

Enrollment trends tracked

Moving Day

PAGE 4



PAGE 5



PAGE 6



Honored by the CDC

**Local** News **Local** Journalists **Local** Ownership

# Denison Free Press



Vol. 1 | No. 17

**SERVING DENISON & CRAWFORD COUNTY, IOWA** 

October 26, 2023

PAGE 12

Caramel apple production line

# **LULAC** Denison to make tasty treats on Friday

BY DAN MUNDT

On Friday night, the Denison chapter of LULAC (League of United Latin American Citizens) will put together an assembly line to make caramel apples for the Día de los Muertos/Halloween event at Washington Park on Saturday.

"One of our volunteers with LULAC thought it would be a great addition to the other things we'll be doing on Saturday," said LULAC Denison President Alma Puga. "We've been doing face painting for three years, which has been successful as a little fundraiser for us to be able to fund different LULAC projects and help our organization grow."

LULAC Denison member RaShun Peterson, owner of Braids Galore in Uptown Denison, was the individual who suggested making caramel apples as another mini fundraiser.

"She has a small business and she's willing to let us use her space," Puga said.

The caramel apple assembly line will begin production at 6 p.m. on Friday at Braids Galore, which is across from the Donna Reed Theater on Broadway.

'We're still seeking donations," she

Needed are: caramel, green apples, any kind of appropriate topping, and sticks.

"I've never made caramel apples but Rashun has and we're really appreciative of her support," Puga said.

Volunteers will be needed on Friday and again on Saturday.

"People can donate items, they can come help make caramel apples on Friday, or they can help hand them out during the event on Saturday at our booth," Puga said.

She said that in the future LULAC Denison would like to create another event that is specific to Día de los Muertos to help people know more about what it is.

"We want to teach people about the significance of Día de los Muertos

**APPLES,** PAGE 3

# A scary time in Kiron



The Kiron Haunted Trail attracted hundreds of visitors on Friday and Saturday who wanted to have a spooky time, to see the ghosts and ghouls along the first part of the trail and then the mini-haunted houses on the second half of the trail. Pictured, Eric Mathies, Brooklyn Wulf, Shelby Sykes, Angie Wulf and Michele Mathies get ready to invite guests into their haunted trailer. See more photos on page 16.

# Día de los Muertos/Halloween at Washington Park is Saturday

Ghostbusters: Afterlife to be shown at Donna Reed Theater



COPYRIGHT-FREE GRAPHIC BY DAN MUNDT

BY DAN MUNDT

The final Movies at the Park event for 2023 will begin at 5 p.m. at Washington Park on Saturday.

Nearly 30 businesses have signed up to give away items for the trick or treat event organizer Jennifer Zupp-Smith.

Vendors at the event will be: WildFlour Baking Company, the Lunch Wagon from Woodbine, Flaco's Tacos, Taqueria la Tapatia Taquizas, and DDM vending.

Crawford County Bank, Auto Sales San Juan, and the Kurt Miller family provided cash donations to buy decorations and supplies.

Memorial Crawford County Hospital has donated a load of pumpkins for kids to paint during the

Members of the Denison Chapter of LULAC (League of United Latin American Citizens) will offer face painting.

Two bouncy houses will be set up. Due to the cold weather in the forecast for Saturday, hay rack rides around town will not take place.

walk around the park, according to Instead, Grant Fineran/Buffalo Creek Farm will bring a train made with 50-gallon barrels, towed by a garden tractor, to give kids rides around the park.

"That's probably better instead because that way everyone is in the same area," Zupp-Smith said.

Another change caused by the forecast is the night's film, "Ghostbusters: Afterlife," will be shown at the Donna Reed Theater instead of at Washington Park.

"With the cold weather, I think people will appreciate that," she said. "A big thanks to them (The Donna Reed Foundation) for letting us use it."

The film, sponsored by Fitzpatrick's 7th Street Motel, will start at about 7:30 p.m.

"Ghostbusters: Afterlife" released in 2021; it made \$204 million

**MOVIE, PAGE 3** 

Spooky stories before Halloween

# An evening with Edgar Allan Poe at the library

BY DAN MUNDT

Actor Duffy Hudson brought his one-man show about author Edgar Allan Poe to the Norelius Community Library on Tuesday evening.

In the spirit of the season, Hudson took on Poe's persona to share some of his chilling stories and tell stories of the author's life.

"When I was nine years old, my father read "The Raven" to me one night out of the blue - he just started reading it," Hudson told The Denison Free Press. "It was a little trippy but very cool."

His father suggested the two could memorize the poem and perform it for their family at Halloween.

"My father is a very dramatic fellow

and he recognized that in me," Hudson said. "I began memorizing it and I just became enamored with Poe. And, like a lot of things, we never ended up performing it for the family."

Poe "haunted" him for evermore after memorizing "The Raven."

"Fast forward many years later and I received an invitation from a booking agency that was looking to book historical characters for a series of venues," Hudson said. "I didn't have a show but I immediately thought of Poe, and so I called him and said, 'I don't have one right now, but I could put together an Edgar Allan Poe show for you."

**POE,** PAGE 2



Actor Duffy Hudson performed as Edgar Allan Poe at the Norelius Community Library on Tuesday

# Fall open burning begins this weekend

As designated by Denison's Fire Chief, the City of Denison's spring open burning period will begin on Saturday, October 28, at sunrise and conclude on Sunday, November 5, at

Burning shall only take place after sunrise and before sunset. No burning shall be done on any public sidewalk, curb, or street. Please use caution while conducting the supervised burns and be considerate of your neighbors.

• Clear the burning site of all flammable

 Do not use flammable liquids to initiate a burn. (gasoline, kerosene, diesel, lighter fluid, etc.).

**OPEN BURNING, PAGE 3** 

denisonfreepress.com

# Hudson had roles in three films in the last year

POE, FROM PAGE 1

Hudson had never done anything quite like it, but he knew right away that it would be a good fit, and it would

"Something in my mind said, 'Yes, this is going to be fine, so that's what I did," he said. "I put it together and I've been doing it for many years now."

Hudson was born and raised in Cincinnati, Ohio, and moved to New York City after college.

He worked in theaters on and off Broadway and performed for three years at the Circle in the Square Theater.

After "banging around New York for many years," Hudson moved back to Ohio to start a film and theater company, and produced more than 100 television commercials.

"Most were pretty cheesy but a couple of them were pretty good," he said.

Hudson moved to Los Angeles, California, in the early 2000s and has lived there since then.

"It was while I was out in Los Angeles that I began to do one man shows, beginning with Edgar Allan Poe," Hudson said. "Now I do 10 of them."

The characters he portrays include Poe, Harry Houdini, George Burns, Albert Einstein, Audie Murphy, and Dr. Seuss.

Hudson also has a magic show, a murder mystery and performs all 30 characters of "A Christmas Carol" in a



PHOTO BY GORDON WOLF

**WE'RE** 

**GROWING** 

A crowd of about 70 people attended Duffy Hudson's performance as Edgar Allan Poe on Tuesday.

75 minute show.

"That's my day job," he said of the various shows.

Another part of his career includes taking roles in film productions.

Hudson was in three films in the last

"The Green Oak Guardian" is currently streaming on Amazon Prime "Wine Thief," which will likely be for the last performance of a two-week

released next spring

"Queen of the Ring," which also stars Josh Lucas (who plays a younger version of the main character in the television series "Yellowstone") is in postproduction

"That's a much bigger-budget film," Hudson said of "Queen of the Ring."

His visit to Denison on Tuesday was

tour around Iowa and Illinois.

"I tour Iowa every year because I have a lot of friends here and Iowa's been very good to me," Hudson said.

His career and performances can be followed on his Facebook and Instagram pages.

Hudson said he hopes to be invited to perform again in Denison in the

# Celebrating 5 OF DON'S INC Celebrate with us on Nov. 3rd-4th 25% OFF Both Days! ANY ITEM IN THE STORE!

# **FIVE DRAWINGS TO BE HELD!**

**GRAND PRIZE** 50% off any one item!

Women's Diamond necklace! Necklace Girls' Men's

Boys'

Watch Necklace Enter to win!

Don's Inc. - They're the Best!



# **PROFESSIONAL COMPUTER SOLUTIONS** A GREAT PLACE TO WORK

Professional Computer Solutions, LLC (PCS) is a software development company specializing in the utility industry, has openings for the following:

Business Services Project Analyst: This position involves providing support to our clients while working in a dynamic and fast paced environment. A four-year bachelor's degree in accounting or business management and/or equivalent experience is preferred.

**Application Developer:** This position involves developing software solutions for our clients to create innovative applications. A four-year bachelor's degree in computer science, MIS, computer programming or related field and/or equivalent experience is preferred.



At PCS, we know your power comes from your overall well-being and the well-being of your family. That is why we offer a comprehensive benefits package that supports the health of you and your family. Those benefits include life, disability, medical insurance, paid holidays, and generous paid time off (PTO). PCS also offers an employee wellness program, 401(k) contribution, education assistance program and more.

PCS offers an informal, self-directed work environment that encourages personal growth and development. The company is looking for individuals who want to live in a small town, but have the desire for dynamic, challenging, and diverse work assignments.

> Give us a look at pcs-csa.com Email resume to jobs@pcs-csa.com













An Integrated Technology Cooperative



Professional Computer Solutions

3710 Timberline Drive, P.O. Box 70, Denison, IA 51442 712.263.3106 | www.pcs-csa.com

# VEUSALI



@DENISONFREEPRESS



**SERVING DENISON & CRAWFORD COUNTY, IOWA** 

The Denison Free Press 1305 Broadway, Suite 201 P.O. Box 15, Denison, Iowa 712.790.1563

**Contact Our Staff** 

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

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

**DENISONFREEPRESS.COM** 

Publisher & Sales: Lorena López sales@denisonfreepress.com

**Design Director: Meriah Blakley** 

sales@denisonfreepress.com

@THEDENISONFREEPRESS

The Denison Free Press is a free weekly publication focused on the news and events of Denison and Crawford County, lowa. Published every Thursday.

The Denison Free Press reserves the right not to publish any advertisement that contains libelous materials.

