rate is \$3.00375.

The city's current property tax levy is \$19.05138 (ag only - \$3.00375).

The letter also lists the effective tax rate, a rate produced by holding current taxation levels constant while using the next fiscal year's taxable values.

For the City of Denison, the effective tax rate is \$16.92729 (ag only - \$2.83118).

The current property taxes collected are \$4,669,324 while the property taxes to be collected in the next fiscal year are proposed at \$5,206,141.

The city provided reasons why the proposed property tax collections will exceed the current property tax: the increase in property tax valuations increased the consolidated general fund levy; a property and liability insurance increase of 30%; an increase in workers' compensation premiums and levying out of employee benefits; an increase in wages resulting in an increase in FICA and IPERS; and a 2024 bond.

The county's proposed county-wide property tax levy is \$4.90840; the current rate is \$5.01751. The county's proposed rural additional property tax levy is \$4.03495 and the current rate is \$4.05000.

The county's current county-wide property tax collections are \$6,391,660 and the proposed county-wide property tax collections for the next fiscal year are \$6,767,792. The difference in the rural additional property taxes are \$3,694,583 (current fiscal year) and \$3,922,755 (next fiscal year). The county's reasons for the increase in proposed property taxes is the increase in liability and health insurance rates.

For the Denison Community School District, the current property tax rate is \$12.26376 and the proposed property tax rate is \$11.91814. The district's current property tax collection is \$5,924,688 and the proposed property tax collections are \$6,367,186. The reasoning for the increase in property tax collections are that the district will be on a budget guarantee due to a combination of declining enrollment and low state supplementary assistance; and that the management fund asking has increased due to increases in property insurance premiums.

PHOTO BY LORENA LÓPEZ ALTAMIRANO

The Chamber & Development Council (CDC) of Crawford County conducted a ribbon cutting ceremony at Pearl Stone Salon & Spa, 201 South 7th Street in Denison, last week Wednesday. Pictured in front with the scissors is owner Ashley Beeck. Next to Beeck are Hayley Schmitz and Lexy Campbell. Holding the ribbon are Beeck's sons, Linkin (left) and Charlie. In back (wearing a cap) is Beeck's husband, Josh.

CDC ribbon cutting at Pearl Stone Salon & Spa



Contact Our Staff

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Local Calendar

FRIDAY MARCH 29, 2024

Schleswig Golf Course Fish Fry. Fried pollock, cole slaw, white or yellow mac and cheese, cupcakes, serving from 6-8 p.m. Cost: \$15. To go orders welcome. Call 712-676-3343 for to-go orders.

SATURDAY MARCH 10, 2024

Easter Egg Hunt at Yellow Smoke Park Nature Center, 10 a.m. Come early; the gate to the nature center entrance will close at 9:45 a.m. Visit with the Easter Bunny and the Easter Skunk. Eggs, candy and prizes for everyone. The fee is \$2 per child. All proceeds will help support environmental education programs in the county. The hunt will be divided into three age groups: ages 1-3 at the Lakeside Shelter, ages 4-6 around the nature center and ages 7-10 in front of the nature center.

SUNDAY MARCH 31, 2024

Little Hawks Childcare Center Shoe Fundraiser. Drop off gently worn, used and new shoes at Manilla City Hall. For more information contact Pat Palmer at 712-269-4217 or Ann Lockwood at 712-269-7709.

MONDAY APRIL 1, 2024

Little Hawks Childcare Center Shoe Fundraiser. Drop off gently worn, used and new shoes at Manilla City Hall. For more information contact Pat Palmer at 712-269-4217 or Ann Lockwood at 712-269-7709.

Euchre at the Denison Senior Center, 6 p.m.

TUESDAY APRIL 2, 2024

American Red Cross blood drive, fellowship hall, First United Methodist Church, Denison, 11:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: DenisonIA.

The fourth graders from Broadway Elementary School will present the musical "Joust!" at 7 p.m. at the Denison High School Fine Arts Center.

Color Me Calm, Norelius Community Library, 6 p.m., for ages 19 and older. A tranquil time of adult coloring. Use materials

provided or you can also bring your own preferred project to work on.

Family and Teen Coloring at Norelius Community Library; meet in the Children's Library at 5:30 p.m.

Euchre Night at Ricketts Community Building. Fun night of card playing, socializing, treats and beverages, Card game starts at 7 p.m. Entry fee is \$5. No need to bring a partner.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 3, 2024

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

Euchre Night at 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 APRIL 4, 2024

Crawford County Women in Business Impact Organization (WIBIO). All women looking to make Crawford County a better place to live, work and play are invited to attend. Event at the CDC office, 109 North Main Street, Denison.

Denison Middle School band concert, 7 p.m., Denison High School Fine Arts Center.

FRIDAY APRIL 5, 2024

State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) Lunch & Learn, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Boulders Conference Center, Denison. Free session. Learn about the \$96 million investment to support small businesses and entrepreneurship. Panel for informational event composed of leaders from organizations that distribute funds to entrepreneurs. Registration required. To see a program flyer and to find the registration link, go to event calendar on the CDC's website at www.cdca.org.



CRAWFORD COUNTY EXTENSION NEWS

Last chance private pesticide continuing instruction course

The Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Pesticide Safety Education Program will offer a "Last Chance" private pesticide applicator continuing instruction course (CIC) for private pesticide applicators during the week of April 8 and on April 15 at participating county extension offices throughout the state.

The course will fulfill 2023-2024 continuing instruction requirements for private pesticide applicators.

A list of the county offices offering this course can be found on the Pesticide Safety Education Program website (www.extension.iastate.edu/PSEP/).

The course will run for approximately two and one-half hours. The registration fee is \$30.

To register or to obtain additional information about the course, including the time the course will be offered, contact the Extension office where you would like to attend.

Topics to be covered include application equipment, safe application (including drift), pests, pest management and pesticides.

Contact the Crawford County office at 712-263-4697 or email kthul321@iastate.edu to register for the class.

ISU Extension offers ServSafe training in Denison

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach - Crawford County will offer food safety training for food service managers on Tuesday, May 9, at ISU Extension in Denison.

