



Wilton-Durant Advocate News



Coy Baker wins RVC title, p. 20

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2020 Iowa Caucus: The nation waited...



The first in the nation Iowa Caucuses were held Feb. 3 in gyms, cafeterias, community centers and other meeting rooms all around Iowa. While Republican incumbent President Donald Trump easily won the Republican Caucuses, all eyes were on the Democratic Caucus sites, where multiple candidates were vying for all the delegates they could get. A process that usually takes just a few hours went well into the night and following day before results were reported from the Iowa Democratic Party. A new system of reporting results was used and, according to the party, came with problems as the new app only reported partial data. As of Tuesday morning, Feb. 4, the Iowa Democratic Party was still calculating results. For a statement from Iowa Democratic Party Chair Troy Price (formerly of Durant), see page 10. Photographed above at the Wilton Democratic Caucus site in the Wilton school cafeteria, clockwise from top left—Bernie Sanders supporters try to sway undecided voters to join the Bernie contingent; The Andrew Yang "gang" makes a plea for viability as their numbers (in the background) were in danger of not making it through the first round; Elizabeth Warren had a healthy number of supporters; Mayor Pete Buttigieg's table of supporters is shown prior to the first round of paper voting. Photos by Derek Sawvell



Durant School District developing roof repair plan

By **Derek Sawvell**
Managing Editor, Advocate News

The Durant School District will begin taking steps to install a new Duro-Last roofing system to its buildings. At a work session Jan. 27, members of the school board reviewed the existing conditions of district roofs with maintenance director Tom Wuestenberg.

The district had a roof inspection in July

2019, where it was determined that the best approach would be to install the Duro-Last system over the existing metal roof system.

Wuestenberg presented the board with cost estimates courtesy of Beckwith Commercial Roofing and plans called for splitting the project into four parts, labeled Priority 1 through 4 with those ranked No. 1 needing the most attention. Superintendent Joe Burnett also presented board members with a list of

capital projects, showing a balance of nearly \$600,000 remaining for use out of one-cent sales tax funds.

"We've been holding back on one-cent projects because I wanted to see where we're at with the roof," said Burnett, who suggested that perhaps the district could tackle the first two of four phases this year.

Cost estimates for roof repair are as follows:
Priority 1: \$118,736

Priority 2: \$173,291
Priority 3: \$216,427
Priority 4: \$156,819

The roofs in Priority 1, which include the junior high gym, chorus rooms, elementary library, plus the east section past the elementary doors are not only in the most need, but

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Gov. Reynolds helps introduce 'Fueling the Future' plan

By Mark Ridolfi
Assistant Editor, North Scott Press

A new path to family financial stability begins in Muscatine schools, where families already receiving food assistance will now find college scholarships, transportation and other support under a new Fueling the Future plan introduced Jan. 29 with Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds.

A \$50,000 state appropriation, matched by contributions from Muscatine businesses and others, will offer help to the families of students now receiving weekend backpack food help. Together, they plan to knit a network of support to provide job training and the other support needed to assure that training is successful.

"What we've learned is we need community support to create an umbrella around students to make a wonderful impact on job training and development," Muscatine Community College President Naomi DeWinter said.

She hosted a roundtable of employers at the college who said they've invested in this program to help their communities, and develop qualified candidates for open jobs. It's community and economic development.

"We're at the point we need welders and CNC operators, and there are people who need training and support to qualify. So it's a win-win for everyone and our communities," Wilton Precision Steel CEO Dennis Hanser said.

Gov. Reynolds lauded the community coalition that pitched in to provide the support services that make training more successful.

"We've been doing this a long time," she said about job training. "How did we miss this? You've created kind of a template for other communities."

She said results from Muscatine will shape the program as it is offered in other Iowa towns.

Participants will be recruited from families of students who already receive weekend food assistance, which is about four percent of Muscatine public school enrollment.

Community sponsors pitching in with contributions and services include the Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine, HNI, Kent Corporation, Toyota of Muscatine, Trinity Hospital Foundation and the United Way of

Muscatine.

Muscatine Community College will offer 6-week certificate programs in welding, computer numerical control and certified nursing assistance.

Trinity Hospital and the county health department will provide an economic resource navigator to work directly with families.

"What this project does is take a deeper dive into the root cause as to why housing and food are a need for many residents. It seeks plausible solutions that will fuel a future of sustainable living for families," said Trinity Muscatine Public Health CEO Christy Roby-Williams.

Muscatine resident Miguel Salcedo said his welding certification through MCC already changed his life in ways this program intended.

"This opened a lot of doors for me," he told the panel. Certification led to a job welding construction forms, including those used for work at the college last year.

Wilton Precision Steel Human Resources Manager Greg Gonzalez can envision the program expanding to reach more fields.

"Everybody talks about welders, and we need them. We also need maintenance mechanics, people who are interested and capable in tearing down machine motors. We need people who are curious about the machines, how they work, and how they fit into our manufacturing," Gonzalez said.

In addition to training, participating families also will receive food delivered to their home the last week of the month, when their own food supplies might be low.

Then the hospital's economic navigator will help, "align transportation and quality daycare, partner with the city of Muscatine and Muscatine Center for Social Action to ensure housing stability, and work with the local college, Iowa Works and Proteus to align scholarships so parent(s) can graduate the 6-week upskilling," according to a project summary prepared by the college.

Proteus is a state and federally supported nonprofit based in Iowa City that offers job training.

"Due to collaborative efforts like this, Muscatine can lead the way in helping vulnerable people reach self-sufficiency and feel

prepared for their future," said Center for Social Action Director Scott Dahlke.

Gov. Reynolds commended the community coalition, and offered this encouragement to Muscatine residents.

"I was 57 when I finished school, so it's

never too late," said the governor, who attended Northwestern Missouri State in the late 1970s, Southeastern Community College in the 1980s, Southwestern Community College in the 1990s, and received her bachelor of liberal arts from Iowa State University in 2016.



Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds is shown above addressing area business professionals at Muscatine Community College Jan. 29. Joining her, from left, included Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg, Eastern Iowa Community College Chancellor Don Doucette, and Iowa Republican Party Chair and MCC instructor Jeff Kaufmann. Photos by Mark Ridolfi



Wilton Precision Steel CEO Dennis Hanser (right) talks with Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds during a visit to Muscatine Community College Jan. 29.

Kaufmann recognized by Iowa Pharmacy Association

DES MOINES — The Iowa Pharmacy Association recognized Rep. Bobby Kaufmann (R-Wilton) with its 2020 Good Government Award on Jan. 29 in Des Moines. The award is given annually to an Iowa legislator who has worked strongly on behalf of pharmacy and has demonstrated a commitment to health care issues.

In 2018, Kaufmann served as the chair of the Government Oversight Committee. During this time, the committee turned its attention to investigating the practices of pharmacy benefit managers (PBM) in Iowa. Spurred on by prescription drug "spread pricing" uncovered in Wapello County by Ottumwa pharmacist Mark Frahm, Kaufmann worked closely with pharmacist and state Rep. John

Forbes (D-Urbandale) on a formal investigation to bring accountability to PBMs who are responsible for state and taxpayer dollars.

The investigation culminated in a hearing before the Government Oversight Committee in April of 2018. Independent pharmacy owners, state officials, and high-ranking PBM officials were all present to testify before the committee. The hearing garnered national attention and has contributed to the increased scrutiny of PBM practices both in Iowa and across the country.

The association presented Rep. Kaufmann with the award during its annual Legislative Day at the Embassy Suites in downtown Des Moines with more than 200 members in attendance.



The Iowa Pharmacy Association recognized Rep. Bobby Kaufmann (third from right) with its 2020 Good Government Award on Jan. 29 in Des Moines. In 2018, Kaufmann served as the chair of the Government Oversight Committee. The committee turned its attention to investigating the practices of pharmacy benefit managers (PBM) in Iowa. Spurred on by prescription drug "spread pricing" uncovered in Wapello County. For more, see Kaufmann's editorial on page. 8. Contributed photo

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Advocate News

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Early projections indicate just 22 Durant kindergarten students

DURANT WORK SESSION continued from page 1

are dealing with leaking issues, according to Wuestenberg, who noted that if they were repaired soon, structural damage could be avoided.

Burnett noted that the board and district needed foresight in case of future building and/or bond projects. "We don't want to put a new roof on something that comes down in a short time," Burnett said.

Talk naturally shifted to the junior high gym, one of the areas heavily discussed during the district's recent bond vote that failed. "Gym space is definitely an area of need for our district. Do we want to keep that even though it's an outdated space?" asked Burnett.

Board Vice President Katy Oberlander said perhaps the old bleachers in the gym could be removed and the space could be converted to two practice courts. "Don't get rid of space we have, let's repurpose it. Those bleachers have to go," Oberlander said.

"We better do that roof," added new board member Travis Bullard.

"I recommend we do phase 1 and 2 by this summer or as soon as we can get started, but we need a second bid," said Burnett.

Wuestenberg and Burnett assured the board that sealed bids would be ready before the next

regular board meeting. Burnett also noted that all district buildings in Wilton have Duro-Last roofs and it is a 20-year product, which can last up to 30 years. No action can be taken at work sessions. The roofing issues will be on the agenda at the next meeting Feb. 10.

Low kindergarten numbers

There was a light discussion on district enrollment. It's been noted several times that numbers are going down in Durant and the trend could continue next school year. Burnett and Elementary/Middle School Principal Rebecca Stineman reported that incoming kindergarten numbers could be around 22-24, which is low. Burnett also noted that the largest class numbers are in the high school.

Thankfully, according to Burnett, the district has around \$1.67 million in its general fund. "We have a pretty good unspent balance but we have to be wise in how we spend our money the next few years," he said.

He said it was good to find ways to save on the school's general fund. One way may be to enter the Education Energy Group Program — a consortium of schools that share energy costs. Under the agreement, district utilities can be paid for out of the management fund levy rather than the general fund. The district will look further into the program.

Miscellany

Other items discussed at the work session included:

* Interest Based Problem Solving— Bargaining with teachers was discussed. Burnett said that the Wilton district uses the Interest Based Problem Solving approach while negotiating contracts with its teacher's union and that last year was the first time it was tried in Durant, with success. The first meeting with Durant staff will take place prior to the regular February meeting.

* Superintendent sharing was discussed. Burnett noted that if the district wanted to discontinue sharing with Wilton, notification needed to be made by Feb. 1. The district not only saves money by sharing Burnett's contract, it also receives operational sharing dollars from the state of Iowa. The district saved

\$108,144 in FY19 and will save \$102,998 this year. All indications are both districts want to continue the sharing agreement, which is addressed year-to-year.

* Burnett presented board members with the district calendar for next school year, noting that a professional development day would occur on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The end of the first semester usually falls around that time. Burnett suggested the board consider making Martin Luther King Jr. Day a professional development day each year, which means students would get it off from school.

Board members Julie Rivera, Oberlander, Tara Lindsay, Bullard and Carla Whitlock were present. No action was taken. The next regular meeting is Feb. 10 at 5:30 p.m.

Durant blood drive Feb. 18

Durant will host a community blood drive from 2 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 18 at the Durant Community Center.

To donate, please contact Diane Quiram at (563) 785-4782 or visit www.bloodcenterimpact.org and use code 3035 to locate the drive.

Potential donors must be at least 17 years of age (16 with parental permission form available through www.bloodcenter.org) and weigh more than 110 pounds. A photo I.D. is required to donate. For questions about eligibility, please call the Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center at (800) 747-5401.

Donors who last gave blood on or before Dec. 24 are eligible to give at this drive.

Blood donation is a safe, simple procedure that takes about 45 minutes to one hour.

Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center is the provider of blood and blood components to more than 100 hospitals in Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and Wisconsin. In your area, MVRBC is the exclusive provider to UnityPoint Health St. Luke's Hospital, MercyOne Cedar Rapids, University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics, MercyOne Iowa City.

Durant Kindergarten Round-Up

If your child is planning to attend Durant Kindergarten in 2020-2021, please call the Durant Elementary office at 563-785-4433

by Feb. 12 to have your child placed on the enrollment list. There is no need to call if your child currently attends Durant Preschool.

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Kaufmann endorses Miller-Meeks

OTTUMWA – State Rep. Bobby Kaufmann (R-Wilton) announced his endorsement for Mariannette Miller-Meeks' bid for Iowa's open Second Congressional District seat, which is expected to be one of the most competitive races in the country.

Both Cedar and Muscatine counties are represented in the Second District.

"We have a rare opportunity to flip this open seat and retake the majority in the U.S. House. We need a candidate who can win this, who has the resources to win it and has the work ethic to win it. Mariannette provides us that opportunity and that is why I'm proud to be supporting her campaign for U.S. Congress," said Kaufmann, who chairs the House State Government Committee. "I've known Mariannette for over a decade. I've seen her as a candidate, a doctor, a veteran and now, a state senator. And throughout that decade, this is what impresses me the most about her: she does not quit on her fellow

Iowans."

He added, "While liberal politicians in Washington have forgotten about us, I know Mariannette will get to Congress and never quit fighting for healthcare reform, fair trade deals and an economy that lifts up all Iowans."

Miller-Meeks said the Kaufmann endorsement "holds a special place in my heart."

"I've known Bobby since he was a young man and I've had the joy of watching him grow and turn into a leader in the legislature. To have his support and confidence in this race is priceless to me," she said. "Bobby is a man who knows exactly who he is, what he believes in and fights tirelessly for it. Bobby is known for his bipartisan work but never compromising his conservative principles. I'll take that same approach to Washington and never quit fighting for the people of Iowa."

Wilton scholarship opportunities

MUSCATINE – Scholarships are available for high school seniors in Muscatine and Louisa County high schools graduating in Spring 2020. Following is a list of local scholarships, courtesy of the Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine.

Wilton High School

Frank & Carrie Townsend, and Ruth Townsend Scholarship—Up to three \$5,000 scholarships, renewable for a second year; up to seven \$5,000 scholarships, renewable for three additional years; and additional one-year scholarships may be awarded

Muscatine Soil and Water Conservation Ralph L. Kirchner Scholarship—Up to five \$1,000 scholarships (open to Louisa-Muscatine, Muscatine, West Liberty and Wilton)

Temp Associates & RJK, Inc. Scholarship—One \$4,000 scholarship, renewable for an ad-

ditional three consecutive years

Toyota of Muscatine Scholarship—Two \$1,000 scholarships (open to L-M, Muscatine, West Liberty and Wilton), renewable for a second year

Whetstone Family Scholarship—\$1,000 scholarships

Applications can be found at www.muscatinecommunityfoundation.org. On the menu go to Scholarships and find your high school's page. PDFs can be filled out, downloaded and saved. Applications must be returned to the student's guidance counselor by the due date listed on the application.

The Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine notes there is more than \$425,000 available to students. Scholarships are also available to students at Columbus, Louisa-Muscatine, Wapello, West Liberty and Muscatine high schools.

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|---|--|---|
|  <p>1133 Rallie Lane, Moscow Come take a look at this 3 bedroom, 4 bathroom home with attached 2 stall garage, 24'x36' workshop, wood boiler heat option, 24' pool and large deck and patio. Quiet rural subdivision on a paved road between Wilton and Moscow. Main level Master suite with vaulted ceilings, open living room and kitchen concept with gas fireplace, main level laundry, newer stainless steel appliances, finished walk out lower level including a game room with pool table.</p> |  <p>706 9th St., Durant Located just a few blocks from the school in an established neighborhood on the north side of Durant awaits this 3 bedroom 2 bathroom ranch. No need to worry about updates on the exterior of this home; new roof, Anderson Casement Windows, vinyl siding, exterior doors and concrete driveway are all new in 2018. The interior features 3 bedrooms on the main floor and a 4th non conforming bedroom in the basement. The partially finished basement also includes a rec room, bathroom and even another kitchen. And HOW could I forget an attached 4 stall garage that is completely dry walled, insulated and heated! All appliances stay as well. You have got to check this out!</p> |  <p>1101 6th St., Durant Wow, this is a flip house by Paper's Construction Co that you must check out! This is a 3 bdrm, 2 story house located on a corner lot across from the city park in Durant. The existing house was torn down to the studs. From there it has been totally remodeled to include all new plumbing, heating, electrical, roof, soffit, siding, windows, drywall, doors and trim, cabinets and flooring. Sounds like a new house doesn't it! Wait till you see the striking exterior, 10' tall great room walls, and the impressive staircase. Make this house a must see! Listing agent is the owner. This property qualifies for Durant's 7 year tax abatement program.</p> |
|  <p>215 W. 6th St., Wilton Come take a look at this 3 bedroom 2 bathroom home on half a block in Wilton. Very spacious 70' x 234' lot with screened front porch, storage shed and a large barn with heat that has been converted into a 2 stall garage. Quality craftsmanship from 1878 the home still has most of the original doors and trim. New carpet throughout most of the home and fresh interior paint with modern colors will also give you the feel of a new home. Very large main level with an island kitchen, sitting room, dining room, living room, 1/2 bathroom and formal living room. The second level has 3 bedrooms, full bathroom and a walk up partially finished attic that is great for storage.</p> |  <p>1202 W. Hinkeyville, Atalissa Outdoor paradise awaits on the Cedar River. All new through and through with a 2 stall garage, finished lower level with laundry room and exercise room, nice sized kitchen, 3 bedrooms and huge living room that over looks the Cedar River with a gas fireplace. A great location for a weekend retreat or a wonderful place to call home this property has 2 large decks, wood burning stove, newer furnace, central air and water heater, storage shed, wood racks and elevator from the garage to the kitchen. Plenty of room to install a dock for your boat. This property is on LEASED land with an annual lease of \$250.</p> |  <p>108 W 5th St., Wilton Large 2 Story 4 bedroom home located in Wilton. Recently updated bathrooms on each floor, fresh interior paint and updated vinyl windows. 2 decks off the back of the house to relax on and a 2 stall detached garage. All cleaned up and ready for a new owner.</p> |
|  <p>626 Lombard St., Clarence Fresh exterior paint, corner lot and plenty of storage. This property consists of 2 buildings 30' x 64' and 40' x 100' connected by 10' x 21' walkway. Currently used as storage, but has endless possibilities.</p> |  <p>730 Lombard St., Clarence Large Auto Repair/Sales Facility that could be home to a number of uses! Currently the property has 5/6 service bays, parts department, break room, show room and 3 offices. Originally built as a Chrysler Dealership in 1973. This property could be the start of your new business or a great place for the Auto/Motorcycle/Steel or Wood Working Enthusiast. (Trade Fixtures do not stay)</p> |  <p>119 Cherry St., Atalissa Great Turn Key Business! Property comes complete with: 2 parcels of land, bar equipment, 2 storage buildings, outdoor beer garden & serving area. 3 Bdrm apartment has long term tenant that helps cut overhead, separate utilities except water. 1 Storage building could be turned into 3 storage units to increase passive income. Commercial space can also be leased for \$1,000 per month with an option to purchase. This could be an owner operator business or an investor could purchase and rent out the apartment, commercial space and storage.</p> |
|  <p>1831 280th St., Tipton SELLING 100% AS IS INCLUDING SEPTIC SYSTEM. Property will be available for viewings with all bids due by: 02/03/2020 BY 10:00 AM. Highest bid will be accepted or countered by 5:00 PM on 02/04/2020 so please bring your highest and best. If no bids are accepted on 02/04/2020 the home will remain on the market. This 3 bedroom 2 bathroom home is in need of some loving care to bring it back to its original state. The 2.7 acres included with the property will make a great location for you with a single stall garage, grain bin, 29x38 corn crib and 20x42 small machine shed. Come take a look and restore the home to your liking. Acreages are moving quickly, this is your chance to own one. LP Fuel to be pro rated at closing.</p> |  <p>58 Walnut St., Tipton Check out this cozy 2 bedroom home on a quiet street in Tipton offering a large kitchen with lovely custom counter tops, fresh flooring and paint throughout, full basement, and a detached 2 car garage. Ready for you to move in today.</p> | <p>APARTMENTS AVAILABLE</p> <p>Wilton Maple Street \$600 2 Bdrm</p> <p>Wilton 4th Street \$600 2 Bdrm</p> |



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Iowa Department of Agriculture accepting specialty crop applications

DES MOINES – Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig announced that the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship is now accepting applications for the Specialty Crop Block Grant program. The grants must be used to support projects that promote specialty crops grown in Iowa.

Proposals must be received by the Iowa Department of Agriculture on or before 4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 11.

“Iowa farmers grow diverse crops that can be found in stores and markets across the state.

Supporting efforts that improve specialty crop production and expand demand will positively impact producers and consumers,” Naig said. “These grants allow organizations to highlight Iowa grown specialty crops in a unique way.”

Grant funds will be targeted toward projects that enhance the competitiveness and growth of the specialty crop industry. Eligible specialty crops include fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture and nursery crops, including floriculture. Both fresh and processed specialty crops are eligible.

Successful grant applications will explain how projects will improve specialty crop production through marketing and promotions, research and development, expanding availability and access to specialty crops, and addressing local, regional and national challenges confronting specialty crop producers. All projects must have an educational component. Preference will be given to projects that have the potential to significantly expand, enhance and improve production and demand.

Iowa agencies, universities, institutions, pro-

ducers, industry associations, and community-based organizations are eligible to apply. Single organizations, institutions and individuals are encouraged to participate as project partners. Grant applications for projects that directly benefit a particular product or generate a profit for a single organization, institution or individual will not be awarded.

Awardees may receive up to \$24,000 and projects can have a duration of up to 30 months.

Governor appoints Dana Oxley to Iowa Supreme Court

DES MOINES — Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds announced her appointment of Dana Oxley as a justice of the Iowa Supreme Court.

Oxley, of Swisher, currently practices law with Shuttleworth & Ingersoll, P.L.C. in Cedar Rapids, and serves as an adjunct law professor at the University of Iowa College of Law. Previously, she served as a career judicial law

clerk for Judge David R. Hansen on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit.

Oxley received her law degree from the University of Iowa College of Law and her undergraduate degree from the University of Northern Iowa.

“Dana Oxley is an exceptional lawyer with a uniquely Iowa story,” said Gov. Reynolds.

“She will be a valuable new addition to the Iowa Supreme Court. I look forward to watching her serve Iowans in this important role for years to come.”

Oxley is the governor’s third appointment to the Iowa Supreme Court. She fills the vacancy that arose because of the death of Chief Justice Mark Cady.

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Wilton-Durant

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Dale Schlueter named to Muscatine County Cattlemen's HOF

By Tim Evans
Editor, West Liberty Index

Finding a love for the dirt we stand on at a very young age and later teaching the love of farming and raising cattle, Dave Schlueter of rural Durant was named to the Muscatine County Cattlemen's Association Hall of Fame on Saturday, Jan. 25, at the group's annual meeting held at the Activity Center at the Muscatine County Fairgrounds in West Liberty.