All material published in The Denison Free Press is copyrighted and may not be used without the prior written permission of The Denison Free Press.

# Learn more about Día de los Muertos on Saturday

**APPLES, FROM PAGE 1** 

because a lot of people don't know what it is," she said. "It's the Day of the Dead, which is not Halloween."

The Day of the Dead is a two-day holiday meant to reunite the living and

To help people understand the meaning of Día de los Muertos, the LULAC booth at Saturday's Washington Park event will feature items that are associated with the holiday, such as an ofrenda (an altar), pictures of deceased individuals, papel picado (a traditional type of decoration) and a Catrina (a female skeleton).

To volunteer or make a donation, contact Puga at lulac.denison@gmail. com or 712-267-4891.

# Movies at the Park may need a temporary location next year

**MOVIE,** FROM PAGE 1

on a \$75 million budget.

The film features a slew of new characters to the Ghostbusters universe and also includes appearances by the surviving members of the cast of the original 1984 film.

Jason Reitman, son of the late Ivan Reitman (who directed the first film), directed "Ghostbusters: Afterlife."

Admission is free to the showing on Saturday night.

"I'm a Ghostbusters fan," Zupp-Smith said. "Let's see if we can get some of our younger generation as enthralled with the Ghostbusters as some of us 80s and 90s babies are."

She said the movie was chosen because it is one that people of a wide range of ages can enjoy.
"It's a fun movie," she said. "The baby

marshmallow men are pretty cute."

Zupp-Smith said she is very happy with how this season's movies at the park events went.

"I think at this point, three years in, people have come to expect it in a reliable, predictable manner," she said. "Barring some conflicts on the calendar, I would presume we'd continue the same for next year."

One issue that could crop up would be a rehab project for Washington Park, which the City of Denison is currently in the early stages of planning.

"Part of the fun (of movie nights) is the park - it's such a good location,' Zupp-Smith said. "Everybody uses it, and it's good to see it still being used as more than just a park. We'll see what happens next year."

Zupp-Smith said in the event that Washington Park is closed for a rehabilitation project, other venues, such as Yellow Smoke Park, or the bowl field on 16th Street could be considered for next year's Movies in the Park nights if the groups overseeing those properties were interested in collaborating.

Potential sponsors are welcome to reach out to her at any time, she said.



# Senior Lunch Menu

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

Friday, October 27: hearty vegetable beef soup, breadstick, lettuce, Mandarin oranges

Monday, October 30: meatloaf, roasted sweet potatoes, scalloped corn, whole wheat bread, pears

Tuesday, October 31: cheeseburger on whole wheat bun, potato salad, peas, strawberries and pineapple

Remainder of week not supplied.

# **OPEN BURNING,** FROM PAGE 1

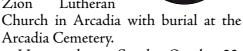
- + Clear a 10-foot area around the burning site.
- · Have water and hand tools ready in case fire escapes.
- Avoid burning on windy days.
- Stay with the fire until it is out. Yard waste in the form sticks, twigs, leaves, and weeds are permitted.
- The burning of garbage and treated wood is not allowed.

• Take all other responsible precautions. Denison residents are reminded that the yard waste location on South Main Street can be used as a viable alternative to burning.

# Funeral Notices

#### Gene Kuhl

Funeral services for Gene Kuhl, 89, of Arcadia, were conducted at 10:30 Thursday, a.m. October 26, at Zion Lutheran



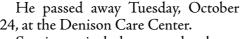
He passed away Sunday, October 22, at Manning Regional Healthcare. Survivors include his four children,

Connie (Steve) McCollough, Doug (Sue) Kuhl and Kristi (Mark) Hoffman, all of Vail, and Debbie (Tim) Kraus, of Westside; 12 grandchildren; 30 great-grandchildren; a brother, Rollin (Darlene) Kuhl, of Manning; sistersin-law, Beverly (Mike Tomlianovich) Branning, of Illinois, and Bonnie (Ron) Cornelius, of Vail; and many other relatives and friends.

Services are entrusted to the Huebner Funeral Home.

#### Ralph Beam

Private graveside services for Ralph Beam, 87, of Manilla, will be conducted Saturday, November 4, at the Nishnabotna Cemetery in Manilla.



Survivors include two daughters, Diane Bauer and her husband, Kenny, of Manilla, and Cindy DeLance and her husband, Scott, of Rockwell City; six grandchildren; nine greatgrandchildren; a brother, Ronnie Beam and his wife, Mary Jane, of Denison; sister-in-law, Phyllis Lorenzen, of Denison; brother-in-law, Larry Larsen, of Colorado; and other relatives and friends.

Services are entrusted to the Huebner Funeral Home in Denison.

# Mary Ann Segebart

Funeral services for Mary Ann Segebart, 93, of Deloit, will be conducted at 10 a.m. Monday, October 30, at the Huebner Funeral Home in Denison with burial at the Deloit Cemetery.

The Huebner Funeral Home in Denison is in charge of arrangements where friends may call from 5 to 7 p.m. Sunday, October 29.

She passed away Tuesday, October 24, at Gracewell in Denison.

Survivors include four children, Robert Segebart and his wife Linda, of Texas, Shirley Gray and her significant other Mike Ruch, of Aspinwall, Karen and her husband Dave Veit, of Minnesota, and Ron Segebart and his wife Tammy, of Texas; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; a brother, Lloyd Mathies and his wife Deb, of Deloit; a sister, Viola Shrimpton, of Deloit; sister-in-law, Lucille Johnson, of Deloit; and many other relatives and

Services are entrusted to the Huebner Funeral Home in Denison.

# COURTHOUSE NEWS

# October 13-19, 2023

## NON-SCHEDULED TRAFFIC FINES

- · Rubie Marie Gutierrez, Ida Grove, driving while license under suspension, \$714.68.
- Franklin Anthony Gonzalez Guerrero, Denison, DUS, driving while license denied, suspended, cancelled or revoked, \$347.50.

#### **SCHEDULED TRAFFIC FINES**

- Ramon De La Cruz, Denison, violation of instruction permit limitation, \$175.75.
- Franklin Anthony Gonzalez Guerrero, Denison, failure to obey yield sign, \$210.25.
- Jane G. Pagel, Denison, operation without registration card or plate, \$135.50.
- Daniel Sanchez Quintero, Morgan City, LA, no valid driver's license, \$354.
- Kelly Marie Knauss, Carroll, vehicle failed to respond to steady red light,
- · Abel Nuncio Contreras, Audubon, failure to obey stop sign and yield right of way, \$210.25.
- + Gabriel Zarza Estrada, Omaha, NE, no valid driver's license, \$354.
- Randen Lamark Haygood, Schleswig, person under 21 years of age using tobacco/vapor product, first offense, \$70.
- + Martha Claudia Causor Serrato, Vail, no valid driver's license, \$354.

## SPEEDING (16-20 MPH OVER)

• Matthew Lapel, Manilla, \$262.

# SPEEDING (11-15 MPH OVER)

• Katherine Ramirez, Denison, \$236.13.

- Tyson Leon Horn, Tekamah, NE,
- · Bryan Jay Burt, Issaquah, WA,

#### SPEEDING (6-10 MPH OVER)

- · Daniel Sanchez Quintero, Morgan City, LA, \$118.25.
- Jaxson Lee Welte, Mapleton, \$118.25. · Wanya Opiew Omod, Denison, \$118.25.
- Linda Kaye Hanson, Ida Grove,

#### SPEEDING (1-5 MPH OVER)

- Steve Elizalde, Huntington Park, CA, \$106.75.
- · Heather Marie Joslin, Sioux City,
- + Clinton Michael Fichter, Avoca,
- Mackenzie Ann Robinson, Harlan,
- Delfina Rose Roeder, Ida Grove,
- · Angelica Maria Rangel, Denison,
- Thomas Isaac Scott Locklear, Westside, \$89.50.

\$89.50.

- · Andrea Mercedes Corona Mineros,
- Denison, \$89.50.
- · Kimberly Kay Lambirth, Templeton,
- Jaslyn Nicole Saengchanpheng, Storm Lake, \$89.50.
- Martha Claudia Causor Serrato, Vail, \$89.50.
- Aida Lucia Flores, Sioux City, \$89.50.

# Honing in on a playground for Washington Park

# Parks & Rec Commission to hear presentations from three vendors on Monday

BY GORDON WOLF

An engineering firm will help the Denison Parks & Recreation Commission select a playground contractor for the former Kids Kastle site at Washington Park.

Inc. was approved at last week's city council meeting. The firm will provide consulting services for an amount not to exceed \$7,500.

Kids Kastle was demolished on August 21 because of safety concerns brought up by the City of Denison's insurance carrier, the Iowa Communities Assurance Pool.

The new playground is to be all inclusive. The city's request for proposals called for a minimum of three play structures for each age group of 2-5 years old and 6-12 years old, one large, shared-play area, and an area focused on sensory stimulation for children with varying abilities.

Consulting was the first of two phases of the engineering firm's proposal approved by the city council.

The second phase is to complete a master plan for Washington Park. The fee for that will be \$6,900.

Councilman Dustin Logan pointed out that Beck Engineering has already been helping the commission, and representatives from the firm had attended two of the three meetings on the new playground.

City Manager Jessica Garcia said Beck Engineering had already taken a lot of phone calls to answer questions.

A representative of Beck Engineering attended the August 22 city council meeting to provide information on playgrounds and parks.

That was the same meeting at which the council approved the distribution of requests for proposals.

Eight playground vendors submitted proposals to be the equipment provider for Washington Park.

That number was reduced to the Parks & Recreation Commission's top three candidates on October 2.

The decision process included rubric evaluation sheets for board members to study. Garcia and interim Parks & Rec Director Sam Ellis also gave input. The top three vendors selected are

AB Creative, Cunningham Recreation and Park Planet.

"We went over all the RFPs and narrowed it down to three solid vendors," said Ellis. "It was a difficult task. Out of the eight vendors that submitted proposals, most followed the request for proposal well, but these three nailed what we wanted and stood out above the others. But it wasn't an easy decision."

The Parks & Recreation Commission A proposal from Beck Engineering will meet on Monday, October 30, to hear in-person proposals from representatives of the top three vendors. AB Creative will present at 4 p.m., Cunningham Recreation at 5 p.m. and Park Planet at 6 p.m.