"The Certification in ServSafe Manager course meets the food code requirements in Iowa to have a certified food protection manager in all establishments," said Renee Sweers, class instructor and ISU Extension and Outreach food and health specialist. "We live in a time when food safety hazards and risks are prevalent. Serving safe food is mandatory. This eight-hour program trains food service professionals in food safety requirements and best practices to meet them."

The program is based on the National Restaurant Association's ServSafe certification program and the FDA Food Code. The class is beneficial for foodservice managers from all areas, including schools, restaurants, convenience stores, childcare, senior meal sites and health care. Participants will receive a copy of the ServSafe Manager training manual and will take the ServSafe certification exam at the end of the class.

Register online at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/servsafe>.

The registration deadline is April 18.

For more information about the program, contact Sweers at rsweers@iastate.edu or Kathy Thul, ISU Extension and Outreach - Crawford County, kthul321@iastate.edu, 712-563-4239.



APRIL SPECIALTY CLINICS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
01	02 DERMATOLOGY / PLASTICS D. RAMOS, MD UROLOGY A. BOURNE, MD R. LUEBBERT, PA-C	03 ENDOCRINOLOGY L. EILAND, MD S. BLOUNT, MD NEUROSURGERY R. JENSEN, MD	04 AUDIOLOGY B. PEARSON, HIS COSMETICS S. LUFT, ARNP ENT P. SHERRERD, MD PODIATRY M. KELLEY, DPM	05 CARDIOLOGY A. KANMANATHA REDDY, MD OPHTHALMOLOGY J. LIU, MD
08 DERMATOLOGY K. SHULL, DNP	09 VASCULAR J. COOK, MD	10 DERMATOLOGY / PLASTICS D. RAMOS, MD HEMATOLOGY A. NESTER, MD	11 AUDIOLOGY B. PEARSON, HIS PODIATRY M. KELLEY, DPM	12 CARDIOLOGY A. KANMANATHA REDDY, MD
15 CARDIOLOGY R. ARMBRUSTER, MD	16 CARDIOLOGY J. PANDYA, MD UROLOGY A. BOURNE, MD R. LUEBBERT, PA-C VASCULAR T. RAMOS, MD	17 ENDOCRINOLOGY L. EILAND, MD S. BLOUNT, MD	18 AUDIOLOGY B. PEARSON, HIS COSMETICS S. LUFT, ARNP DERMATOLOGY / PLASTICS D. RAMOS, MD ENT P. SHERRERD, MD PODIATRY M. KELLEY, DPM	19 CARDIOLOGY A. KANMANATHA REDDY, MD OPHTHALMOLOGY J. LIU, MD
22 DERMATOLOGY K. SHULL, DNP PODIATRY M. KELLEY, DPM	23 DERMATOLOGY / PLASTICS D. RAMOS, MD	24 PULMONOLOGY	25 OPHTHALMOLOGY WM. THOMAS, MD PODIATRY M. KELLEY, DPM	26 AUDIOLOGY B. PEARSON, HIS CARDIOLOGY A. KANMANATHA REDDY, MD NEUROLOGY/EMG W. ANDREWS, MD
29 CARDIOLOGY R. ARMBRUSTER, MD	30 UROLOGY A. BOURNE, MD R. LUEBBERT, PA-C	01	02	03

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NEWS BRIEFS

Results of March 19 CCHF distribution

Following are the results of the March 19 Crawford County Hunger Fighters drive-through food distribution at the United Presbyterian Church in Denison. 8,500 pounds of food distributed to 210 families, composed of 342 adults and 186 children

Letters TO THE EDITOR
To submit a letter visit, denisonfreepress.com

NORELIUS COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

Houdini to perform at Norelius Community Library on April 8

The great Harry Houdini is set to appear at the Norelius Community Library on Monday, April 8, at 5:30 p.m.

In the captivating solo performance by Duffy Hudson, the legendary Houdini unveils his secrets of success, his passion for magic and the extraordinary feats that led to his untimely demise.

The performance encompasses aspects of Houdini's life, his thrilling escapes and magical acts.

Contact the library at 712-263-9355 for more information.

Library Friends sale just a week away

Only a week and two days remain until the Denison Library Friends Annual White Elephant, Book & Bake Sale at Norelius Community Library. The date is April 6.

The library will accept donations through April 5.

All proceeds will benefit the Norelius Community Library.

Call 712-263-9355 for more information.

People can also browse for their next book at the Friends' Library in the Carnie Room.

ON THE SCANNER

March 13, 3:23 p.m.: The Crawford County Sheriff's Office investigated a two-vehicle accident that happened in Schleswig. Thomas Peter Uhl, 67, of Schleswig, was driving a blue 2012 Ford F250 pickup on E Avenue, was turning to go north on 6th Street and cut the corner sharp. He stated that he did not see an E-Z-

GO golf cart that was in the process of turning right. The golf cart, being driven by Kandi Lee Teut, 74, of Schleswig, struck the pickup in the front driver side wheel. The golf cart had the right of way to turn right. No one was injured. The pickup was not damaged and the golf cart received \$1,000 damage.

Tickets on sale now for April 13 "Fiesta Mariachi 2024"



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Members of Mariachi Reyes del Oeste, the Denison High School top mariachi group, are pictured above.

Tickets for this year's "Fiesta Mariachi 2024" are now on sale through the Monarch Store on the Denison Community School's website.

The annual fundraiser and performance for the Denison Community School's mariachi program will be Saturday, April 13, in the Denison High School gym.

Tickets for "Fiesta Mariachi 2024" can be purchased online through the Monarch Store on the school website: www.denison.k12.ia.us.

The doors will open at 6 p.m. Traditional Mexican food will be served, and the music performances will start at 6:45 p.m.

"Fiesta Mariachi 2024" will feature performances by the Denison High School Mariachi and Denison Middle School Mariachi, along with guests from Storm Lake High School and Omaha Central High School. The evening will conclude with Mariachi Reyes del Oeste, Denison High School's top mariachi ensemble.

Funds raised each year at the annual "Fiesta" go towards new instruments, uniforms and travel expenses for the group.