Growing up on his family's Holstein dairy farm south of Durant, Schlueter was the son of Bill and Ella Schlueter, a member of the Fulton Junior Farmers 4-H Club and a proud exhibitor of his shorthorn cattle at the Muscatine County Fair.

Upon graduation from Durant High School in 1958, he continued working in the family dairy operation and eventually took it over when his parents retired. In 1978, he sold the dairy operation and began to build his

cow herd and fat cattle, all while working at Pioneer Microbial Genetics Research Farm until retiring.

Since then, Schlueter has been able to continue the farm operation with the aid of his family.

"We just love our life on the farm," said his wife Carol Schlueter after the meeting, noting it was an honor to be named to the Cattlemen's Hall of Fame. She said the couple milked cows (as many as 75 head) for a lot of years and said, "Farming was different back then."

Giving his history at the banquet, his daughter Julie Rivera of Durant, told how her father taught his grandsons about the love of farming and raising cattle.

"Both my brother and I were given the opportunity to be in 4-H and exhibit cattle at the county and state level along with several other shows throughout Iowa," she said. "We put thousands of miles on that red Ford Extended Cab truck and made some great memories."

Rivera said when she was in middle school and her brother nearing graduation, things changed. "Somehow, Dad felt the need and found the time to bring the neighbor kids (aka the Dobbins boys) into the mix of raising and showing cattle."

She said the education started with Bryan, the oldest of the three brothers, and it continued

with Troy and Craig when they reached an age to show cattle. She said Bryan got hooked immediately, building a nice herd and raising champion show cattle.

Rivera also gave a lot of credit to her mother, Carol, as the couple will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary in October. "As a good friend once told me, 'that's a pretty stiff sentence for a first time offense,'" she said. Her dad will also be celebrating his 80th birthday in March.

"It's been a good life," said Carol. "We wouldn't want it to be any different. We've loved living in this community and enjoyed what we've done all these years."

Helping celebrate the honor was the Schlueters' son Jeff, and his wife Lynn, both accountants who live in Davenport, as well as Rivera's boyfriend Jason Daily and his daughter Kiyah, and Rivera's son Payton, one of three grandsons of the Schlueter couple, which also includes Ryan and Matt. There is also a great-granddaughter, Nellie, born to Payton and his fiancé Anna, who could not attend.

Payton helps operate the farm with his grandparents, who raise 50 head of cows, 80 head of fat cattle and also grow corn, farming about 500 acres, including some rented ground.



Given the honor of being named to the Muscatine County Cattlemen's Association Hall of Fame on Jan. 25 were Dale Schlueter and his wife, Carol. Association President Derek Honts presented them with an honorary plaque. Photo by Tim Evans

What's for Lunch?



Wilton

(We reserve the right to change the menu at any time without notice. There will be an alternate main entree that is listed on the menu and will change from week to week. Applesauce is the second fruit. Milk, cereal, pop tarts, 100% juice, bagels, yogurt, string cheese and fruit are offered at each school for breakfast.)

Monday, Feb. 10

Breakfast: Biscuit and gravy.
Lunch: Chicken nuggets, whipped potatoes, corn, strawberries, or tenderloin with a bun.

Tuesday, Feb. 11

Breakfast: Ham frudel.
Lunch: Lasagna with breadstick, green beans, glazed carrots, peaches or a tenderloin with a bun.

Wednesday, Feb. 12

Breakfast: Sausage biscuit sandwich with cheese.
Lunch: Philly steak sloppy Joe with a bun, french fries, California blend, apple slices or a tenderloin with a bun.

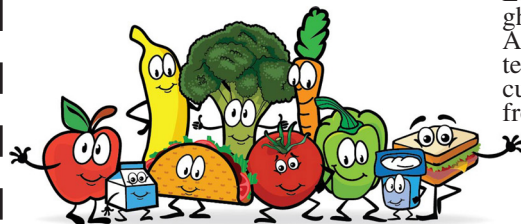
Thursday, Feb. 13

Breakfast: Egg patty with toast.
Lunch: Corn dog, potato salad, green beans, strawberries or a tenderloin with a bun.

Friday, Feb. 14

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Durant

(We reserve the right to change any menu without notice. A variety of milk and juices are served daily. Breakfast has a choice of cereal, yogurt or toast, fruit and a variety of bagels with cream cheese.)

Monday, Feb. 10

Breakfast: Mini maple pancakes with breakfast fruit.

Lunch: Taco meat, tortilla shell, shredded cheddar cheese, breaded mozzarella sticks with spaghetti sauce, Cat Pack (muffin, string cheese and yogurt), refried beans, shredded lettuce, carrots, variety vegetable juice, fresh oranges and pears.

Tuesday, Feb. 11

Breakfast: Pancake, chicken sausage and cheese breakfast sandwich with breakfast fruit.

Lunch: Cheese omelet, mini cinnis, fiesta pizza, Cat Pack (munch-able), tater gems, lettuce salad, carrots, salsa, mandarin oranges and apple slices.

Wednesday, Feb. 12

Breakfast: Cheese omelet sausage patty, french toast sticks, vanilla yogurt granola, strawberries, blueberries, banana and syrup.

Lunch: Wing Wednesday! Chicken wings, corn dog, Cat Pack (whole grain crackers with hardboiled egg and colby jack cheese stick), lettuce salad, fresh broccoli, celery sticks, carrots, banana and a kiwi-strawberry sidekick.

Thursday, Feb. 13

Breakfast: Sausage and gravy breakfast pizza with breakfast fruit.

Lunch: Tenderloin with a bun, flat bread spaghetti sauce, Cat Pack (sub sandwich choice), macaroni salad, lettuce salad, carrots, onions, clementine and applesauce.

Friday, Feb. 14

Breakfast: Donut Friday!
Lunch: Pepperoni Bosco stick with spaghetti sauce, hamburger on a bun with American Cheese, Cat Pack (peanut butter sandwich), peas, lettuce salad, carrots, cucumber slices, kiwi, fruit cocktail and frozen yogurt.

Parkinson's support group

The Muscatine County Parkinson's support group will meet Thursday, Feb. 13 at the Muscatine County Extension Office, 1601 Plaza Place in Muscatine. Social time

is from 3:30-4 p.m. and the program will follow presented by Veronica Timmons of Prairie Jewel Acupuncture. If you have any questions, please call Wayne/ Pat Corriell at 319-321-6311 or John/Karen Schaub at 563-263-1866.

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OBITUARIES



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Nancee Oveson

Nancee Carol Oveson, 74, of Wilton died Jan. 29, 2020 surrounded by her family. A celebration of life was held Feb. 3 at the Union Hall in Wilton.

Nancee was born March 10, 1945, to Harvey and Lucille Strause. Nancee married Ron Oveson on March 29, 1969. She enjoyed watching football, bowling, camping, fishing, Christmas and spending all her time with her family.

Nancee is survived by her husband, Ronald Oveson; daughter, DeeDee Gaunt and her husband Stan; son, Ron Oveson and his wife Marji; grandchildren, Brandon, Amanda, Bryce, Tatum, Olivia and Elliette; her brother, Wayne Strause; and sister, Patty Yetter.



Nancee Oveson

She was preceded in death by her parents, Harvey and Lucille Strause; her brother, Dennis Strause; and sisters, Judy Wagner and Linda Hazen.

Margaret Thurston

Margaret E. Thurston, 90, of Wilton died Feb. 1, 2020 at Simpson Memorial Home in West Liberty. Funeral services were held Feb. 5 at Zion Lutheran Church in Wilton. Interment was in the Oakdale Cemetery in Wilton.

Memorial contributions may be made to Zion Lutheran Church. Online condolences may be left at www.bentleyfuneralhome.com.

Margaret was born in Iowa City on April 13, 1929, the adopted daughter of John and Selma (Fischer) Grunder. She married Fredrick W. Thurston on Aug. 23, 1947 in Tipton. He preceded her in death on Aug. 11, 1992.

Margaret was a member of Zion Lutheran Church in Wilton, where she was active in the Ladies Aid Society and the Wilton American Legion Auxiliary. She had served as unit president, county president and district president of the Auxiliary.

She loved living on the farm and going out to eat. Above all, she enjoyed spending time



Margaret Thurston

with her family and friends.

Margaret is survived by her daughters, Connie (Ronald) Knouse of Tipton and JoAnne Wells of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico; her son James (Jeanie) Thurston of West Liberty; 5 grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband and two brothers Carl and John Grunder.



FAMILY NEWS

Harmsens to note 49th anniversary

Richard and Marjorie Harmsen of Durant will celebrate their 49th wedding anniversary Feb. 20.

Marjorie Huber and Richard Harmsen were married Feb. 20, 1971 at Our Lady of Victory Church in Davenport.

Richard retired from Caterpillar Inc. After retiring, he served as Mayor of Durant. His passion is baseball and he received his national coaching certificate at the age of 74. He has always umpired and coached baseball all his life. Some of his notable accomplishments were: He was scouted to the Oakland A's as a catcher. He holds a coaching certificate, and umpire certification for ASA softball and men's fast pitch. He is in process of finishing a baseball book. Out of high school, he proudly served in the Marine Corps, enlisting as a jet engine mechanic, later serving in Vietnam.

Marjorie graduated from AIC Business School. After school she worked for the Quad-City Times. She then became a deputy sheriff under Woody Harmsen, retiring from Scott County Courthouse after a 10-year stint. When her girls were in school, she took jobs at Durant school, worked as a CNA at assisted care facilities, and sorted corn for Pioneer Seed



Co. One of her biggest accomplishments was as an AKC dog breeder, reputable for breeding registered German-lineage German Shepherds and English Cream Golden Retrievers for more than 40 years. At the age of 53, she went back to college, completing her CNA certification and nursing with straight A's.

They are the parents of Denise Harmsen (Rick Makoben), Tammy Harmsen (Rich Loeffler), Heather Harmsen, and Franseen (Jake) Graham. They have three grandchildren, Jacob Conley, Aira Mae, and Zoey Athena-Marie.



FAMILY NEWS

Fellners to celebrate 60 years

Celebrating 60 years together, Ronald and Roma (Ritter) Fellner, of Durant, were married at the Presbyterian Church in Bettendorf on Feb. 6, 1960. Their children include Kathy (husband Steve) Strobbe of Calamus, Duane (wife Diane) Fellner of Bettendorf, Todd (wife Pauline) Fellner of Cedar Rapids and Penny Gallion of Davenport.

Together they have nine grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. A family dinner is planned for a later date to help celebrate Ronald and Roma's 60th wedding anniversary.

Cards are welcome and can be sent to 1202 11th Street in Durant, IA 52747.



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Rev. Allen Coffin • www.walcottchurch.org
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10 a.m. Praise and Worship Service with Coffee Fellowship to follow

Cedar Valley Church, West Liberty Area
Pastor Mary • 563-320-0501
1791 155th St. (South of West Liberty on F70)
5:30 p.m. Sundays - Free Dinner, Worship & Discussion at Living Faith Service
8:30-9:30 a.m. every other Saturday Adult Confirmation Class

Church of Christ, Atalissa
Pastor Karl Roberts • (563) 649-2220
8:30-9:15 a.m. Sunday School
9:30-10:45 a.m. Morning Worship Service
10:15-10:45 a.m. Junior Church

Moscow United Methodist Church
Jon Gimmy, Pastor • (319) 351-1877
1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays: 10 a.m. Worship

Peace Church of Christ United, UCC
www.peacechurchofchristunited.com
414 Maple St., Bennett
Pastor Scott Meyer • 563-893-2565
Office hours: 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Wed-Fri
9 a.m. Worship
10 a.m. Fellowship

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Bennett
260 E. 4th St. • 563-890-6619
Pastor Bill Traphagan
7:15 a.m. Bible Class
8:30 a.m. Church Service, followed by Sunday School

Trinity United Church of Christ, Rural Moscow • Pastor Jon M. Merritt
8 a.m. Sunday School 1st & 3rd Sundays
9 a.m. Worship every Sunday

Zion Lutheran, ELCA, Atalissa
(563) 649-3343
10:30 a.m. Worship

DURANT

Gloria Dei Lutheran, ELCA
John Grebner, Interim Pastor
606 4th Ave., Durant • 785-4936
9 a.m. Worship
Confirmation Wednesday 8 a.m.
Bible Study Monday 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Everyone Welcome

St. David's Anglican Church
Fr. Peter Vaughn, Pastor
peterrvaughn@gmail.com • 309-798-8376
801 5th St., Durant • 563-785-4916
www.stdavidsdurant.info
9:30 Sunday Worship, followed by refreshments
3rd Sunday outreach service at Courtyard Estates in Walcott at 11:30 a.m.
6 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study led by Pastor Greg Graybill gregory.graybill@gmail.com
509-301-1760 Pastor Greg Graybill
Youth interested in taking part in WyldLife or Young Life should call 563-785-4916.

St. Paul's Episcopal
Rev. Dr. Alice Haugen, Pastor
206 6th St.
www.stpaulsdurant.org
9 a.m. Sunday Worship w/Eucharist
Children's service, 2nd Sunday
Healing service, 3rd Sunday

WILTON

First Presbyterian Church
563-732-2258
213 W. 5th St., Wilton • fpcfwilton.org
email: fpcpastor@netwtc.net or fpcsec@netwtc.net
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Worship

Grace United Church of Christ
Pastor Patrick Slessor
www.graceuccwilton.org
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service
Friday: 7 p.m. AA and Al-Anon.

Heartland Fellowship Church
<http://www.myhfcwilton.org/>
9:30 a.m. Children's Ministries
10:30 a.m. Adult Worship/Children's Church
Wed. 6 p.m. The Summit Youth Group
Small Group Meetings throughout the week

Peace United Methodist
Jon Gimmy, Pastor
8:45 a.m. Sunday Worship.
9:45 a.m. Sunday School

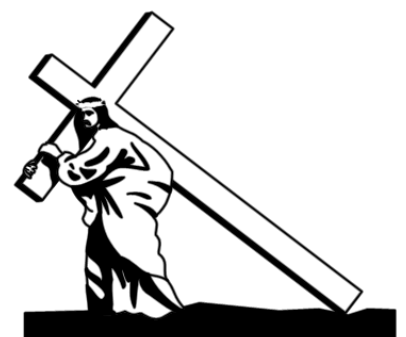
Sugar Creek Presbyterian
563- 732-3199
1900 Rose Ave., Wilton
9 a.m. Sunday Worship

St. Mary's Catholic
Rev. David Steinle, Pastor
701 E. 3rd, Wilton • 563-732-2271
email: Steinled@diodav.org
<https://www.stmarywilton.org>
8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
Tues-Fri Mass: 8 a.m.

United Methodist
Pastor Steve Braudt • 563-732-2084
1401 Maurer St., PO Box 57, Wilton
www.umcofwilton.org
email: umcwilt@netwtc.net
9 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Worship
5:30 p.m. Youth Ministry (2nd, 3rd & 4th Sun.)
7:00 p.m. Worship Experience
Tues. 9 a.m. Sewing Group
Wed. 6:30 p.m. Praise Band Practice
Wed. 7:15 p.m. Choir Practice

Wilton Baptist Church
Pastor Bob Danielson • 563-732-2458
203 East Railroad St., Wilton
10 a.m. Worship

Zion Lutheran, Missouri Synod
Rev. Daniel Ognoskie • 563-732-3651
1000 Maurer St., Wilton
9 a.m. Divine Service
10:15 a.m. Bible Study/Sunday School



Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will succeed.

Proverbs 16:3



OPINION

Twitter: @WDAAdvocateNews
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As always, much analysis of 2020 Super moments

We'll try our best to put a bow on the football season this week with some Super Bowl talk and even some fantasy football updates. There may even be a little pop culture mixed in.

I learned several years ago not to make Super Bowl predictions at the start of the NFL playoffs. Rather, I like to make round-by-round predictions in this space. The reason is that the best league in America repositions the playoff teams each week according to original seedings.

For those that don't care about this (or football), which must not be very many of you considering that the big game was viewed by 102 million, making it the 10th most watched Super Bowl in history and clearly the biggest "TV show" of the year, if upsets occur in the playoffs, those lower seeded teams must keep playing the highest seeds.

Some would argue that this favors the best teams. On paper, yes, but in the NFL, teams can get on a roll. Ask the Baltimore Ravens about it. The Tennessee Titans certainly didn't play like a 6 seed in beating the top seed Ravens.

Since there's no way to predict who plays whom, coupled with injuries that occur each week in the most violent major sport, I like to

pick one week at a time. Yet if you'd asked me prior to the playoffs to give you my favorite, it would have been Kansas City.

It's been 50 years since the Chiefs have won a Super Bowl. It's their electric offense that sucks me into picking them each week. And it showed as they found themselves down by double digits in each of their three playoff games. Somewhere the Houston Texans are having nightmares of being up more than 20 points on the Chiefs on the road in a game that felt like it was now years ago.

While it's the biggest spectacle of the year in mainstream sports and entertainment, I'll admit it took a somber turn when, just one week prior, NBA legend Kobe Bryant and eight others (including his 13-year old daughter) were killed in a helicopter crash. The Super Bowl is a 2-week long party and this year it was hosted in the fun and sun of Miami — the best venue for the big game.

Yet everything from the day Kobe died until kickoff seemed surreal. Perhaps I wasn't the only one who had a hard time being as excited throughout Super Bowl week. The NBA is a young professional sports league, all things considered. Most of its all-time great players are

still alive. To lose one of its most accomplished stars, so suddenly and tragically, rocked sports nation to its core.

Onto the game, where I picked the Chiefs to win but it took the offense 3 1/2 quarters to wake up. The 49er defense was for real and the results all season screamed it. When it was time, the defense bent as Kansas City scored 21 points in the final nine minutes to turn a 20-10 deficit into a 31-20 win.

Quarterback and Super Bowl MVP Patrick Mahomes has cemented himself as the game's best player, yet on that night, I wasn't as impressed. When the chips were down he made drives, but I saw a lot of errant plays. My MVP was running back Damien Williams, who ran for more than 100 yards and scored two touchdowns. But it's a quarterback league.

Is this the start of the next dynasty? I'm not a predictor of those things but the Chiefs and Mahomes deserve to be atop the mountain.

The halftime show seems to be getting more attention than the game. I thought Shakira and Jennifer Lopez put on a great show. I'll admit, I'm not the biggest lover of their music. I had no idea who the male rappers were that were added to the mix. But given the venue and location, I thought it was spot on. Who better to intertwine pop and R&B with Latin flavor?

From a choreography and movement perspective, it was well done. We're in an age where everyone has an opinion and an outlet via social media. There were comments on the attire and the pole dancing, which I felt was J-Lo sticking it to Hollywood for not giving her an Oscar nod for her role in "Hustlers." In the end, even though the music didn't do anything for me, I'm not complaining. I can appreciate the art. To those saying it's just about sex appeal, I seem to remember sexiest man alive Adam Levine ripping his shirt off not too long ago for seemingly no reason.

With regard to commercials, I thought they were OK across the board. Not a great year by any means. The one getting a lot of early attention was the Google commercial where a man uses the search engine to help him remember characteristics about his late wife.

My favorite was the New York Life com-

mmercial noting the ancient Greeks' four words for love. My guess is most of you won't even remember it. Look it up.

My favorite funny commercial was the Snickers one about the world being "out of sorts." Amen! When those two folks fell into the "Snickers hole," attempting to take a selfie with one of those darn sticks, I thought it was classic.

And of course, there had to be a commercial, by Amazon of all companies — owned by a billionaire who also owns newspapers, referencing fake news. Can the creators of that commercial jump in the Snickers hole too please?

Fantasy wrap-up—I realized I never updated readers on the Advocate News fantasy league. Friend and fellow WHS classmate Nick Summy won the league again this year. That makes three in five years for him, yet I don't hold merit in it, as he doesn't draft his team. I tell him that playing him is like playing the computer.

I had a great team, featuring Christian McCaffrey of the Panthers who was by far the best fantasy player this year. I was in the top five for points scored yet top three for points against, meaning that everyone seemed to have the week of their lives against me. I missed the playoffs by one game and stormed through the "loser's bracket." Had I made the playoffs I could have made a "Titans-like" run I'm quite sure.

I invited Tipton Conservative sports editor Ryan Stonebraker into our league for the first time this season. He did a great job, finishing with the best regular season ever in our league's history (12-1) only to lose later in the championship game.

He invited me into his league as well. It's much different than ours, as it's a PPR (point per reception) league with infinite roster moves and two flex players (again look it up). I enjoyed the "Wild West" format and was able to sneak into the playoffs as the No. 7 seed of eight qualifiers and went all the way to win my first ever fantasy football title. I like to think of my teams as fluid and it showed in that league, as I made 86 roster moves. The next closest was 42. Who's ready for next season?

Managing influx of emails

In today's column, I want to talk about how to effectively communicate with your state legislator by email. One of the hardest things to adapt to as a new legislator in today's world is the deluge of email we receive. (And this is in addition to all the email I receive as a small business owner, my non-legislative job, and my personal inbox!) Several online companies have made it very easy to send "form" emails to legislators with the click of a button or two, so it's easy for groups with large followings to send out huge volumes of email to legislators.

I do my best to respond to everybody, but I have to confess I was not perfect about this last year. I spent a few days in December 2019 thinking about how to be more effective with this important responsibility this year, and I think I have a better system in place this year.

So far, I have received the most emails about two topics: animal welfare (45) and gun ownership (39). I've received more about animal welfare than guns, but it's close. The topic I have received the third most emails (17) about concerns manufactured housing and mobile homes, which I wrote about last week. I do think it's important to note, however, that all 17 of those emails are personally written, rather than automatically generated form emails like with animal welfare and gun ownership.

On the animal welfare side, the vast majority of people who are writing me are urging the Senate to pass House File 737, a compromise bill that would significantly improve protections against animal cruelty. HF737 passed the House nearly unanimously last year, but it did not come up for a vote in the Senate because the Republican Senate Majority Leader decided not to put it up for a vote. Thankfully, I have been told that it will come to the floor this year, and I intend to vote for HF737 when it comes up. Almost all of the emails generated on this topic have come from the group Iowa Voters for Companion Animals.

Concerning gun ownership, I grew up using firearms in the Boy Scouts (I earned both the rifle shooting and shotgun shooting merit badges) and still enjoy shooting to this day. Last year, I voted to amend the Iowa Constitution to include the federal Second Amendment. I also support universal background checks, and I believe that Iowa should take steps to ensure that the epidemic of gun violence we see across the rest of the country does not come to our state. As such, I will carefully consider any and all legislation

that comes before the Senate. Almost all of the emails generated on this topic have come from the groups Iowa Firearms Coalition (which is pro gun access) and Moms Demand Action (which is pro gun safety). I have also received email(s) about a "strict scrutiny" amendment, which I do not support.

