



Wilton-Durant Advocate News



Durant Ambulance receives PPE, p. 2

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Thelma was a Candy Kitchen fixture for 73 years

Editor's note: The following release was created through the submission of current Wilton Candy Kitchen owner Lynn Ochiltree.

Thelma J. Nopoulos began working at the Candy Kitchen when she was 10 years old. She continued to be a fixture at the historic business for more than 73 years, retiring in 2015 after the death of her husband, George.

Thelma died Wednesday afternoon, April 29, at the Wilton Retirement Community. She was 88.

She was a tireless promoter of the Candy Kitchen and her hometown of Wilton. She was tenacious and charming in her work to put both on the map. Upon entering the Candy Kitchen, you would often find her dressed in a signature red blouse and cameo brooch. She was quick with "Hello" and "make sure to sign our guest book."

Her love of her life's work was obvious as she entertained and treated customers to long-standing ice cream and soda fountain favorites. Mostly, she loved to tell the story of the Candy Kitchen, a turn of the century soda fountain with history dating back to 1860.

Actors Gregory Peck, Brooke Shields

and Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg are among some of the many famous visitors. Several politicians visited the historic landmark over the years, including Republican presidential candidates and Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad, who made several visits during his tenure.

It was, however, the eight generations of customers who frequented the Candy Kitchen that she was most proud of.

Thelma and George were named in 2003 the first Official Lifetime Ambassadors of the city of Wilton and she published a history of Wilton entitled, "Our Town Speaks, Wilton, Iowa 1855-2005" which debuted in 2005 to coincide with the celebration of Wilton's 150th Anniversary.

Thelma's father-in-law Gus, an immigrant from Greece, reopened a recently closed soda fountain in Wilton in 1910 which he renamed the Candy Kitchen. His son George and Thelma later ran it until George's death.

Thelma sold the Candy Kitchen to Lynn Ochiltree and his wife Brenda in March of 2016. Eight generation of Ochiltree's family has lived in Wilton, beginning in 1849.

Related reading: Thelma's obituary, p. 7 — Case in Point, p. 8



Thelma Nopoulos (right) longtime owner and operator of the Wilton Candy Kitchen with her late husband George (left) died April 29 at the age of 88. Thelma worked in the Candy Kitchen from the time she was 10 years old until George's passing in 2015. She later sold the business to Lynn and Brenda Ochiltree in 2016. AN file photo

Historic Highway 6 closed through September from Durant to Walcott



Starting May 4, County Road F58 in Durant, also known as historic Highway 6, is closed to traffic east of Durant to Walcott. According to a release from Muscatine County, the road will be closed for a culvert replacement, subdrain and ditching project set to last through Sept. 30. Road closed signs are shown at Durant's far east end, near the Durant Cemetery. The closed route is shown at right (purple line) and the proposed detour is shown in green, which includes Interstate 80, by way of using Yankee Avenue (Y26) in Durant and 60th Avenue (Y40) in Walcott. Photo by Derek Sawvell

Muscatine County road closed May 4

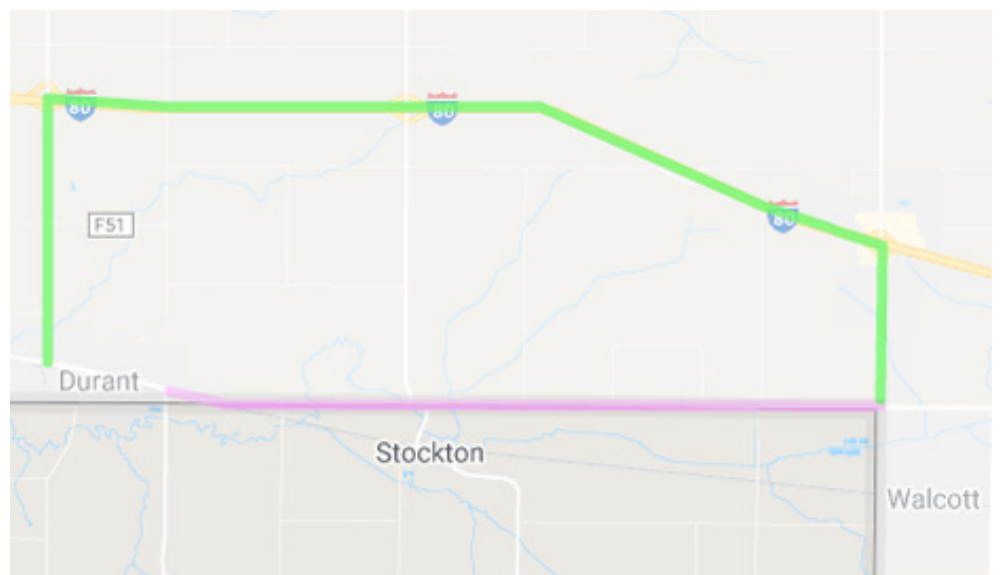
Beginning Monday, May 4, County Road F58 (200th St.) will be closed to thru traffic for a culvert replacement, subdrain and ditching project from Vail Ave. (Y26) east to 60th Ave. (Y40). Prime contractor, Hagerty Earthworks LLC. will begin mobilizing equipment and personnel to begin the ditching and culvert portion of the project.

The portion of historic Highway 6 just east

of Durant is scheduled to be closed through Sept. 30.

Traffic will be detoured using Yankee Ave. (Y26), Interstate 80 and 60th Avenue. (Y40). Residents are advised to use the designated detour and to use caution while traveling on the detour. F58 will be closed to thru traffic from Vail Ave. (Y26) to 60th Avenue. (Y40) for the duration of the project, which is tentatively scheduled to be completed in early fall.

As construction progresses, residents/landowners direction of access may vary.



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Durant Ambulance members make PPE for Cedar County

Dennis Frisch, president of the Durant Volunteer Ambulance Service, says COVID-19 has affected the Durant Volunteer Ambulance Service by creating a greater personnel shortage than before it arrived. Emergency Medical Services (EMS), particularly those who volunteer, struggle to staff their shifts due to a lack of personnel.

During the past year, the Durant service had its ranks decreased by four individuals as one retired, two had changes in their job status, and one had a mishap requiring surgery and a lengthy recovery time but will return later this year.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, two additional individuals have voluntarily stopped going on calls as they are in the high-risk age category (65-plus). The positive side of this gloom and doom, according to Frisch, is that the other volunteers are stepping up to fill the gaps.

Although Mr. Frisch, a paramedic, and Ed Behnke, a driver, are not going on calls, they have found a way to continue helping the Durant service and other emergency medical services in Cedar County. There is a need for personal protective equipment (PPE) by all services and they have begun to make face shields.

With carpet padding, overhead projector overlays, elastic, staples and some ingenuity, Frisch and Behnke put together 50 face shields in only a couple of days. Mr. Frisch states the face shields may not be the "fancy industrial manufactured kind," but they will work. With some tender love and care, EMS personnel should be able to use them several times.

The face shields not needed by the Durant service will be taken to the Cedar County EMA office for distribution to other Cedar County services and organizations that need them.



Ed Behnke (left) and Dennis Frisch are shown making homemade face shields to donate to several Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel in Cedar County. The shields are made with carpet padding, overhead projector overlays, elastic, staples. Contributed photo

Fro's bike nights approved but on hold due to COVID-19

By Derek Sawvell
Managing Editor, Advocate News

The Wilton city council is still holding its meetings in the Community Room in downtown Wilton, as the council chambers are still under renovation as part of the City Hall project. Meetings are also being offered digitally during the COVID-19 pandemic.