On April 18, a group from DHS

will travel to Denver for the first time to take part in the "Viva Southwest" Mariachi Festival.

The mariachi program at Denison Community Schools is in its 13th year. It was the first school mariachi program in Iowa when it started in 2011. Since that time, stable programs have developed in Storm Lake and Marshalltown, with other smaller programs getting started throughout the state.

"Fiesta Mariachi 2024" is sponsored by Briar Cliff University, Broadway Dental, Costenita Jellos, Cronk's Cafe, Essentia Protein Solutions, G&M Agency, Lucky Lanes XII, State Farm Insurance (Trevis Beeck) and Thrivent Financial.

Other 2024 business sponsors are Beer Thirty, Braids Galore, A Country Rose Flower Shop, Crawford County Bank, Denison Municipal Utilities, El Michoacano, El Rey, Elmer Salazar Construction, Denison Fareway, Farmers Mutual, FNIC, Henschen Properties, The Hoffman Agency, Crazy Delights, Pauley Jones' Pfannabecker Funeral Home, Scooter's, Segebart Chiropractic, Team Auto, Tienda Mexicano and Wireless World.

COURTHOUSE NEWS

March 15-21, 2024

NON-SCHEDULED TRAFFIC FINES

+ Katie Marie Johnson, Denison, DUS - driving while license denied, suspended, cancelled or revoked; \$491.25.

SCHEDULED TRAFFIC FINES

+ Salvador Ornelas, Denison, failure to maintain control; \$210.25.

+ Richard D. Krueger, Dunlap, dark window or windshield; \$175.75.

+ Sholl Majok Deng Ajang, Yankton, SD, no valid driver's license; \$354.

+ Jett Jeffrey Krohnke, Schleswig, no valid commercial driver's license; \$354.

+ Chloe Ellen Hill, Denison, no valid driver's license; \$354.

+ Chloe Ellen Hill, Denison, unsafe passing; \$210.25.

+ Jose Sandoval Ruiz, Denison, no valid driver's license; \$354.

+ Rocael Garcia, Denison, no valid driver's license; \$354.

+ Colton James Neumann, Denison, dark window or windshield; \$135.50.

+ Joni Jane Wilken, Westside, employee providing tobacco/ vapor product to a person under 21 years of age, first offense; \$210.25.

+ Cheryl L. Burroughs, Ute, failure to provide security against liability, non-accident; \$486.25.

+ Robert Duane Segebart, Denison, failure to display registration plates; \$106.75.

+ Antonio Lopez Romero, Denison, failure to have a valid license or permit for operation of a motor vehicle; \$285.

+ Luke Lapke Baldwin, Dow City, \$193.

+ Jose Luis Medina, Denison, \$193.

+ Van Eugene Mosier, Ida Grove, \$262.

+ Luke Lapke Baldwin, Dow City, \$193.

+ Jose Luis Medina, Denison, \$193.

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+ Luke Lapke Baldwin, Dow City, \$193.

+ Jose Luis Medina, Denison, \$193.

+ James D. Rut, Omaha, NE, \$106.75.

+ Amy Jo Carr, Westside, \$106.75.

+ Rebecca Ann Boruff, Harlan, \$106.75.

+ Ngoc Hao Thi Nguyen, Sioux City, \$89.50.

+ Jose A. Alfredo Valdez, Denison, \$89.50.

+ Gage Bogardus, Woodbine, \$89.50.

+ Ada Elizabeth Anaya Bailon, Denison, \$89.50.

+ Charles Andrew Trauffer, Denison, \$89.50.

+ Samuel Enrique Oritz Ibarra, Holland, MI, \$89.50.

+ Jander Ortiz Hernandez, Storm Lake, \$89.50.

+ Meghan N. Gaton, Omaha, NE, \$89.50.

+ Jose G. Rodriguez, Blair, NE, \$89.50.

+ Jennifer Stephanie Gomez Gonzalez, Denison, \$106.75.

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+ Jennifer Stephanie Gomez Gonzalez, Denison, \$106.75.

LAND TRANSACTIONS

March 15-21, 2024

Warranty Deeds

+ Ray Lenz Inc. to Dustin D. Weller: N1/2 NE1/4 Section 27, Westside Township; \$1,050,000.

+ Dale Ewoldt and Diane Edgar to Scott M. Pick and Katie A. Pick: N1/2 SE1/4 Section 12, East Boyer Township; \$582,113.62.

+ Dean Ewoldt, Barbara Ewoldt and Darlys Ewoldt to Scott M. Pick and Katie A. Pick: N1/2 SE1/4 Section 12, East Boyer Township; \$194,038.

+ Diane Edgar to Dale Ewoldt: W1/2 SW1/4 Section 7, Hayes Township; NW1/4 SW1/4 Section 7, Hayes Township; NE1/4 SE1/4 Section 12, East Boyer Township; \$91,790.13.

+ Dean Ewoldt, Barbara Ewoldt and Darlys Ewoldt to Dale Ewoldt: W1/2 SW1/4 Section 7, Hayes Township; NW1/4 SW1/4 Section 7, Hayes Township; NE1/4 SE1/4 Section 12, East Boyer Township; \$183,580.

+ Matilde Guadalupe Anaya Pastor f/n/a Matilde Guadalupe Bertrand and Pedro Geovany Itzep Pastor to 4 Angels Generation Homes LLC: Lot 5, Block 31, City of Denison; \$80,000.

+ Irvin D. North and Leah B. North to Jeffrey Hast and Ashley Hast: SE1/4 SW1/4 Section 18, Hanover Township. Lodean Kastner to Cal Kastner, Corey Kastner and Trudi Andernacht: W1/2

NW1/4 Section 32, Otter Creek Township; \$300,000.

+ Cal Kastner, Corey Kastner, Deanna Kastner, Trudi Andernacht and Craig Andernacht to Lodean Kastner: SW1/4 Section 10, Otter Creek Township; NW1/4 NW1/4 Section 15, Otter Creek Township; \$426,840.

Quit Claim Deeds

+ Amanda A. Dirks to Amanda A. Dirks and Dreyven R. Ziegmann: Lot 4, Block 35, City of Vail.