Finally, on manufactured housing, we are continuing to have productive and bipartisan conversations about the best way to move forward. My hope is that we will have legislation filed in both the Senate and the House within the next week or two. Again, the key points are to (1) ensure that manufactured homeowners have protections at least as strong as those folks who rent apartments and (2) make sure both sides (i.e. the landlord and the residents) are being treated fairly under the law.

As always, please feel free to email me with your ideas, questions, or concerns at zach.wahls@legis.iowa.gov. Capitol Visitors: Tipton FFA students, West Branch FFA students, Nicole Pizzini from Solon, and physician assistants with ideas for meeting Iowa's health care needs.

To contact Sen. Wahls, who represents the people of Senate District 37 in Cedar County, portions of Johnson County, and Wilton in Muscatine County, when the Legislature is in session, call the Senate Switchboard at 515-281-3371.

Case in Point
By Derek Sawvell

Follow @SawvellAN



From the Wahls of the Senate

By Sen. Zach Wahls



Your Capitol Voice

By Rep. Bobby Kaufmann



Prescription drug price gouging

This week I was very honored to receive the "Good Government" award from the Iowa Pharmacy Association. I was given this award due to my work investigating price gouging when it comes to prescription drug costs. The average Iowan is impacted by sky-high prescription drug costs and I believe Pharmacy Benefit Managers (known as PBMs) are responsible for a lot of the problem.

Local Wilton pharmacists Cory and Michelle Garvin first made me aware of this problem. I was then made aware of a situation where a PBM was charging exorbitant amounts of profits over the cost of a drug in a jail in Wapello County. This discovery of taxpayer abuse led me to launch a high-profile investigation into the prescription drug world. This hearing I conducted when I was Government Oversight Chair was nearly two years ago but the positive ramifications of it are starting to show today.

Many states have been conducting similar investigations and Iowa will join them this year in crafting legislation to curb the power of PBMs. PBMs were originally created to be the "middle man" or "billing hub" between prescription drug companies and local pharmacies. They have grown into a monopoly and a gate keeper, far beyond their created intent. They charge large amounts of money, which adds dramatically to your prescription drug costs. I will keep you updated as this progresses.

The second thing I wanted to talk about this week is Education funding. I have consistently made public education a priority of mine and I think this year is poised to be one of the better funding levels in years. There are several priorities I have when it comes to education funding. The first is a dollar amount the state

can honor. Many of you remember examples of past over-promising and subsequent middle of the year cuts. I will never over-promise what the state cannot afford. The second priority is that education funding happens in a timely manner. The state is statutorily required to get the funding number out within 30 days so school boards can meet their budgets.

I am happy to report that this year education funding will meet all three of my requirements.

I do believe we will have the dollar amount worked out within 30 days. This dollar amount is something schools can count on. This year I am supporting a \$94.7 million increase for the K-12 system. That would bring the total check that the state will write for public education to \$3.4 billion. That continues to put Iowa among the top in the nation when it comes to education spending as a percent of the budget.

Additionally, the House will be pushing to add an additional \$7.25 million to reduce transportation costs and \$5.8 million in equity funding to further reduce the cost per pupil by \$10 per student. In total, the proposal I am supporting is an additional \$108 million dollars for public education. Public schools are the bedrock and foundation of our communities and I will continue to fight for them.

Capitol Visitors: Dennis and Vicki Anderson - Moscow

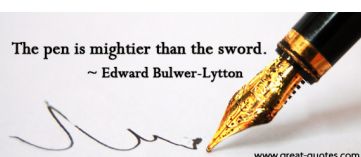
Listening Post Schedule (Feb. 15): 8:30 a.m., Bennett American Legion; 10:30 a.m., Lowden City Hall; 1 p.m., Palmer House Stable, Solon

Contact Rep. Kaufmann:
Email: bobby.kaufmann@legis.iowa.gov
Phone: 515-281-3221
Mail: 1527 330th Street, Wilton, IA 52778

Advocate News letter to the editor policy

The Advocate News welcomes letters to the editor. Letters have a 400-word limit and will run at the editor's discretion. The author's name and address must be included, along with a phone number for verification. Writers are limited to one letter per month. Letters and/or questions may be directed to AN Editor Derek Sawvell, dsawvell@netwto.net or 563-732-2029. Email is preferred. They may also be mailed to:

Letters to the editor
Advocate News
PO Box 40
Wilton, IA 52778



Dos and don'ts of donating items to charity

Donating gently used household items, toys, furniture, and clothing to charity has many benefits. Such donations can help the less fortunate, while donors can take advantage of tax benefits while de-cluttering their homes.

There is also an environmental advantage to donating items rather than putting them in the trash. Goodwill Industries International, Inc. says that, over the last few years, generous people have helped to keep billions of pounds of clothing and household items out of landfills.

Organizations that collect donations put them to use in many different ways. A portion of donated items may be sold in charity shops and other retail centers. This provides an avenue for less fortunate individuals to purchase items that are steeply discounted from regular retail prices. Some clothing donations are sold to recycling manufacturers who turn them into rags or industrial cleaning materials. Donated clothing and other items may even end up in the hands of private enterprises, who then sell it in developing nations at costs lower than regularly imported clothing, providing an affordable way for people living in poverty overseas to purchase items for themselves and their families. The organizations then put the money made from such sales toward their operational expenses and to develop programs to

continue to help the less fortunate. Charities like Goodwill and The Salvation Army indicate on their websites that proceeds from charity and thrift shops go directly to support education, work and drug rehab programs. Individuals who choose to donate goods to charity can follow a few tips to ensure their donations go as smoothly as possible.

DO walk around the house and gather items that are no longer being used. Look in basements, closets, garages, sheds, attics, and anywhere you are inclined to stash items to get them out of the way. Pay special attention to materials that you haven't used in months or years.

DON'T donate just anything. Ensure that items are in working condition and are in good repair. Don't give away things with rips or stains. Make sure electronics you plan to donate are operational.

DO call first to find out any rules or restrictions regarding donations. Some groups won't accept items that have been recalled or do not meet current safety standards (think some baby gear). Specialty items like computers, vehicles or mattresses may have specific requirements for donations.

DON'T overlook the idea of selling items privately at a garage or yard sale and then donating the funds to the charity. This way the organizations save time sorting and refurbishing donations, and they still benefit

from the financial donations.

DO see if the charity will pick up large items. Many organizations have their own fleet of vans and trucks and will have specific pickup windows during certain months. This helps make the donation process more efficient, and can reduce the hassle on donors.

DON'T forget to receive a market value of the used items donated to the charity and a receipt. This will help you when it comes time to claim charitable donations during tax season.



Donating gently used items from your home can have many benefits.

2020 TAX PREP GUIDE



Tax-Advantaged Investing can grow wealth

Investing has always been a means for people to grow their wealth and make their money work for them. Investors know that protecting investment earnings is important, and that often can be achieved through tax-advantaged investments.

Tax-advantaged investing, also called tax-efficient investing, allows investors to maximize the profits they can keep after taxes are filed. Investment selection and asset allocation are important factors affecting returns, but minimizing taxes and other costs is also crucial, according to the Schwab Center for Financial Research.

There are some ways for investors to keep more of their assets. A qualified financial advisor can help navigate the waters of the best tax-advantaged options. When investing on an annual basis, there are some general accounts people can use to their advantages.

• **A 401(k) or 403(b):** These accounts are an ideal way to get "free" money. Funds in these accounts are put away pre-tax. Because your adjusted gross income is lowered, so is your federally taxable income. In addition, some employers may match contributions up to a certain percentage. Companies also may offer Roth 401(k) plans, which differ from traditional plans in regard to when you pay taxes. With Roth plans, you pay taxes up front. When the money is eventually withdrawn, those withdrawals are tax-free.

• **IRAs:** Individual retirement accounts are similar to 401(k) plans in that they're tax-deferred. However, they generally offer greater freedom in investment choices. Roth IRAs, like the Roth 401(k) plans, must be paid with after-tax dollars. But the advantages are higher contribution amounts, withdrawals that are tax-free and no mandatory withdrawals when a person reaches a certain age.

• **Tax-Free Savings Account (TFSA):** Canadian investors can explore TFSA's. These

are accounts that do not tax any contributions, interest earned, dividends, or capital gains, and can be withdrawn tax-free. It is available to individuals ages 18 and older in Canada and can be used for any purpose.

• **College savings accounts:** Investing in a 529 plan can be wise for parents. While money is invested after tax, it is tax-free

when withdrawn for qualified higher education purposes.

• **Health savings accounts:** To get a tax deduction on health expenses, an HSA is the way to go. HSAs are linked to high-deductible health plans and allow account holders to use the funds for qualified spending.



Working with a financial planner can help investors maximize their investments to be as tax-efficient as possible. Financial experts understand funding limits and the timeline in which to invest for tax advantages.

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Laura Kauffman
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OPINION

'Trans people are not a danger'

Editor:

Thankfully, the anti-transgender bill is dead in committee. But the efforts of these nine brave Republican legislators bring up a concern that not many of us are aware of. The Christian far right, or "Dominionists," has a specific goal of transforming our republic into a theocracy. All laws based on their version of Christ's mission and message. The antithesis of the founders' aims.

Many national level Republicans are in this group. Attorney General William Barr. Trump's spiritual advisor. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos.

Many of Iowa's state legislators seem to be sharing this goal too.

The Pew Organization Religious Landscape Study suggests that not all conservatives support this radical goal. They report that less than 50 percent of Republicans attend church more than two or three times per year; That 14 percent of Republicans are unaffiliated with any religion; That less than 50 percent of them use religion as guidance on "right" vs. "wrong." That the percentage of R's, NP's and D's who feel a sense of wonder about the universe is practically equal.

Our Constitution inspires a different vision. Our founding motto, E Pluribus Unum literally means "out of many, one." One country, people of many backgrounds. Some Christian groups asked to have their version enshrined in our laws, and the writers of our Constitution wisely turned them down. They knew, as we all know, that there is no religious freedom if one version of any religion is writing our laws. They knew that selecting judges based on religious attitudes was not a path to justice.

Our country is in grave danger of being controlled by Republicans who do not agree with our country's founding principles. We must vet our candidates better, and ensure that they support the call of the Constitution to "require no religious test," and to make no establishment of religion.

No science justifies limiting the rights of gay persons or transgender people. Let our courts protect the rights of these people to live in peace, with no infringement of their rights to the pursuit of happiness. Their sexuality has no bearing on their character.

Trans people are not a danger to anyone, on the street, in bathrooms or in church. Conservatives might not understand the lifetime of angst and soul searching that trans people live through, but surely they are capable of understanding that their existence is not a danger to anyone else, not something to be afraid of or regulate. Capable of understanding that discrimination belittles all of us and our founding ideals. Capable of understanding that acknowledging their existence and rights does not, cannot diminish your own values.

Far right conservatives are actively working to segregate as second class citizens anyone who doesn't appreciate their authoritarian vision of a "godly" society.

Do any conservatives view the appointment of unqualified judges based on their religious views as a step too far? Shouldn't they be our best constitutional legal scholars?

Everything in our Constitution is at stake here.

Laura Twing
Tipton

IDP statement on Caucus reporting

DES MOINES — On the morning of Tuesday, Feb. 4, Iowa Democratic Party Chair Troy Price released the following statement:

"Last night, more than 1,600 precinct caucuses gathered across the state of Iowa and at satellite caucuses around the world to demonstrate our shared values and goal of taking back the White House. The many volunteers running caucus sites, new voters registering as Democrats, and neighbors talking to each other about the future of our country demonstrated the strength of our party.

"We have every indication that our systems were secure and there was not a cyber security intrusion. In preparation for the caucuses, our systems were tested by independent cybersecurity consultants.

"As precinct caucus results started coming in, the IDP ran them through an accuracy and quality check. It became clear that there were inconsistencies with the reports. The underlying cause of these inconsistencies was not immediately clear, and required investigation, which took time.

"As this investigation unfolded, IDP staff activated pre-planned backup measures and entered data manually. This took longer than expected.

"As part of our investigation, we determined with certainty that the underlying data collected via the app was sound. While the app was recording data accurately, it was reporting out only partial data. We have determined that this was due to a coding issue in the reporting system. This issue was identified and fixed. The application's reporting issue did not impact the ability of precinct chairs to report data accurately.

"Because of the required paper documentation, we have been able to verify that the data recorded in the app and used to calculate State Delegate Equivalents is valid and accurate. Precinct level results are still being reported to the IDP. While our plan is to release results as soon as possible today, our ultimate goal is to ensure that the integrity and accuracy of the process continues to be upheld."

Help DNR track frog and toad populations

It's 10 p.m. on a summer night along a gravel road anywhere in Iowa. In the farm pond next to the road, a raucous chorus of male frogs are making themselves heard as they vie for mates. A volunteer stands clipboard in hand, ear cocked, mentally sorting out each of the calling species, which are using this seemingly ordinary pond.

All across Iowa, citizen scientists are contributing to wildlife conservation. The volunteer described above was trained through the Iowa Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) Volunteer Wildlife Monitoring Program.

"With more than 1,000 wildlife species in the state, we just don't have enough staff to adequately monitor all the vulnerable species that

we need to. This is where citizen scientists play a crucial role," said Stephanie Shepherd, coordinator of the Volunteer Wildlife Monitoring Program for the Iowa DNR.

Every March and April, Shepherd travels around the state to lead training workshops that ready folks to collect data on some of Iowa's critical wildlife.

Amphibians have been of concern to scientists all over the globe as these vulnerable species appear to be declining. In Iowa's frog and toad call survey, volunteers are trained to listen to and recognize the 16 species of frogs and toads in Iowa based on their breeding calls. In 2019, volunteers surveyed 74 survey routes, which translate into a little more than 500 wetland sites monitored for frog and toad activity.

"The frog and toad surveyors are particularly special because, to perform the surveys, volunteers have to drive back country roads at night along a specified route with only their ears to collect the data," Shepherd said. "I think most feel that exploring the Iowa wilds at night is a unique experience."

Interested volunteers must register for and attend a training workshop, geared for adults. Frog and Toad Survey workshops will be held in Ringgold County on March 30, Des Moines County on April 10, and Palo Alto County on April 14. All workshops will be held from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

For more information visit: <http://www.iowadnr.com/vwmp/> or e-mail vwmp@dnr.iowa.gov.

Muscatine Co. Extension elects new 2020 officers

On Jan. 15, the Muscatine County Extension Council had its annual organizational meeting. New officers were elected for 2020.

Lance Rowell of Muscatine is the re-elected chairperson. Rowell will preside at all meetings of the county extension council, have authority to call special meetings and perform duties as performed and exercised by a chairperson of a board of directors of a corporation. Bob Chrz, Fruitland, was elected vice chairperson.

Becky Vargas of West Liberty was elected secretary and has the responsibility of keeping the minutes of all county extension council meetings and signing required papers for the council.

The council elected Doug Nolte of Wilton to the treasurer position. The treasurer has charge of all of the funds of the county extension council; receives, deposits, pays and disburses. The treasurer ensures an accurate record of receipts and disbursements and submits reports to the county extension council.

As elected officials, the county extension council is the governing body of ISU Extension and Outreach Muscatine County. The county extension council hires county staff, manages the county extension budget and helps determine programming.

There is currently one vacancy on the Muscatine County extension council. County residents interested in serving are encouraged to contact Krista Regennitter, County Extension Director, at 563-263-5701.

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The Wildcat Chronicles

Durant High School

February 6, 2020

Majority of students for new smoking age

By Nicole Brown

A majority of Durant students support a new federal law that raises the legal smoking age to 21.

A recent *Wildcat Chronicles* poll asked students if they supported the legal tobacco buying age being raised to 21. The law was signed by President Donald Trump in December.

Out of 101 students, almost 60 percent supported the new law.

According to current Iowa law, anyone 18 years of age or older is not considered a minor. This means that they are allowed to use tobacco products, and they can legally smoke them just as before, but they will not be allowed to purchase them until they reach 21 years of age under the new federal law, according to Sgt. Mike Meier, the school's resource officer.

Citing a directive from the Iowa Attorney General's office, Sgt. Meier said local

and state authorities will not be able to enforce the new age restriction until the Iowa Legislature amends its own laws to match the new federal law.

To legally sell tobacco in the state of Iowa, a business must have a tobacco license registered with the state.

"The state gets their regulations from the feds, so the feds have to get it to the state, and the state has to get it down to the retailers, and sometimes it takes a little while," said Sgt. Meier.

Durant businesses started enforcing this new federal law quite quickly, but Sgt. Meier said the illegal selling of tobacco products might not disappear overnight in the state.

"At first probably, but then everybody will get used to it again just like they did with alcohol," said Sgt. Meier.

He also feels this law could have some very major health benefits across the

board.

"I believe that for some of my classmates that are already smoking, it will be a bit of a challenge, but I think that this age change is a good thing," said Durant senior Kody Koberg.

"Nicotine is a dangerous and life-threatening drug that kids should not get hooked on at a young age."

President Donald Trump has already taken action against vaping by banning all flavored nicotine products; however, this new federal law banning the sale of tobacco products to anyone under 21 years of age seems like an ever more drastic step, and one that doesn't sit well with one 18-year-old Durant senior.

"I think it's going to affect people because for the people that are like 20 and they've been smoking for years, it's going to not be good," said senior Darrell Melton-Grage. "I think people are going to start pro-

testing about it."

One Wildcat sophomore simply feels that the government should not have the power to dictate legal substances once a person becomes an adult.

"If you can go serve your country when you are 18 and die for your country when you're 18, you should be able to buy cigarettes or vape. I understand why they raised it, but I think it'll cause more illegal activity," said Cooper Bein.

Sophomore Ethan Woodhouse also brought up an interesting perspective.

"If you think about it, Prohibition happened and illegal activity rose, and it caused more drinking accidents," he said.

He believes that the new federal law will cause a rise in illegal activity among those under 21 years old, similar to Prohibition because people under age will go to extreme measures to obtain nicotine products.

Cards pitcher invites sophomore to meet team

By Koby Paulsen

With Major League Baseball starting in a week, Durant sophomore Jaehn Heald has a special reason to celebrate the start of a new season. Two years ago, he met his favorite team, the St. Louis Cardinals.

On July 30, 2018, Heald and his grandfather, Bruce Heald of Davenport, were attending a Cardinals game at Busch Stadium and sitting near the father of Cardinal pitcher Daniel Ponce de Leon. The father noticed that Heald's grandfather was wearing a special homemade Ponce de Leon shirt. This shirt was made to honor Ponce de Leon after he was struck in the head by a line drive in 2017, causing a fractured skull and a brain bleed.



Heald

Bruce and Jaehn were sitting in a section behind home plate. When Ponce de Leon came into the game in the fifth, he gave up a grand slam to his second batter, Rockies third baseman Nolan Arenado. Jaehn said that Bruce acted like any other fan would.

"My Grandpa went from waving Ponce's jersey around to, wow, that really just happened," said Jaehn.

Ponce de Leon went two more innings, finishing with two earned runs and two strikeouts, keeping the game in reach for the Cardinals.

The Cardinals fought back in the

seventh, tying the game at 4-4. The game went into extras, where Cardinal left fielder Marcell Ozuna walked it off with a solo home run to center field in the bottom of the 10th inning.

As if a thrilling Cardinal win wasn't enough for one day, Jaehn's story gets better.

After the game, Ponce de Leon's father went up to the Healds and noticed Bruce's shirt, offering to get it signed by the pitcher. Bruce and Jaehn then went to the clubhouse entrance where Ponce de Leon met the two and signed the jersey.

Jaehn explained that Ponce de Leon was very professional about himself and very thankful for the support.

"Even after giving up a grand slam, he made it seem like another day in the office," Jaehn said. "He was very professional. He even told us that he had never felt anything like that support."

The three continued talking for a little bit until Ponce de Leon offered to take the Healds inside the Cardinal clubhouse. Jaehn said he met some of his favorite players including Adam Wainwright, Yadier Molina, Marcell Ozuna, Matt Carpenter, and Kolten Wong.

Jaehn said he and his grandfather go to at least one Cardinals game per year with the rest of their family. Jaehn wasn't even a year old when he said he attended his first game: Game Six of the 2004 NLCS when Cardinal center fielder Jim Edmonds hit a walk-off two-run home run.

The Cardinals' spring training will



Photo by Taka Yanagimoto / St. Louis Cardinals

Durant sophomore Jaehn Heald met St. Louis Cardinals pitcher Daniel Ponce de Leon and other Cardinal players after a baseball game at Busch Stadium in July of 2018.

start on February 11th when pitchers and catchers report to Jupiter, Florida. Their first workout will be the following day. All other position players must report on the 16th, with the first full workout being the 17th.

The Chicago Cubs will report to Mesa, Arizona, with the same schedule.

Jaehn acknowledges that at Durant High School, there seems to be an even divi-

sion between Cubs and Cardinals fans.

"Being a diehard Cardinals fan, you have to respect the Cubs. And being a Cubs fan, you have to respect the Cardinals," Jaehn said.

"Watching the Cubs win the World Series in 2016, there was one thing I never thought I'd hear my grandpa say: 'They deserved it.'"

Drama club doubles cast for spring production

By Danielle Paulsen

Cast numbers have doubled for the spring play *No Body to Murder*, causing some pleasant headaches for first-year theater director Ms. Cinnamon Kleeman.

Ms. Kleeman explained how the play she originally planned for this spring was suited for similar numbers as the fall play, but with cast numbers going from 12 to 25, she had to make changes.

The play *No Body to Murder* is something different than what Durant audiences are used to. With a sudden boom in in-

terest in the drama department, Ms. Kleeman had to find a play that had enough parts for everyone who tried out, since she originally picked a play to fit a very small cast.

"It is a murder mystery mellow drama," said Ms. Kleeman.

Doubling the cast causes many changes within the process and production itself. For many cast members, it makes things easier for the fact that they don't have to memorize multiple parts.

Sophomore Jenna Krause, who was a part of the play last fall, is excited to see

how different it will be with so many more people.

"I thought there would be more competition," said Krause, "but it's really nice having people I don't usually talk to. We have a lot of fun."

Ms. Kleeman is getting used to all the changes happening this spring. Attendance with the large cast is more difficult to figure out, and there is a much bigger set included, but these are all things Ms. Kleeman is excited to figure out.

"I am very glad to see crew members now being involved in the cast and having a student director is really helpful," she said.

The cast looks forward to putting this show on and encourages students and the community to come enjoy it on March 6, 7, and 8.

"We have a great director," said Krause. "It should be fun for students to see their classmates up on stage in a different way."

Survey: students divided on gun control

By Rylee Page

In the wake of mass shootings nationwide, the debate over stricter gun laws now rages in the United States. A *Wildcat Chronicles* poll shows the students of Durant High School fall on either side of the gun control debate.