> Cedar with Michael Engineering will be at the presentations to ask more of the technical questions, Ellis said.

"The hope is to talk about the presentations and narrow it down to one vendor," Ellis added. "It may be that we have to talk about it some more, but we're hoping to nail it down to one to work with. We want to make sure we give the commission time to think about the presentations.

'We're on the right track and moving at a speed we like. We're not rushing the process but we're not going slow," he said. "We would like to have a playground sometime in 2024."

For its consulting services, Beck Engineering will give feedback on design and create marketing graphics for the proposed playground design. The engineering firm will also create a layout of the perimeter sidewalks, seating areas and other proposed amenities outside the playground equipment and adjust or modify the layout of the playground equipment based on the constraints of the site. Additionally, Beck Engineering will create 3D renderings of the proposed playground for the Parks & Recreation Commission to review.

For the master plan work, Beck Engineering will create a graphic park master plan for proposed projects separated in phases. The firm will also prepare preliminary cost estimates for the improvements.

The fees for Beck Engineering will be paid from the Parks & Recreation's Washington Park Fund.

We offer PRINT and ONLINE advertising for your business or organization!

Contact us today!

# Local Calendar

#### **FRIDAY** OCTOBER 27, 2023

**WESCO Trunk or Treat,** 1 to 3 p.m. at 415 South 11th Street. Grab some candy, have some fun, and vote for the best-decorated trunk.

## **SATURDAY** OCTOBER 28, 2023

**Kathy Wilson Performance at** Charter Oak Library, 10 a.m. "You Want Me to Wear What?"

Movies at the Park: Día de los Muertos/Halloween at Washington Park at 5 p.m. followed by Ghostbusters: Afterlife at 7:30 p.m. at the Donna Reed Theater. Admission

#### **SUNDAY** OCTOBER 29, 2023

**Trick-or-treating in Deloit from 5** to 7 p.m.

#### **TUESDAY** OCTOBER 31, 2023

**Trunk or Treat at Our Savior Lutheran Church** from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the church parking lot.

#### Trick or Treat at Eventide; at

Gracewell Nursing Facility (114 South 20th St Denison) from 6-7 p.m. and Silverridge Assisted Living (222 South 20th St, Denison) from 5:30-7 p.m.

Charter Oak door-to-door trick**or-treating** from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.; the Community Club will do a Trunkor-Treat on Main Street from 5 to 7 p.m. and a meal and fun at the fire station.

**Denison trick-or-treating** from 6 to 8 p.m.

#### Schleswig Trick or Treat night,

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Please turn on your front light for the trick or treaters to

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

#### WEDNESDAY **NOVEMBER 1, 2023**

#### **Read & Play at Norelius**

Community Library, 10 to 11 a.m.: A toddler storytime will be followed by songs with a play session and activities designed to work on those fine motor or other skills.

While this is designed for children ages 1-3, older and younger children are welcome to attend.

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

#### **THURSDAY NOVEMBER 2, 2023**

#### **Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS)**

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

# **Anime Club at Norelius** Community Library, 5:30 to 7:70

p.m.: The first episode of a new anime will be followed by 1-2 episodes of the continuing anime, "Sleepy Princess in the Demon Castle".

## Submit events at denisonfreepress.com

# **NEWS** BRIEFS

# In-person absentee voting

In-person absentee voting for the November 7 municipal and school board elections is available at the Crawford County Auditor's Office through 5 p.m. Monday, November 6.

# **Hunger Fighters results**

Following are the results of the Crawford County Hunger Fighters food distribution on Tuesday, October 17. 6,000 pounds of food delivered to 203 families composed of 260 adultsand 132 children, including 45 home deliveries.

# Former IKM-Manning teacher faces six sex-related charges

BY GORDON WOLF

Cassidy Sue Kraus, age 24, of Westside, a former IKM-Manning teacher, was arrested on October 20 on six charges of engaging in multiple sexually oriented acts with three different students.

She is charged with one count of sexual abuse in the third degree first offense, two charges of lascivious act with a child and three counts of disseminating obscene material to a

The charge of sexual abuse in the third degree alleges that on or about January 17, 2023, Kraus performed sex acts with a 14-year-old.

The two charges of lascivious acts with a child allege Kraus fondled or touched a 13-year-old on May 1, 2002.

The three charges of disseminating obscene material to minors allege that Kraus sent obscene material to three minors by Snapchat. Date of offenses listed on court documents are January 1, 2022; and January 1, 2023.

Sexual abuse in the third degree and lascivious acts with a child are class C

Disseminating obscene material to a minor is a serious misdemeanor.

The charges were filed following an investigation by the Carroll County Sheriff's Office, the Manning Police Department and the Carroll County Attorney's Office.

Kraus posted a \$10,000 bond the day after her arrest and was released from

# 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

# Denison School Board looks at certified enrollment and enrollment trends

BY GORDON WOLF

The Denison Community Schools' certified enrollment for this year is down compared to the enrollment for the same period last year, by 64.75 students in terms of full-time equivalency.

The certified enrollment, taken on October 1, looks at the number of resident students served by the district (1,912), resident students openenrolled out (50), resident students tuitioned out to other districts (3) and shared-time resident students (0.3).

But in terms of total students served resident and nonresident - the difference in enrollment is 36 fewer students than in the 2022-2023 school

Part of the decrease was seen in the high school. Since August 23 the Denison High School enrollment decreased by 27 or 28 students that were registered, Superintendent Mike Pardun reported to his board on Monday, October 16.

The assumption is that they moved out of the district since the number of open-enrolled out students decreased this year.

Following is the comparison of the certified enrollment for this year and last year.

2023: 1,951.5 students 2022: 2,026.25 students.

The 1,951.5 will be multiplied by the state's allowable spending per student for the next fiscal year (2024-2025).

The district also receives funding for the following categories of student served.

· 131.3 open-enrolled nonresident students

· 67 students through whole grade sharing (Schleswig 9-12 students); that number is 16 students higher than last

· 9 tuitioned-in nonresident students

Those numbers, along with the certified enrollment number show that the Denison district is serving 2,119.80 resident and nonresident students this year.

In addition, the district is serving 10 more four-year-old preschool students this year compared to last year (57.5 to

With all numbers taken into account, the number of students served is 36 fewer than last year.

School officials expect the number of students to continue to decrease for the next three to four years.

That's due to the atypically large high school classes compared to the more typical numbers of students beginning with the eighth-grade class on down.

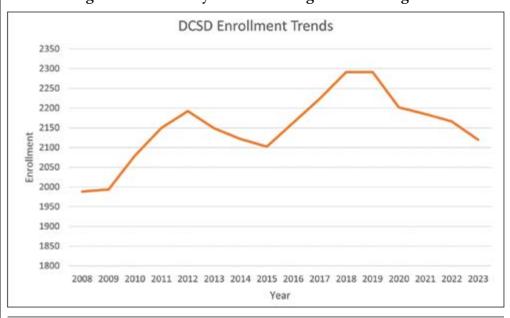
Some of the classes going through the high school have around 200 students. Beginning with this year's eighth graders, the class sizes are in the 160 to 170 range.

In looking at the history of the school's enrollment, school board members and administration noticed a cycle of about 4-5 years of increasing enrollment followed by 4-5 years of decreasing enrollment.

The following figures relate to the number of resident and nonresident students served by the district.

Year	Enrollment
2008	1988.7
2009	1993.18
2010	2080.05
2011	2149.77
2012	2192.63
2013	2149.03
2014	2121.37
2015	2102.51
2016	2162.95
2017	2224
2018	2291.18
2019	2290.94
2020	2201.6
2021	2185
2022	2166.25
2023	2119.8

The following chart shows the cycles of increasing and decreasing enrollment.



# NORELIUS COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

# **Special Halloween story time**

Halloween story time will be conducted in the Children's Library at Norelius Community Library on Saturday, October 28, at 2 p.m. Note the time adjustment to the afternoon.

# Celebrate Halloween with Trick or Treat at Washington Park

The library will have a table set up at the Trick or Treat in Washington Park on Saturday. The librarians will be giving out children's books 5-7 p.m. while supplies last.

# Administrative Assistant/ **Property Appraiser Position**

The Crawford County Assessor's Office has an opening for an Appraiser.

View Job Description and Application online at: http://crawford.iowaassessors.com

Salary based on qualifications. Full County Benefit package.

**Submit applications to:** Crawford County Assessor Attention: Duane Zenk PO Box 444 Denison, IA 51442 (712) 263-3447

## Application deadline is Nov 1, 2023 or until position/s are filled.

Crawford County will not discriminate against any person on the grounds of race, color, national origin, gender, age or disability.



department!

sales@denisonfreepress.com

# Hours of prep, an hour to move







PHOTOS BY GORDON WOLF

Friday was moving day for the annex building at Broadway Elementary School. Workers with DNC Movers spent hours lifting and securing the annex building for a ride of about one hour to its new location about two blocks away at the corner of 1st Avenue South and South 17th Street, where the building will be converted into housing. The annex building was moved to make room for the two-story classroom-and-gym addition to be constructed onto the south side of Broadway Elementary. The alternative school class that used the annex moved to another building in Denison.

Spine-tingling success

# Kiron Haunted Trail and Structure Contest raise funds for 125th Anniversary Celebration

The Haunted Trail in Kiron once again sent shivers down the spines of its visitors. This year's event, the second annual, was a success, drawing over 900 brave souls to experience the chills and thrills of the Halloween season.

The Kiron Haunted Trail, stretching half a mile through Kiron's South Park, featured four terrifying sections: Scarecrows, Ghosts, Shadowlands, and the Structures. Daredevils ventured into the unknown, encountering shadow people, ghostly apparitions, and unsettling scarecrows.

One of the highlights of this bonechilling event was the "Scary Structure" contest, where participants could showcase their creativity and petrifying prowess. A total of six sinister structures sent shivers down visitors' spines:

The Barn - This structure featured hanging limbs and took home the first prize of \$1,000.

Death Row - Awarded second place in the contest, with a jail atmosphere.

Creepy Circus - The third-place winner provided a gruesome with eerie gymnastics and clowns.