+ Jairon Vinicio Flores Palma and Olga Elizabeth Carrera De Flores to Jerry Fernando Chacon: Lot 9 and Lot 10, Block 113, City of Denison.

+ Gregg A. Marsh and Kathleen P. Marsh to Marsh Family Revocable Trust: NW1/4 NW1/4 Section 2, Charter Oak Township; \$1.00.

Court Officer Deeds

+ Richard Brockelsby Estate and Joseph Brockelsby to Kathy Krajicek and William Krajicek: Lot 14, Block 28, City of Vail; \$2,500.

State Tax Liens

+ Iowa Department of Revenue against Justin R. Johannsen; \$1,590.02.

+ Iowa Department of Revenue against ACKM Powder Coating LLC; \$204,688.

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Meeting Minutes

CITY OF KIRON
REGULAR SESSION
March 11th, 2024

The City Council of Kiron met in regular session on March 11th, 2024 at the Kiron City Hall. Mayor Mike Lickteig called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with Hoaglund, Kastner, Eck, and N. Tremblay answering roll call. Also present were Herman Kohnekamp, John Larson, and Angela Tremblay.

Motion by Eck/Kastner to approve agenda. Ayes all. Motion carried.

Motion by N. Tremblay/Hoaglund to approve minutes of the previous meeting as published. Roll call vote: ayes: Hoaglund, Eck, N. Tremblay and Kastner. Absent: Henrich. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The clerk was instructed to send out nuisance abatements.

Motion by N. Tremblay/Eck to Set Stand-alone Meeting and Public Hearing for the Purpose of Soliciting Written and Oral Comments on the City of Kiron's Proposed City Maximum Property Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2025 for April 8th, 2024 at 7:00 pm, and Ordering the Publication of a Notice of Public Hearing Pertaining to the Proposed Maximum Property Tax Levy. Roll call vote: ayes: Hoaglund, Eck, N. Tremblay and Kastner. Absent: Henrich. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Kastner/Eck to approve Resolution 2024-4 Setting the Time and Place for a Public Hearing for the Purpose of Soliciting Written and Oral Comments on the City of Kiron's Proposed City Maximum Property Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2025 for April 8th at 7:00 pm and Ordering the Publication of a Notice of Public Hearing Pertaining to the Proposed Maximum Property Tax Levy. Roll call vote: ayes: Hoaglund, Eck, N. Tremblay and Kastner. Absent: Henrich. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Hoaglund/N. Tremblay to set date and time for Public Hearing for Presentation and Approval of City of Kiron's Budget for Fiscal Year 2025 for April 8th, 2024 at 7:30 pm. Roll call vote: ayes: Hoaglund, Eck, N. Tremblay and Kastner. Absent: Henrich. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Hoaglund/Eck to approve Resolution 2024-5 Setting the Time and Place for a Public Hearing for the Purpose of Soliciting Written and Oral Comments on the City of Kiron's Proposed Fiscal Year 2025 Budget for April 8th, 2024 at 7:30 pm and Ordering Publication of a Notice of Public Hearing Pertaining to the Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget. Roll call vote: ayes: Hoaglund, Eck, N. Tremblay and Kastner. Absent: Henrich. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by N. Tremblay/Eck to Approve Building Permit for Paul Schultz. Ayes all. Motion by Eck/Hoaglund to approve the clerk's budgetary report and treasurer's report. Roll call vote: ayes: Hoaglund, N. Tremblay, Eck, and Kastner. Absent: Henrich. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Hoaglund/Kastner to pay all bills. Total disbursements of \$15,678.46. Roll call vote: ayes: N. Tremblay, Hoaglund, Eck, and Kastner. Absent: Henrich. Nays: none. Motion carried. Disbursements/Receipts listed on separate document.

Motion by N. Tremblay/Eck to adjourn at 8:27 pm. Ayes all.

Mike Lickteig, Mayor

ATTEST: Angela Tremblay, City Clerk

CITY OF KIRON DISBURSEMENTS MARCH 11TH, 2024

GENERAL FUND:
IPERS, benefits.....\$565.02
EFTPS, 941 taxes.....\$677.78
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY, city hall electric.....\$159.61
SCHALLER TELEPHONE, city hall phone.....\$43.08
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY, city shed electric.....\$32.02
DENISON FREE PRESS, publishing.....\$120.00
OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE, periodic exam fee.....\$800.00
KIRON COMMUNITY CLUB, grant from Omaha Foundation.....\$1,525.00
ANGILA TREMBLAY, employee, general fund 1/3.....\$393.12
HERMAN KOHNEKAMP, employee, general fund 1/2.....\$151.90
VISUAL EDGE IT, equipment lease fee.....\$535.95
US POSTAL SERVICE postage.....\$348.00
TOTAL:.....\$5,351.48

FIRE DEPARTMENT
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY, fire station.....\$19.60
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY, fire siren.....\$10.69
TOTAL:.....\$30.29

SEWER
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY, sewer plant.....\$987.63
JOHN LARSON, employee, sewer fund 50%.....\$305.23
ANGILA TREMBLAY, employee, sewer fund 1/3.....\$393.12
ISG, operator services.....\$525.00
TROJAN, UV bulbs.....\$474.30
FOUNDATION ANALYTICAL LABORATORY, sewer testing.....\$167.50
TOTAL:.....\$2,852.78

WATER
WCIRWA, water purchase.....\$3,916.80
WCIRWA, loan payment.....\$570.88
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY, Eureka St well.....\$11.18
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY, water tower.....\$42.88
HEMER'S, repair of Lime St water leak.....\$1,678.73
ANGILA TREMBLAY, employee, water fund 1/3.....\$393.12
JOHN LARSON, employee, water fund 50%.....\$305.23
TOTAL:.....\$6,918.82

PARKS
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY, Eureka St shelter.....\$49.07
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY, ballfield.....\$20.93
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY, N Orchard shelter.....\$10.16
TOTAL:.....\$80.16

ROAD USE TAX
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY, Hwy 39 traffic light.....\$0.00
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY, N Grove street light.....\$293.03
HERMAN KOHNEKAMP, employee, 1/2 street fund.....\$151.90
MIKE LICKTEIG, employee.....\$0.00
TOTAL:.....\$444.93

GARBAGE
R&S WASTE, garbage hauling.....\$0.00
TOTAL:.....\$0.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS: \$15,678.46

RECEIPTS: February 2024
GENERAL FUND:.....\$63.91
WATER FUND:.....\$6,041.98
SEWER FUND:.....\$9,955.80
GARBAGE FUND:.....\$2,248.93
ROAD USE TAX:.....\$2,241.88
LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX:.....\$2,703.01
PERMITS:.....\$0.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS:.....\$23,255.51

Funeral Notices

Joyce Petersen

Visitation for Joyce Petersen, 93, will be conducted from 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, April 6, at United Church of Christ in Schleswig with her funeral service following at 11 a.m.