At the April 27 meeting, Mayor Bob Barrett and council members Keith Stanley and Wayne Budding were present, while members Ted Marolf, Sheryl Lenker and Steve Owens attended online, with their images being portrayed on a TV screen in the Community Room.

One of the items on the agenda was the approval of annual bike nights at Fro's Pub & Grub in downtown Wilton. It was noted that owner Brian Froehlich had been holding the bike nights for years, and that a small portion of Third Street was typically closed off during the weekly activity.

Police Chief Dave Clark said he had talked with Froehlich recently about providing better signage with regard to closing the street, for

instance placing a large sign near the intersection of West Third and Elm streets. He said the bike nights would run from May 1 through Sept. 4 from 5-9 p.m. each Friday night. There would then be a poker run on Sept. 12.

It was also noted that the bike nights would not begin until the business would be allowed to open, as it is currently closed due to governor's orders during the pandemic. Council approved the bike nights, pending better signage.

Wilton City Council

Administrative items

* City Administrator Chris Ball said that the State Revolving Fund (SRF) project in the city's industrial park—a storm water retention project—is moving forward. It will begin in June.

* Ball said that he had discussed with HR Green engineers possible shovel-ready projects if the city were to receive federal stimulus dollars as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Projects included:

1. Upgrading electronics at the water plant;
2. Refinishing both of the city's water towers;
3. Replacing culverts and the bridge on Third Street, plus do an asphalt overlay;
4. Pave the rest of Ayres Progress Road in the industrial park;

5. Pave the walking trail at Westview Park;
6. New asphalt on Fifth Street.

After discussion, it was decided to have HR Green provide estimates for the Third Street project and putting new asphalt on Fifth Street. Ball did note that it was unknown whether any federal dollars would be available, but all the items listed would eventually have to be done anyway.

Miscellany

In other action, council:

* Approved the minutes from the April 13 meeting and paid monthly city bills.

* Approved a housing improvement application to Mark and Linda Baker at 211 Spruce St. for the addition of a garage to the property with a value of \$25,000.

* Approved pay application No. 6 to Precision Builders of Bettendorf in the amount of \$114,015.67 for continued work on renovations at City Hall.

* Set the second meeting in May for Tuesday, May 26 at 7 p.m. in order to observe Memorial Day May 25.

* Approved the following mayoral appointments—Jamie Hull to the board of adjustment; and Jennifer Hunter and Jim Williams to the Wilton Public Library board. Both Hunter and Williams represented renewals to their terms as they were both already serving on the board.

* Approved a resolution to renegotiate revenue bonds for Simpson Memorial Home, Inc. A public hearing was also set for 7 p.m. at the start of the May 26 regular meeting.

* Approved a resolution temporarily suspending late fees and non-payment disconnections for city services during the COVID-19 pandemic from March 1 through June 1. The order could be extended at that time with further action from council.

* Approved a resolution authorizing early redemption of \$380,000 of outstanding bonds with regard to the Community Center and Public Library. Ball noted that the bonds were issued in 2013 and would be eligible for early payback after June 1. He said that more than \$300,000 had been donated to the city by Janice Meincke in order to help pay off the Community Center and Public Library project.

* Wilton Development Corp. Director Becky Allgood said that the model home built in Wilton's south end near the convenience center has been sold and will have a closing May 15. The home sold for \$185,500.

* The farmland (five acres) on Fifth Street across from CBI Bank & Trust and WTC Communications will be re-zoned in order to clear the path for a retirement facility to be built. After it is approved by planning and zoning, a public hearing will be held at a later date.

* Approved a seal coat list with LL Pelling including approximately \$101,000 in improvements. Ball noted the city typically budgets \$100,000 per year for seal coating.

* The Wilton Public Library is currently offering curbside service in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. It had previously been closed to the public.

* Approved a quote from Triple B Construction in the amount of roughly \$8,000 for drainage improvements at and on either side of Arty's Ice Cream & Grill. Ball told council that four property owners in the area will be approached to help pay for a portion of the work—as much as 50 percent.

All council members were present and all action taken was unanimous. The next regular meeting is May 11 at 7 p.m.



Corteva makes PPE donation to Durant Ambulance—Protective personal equipment (PPE) has been in short supply and high demand for frontline workers caring for novel coronavirus COVID-19 patients since the virus began spreading in the United States earlier this year. Corteva was contacted by Dennis Frisch, president of the Durant Volunteer Ambulance Service, to determine if they had leftover glasses/goggles from the previous detasseling season he could purchase. To his surprise, Plant Manager Juan Acuna, and Safety Director Dawn Stuart, offered to donate the equipment and wanted to know the number needed. Frisch explained to them all services in Cedar County were in need. Frisch said if they could get close to 200 pairs of glasses/goggles it would be sufficient to cover all emergency medical service personnel in Cedar County. Within a couple of days Stuart called stating the glasses/goggles had arrived and could be picked up. There were 200 pairs of glasses and 50 pairs of goggles—all donated by Corteva and they will be donating more. Acuna and Stuart stated they have ordered additional PPE (gloves, gowns and masks) from their supplier and are waiting for the equipment to arrive. Corteva has more than demonstrated their willingness to assist EMS in the COVID-19 battle. Frisch said, "The personnel of the Durant Volunteer Ambulance Service and other Emergency Medical Services of Cedar County thank Corteva for their generous PPE donation as it will go a long way in protecting their personnel from the novel coronavirus COVID-19." Contributed photo

Wilton - Durant Advocate News

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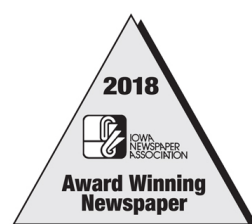
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RAGBRAI XLVIII postponed to 2021 due to COVID-19

The Register's Annual Great Bike Ride Across Iowa (RAGBRAI) XLVIII has been canceled for 2020 due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and postponed until July 25-31, 2021.

As of December 2019, RAGBRAI also has a new director — Dieter Drake. According to a previous release via RAGBRAI: Dieter Drake, 48, of Colorado Springs, Colorado, comes to RAGBRAI after organizing more than 100 rides and cycling races over 15 years. He started in 2004 with a small race in Cambridge, New York, that grew into the annual Tour of the Battenkill, now one of the largest pro-am

cycling events in the United States. He has since put together cycling events throughout the country.

Currently, Drake and his wife, Amy, run their own company, Anthem Sports Tours, organizing bike tours primarily in southern Chile. He will host a final Anthem ride there before moving to Iowa to begin his new duties Dec. 16 (2019).

Drake has no previous experience with RAGBRAI but said he is ready to start working with community leaders throughout Iowa.

What follows is a letter posted to ragbrai.com April 20:

"As we've watched the impact COVID-19 is having on the world, we've continued to plan and adjust our timelines, hold key conversations with our trusted partners, and determine the best course of action for all parties involved.

"After deep consideration and collaboration with the eight overnight town executive committees, government agencies, the public health department, and official business partners of RAGBRAI, we've made the difficult decision to postpone RAGBRAI XLVIII to July 25-31, 2021.

"The safety of our riders has always been the most important focus for our RAGBRAI team and we feel the decision to postpone to July 25-31, 2021 is the right one. We strongly feel that this is in everyone's best interest.