Other structures included Graveyard of Ghouls, Dreadwood Asylum, and The Nun.

Trail visitors decided the winner of the structure contest by casting their votes in

witch's cauldrons stationed at the end of the trail.

A concession stand inside the shelter house offered hot dogs, chips, candy, pop, and hot chocolate.

This nightmarish event was organized by the Kiron Community Club and served as a fundraiser for Kiron's upcoming 125th Anniversary Celebration, set to take place in August 2024. With over 50 dedicated volunteers and a terrifying turnout of visitors, the Haunted Trail proved to be a successful fundraiser.

A unique feature of the event was the option for attendees to select their level of fear by carrying a green or red baton. Red batons were made for small children and those with faint hearts, signaling the volunteers to dial back the scares for a less harrowing experience.

"The Kiron Haunted Trail has become our biggest fundraiser, and we're thrilled with the level of support and participation we've received," said Jen Hoaglund, member for the Kiron Community Club. "We can't wait for next year's event and hope to see even more participants in the Structure Contest."

The Kiron Community Club expressed their gratitude to the volunteers, participants, and the entire community for making this year's event a scream-worthy success. They also extended an invitation to anyone interested in volunteering for future haunted events, ensuring the tradition continues to thrive.

For more information on the Kiron Community Club or the Kiron Haunted Trail, email kironcommunityclub@gmail.com.

More pictures can be found on the Kiron Community Club Facebook page.



Winners of the Scary Structure contest: at left, Creepy Circus; middle, The Barn; at right, Death Row

# **FARM SERVICE COOPERATIVE**

Seeking qualified individuals to fill Full-Time or Seasonal positions:

- Agronomy Sales (FT) Irwin
- Office Accounting Agronomy Denison
- Propane Delivery Driver Northern Trade Territory
- Feed Delivery Driver/Mill Operations Harlan (FT or seasonal)
- Agronomy Outside Operations FT at most locations
- Agronomy Outside Operations (Seasonal all locations)
- Custom Applicator/Agronomy Outside Operations (FT or Seasonal at all locations).

Positions available are Seasonal (no benefits), unless otherwise stated, and will vary by location. Opportunity to move into a full-time position from a seasonal position will vary by location and business need.

Positions will require 40+ hours per week, Monday through Friday, plus weekend hours, during peak seasons and as directed.

- Eligible candidates for a driver position must possess (or ability to obtain within 60 days of hire):
  - Valid Class A CDL, with Hazmat, Tanker and Air Brake endorsements
  - Feed Delivery Driver/Mill Operator = Class B CDL and Air Brake endorsement
- Pre-employment drug testing, motor vehicle record and background checks are required for all qualified candidates.
- Full-Time benefits include, but not limited to: Health, Vision, Dental, Life, Coop Retirement Plan, 401k, Roth, paid vacation, sick and holidays, just to name a few.

Complete job descriptions and on-line application available on our website. EOE



# Visit our website at www.fscoop.com

Check us out on Facebook
FSC \* 2308 Pine Street \* PO Box 429 \* Harlan, Iowa 51537
800-452-4372 \* hr@fscoop.com \* www.fscoop.com
FSC Locations: Atlantic, Defiance, Denison, Harlan, Irwin,
Moorhead, Portsmouth, Shelby, Oakland



# We have many positions available with openings in several departments!

# Apply online at

www.ccmhia.com/career-opportunities/

or use this QR Code







100 Medical Parkway, Denison, IA 51442

# Officers Garcia and Rodriguez newest members of Denison Police Department

Two new officers for the Denison Police Department took their oaths of office at the Denison City Council meeting on Tuesday, October 17.

The officers (non-certified probationary police officers) are Anthony Rodriguez and Oscar Garcia.

Rodriguez and Garcia are the first officers to be hired by Police Chief Tony Trejo.

Trejo read the following statement before the officers received their oaths.

Every day, thousands of law enforcement officers put on the badge to shoulder the responsibility for keeping our communities safe, helping those in need and running towards incidents that the average person runs from.

People always ask why I decided to Line.

go into law enforcement considering the current political climate and dislike towards our profession. I could give you plenty of answers, but it comes down to a few things. It is an honorable profession, I truly want to help people and putting the badge on my uniform daily shows my commitment to our city and agency.

You have made that decision to become a police officer with the Denison Police Department and we will work together to give you the best training, education and experience to build a long-lasting career in this noble profession.

Again, congratulations and welcome to the Brotherhood and the Thin Blue Line



PHOTOS BY GORDON WC

Oscar Garcia (center, in back) and his family are pictured along with Denison Mayor Pam Soseman (second from left) after he received the police officer's oath at the Tuesday, October 17, city council meeting.



Anthony Rodriguez (center) received the oath of office as a police officer at the October 17 Denison City Council meeting. He is pictured with his family and Mayor Pam Soseman (at left).

# FARMLAND AUCTION 148.09 +/- ACRES OFFERED IN 1 TRACT REPRESENTING ZELDA INMAN IRREVOCABLE TRUST MILFORD TOWNSHIP CRAWFORD COUNTY, IOWA 11 AM WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2023 BOULDERS EVENT CENTER 2507 Boulders Drive Denison, Iowa 51442 Luke Nissen

lowa Land Specialist 712.304.4827 | Luke@UClowa.com The Denison Free
Press is possible
in part thanks
to the Western
lowa Journalism
Foundation



BECAUSE COMMUNITY
JOURNALISM MATTERS.





# COMPLETE BENEFITS PACKAGE OFFERED

- Weekly payments
- Competitive Pay
- Annual Bonuses
- Comfortable Work Environment

THIRD SHIFT

MAINTENANCE

\$30.35 per hour

\$5,000 sign-on bonus

FIRST SHIFT PRODUCTION

\$20.50 per hour

SECOND SHIFT PRODUCTION

**\$22.50** per hour

Pay based upon experience:

**HR Generalist** (Bilingual is a plus)

**Engineering Team Leader** 

**Process Engineer** 

Apply at: pellacareers.com

Call us at 712-792-7275 or Text us at 712-790-7369



# Wintertime vaccines available

BY DAN MUNDT

Michael DeLong, immunization and immunotherapy nurse at Crawford County Memorial Hospital (CCMH) and Heather Rasmussen, CCMH chief quality and ancillary services officer spoke with The Denison Free Press about the vaccines available for RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus), COVID and flu as the winter season approaches.

"RSV is an upper respiratory virus that initially was thought to be a child's disease, so we didn't test anybody over

the age of five," DeLong said.

During the COVID pandemic, testing of respiratory panels found that many people of all ages who tested negative for COVID then tested positive for RSV, he said.

Two types of RSV vaccines have been approved by the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).

The adult RSV vaccine is approved for individuals from age 60 and up.

"Due to Medicare guidelines, those 65 and older on any form of Medicare would need to go to the pharmacy (to get the vaccine)," DeLong said.
"The adult RSV (vaccine) that we

have is called Abrysvo. It has also recently been approved for pregnant mothers at 32-36 weeks gestation, which tells us this is very safe. If a mother would choose to receive this vaccine and their fetus would be born two weeks after administration, their newborn would be considered vaccinated."

DeLong noted that guidance for pediatric RSV has changed in recent weeks.

"I've received word from IDPH (Iowa Department of Public Health) and the CDC (Centers for Disease Control) that Beyfortus in the 1 mg dose is going to be very limited if at all this RSV season," he said.

Beyfortus is for children 8 months or younger; a .5 mg dose is administered for those less than 5 kg/11 pounds and the 1 mg dose is for those over 5 kg/11

"Beyfortus is a monoclonal antibody with activity against RSV," according to the Food and Drug Administration.

DeLong said he believes the shortage is likely due to unexpected high demand.

"We are trying to get a few of the 0.5 mg doses, but those supplies are also limited," he said.

For COVID-19, CCMH received 60 doses of the newest Moderna vaccine, called Spikevax, last Friday.

"This is a monovalent vaccine that corresponds to the omicron variant XBB.1.5 of the SARS-CoV-2," DeLong said. "These vaccines are updated to provide better protection against the most recent variants we have seen in

He said Spikevax is an mRNA vaccine that is proven to be safe.

"Like the flu, it (COVID) is just going to be a normal part of our life now," Rasmussen said.

CCMH is currently down to 30 doses of Spikevax.

"I do anticipate ordering more, depending on demand," DeLong said.

Two options are available for this year's flu vaccine: a normal dose vaccine for anyone six months and older and a high-dose vaccine for individuals 65 and older; the higher dose gives more protection for those more susceptible to the flu.

DeLong noted that COVID and flu vaccines may be taken at the same time.

DeLong said CCMH recommends that eligible individuals get the RSV, COVID and flu vaccines.

Rasmussen said everyone should continue to practice the basics of infection control that have been encouraged since long before COVID: hand hygiene, cover your cough, cover your sneeze, stay home when you're

Individuals may call CCMH at 712-265-2700 to schedule an appointment to get a vaccination.

Walmart, Thrifty White and Hy-Vee pharmacies in Denison also carry the RSV, COVID and flu vaccines.

# LAND TRANSACTIONS

# October 13-19, 2023

### Warranty Deeds

- Jack Gale and Terry Gale to Adam Castillo and Jackson Huebert: Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, Block 2, City of Charter Oak; \$1,500.00.
- Chad Mohr and Shanda Mohr to Adam Mich and McKenzie Mich: Lot 6, Block 3, Ridgeway 4th Addition, City of Denison; \$320,000.
- + Juan Carlos Ornelas and Joana Ornelas to Mario Martinez Gutierrez: Lots 1 and 2, Block 20, City of Deloit; \$9,000.
- Jose A. Gonzalez and Beatriz Velasquez to Cristian Fuentes Alcaraz: Lot 69, City View 5th Addition, City of Denison; \$150,000.
- Swen Berger to Dimas Aragon: Lots 63 and 64, City View 5th Addition, City of Denison.
- · George L. Brincks and Geneva W. Brincks to Geneva W. Brincks Living Trust, Geneva W. Brincks and George L. Brincks, Trustees: SE1/4 Section 12, Hayes Township.
- + Lonny Schmadeke, Susan Schmadeke, Chad Schmadeke, Kelli Schmadeke, Cory Schmadeke, Stephanie Schmadeke and Lavonne Schmadeke to Lonny Schmadeke and Susan Schmadeke: N1/2 NE1/4 Section 17, Stockholm Township; NE1/4 NW1/4 Section 17, Stockholm Township.