Interment will be at the Morgan Cemetery in Schleswig.

She passed away March 17 in Texas. Survivors include three children, Tim, of Massachusetts, Joel, of Texas, and Roxanne, of California, along with Joanne Catlin, Belinda Phelps-Petersen and Albert Richards; seven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and other relatives and friends.

Services are entrusted to the Huebner Funeral Home.



Dennis Backhaus

Funeral services for Dennis Backhaus, 82, of Westside, will be conducted at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, March 28, at Zion Lutheran Church in Manning with burial at the Manning Cemetery.

Friends may call from 4 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 27, at Zion Lutheran Church in Manning.

He passed away Monday, March 18, at Regency Park Nursing & Rehab Center in Carroll.

Survivors include four sons, David (Diane) Backhaus, of Liberty, Missouri, Rodney Backhaus, of Manilla (Kristin Backhaus of Waukee), Jerry (Carla) Backhaus, of Westside, and Bill (Jenny) Backhaus, of Griswold; 10 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; siblings-in-law, Darlene (Tom) West, of Kimballton, Duane Deist, of Audubon, Ed (Vickie) Andersen, of Kirkman, and Joyce (Merlene) Ostebee, of Audubon; very special friend, Carol Peterson, of Westside; and many other relatives and friends.

Services are entrusted to the Ohde Funeral Home in Manning.



From big to small, we have ad sizes for all!

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sales@denisonfreepress.com

Broadway Elementary 4th graders to present musical on April 2

The fourth graders from Broadway Elementary School will present the musical "Joust!" on Tuesday, April 2, at 7 p.m. at the Denison High School Fine Arts Center.

Prior to the musical, the fifth grade Musical Monarchs will perform four songs.

Following is the theme of the musical. "Imagine a world where all weapons were replaced by musical instruments. Welcome to the legend of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table like you've never seen or heard before. On guard! There will be jousting knights, delightful damsels and hilarious court jesters."

Donna Reed Theater site for 712 Film Festival on May 4

The organizers of the 712 Film Festival announced that they have partnered with the Donna Reed Foundation to present this year's film festival at the Donna Reed Theater in Denison on May 4.

"The 712 Film Festival showcases some of the wonderful filmmaking talent that resides in the 712-area code," said 712 Film Festival Committee Member Greg Sextro. "The opportunity to present films in a historic theater in western Iowa will enhance the experience of the viewers as well as provide an attractive venue for student and professional filmmakers to showcase their films."

The historic Donna Reed Theater, located at 1305 Broadway, is where film and TV icon Donna Reed saw her first movie before achieving legendary status as an Oscar winning actress and TV pioneer.

Mary Owen, daughter of Donna Reed and the treasurer of the Donna Reed Foundation, said, "The Donna Reed Foundation is thrilled to be hosting the 712 Film Festival. We look forward to supporting and energizing the innovative, creative and professional work of all filmmakers."

Student and professional filmmakers with a connection to Iowa are welcome to submit their short films for the festival to

grace-sextro@outlook.com. Films must be original work and 20 minutes or less. Submission deadline for films is April 1.

Theater doors will open at 12:30 p.m. and films will be presented from 1 to 4 p.m. on May 4. A reception for filmmakers will follow at 4:15 p.m.

The organizers of the 712 Film Festival are Greg Sextro, an actor and writer; Ryan Runyan, a local filmmaker and high school film advisor; Grace Sextro, a filmmaker and professional editor; and Chuck Hughes, a screenwriter.

The 712 Film Festival was conducted for the first time in Manning last year, and committee members are eager to host the event again this year with hopes of expansion.

"Those who attended the film festival in 2023 gave rave reviews," said Grace Sextro. "This year, we hope to present an even larger selection of films and share them with a bigger audience."

To stay up to date on this year's festival, follow "The 712 Film Festival" on Facebook.

3/4/24, 1:48 PM

Local Government Property Valuation System

CITY NAME: NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - CITY OF KIRON - PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY CITY #: 24-222
KIRON Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

The City Council will conduct a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year City property tax levy as follows:
Meeting Date: 4/8/2024 Meeting Time: 07:00 PM Meeting Location: Kiron City Hall

At the public hearing any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of the proposed tax levy. After the hearing of the proposed tax levy, the City Council will publish notice and hold a hearing on the proposed city budget.

City Website (if available)
www.kironiowa.com

City Telephone Number
(712) 675-4700

Iowa Department of Management	Current Year Certified Property Tax 2023 - 2024	Budget Year Effective Property Tax 2024 - 2025	Budget Year Proposed Property Tax 2024 - 2025
Taxable Valuations for Non-Debt Service	4,121,640	4,876,911	4,876,911
Consolidated General Fund	34,337	34,337	39,447
Operation & Maintenance of Public Transit	0	0	0
Aviation Authority	0	0	0
Liability, Property & Self Insurance	17,577	17,577	17,577
Support of Local Emergency Mgmt. Comm.	0	0	0
Unified Law Enforcement	0	0	0
Police & Fire Retirement	0	0	0
FICA & IPERS (If at General Fund Limit)	5,371	5,371	0
Other Employee Benefits	0	0	0
Capital Projects (Capital Improv. Reserve)	0	0	0
Taxable Value for Debt Service	4,121,640	4,876,911	4,876,911
Debt Service	0	0	0
CITY REGULAR TOTAL PROPERTY TAX	57,285	57,285	57,024
CITY REGULAR TAX RATE	13.89856	11.74616	11.69270
Taxable Value for City Ag Land	260,173	288,821	288,821
Ag Land	0	0	0
CITY AG LAND TAX RATE	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
Tax Rate Comparison-Current VS. Proposed			
Residential property with an Actual/Assessed Value of \$100,000	Current Year Certified 2023/2024	Budget Year Proposed 2024/2025	Percent Change
City Regular Resident	760	542	-28.68
Commercial property with an Actual/Assessed Value of \$100,000	Current Year Certified 2023/2024	Budget Year Proposed 2024/2025	Percent Change
City Regular Commercial	760	542	-28.68