"RAGBRAI takes months of planning and preparation. Based on the extreme disruption COVID-19 has had and will have on the planning, we didn't feel it was responsible to move forward and put the safety of our riders, crew, communities or residents of Iowa at risk.

"While we wish we were biking across Iowa this July, our resolve is to make 2021 even better and we look forward to lifting these communities up when it is safe.

"The RAGBRAI XLVIII route will remain the same for 2021. The towns along the route have already put a substantial amount of work and resource into planning and will have the opportunity to showcase their communities in 2021. The full route with meeting and pass-through towns will be announced at a later date."

Registration refund options

"All riders who have registered and paid for 2020, will have three options.

- * Transfer their 2020 registration to the

2021 ride. Any rider who chooses this option is not subject to the lottery and will receive their wristband and bike band in 2021. In addition, they will receive a \$15 merchandise voucher good through Dec. 31, 2020.

* Request a full refund of their 2020 registration.

* Donate their registration to Iowa Bicycle Coalition. The non-profit works 365-days a year to advocate, educate and enhance bicycle laws and safety in the state. Their work goes a long way in making Iowa safe and fun for cyclists.

"All riders will be required to fill out a request form by June 1, 2020, to be eligible for a full refund. Riders who do not fill out a form by June 1, 2020, will automatically be transferred to the 2021 ride.

"To view our detailed FAQ or to fill out your request form, please visit RAGBRAI.com/registration."

What's next

"We are planning several ways to stay connected this year in lieu of the ride. More details about a weekend fall ride and more will be released later this spring.

"We understand how disappointing this news feels. Please know that we didn't take this decision lightly. We have spent the last month and a half talking to our partners, reworking our timelines, and while biking continues to be one of the safest things to do right now, we couldn't take the risk that would endanger even one person come July.

"We appreciate your unwavering support and we will be in touch this spring with some exciting new opportunities that will connect you with the RAGBRAI community."

Iowa Senior Games postponed

WEST DES MOINES — The Iowa Sports Foundation has postponed the main weekend of the 2020 Iowa Senior Games due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The 15 sports of the main weekend were scheduled for June 3-7 in West Des Moines. Replacement dates are to be determined.

The Granny Basketball state tournament, held as part of the main weekend of the Iowa Senior Games, has been canceled. The softball tournament scheduled for May 29 has also been canceled. Iowa Senior Games sports scheduled for July and August dates, including archery, cornhole, cycling road race and time trial, 5K/10K road race, and triathlon are not affected at this time.

"The health, safety and well-being of the Iowa Senior Games participants, volunteers and spectators have been the top priority in the decision-making process. Directives from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Iowa Department of Public Health regarding large gatherings and social distancing, make

it clear that postponing the main weekend of the Iowa Senior Games is best for everyone involved," said Chuck Long, CEO/Executive Director of the Iowa Senior Games. "We will continue to monitor the rapidly evolving COVID-19 situation and will work with local and state officials to reschedule at a date that ensures the health and safety of all involved."

Participant and Volunteer registration for the affected Iowa Senior Games sports has been suspended until replacement dates are determined. Once new dates are set, communication via email and social media will be used to notify participants. Participants who have already registered for the affected sports will be contacted directly regarding credits and refunds. Volunteers who will be impacted by schedule changes will be contacted directly.

For more information, visit www.iowaseniorgames.org. For continued updates regarding the postponement of the Iowa Senior Games, please follow the organization's Facebook page.

Wilton Public Library offers curbside pick-up

The Wilton Public Library is now offering curbside pick-up. Call during regular open hours, Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m., by calling 732-2583. A librarian will set up a time for book pick-up.

If a specific book is in mind, great! Otherwise, a librarian can choose books that

may fit what the reader is looking for. If given a general idea of what interests the reader, librarians will do their best to choose exciting books for each individual.

No patrons can enter the library per the governor's current COVID-19 proclamation.

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Willie Levi, one of the 'Atalissa boys,' dies during COVID-19 pandemic

Editor's note: The following story was posted to Iowa Capital Dispatch's website May 1. New York Times columnist Dan Barry's book was also chronicled April 6, 2017 in the Advocate News.

By Clark Kaufmann
Iowa Capital Dispatch

Willie Levi, who lived for 35 years in an

Atalissa, Iowa bunkhouse that served as a labor camp for mentally disabled meatpacking plant workers, has died of COVID-19. He was 73 years old.

New York Times reporter Dan Barry, whose 2016 book "The Boys in the Bunkhouse: Servitude and Salvation in the Heartland" chronicled the lives of Levi and other men in

the bunkhouse run by a Texas labor broker called Henry's Turkey Service, reported this week that Levi died April 23 at his home in Waterloo.

Levi was one of several dozen disabled men that Henry's had sent from Texas to Atalissa between 1969 and 2008. The men worked in the nearby West Liberty meatpacking plant and lived in the bunkhouse that Henry's configured from an abandoned, 100-year-old schoolhouse.

Because Henry's kept most of their wages as payment for room and board, the men typically collected 42 cents an hour in pay for their work at the plant. The bunkhouse, while known to social workers and supervisors at the Iowa Department of Human Services, was never licensed or inspected as a care facility for dependent adults, and eventually fell into a state of disrepair.

By 2009, when the Des Moines Register began reporting on the men's wages and the conditions at the bunkhouse, the building was infested with vermin, had no functioning boiler and many of its windows were boarded

up. State and federal officials inspected the building, declared it a firetrap and immediately relocated the three dozen men living there.

At the time, many of the men showed evidence of serious health problems caused by years of neglect. Levi had a broken kneecap.

No criminal charges were ever filed against Henry's Turkey Service or its owners, but the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission took the company to court and in 2013 won a record-setting verdict: \$240 million, or \$7.5 million for each of the 32 men on whose behalf the lawsuit had been filed. Due to a statutory cap on damages, the jury award was immediately reduced to \$1.6 million, and even that amount would prove difficult to collect from Henry's owners.

By then, Levi and several other men from the Atalissa bunkhouse were living in a licensed care facility or in supervised group homes in Waterloo and the surrounding area. Levi was active in the church there, and had retained a lifelong love for music.

Iowa Games cancels several events

With the 2020 Summer Iowa Games only a couple months away, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused the following events to be canceled or postponed.

- * Air Gun: CANCELLED
 - * Bowling Districts is looking to postpone until July (dates TBD)
 - * Bowling Finals moved to August 8
 - * Bowling — High School Team moved to August 7
 - * Figure Skating: CANCELED
 - * Lacrosse: CANCELED
 - * Rowing: CANCELED
 - * SCTP Trapshooting: CANCELED
- All other sports and events are currently

on as scheduled as of May 1.

Updates will be sent every two weeks or as needed while staying up-to-date with state and federal recommendations for hosting events.

All event updates will be posted at iowagames.org as well as Facebook and Twitter.

In the event that the sport is canceled and cannot be rescheduled, the registration fee will be refunded or can be credited for a future event. The nominal 5 percent credit card processing fee cannot be refunded as those expenses are incurred through the credit card companies and our registration vendor.

For any questions, please email info@iowagames.org.