Over 100 students participated in the poll, which mainly asked questions about gun laws in the state of Iowa.

When the students were asked if banning guns would make the United States more or less safe, 51% saying it would be more safe. However, 65% said stricter gun laws would not reduce mass shootings in the United States.

Heidi Wolf, a senior, said that “violent events won’t change because criminals will always find a loophole.”

When asked if they would ever purchase a handgun at the age of 21, 55% of the

students answered yes. Belle Rockow, a junior, said that she would consider purchasing a gun for her own protection. This seems to be the sole reason for most students wanting to purchase a handgun.

When asked if they would support or oppose a nationwide ban on high capacity ammunition clips, meaning those containing more than 10 bullets, 60% of students said they would be opposed, and when asked about banning assault rifles such as the AK-47 or AR-15, 60% of students also said no to banning these weapons.

So what gun regulations are students willing to pass then?

Of the 101 students polled, 59% said they would be in favor of raising the legal age to purchase a shotgun and rifle to 21 instead of 18.

They also had very strong opinions on when it came to registering a gun and

background checks on people who want to purchase a gun.

More than three-fourths of the students, 76.3%, agreed that the current law in Iowa should change so that all guns should be registered in the state of Iowa. An overwhelming 96% said they would support having mandatory background checks for gun purchases at gun shows or other private sales.

There are currently 13 permitless states, meaning a gun owner is not required to carry a permit. Patience RayShel, a sophomore, is part of the 81.6% that said they would be opposed to Iowa becoming a permitless state.

“Anybody would be able to purchase a gun then and if people had access to guns, it would be easier for them to abuse that power,” she said.

Last year, the Iowa Legislature also

passed a resolution that would add Second Amendment protections to the state constitution. Iowa is only one of six states that don’t have such an amendment.

However, the resolution would need to be passed a second time by the Legislature and then put to a statewide referendum (a general vote) before it could be added to the state constitution.

Almost 59 percent of the students surveyed said they would vote for such an amendment if it reached the ballot.

So what can be taken away from these statistics?

It seems like most high school students at Durant are pro gun, but they just want more regulations when it comes to gun laws in the state of Iowa.

Whether you are pro gun or not, there are still a couple of changes that must be made in order to keep everyone safe.

TikTok booms among our teenage population

By Keagen Head

In the first 20 years of the 21st century, technology has introduced us to a new world called social media. There’s been supporters and haters, but no one can change the fact that it’s out there, and it has consumed the lives of millions.

TikTok, the most recent social media to enter the internet world, has become a global sensation – especially for the teenage population. I have to admit at the beginning of this article that I have never been a fan of TikTok, but I do use some other social media.

TikTok is an app available in over 150 countries that allows users to post videos ranging from three to 60 seconds about anything they can think of.

Users can follow other users to be able to see what they post on a daily basis. Most videos uploaded to the app are of teenagers dancing to songs like Lottery by K Camp, Roxanne by Arizona Zervas, and The Box by Roddy Ricch.

According to Oberlo.com, an astonishing 41% of TikTok’s users are between 16

and 24 years of age. That’s over 200 million TikTokers. Of those active users, an average of 52 minutes is spent on the app daily. As a student, I wonder whether that time can be spent doing more important activities like homework.

Kody Koberg, a senior at Durant High School, has over 30,000 followers on his TikTok account and says he finds the app a valuable way to connect with other teens.

“I think the greatest thing about TikTok is ability to post short random videos that people can either laugh at, relate to, or find interesting,” said Koberg. “It’s also a cool and fun way for people to express themselves and connect with others.”

However, he admits that some content can be hurtful or inappropriate.

Allie Peel, a junior at Durant High School, agrees. Peel is a TikTok user as well who thinks the hurtful comments and videos can make the app negative.

However, she said that “seeing all the creative content people put out and how much effort they [users] put into the 15-second videos” is the best part for her.

Experts have also suggested that there are many positives to TikTok, some that could even solve mental health problems for younger adults, according to an article written by Bethany Ao and Ellie Silverman in *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. TikTok serves as a platform where teens have other teens to relate to in unique ways that adults can’t provide. This platform is what helps teenagers through the problems.

For example, TikTok has tapped into its users’ searches in order to combat mental illness.

Whenever anyone searches the words “depression” or “suicide” in the app’s search bar, links to either suicide prevention hotlines or tips on how to get help pop up instead of videos, the article pointed out.

Without a doubt, TikTok can become addicting for its users. Both Durant students said they spend upwards of one hour on the app daily.

Yet, TikTok has been able to use its influence to help solve a worldwide problem facing our next generation of adults, which makes it okay in my eyes.

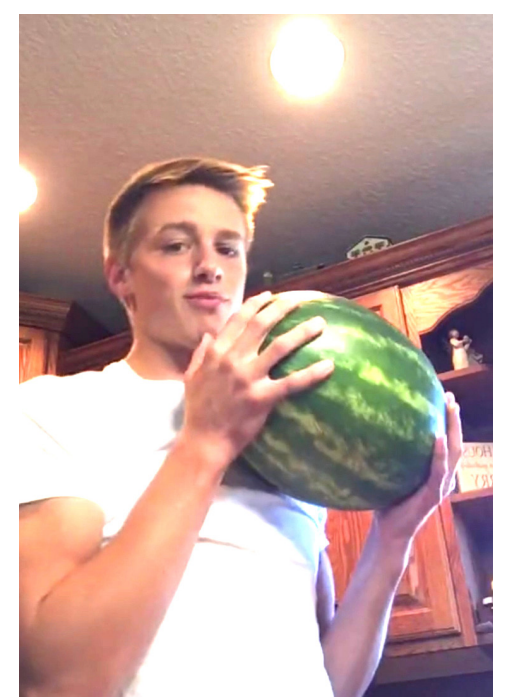


Photo by Keagen Head

Kody Koberg has been making TikTok videos for over a year and has over 70,000 likes for this particular video.

“Rookie” newspaper reporter takes on 2020 Super Bowl

By Sofia Reyna

As the “rookie” reporter for *The Wildcat Chronicles*, I was surprised that my first topic was the 2020 Super Bowl between the San Francisco 49ers and the Kansas City Chiefs last Sunday. To many people, the Super Bowl is something that cannot be missed.

I, however, see the event as just an

other day.

I don’t really pay attention to any sports, but I can see how people are affected by the Super Bowl. A thirty-second ad can cost up to \$5 million during the Super Bowl, according to *CNN*, but I find that outrageous!

Even if the commercials are one of the best things during the event, it amazes me how much revenue the Super Bowl makes, even though it really shouldn’t.

I know a little about the sport of football, but I can’t find the idea of watching men hurting each other over a pigskin appealing. The only time I watch football is when my father is watching it, and I have literally nothing else to do but watch along

with him.

Even then, I leave after about a minute or two.

Others share the same views about football and the Super Bowl.

“I have no interest in watching it, said senior Kayla Erbst. “I don’t get the enjoyment that other people, or fans, do.”

Erbst, like me, is sometimes roped into hearing about it by friends or family, but it doesn’t affect our views on football.

“I understand it [football] a little since I’ve got people in my family who are heavily into football,” says Erbst. “It doesn’t really make me feel left out if they all enjoy it; I’ve got things I enjoy that my family don’t.”

Sophomore Addysen Clark said that NFL teams don’t interest her either.

“I don’t really watch the Super Bowl because I’m not really a fan of the teams. I like the Hawkeyes in college football though,” Clark said.

The fact that players get injured bothers Clark a bit as well.

“It bothers me a little, but they are used to this kind of stuff, and they have lots of gear,” said Clark.

The Super Bowl was watched by millions, and it didn’t just consist of football fans.

Even if there are people who do not find pleasure in watching the sport, they watched the Super Bowl for other reasons.

“I watch the Super Bowl for the

shows and commercials,” said Clark.

Even if I don’t get the rush from football that other people do, I watched it too – but only for the halftime show and commercials.

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The Wildcat Chronicles journalism staff feels a school newspaper is uniquely qualified to inform, entertain, and represent our peers. We strive to present accurate stories and thought-provoking commentary and are responsible for the content of each issue.

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The Chronicles Poll:
 What was your Super Bowl prediction?

| | |
|--|--|
|  Zack Pearlman “49ers, 24-17.” |  Mr. Wille “Chiefs, 34-28.” |
|  Belle Rockow “49ers, 28-21.” |  Jason Arp “Give me the Chiefs, 34-7.” |

U.S. Census Bureau looking for help

The U.S. Census Bureau is currently hiring in Muscatine County for the 2020 Census. The positions are temporary and are expected to extend through the summer of 2020. Pay for Census Takers is \$19.50 per hour.

The position has flexible hours and paid mileage. If you are able to work nights and weekends, include that on your application.

By working for the Census Bureau, the community has a special opportunity to help make the 2020 Census an accurate and complete count. The Census count happens once every 10 years, which influences how more

than \$675 billion from more than 100 federal programs are distributed to states and localities each year.

Here's some of what the census numbers effect: Medicaid, school lunch programs, community development grants, road and school construction, medical services and business locations.

If interested in becoming a Census taker, please visit the Census Bureau job site to apply. You'll also be able to see descriptions and frequently asked questions at 2020census.gov/jobs.

R.I.A. hosting Wilton food drive

R.I.A. Federal Credit Union's Wilton branch is participating in a food drive to benefit the needy through the Durant-Wilton Food Pantry during the month of February.

Members and non-members are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items or money

donations to our Wilton branch located at 1111 W Fifth St.

For more information about R.I.A. and its services, call 563-355-3800 or visit www.riafcu.com.

Durant February Bible discussions

Local Bible discussions are scheduled for the following Wednesdays: Feb. 5, 19, and 26 at 7 p.m. at the Durant Community Center located at 606 Fifth St.

All are welcome. These hour-long sessions are simple teachings of Jesus, using only the

Bible as text and given freely, the pure gospel as it was taught to those original Christians and continues to this day.

For more information, call Andrea Jensen at 972-974-6255.

DNR assistance available for landowners interested in CRP

Landowners interested in enrolling a portion of their land into the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) general signup have until Feb. 28 to write an offer. The general signup came out of the 2018 Farm Bill that increased the cap of acres enrolled from 22 million acres to 27 million.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources

has information on the latest CRP signup and local contacts available to help landowners navigate the process online at www.iowadnr.gov/crp.

By enrolling in CRP, producers are improving water quality, reducing soil erosion, and restoring habitat for wildlife. This in turn spurs hunting, fishing, recreation, tourism, and other economic development across rural Iowa.

Reynolds announces appointments to Iowa's boards and commissions

DES MOINES – Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds announced appointments to Iowa's boards and commissions.

The following appointments are subject to Senate confirmation:

Board of Educational Examiners: Timothy Bower, Fairfield; Rhonda McRina, Waterloo; Kristen Rickey, Manchester

Board of Parole: Andrew Boettger, Vice Chair, Cambridge; Ralph Haskins, West Des Moines; Sue Weinacht, Cedar Rapids

Board of Parole-Alternate Members: Vince Lewis, West Des Moines

Child Advocacy Board: Rafaela Cadena, Marion

Commission on Community Action Agencies: Kevin Brown, Spencer

Commission of Deaf Services: Carly Armour, Iowa City; Jillyn Kaufman, Eldridge; Chris Nipper, Council Bluffs

Credit Union Review Board: Paddy Friedrichsen, Sioux City

Higher Education Loan Authority: Randolph Fehr, Washington

Iowa Autism Council: Cheryl Mulligan, Shenandoah

Iowa Law Enforcement Academy Council: Jana Abens, Bondurant; Melissa Henderson, Monticello; Diane Venenga, Iowa City

Investment Board of the IPERS: Jeffrey Garrett, Washington

Justice Advisory Board: Eileen Meier, Manson

Juvenile Justice Advisory Council: Megan Adam, Ames; John Hirl, Oskaloosa

Real Estate Appraiser Examining Board: Loretta Laubach, Sanborn

Renewable Fuel Infrastructure Board: Karen Long, Johnston

The following appointments are not subject to Senate confirmation:

Armory Board: Laura Miller, Polk City; Virginia Taylor, Exira

Consumer Advisory Panel: Heath Mallory,

Moville

Criminal Justice Information Systems Committee: Jacob Mason, Ankeny; Sarah Fineran, Huxley

Fire Service and Emergency Response Council: Scott Kovarna, Merrill

iJag: Troy Cook, Johnston

Iowa Council for Early ACCESS: Stephen Mandler, Cumming; Lee Pool, New Hampton

Iowa Council on Homelessness: Matthew Horihan, Spencer; Laura Burget, Clinton

Iowa Humanities Board: Susan Kloewer, Des Moines

Interstate Compact Council for Adult and Juvenile Offenders: Nathaniel Ristow, Williamsburg

Mississippi River Parkway Planning Commission: Terry Eagle, Muscatine; Paula Mayer, Sabula

North Central Regional STEM Advisory Board: Jerry Chizek, Manson; Kathy Rogotzke, Charles City; Sarah Rosenblum, Marshalltown; Matthew Stephan, Fort Dodge

Northeast Regional STEM Advisory Board: Jason Martin-Hiner, Decorah

Northwest Regional STEM Advisory Board: Tyler Hahn, Cherokee

South Central Regional STEM Advisory Board: Jennifer Williams, Des Moines

Southeast Regional STEM Advisory Board: Rebecca Ruberg, Burlington; Jenna Stevens, Preston

Southwest Regional STEM Advisory Board: Nadine Jessen, Exira; Stephanie Lane, Creston; Deb Sprecker, Woodbine; Terry Torneten, Harlan

State Historical Records Advisory Board: Hope Bibens, Des Moines; Teresa Olson, Northwood

State Historical Society of Iowa Board of Trustees: Terrence Lindell, Waverly

Statewide Independent Living Council: Matt Grillot, DeWitt; Amy Robasse, Mount Vernon



COLLEGE NEWS

University of Northern Iowa fall semester Dean's List

The University of Northern Iowa announced the Dean's List for the fall 2019 semester. To be included on the list, a student must have earned a grade point of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale, while taking at least 12 hours of graded work during the semester.

The following local students were named to the Dean's List for the fall 2019 semester at the University of Northern Iowa: Alyssa Anderson, Wilton; Carly Baker, Wilton; Hallie Speed, Wilton; Alexis Grage, Durant; Alyssa Williams, Durant; Alexis Bartell, Wilton; Tatum Oveson, Wilton; Jeremy Abels, Durant; Taylor Cherven, Durant; Andrew Crippen, Durant; and Joshua Mostaert, Walcott.

University of Northern Iowa fall 2019 graduation list

The University of Northern Iowa announced the graduation list for the fall 2019 semester. A total of 893 students graduated this fall including the following local students: Shannon McMichael, Atalissa – Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education; Hannah Ralfs, Durant – Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education; Alyssa Williams, Durant – Bachelor of Arts in Movement & Exercise Science, Exercise

Science and Public Health and Education, Wellness & Fitness; Joshua Mostaert, Walcott – Bachelor of Arts in English Teaching; and Natalie Witt, Walcott – Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education.

Kirkwood Community College fall 2019 Dean's List

Kirkwood Community College has released its Dean's List for the fall 2019 semester. These students have achieved a 3.3 grade point average or higher after completing 12 or more credit hours at the college.

Kirkwood students from the area earning this distinction are listed as follows: Kelsi Hein of Bennett; Rachael Burmeister of Durant; Zachory Behrensmeyer of New Liberty; Todd Carter of Wilton; and Kortney Drake of Wilton.

Mount Mercy University fall 2019 Dean's List

Matthew Pelzer of Bennett was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2019 semester at Mount Mercy University. Students with a semester grade point average of 3.60 or better and who are graded for six or more semester hours are eligible for inclusion on the Dean's List.

Arrest made in state Capitol break-in

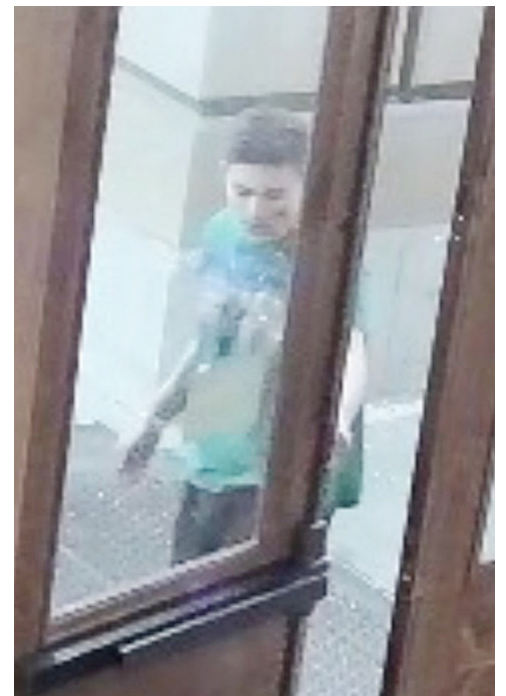
DES MOINES — What began as a search for a man who broke into Iowa's Capitol building in Des Moines over the weekend ended with the arrest of 20-year old Matthew McCoy Parker of Pleasant Hill. He was charged with one count of Criminal Trespass (Aggravated Misdemeanor) and one count of Criminal Mischief in the Second Degree (Class D Felony).

Parker came forward following the distribution of images captured on State Capitol surveillance cameras.

On the morning of Feb. 3, the Iowa State Patrol and Division of Criminal Investigation said they were seeking the public's assistance in identifying the person responsible for entering and damaging the Iowa State Capitol building in the early morning hours of Sunday, Feb. 2.

At approximately 2:55 a.m., a young male forcibly gained entry to the state Capitol building and caused damage. Authorities believe the suspect sustained injuries to his hands and/or arms, which may be significant.

Investigators shared two images captured on surveillance cameras, and describe the suspect as a white male with dark hair who is approximately six feet tall and weighing between 180 to 210 pounds. The suspect appeared to be wearing a green short-sleeved T-shirt, dark pants and light-colored shoes.



Surveillance footage of a young man breaking into the Iowa state Capitol building Feb. 2. After authorities began distributing photos, 20-year old Matthew McCoy Parker of Pleasant Hill turned himself into police. Contributed photo

2020 College Savings Iowa income tax deduction increasing

DES MOINES — State Treasurer Michael Fitzgerald announced the Iowa income tax deduction has increased for those saving with College Savings Iowa.

"Account owners who are Iowa taxpayers can deduct the first \$3,439 they contribute per beneficiary account from their state taxable income in 2020," Fitzgerald said. "This tax deduction is a great way to save for others while keeping more money in your pocket."

Fitzgerald created College Savings Iowa more than 20 years ago and worked to grow the plan to over \$5 billion. "I am extremely

proud of this important savings program and have made it my goal to continually improve upon our benefits every year," Fitzgerald stated. "Whether you're saving for community college, university, technical training schools, grad schools or more, saving with College Savings Iowa can help you achieve your higher education and career aspirations."

For more information about College Savings Iowa, call (888) 672-9116 or visit CollegeSavingsIowa.com. Connect with the plan on Facebook and Twitter to stay up to date on current events and plan updates.

STEM Advisory Council: Julie Adair, Madrid; Lisa Atchison-Charleston, Cedar Falls; Wendy Batchelder, Cumming; Jane Bradley, Waterloo; Kacia Cain, Indianola; Desmi Chandrasena, Clive; Benjamin Corell, Johnston; Christine Cournoyer, Le Claire; Denise Crawford, Gilbert; Barbara Crittenden, Creston; Robert Denson, Ankeny; Shawn Ford, West Des Moines; Dan Greteman, West Des Moines; Jason Huffman, Fort Madison; Sharon Jaeschke, Gowrie; Don Kearney, Marion; Chris

Kramer, Clive; Stephanie Laird, Altoona; Liz Mathis, Hiawatha; Mary Meisterling, Cedar Rapids; Louis Moreno, Des Moines; Valerie Newhouse, Emmetsburg; Mark Putnam, Pella; Dan Ryan, Clive; Barb Schwamman, Osage; Tamara Trinder, West Des Moines; Steven Triplett, North Liberty; Georgia Van Gundy, Waukee; Dave Williams, Cedar Falls; Jonathon Wickert, Ames; Emily Wilkerson, Adel; Michael Young, Ames

National Boy Scouts Day February 6



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Saluting Durant and Wilton Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts!

Boy Scout Law

A Scout is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, & Reverent.

Scout Slogan: Do a Good Turn Daily.

Scout Motto: Prepared. For Life.



Durant Cub Scout Pack 153

First row: Wyatt Fulton, Natalie Meincke (sister), Emryk Huston, Reilly Dau, Nevin Williams and Logan Meincke

2nd Row: Kyle Ginter, Scotty Stender, Jacob Roberts and Eric Hollenbeck

Back Row: Nathaniel Cramer, Aaron Kruse, Gus Huesmann and Logan Rappel

Not Pictured: Ian Rochholz, Levi Garrels, Myles Finck and Connor Kelting



Durant Boy Scout Troop 153

Left-right: Jeff Dau, Bryan Hoon, Mark Abels, Cameron Hoon, Terry Esbaum, Nolan Williams, Braden Wagner, Royce Richman, Tony Krebs, Luke Abels, Warren Dau and Dianne Abels

Merit Badges

There are more than 130 merit badges Scouts can work toward in subjects such as the outdoors, sports, crafts, science, business, life skills, and more.

Here are just a few:



Archery



Art



Camping



Dog Care



Emergency Preparedness

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National Boy Scouts Day February 6



The Boy Scout Oath

On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; To help other people at all times; To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

Prepared. For Life.™



Wilton Cub Scout Pack 151

First row: Ethan and Byron

Back row: Cub Master Katrina Harkness, Gabrielle, Brantley, Ben and Alex

Middle Row: Ethan, Easton, Cormick, Byron and Ayden

Kneeling in front: Jayden

Not pictured: Calvin, Jaxson, Maddox and Robert



Wilton Boy Scout Troop 151

Front Left-right: Nick Drake-Metzger, Tommy Drake-Metzger, Conner Skubal, Max Terry-Dalbey, Grayson Hartung and Tyler Ellithorpe

Back Left-right: Reese Vela and Gabe Paetz

Not Pictured: Carter Drake-Metzger, AJ Fox, Dominic James, Gabriel Breed, Marshall Ochiltree, Cody McDonald, Collin Wagner, Evan Miller and Colton Miller

Leaders (not pictured): Richard Creamer (Scoutmaster), Jacob Creamer, Scott Skubal, Rod Ochiltree, Collin Proctor and Bill Jennings



Local Scout Activities

- Soup Supper
- Memorial Day
- Pinewood Derby
- Fourth of July
- Popcorn Sales
- Food Drive
- Pop Can Collection
- Eagle Scout Projects

For more information about the Scouts visit <http://www.scouting.org/>

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Get on board the most visited website in town...

wdadvocatenews.com

The screenshot shows the website's header with the Wilton Bank logo and contact information for Grant Lilienthal. Below that, it displays the date (Tuesday, August 28, 2018) and navigation links like 'Log in', 'Subscribe', and 'e-Edition'. The main title 'Wilton-Durant Advocate News' is prominently featured. A weather widget shows 77.0° with fog/mist. A 'SUMMER CELEBRATION SALE!' banner is also visible. A navigation bar includes categories like News, Sports, Opinion, and Family News. Below the navigation bar are several advertisements, including one for 'ALPEN Ford' and another for 'SUMMER SALES EVENT'. The main content area features three article thumbnails: 'Backyard Challenge trophy to be presented Sept. 25', 'Wilton kicks off new school year with...', and 'Durant welcomes new...'. A fourth article thumbnail on the right asks 'How would you grade Durant School District facilities?' and shows a hand holding a smartphone displaying the website's mobile version.