- Adriana J. Mendoza Moo to Vilma Elizabet Mercado Ramirez: Lot 4, Hillcrest A Addition, City of Denison;
- Mick Gorden to Lucas Anthony Siepker: Lot 2, Block 8, City of Dow City; \$26,000.
- Scott Hintz, Marilyn Hintz and Theresa Blum to Rosa Rafael Hernandez and Julia T. Santamaria de Hernandez: Lot 5, Block 114, City of Denison; \$79,000.
- Cody Webb to Cameron Webb and Macy Waldemar: SW1/4 SW1/4 Section 7, East Boyer Township; \$265,000.

#### Quit Claim Deeds

- Sergio Martinez Quiroz to Ana Mirian Martinez: Lot 12, Jeschke's Addition, City of Denison.
- Amy J. Paulk to Amy J. Paulk Living Trust, Amy J. Paulk, Trustee: NE1/4 Section 7, Hayes Township.

#### Contract

- Darlene Ogren Trust, Larry Aldag, Trustee to Tony Ortwine: Lot 5, Block 23, City of Kiron; \$30,000.
- · Darlene Ogren Trust, Larry Aldag, Trustee to Enrique Cendejas and Rememdios Vazquez: Lot 15, Block 42, City of Denison; \$70,000.

# Two Denison men arrested for setting residence on fire

Following an investigation into a fire at the residence located at 1416 5th Avenue North in Denison, it was determined that the fire was intentional, and Andrew Lyman, 35, and Fernando Salinas Alberto, 23, both of Denison, were arrested.

The fire was reported on October 18 at about 6:28 a.m., when a caller to the county dispatch said a fire could be seen inside the residence.

The Denison Police Department and fire departments from Denison, Manilla, Dow City and Vail, along with Crawford County Memorial Hospital Ambulance, were dispatched. The Iowa State Fire Marshal's office was contacted to investigate the fire.

Upon arrival, it was discovered that multiple fires had been started inside the residence. The structure was searched and cleared to make sure no one remained inside.

After an investigation was conducted, witnesses stated that two males were seen leaving the area from this residence and admissions from the subjects assisted with the investigation.

Lyman and Alberto are charged with arson in the second degree, a class C

Suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

# Donating Made Easy!

Use this QR code to go straight to our PayPal donation page.



The Denison Free Press is operated under its parent company, La Prensa, LLC. All donations collected through this PayPal account will be allocated directly and only to the publication of The Denison Free Press. Please support our efforts to bring fresh, local journalism to Crawford County with a one-time donation or monthly, sustaining contributions.

# Harvest Market at the Mall is Saturday

## Local author Ann Hanigan-Kotz will present new book

BY DAN MUNDT

A vendor market scheduled for this weekend at Boulders Conference Center was canceled - and a new one popped up almost immediately to take its place.

The Harvest Market at the Mall will take place on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Broadway and Main Mall.

Organizer Jill Popham said author Ann Hanigan-Kotz, who was planning to attend the canceled market at Boulders, contacted her and asked about doing a "pop-up" vendor show.

Popham owns The Boutique, which

is located in the mall.

"Ann was looking for a place to roll out the new book that she just had published, so we decided to try and make it an event and bring more people in," Popham said.

Denison native Hanigan-Kotz's new book, "Sons & Daughters," is the second book in a planned series of three; the stories are historical fiction largely set in Ute and other local areas.

"She'll be there with her books and we'll have a total of 20 vendors," Popham said. "We've been scrambling to get more vendors to make it a really great event."

Among the vendors that have signed up are: Dirt Dont Hurt, a graphic design company from Schleswig; Andrea Kaitany, with products for sale to support the operation of her Simbolei Academy for girls in Kenya; and CCHappy Cats, with sales going to support their nonprofit program to spay wild cats.

Other vendors will sell crocheted items, Tupperware, woodworking items, Pink Zebra products, dreamcatchers, and gnomes.

"We have room for more if there is interest out there," Popham said. "There is no cost to set up a table."

Vendors must provide their own tables, chairs and display stands and will be able to set up starting at 8 a.m. on

Popham said this event will be the first vendor market at the mall since the Winter Snowcial last December. She said she is open to the idea of Market

having other markets in the future. "Whenever we have anybody who will take place shows interest in setting up a little in vendor show, we're always happy to work with them to make it successful for them as well as for us," Popham Uptown Denison

we feel sometimes that's a detriment to getting people in. We try to make it accessible and workable for everyone."

She said the vendor markets at the mall help bring traffic to Uptown

When people drive through Denison and see traffic, they often stop to find out what is going on.

"Not only does it help the vendors but it helps the small businesses, as well," Popham said. "We get more people in our businesses and more eyeballs on our products. We've had people come uptown from Highway 30 who are just coming through and decided to come see what's up here; they're surprised to see as much as we have. A lot of customers come in and say that they're

really impressed with the business community environment that

we have up here." She said the businesses Uptown Denison work well together to support a variety of events that are reshaping how people think about the town.

"We all work collaboratively with putting our ideas together," Popham said. "They don't always work - but sometimes what doesn't work this time might work next time. We're always flexible in looking for new ways to put more value back into our uptown areas and our Denison community."

"Merry Α at the Mall" vendor show conjunction with the Winter Snowcial said. "We don't charge any fees because on December 2.

2023 FINANCIAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023 CITY OF DELOIT, IOWA

DUE: December 1, 2023

PO Box 473 DELOIT IA 51441-0473 POPULATION: 250

16202400500000

CITY OF DELOIT

nte Auditor's Office, the U.S. Census Bureau, various public interest groups, and State and federa

ALL FUNDS Revenues and Other Financing Sources Taxes Levied on Property Less: Uncollected Property Taxes-Levy Year 36,061 36,061 38,322 Net Current Property Taxes Delinquent Property Taxes Other City Taxes Licenses and Permit 145 4,179 6,000 Use of Money and Property 4,179 23,663 31,000 Charges for Fees and Service 643 127,000 Special Assessments Other Financing Sources, Including Transfers in 92,242 214,408 232,866 Total Revenues and Other Source Expenditures and Other Financing Uses 25,159 25,159 39,300 Health and Social Services Culture and Recreation 18,692 Community and Economic Developm 14,421 14,42 Debt Service 143,800 Total Governmental Activities Expenditures 136,441 136,441 233,800 136,441 215,811 Total All Expenditures Other Financing Uses, Including Transfers Out Total All Expenditures/and Other Financing Use 136,441 215,811 233,800 Excess Revenues and Other Sources Over (Under) Expenditu Beginning Fund Balance July 1, 2022 694,665 Ending Fund Balance June 30, 2023 -1,403693,731

NOTE - These balances do not include the following, which were not budgeted and are not available for city operati on-budgeted Internal Service Funds Private Purpose Trust Funds

Indebtedness at June 30, 2023 Indebtedness at June 30, 2023 General Obligation Debt 0 Other Long-Term Debt Revenue Debt 39,000 Short-Term Debt TIF Revenue Debt General Obligation Debt Limi

# Monarch

# **DENISON-SCHLESWIG MONARCHS FOOTBALL**

# D-S in playoff game Friday night

The Denison-Schleswig Monarchs will host ADM in the first round of the Class 4A playoffs.

The game starts at 7 p.m. and tickets can be purchased on the Iowa High School Athletic Association website. Go to www.iahsaa.org/tickets/, click on the word "Football" and then click on 4A to see the list of games.

ADM's record is 6-3 while the Monarchs' record is 7-2.

The Monarchs won all four of their district games this season and became the district champions for the first time since 2001.



Sioux City West forfeited its October 20 game against Denison-Schleswig, but activities still took place on the field. Senior football team members were honored, the marching band perform and a mini-cheer camp took to the field. Pictured, Senior Drum Major Chloe Kock dresses as a Ghostbuster for the Halloweenthemed band performance.



PHOTOS BY RHONDA RAUCH



The Monarch Marching Band takes to the field for a performance.



Coach Dave Wiebers speaks to his players on Friday.

# Sports

# **DENISON-SCHLESWIG MONARCHS CHEER**

Pictured are scenes from the mini-cheer camp.



Ninety-five mini cheerleaders performed Friday night.

PHOTOS BY RHONDA RAUCH



Blaire Haupts cheers at mini cheerleading camp.

# DENISON-SCHLESWIG MONARCHS VOLLEYBALL

# D-S girls fall in second round of volleyball regional

Following a 3-2 win over Carroll in the first round of the Class 4A Region 2 tournament on October 17, the Denison-Schleswig girls battled

Indianola in the second round on October 19.

The match score was 3-0 in favor of Indianola, with games scores of 25-9, 25-8 and 25-7.

Addison Inman had five kills, Claire Leinen had 10 sets and Elli Heiden had six digs to lead the stats for the Monarchs.



The Denison-Schleswig varsity volleyball team.

# **DENISON-SCHLESWIG MONARCHS CROSS COUNTRY**

# Headed for state meet Tremblay and Mendlik run cross country on Friday

Alexa Tremblay and Lola Mendlik will run in the state cross country meet this Saturday at 2 p.m. in Fort Dodge, based on their placing at the qualifying meet in Spencer on Wednesday.

Mendlik placed fifth with a time of 19:58.56. Tremblay was seventh with a time of 20:04.32.

The placing of other team members were Tiffany Ramirez, 61st in 23:37.38; Charlotte Schrum, 65th in 23:45.16; Jenna Meadows, 75th in 24:44.07; Emily Bahnsen, 82nd in 25:40.83; and Anna Galvin, 85th in 26:26.64.

As a team, the Monarchs placed seventh with a total time of 1:52:09.49 and an average time of 22:25.90.

The Denison boys finished in 10th place with a total time of 1:36:17.76 and an average time of 19:15.56.