 <p>1181 Timber Ln, Tipton Exquisite 'house on the hill' in Timber Run, just south of Tipton on a 1 acre lot. Amazing all brick home features 2x6 construction, 3 bdrms, 2 bthrms, open floor plan w/ custom kitchen & tons of pull out storage, granite counters in the kitchen and bthrms, hard wood & ceramic tile throughout the home. This home is perfect for 'age in place' w/ ADA Toilets, high counters, main level laundry, low step showers & 2 step entry into the home. Rear deck gives you a great view of the valley off the rear of the property & underneath storage area, front porch is a perfect place to watch the rural sunset. Walk out lower level is ready for your finishing touches w/ patio door, egress windows & gardening shed under the home w/ separate roll up door. 25 minute commute to Iowa City, The Quad Cities or Muscatine, THIS IS IT</p>	 <p>1401 Cedar St., Tipton HORSES, ACREAGE & TOYS ALL IN ONE PLACE CLOSE TO TOWN! If you are looking to spread out and be just outside Tipton; yet you want to be close to town for work, school, shopping, etc. this is the property for you!! This gorgeous 1.94 acre property includes a wonderful large home, an extra large detached garage, a horse barn / large shed. Relax on your expansive front porch, and enjoy the scenery. This 3,640 sq ft home has 4 beds/2 baths and an extra large bonus room in the attic ready to be converted into your choice space, game room, large closet, you name it! The possibilities are endless!</p>	 <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>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>610 W. 6th St., Wilton Move right in with fresh paint and spotless floor coverings. This 4 bedroom 2 bathroom home has a partially finished basement, large deck, attached 2 stall garage, private backyard and complete appliance package. This one will not last in this market.</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>615 Crestview, Tipton A corner lot and walk out lower level in Tipton! 3 bedroom 2 bathroom home with partially finished lower level. Recent updates include New Steel Roof, rear entry door and vinyl windows in 2017. Well maintained yard with small back deck and storage shed as well. Nice quiet location.</p>
 <p>505 7th Ave., Durant This is a nice starter home for a young couple or for someone looking to downsize. Two bedrooms on the main floor, open concept for living, dining and kitchen area. First floor laundry and attached garage. Appliances stay with the house, full basement with new furnace, ac, and water heater in the last few years. This one won't last long in Durant!</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 out 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. BUILDING MAY ALSO BE CONVERTED TO A 3 PLEX APARTMENT BUILDING.</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>524 Oak St., Atalissa Just off of Linn Street in Atalissa This home has 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and a 1 stall garage. Asset #161-368777. Property is HUD owned & sold 'as-is' without any repairs or warranties. For more information concerning electronic bidding deadlines & procedures, earnest money & any defects known, refer to www.chronosolutions.com or hudhomestore.com</p>	 <p>210 5th St., Durant 1400 Sq. Ft. of commercial space currently available for lease for \$700 per month plus utilities. This space was last used for a chiropractic office and previously retail space. Currently inside has 3 private offices or exam rooms, storage room, 1 restroom and large waiting room. Parking lot will hold 9 to 10 cars. Lawn maintenance included with the lease, snow removal is tenant responsibility. Owner is a licensed real estate broker in the State of Iowa.</p>	<p>LOTS!</p> <p>1st Street Wilton \$19,500</p> <p>Jackson Street Wilton \$19,500</p> <p>Lot 2 3rd Street Durant \$25,000</p>

Wilton-Durant AN REAL ESTATE

To advertise your listings with the Advocate News contact Carissa at anads@netwtc.net or 563-732-2029.

Do You Have A New Neighbor?

Wilton offers welcome packages to new members of the community! The package includes community information as well as gifts from area businesses. Wilton residents should contact

Wilton City Hall (563-732-2115) or Wilton Municipal (563-732-2228)

Welcome Neighbor



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CERTIFIED POURED FOUNDATION CONTRACTOR!

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115 W. 4th St., Wilton, Iowa

ONLY 8 3 LOTS
left at The Meadows, ready for your new home to be built!

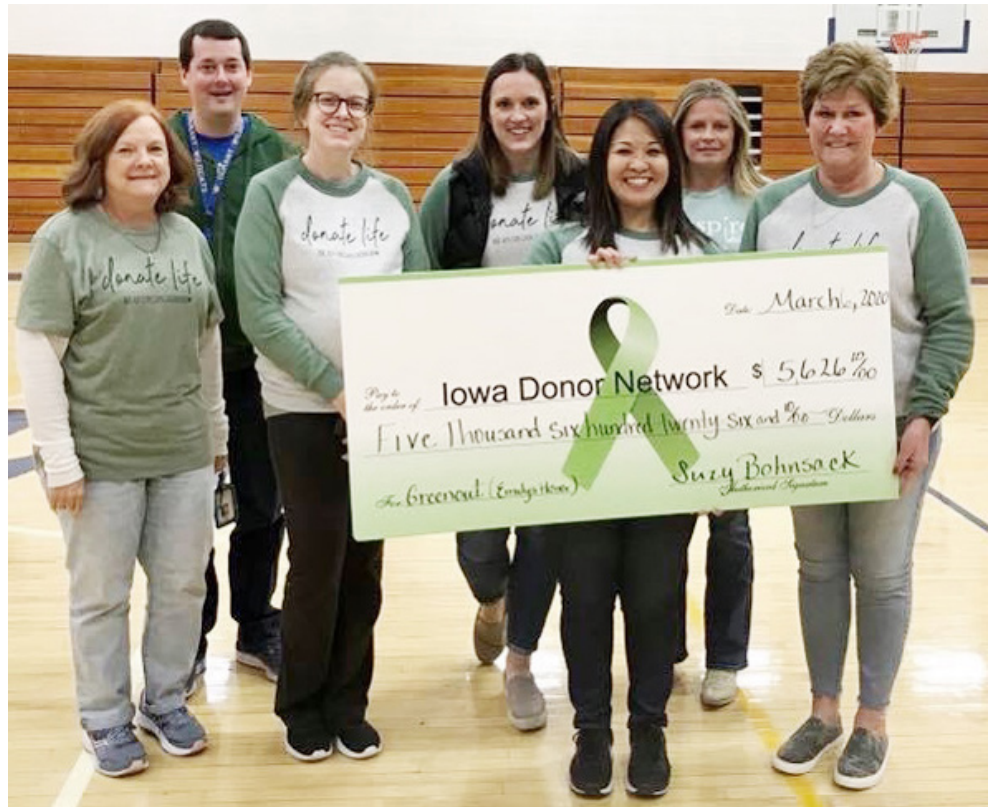
NEW LISTINGS
Coming Soon!

Call or text (563) 299-1908 • muscatinemls.com • (563) 732-3185





Durant sixth grade students participated in the Battle of the Bridges 13th annual competition in Davenport March 6 at the Putnam Museum. Four TAG students were challenged to build a bridge in three hours that could withstand a substantial amount of weight. With bridge materials provided such as super glue, string, wire and craft sticks, students built their bridges to match the dimension requirements. Afterward, each bridge was weighed and tested for how much weight it could hold before being destroyed. Pictured above, from left, are Lillian Cheney, Royce Richman and Clay Dierickx. Not pictured: Baie Hart. The Durant sixth graders did not place in the competition but are already making plans to compete again next year. Contributed photo



On March 6, Durant High School presented a check in the amount of \$5,626.10 to the Iowa Donor Network from funds raised during green out sporting events held at the school. Suzy Bohnsack (right) addressed the students prior to the presentation stating "how fitting it is to be making the presentation to the Iowa Donor Network on Emily's 26th birthday." Pictured, from left, are DHS staff members Mary Feuerbach, Jeff Trask and Abby Straube, assisting in the donation to the Iowa Donor Network.