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Miss a week...you miss a lot!

Wilton-Durant Advocate News

Straubes' love story comes as no surprise

By Ellie Olsen

Valentine's Day is just around the corner, and love is in the air. Why not kick it off with the legendary love story of the Straubes?

Mr. Matt Straube and Mrs. Abigail Straube are both teachers here at Durant High School and are happily married with two kids and one on the way.

He began teaching at Durant High School in 2012, and she started in 2014, but students knew her at the time by her maiden name, Ms. Helling. Their relationship blossomed in 2014 when the staff at DHS was trying to set them up. Mr. Straube was the one to make the first move.

Eventually, Mr. Straube worked up the courage to ask Mrs. Straube out on a date. He decided to take her to Kelly's in Davenport, followed by ice cream at Dairy Queen. The date went well and everything was history after that.

"I spilled ice cream all over myself, but she didn't dump me there, so I guess it was meant to be," Mr. Straube said about their first date.

After about 10 months of dating, Mr. Straube finally proposed. This wasn't

any ordinary proposal. Mr. Straube, a social studies teacher, led Mrs. Straube, a math teacher, on a scavenger hunt to monumental places in their relationship. The last destination was the church they went to every Sunday.

The wedding was on August 8th, 2015. Shortly after the wedding, the couple decided to have a baby.

"We talked about that [having kids] pretty early on. I want three biological, and then I want to foster or adopt," said Mrs. Straube.

Currently the Straubes have two children: Gracie, who is four years old, and Griffin, who is two years old. Mrs. Straube is expecting her third child in April.

Students often see the Straube clan out and about at most sporting events the school hosts. With Mr. Straube being athletic director and coach of the boys' varsity basketball team, he is a very busy man and spends a lot of his free time at the school.

"I like teaching in the same school district as my wife," Mr. Straube said. "It's nice, especially with being athletic director, to be able to see her just from the standpoint, I feel like I live here a lot of the time any-

way. Just being able to have lunch together or popping in between periods or something is nice."

Even though they are at the school a lot, they still find time to go out and spend quality family time together. One of their favorite things to do as a family is to take the kids to the zoo when it's nice out. Mr. Straube also likes to bond with his wife during long road trips.

"My inspiration couple is my grandparents," said Mrs. Straube. "They've been married for 71 years. Back in the day, he would always save a seat for my grandma on the bus."

Mr. and Mrs. Straube will always have a fun tale to tell when asked about how they met. The students of DHS will always be rooting for the Straubes and are very excited for their next child.

Choir offers singing serenades

By Ellie Olsen

This Valentine's Day, surprise that special someone with a singing valentine from the Concert Choir of Durant High School.

There are two options you may choose: a singing serenade over the phone for \$5 or an in-person serenade for \$10.

All the money from this fundraiser will be going towards the Durant Choir Department.

"We plan to use the funds to purchase new music and maybe eventually get new microphones," said senior Kyrnan

Liske-Rochholz.

"We think this is a great opportunity to make money to build our choir department."

This is the first year doing the serenades, but Ms. Cinnamon Kleeman, the Durant High School choir director, plans to continue this tradition for many years to come.

If you are interested in purchasing a serenade or have any questions, please contact Ms. Kleeman at cinnamon.kleeman@durant.k12.ia.us or call 563-785-4431 Ext. 1237.

DHS English department gets iPad keyboards

By Timothy Junis

This year, the Durant Community School Education Foundation (DCSEF) funded \$1,800 towards the purchase of 30 iPad keyboards with stands for the high school Language Arts classes.

One junior, Chloe Meana, said the keyboards are much easier to use than typing directly on an iPad screen.

"Being able to use the keyboards to work in class helps me get more done," she said. "I like the keyboards and think they are a good use of the money, and multiple students will benefit from them."

High school English teacher Ms. Lisa deMeyer worked very closely with the foundation's school liaison while applying for the grant. Ms. deMeyer believes this purchase will benefit her students greatly.

Linda Bachus, the school's liaison, is a board member for the foundation. She explained the process of a grant being awarded.

First, staff members fill out the grant form. They then send it to the foundation, which holds a meeting to figure out the logistics of each and every application. Lastly, the foundation will deem if the mon-

ey should be awarded in full, if it should be reduced, or not granted.

As an example, although Ms. deMeyer originally requested 50 keyboards, the foundation granted the funds for 30.

Every December and May, the foundation looks through grant forms that are filled out by staff. Staff may fill out applications for money to go towards educational projects like books, special supplies, and equipment.

Some things the foundation considers when fulfilling a request are how much money is needed, how many students will this benefit, and how often will the purchase be used.

"Very few [grants] are rejected," said Bachus. "If they are, they do not fit the criteria, or they are too expensive." She said that the foundation will usually award a partial grant if it is not allowed to award the grant in full.

On the school website, the DCSEF's mission statement is "to raise funds for innovative programs and facilities that enhance the educational experience and opportunities for students and faculty, therefore enriching the quality of life for the greater communi-



Photo By Ms. deMeyer

DHS students use new keyboards to assist with writing papers on their iPads.

ty."

Many staff members have used the generosity of the foundation to improve their classrooms. The website records funded projects dating back to 2006. Over 100 projects have been funded and approved by the

foundation.

Last year the foundation approved the funding of a band sousaphone for \$3,295. This year, a two-way security radio system was installed and funded by the DCSEF for \$500.

What is "longest" month of school year for teachers?

By Kiley Stineman

Some might argue that January and February are the hardest months of the school year for teachers. But Durant's staff is proving that myth is wrong.

It can be difficult to get back into the swing of things in January after a nice long holiday break.

Teachers coming back from break immediately prepare their students for a

week of finals. For teachers with multiple classes, preparing for finals can be very stressful.

The two months are also one of the longest times in the school year where students and staff don't get a break, and even though February is the shortest month in the year, it can feel like it's the longest because it comes right in the middle of Iowa's cold and dreary winters.

However, only three out of 13 high school teachers agreed that January and February are hard while others have completely different opinions.

Mrs. Laura Meincke, a middle and high school Spanish teacher, said that January is not bad at all.

"I like the fresh start," said Mrs. Meincke.

Mrs. Mary Feuerbach, the FCS and Foods teacher, said May is the hardest month for teachers.

Six other teachers also argued that that April and May are the hardest months. When May rolls around, students are ready to leave school, and they don't want to learn anymore.

This makes teaching harder for the staff because they have to work extra hard to gain the students' attention.

Mr. Jeff Trask, the high school Spanish teacher, even argued that August and September were the hardest months because the students have a hard time adjusting to the new schedule since they are coming off a summer with no classes.

Mr. Trask said homecoming events and activities in September also distract the students from their normal learning, again making teachers work harder to gain their attention.



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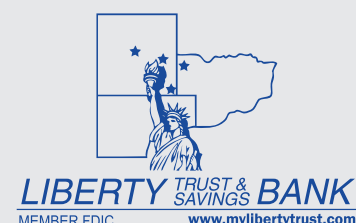
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Michelle Tate

Liberty Trust and Savings Bank's NHS student of the month



Lucas Callison is a senior and in his second year as a National Honor Society member. In the past, Callison enjoyed making blankets for a nursing home and raising money for charities from events like the NHS spaghetti dinner. In the future, Callison wants to host more events that will help support additional charities.



Callison



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Season never ends for multi-sport athletes

By Logan Callison

For a multi-sport athlete at Durant High School, when a sport ends, it really doesn't.

Off-season workouts for sports are now almost year-round. As an example, for a male athlete who participates in football, baseball, and basketball, an average day in the summer will contain all three of these sports.

The day begins in the morning at 8 a.m. with lifting that is open to all athletes. From there, the boy could have an open gym for basketball around 10 a.m. After 1-2 hours of playing basketball, this person will have a couple of hours of downtime in his day. Then, depending on whether there is a game or not, he will have to show up for either baseball practice or a baseball game.

For the most part, the lives of these athletes practically revolve around these sports. Questions can be raised about if these off-season workouts are too much for a high schooler to do every day.

Just don't ask that question to senior Marcus Engstler, who participates in football, basketball, track, and baseball.

"No, they are not too much," he said. "I actually think it's good to be lifting or working out five times a week during the summer."

Engstler also believes that even if an athlete is already in a sport, it is still very beneficial for him to continue lifting and getting better.

Even though these off-season workouts are not made mandatory by the coaches at Durant, some athletes see them as mandatory regardless.

"No, they're not mandatory, but the team holds each other at a higher standard than people would think," said Wildcat quarterback Keagen Head, who also participates in basketball, track, and baseball. He sees a special value in the weight workouts.

"Going to the weight room is very important because it helps protect players from injury and makes our team better," he said.

By doing these off-season workouts and lifting, the athletes at Durant are becoming more prepared for their sports and are also protecting their bodies from injury.

So it brings up the question: should



Photo by Logan Callison

The leading rusher for the football team, Nolan DeLong lifts weights as part of an off-season workout routine.

off-season workouts be mandatory, or would it be too much for the athletes? Head thinks it would be too much.

"They should not be mandatory because athletes have other commitments that could conflict with the schedule of these off-

season workouts," he said.

Even so, Head said he treats them as mandatory just the same.

"It's an unwritten rule that isn't there on paper, but implied in our program," he said.

Durant seniors set to take on college athletics

By Ally Happ

As the seniors of 2020 are searching for their next steps after high school, eight are interested in playing sports at the collegiate level.

Those eight seniors include Drew Henderson, Cheyann Hilbert, Cameron Hoon, Joe Lilienthal, Jordyn Ostrand, Allie

Poston, Heidi Wolf and Jake Willkomm.

Lilienthal is the only senior set to play at the Division I level. He will attend Iowa State University in Ames this fall and will be a part of the football team.

"I've always loved football and ever since my sophomore year, I knew that I wanted to play at the next level," said Lilien-

thal.

Lilienthal will prepare this off-season by weightlifting, doing sprints, and making sure he eats right, so he knows his body is ready for report day in June.

Allie Poston recently committed to play softball at Briar Cliff University located in Sioux City. It is an NAIA school, and she explains that NAIA sits in between the Division I and Division II levels

"I chose Briar Cliff because it felt homey. It's a small, close-knit community that makes you feel like you know everyone there," said Poston. She wanted to make sure she could play softball as long as she could. This includes playing on two separate teams all year-round and always trying to get better.

This year, Durant has two boys planning on bowling in college. Drew Henderson is looking at Hawkeye Community College in Waterloo, Iowa, and Cameron Hoon intends on going to Iowa Central Community College in Fort Dodge, Iowa.

Henderson and Hoon continue to get better every day, so they can be prepared for college. Both of them hope to end their season on a high note, like last season when the team finished third at state.

The class of 2020 has potentially three track and field athletes. Cheyann Hilbert has already committed to St. Ambrose University in Davenport, and Jordyn Ostrand

intends to throw discus, shotput and maybe even the hammer at North Area Community College in Mason City, Iowa. Jake Willkomm, who is currently undecided, finished fourth at the state track meet last year in the 200 sprint event.

Hilbert, who runs mid-distance events for the Wildcat track team, wants to prepare for the St. Ambrose program by running by herself and improving her diet. She would also like to be in the weight room more during the summer.

"Seeing myself succeed in track made me believe I could go farther," Ostrand said. She is really pleased with the community and facility at North Area Community College.

One cross country runner, Heidi Wolf, has her eye on Southeastern Community College in West Burlington, Iowa.


Wolf's positive impact from her coaching and older sister makes her want to continue her athletic career.

With every athlete, the common factor on choosing where to play was the school's academic standards. Each one wanted to make sure their major or career plan was a good fit for that school first.

From the eight athletes of the class of 2020, tradition is being set at Durant High School for students going to a collegiate level sport. We wish all the seniors best of luck on their future plans.

Today's Dentistry sports volunteer of the month


Missy Miedema, co-president of the Durant Athletic Boosters, graduated from Durant High School, along with her husband Lydel, and they chose to raise their two children, Peyton and Cole, in Durant as well. "I have tried to be involved in whatever I can," she said. "I love Durant and want to see it thrive." Both of her children played multiple sports at Durant.



Miedema

Hy-Vee Pharmacy's boys' basketball player of the month


Last season, Brendan Paper averaged 2.6 points per game and made nine three-pointers on 37 attempts. This year, the senior has already made eight three-pointers halfway through the season and averages 9.7 points per game, shooting 39% from the field. He also averages 5.7 rebounds per game, which ties him for team high.



Paper

Wilton Cafe's bowler of the month

Sophomore Kayden Johnson is already off to a great start this bowling season. Last year, Johnson competed in only two games, averaging 197 pins per game. In just six games this year, Johnson averages 214.5 pins per game and has the second-most total pins and pin average per game for the team.



Johnson

Tinted Vintage Iowa's wrestler of the month

Tysen McKinley is a sophomore who wrestles at the 152-pound weight class. As a freshman last year, McKinley had to step up because there were not many upper-classmen. McKinley has a lot of varsity experience for being only a sophomore. McKinley has started the season with a record of 5-10.



McKinley

Apex Ink and Apparel's girls' basketball player of the month



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Junior Halle Collier has played in all ten varsity games to start the season. She is averaging 3.2 points per game and is shooting 27% from the field. She also averages 3.7 rebounds per game and is second on the team in total rebounds.



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Bennett again offering Siegfried Petersen Scholarship in 2020

The Siegfried Petersen Scholarship committee would like to announce that applications for this scholarship opportunity are now available at the Bennett school. The spring of 2020 will be the 16th time that the scholarship will be awarded to at least three deserving individuals. Although the exact figure for the scholarships is uncertain at this time, the amount of each scholarship will be \$1,000 and up.

At least two scholarships will be awarded to needy applicants of good moral character who reside within the boundaries of the Bennett Community School District. At least one scholarship will also be given to Cedar County residents. Applicants may pursue any

course of studies, undergraduate or graduate level, at any educational institution, which normally maintains a regular faculty and curriculum (colleges, universities, nursing schools, technical schools, etc.) public or private. The recipient must be enrolled in a minimum of a one-year program.

The deadline for applications is March 13.

It was Mr. Petersen's desire that the recipients should be people who show a desire to improve their station in life through education and would return those benefits to the community. It is not necessary that the recipient be a top scholar or athlete, but rather a good citizen who expresses a desire to lead a life of service to our community and our country.

Applications can be obtained at the Bennett school office. Applications may also be downloaded from the Bennett school website: www.bennett.k12.ia.us. (Go to the district page,

then Siegfried Petersen Scholarship). Please contact Lonna Moeller at 563-890-2228 for an application or more information.

Jam the Gym Feb. 7 in Wilton

Jam the Gym Night is a great opportunity to win big money, enjoy exciting basketball action and help support the Wilton Athletic Boosters. The annual event is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 7, in the Wilton High School gym when the Beavers take on Tipton in River Valley Conference action.

The first game starts at 4:30 p.m. At 5 p.m., barbecue sandwiches and homemade chips

from the Machine Shed will be sold for \$6.

There is a \$750 grand prize for a lucky raffle winner, along with 15 other cash prizes. Winners of the raffle drawing will be announced throughout the event. To purchase a \$25 raffle ticket, please contact Becky Hansen at 563-732-3208 or you may buy one at the game.



POLICE REPORTS



Twitter: @WDAvocateNews
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Wilton

The following information was received from the office of the Wilton Police Department:

Jan. 26—Police kept the peace during a child exchange in the 500 block of East Sixth Street.

Jan. 27—Police spoke with a subject in the 200 block of West Iowa Street referencing a parking issue.

Jan. 27—Police handled a parking issue regarding a semi tractor parked in a residential area. Residents were reminded that truck parking is not permitted in areas zoned residential.

Jan. 27—Police assisted the Durant Ambulance with a medical call in the 400 block of East Prairie Street. The subject was transported to an area hospital.

Jan. 28—Police assisted the Wilton First Responders with a medical call in the 100 block of East Jackson Street.

Jan. 28—Police assisted Wilton First Responders and the Durant Ambulance with a medical call in the 500 block of Walnut Street.

Jan. 28—Police responded to a report of a vehicle in the 100 block of West Fifth Street that was parked in the roadway. The driver did not know they could not park on roadway and moved the vehicle.

Jan. 28—Police responded to an ordinance violation in the 200 block of West Iowa Street.

Jan. 28—Police responded to a residence within the 500 block of Chestnut Street due to a verbal domestic disturbance. The parties were separated for the night.

Jan. 29—Police responded to a residence within the 300 block of East Summit Street due to a suicidal subject. The subject was transported to an area hospital by a family

member.

Jan. 29—Police kept the peace for a child exchange in the 500 block of Sixth Street.

Jan. 29—Police responded to a verbal domestic situation between mother and son in the 500 block of Walnut Street. Options were given.

Jan. 30—Police performed a traffic stop in the 1000 block of Highway 38. A verbal warning for a traffic violation was given.

Jan. 30—Police performed a traffic stop in the 400 block of Maple Street. A warning for excessive speed was given.

Jan. 30—Police responded to an alarm reported in the 1300 block of Nicolaus Drive. It was a false alarm.

Jan. 30—Police assisted the Durant Ambulance with a medical call in the 400 block of East Prairie Street.

Jan. 30—Police followed up with a noise complaint in the 300 block of Iowa Street.

Jan. 30—Police responded to a parking problem in the 1000 block of Cypress Street.

Jan. 30—Police followed up with an investigation of a hit-and-run accident for the Muscatine Police Department in the 600 block of West Sixth Street.

Jan. 31—Police were requested to assist an officer on Interstate 80. The call was canceled before arriving.

Jan. 31—Police responded to a suspicious vehicle at First and Spruce streets. Female was found to be OK.

Jan. 31—Police assisted officers in Atalissa on a suspicious person report.

Jan. 31—Police responded to the 300 block of East Fourth Street for reports of suspicious activity.

Jan. 31—Police served a letter from the city regarding an ordinance violation in the

400 block of East Fifth Street.

Jan. 31—Police responded to the 1000 block of West Fifth Street for a report of a burglary. A report was taken.

Jan. 31—Police responded to an email scam in the 100 block of West Fourth Street.

Feb. 1—Police responded to the 800 block of Seminary Street due to a reported hit-and-run property damage accident. A note was found on a windshield of a struck vehicle — the owner is going to contact the subject. No report was taken at this time.

Feb. 1—Police responded to a violation of a no contact order in the 500 block of Walnut Street. Information was taken.

Feb. 1—Police were dispatched in the 700 block of Court Street referencing an animal complaint.

Durant

The following information was received from the office of the Durant Police Department:

Jan. 26—Police conducted a traffic stop between Fifth Street and Eighth Avenue. A warning for a traffic violation was given.

Jan. 26—Police performed a traffic stop between 12th Avenue and Fifth Street. Eugene Belz, of Davenport, was cited for speed.

Jan. 26—Police responded to a warrant service in Durant. The subject was gone upon arrival.

Jan. 27—Police performed a routine walk through at Idle Hour Lanes.

Jan. 27—Police performed a vacation watch in Durant.

Jan. 28—Police performed a vehicle inspection at the Durant Police Department for

IDOT licensing requirements.

Jan. 28—Police responded to reports of a social security phone scam.

Jan. 28—Police posted a nuisance notice for sidewalk snow removal in the 600 block of Fifth Street.

Jan. 29—The School Resource Officer received a complaint about a juvenile. It was referred to the school administrator.

Jan. 29—Police were requested to speak with an officer in the 700 block of Sixth Street.

Jan. 29—Police responded to a juvenile complaint in the 400 block of Seventh Street.

Jan. 29—Police responded to an alarm in Durant.

Jan. 29—Police spoke with a subject in the 1100 block of Eighth Street.

Jan. 29—Police assisted the Iowa State Patrol with a traffic stop between 14th Avenue and Fifth Street.

Jan. 30—The School Resource Officer took a report of possible theft at the Durant School.

Jan. 30—Police responded to a nuisance/abatement call in the 600 block of Seventh Street. A nuisance abatement notice was served to the resident.

Jan. 31—Police arrested Parmala Carson, of Durant, for public intoxication at the Dew Drop and was transported to the Scott County Jail.

Jan. 31—The School Resource Officer handled a truant student in Stockton.

Jan. 31—Police posted a notice for sidewalk snow removal in the 900 block of Sixth Street.

Feb. 1—Police conducted a traffic stop between First Avenue and Fifth Street. A warning for a traffic violation was given.

Feb. 1—Police assisted a resident with a mental health emergency. It was turned over to the Durant Ambulance.

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Coy Baker wins River Valley Conference title



Wilton senior **Coy Baker** reacts after winning the 182-pound title at the River Valley Conference tournament in Tipton Feb. 1. He's 33-1 entering Sectionals at West Branch this weekend.
Photo by Derek Sawvell

By Derek Sawvell
Managing Editor, Advocate News

Wilton senior Coy Baker ended last season by leading the Beaver wrestling team to the state tournament as a district champion and picked up where he left off as Wilton's lone River Valley Conference champ this season.

Baker won by fall in the quarters and by major decision 15-3 over Mid-Prairie's Cory Allen in the semis to make his way to the finals, where he pinned Camanche's Logan Waltz in the first period after two throws to the mat. He has a record of 33-1 entering Sectionals at West Branch this weekend.

"I've been trying that throw in practice. I didn't want to bring it out all day until the



Durant's **Ethan Gast** is shown in the River Valley Conference 120-pound championship match in Tipton Feb. 1. Camanche's Ben Vogel pinned Gast in the third period.
Photo by Derek Sawvell

finals. When I felt it I hit it and it worked," said Baker.

"He's gained confidence over the years on the mat," said Wilton head coach Gabe Boorn. "He wrestled in dominant fashion to lead the way."

In the team standings, West Liberty won its sixth straight River Valley Conference tournament with strong performances in the finals, crowning four champions and finishing with 211.5 team points. Camanche was second with 200.5 points and Tipton was third with 165. Wilton finished fourth with 158.5 points and Durant was 13th in the 14-team field with 24 points. The Beavers were without Gage Oien at 106, who was out with illness and Trae Hagen

had to medically forfeit late in the meet as he's still dealing with an elbow issue.