Note: Actual/Assessed Valuation is multiplied by a Rollback Percentage to get to the Taxable Valuation to calculate Property Taxes. Residential and Commercial properties have the same Rollback Percentage at \$100,000 Actual/Assessed Valuation.

Reasons for tax increase if proposed exceeds the current:
decrease as did not levy for FICA/IPERS as we have in previous years

Our news is also published online!

Featured stories and more at
DENISONFREEPRESS.COM

FFA tractor day



Engines sounded in Denison on Friday morning as more than 30 tractors drove through town, from Fareway to the high school parking lot, for the annual Denison FFA tractor drive. Pictured, tractors make their way up North 16th Street to the school.



Brady Lutz and Johnathan Graeve pose in front of a lineup of tractors.



Students line up for the group picture.



FFA members gather together in front of two tractors.

Spring sale features yards full of equipment



PHOTOS BY GORDON WOLF

The annual spring consignment sale at Denison Livestock Auction was said to be among the biggest sales ever. It took place all on Tuesday. Pictured, interested buyers gather around two auction rings to bid on items.



Jared Muhlbauer auctions off tires while JR Pauley catches bids.



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Monarchs Sports

DENISON-SCHLESWIG MONARCHS SOFTBALL

Leinen signs for Grand View



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Denison High School senior Claire Leinen signed a letter of intent last week to play softball at Grand View University in Des Moines. Pictured in front with Leinen are her mother, Vicki Leinen, and her brother, Isaac Leinen. Pictured in back are Principal Dave Wiebers, Coach Kevin Dau, Coach Brian Slater and Dana Marten.



OUR SPORTS COVERAGE CAN ALSO BE FOUND ONLINE!

denisonfreepress.com



Color photos online!
denisonfreepress.com

Schleswig students participate in honor band performance



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Seven Schleswig Middle School students participated in the Crawford County Honor Band performance on Tuesday, March 12. The honor band performance was hosted by Charter Oak-Ute Community Schools and was directed by Peter Bekkerus. Pictured, kneeling, is Andrew Wilson. Middle row: Morgan Jepsen, Noah Westphalen and Hal Soe. Back: Zoie Ferguson, Charley Tasler and Haxton Fineran.

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SALE!

Contact our sales department!

sales@denisonfreepress.com

To our readers:

It is our pleasure to notify you that beginning Monday, April 1, The Denison Free Press office will be located in the lower level of the Chamber & Development Council of Crawford County building.

109 N. Main Street
Denison, Iowa 51442

Visit us or call us at 712-790-1563.
We will be happy to assist you!



Welcome to Kindergarten!

Meet the teachers and learn about our Kindergarten. Transitional Kindergarten and Dual Language programs at Denison Elementary!

Our classrooms will be open from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9th

To focus on new kindergarteners, we ask only registered students and their parents attend this event. Please no additional siblings.

Please call 712-263-3104 with any questions.



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Andrea Pauley
712-269-7903

Guadalupe Espino
712-269-5847

1229 Broadway • Denison | 712-263-4694
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Come see our Preschool!

Thank you for your interest in the Denison Community Schools Preschool Program

You are invited to our Open House!

Wednesday, April 24th • 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.



Our preschool building is located at 38 North 20th Street in the Southeast corner of the playground.

Please call if you have questions
712-263-3104

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In Remembrance



Wilma Bogatzke

June 19, 1944 - March 17, 2024

Wilma Faye, daughter of John and Vera (Houdeshell) Jackson, was born on June 19, 1944, in Lake City, IA. She graduated from Lake City High School in 1962, and afterwards moved to Carroll, IA.

Wilma worked for Northwestern Bell in Carroll as a telephone operator from 1962-1965. On December 11, 1965, she married Myron Bogatzke at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lincoln Township IA. She was baptized and confirmed at Trinity in April 1966. Their marriage was blessed with 3 children: Karla (JR) Gierstorf of West Des Moines, IA; Martin (Michele) Bogatzke of New Ulm MN; and Craig (Tracy) Bogatzke of Schleswig, IA. The couple farmed near Manning from 1965-1981, when they moved to Manning.

Wilma worked at numerous places in Manning; the Manning Plaza, Wells Manufacturing, Burcliff Industries, Iowa Workforce Development, and at Manning Regional Healthcare Center. She was an avid fan of all sports, and particularly loved the Iowa Hawkeyes. She retired at age 71 and moved to West Des Moines at age 74. She passed away on March 17, 2024, at Iowa Methodist Hospital in Des Moines at age 79.

Wilma was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Myron; brothers Jim and John Jackson; and sister Helen Allen. She is survived by her children and their spouses; 8 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren, sisters Verna Sporleder of Elk Horn, IA, and Bonnie Rocker of Lincoln, NE; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral Services were held 12:00 PM, Saturday, March 23, 2024 at Zion Lutheran Church in Manning, Iowa. Rev. Jonathan Conner officiated the service with interment in the Manning Cemetery. Musicians Kathryn Snyder and Nathaniel Conner provided accompaniment for congregational hymns "Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone," "Beautiful Savior" and "Lift High the Cross." Serving as honorary pallbearers were Bill Ranniger, Russ Spies, Bob Allen, Ron Rocker and Denis Schirck. Serving as pallbearers were Steve Fogelman, Danny Holmes, Jeff Holmes, Mike Sporleder, Matt Allen and Dwight Gruhn. Following the burial, the family invited everyone to return to the church for a time of fellowship and lunch. Services were entrusted to the Ohde Funeral Home in Manning.