Photo by Teresa Benischek

COMMUNITY calendar



Let the Advocate News ad team help you design & promote your next event!
Contact Carissa at 563-732-2029 or anads@netwtc.net.

Pit Beef Cooking

Mother's Day
Saturday, May 9

Memorial Day
Saturday, May 23

Call by Monday prior to pick-up date

Pick up at:
Cedar County Fairgrounds at noon

Call: Extension Office, 563-886-6157 to order



Askew-Marquard Virtual Town Hall

MAY 7 Thursday, this week, 6-7 p.m. CDT
Zoom Meeting:

<http://askewforsupervisor.com/virtual-town-hall>
Meeting ID: 823 1395 7055 **Password:** 019632
Phone #: 312-626-6799

- NEW TOPICS**
- County Attorney Payments
 - Senate Candidate Eddie Mauro to Speak

You Are Not Forgotten Memorial Day May 25, 2020

Our communities proudly salute our military men and women who have served our country as peacekeepers and during times of war. Your dedication to our country is appreciated. Please attend a Memorial Day service on Monday, May 25.

Logan L. Wheeler
Branch: Navy - Rank E-3
Served 2 Years



We miss you!
We love you!
Grandma & Grandpa Dierickx

Freedom is not Free!

The Advocate News invites readers to submit pictures for a special Memorial Day Salute that will be published on **Thursday, May, 21 2020**. *The deadline for photos is May 15th.*

Tribute to a loved one!

Name _____
Branch and Rank _____
Years served _____
Personal Message (optional, up to 8-10 words): _____

Living or Deceased

Mail or drop off at: The Wilton-Durant Advocate News, 410 Cedar St., P.O. Box 40, Wilton, IA 52778.

Cost \$15 For more information call 563-732-2029 or email adnews@netwtc.net.
Special tribute will be published in the May 21 Advocate News.
Deadline for photos is Friday, May 15



Celebrate ALL your children's teachers

April 4-8

You are appreciated!

VOTE SAFE IOWA

REQUEST YOUR ABSENTEE BALLOT FOR THE JUNE 2 PRIMARY TODAY!

VoterReady.Iowa.Gov

Watch for COVID-19 related scams

May is Older Americans Month. We can all celebrate by helping ensure the older Americans in our lives know how to protect themselves from being the target of scams.

The Iowa Insurance Division often holds Fraud Fighter events around the state to educate older Iowans about investment and other types of scams. It partners with agencies like the Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIP), the Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) and the Iowa Attorney General's Office to cover as many scams as possible. At the end of each event, all attendees are deputized as "Fraud Fighters."

Most of the recent COVID-19 scams are recycled and wrapped in a current event package that preys on our fears and emotions. Scammers are still using the same methods — robocalls, text messages, email, or even a knock at the door. For everyone's protection remember these Fraud Fighter basics:

- * Don't answer your phone if you don't know the number calling you.
- * Don't click on any links in a text message or email if you don't know the sender, or the message is being sent out of the blue. Use caution even if you do know the sender.
- * Don't provide personal information over the phone, via text or email.
- * Be cautious of anyone at your door attempting to sell you something. You may be putting your health and financial wellness at risk.
- * Don't pay in advance for stimulus money,

information about aid programs or investments in the latest miracle cure — it doesn't exist.

* Be cautious of any investment tied to the threat of COVID-19.

* Don't use gift cards for payment. Anyone who demands payment by gift card is running a scam.

* Stop immediately and alert officials if a person is threatening blackmail.

* Beware of investment opportunities not tied to the stock market such as gold, silver, coins and other commodities.

* Be cautious of investment scams touting guaranteed returns which can be used to pay for rent, food or other expenses.

* Research any investment recommendations that encourage you to liquidate investments. Another financial product with higher returns may incur higher fees or additional risk.

IowaFraudFighters.gov is a resource to learn about recent scams being seen in Iowa that currently include investment, technology, lottery, IRS and romance scams, to name a few. Remember, if someone is playing to emotions, or trying to get you to navigate off your financial course, talk to someone you trust before acting on those emotions. Double-check before investing to make sure the product and the person selling it are properly licensed and understand what is being purchased. Always remember, if it sounds too good to be true it is.



OBITUARIES

Gerald Jones

Gerald Thomas "Bob" Jones, 87, of Tipton died on Friday, May 1, 2020, at his home. Cremation rites will be accorded. Condolences may be left at www.bentleyfuneralhome.com.

"Jonesy" was born in Toronto, Ontario, Canada on Jan. 23, 1933, the son of Thomas and Kathleene (Creasey) Jones. He graduated from high school in Toronto and moved to the United States when he was 18. Bob married Shirley D. DeVore on Aug. 15, 1964 in London, Ontario, Canada. She preceded him in death on July 13, 2016.

Jonesy worked as a Machine Operator for Caterpillar in Davenport, retiring in 1988.

He loved the outdoors, especially fishing and crafting fishing lures. He enjoyed traveling and wintering at Road Runner Campground in Scottsdale, Arizona. He enjoyed going to casinos and spending time with his family and friends.

Bob is survived by his six children, Cheryl Leigh of Parkview, Shelly Sing of Victoria,



Gerald Jones

British Columbia, Canada, Richard (Kaia) Hudson of Bristow, Val (Chris) Funk of Bettendorf, Lisa Jones (David Brosius) of Sabula, and Traci (Mitch) Hidlebaugh of Wilton; a brother, Tom Jones of Ontario, Canada; and many grand, great-grand and great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Shirley; and one son, Mark Hudson (Deb Mendoza).



FAMILY NEWS

Richmans to note 69th anniversary

Larry and Gladys Richman of Wilton will celebrate their 69th wedding anniversary May 13.

Due to the coronavirus COVID-19, they are separated at Wilton Retirement Community. Gladys was moved to the nursing home side, right before the outbreak, for therapy. Larry is still on the assisted living side. Since they cannot see each other nor can family go to see them, the family is asking for everyone to send cards to: Larry & Gladys Richman — 309 Ovesen Dr., Wilton, Iowa 52778

They are the parents of Keith and Kathy Richman of Durant and Linda and Gary Mowl of Muscatine. Their grandchildren are Mindy and Dean Scott and their daughter Bailey, and Mitch and Marie Richman and their children Cadey, Royce and Leiton.



POLICE REPORTS

Wilton

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

April 26—Police responded to a parking problem on West Division Street.

April 26—Police responded to a call for a minor vehicle accident in the 700 block of Oak Street.

April 26—Police responded to a disturbance call in the 100 block of East Second Street.

April 26—Police responded to a complaint of a possible abandoned car in the 600 block of East Second Street.

April 26—Police responded to a suicide threat. The subject was not in Wilton so the Muscatine Police Department was contacted.

April 26—Police performed a welfare check in the 500 block of Maple Street.

April 26—Police were dispatched to a medical call in the 1000 block of West Third Street. The patient was transported to Trinity Muscatine.

April 27—Police performed a vehicle unlock in the 600 block of West Fifth Street.

April 27—Police received a juvenile complaint in the 100 block of West Fourth Street.

April 28—Police received a 911 hang-up in the 100 block of West Fourth Street.

April 28—Police received a traffic complaint in the 300 block of West Division Street.