By finishing ahead of the Wildcats, the Beavers secured two Advocate News Backyard Challenge points, bringing the Wilton lead to 10-4 through the winter sports.

Ranked No. 5 at 126 pounds, Wilton junior Kael Brisker cruised to the semifinals of a tough RVC bracket Feb. 1. In the semis, he defeated host Tipton's Austin Lenz 4-1, setting up a finals match with defending state champion and No. 2 ranked Aidan Noonan of Cascade.

In the 126-pound finals, Noonan (30-0) got the first takedown. By the end of the opening period, Brisker had gotten an escape. Noonan chose down to start the second and got an escape. Neither was able to convert a takedown the rest of the frame. Brisker started the third on bottom and Noonan rode him all the way, holding on for a 3-1 win. Brisker (31-3) spent much of the third looking for a reversal.

"I need to fix my mistakes and get off bottom. I've lost three matches in the third period because I can't get off bottom," said Brisker. "I was thinking reverse (in the finals). I should have probably gone for one and a takedown, what I'm best at — being on my feet."

"There are some things to work on and fine tune. He doesn't let anything get to his head. He has a great mentality to be able to reset," said Boorn of Brisker. "We have an opportunity to get better the next couple of weeks."

Durant was led on the day by sophomore Ethan Gast at 120 pounds, who made his way to the finals with a pin in the quarters and 7-0 victory over Owen Ray of Monticello in the semis. In the finals, he was pinned by Camanche's Ben Vogel (35-5) in the third period. Gast enters Sectionals with a 24-7 record.

In his second weekend back from injuring his knee, Wilton junior Colton Cruse made another tournament final at 145 pounds. After a fall in the quarters, he won a 9-3 decision in the semis over Kaleb Nerem of Tipton. He then battled through a scoreless period in the finals against North Cedar's Brody Hawtrey (38-3) but Hawtrey started down in the second and quickly got out and made a move for a pin to secure the RVC title. Cruse enters Sectionals with a record of 22-8.

With undefeated and Class 2A No. 1 Will Esmoil moving up a weight class, Wilton freshman Kaden Shirk navigated his way to the 152-pound finals with a fall in the quarters and 11-7 win in the semis over Brian Collins of West Liberty. He was pinned in the finals by Anamosa's Alex Casey (33-5) and will enter Sectionals with a record of 26-10.

At 170 pounds, Wilton senior Cameron Keith made his way to the semifinals, where he lost to eventual champion Ty Schmidt by fall. He fell into wrestle backs, where he collected two pins to finish third. He enters Sectionals at 21-9.

Wilton sophomore Briggs Hartley made the semifinals at 285 before being pinned by eventual champion Connor Andersen (34-6) of Anamosa. He too fell into consolation, where he collected two pins for third place, and enters Sectionals with a record of 19-4.

The Wilton and Durant teams travel to West Branch for Sectionals Feb. 8. Districts will be held in Wilton Feb. 15.

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| SEVENTH GRADE | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|
| A Honor Roll 3.5-4.0 GPA | Lauren Callison Reed Clark Mariah Alpen Adria Behrensmeyer Maliya Berry Gavin Broussard | Alivia Garcia Fred Hansell Draven Lopez Emma Meincke Alyssa Ostofi Grace Paustian | Garrett Pearlman Joshua Peel Cadey Richman Kayla Semsch Ema True Addison Zindel | B Honor Roll 3.0-3.49 GPA | Cohen Jepsen Jada Jones Hannah Kelting Kayden Kerr Jordan Kirchner | Ryken Mier Xavier Mier Wyatt Richards Ethan Ryan | Race Starr Gustin Thoma Collin Wagner |

| EIGHTH GRADE | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| A Honor Roll 3.5-4.0 GPA | Isabelle DeLong Madisyn DeVore Olivia Alpen Mason Badtram Ryan Brown | Macyn Huston Michael Iossi Kennedy Jehle Emma McCoy Savannah Meinert | Caden Meyer Avery Paper Brynn Roberts Collier Rockow Brooklyn Schlafkohl | Kennedy Schumacher Layla Streeter Ryan Wulf | B Honor Roll 3.0-3.49 GPA | Warren Dau Kierra Hahn Zander Schofield Lainey Shelangoski Mason Stalder | Blake Thoma Madeline Utter Victoria Wulf |

DURANT SENIOR HIGH HONOR ROLL

| FRESHMEN | | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|---|--------------------------------|
| A Honor Roll 3.5-4.0 GPA | Kiyah Daily Nolan DeLong Bryce Cooper | Carlie Jo Fusco Zachary Pearlman Hannah Peel | B Honor Roll 3.0-3.49 GPA | Shailea Bechmann Evan Elder Joslyn Entsminger | Grant Hein Garrett Hollenback Joseph Madison | Brady Meincke Robert Olsen Nora Ramer | Alexander Rappel Jacy Wiese |

| SOPHOMORES | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| A Honor Roll 3.5-4.0 GPA | Ethan Gast Ally Happ Shannon Head Karissa Hoon | Brock Jones Dayna Maiers Tysen McKinley Adrienne Nolan | Kaitlyn Paustian Rebecca Paustian Sofia Reyna Drake Shelangoski | Lauryn Tate Madison Weber Logan Wolf | B Honor Roll 3.0-3.49 GPA | Cooper Huston Tanner Jepsen Kayden Johnson Jenna Krause | Nathan Moomey Ella Mundt Kiley Stineman Nathan Voss |

| JUNIORS | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|--|
| A Honor Roll 3.5-4.0 GPA | Nicole Brown Gideon Davis Luke Abels Jovannah Angotti Jordan Barker | Keagen Head Timothy Junis Tony Krebs Kayley Latham Koby Paulsen | Abigail Rhoades Isabelle Rockow Autumn Stalder Braden Wagner | B Honor Roll 3.0-3.49 GPA | Brooklyn Bullard Nathan Dierickx Xander Fleming Halle Grosjean | Emily Huston Rayne Mangels Aaron Meana Chloe Meana | Alycea Peel Cameron Ruggiero Lexi Schlafkohl |

| SENIORS | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|---|-------------------------------|--|---|
| A Honor Roll 3.5-4.0 GPA | Marcus Engstler Kayla Erbst Logan Callison Lucas Callison | Cameron Hoon Kylie Kay Kody Koberg Meg Koenig | Joe Lillenthal Kyrnan Liske Gabrielle Olsen Jordyn Ostrand | Rylee Page Brendan Paper Danielle Paulsen Allie Poston | Kira Schult Laura Stineman | B Honor Roll 3.0-3.49 GPA | Andrew Henderson Nathan Hultquist Madison Semsch Preston Wiese |

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Backyard basketball: Joe Lilienthal wins big man battle



Durant's **Joe Lilienthal** shoots over Wilton's **Caden Kirkman** in a home 61-51 win Jan. 28. Lilienthal scored a game-high 23 points in victory while Kirkman led Wilton with 17 points.

Photo by Derek Sawvell

By Derek Sawvell
Managing Editor, Advocate News

Durant completes season sweep

The Durant boys' basketball team completed another season sweep of Wilton at home Jan. 28 in Backyard Challenge action with a 61-51 win over the Beavers.

The Cats built a 9-point lead in the opening quarter while executing off its press. Jake Willkomm provided the exclamation point of the run with a dunk on a fast break.

The lead grew to 27-15 midway through the second but a three from Buddy Darting helped propel the Beavers toward halftime, as they cut the lead to seven at the break, 32-25.

The Wildcats were working through Joe Lilienthal in the post all night. The senior seemed to relish the matchup with Wilton freshman leading scorer Caden Kirkman. Early in the third quarter, Durant guards fed Lilienthal inside on each of the first two possessions. He hit streaking cutters to the basket for layups each time. A 10-3 run to open the half pushed the Durant lead to double digits again 42-28.

"The game plan was to feed it inside if they were going to play man," said Lilienthal. "I like playing against their best player. He's (Kirkman) got a great handle and a good shot. Getting stronger is the biggest thing but if he keeps putting the work in he'll be a good player."

A 3-point play later from Lilienthal gave Durant its largest lead 47-30. In the fourth quarter, he also converted from the foul line to push the lead to 19 (60-41).

Lilienthal was forced from the game with blood on his jersey late in the fourth and Wilton went on a run started by five quick points from Kirkman. The Beavers ended the game on a 10-1 run but Durant's cushion was large enough in a 61-51 win.

Lilienthal had 23 points, seven rebounds and four assists. Drew DeLong and Brendan Paper each had 12 points. Paper also had three assists and four steals.

"Joe established himself early and that flustered Kirkman a bit," said Wilton coach Erik Grunder. "Durant did a better job using Joe and taking it to Kirkman tonight than the first time we played."

"Joe showed he's the best traditional big man in the conference tonight," said Durant coach Matt Straube. "He's such an unselfish player too, he wants to get his teammates involved. Really disappointed with how we closed the game. I think we could have buried them, but our defensive effort started falling off. Then we made some poor decisions with the basketball. I thought we played a good 26 minutes of basketball and an underwhelming final six."

Darting led Wilton with 17 points while Kirkman and Caleb Sawvell each scored 11.

Cats 1-2 rest of week, take Regina to the brink

After two weekends of cancellations due to weather, the Wildcats hosted three other home River Valley Conference contests last week, going 1-2.

The first was a roller coaster win Jan. 27 against Bellevue. After being down 10 at halftime and as many as 15 in the third quarter, the Durant defense slowed the Comets down through the rest of the second half to win 77-67.

Durant was down 39-29 at the half. After falling behind more to start the third, Bellevue (6-11) started cooling off from outside and the Wildcats ramped up the defensive pressure. The Cats then exploded for 31 fourth quarter points while turning the game around.

"They shot lights out from three in the first

half and we were down 10 at halftime," said Durant coach Straube. "Came out and got down by 15 when we took over the game. Nolan DeLong was outstanding off the bench. Marcus played a tremendous game and then Joe brought it home at the end. Garrett Hollenback gave really great minutes as a freshman in the second half when Joe picked up his fourth

foul. He and Nolan really changed the game. When we actually started slowing them down in the second half and made them have to execute, they couldn't."

Regina (11-4) came to town Jan. 31 and Durant's defensive strategy was simple — try to limit star point guard Masen Miller. The Wildcats employed a box-and-one all night on Miller, shadowing him around the court with Jake Willkomm and Marcus

Engstler.

The Cats held Miller to 14 points on 6-22 shooting and the defense was easier to stay in due to Ashton Cook being out for the season with a foot injury.

"We did (box-and-one) the first time and he (Miller) had 11. We guard him about as good as anyone in the conference," said coach Straube. "Miller's just so efficient and he's got a great motor. He's an amazing player. Willkomm's effort was amazing, he did a tremendous job defensively."

A back-and-forth first half saw the Cats get out to a quick 14-7 lead but the Regals answered with a 10-point swing in the second quarter to lead 22-19 at the break.

The teams traded blows in the second half but Regina did build a 12-point lead in the third that Durant kept chipping away at through the fourth, getting the lead down to one 43-42 prior to the Regals pushing it to three in the final seconds.

With around nine seconds left, Durant went the length of the court and got Brendan Paper and open look in the left corner for a game-tying three. It rimmed out as the Cats lost 45-42.

"The play was set up for Drew DeLong but he made the right play and we got a good look," said Straube of Paper's shot.

Joe Lilienthal scored 11 while Engstler and Paper each had eight for Durant.

Northeast (11-6) ended Durant's week Feb. 1 by handing the Cats a 74-55 loss in a true tale of two halves. Both teams were keeping a fast pace in the opening half, as the Wildcats went to the break with a 35-32 lead.

In the second half, the Rebels kept running, scoring more than 20 in each quarter. They held Durant to just 10 points in both the third and fourth while running away to the 19-point win.

Beavers drop RVC pair

Wilton traveled to West Branch Jan. 31, where the host Bears (14-2) asserted themselves early in a 55-42 win. After building a 14-9 lead early in the game, West Branch used a 20-5 second quarter to lead 34-14 at halftime.

Despite winning the second half 28-21, the damage was done as the Beavers lost to one of the RVC South's best squads. Three Bears scored in double figures, led by Tanner Lukavsky's 15 points.

Caden Kirkman led Wilton with 14 points, 15 boards, two steals and two blocks. Jackson Hull scored 11 points and grabbed eight rebounds.

Cascade came to town Feb. 1 and doubled up the Beavers in a 55-27 win. The visiting Cougars (11-7) used a big first quarter and cemented the win by holding Wilton to just five points in both the second and fourth quarters.

Wilton made just 10 shots on the night. Kirkman scored 11, had 12 rebounds and four blocks while Colby Sawvell added 10 points.

Wilton completes Durant sweep

By Derek Sawvell
Managing Editor, Advocate News

Backyard Basketball Beavers set tone early

When the Wilton girls' basketball team traveled to Durant for Backyard Challenge basketball Jan. 28, it set the tone early as the game was decided in the first 10 minutes as the Beavers ran to a 55-42 win.

Two three-point plays got the Beavers on the board early, as Peyton Souhrada started the game with a three-point play then Lexi Walker hit a traditional three. Wilton got out to a quick 11-2 lead and the full-court press was working. After every steal or rebound, Kelsey Drake was flying down the court and the Wilton guards found her early and often for layups as the Beavers built a 25-8 lead by early in the second quarter.

Double-digit leads have been hard to overcome for the Durant offense this season, and the home tilt with Wilton was no different, as

the Beavers never gave up the lead for the rest of the game.

Drake led all scores with 26 on 10-16 shooting. She had a double-double with 11 rebounds. Walker and Mallory Lange each scored seven.

"We played a good first quarter and got a nice lead. The girls played hard, rebounded well and Kelsey scored a lot for us," said Wilton coach Jake Souhrada. "Defensively our girls did a nice job. It's never easy to win Wilton vs. Durant games and we got both this year. Kelsey leads the RVC in scoring. She does a good job handling her body as she gets inside to get shots off. And defensively she rebounds and is at the top of our press."

The Wildcats fought back and cut the lead to nine, 33-24, in the third, but by the middle of the fourth, Wilton had pushed it to 14 (48-34) on back-to-back buckets from the corner

GIRLS BASKETBALL
continued on page 22



Wilton's **Mallory Lange** makes a pass while on the run with Durant's **Ally Happ** trailing in Backyard Challenge action at Durant Jan. 28. The Beavers defeated the Wildcats 55-42.

Photo by Derek Sawvell



Varsity Girls' Basketball

Bellevue 65, Durant 38
Jan. 27 at Durant

| Player | FG | 3FG | FT | R | A | S | B | TP |
|--------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Nicole Brown | 3-7 | 3-7 | 0-0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| Brooklyn Bullard | 1-3 | 0-0 | 0-2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Jordyn Ostrand | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ally Happ | 0-4 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Abbey Rhoades | 0-1 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Kira Schult | 1-10 | 1-5 | 1-2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 4 |
| Halle Collier | 0-5 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Kylie Kay | 5-12 | 2-3 | 0-0 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| Kylie Schult | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Heidi Wolf | 1-3 | 0-1 | 0-0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Allie Poston | 1-3 | 0-0 | 4-6 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 6 |
| Elizabeth Daufeldt | 1-2 | 0-0 | 0-1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Peyton Buesing | 0-1 | 0-0 | 1-2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Durant | 13-51 | 6-16 | 6-12 | 30 | 5 | 11 | 00 | 38 |

Score by Quarters

| | | | | | |
|----------|---|---|---|---|----|
| Durant | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | 38 |
| Bellevue | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | 65 |

Wilton 55, Durant 42
Jan. 28 at Durant

| Player | FG | 3FG | FT | R | A | S | B | TP |
|-----------------|--------------|------------|--------------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Emi Coss | 0-1 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lexi Walker | 3-5 | 1-3 | 0-0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 7 |
| Mallory Lange | 2-7 | 1-3 | 2-3 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 7 |
| Justine Meyer | 1-3 | 0-0 | 2-2 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Ella Caffery | 3-8 | 0-0 | 2-4 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 6 |
| Peyton Souhrada | 2-4 | 0-0 | 1-1 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 5 |
| Payton Ganzer | 0-4 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Kelsey Drake | 10-16 | 0-0 | 6-9 | 11 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 26 |
| Taylor Garvin | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Kayla Hildreth | 0-1 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Wilton | 21-49 | 2-6 | 11-18 | 43 | 8 | 15 | 2 | 55 |

Score by Quarters

| | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|----|
| Durant | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | 42 |
| Wilton | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | 55 |

West Branch 68, Wilton 38
Jan. 31 at West Branch

| Player | FG | 3FG | FT | R | A | S | B | TP |
|-----------------|--------------|------------|-------------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Emi Coss | 1-2 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Lexi Walker | 1-6 | 0-5 | 0-0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Mallory Lange | 1-3 | 1-1 | 4-7 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 7 |
| Justine Meyer | 0-2 | 0-0 | 1-2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Ella Caffery | 4-12 | 0-0 | 3-4 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 11 |
| Peyton Souhrada | 1-5 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Payton Ganzer | 0-2 | 0-0 | 1-2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| Kelsey Drake | 5-12 | 0-0 | 0-2 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 10 |
| Taylor Garvin | 1-1 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Wilton | 14-45 | 1-6 | 9-17 | 27 | 4 | 11 | 5 | 38 |

Score by Quarters

| | | | | | |
|--------|----|----|----|---|----|
| Wilton | 19 | 10 | 14 | — | 55 |
| Durant | 7 | 8 | 16 | — | 42 |

Iowa City Regina 44, Durant 25
Jan. 31 at Durant

| Player | FG | 3FG | FT | R | A | S | B | TP |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Nicole Brown | 1-6 | 1-6 | 0-0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| Brooklyn Bullard | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Jordyn Ostrand | 1-1 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Ally Happ | 4-10 | 3-6 | 0-0 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 11 |
| Abbey Rhoades | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Kira Schult | 0-4 | 0-1 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Halle Collier | 0-3 | 0-0 | 1-2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Kylie Kay | 1-12 | 0-1 | 2-5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| Kylie Schult | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Heidi Wolf | 1-3 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Allie Poston | 0-8 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Elizabeth Daufeldt | 1-1 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Peyton Buesing | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Durant | 9-48 | 4-14 | 3-8 | 22 | 5 | 11 | 1 | 25 |

Score by Quarters

| | | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|----|---|----|
| Durant | 1 | 7 | 9 | — | 25 |
| Iowa City Regina | 10 | 13 | 10 | — | 44 |

Northeast 59, Durant 40
Feb. 1 at Durant

| Player | FG | 3FG | FT | R | A | S | B | TP |
|--------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Nicole Brown | 1-9 | 0-5 | 2-2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Brooklyn Bullard | 0-3 | 0-1 | 0-0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Jordyn Ostrand | 1-6 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Ally Happ | 4-10 | 0-3 | 0-0 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 8 |
| Abbey Rhoades | 0-1 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Kira Schult | 1-9 | 0-4 | 5-10 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 7 |
| Halle Collier | 0-1 | 0-0 | 0-1 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Kylie Kay | 3-10 | 1-3 | 5-6 | 8 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 12 |
| Kylie Schult | 0-3 | 0-1 | 0-0 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Heidi Wolf | 2-6 | 2-3 | 0-0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Elizabeth Daufeldt | 0-2 | 0-0 | 1-2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Peyton Buesing | 0-1 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Durant | 12-61 | 3-20 | 13-21 | 37 | 4 | 10 | 1 | 40 |

Score by Quarters

| | | | | | |
|-----------|----|----|----|---|----|
| Durant | 10 | 8 | 15 | — | 40 |
| Northeast | 22 | 17 | 11 | — | 59 |

Cascade 72, Wilton 38
Feb. 1 at Wilton

| Player | FG | 3FG | FT | R | A | S | B | TP |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Emi Coss | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Lexi Walker | 0-5 | 0-2 | 0-0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Mallory Lange | 0-5 | 0-0 | 1-2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Justine Meyer | 0-2 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ella Caffery | 8-13 | 0-0 | 2-2 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 18 |
| Peyton Souhrada | 2-6 | 1-2 | 1-3 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 6 |
| Payton Ganzer | 0-4 | 0-0 | 2-4 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Kelsey Drake | 4-10 | 1-1 | 0-0 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 9 |
| Taylor Garvin | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Kayla Hildreth | 1-1 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Wilton | 15-46 | 2-10 | 6-11 | 27 | 12 | 9 | 1 | 38 |

Score by Quarters

| | | | | | |
|---------|----|----|----|---|----|
| Wilton | 5 | 13 | 10 | — | 38 |
| Cascade | 21 | 24 | 17 | — | 72 |

Durant 77, Bellevue 67
Jan. 27 at Durant

| Player | FG | 3FG | FT | R | A | S | B | TP |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|---|---|---|---|----|
| Drew DeLong | 4-9 | 1-3 | 3-4 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 12 |
| Nolan DeLong | 5-8 | 1-2 | 2-3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 13 |

Score by Quarters

| | | | | | |
|----------|----|----|----|---|----|
| Durant | 19 | 16 | 10 | — | 55 |
| Bellevue | 18 | 14 | 20 | — | 74 |

West Branch 55, Wilton 42
Jan. 31 at West Branch

| Player | FG | 3FG | FT | R | A | S | B | TP |
|----------------|--------------|------------|------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Buddy Darting | 2-9 | 1-5 | 2-2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 7 |
| Clayton Guyer | 0-2 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Mason Ormsby | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Colby Sawvell | 0-1 | 0-1 | 0-0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Roderick Davis | 2-2 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| Caleb Sawvell | 2-5 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Brady Shook | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Jackson Hull | 5-13 | 1-1 | 0-0 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 11 |
| Caden Kirkman | 7-13 | 1-1 | 0-0 | 15 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 14 |
| Hunter Hartung | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Mason Nolte | 1-3 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Wilton | 19-48 | 2-8 | 2-2 | 29 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 42 |

Score by Quarters

| | | | | | |
|-------------|----|----|----|---|----|
| Wilton | 9 | 5 | 14 | — | 42 |
| West Branch | 14 | 20 | 12 | — | 55 |

Iowa City Regina 45, Durant 42
Jan. 31 at Durant

| Player | FG | 3FG | FT | R | A | S | B | TP |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Drew DeLong | 2-12 | 1-7 | 0-0 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 5 |
| Nolan DeLong | 0-1 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Jake Wilkomm | 1-7 | 0-1 | 1-2 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| Marcus Engstler | 3-5 | 1-1 | 1-4 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 0 | 8 |
| Preston Wiese | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Brendan Paper | 3-8 | 2-4 | 0-0 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 8 |
| Keagen Head | 2-2 | 0-0 | 3-3 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 7 |
| Joe Lilienthal | 4-10 | 0-0 | 3-6 | 10 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 11 |
| Lucas Gallison | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Durant | 15-45 | 4-13 | 8-15 | 34 | 10 | 14 | 2 | 42 |

Score by Quarters

| | | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|----|---|----|
| Durant | 14 | 5 | 12 | — | 42 |
| Iowa City Regina | 7 | 15 | 16 | — | 45 |

Cascade 55, Wilton 27
Feb. 1 at Wilton

| Player | FG | 3FG | FT | R | A | S | B | TP |
|----------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Buddy Darting | 1-8 | 1-2 | 0-0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 |
| Clayton Guyer | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Colby Sawvell | 4-7 | 2-5 | 0-1 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 10 |
| Roderick Davis | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Caleb Sawvell | 0-6 | 0-2 | 0-0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Brady Shook | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Jackson Hull | 0-6 | 0-1 | 1-4 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| Caden Kirkman | 4-14 | 0-1 | 3-5 | 12 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 11 |
| Hunter Hartung | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Mason Nolte | 1-2 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Wilton | 10-43 | 3-11 | 4-10 | 25 | 3 | 6 | 6 | 27 |

Score by Quarters

| | | | | | |
|---------|----|---|----|---|----|
| Wilton | 8 | 5 | 9 | — | 27 |
| Cascade | 20 | 7 | 16 | — | 55 |

Northeast 74, Durant 55
Feb. 1 at Durant

| Player | FG | 3FG | FT | R | A | S | B | TP |
|--------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Drew DeLong | 3-8 | 2-6 | 3-4 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 11 |
| Nolan DeLong | 1-3 | 0-1 | 1-2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Jake Wilkomm | 3-5 | 0-1 | 0-0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Marcus Engstler | 0-6 | 0-2 | 0-0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Preston Wiese | 0-1 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Brendan Paper | 8-12 | 3-3 | 2-3 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 21 |
| Keagen Head | 0-0 | 0-0 | 1-2 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Garrett Hollenback | 0-1 | 0-0 | 0-2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Logan Callison | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Joe Lilienthal | 6-13 | 0-0 | 1-4 | 8 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 13 |
| Lucas Gallison | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Durant | 21-49 | 5-13 | 8-17 | 24 | 13 | 5 | 0 | 55 |

Score by Quarters

| | | | | | |
|-----------|----|----|----|---|----|
| Durant | 19 | 16 | 10 | — | 55 |
| Northeast | 18 | 14 | 20 | — | 74 |

Wilton results

113: Dalton Snider TB-1 Noah Grage (Durant) 10-5; Brendan Nantz (Tipton) dec. Snider 7-0; Kole Murray (North Cedar) pinned Snider 1:18; Mose Yoder (Mid-Prairie) pinned Snider. Snider finished 6th.