Beverly Jean (Kroll) Eck

August 17, 1936 - March 24, 2024

Beverly Jean (Kroll) Eck was born August 17, 1936, at Charter Oak, Iowa, the daughter of Walter and Sadie (Dierker) Kroll. She passed away Sunday, March 24, 2024, at Gracewell Eventide Lutheran Home in Denison, at the age of 87.

Church and faith were an ever-important part of Bev's life. She was baptized in Christ on September 6, 1936; confirmed her faith on April 2, 1950; and married to Donald Eck on August 22, 1954. All services performed by Pastor W.P. Schroeder at St. John's Lutheran Church in Charter Oak, Iowa. She also received her education in the St. John's Lutheran School in Charter Oak, graduating from the 8th grade on August 11, 1950. She always lamented the fact that she never got the opportunity to attend high school.

Bev and Don were residents of the farm in Milford Township. That is where their four children were raised: Lanette, Kevin, Keith and Lanice. Bev was a homemaker and farm wife for many years, always tending to her flowers and garden, and cooking for many. She also was an excellent seamstress, sewing clothes and home furnishings for her home, her children's homes, and anyone else that asked. After the children were raised, Bev cleaned many local homes and offices, and then worked for Walmart for 13 years. She enjoyed spending time with the neighborhood gals as they formed a group called the Friendly Homemakers. She also enjoyed time with the Red Hats. She had strong affections for Coca Cola, good chocolates, and anything Mickey Mouse. The couple retired from the farm to Denison in 2003. Bev lived at that address until June of 2022, when she became a resident of Silveridge Assisted Living. In October of that year, when medical conditions warranted, she became a resident of Gracewell.


Bev was a former member of Zion Lutheran Church in Denison and currently was a long-time member of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Denison. She and Don were some of the founding members when Our Savior became another Lutheran Church in Denison. She was actively involved in the Ladies Guild and the Quilter's Club. In her younger years, she and Don were active in the Adult Fellowship Club.

Preceding her in death were her husband, Donald; son, Kevin; her parents; brother, Walter Jr. (Buddy) Kroll; son-in-law, Ron; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Albert and Caroline Eck; and sister-in-law, Lois McCollough and her husband, Harold.

Survivors include: two daughters, Lanette (Gene) Langenfeld of Crofton, NE, and Lanice (Gerry) Kock of Breda; one son, Keith (Lori) Eck of Vail; one daughter-in-law, Tami Eck (special friend, Kevin) of Kiron; ten grandchildren: Jared Kroll (fiancée Jaime), Joshua Langenfeld (Katie), Brandon Eck (Alissa), Kelby Eck (Leah), Dillon Eck (Abby), Madison Stone (Justin), Annie Morgan (Lee), Reggie Kock (Cori), Elliott Kock (special friend Kysa) and Cooper Kock; 20 great-grandchildren; two sisters, Margie (Patrick) Reardon of Chandler, AZ, and Carolyn (Alan) Lee of Soldier, IA; two brothers, Bob (Annie) Kroll of Charter Oak, IA and Ronnie Kroll of Soldier, IA; other relatives and friends. Additional special friend is Linda Petersen, of Denison, IA, who she lovingly referred to as another one of her children.

Funeral Services were held 1:30 PM Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Denison, Iowa with Rev. Chad Trunkhill officiating. Organist Mary Kuhlmann provided accompaniment for congregational hymns "Holy, Holy, Holy," "I am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus," "Lord Take My Hand and Lead Me" and "Go My Children with My Blessing." Serving as honorary pallbearers were Annie Morgan and Madison Stone. Serving as pallbearers were Joshua Langenfeld, Reggie Kock, Elliott Kock, Jared Kroll, Cooper Kock, Brandon Eck, Dillon Eck and Kelby Eck. Immediately following the funeral service, the family invited everyone to the church basement for a time of fellowship, desserts and refreshments. Services were entrusted to the Huebner Funeral Home.

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FRIENDS, FROM PAGE 1



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Samantha (Bernholtz) Krapfl and Camille Bruck are shown before kidney transplant surgery.

shared but in the quiet growth that happens in the spaces between.”

That description of friendship took on special meaning when Samantha was diagnosed with Oxalate Nephropathy in the fall of 2022. She was in kidney failure and needed dialysis.

“I felt so sick but did not want to have dialysis quite yet,” she said. “This shocking news was a lot to absorb.”

Months later, in February 2023, her nephrologist told her that she would not be around much longer if she did not start dialysis.

“I had so much fluid built up that I was suffocating, and all of my organs were having to work twice as hard,” Samantha explained.

She started dialysis with a central venous catheter in her internal jugular. Her new “normal” was leaving home at 5 a.m. three days a week for three-hour dialysis sessions. She would then drive home, hoping to see Kryson before he went off to school.

“I’d get ready for work and hope that I’d feel good that day,” Samantha said. “It was pretty normal for me to feel nauseous, fatigued and forgetful on a daily basis. I was limited to 20 ounces of fluid a day and was on a strict diet.”

Shortly after dialysis started, Samantha went in for testing at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, to see if she was a candidate for a kidney transplant. In April 2023, she was approved to be a candidate.

“My mom, dad and brother would have been my best matches. They were all declined to continue testing due to their own health,” Samantha said. “The testing process is very thorough, and at times it was hard to understand why so many people who had stepped up were being declined.”

“In the end, I put my trust in the Lord and in my team of nephrologists,” she said.

Friends of the family, other family and her clients signed up to be donors and they were all declined. A family friend and one of Samantha’s aunts went the furthest in the testing process. They were not compatible to be a donor directly to Samantha, but they could donate their kidney to a stranger in the national kidney exchange program and in return Samantha would get a stranger’s kidney.

In the meantime, Camille was beginning to consider donating a kidney to Samantha.