Following are the individual placings: Kevin Sanchez, 23rd in 17:48.01; Ethan Olsen, 48th in 18:51.90; Ivan Ledesma, 51st in 18:57.32; Brody Skarin, 71st in 20:00.96; Juan Diaz, 78th in 20:39.57; Matthew Sandoval, 81st in 21:01.69; and Oscar Ramos, 82nd in 21:03.22.



Lola Mendlik



Alexa Tremblay

# ON THE SCANNER

**10/11, 12:45 p.m.:** Cody Allan Segebart, 30, was arrested for driving while barred. The location was Highway 30 and Westcott Road, Denison.

**10/12, 3:20 p.m.:** The Denison Volunteer Fire Department was dispatched to a ditch fire near the Highway 30 bridge construction site.

10/13, 3:08 p.m.: A Denison resident reported a lost or stolen package. FedEx said the package was delivered to the residence that day. The resident advised that the package was gone and she didn't receive it. The package was from Nebraska Furniture Mart and contained a JBL speaker valued at \$428.

**10/17, 7:17 a.m.:** A white Ford work truck was reported stolen from 105 Date Street in Schleswig. The truck was entered into the National Crime Information Center.

**10/18:** Donna Joy Plattner, 61, of Denison, was arrested for public intoxication.

**10/19, 9:20 a.m.:** A warrant was served on Anthony Michael Noah, age 30, for contempt of court – violation of a no-contact/protective order.

**10/19, 1:27 p.m.:** The Manilla Fire Department assisted Shelby County with a field fire three miles south of Irwin on M47.

10/20, 12:40 p.m.: A two-vehicle accident happened on Broadway in Denison. Zachary David Lamaak, 31, of Denison, was driving a silver 2014 Dodge Grand Caravan van. He was backing from a parking stall

when his van hit a legally parked black 2004 Dodge Ram pickup. No injuries were reported. The van received \$800 damage to the rear passenger side corner. The pickup received \$800 damage to the rear drive side.

**10/20, 2:07 p.m.:** The Denison, Vail and Manilla fire departments responded to a report of a fire in the dryer room at The Andersons Denison Ethanal plant.

**10/20, 2:56 p.m.:** A single-vehicle accident happened on 5th Avenue South in Denison. Manuel De Jesus Lopez, 64, of Denison, was driving a silver 2010 Ford F150 pickup. It was not placed in park and rolled down a hill and hit a tree. Lopez and a passenger, Maria Luz Ayala De Lopez, 63, both received possible injuries (complaint of pain). The pickup received \$1,500 damage to the rear middle.

**10/21, 5:55 p.m.:** Manuel Alexander Morales, 22, of Denison, was arrested on a Dickinson County warrant.

**10/22, 2:04 p.m.:** The Dow City-Arion Fire Department responded to a cornfield fire on Kenwood Road by the sewage lagoons. The Dow City Ambulance was also dispatched.

**10/22, 9:04 p.m.:** An ambulance and the Denison Volunteer Fire Department Jaws of Life were requested at the Crawford County Speedway.

**10/23:** The Denison Police Department responded to a residence on 4th Avenue South for a report of domestic assault. Charges are being filed.

# LEGAL NOTICES

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR CRAWFORD COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARCIA J. ESCUE

CASE NO. ESPR016931

#### NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Marcia J. Escue, who died on or about September 21, 2023:

You are hereby notified that on October 2, 2023, the Last Will and Testament of Marcia J. Escue, bearing date of September 18, 2020, and First Codicil to Last Will and Testament of Marcia J. Escue, dated January 24, 2021, were admitted to probate in the above named court and that Duke Escue was appointed Executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will and codicil must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and decisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.

Dated October 4, 2023.

Duke Escue, Executor of Estate 980 Birch Drive Crown Point, IN 46307

Mark Cozine, ICIS# AT0001715 Attorney for Executor Cozine Law Firm PO Box 169, 4 Brady Drive Cherokee, IA 51012 (712) 225-0188 martin\_cozine@netins.net

Date of second publication 10-26-2023



Who knows, maybe they'll make a purchase while they're here? If your business would like to be a distribution point for The Denison Free Press, contact us and let us know. As a free newspaper, you would only need to provide a shelf from which community members could grab a copy.

# CRAWFORD COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

# **NOVEMBER SPECIALTY CLINICS**

MONDAY	TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
30		31	O1 ENDOCRINOLOGY L. EILAND, MD S. BLOUNT, MD NEUROSURGERY R. JENSEN, MD	AUDIOLOGY B. PEARSON, HIS COSMETICS S. LUFT, ARNP ENT P. SHERRERD, MD PODIATRY M. KELLEY, DPM	03 Cardiology A. Kanmantha reddy, md Ophthalmology J. Liu, md
OG Cardiology R. Armbruster, MD	CARDIOLOGY J. PANDYA, MD DERMATOLOGY/ PLASTICS D. RAMOS, MD	07	HEMATOLOGY A. Nester, MD	AUDIOLOGY B. PEARSON, HIS PODIATRY M. KELLEY, DPM	10 Cardiology A. Ramachandran, Md Neurology/emg W. Andrews, Md
13	UROLOGY R. LUEBBERT, PA-C VASCULAR J. COOK, MD	14	15 CARDIOLOGY A. KANMANTHA REDDY, MD ENDOCRINOLOGY L. EILAND, MD S. BLOUNT, MD	AUDIOLOGY B. PEARSON, HIS DERMATOLOGY/ PLASTICS D. RAMOS, MD ENT P. SHERRERD, MD PODIATRY M. KELLEY, DPM	17 Cardiology A. Ramachandran, MD Ophthalmology J. Liu, MD
20 Cardiology R. Armbruster, MD	CARDIOLOGY J. PANDYA, MD VASCULAR T. RAMOS, MD	21	22	23	24
PODIATRY M. KELLEY, DPM	<b>UROLOGY</b> A. BOURNE, MD/R. LUEBBERT, PA-C	28	29	30 OPHTHALMOLOGY WM. THOMAS, MD PODIATRY M. KELLEY, DPM	01

100 Medical Parkway • Denison, Iowa 51442 712-265-2600 • (888) 747-0852 www.ccmhia.com

# Dressed for the season



PHOTO BY DAN MUND

The dinosaur at the 141 One Stop in Charter Oak is dressed as a witch and ready to take to the skies on Halloween.

# Advertise here!

Contact our sales department to place an ad in this publication

sales@denisonfreepress.com



# WE BUY ALL METALS!

Call us today to ask for today's market price.

Bonded • Insured • Experienced

# We have two locations:

# **Ida Grove**

(712) 364-3550

5936 260th St, Ida Grove, IA 51445 Denison

325 Ave C. Denison, IA 51442 (712) 263-6336





"Where service doesn't end with the sale!"







3 bedrooms, 2 baths



4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms



4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths



1229 Broadway · Denison 712-263-4694 Agente bilingüe de seguros e intérprete disponible.

www.mccordrealestate.com

SAVE THE DATE

# 30th Annual

**Denison Rotary Club Charity Auction, Dinner & Raffle!** 

Sunday, November 5th **Boulders Event Center, Denison** 

Doors open at 4:30 PM

A wide variety of silent and live auction items available for bid!

Silent Auction & Meal Served - 4:30 PM **Live Auction Starts - 5:30 PM** 

Meal will be catered by Denison Hy-Vee

Tickets for the auction, dinner and raffle are \$25. Available from any Rotary Club Member.

# **Raffle Grand Prize** \$1,000 Cash!

**Three additional** raffle prizes of \$300 each will also be awarded!





# In Remembrance



Gene Edmund Kuhl

July 18, 1934 - October 22, 2023

Gene Edmund Kuhl was born on July 18, 1934, the son of Herb and Alice (Wilhelm) Kuhl in Manning, Iowa. He was baptized into Christ and later confirmed his faith at Zion Lutheran Church in Manning. He received his education from a country school near his home. He was unable to speak English until the second grade, due to his family speaking German within their home. In 1946, his family moved into Manning and he graduated from Manning High School with the class of 1953.

Gene and his late wife, Phyllis (Branning) Kuhl were high school sweethearts. The couple married on August 15, 1954, at Zion Lutheran Church in Arcadia and the couple was blessed with four children. Together they raised Golden Retrievers and Akitas for many years. Gene worked in agriculture throughout his life including: working alongside Jim O'Neill as a herdsman with Angus cattle, Triple "F" Feed Sales, and lastly, John Deere. He retired in April of

Gene was a member of Zion Lutheran Church in Arcadia. He was an avid Iowa Hawkeyes fan and enjoyed fishing and coon hunting. Family was everything to him, he adored his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He and Phyllis cherished watching them grow and attending their various school activities, sporting events and 4-H events.

Gene passed away peacefully on Sunday, October 22, 2023, at the Manning Regional Healthcare Center at the age of 89 years, three months and four days. Gene was preceded in death by his parents; parents-in-law, Fred and Hilda Branning; wife, Phyllis Kuhl in 2020; two great-grandsons: Jake Muhlbauer and Levi Sawyer; grandson-in-law, Ryan Carlson; and siblings-in-law, Fred Branning Jr. and Pat Branning.

He is survived by his four children: Connie (Steve) McCollough, Doug (Sue) Kuhl and Kristi (Mark) Hoffman all of Vail, and Debbie (Tim) Kraus of Westside; 12 grandchildren: Stephanie (Brad) Hinners, Stacie (Scot) Muhlbauer, Bradley (Tami) McCollough, Natalie Carlson, Melissa (Obe) Sawyer, Jenny (Justin) Siegner, Amanda (Greg) Bellville, Mitchel (Amber) Hoffman, Michael (Kait) Hoffman, Shane (Amanda) Kraus, Caitlynn (Justin) Heiman, and Cara (Nic) Roesner; 30 great-grandchildren and one on the way: Makayla, Bret (Sarah Crampton), Colter, Shayna, Alyce and Charlie Hinners, Karlie, Ty, Laynie, and Brandt Muhlbauer, Hallie, Aubrie, Dierk, Trace and Clay McCollough, Taryn and Rhett Carlson, Lane, Sebastian, Landon, Bruce Kraus, Raegan Heiman, Mason Hoffman, Ryder and Calvin Bellville, Maddox and Kora Hoffman, Raven Marie Oxendale and Addy Sawyer; brother: Rollin (Darlene) Kuhl of Manning; sisters-in-law: Beverly (Mike Tomlianovich) Branning of Bloomington, Illinois and Bonnie (Ron) Cornelius of Vail; special family friends: Candelaria, Martha and Kassidy; and many other relatives

and friends. Funeral Services were held 10:30 AM, Thursday, October 26, 2023 at Zion Lutheran Church in Arcadia, Iowa. Rev. Benjamin Dose officiated the service with interment in the Arcadia Cemetery. Organist Rebecca Dose provided accompaniment for congregational hymns "The Old Rugged Cross," "How Great Thou Art" and "I'm But a Stranger Here." Serving as honorary pallbearers were Gene's grandchildren and greatgrandchildren. Serving as pallbearers were Bradley McCollough, Mitchel Hoffman, Shane Kraus, Michael Hoffman, Greg Bellville, Ryan Carlson, Brad Hinners, Justin Heiman, Scot Muhlbauer, Nic Rosener, Obe Sawyer and Justin Seigner. Following the graveside service, the family invited everyone to the Arcadia Ámerican Legion Hall for a time of fellowship and lunch. Services were entrusted to the Huebner Funeral Home.