120: Ethan Gast (Durant) pinned Lucas Dora 3:08;

Durant's Odegard rolling

By Derek Sawvell

Managing Editor, Advocate News

February is... Subscriber Appreciation Month!

Dear Reader,

Ever get one of those calls, you know, where they offer you a subscription at a big discount if you start today? Then you tell them you already take the paper, and you'd like the discount applied to your existing subscription, and they say, "Oh no, we can't do that, you don't get a discount because you're a loyal customer."

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We think so, too. So during February, we are offering our subscribers the opportunity to save \$5 on a one-year subscription, or \$10 on a two-year subscription to the *Wilton-Durant Advocate News*. Now through Feb. 29, subscribers in Muscatine, Cedar and Scott counties can have a full year of the Advocate News for only \$35 (reg. price, \$40) or two years for \$65 (reg. price, \$75). This price includes access to all the articles, updates and the PDF version of the print newspaper at www.wdadvocatenews.com.

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LEGAL NOTICES

Public Notices are democracy insurance, protecting your right to know.

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT OF MUSCATINE COUNTY

U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity, but solely as trustee of Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust 2018-A Plaintiff,

vs.

Michael J Orton; Parties in Possession; Unknown heirs, devisees, creditors, and other claimants with an interest in the property of Cheryl L. Krieger-Orton, deceased; Sean Orton; Unknown spouse, if any, of Michael J. Orton; Unknown spouse, if any, of Sean Orton; State of Iowa, Department of Revenue, et al. Defendants.

EQUITY NO: EQCV025493 ORIGINAL NOTICE

You are notified that a petition has been filed in the office of this court naming you as a defendant in this action. The petition was filed on December 16, 2019, and prays for foreclosure of Plaintiffs Mortgage in favor of the Plaintiff on the property described in this notice and judgment for the unpaid principal amount of \$92,582.73, with 1% per annum interest thereon from May 24, 2019, together with late charges, advances and the costs of the action including (but not limited to) title costs and reasonable attorney's fees, as well as a request that said sums be declared a lien upon the following described premises from, located in Muscatine county, Iowa:

LOT 2 IN BLOCK 2 OF THE TOWN OF MONTPELIER, MUSCATINE COUNTY, IOWA, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF, commonly known as 3886 Highway 22, Box 33, Montpelier, IA 52759 (the "Property")

The petition further prays that the Mortgage on the above described real estate be foreclosed, that a special execution issue for the sale of as much of the mortgaged premises as is necessary to satisfy the judgment and for other relief as the Court deems just and equitable. For further details, please review the petition on file in the clerk's office. The Plaintiff's attorney is Emily Bartekoske, of SouthLaw, P.C.; whose address is 1401 50th Street, Suite 100, West Des Moines, IA 50266.

NOTICE

The plaintiff has elected foreclosure without redemption. This means that the sale of the mortgaged property will occur promptly after entry of judgment unless you file a written demand with the court to delay the sale. If you file a written demand, the sale will be delayed until twelve months (or six months if the petition includes a waiver of deficiency judgment) from the entry of judgment if the mortgaged property is your residence and is a one-family or two-family dwelling or until two months from entry of judgment if the mortgaged property is not your residence or is your residence but not a one-family or two-family dwelling. You will have no right of redemption after the sale. The purchaser at the sale will be entitled to immediate possession of the mortgaged property. You may purchase at the sale.

You must serve a motion or answer on or before 27th day of February, 2020, and within a reasonable time thereafter, you must file your motion or answer with the Clerk of Court for Muscatine County, at the county courthouse in Muscatine, Iowa. If you fail to respond, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

If you require the assistance of auxiliary aids or services to participate in a court action because of a disability, immediately call your District ADA Coordinator at 563-326-8783. If you are hearing impaired, call Relay Iowa TTY at 1-800-735-2942.

This case has been filed in a county that utilizes electronic filing. You may find more information and general rules governing electronic filing in Iowa Court Rules Chapter 16. You may find information concerning protection of personal information in court filings in Iowa Court Rules Chapter 16, Division VI.

By: CLERK OF THE ABOVE COURT Muscatine County Courthouse 401 East 3rd Street, Muscatine, IA 52761

IMPORTANT:

YOU ARE ADVISED TO SEEK LEGAL ADVICE AT ONCE TO PROTECT YOUR INTERESTS.

NOTICE OF VACANCY MUSCATINE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

The Muscatine County Board of Supervisors announces a vacancy on the Muscatine County Conservation Board. The opening is to fill a vacancy beginning immediately and ending December 31, 2020.

Duties include: responsibility for all real and personal property acquired by the County for public museums, parks, playgrounds, recreation centers and other county recreation purposes. The Conservation Board is also responsible for planning, developing, preserving, administering and maintaining all such areas previously described.

In order to achieve gender balance in accordance with Section 69.16A, Code of Iowa, Muscatine County is seeking and will give preferential consideration to female applicants who meet the necessary qualifications.

Application forms are available in the Muscatine County Administration Office, 414 E. Third Street, Suite 101, Muscatine, Iowa 52761-4142 and on the County website, www.co.muscatine.ia.us.

Completed applications must be returned to the Administration Office, Muscatine County Administration Building by 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 13, 2020.

For more information on the duties of the Conservation Board, please call Conservation Director Curt Weiss at (563) 264-5922.

NOTICE OF VACANCY MUSCATINE COUNTY ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS

The Muscatine County Board of Supervisors announces a vacancy for the Muscatine County Zoning Board of Adjustment. The opening is to fill a five year term ending March 31, 2025.

Duties are established by Article XVI of Muscatine County Zoning Ordinance and include hearing and deciding appeals from any review, order, requirements, decision or determination made by the Zoning Administrative Officer in the enforcement of the Zoning Ordinance. Personal tours of the sites under consideration are made by the Board of Adjustment.

Application forms are available in the Zoning Office, 3610 Park Avenue West, the Muscatine County Administration Office, 414 E. Third Street, Suite 101, Muscatine, Iowa 52761-4142 and on the County website, www.co.muscatine.ia.us under How Do I... Volunteer Opportunities.

Completed applications should be returned to the Muscatine County Administration Office or emailed to nschreiber@co.muscatine.ia.us by 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 20, 2020.

For more information on the responsibilities of the Zoning Board of Adjustment, please call the Zoning Office at (563) 263-0482.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF STORM WATER DISCHARGE

Manatt's, Inc. plans to submit a Notice of Intent to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to be covered under the NPDES General Permit No. 3, "Storm Water Discharge Associated With Industrial Activity From Asphalt Plants, Concrete Batch Plants, Rock Crushing Plants, and Construction Sand and Gravel Facilities".

The storm water discharge will be from a Hot Mix Asphalt Plant located in NW1/4, Sec 8, T78N, R02W; Muscatine County. Storm water will be discharged from 1 point source and will be discharged to the following streams: Cedar River.

Comments may be submitted to the Storm Water Discharge Coordinator, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division, 502 E. 9th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319-0034. The public may review the Notice of Intent from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the above address after it has been received by the department.

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting Minutes Monday, January 27, 2020

The Muscatine County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 9:00 A.M. with Holliday, Sauer, Sorensen, Mather and Saucedo present. Chairperson Sorensen presiding.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Mather, the agenda was approved as presented. Ayes: All.

Greg Lindle, 1705 Lindle Avenue, addressed the Board on concerns about the State's slag report, stating from his knowledge there must have been political pressure or very minimal testing done because manganese, chrome and other chemicals cannot be added to steel and have none come out of it. Lindle stated samples should be sent to an independent laboratory. Lindle stated he is curious how the State's feedback shows there is nothing in the slag. Lindle stated he has bought 10-12 loads of slag this year and uses it. Lindle stated he was under the impression from qualified people that the chemicals in slag are encapsulated in the molecular level and it is not possible to breathe enough in to cause issues. Lindle stated the Board should not believe the report that says there is nothing in slag. Sorensen stated the report showed there were levels of chemicals in the slag but at a point where no health hazard is posed. In response to a question from Lindle, County Engineer Keith White stated the County uses Iowa DOT Class A Road Stone which is randomly tested to determine if it meets specifications. Lindle discussed concerns regarding drainage, a culvert issue and snow removal on Lindle Avenue and also snow removal on Keouk Avenue.

Henry Marquard, 108 Eagle Watch Road, expressed concern regarding the slag issue, stating he was personally surprised by the report from the Department of Natural Resources and Department of Public Health. Marquard stated historically, the State of Iowa has taken the position that the use of road steel slag should be prohibited at all costs because of the differences in types of slag. Marquard stated he is not speaking on behalf of No Slag Muscatine. Marquard stated the State violated their own protocols in testing the slag and made assumptions that seem to be wrong. Marquard stated there are no good standards known for slag inhalation, particularly when it is ground up by trucks and buses. Marquard stated it is too premature to say slag is safe and the matter is over.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Mather, claims dated January 27, 2020 were approved in the amount of \$802,452.91. Ayes: All.

The Board canvassed the Drainage District #1 Election held on January 18, 2020. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 25, 2020 - 4 votes were cast. Travis Parry received 4 votes. Travis Parry was elected.

The Board canvassed the Drainage District #2 Election held on January 18, 2020. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 25, 2020 - 4 votes were cast. Kory Kaalberg received 4 votes. Kory Kaalberg was elected.

The Board canvassed the Drainage District #4 Election held on January 18, 2020. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 25, 2020 - 3 votes were cast. Russ VanAcker received 3 votes. Russ VanAcker was elected.

The Board canvassed the Drainage District #5 Election held on January 18, 2020. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 25, 2020 - 3 votes were cast. Mike Meyers received 3 votes. Mike Meyers was elected.

The Board canvassed the Drainage District #9 Election held on January 18, 2020. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 25, 2020 - 3 votes were cast. David Millage received 3 votes. David Millage was elected.

The Board canvassed the Drainage District #10 Election held on January 18, 2020. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 25, 2020 - 4 votes were cast. Gary Hepker received 4 votes. Gary Hepker was elected.

The Board canvassed the Muscatine-Louisa Drainage District #13 Second District Election held on January 18, 2020. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 25, 2020 - 776 votes were cast. Terry Martin received 776 votes. Terry Martin was elected.

The Board canvassed the Muscatine-Louisa Island Levee Second District Election held on January 18, 2020. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 25, 2020 - 7 votes were cast. Keith Bartenhagen received 7 votes. Keith Bartenhagen was elected.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Sauer, minutes of the January 20, 2020 regular meeting, the January 21, 2020 and the January 23, 2020 special meetings were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Saucedo reported a contact regarding drainage districts. Sorensen reported meeting with individuals regarding the Levee Stakeholders Commission January 21st. Sauer reported a call regarding snow removal in the unincorporated town of Montpelier.

Holliday reported contact from the bus transportation office regarding snow removal. Committee Reports: Holliday attended Fair Board meetings January 20th, 22nd, and 23rd.

Sorensen attended Bi-State Regional executive and regular meetings January 22nd.

Sorensen and Holliday attended a Muscatine County Joint Communication Commission meeting January 23rd.

Saucedo attended a West Liberty Economic Area Development (WELEAD) executive meeting January 22nd and a regular meeting January 24th.

Holliday attended the Cattlemen's Association event at the Muscatine County Fair Grounds January 25th.

Emergency Manager Brian Wright made a public announcement on behalf of Muscatine County Emergency Management and the Bi-State Regional Commission. Wright stated the planning process has started for the 2020 Muscatine County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Wright stated a draft of the plan is expected to be completed in February. Wright stated public meetings to discuss the plan have been scheduled as follows:

February 10th at 5:30 p.m., Musser Public Library, 408 East Second Street, Muscatine

February 13th at 6:00 p.m., West Liberty Public Library, 400 North Spencer Street, West Liberty

Director of Public Health Christy Roby-Williams addressed the Board regarding the FY20/21 budget request

for funding a .5 FTE Community Care Coordinator. Roby-Williams stated this request was based on the Community Health Needs Assessment which the County's Board of Health completes every three years. Roby-Williams stated the Assessment shows that citizens say obesity and diabetes are prevalent in our County and something should be done proactively to address this. Roby-Williams stated Public Health has a model they would like to modify and continue with the support of the County. Roby-Williams stated the model is a collaborative coordinated intake which would be used to screen many people throughout the County for high blood pressure, cholesterol and A1C levels. Roby-Williams stated screenings showing individuals with a high risk would go to the Community Care Coordinator to determine if the person needs additional support. Roby-Williams stated a Federally Qualified Health Center opening soon is a primary care provider with a Nurse Practitioner in family practice and oral health services providing dentistry. Roby-Williams stated this health center will have care coordinators for their patients only. Roby-Williams stated she is seeking funds from the Board for a County-wide collaborative coordinator who will serve individuals with the highest needs throughout the County.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Mather, the Board authorized final acceptance of the Muscatine County Courthouse Third Floor Courtroom Renovation Project. Ayes: All. Budget Administrator Sherry Seright stated the project came in under budget.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Holliday, the Board approved Policy BOS 100 - Board of Supervisors Travel/ Training Expenditure Policy as amended. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Mather, second by Saucedo, the Board approved revised Policy 100 - Board of Supervisors Meeting Agenda Policy. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held with Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber regarding a request to approve revised Policy 106 - Policies and Procedures for Use of the County Administration Building Outside of Normal Business Hours. Schreiber stated control of the County keys was recently transferred from the Auditor's Office to the Administration Office. Schreiber stated as part of the changeover she reviewed this policy. Schreiber stated there is no longer room at the Courthouse for after-hours use so this building has been removed from the policy. Schreiber stated County Attorney Alan Ostergren recommended removal of the wording non-religious from the list of appropriate uses. On a motion by Saucedo, second by Sauer, the Board approved revised Policy 106 - Policies and Procedures for Use of the County Administration Building Outside of Normal Business Hours as amended. Ayes: All.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 A.M.

Leslie A. Soule, County Auditor
Jeff Sorensen, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors

City of Durant Regular Council Meeting Minutes January 27, 2020

Mayor Scott Spengler called meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll Call of members present include Price, Quiram, Sterner, and Schulz. Member Mundt was absent. City staff present: Treas. Mitch Richman, City Oper. Officer/Clerk Deana Cavin, Public Works Dir. Jared Semsch, and Police Sgt. Mike Meier.

Consent agenda: Member Sterner motioned, seconded by Member Quiram, to approve the agenda, city bills, and approval of minutes for 01/13/2020 council meetings. Ayes: Price, Schulz, Sterner, Quiram Nays: None Motion carried.

Public Input: None Consider approval for Lego League to place recycle totes at Jaycee Park by way of grant opportunity: Joyce Richman, representative of the Lego League, read a prepared statement of request approval to apply for Keep Iowa Beautiful Grant to place recycle containers at city parks. The grant will be awarded up to \$2,000 and the group requested the city to match it. Oveson Refuse and Recycle will pick up the recyclables at the curb. The group will also be doing a plastic bag drive to collect plastic sacks for recycling. Member Schulz motioned, seconded by Diane Quiram, to approve the \$2,000 match for the Keep Iowa Beautiful Grant. Ayes: Sterner, Schulz, Price, Quiram Nays: None Motion carried. The council also congratulated the group for their trophy and placement at the Lego contest for Best Project Idea for the park presentation.

Guest Speaker/Introduction-Jodi Freet, New Cedar County Emergency Management Director, introduced herself to council. Tim Mallot will be retiring this year and Jodi will take over April 1, 2020.

Consider 13th Avenue - private property Sewer back up concerns and plan moving forward: Clerk Cavin explained to council she invited Mike Petersen to attend a council meeting to make council aware of his concerns. Mike Petersen, owner of property at 1302 7th Street, addressed council with concerns about a major sewer back up July 3, 2019. The city received almost three inches in less than hour that evening. He reported damages from sanitary sewer back up, to the finished basement of the home he rents out at a cost of \$13,188.92 with his insurance covering \$5,000 of the costs. He reported he wasn't blaming anyone, but his concern was for the future, what the city can do to prevent it from happening. The city had performed televising of the line. The city has performed smoke testing to look for illegal hook ups of storm water to sanitary sewer. The city will be lining the sewer line and storm sewer line in that area to alleviate infiltration. The sewer line from the house to the main is a fairly new line. He has had his line televised and cleaned as well. He still has experienced "soft" backups in recent months. His plumber reported a backflow valve would not work in this instance as the pipe does not have as much fall due to the age of the home. A claim was filed with the city insurance company, however, they declined to pay anything unless there was proof of city negligence. Public Works Dir. Jared Semsch reported normally when a resident has a backup, the plumber will call the city to check the city main. If the there's flow, the city main is not blocked. Semsch reported in Mike's case the plumber did not call the city therefore, Semsch could not attest if the main had flow or not at those times of soft backups. Mike will call the emergency cell number for public works before he calls his plumber. He reported city staff has been very responsive, but still worried about the future, if it will happen again, and since he has done everything he can do as a homeowner. He would like consideration of compensation from the city. Mayor Spengler directed public works department to monitor that main when there is are predictions of significant rain. It was general consensus of council that the city attorney should be consulted. A meeting with the city engineer, Public Works Dir. Semsch, and city attorney should be held, to go over the information together.

Consider approval of The Creamery Alcohol license renewal: Member Sterner motioned, seconded by Member Price, to approve the renewal of the Alcohol license. Ayes: Schulz, Sterner, Quiram, Price Nays: None Motion carried.

Engineer report: Consider 4th Street Sanitary sewer replacement from 5th Ave to 4th Ave: Steve Haring, MSA Professional Services, filled in for Engineer Kevin Bailey. He explained the concern for 4th Street sanitary sewer line between 4th Avenue and 5th Avenue. After reviewing the televising, city staff and MSA are working to prepare plans to replace this section. It is over the threshold amount for projects, therefore will have to be competitively quoted per Iowa Code. Proposed schedule includes project beginning in March. PW Dir. Semsch explained the city will sealcoat the area at completion when LL Pelling is in town doing the annual sealcoating. Member Quiram asked what the estimated cost would be. Clerk responded \$65,000 to

\$125,000. This would have to be done in this fiscal year. Clerk reported there is money remaining in Capital projects fund from 8th Street that can be used for this repair. Member Quiram motioned, seconded by Member Price, to proceed with the 4th Street Sanitary Sewer replacement from 5th Ave to 4th Avenue. Ayes: Sterner, Schulz, Price, Quiram Nays: None Motion carried. MSA will be communicating with residents in that area as well as the project proceeds.

Fire Dept.: Consider approval for purchase of new Fire Fighter helmets: Fire Chief Semsch requested approval to apply for a grant for new helmets at a cost of \$6,234.51 by Municipal Emergency Services. Member Quiram motioned, seconded by Member Sterner, to approve the request to purchase of new firefighter helmets with a grant. Ayes: Price, Schulz, Sterner, Quiram Nays: None Motion carried.

Clerk Report: Discuss the new requirement for the max levy hearing and definition: Clerk explained the Iowa Legislature SF 634 property tax alterations requires cities to publish two tax levies at two different times. The maximum tax levy required to be published, a public hearing, and passage by resolution must be done before the budget can be published, public hearing and passage. Clerk clarified the max levy publication will not include the debt service levy. Therefore, citizens need to understand the max levy is not the total levy of property taxes for the city. The budget publication will show the total tax levy.

Consider committee members for Emergency Planning update for Cedar County: clerk requested a committee be formed for the update. Member Schulz volunteered to be on it with mayor, clerk, Fire Chief, Police Chief and sergeant. Meeting will be organized in the next two weeks.

Consider committee for updating ordinances: Clerk informed council a committee will be reviewing the ordinances in April or May. Any council member that would like to see added language, or clarifications are encouraged to read the ordinances located on the city website, and let the clerk know of any suggestions for changes.