April 28—Police received a property damage accident report in the 300 block of West Fourth Street that resulted in Adam Eckert-Hollenbec, 24, of Durant being cited for striking an unattended vehicle. A report was taken.

April 29—Police assisted Muscatine and Cedar County authorities to execute a search warrant.

April 29—Police performed a welfare check in the 500 block of Maple Street. The subject was found to be OK.

April 29—Police reported a stabbing in the 500 block of Walnut Street. Travis Sterner, 41, of Wilton was arrested for willful injury, and going armed with intent, and booked into the Muscatine County Jail.

April 29—Police followed up in the 500 block of Walnut Street.

April 29—Police received reports of suspicious activity—a female active felony warrant. It was turned over to the Iowa State Patrol for transport to the Scott County Jail.

April 30—Police gave extra patrol in the city of Wilton.

April 30—Police were called to the 100 block of East Third Street for a subject with

an altered mental status.

April 30—Police responded to the 300 block of Vine Street for a report of dirt bikes on the roadway.

April 30—Police performed a traffic stop in the 100 block of South Vine Street. A warning was issued.

April 30—Police met with two subjects at the police department referencing ongoing harassment. The matter was resolved civilly.

April 30—Information was requested from a previous incident in 2018.

April 30—Police received information about a possible suspicious vehicle/person.

April 30—Police received a walk-in at the station. The subject had questions regarding a possible call. The questions were answered.

April 30—Police received a suspicious activity report in the 400 block of East Fourth Street.

April 30—Police returned a call referencing a civil child custody issue. Options were given.

May 1—Police assisted the Wilton First Responders and the Durant Ambulance with a medical call in the 600 block of West Fifth Street.

May 1—Police followed up referencing a past felony investigation. The matter was placed under investigation.

May 1—Police received a report of property damage in the 900 block of Seminary Street. No state accident report was required.

May 1—Police were advised of options regarding a civil matter with an ex-tenant in the 700 block of Cedar Street.

May 2—Police took a report of a found dog in the 600 block of West Fifth Street.

May 2—Police received a report of a violation of a protective order within the 400 block of East Fifth Street. The matter is under investigation.

Durant

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

April 26—Police performed a traffic stop between West Third Avenue and Fifth Street. A warning for a traffic violation was given.

April 26—Police performed a traffic stop between 13th Avenue and Fifth Street. Jesse Crockett, of Davenport, was cited for a passing violation.

April 26—Police gave extra patrol in the 100 block of Eighth Avenue.

April 27—Police performed a vehicle inspection at the Durant Police Department

for IDOT licensing requirements.

April 27—Police received reports of a dog at large in the 700 block of Ninth Avenue. Justin Richardson, of Durant, was cited for a dog at large.

April 27—Police gave extra patrol in the 100 block of Eighth Avenue.

April 27—Police performed a traffic stop between Fifth Street and Sixth Avenue. Jacalyn Samuels, of Tipton, was cited for speed.

April 28—Police received a report of suspicious activity in Durant.

April 28—Police received reports of suspicious activity in the 1100 block of Third Street.

April 28—Police spoke with a subject at the Durant Police Department.

April 28—Police gave extra patrol in the 100 block of Eighth Avenue.

April 28—Police gave extra patrol at Jaycee Park.

April 28—Police gave extra patrol at Feldhahn Park.

April 29—Police performed a traffic stop between West Third Avenue and Fifth Street. A warning for a traffic violation was given.

April 29—Police performed a vehicle inspection at the Durant Police Department for IDOT licensing requirements.

April 29—The Moline Police Department recovered stolen property from Durant.

April 29—Police gave extra patrol in the 100 block of Eighth Avenue.

April 30—Police assisted Durant Public Works with traffic control between Fifth Street and Seventh Avenue.

April 30—Police performed a business check at the Dew Drop Inn and delivered a guidance notice from the Cedar County Health Department on opening restaurants.

April 30—Police performed a business check at the Creamery and Jeff's Market and delivered a guidance notice from the Cedar County Health Department on opening restaurants.

April 30—Police performed a business check at Idle Hour Lanes and delivered a

guidance notice from the Cedar County Health Department on opening restaurants.

April 30—Police performed a business check at Subway and delivered a guidance notice from the Cedar County Health Department on opening restaurants.

April 30—Police assisted Scott County with a death notification. It was later canceled.

April 30—Police gave stationary patrol between 10th Street and 14th Avenue.

April 30—Police performed a business check at Jeff's Market.

April 30—Police gave extra patrol at West Park. A warning was issued for violation of the governor's proclamation regarding COVID-19.

April 30—Police gave extra patrol in the 100 block of Eighth Avenue.

April 30—A vehicle was towed for overtime parking in the 300 block of Fourth Street.

April 30—Police received a report of a traffic hazard/disassembled vehicle in the 700 block of 10th Street.

May 1—Police received a medical call attempting to locate a missing elderly person in Walcott/Durant.

May 1—Police performed a records check at the Durant Police Department.

May 1—Police gave a warning for a traffic hazard in the 700 block of Third Street.

May 1—Police performed a traffic stop between 14th Avenue and Third Street. A warning for a traffic violation was given.

May 1—Police received reports of a dog at large in the 500 block of Seventh Avenue. A warning was given.

May 1—Police gave extra patrol in the 100 block of Eighth Avenue.

May 1—Police found tires by the Dew Drop Inn.

May 2—Police gave extra patrol at Jeff's Market.

May 2—Police gave extra patrol in the 100 block of Eighth Avenue.



OBITUARIES



Twitter: @WDAvocateNews
Facebook: WDAvocateNews

Janice Meincke

Janice A. Meincke 95, of Wilton, formerly of Walcott, died Tuesday, April 28, 2020 at the Wilton Retirement Community. Interment will be in the Durant Cemetery. Private family services will be held.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Wilton Retirement Community in her memory. Online condolences may be left for the family at www.bentleyfuneralhome.com.

Janice was born in Cedar County, Iowa on Jan. 11, 1925 to Arthur and Selma (Juchter) Bachus. She graduated from Bennett High School in 1942. Janice married Arno "Arnie" A. Meincke on March 10, 1945 in Davenport. He preceded her in death on Sept. 30, 2002. She was a member of Royal Neighbors of America, Sunbury Camp for over 50 years.

She and Arnie farmed in Cedar County for 50 years, retiring in 1995 and moving to Walcott in 2000. She enjoyed life on the farm and tending to her gardens.

Janice is survived and lovingly remembered



Janice Meincke

by her daughter Sandra Marti of Davenport; son Bryan Meincke of The Villages, Florida; grandchildren Amy (Todd) Krentz of St. Louis, Missouri and Kevin (Caresa) Marti of Vista, California; great-grandchildren Maranda and Tyler Krentz and Eloise and Hendrix Marti.

She was preceded in death by her husband, her brother Delma Bachus, and her son-in-law Dennis Marti.

Custom obituary

Thelma Nopoulos

Thelma J. Nopoulos, 88, lifetime resident of Wilton, died on Wednesday, April 29, 2020 at the Wilton Retirement Community. Her death came shortly after she was failing in health and decided not to seek additional medical treatment. Private family burial will take place in Oakdale Cemetery, Wilton. The graveside service will be live streamed on Bentley Funeral Home's Facebook page, via Facebook Live.