#### Delores Ilean Jessen

August 6, 1938 - October 16, 2023

Delores Ilean Jessen was born on August 6, 1938, in Kenwood, Iowa, the daughter of Eugene and Hattie (Weed) King. She was baptized and confirmed at the United Methodist Church in Boyer, Iowa. During high school, she was a cheerleader and in 1956, Dee graduated from the Odebolt High School.

On January 19, 1957, Delores was united in marriage to John Jessen at the United Methodist Church in Odebolt. To this union, they were blessed with five daughters: Cindy, Lindy, Tammy, Cathy, and Jacklyn. They made their home on the farm south of Denison for nearly 30 years before retiring and moving to town. In 2014, the couple moved to Realife Independent Living and in 2021, they moved to Silveridge Assisted Living due to Dee's declining health where they have resided

Throughout her life, Dee held various jobs, including Lawrence's Creamery, Union Gas, Family Eye Care, Yours Treasure Chest, and serving as a bookkeeper for the family farm and Jessen Construction until her well-deserved retirement. In addition to her professional pursuits, Dee was an active member of the Red Hat Society and TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) for many years. Deeply rooted in faith, she was also a longtime member of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Denison.

She enjoyed the art of ceramics, playing Bingo, visiting the Casino where she was known for her good luck, and had an unwavering passion for the legendary Elvis Presley. Dee had a fondness for red cardinals, hummingbirds and butterflies. Her infectious spirit and signature phrase, "Bless Your Heart," will forever echo in the hearts of those who knew and loved her.

Her presence was a comforting embrace, and her homemade goods were eagerly anticipated by her daughters as they returned home from school. Dee and the girls had a knack for holiday baking, filling her home with the sweet aroma of freshly baked treats during the festive season. They treasured the tradition of mother-daughter Christmas shopping trips, creating beautiful memories that will be forever cherished.

She will be fondly remembered for her delicious Swedish milk pancakes and caramel corn, which brought smiles to the faces of family and friends alike. Dee had a special knack for creating lasting memories, often hosting sleepovers with her grandchildren, allowing them to stay up past their bedtime and revel in the joy and laughter that filled her

Family was the cornerstone of Dee's life. Dee's devotion to her loved ones knew no bounds; she cherished every moment shared with them and nurtured an unbreakable bond that will be forever treasured. She took great pride in her classy sense of style, never leaving the house without perfectly picked hair and a touch of lipstick. Known for her exquisite collection of bracelets and watches, Dee had an eye for the finer things in life. Her warm hospitality was evident to all who entered her home, always offering refreshments and ensuring no one left hungry.

On Monday, October 16, 2023, Dee passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, at the Crawford County Memorial Hospital in Denison, attaining the age of 85 years, 2 months, and 10 days. Dee was preceded in death by her parents, Eugene and Hattie King; brothers: Roy, Merlin, Vernon, and Robert King; and sisters: Evelyn Podey, Mildred King, and Ethel Marie King. While their absence is deeply felt, their memories endure as a testament to the bond they shared.

Dee leaves behind a legacy of love that will never fade. She is survived by her beloved husband, Jack Jessen of Denison; daughters: Cindy and her husband Steve Bohm of Arion; Lindy and her husband Kevin Aschinger of Westside; Tammy and her husband Kevin Schurke of Dow City; Cathy and her husband Barry Andersen of Arcadia; Jackie and her husband Dan Muff of Dow City; 16 grandchildren; 48 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandson; sister, Pearl and her husband Ed Schau of Denison; along with numerous other relatives and friends.

Funeral Services were held 11:00 AM, Saturday, October 21, 2023 at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Denison, Iowa. Rev. Chad Trunkhill officiated the service with interment in the Crawford Heights Memory Gardens in Denison. Recorded musical selections included "On Eagle's Wings," "One Day at A Time," "Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone," "The Old Rugged Cross" and "Jealous of the Angels." Serving as honorary pallbearers were Angela Julin, Jamie Aschinger, Justin Aschinger, Heather Frank, Stephanie VandeVegte, Katie Muff Johnsen, Chad Wilson, Yvette Webster, Shaina Schurke and Rob Schurke. Serving as pallbearers were Allison Hugeback, Jenilynn Marchand, Nicholas Wilson, Heidi Muff Bromert, Brandon Mengwasser and Chase Andersen. Following the interment, the family invited everyone to return to the church for a time of fellowship and lunch. Services were entrusted to the Huebner Funeral Home.

# Founder of Hot Summer Nights recipient of CDC volunteer award



Taylor Borkowski (second from right) is this year's recipient of the CDC's Volunteer of the Year Award. She is pictured with the CDC office staff, from left, Drew Perrien, tourism coordinator; Mariah Nutt, office manager; and Paul Plumb, executive director. The award was presented at the CDC's Business Appreciation Breakfast last week Wednesday.

Taylor Borkowski, the founder organize this year's Tri City BBQ Fest and driving force behind the Hot when the CDC office was left short-Summer Nights series of events, is the handed. recipient of the Volunteer of the Year Award, presented by the Chamber & Development Council (CDC) of Crawford County.

One of the nomination narratives submitted to the CDC says, "You've seen our streets filled with life, excitement, and unity, bringing back the feeling of hometown spirit all thanks to this person. She has worked relentlessly to transform Uptown Denison into a lively destination, where people of all backgrounds and ages come together to celebrate life locally.

Borkowski was also recognized for playing an instrumental role in helping I never take more than I give."

Borkowski, who is an active member of the CDC Board, in the past year won the CDC's Businesswoman of the Year Award and the Rotary's Paul Harris Fellow Award.

She is also deeply involved in her church and the local schools.

Borkowski and her mother, Cindy, are the owners of The Cottage in uptown Denison. She is the mother of three children.

The narrative also says that Borkowski is a testament to a quote from last year's Volunteer of the Year Award winner: "You get out what you put in, and I hope

# Five DHS students selected for All-State music; two selected as alternates

On Saturday, high school musicians from across the state traveled to one of six regional sites to audition for the 2023 Iowa All-State Band, Chorus, and Orchestra. Twenty-three band and vocal students from Denison High School participated at the Atlantic audition site. Three were accepted into the 2023 Iowa All-State Chorus (with an alternate), and two were accepted into the 2023 Iowa All-State Band (also with an alternate).

Accepted into the Iowa All-State Chorus are Cody Schulte (bass), Azucena Bartolon (soprano), and Shelby Kastner (soprano). Cody is a junior and the son of Tylor and Brett Schulte. Azucena is a sophomore and the daughter of Dionicio Bartolon and Vitia Cinto. Shelby is a senior and daughter of Kurt and Angie Kastner. This will be the first trip to the Iowa All State Festival for Cody and Azucena and the second for Shelby. John Parr was named an alternate for the All-State Chorus. All four are students of DHS Vocal Director Kandy Thompson.

Accepted into the Iowa All-State Band are Cooper Gehlsen (bass trombone) and Jayden Bradley (euphonium). Cooper, a freshman, is the son of Deb and Troy Gehlsen. Jayden is a sophomore and is

# A facelift for a building's face



The south side of the Broadway Elementary School building is being tuckpointed to clean it up before it is enclosed as part of the addition project at the school. The south face of the building will stay intact and be part of the new commons area at the school.

the son of Nick and Cassandra Bradley. This year marks the second year that Jayden has been accepted into the Iowa All-State Band. Abimeris Perez was named an alternate on clarinet. Jayden is the student of DMS Band Director Peter Bekkerus; Cooper and Abimeris are students of DHS Band Director, Ruben Newell.

Cody, Azucena, Shelby, Cooper, and Jayden will all travel to Ames on Thursday, November 16, for the 2023 Iowa All-State Music Festival, which will conclude with a concert at Hilton Coliseum on Saturday, November 18. The concert will air on Iowa PBS during Thanksgiving weekend.

PHOTO BY GORDON WOLF



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The five All-State selections from Denison High School and the two alternates selected are, from left, Azucena Bartolon, Shelby Kastner, John Parr, Cody Schulte, Jayden Bradley, Cooper Gehlsen and Abimeris Perez.



driveway and new siding & roof. 3 Bedrooms, 2 car garage and spacious yard on a corner lot.

Ninus L Hunt, VFW Post 2504 and American Legion Post 8 invite you to:

# Belgian waffle all-you-can-eat breakfast with bacon and drink

at the Senior Center on South Main Saturday, Nov. 4 | 8 - 11 a.m. free will donation

> **Quilts of Honor presentation** to 10 Veterans at 9:30 a.m.

All proceeds to go to the new wellness center project Event sponsored in part by Thrivent, Denison Kiwanis Club and Monogram Foods

Call or Text 712-269-5346 or 402-369-0922



The Denison Free Press requests the services of a person passionate about making sales that will generate substantial commissions for your pocket!

The requirements are straightforward: desire to work and like to make money!

Candidates interested in this great opportunity call Lorena at 712-790-1563



# Crawford County natives donate \$5 million to Drake University

Center for Public Democracy to be named for Olsons



Jane and Ron Olson

a \$5 million gift from Crawford County natives Ronald "Ron" Olson, an alum of the university, and his wife, Jane Olson, to support the continued growth of the University's Center for Public Democracy.