Consider policy for citizen complaints and procedures: Clerk discussed changing the complaint procedures for the public to aid in accountability. She stated the city wants to hear about serious issues, ordinance violations, or potential hazards. With limited staff, this would help city staff and council prioritize complaints. She provided example forms provided by the Iowa League of Cities. Many cities in Iowa have written complaint forms that are required to be completely filled out and signed by the complainant. These forms would be accessible on line and in the office. Cities determine if the complaint is legitimate, or if violation exists. It would be assigned to the proper department or staff member. The city staff person assigned to the issue would record the date, time, and resolution for the record. This would make the city staff accountable and the citizen would know what department will be handling the complaint. The city may request the citizen to appear in court, or in front of council as part of a hearing. Member Quiram thought this was a good idea to help determine what complaint is legitimate and what is not. Sgt. Meier was in agreement it does make people on both sides accountable. This will help stream line the complaint process. It was general consensus of council that the clerk and deputy clerk prepare a form, have legal review it, and present to council at a future meeting.

With no other business before council, meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Scott Spengler, Mayor

Deana Cavin, City Operations Officer/Clerk

| CLAIMS LIST 01/27/2020 | |
|--|-----------|
| Airgas USA, LLC CC bar rent CO2 cylinders | 47.43 |
| Alliant Energy Scott Co Electric-lift station, wa tower, | |
| st lights | 261.70 |
| CDW Government Police-Xerox workcenter & CH | |
| thinkpad batteries (2) | 608.17 |
| Compass Minerals America Roads-salt | |
| (26.17 ton) | 2113.75 |
| Crescent Electric Supply Co CC-cable (1000 ft) | 83.54 |
| EFTPS Fed/FICA tax | 5560.68 |
| Enaqua WWTP-UV bulbs & MLM Gen2 retrofit | 2865.00 |
| Hi-Line Inc Shop supplies | 216.92 |
| Iowa Interstate RR Ltd Norfolk Dr Sign/Maint/Elec 252.81 | |
| Iowa One Call December one calls | 27.80 |
| Iowa Prison Industries Signs (speed limit, no | |
| parking) | 263.23 |
| IPERS IPERS | 7546.41 |
| John Deere Financial Parks-vehicle filters | 49.25 |
| Menards Misc supplies | 61.74 |
| NCL of Wisconsin Inc WWTP supplies | 78.23 |
| Pickart, Jason CC deposit refund | 250.00 |
| Postmaster Wa billing postage-stamps | 280.00 |
| Price Oil Co Inc Fuel | 398.47 |
| Quad City Times * CC bridal fair ad | 599.00 |
| Ron's Toy Box LLC Snowplow repair | 744.60 |
| Sam's Club MC/SYNCR Misc supplies | 271.84 |
| Scott County Sheriff's Office Jail booking fees | 25.00 |
| Shaffer Automotive Inc Replace radiator 802 | |
| Tahoe | 401.85 |
| Sprague Law PC Legal fees 11/16/19-12/15/19 | 792.00 |
| Staples Credit Plan Office supplies | 196.31 |
| SYNCR/Amazon Misc supplies | 404.97 |
| The CTK Group Training for 803 | 425.00 |
| Treasurer of Iowa-IA-WH State taxes | 1957.00 |
| USA Blue Book Wa dept chemicals | 196.13 |
| VISA Roads-ss spring | 10.95 |
| Payroll | 16751.29 |
| Total | 43,741.07 |
| * Denotes paid early due to invoice due date | |
| Fund Totals | |
| General | 24,883.44 |
| Road Use Tax | 6,362.94 |
| Tax Increment Financing | 252.81 |
| Fire Department | 186.34 |
| Water | 3,892.38 |
| Total | 8,163.16 |
| Total | 43,741.07 |

Durant Community School District Board Work Session Minutes January 27, 2020

Superintendent Joe Burnett called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm. Present: Tara Lindsay, Katy Oberlander, Julie Rivera, Travis Bullard, Carla Whitlock, Joe Burnett, Lesa Kephart, Rebecca Stineman, Joel Diederichs and Tom Wuestenberg.

Mr. Burnett reviewed the Capital Project Worksheet and refreshed the board on how the Capital Project and PPEL Funds are funded and the allowable uses for the funds. At this time there is still an available balance of approximately \$593,948 in the Capital Project fund and \$120,804 in the PPEL fund for current year projects.

Tom Wuestenberg, Maintenance Director, and Mr. Burnett reviewed the existing condition of the roofs on the school building and the construction specifications for roof replacement. Beckwith Commercial Roofing submitted a quote for four areas of priority and another quote will be coming from Riddell before the next board meeting. The board discussion included the potential for a potential bond issue and what remodeling, if any, might impact the current roof system. Mr. Burnett plans to bring a recommendation



LEGAL NOTICES

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...Continued from page 24

to the board at the regular February meeting. Mr. Burnett would like to plan a Maintenance Committee meeting in late February to discuss summer projects.

Mr. Burnett explained to the board how Interest Based Problem Solving, IBPS, works. Ms. Rivera shared that she felt last year's IBPS meetings were very constructive and a good experience. An IBPS session is planned for February 24th prior to the board work session. The time has not yet been determined.

Mr. Burnett reviewed the Durant Student Enrollment Summary and projected approximately 600 students for FY21. Also reviewed was the General Fund New Money and Unspent Balance Worksheet.

Ms. Kephart and Mr. Burnett explained the Education Energy Group Program and that it is an Iowa Local Government Risk Pool. The program would allow the district to make one annual payment for natural gas for the fiscal year and would allow the district save money in the General Fund by paying for the program with Management Fund dollars as determined by an opinion issued by the Iowa's Auditor of State.

Mr. Burnett and the board discussed the Operational Sharing Agreement with Wilton for the Superintendent position and the monies saved by the district. Mr. Burnett reminded the board that the agreement is a one-year agreement and that the Wilton Board would need to be notified if Durant decided to discontinue the agreement.

Mr. Burnett pointed out that the certified staff are contracted for a professional development day on January 18, 2021 which is Martin Luther King Day. Students will not be in attendance that day.

The district will have a Department of Education site visit for three days next week.

Ms. Lindsay inquired about whether the district was planning to host Kindergarten Round-Up this year for next year's kindergarten students. Ms. Stineman stated that the district will either host a Round-Up or a Step-Up (transitional day from Pre-K to Kindergarten) depending on the number of potential kindergarten students that are already enrolled in the districts Pre-K program.

Mr. Bullard asked about student cell phones in classrooms and Mr. Diederichs confirmed that it is up to each individual teacher's discretion as to whether or not they are allowed to keep their phones during their class. Mr. Diederichs explained that teachers are expected to be consistent in their handling of problems with cell phones in the classrooms.

Ms. Rivera asked how about the number of tardy students this year compared to last year. Mr. Diederichs stated that the number of students being tardy to class has dropped from the prior year.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:04 pm.

Secretary, Board of Directors

City of Wilton Regular Meeting Minutes January 27, 2020

The Council for the City of Wilton, Iowa met in regular session in the Community Room at City Hall on Monday January 27, 2020. Mayor Barrett called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Members present at this meeting: Steve Owens, Wayne Budding, Keith Stanley, Sheryl Lenker and Ted Marolf. Absent: none.

The agenda was presented for approval. It was moved by Member Lenker seconded by Member Marolf that the agenda be approved as presented. The roll was called and the vote recorded as follows: Ayes: Owens, Budding, Stanley, Lenker and Marolf Nays: None. Motion Carried.

The consent agenda presented for approval. Items included were: Minutes from 1-13-20 and Cemetery Allocation of \$10,000. It was moved by Member Stanley seconded by Member Owens that the consent agenda be approved as presented. The roll was called and the vote recorded as follows: Ayes: Owens, Budding, Stanley, Lenker and Marolf Nays: None. Motion Carried.

At this time, Sue Johannsen, Barb Smith and Kris Weis, spoke to the Council regarding the 19th Amendment Centennial. Sue gave an overview of the 19th Amendment and presented a proclamation. Such proclamation proclaims: Therefore, citizens of Wilton shall enjoy the freedom of voter participation, continue to fight for voting rights for all citizens and celebrate this important milestone by proclaiming the calendar year 2020 to be the 19th Amendment Centennial Commemoration. The women also invited the public to some local events that will be held to help support this centennial. Mayor and Council thanked the group for attending and bringing attention to this occurrence.

CONSULTANTS: Wilton Development Director Becky Allgood reported that she attended the Preservation Iowa Summit meeting in Newton. She will be working on the final report for the certified annual governmental report. This spring she will be working with the committee on research for the historic county schools and churches in the area and also work to identify historic neighborhoods in Wilton.

Since the last HRDP grant was declined for the work at City Hall, Becky said she will continue to apply for this grant in 2020. She added that she will be meeting with MSA regarding the Highway 38 corridor on Wednesday of this week to complete scope of work for this project.

CORRESPONDENCE: Deputy City Clerk Kit Koele designed a brochure explaining the new house number regulations. Members were happy with the design and information included in this brochure. It will be mailed out in the April utility bills to inform the Wilton citizens of the recommendations.

A notice was read from the US Census 2020 committee. Members wanted to remind all of Wilton citizens how important it is to respond to the census. It is very significant to many issues within our City that all be counted. The census bureau is hiring part time workers starting at \$19.50 per hour. If anyone is interested in applying, they should check the census website.

A thank you was read from the Janet Boorn family, thanking the City for their contribution and plant in sympathy. Janet was a faithful long time employee for the City. MAYOR:

Mayor and Council expressed their thanks to all City employees for their diligent efforts in the recent snow removal. Compliments were heard on the prompt clean up around the city.

Mayor Barrett reported that he attended assessor board meetings with Muscatine and Cedar counties this month. Each of these entities has their own board which is separate from the County Board of Supervisors.

The township Fire board clerks held their annual meeting last week and Mayor Barrett attended this meeting. He complimented the Wilton Fire Department for their accurate record keeping of their budget. They have details of future purchases and or replacements out to 2037.

The Mayor wanted to remind everyone of the Iowa caucuses to be held Monday February 3rd at 7:00PM.

POLICE ITEMS: Chief Clark reported that Officer Dearmore has now left for guard duty and will be off until August of this year. Officer Yassin is working full time and seems to be picking up on the daily duties well. The department is expecting the new Tahoe to be delivered within the next couple of weeks. An investigating group meeting was held in Tipton last week which Chief Clark attended.

Chief Clark attended a user group meeting with Muscom last week. He requested funds from this group to purchase a portable radio and an MDT computer; total for these items would be around \$8000. The Chief was happy to report that the request was approved. Now the part time officers will

not share these items.

COUNCIL ITEMS: The request for funds for the restoration of the Muscatine County jail from the Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission was the next item on the agenda. Becky Allgood, a member of the commission, stated that they were asking \$5000 from the smaller county cities for this project and \$10,000 from Muscatine. They have applied for countless grants and raised over two million dollars for preserving historic sites within the county. The commission took on this venture in order to showcase the unique history of the jail and structure, which will be used for tours, meetings and other events. A discussion was held on the amount that Wilton could contribute to this project. It was then moved by Member Owens seconded by Member Marolf that the City of Wilton donate \$1000 to this project. The roll was called and the vote recorded as follows: Ayes: Owens, Budding, Stanley, Lenker and Marolf Nays: None. Motion Carried.

A Resolution entitled "A Resolution Amending the Personnel Policy Handbook of the City of Wilton" was presented to the Council for discussion. Chris explained that this clarifies the on call rules for the public works employees. There is no change in the wages or hours worked, just putting the regulations in writing. After due consideration, it was moved by Member Stanley seconded by Member Budding that the same be adopted. The roll was called and the vote recorded as follows: Ayes: Owens, Budding, Stanley and Marolf Nays: None. Motion Carried.

The Mayor then declared said Resolution 01272020 be adopted.

A Resolution entitled "A Resolution to Set a Public Hearing for the Proposed City Maximum Property Tax Dollars Concerning the Budget for FY 2021" was presented to the Council for discussion. The State of Iowa has implemented some changes in the budget approval format and this is one of the new items. This will set the hearing for February 10th. After due consideration, it was moved by Member Stanley seconded by Member Budding that the same be adopted. The roll was called and the vote recorded as follows: Ayes: Owens, Budding, Stanley and Marolf Nays: None. Motion Carried.

The Mayor then declared said Resolution 01272020A be adopted.

Member Owens thanked the Chief Clark for working with the property owner on 4th Street. The area has been cleaned up some and looks much better. Member Budding added thanks for assisting in cleaning up the alley behind the 300 block of Cedar Street.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

Since there will be changes in the city hall office staff in the near future, Chris requested that it be approved to hire a part time person. This will help in the transition process of the duties of the City Clerk. Chris said that he has talked with the Light & Power Board about paying half of the wage for this part time person. He did not receive an answer on this request, but he plans to have a meeting with the Light & Power Superintendent next week. Mayor Barrett said he would like to be included in this meeting and would also like to invite their Board Chairman. It was then moved by Member Owens seconded by Member Budding that the part time hire be approved. The roll was called and the vote recorded as follows: Ayes: Owens, Budding, Stanley and Marolf Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Member Owens inquired if Chris had any plans to replace the park maintenance employee. He said that he and the Public Works Director will be looking into this position before spring.

The Council has talked about implementing a snow emergency ordinance. Chris had a sample copy of an ordinance from another City. He asked the council if they would like to proceed with something similar for Wilton. A few suggestions were made and a preliminary ordinance will be presented at the next meeting.

Chris reported that the new administrator pickup had been delivered last week. The Canyon pickup is now with the water and sewer department.

Progress is being made on the updates to City Hall. He encouraged the members to stop by and see what has been done.

Bi-State will be hosting public meetings for the Hazard Mitigation plan. One will be held on February 11th in Muscatine and another on February 13th in West Liberty. At both of these meetings, a short presentation will be followed by an opportunity for members of the public to look at a draft copy of the plan and ask questions.

Chris thanked the members for allowing him vacation during the last council meeting. He tries to avoid missing meetings, but he enjoyed his time for a family vacation and was treated to some history with the USS Arizona Memorial in Hawaii.

The financial statements were accepted and placed on file. It was moved by Member Stanley seconded by Member Budding that the total disbursements of \$477,813.66, approved by the Finance Committee, be allowed and instructed the City Clerk to pay the same. The roll was called and the vote recorded as follows: Ayes: Owens, Budding, Stanley and Marolf Nays: None. Motion Carried.

No further business, this meeting was adjourned.

Mayor Robert Barrett

City Clerk Lori A. Brown

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes JANUARY CHECK REGISTER REPORT, IOWA BEVERAGE BAR SUPPLIES, 7G DISTRIBUTING BAR SUPPLIES, CITY OF WILTON FLEX PLAN, EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SYSTEMS PAYMENT FOR DEC, TREASURER STATE OF IOWA sales & wet, tax, CENEX FLEETCARD FUEL, GIS BENEFITS LIFE/SHORT TERM DISABILITY, PRECISION BUILDERS, INC CITY HALL PAY, APP #2, VISA PIPE, LIGHTS, FLUID PUMP, ADVOCATE NEWS LEGAL NOTICES-COUNCIL MEETING, BETH TELSROW CLEANING, BI STATE REGIONAL COMMISSION DUES, 1/2020-3/2020, CITY OF WILTON APPLY DEPOSITS TO FINAL, BILLS, EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SYSTEMS PFS, ADMINISTRATION, FAMILY EYE & CONTACT LENS CENT JOHN, FISCHER SAFETY GLASSES, H R GREEN COMPANY SRF, WWTP, MUNICIPAL ENGINEER, IMAGES IN INK DOOR HANGER FOR POSTING, INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS NETWORKING, ARNOLDS, PASSWORD, KLINGNER ASSOCIATES CITY HALL, REHAB, OMNI-SITE WIRELESS SERVICE 1 YEAR, PEPSI-COLA BOTTLING CO OF DAV COMMUNITY, CENTER POP, REFUNDS OR REIMBURSE TASER AND HOSTER, REFUNDS OR REIMBURSE DEPOSIT REFUND 100.00, TYLER TECHNOLOGIES ANNUAL SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE, UNIFORM DEN INC.T JOHNSON SHIRTS WITH NAME, US CELLULAR CELL PHONE CHARGES.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes US POST OFFICE ANNUAL PO BOX FEE, WILTON FIRE DEPARTMENT BARTENDING, WILTON MEAL SITE COMMUNITY ROOM RENTALS, WILTON MUNICIPAL LIGHT & POWER ELECTRIC, WTC COMMUNICATIONS PHONE/INTERNET, ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY WIPERS, WASHER FLUID, BLOWER, BOUND TREE MEDICAL LLC FACE MASK, TEST STRIPS, BRAMMEIERS GARAGE CAR WASH, CARDMEMBER SERVICE BAR SUPPLIES, CEDAR COUNTY SOLID WASTE LANDFILL, CENEX FLEETCARD FUEL, EASTERN IOWA LIGHT & POWER ELECTRIC, ELECTRIC PUMP TROUBLESHOOT TRIPPING OVERLOAD, FASTANEL COMPANY BOLTS FOR SNOW PLOW, ION ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS WATER/WASTEWATER LABS, JEFF'S MARKET LIGHT BULBS, PAPER TOWELS, LP, LATTA SALES & DISTRIBUTION COR DRY CRETE, MASTERCARD CELL PHONE, MID AMERICAN ENERGY GAS SERVICE, PAPER'S LUMBER & SUPPLY HOOKS, WD40, DOOR PULLS, PITNEY BOWES POSTAGE, PRECISION BUILDERS, INC CITY HALL PAY APP #3, REFUNDS OR REIMBURSE COMM ROOM, REFUND, TALL GRASS BUSINESS RESOURCES FILE FOLDERS, INN CARTRIDGE, TOTAL MAINTENANCE INC COMM CENTER/LIBRARY ANNUAL, UTILITY EQUIPMENT CO SEWER LIDS, BRASS SHUT OFFS, WENDLING QUARRIES INC MANSAND & GRAVEL, WILTON SWIMMING POOL ALLOCATION, ADVANCE BUSINESS SYSTEMS COPIER MAINT, AVEVIS THIRD PARTY ADMIN VISION INS, CHEMSEARCH HAND CLEANER, DEPT OF INSPECTIONS & APPEALS 2020 FOOD SERVICE LICENSE RENE, EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SYSTEMS PFS ADMIN, ERVIN'S INCORPORATED REPAIR TOILET COUPLING, FUTURE LINE TRUCK EQUIPMENT F350 & F550 SNOW PLOW, GIS BENEFITS LIFE/SHORT TERM DISABILITY, HALE PRINTING DECALS FOR TAHOES, IMAGES IN INK WATER LEAK POSTCARDS, IOWA ONE CALL LOCATES, JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL R CREAMER BOOTS, PANTS, SHIRTS, JR'S CAR AND TRUCK REPAIR 2016 F-550 REPAIRS, MENARDS SNOW/ICE TRACTION FOR BOOTS, OAKDALE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION CEMETARY DONATION FOR 2020, PITNEY BOWES POSTAGE LEASE, PRICE OIL COMPANY OFF ROAD DIESEL, SPRAGUE LAW LLC LEGAL FEES, TRIPLE B CONSTRUCTION CORP REMOVE AND REPLACE INTAKE, TURKLE TREE SERVICE REMOVE TREES IN RIGHT AWAY, US CELLULAR CELL PHONE CHARGES, VISA MOVING CART, DOCKING STATION, WELLMARK BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD HEALTH AND DENTAL INS, WILTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CHAMBER DINNER, BAKER & TAYLOR L-BOOKS, CENTER POINT LARGE PRINT BOOKS L-LARGE.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes PRINT BOOKS, CHILDREN'S PLUS INC L-CHILDRENS BOOKS, INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS L-NETWORKING, BACKUP, SECURITY, MARTIN GARDNER ARCHITECTURE L-ARCHITECT FOR READING GARDEN, MASTERCARD L-BOOKS, DVD, PROGRAM, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY L-MAGAZINE, OFFICE MACHINE CONSULTANTS L-COPIER CONTRACT, TALL GRASS BUSINESS RESOURCES L-COPY PAPER, TASTE OF HOME BOOKS L-MAGAZINE, WAL MART COMMUNITY BRC L-PAPER CLIPS, CLEANING SUPPLI, WILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY-PETTY CA L-POSTAGE SHIPPING, PETTY CASH, WTC COMMUNICATIONS L-PHONE, FAX, INTERNET, ALEXIS FIRE EQUIPMENT RADIO HOLDERS AND STRAPS, H R GREEN COMPANY engineering, HENDERSON PRODUCTS INC CHAIN FOR SANDER, IMAGES IN INK D CLARK, T JOHNSON, R YASSIN, IOWA LEAGUE OF CITIES IA MAYOR ASSOCIATION, Grand Total.

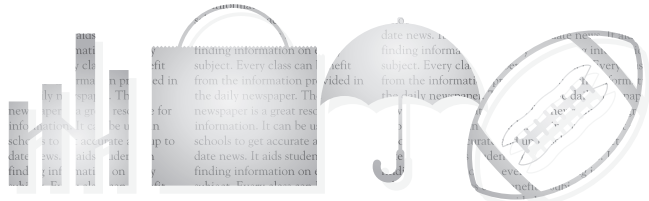
City of Wilton 2019 City of Wilton Wages

Table with 2 columns: Name and Wage. Includes Ball, Christopher, Barrett, Robert, Bowers, Sharon, Brown, Lori, Brown, Rhonda, Budding, Wayne, Butler, Karen L, Carter, Ashley M, Clark, David, Creamer, Richard, Dearmore, Robert, Dickens, Anthony, Fischer, John, Hetzler, Marcia, Hunt, Isaac J, Johnson, Roger, Johnson, Todd, Koele, Kathryn, Kreimeyer, Robert, Lane, Zachary L, Lange, Emily K, Leathers, Timothy, Lenker, Ashley L, Lutje, Randall, Madson, Matthew, Marolf, Ted, Marquez, Paul, Maurer, Elizabeth, Maynard, Damien, Meyer, Harold, Murdock, Wesley, Oien, Shelby L, Owens, Steve, Peach, Travis, Rangel, Zoe, Roberts, Michah, Schmidt, Michael, Stanley, Keith, Timmsen, Samantha, VanDusen, Robert, Wagaman, Matthew L, Yassin, Rafeek, Yates, Brian, Zirkelbach, Larry, TOTAL.

Advertisement for Valentine's Day tributes. Text: "Surprise your Valentine! Brighten someone's day with a special message. Surprise your spouse, significant other, children, grandchildren, parents, grandparents, teacher, co-workers or best friend!" Includes a photo of two women and the word "SAMPLE". Text: "Happy Valentine's Day! Best Friends & Sisters Always". List of options: Photo, Name, Year Married (optional), Personal Message (Optional, up to 10 words), Phone Number. Text: "Valentine's Day tributes will be published in our Feb. 14 edition." Cost is \$15 - Deadline: Monday Feb. 10. Mail or drop off at the Wilton-Durant Advocate News, 410 Cedar St., P.O. Box 40, Wilton, IA 52778 or email the information along with credit card information to adnews@netwct.net. For more information, please call 732-2029.



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