Camille said, “When Samantha shared her urgent need for a kidney transplant, two thoughts crossed my mind. First, the courage it takes to seek help from friends and family during such a critical time. Second, I realized my blood type matched hers. I thought, ‘if it were me, I’d hope someone would consider being a kidney donor.’”

A few weeks later, Camille saw Iowa Donor Network features on the morning news.

“I don’t believe in coincidences; I believe in divine moments,” she said. “This affirmed my path and God’s calling for me.”

Camille applied to be a donor. The testing, at the Mayo Clinic, spanned six to nine months, during which Camille drew strength from answered prayers, reconnected friends and new acquaintances who had also donated kidneys, Kidney Donor Athlete group, and other organizations where donors advocated to “share your spare” and went on to live normal, prosperous and healthy lives.

“Each encouragement fueled my resolve,” Camille said. “In the quiet corridors of our hearts, where compassion meets courage, I found a purpose. Advocating for kidney donation became more than a cause – it became my calling. Witnessing the transformation, when hope blooms anew and vitality returns, is a privilege beyond measure. Each step echoes with gratitude. Kidney donation bridges lives and grants someone a chance at a better quality of life. It’s a gift wrapped in selflessness. As I stand here, a living testament to God’s love, I know I’ve made a difference in the life of another.”

Camille shared the donor process and match tests with a close-knit group of family and friends, but Samantha was unaware that her friend was going through the testing process.

Camille said that the close-knit group provided discussions, prayers and unwavering encouragement with open arms of support.

“There are countless amounts of information and decisions involved in the donor process,” Camille said. “Recognizing the physical, emotional and financial implications, I took intentional time for reflection and understanding. With confidence, I informed Samantha’s family of my approval and commitment. It was crucial for me to be fully prepared because as the United Network for Organ Sharing aptly puts it, ‘Without the organ donor, there is no story, no hope, no transplant. But when there is an organ donor, life springs from death, sorrow turns to hope, and a terrible loss becomes a gift.’ This truth weighed on my heart, and I approached this life-changing decision with the utmost reverence.”

Camille said that when she first shared with her family her decision to donate a kidney to Samantha, her family understandably hesitated.

“Major surgery is no small matter, and its implications – health, well-being and longevity – weighed heavily,” she said. “Yet, I approached it from a different angle. What if everything went right? If it were my child in need, I’d offer both my kidneys without hesitation. But this time, it was a dear friend who needed the gift of life.”

“As we navigated the lengthy approval process, my family understood God’s calling for me,” she continued. “With unwavering support, they walked alongside me through every twist and turn. Their faith, love and support made this incredible gift possible.”

In September last year, Camille asked if she could stop over at Samantha’s house.

“Camille then shared with me that she had been going through the process of being my kidney donor and said she was a match,” Samantha recalled. “I had tears of joy, to say the least. What a selfless gift that will be forever appreciated more than she will ever know. It’s still surreal.”

Samantha’s husband was at home when Camille delivered the news, and he was also beyond thankful.

“I called my parents right away after Camille left,” said Samantha. “Everyone was excited for the next step, and I could not wait!”

The transplant surgery was set for November 7 last year at the Mayo Clinic. Samantha’s and Camille’s families joined them on the trip to Rochester.

One last day of testing took place before the day of the surgery.

“I was not nervous at all. I was calm and if anything, excited for my life to start again,” Samantha said.

“The day of the surgery, Camille and I were checked in by 7:15 a.m. and we waited together with our families to head back for surgery prep,” she continued. “We each went back in separate rooms and gave each other a hug, and they were ready for Camille to go first. Not too long after that, it was my turn.”

Samantha woke up with her family surrounding her.

“The surgery went perfect, and my new kidney (she named it Barbara Ann) was hard at work cleaning my blood,” Samantha said. “I was in Rochester for a month after the transplant for continued blood work, nephrologist visits and kidney classes. I could tell a difference in how good I felt in just a couple days after surgery.”

Camille said she was blessed beyond measure with her recovery.

“It went better than I ever expected with no complications; however, this is different for everyone,” she said.

Camille took six weeks off work, focusing on daily walks, rest and puzzles.

“Lincoln just loved it as well since it meant an endless amount of time with his Nana (grandma),” she said. “During that period, with other’s servant hearts, I had family and community help in day-to-day activities. That was critical to a successful recovery.”

After recovery, Camille resumed work without limitations.

“My body is continuing to adapt to life with one kidney and will, within the first year,” she said. “With God’s grace, I’ve resumed all pre-surgery activities, feeling little to no difference.”

Samantha continues to get her blood drawn every other week in Des Moines and all results are sent to her team of doctors at the Mayo Clinic. She will have a kidney biopsy in April, then at the one-year mark, and at the two-year mark and so on. She explained the biopsy is able to show early signs of rejection.

“I honestly feel fantastic and am so thankful to not have to depend on a dialysis machine to keep me alive,” said Samantha. “I am thankful for good health and energy. I’m thankful that I am able to be a wife and mom again. I am thankful to travel with my family and be around my friends.”



After being discharged, Camille Bruck (at right) would return to the hospital to walk the hallways with her friend, Samantha (Bernholtz) Krapfl.

“Even more so I am thankful that Camille did the kindest act of all and allowed me to live life again,” Samantha continued. “As far as Camille and my friendship goes - we have always had a strong bond, but this process has opened both of our hearts. We definitely have an extra special friendship. After all, she did donate one of her kidneys to me.”

Camille said through the donation of the kidney, she and Samantha found the ultimate expression of their friendship’s endurance.

“It’s a reminder that the most profound connections are not just about the good times but also about the willingness to face the toughest challenges together,” she said. “That’s what makes our friendship truly special. Our bond deepened as we navigated this extraordinary journey together. To share such an exceptional story with a cherished friend is nothing short of amazing.”



Camille Bruck is pictured with her mother, Pat, while spending time in the hospital recovering.



The Bruck, Bernholtz and Krapfl families gather around a table. Pictured from left are Vernon Bruck, Tom Bernholtz, Pat Bruck, Brent Krapfl, Darel Bernholtz, Samantha (Bernholtz) Krapfl and Camille Bruck.



KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP

Parent Meeting - Thursday, April 4 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

PARENTS ONLY

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