To honor this significant gift, Drake will officially name it The Ron and Jane Olson Center for Public Democracy.

Ron Olson was born in Carroll at St. Anthony Regional Hospital and raised Drake University President Marty

Drake University recently announced in Manilla. Jane is a native of Denison.

Working at the intersection of theory and practical application, The Ron and Jane Olson Center for Public Democracy will enhance public participation, civility, and civic leadership through immersive learning experiences, scholarship programs, research, and an expanded set of events.

"Drake University has long been a leader in civic engagement," said

Martin. "This gift from the Olsons is a Ford Fellowship to study at Oxford an investment in educating the next generation of public servants and engaged citizens who will go on to strengthen and transform our local, state, national, and global communities. We are deeply grateful for Ron and Jane's generosity and honored to name the Center for Public Democracy on their behalf."

The Olsons' gift comes as part of "The Ones: Drake's Campaign for the Brave & Bold," an ambitious campaign that aims to transform Drake's campus for future generations through targeted campus and community initiatives. The couple is serving as honorary cochairs of The Ones campaign. Their gift, combined with the contributions from other generous donors, brings the total support for the Center to \$8.2

"Jane and I are proud to support the continued growth of Drake and specifically the university's mission to revitalize democracy and create a hub for democratic discourse, dialogue, and action focused on nurturing a healthy democracy," said Ron. "We believe in the power of engaged citizens and are honored to play a role in fostering the next generation of public servants through the immersive learning experiences the Center will offer."

The Olsons have supported many comprehensive campaigns and initiatives, with 41 years of consecutive giving and several million-dollar gifts prior to this most recent \$5 million gift.

Ron came to Drake in 1959 and received a Bachelor of Science degree in 1963. During Ron's time at Drake, he excelled academically and in extracurricular activities, including serving as the student body vice president and playing halfback on the football team. After graduation, he served multiple terms on the board of trustees from 1976 to 1987 and from 2001 to 2003. He received the Distinguished Alumni Award in 1983.

In 1966, Ron received his Juris Doctor from the University of Michigan and University. Returning to Washington, D.C., he worked at the Department of Justice Civil Rights Division and clerked for David Bazelon, then chief judge of the Federal Appeals Court in Washington.

In 1968, Ron and his family moved to Los Angeles, where he joined the law firm now known as Munger Tolles & Olson. His law practice has been remarkably broad. He has represented leading companies in aerospace, entertainment, petroleum, technology, retailing, and law firms. Among his individual clients have been Norman Lear, the founders of Google, and Bill Gates.

In addition, he has had an active pro bono practice that led to the naming of the new LA Legal Aid building as the Ron Olson Justice Center. His board service has included Berkshire Hathaway Incorporated and numerous nonprofits, including the chairmanship of the RAND Corporation.

Jane has also been fully engaged. While the couple's children were young, she was deeply involved with Project Head Start, Armory Center for the Arts, and All Saints Episcopal Church. In 1964, Jane received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Nebraska and majored in journalism history. She has dedicated the last 40 years to global humanitarian work. Much of that work is closely aligned with the goals of The Olson Center for Public Democracy.

worked She has with International Rescue Committee and spent several decades working to broaden the base of Human Rights Watch, including a seven-year stint as its international board chair.

Jane Olson is a published author of "World Citizen, Journeys of a Humanitarian," and is a frequent speaker nationally, including at The Harkin Institute at Drake.

Ron and Jane live in Pasadena, California, and have three children: Kristin McKissick, Steven Olson, and Amy Duerk. They are the proud grandparents of eight grandsons ranging in age from 19 to 25.

# Parent and child safety program and hunt



PHOTOS BY GORDON WOLF

Casey Buck and Clayton Martens came up with the idea to conduct a hunter safety session and then, along with others, serve as guides for a parent-and-child pheasant hunt on Sunday. Adult and youth participants were Ryan and Roman Bygness, Bennett and Nathan Neville, Hayden, Kallen and Kelsey Hipnar, Andy Samuelson, Clayton Martens, Casey Buck, Nash and Adam Heiden, and KR Buck. The purpose of the event was to promote appreciation of the outdoors and hunting to the next generation.





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

# **Check out** our e-edition!

denisonfreepress.com

# Changing Iowa from flyover with a fly through drone campaign

State tourism liaison tells how people can promote Iowa

BY GORDON WOLF



HOTO BY GORDO

Stephanie Neppl, tourism liaison with the Iowa Tourism Office, explained how people can promote Iowa to attract more visitors to the state. She spoke at the CDC Business Appreciation Breakfast on October 18.

The guest speaker at last week Wednesday's Business Appreciation Breakfast told of efforts taking place to show that Iowa is a destination and not a flyover state, and she said Iowans can help with this effort through photos and stories.

Stephanie Neppl, tourism liaison with the Iowa Tourism Office, said, "There is bit of a lack of awareness about Iowa. It's not that people don't like us. It's just that they don't know that much about us.

"Everything that we're doing is trying to change perceptions about what Iowa is," she told those attending the Chamber & Development Council (CDC) of Crawford County event.

Neppl is a native Iowan, born and raised in Estherville, who now lives in Sibley where she works remotely for the Iowa Tourism Office.

"Being from Iowa, in a way sometimes generated a total economic impact of people say why would anyone come \$9.4 billion, sustained nearly 65,000 here," Neppl said. "We hear a lot of jobs and generated \$1 billion in state

negativities from a lot of our locals because to us it (Iowa) is familiar, it's not as exciting. We get a lot of people that come to the state, and they are blown away; their expectations are exceeded. I've had many conversations like this."

The mission of the Iowa Tourism Office, which is under the Iowa Economic Development Authority, is to promote the state's unique qualities and the unique experiences people can have when they visit or move to Iowa.

"We are trying to target travel to Iowa, and it is important to support our local communities, all of the businesses, your recreation, your dining opportunities, all of those support the visitor industry. It's all related to the state's economy," Neppl said.

According to the 2021 Economic Impact Report, visitors spent over \$6.1 billion across the Iowa economy, which generated a total economic impact of \$9.4 billion, sustained nearly 65,000 jobs and generated \$1 billion in state

and local tax revenues in 2021.

Neppl added that without the impact tourism has on taxes, every household in Iowa would pay nearly \$800 more per year.

A goal is to increase that economic impact by attracting more people to visit Iowa and stay longer.

Neppl said people may hear the saying that Iowa is a flyover state, something that the Iowa Tourism Office is trying to counteract

This led the Iowa Tourism Office to conduct its own flight of the state, although it was a fly-through, not a flyover.

"We hired a drone pilot to fly a drone fly through spaces you would never imagine that a drone could get to, to offer a new perspective," she said.

The filming done by drone is for a campaign called "Soul of Iowa." Filming was recently completed.

Currently four cities are featured on the Soul of Iowa website. The next iteration of the campaign will be promoted throughout 2024 and will feature 36 communities from across the state.

Inclusion in Soul of Iowa was through an application process for communities to opt-in.

"Â lot of it is to change the mind that we're not a flyover state," Neppl said.

She pointed out that most people don't just move to a state or a city without researching and visiting first. So online content is critical.

One content area of special interest is outdoor recreation. Because it is a huge asset, it tends to be featured on the cover of the Iowa travel guides.

Neppl experienced outdoor recreation and natural resources herself last week Tuesday when she visited Yellow Smoke Park.

"What a beautiful park. Absolutely no idea what to expect there. It was beautiful," she said.

Natural resources and outdoor recreation are important because they are valued by people – by visitors and the people who live in the state, Neppl said.

Other amenities should also be promoted.

"The line between people that are seeking jobs and people that are traveling, they're the same," Neppl said. "People that you want to keep in your

community want the same things as

Neppl said that the Iowa Tourism Office always has campaigns to market to attract visitors and job seekers. She encouraged people to look at those campaigns and the other tools that the Iowa Tourism Office offers.

"In order for us to be good ambassadors for Iowa, it is important that we know what is going on," she said. "Visit traveliowa.com to see what Crawford County looks like and see what Denison looks like."

The campaigns are based on data.

"Everything we do is very data heavy," said Neppl. "We survey people, we measure things, we ask them, we know what they like and we know what information they are looking for."

"We love hearing stories, we love seeing pictures, and we love people to tag our accounts on social media," she continued. "We're just endlessly needing content and needing photos, and that's where partners like the chamber council (CDC) help."

Tourism industry partners can find information on how to share content at https://industrypartners.traveliowa.com/free-marketing/.

"We'd love to hear from Crawford County," Neppl said. "Please, never be shy in sharing about your community."



At the Business Appreciation Breakfast, Drew Perrien was announced as the new tourism coordinator for the Chamber & Development Council of Crawford County. He started Monday, October 16.





# WE ARE HIRING!!

# DON'T MISS ONE OF MONOGRAM'S LARGEST HIRING EVENTS!

Denison | November 2 | 1:00 to 5:00 pm

We will be serving hamburgers and hot dogs for all who apply All applicants will also receive FREE bacon!

Come learn about all of our open positions!

Application assistance to be provided

We are a fun company offering a friendly atmosphere, competitive pay and excellent benefits!

710 Hwy 59 S in Denison | monogramfoods.com

# On the hunt for a haunted trail in Kiron



PHOTOS BY GORDON WOLF

Jorge Zuninga and Diego Arambula poke their scary faces from behind a scarecrow on the first part of the Kiron Haunted Trail.





The barn took hours and hours to construct. Pieces of wooden pallets were hammered together to form the exterior. Inside, red lights illuminated the scary characters.



The first character visitors met on the haunted trail was this grizzled old man. He was handing out light sticks and sending people down the Haunted Trail. Red sticks were handed out to groups that wanted a mild scare. Green light groups received the full-scale scare.



An ominous character looms at the entrance to the Dreadwood asylum.



Keaton Railsback, of Odebolt, and Jeff Reisz, of Denison, invite guests and ghosts into their haunted shack.



This animated jack-o-lantern skeleton was among the first creatures to welcome visitors to the Haunted Trail.



This display gives a warning along the trail.