In lieu of flowers or other expressions of sympathy, the family requests that donations be made to the Nopoulos Family Scholarship Fund at Wilton High School in Thelma's memory. Condolences may be left online at www.bentleyfuneralhome.com.

Born in Wilton on Sept. 26, 1931 to Pete and Hazel (Camp) Soteris, Thelma's drive and entrepreneurial spirit led her from humble beginnings to become one of eastern Iowa's most well-known citizens. Thelma was industrious and worked many odd jobs from an early age. Little did she know that a part-time job at the Wilton Candy Kitchen would lead to her life's path.

Upon graduation from high school, Thelma married George Nopoulos, owner and proprietor of the Wilton Candy Kitchen. Over the next 70 years, Thelma and George worked together serving the public. At the Wilton Candy Kitchen, she would entertain visitors such as Gregory Peck, Brooke Shields, Mark Zuckerberg, President and Mrs. Eisenhower, and support Gov. Terry Branstad, U.S. Senator Chuck Grassley, U.S. Senator Mitt Romney, U.S. Congressman James Leach, and many more. She backed local celebrations such as RAGBRAI, Wilton Founders Days, Memorial Day and Veterans Day, and was instrumental in community business development and assisted the town financially through fundraising and personal donations.

A member of the Wilton Historical Society, Thelma was active in the renovation of the Wilton Depot and its subsequent listing onto the National Register of Historic Places. She then listed the Wilton Candy Kitchen on the National Historic Registry as well. In 2005, she published a book, "Our Town Speaks 1855-2005." This book chronicles the history of Wilton, Iowa.

Thelma supported education and as a participant in the Wilton Partners in Education



Thelma Nopoulos

program, she offered many programs. She managed the Nopoulos Family Scholarship Foundation for area high school seniors and was a lifetime member of the University of Iowa President's Club. She was a member of the United Methodist Church, the American Legion Auxiliary, the Wilton Chamber of Commerce and the Wilton Library Board. Thelma served as president of the PTA and Sunday School Superintendent. She was also a member of the American Soda Jerks Association. In 2003, George and Thelma were named the first official Lifetime Ambassadors of the city of Wilton and served as grand marshals of the Wilton Founders Day Parade. Throughout the years, they proudly promoted Wilton through national and local television appearances and newspaper articles. Above all, Thelma loved her family and enjoyed the time she spent with them.

Thelma is survived and lovingly remembered by her siblings; brother, Peter Soteris and his wife, Beverly and sister, Karen Fischlein. She is also survived in loving remembrance by her children Dr. Gus Nopoulos and his wife, Jennifer, Dr. Peter Nopoulos and his wife, Kathleen, Margaret Glatfelter and her husband, Richard Middleton and Nicholas "Nic" Nopoulos, as well as three grandchildren, Katherine Glatfelter, Alexandra Nopoulos, and Alexander Glatfelter.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Peter and Hazel Soteris; husband, George; brothers, Gerald Soteris and Larry Soteris; and by her sisters, Mary Ford and Betty Waite. She was also preceded in death by her loving granddaughters, Amy Nopoulos and Megan Nopoulos. Thelma will be truly missed by all her family and friends.

Custom Obituary

Shirley Jansen

Shirley J. Jansen, 88, of Wilton died on Tuesday, April 28, 2020 at Wilton Retirement Community. Cremation rites will be accorded. A private family graveside service will be held at a later date in Rose Hill Cemetery, Buffalo. Memorials may be made to: Wilton Retirement Community (Activity Fund), 307 Ovesen Drive, Wilton, IA 52778. Online condolences may be left at www.bentleyfuneralhome.com.

Shirley was born on Aug. 21, 1931, the daughter of Charles and Esther (Kearney) Dimick in Buffalo. She graduated from high school in Buffalo with the class of 1949. Shirley married Elmer B. Jansen on Dec. 4, 1954 in Buffalo. He preceded her in death in 1995.

Shirley worked for Davenport Bank and Trust Company for more than 40 years. She was an active member of the former Buffalo Friends Church, serving as a Sunday School teacher and organist for many years. She enjoyed knitting and counted cross-stitch, playing the piano and traveling. Above all, she enjoyed spending time with her family



Shirley Jansen

and friends.

Shirley is survived by her daughter Amy (Kevin) Hufford of Blue Grass; two grandchildren, Amanda (Ben Heinen) Jansen of Des Moines and Travis Hufford of Blue Grass; and four great-grandchildren.

Shirley was preceded in death by her husband Elmer; her son Benjamin Jansen; her sisters Marilyn Shellabarger and Blanche Crane; and her brother William Dimick.

nual Bennett High School Alumni Banquet, which was scheduled for May 9, is canceled.

Mark your calendars for next year's banquet, which will be May 8, 2021.

Bennett alumni banquet canceled

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the an-

Family News is free in the Advocate News!
Visit wdadvocatenews.com for forms

WORSHIP DIRECTORY AREA

Calvary United Methodist, Walcott
Rev. Allen Coffin • www.walcottchurch.org
9 a.m. Sunday School
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.
website: 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
No church activities until April 30
Friday: 7 p.m. AA and AI-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.com>
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
Live Stream on Facebook Live
Worship Sunday 10:15 and 7 p.m.
Daily Devotional Mon-Sat 3 p.m.
Links can be found at www.UMCofWilton.org

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
Church services are available on Youtube
10:15 a.m. Bible Study/Sunday School



Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

Romans 15:7



OPINION



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Remembering Thelma: 'She simply wanted things to be perfect'

She was, quite frankly, the matriarch of Wilton. For a week I've been trying to wrap my head around the death of Wilton's Thelma Nopoulos. Every time I think about her, my mind goes down memory lane to one of countless encounters I had with her over the years. I'm not alone in that kind of reminiscing right now.

Yet after remembering every story, I keep coming to the same conclusion — she simply was our town's matriarch.

Yes, she could be brash. Yes, she could be pushy. But at the end of the day — every day — she had Wilton's best interest at heart.

And of course the promotion of her business, too. She worked alongside her husband George Nopoulos in the Candy Kitchen for decades, serving homemade ice cream, handmade drinks concocted from numerous syrups, flatly grilled sandwiches, chocolates and countless other treats.

They not only satisfied the sweet tooth of any and all Wilton residents, but people would visit the Candy Kitchen from all around the world. And Thelma had the evidence to prove it.

She had countless guest books filled with signatures of visitors from all 50 states and several countries. The moment you'd enter their store — the oldest in Wilton with roots to 1860 — if she didn't know you, Thelma wouldn't let you do or order a thing without signing the guest book.

That's just one of the many things that made Thelma special.

I've lived in Wilton all my life and I, like so many others who have had the privilege of growing up here, can remember going to the Candy Kitchen to order their favorite drinks, treats and sandwiches. For me it was grilled cheese, vanilla Coke® and a Black & White (chocolate ice cream with liquid marshmallow topping for those keeping score at home).

In my adult years, especially since taking the post as editor of the hometown paper in early 2009, several of my interactions with Thelma occurred without confections at the Candy Kitchen.

Prior to George's death in 2015, and the sale of the Candy Kitchen to Lynn and Brenda Ochiltree in 2016, I would receive phone calls

at my office from Thelma several times a month. Sometimes it was weekly. Sometimes it was daily. It depended on what was on her mind — a mind that never stopped working.

She was old school. She'd write countless letters and had the most elegant penmanship. She'd call our office all the time wanting pointers, just the right wording for her next

letter promoting either the town or her business. In my early years around the paper nearly 20 years ago, it was Barb Rochholz taking those calls. In the past 10-plus years, it was I who would work with her. Sure, by the fourth or fifth call in an hour it could

be tedious, but when Thelma put her mind to something, it got done.

I always thought the most potent weapon in the town of Wilton was the phone next to the register inside the Candy Kitchen. She made call after call, and people listened. Including Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad, who made sure to visit the Candy Kitchen every couple of years during his tenure, the longest of any governor in the U.S. In reminiscing recently with Jeff Kaufmann, current state GOP chair, former state representative, and a Wilton grad, he said when he first ran for political office in 2004, Branstad asked him where he was from. When he said Wilton, Branstad's first question was, "What does Thelma think of you?"

"He asked me that before he asked what my position was on issues," Kaufmann said.

That sums it up. And Branstad wouldn't take a second step into the Candy Kitchen without putting on a red apron in order to stand behind the counter and make his own drink, with Thelma's help of course.

The trip down memory lane is endless. We all have our stories.

As a fellow businessperson in Wilton, I'll always remember that several days each year, I'm the last man or woman working in downtown Wilton. It's not uncommon for me to leave my office and the downtown is a ghost town as people have retired home for the evening. This is especially true on Fridays. Often, if I'd lock up our office and see the Candy Kitchen sign aglow just a block south, I'd walk down.

Thelma would be sitting at one of the tables, writing a letter or tending to finances. She'd unlock the door, fix me a drink, and we'd spend an hour or so in conversation.

'Your actions have not gone unnoticed'

Editor's note: The following letter was sent first to Durant Superintendent Joe Burnett and High School Principal Joel Diederichs.

Editor:

Having a senior child this year with the COVID-19 pandemic circulating throughout the states is not easy right now. Having a senior child in itself is very emotional and then add in a highly contagious virus that shuts down a senior year, their final year of sports and a very abrupt end to everything they've ever known just adds to more emotion, more stress.

We would like to commend both of you for the manner in which you have handled this whole situation, all while respecting and honoring this senior class of 2020. You have kept us in the loop throughout this whole process and answered questions we've had but hadn't quite had time to ask yet.

You've arranged meals, online classes and still managed to show sympathy to our seniors as if one of them were your very own. You've

also postponed activities that you very well could have just canceled all together. We sincerely appreciate you honoring our students with a parade for our seniors. I know our son (Brendan Paper) personally is looking forward to participating in any activity that will give him just one more memory of this senior year.

Bettendorf students just had a parade and they recognized their principal during the parade for allowing this to happen. We want you both to know how grateful we are as well for you allowing this to happen. This is another lifelong memory for these kids. They will never forget it, nor will we. Thanks so much for doing this for our kids. All of your actions this year have not gone unnoticed, especially these last few weeks of their senior year. Keep doing what you're doing and caring for our kids; we appreciate you more than you'll ever know. God Bless!

**Gary and Jenny Paper
Durant**

Case in Point

By Derek Sawvell



Follow @SawvellAN



George and Thelma Nopoulos, shown above with longtime Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad, during one of his many visits to the Wilton Candy Kitchen. Currently the U.S. Ambassador to China, Branstad called to express his sympathy for Thelma, who passed away over the weekend at the age of 88.

AN file photo

I'll forever miss those times.

Her pride in Wilton included the hometown newspaper. She'd often visit me at my office to show me old pictures, often involving the Candy Kitchen, but sometimes simply pieces of Wilton history. She'd then always follow it up with, "Do you think we should put this in the paper?"

Sometimes we did, sometimes not. Yet as a historian herself of all things Wilton, Thelma held Wilton's newspaper in high regard, showing copies to whoever would walk through the Candy Kitchen doors on a summer afternoon.

I asked Lynn Ochiltree, quite a Wilton historian himself, if he'd submit some thoughts about Thelma and her passing. He not only gave me some reflections, he also showed me a copy of obituaries he helped Thelma write years ago — one for her and one for George. We'll post them, plus Lynn's full list of thoughts, to our website.

What follows are some highlights from Lynn's submissions:

Thelma dedicated her life in the support and promotion of the community of Wilton through her creative marketing of the Wilton Candy Kitchen. In 1994, Thelma set out to create Wilton's first historic calendar for the years 1995 and 1996. The research on the Wilton calendar inspired her to continue her efforts to compile more history of Wilton and resulted in the publishing of her book, "Our Town Speaks, Wilton, Iowa 1855-2005" which debuted in 2005 to coincide with the celebration of Wilton's 150th Anniversary...

Thelma and George have financially supported many students over the years, having established, maintained and overseen several

scholarships for Wilton High School students as they continue their college educations. The Nopoulos family's legacy for the education of our youth will be eternal...

Then in 1998 another project was the "Wilton Town Meeting — A Global Connection" where mayors from Wilton, England, Wilton, Maine and Wilton, Iowa, along with many other dignitaries and the public, were assembled at the elementary school to discuss education and the shared heritage of these three towns named Wilton. Because of their efforts to promote Wilton, Thelma and George were named in 2003 as the first Official Lifetime Ambassadors of the City of Wilton and traveled to Wilton, Maine to represent the town of Wilton, Iowa. That same year they were honored to be the grand marshals of Wilton's Founders Day Parade...

As a member of the Wilton Historical Society, she was pivotal in efforts to restore the Wilton Depot and have it placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Because of her dedication on the Wilton Depot project, she was inspired to attain the same status for the Wilton Candy Kitchen, which occurred in 1993...

Many people thought she was over the top, and some thought she was pushy, but Thelma really wasn't either. She simply wanted things to be perfect. Sometimes she had a hard time making a decision, or the decision would change several times. I believe she just wanted whatever she did to be the right thing; the thing that would remind people of the story of the Candy Kitchen, or how special her beloved Wilton was.

Candy Kitchen: Trip down memory lane

Advocate News Editor Derek Sawvell asked folks to comment on their fondest memories of Thelma Nopoulos and/or the Candy Kitchen. What follows are some of the responses:

* My husband and I had our first date there playing pool. Quite a few years ago, we stopped in for an ice cream soda (always were the best!) and when I told Thelma about our first date, she had to take our picture — Becky DeVore Collins

* When I was in Wilton elementary, if you got an "A" on your report card, you could take it to the Candy Kitchen and they would give you a one-dip ice cream cone for free. yummy! — Anita Hartley

* I haven't lived in Wilton since 1975. Although I would come home for visits, she always called me by my first name. Fast-forward 40-plus years, always stopping in to get my cherry Coke, Thelma would say, "cherry Coke?" Not only did she remember who I was, she got the order right. — Joyce Crumly Nerdig

* When we were kids, Betsy Mays, Zach

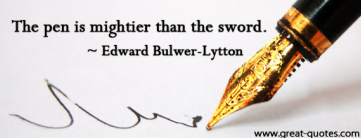
Maine and myself would dress up in these chef costumes that were in the dance studio. We would go to the Candy Kitchen and ask for a job. Thelma and a George would give us free drinks! — Samantha Jo Norton

* My favorite memory comes from a summer when two teacher friends visited from Waterloo... Only Thelma was there... She said to us that she was out of bread and would we please watch the shop while she ran to get some. My Waterloo friends could hardly believe their ears. Then after Thelma was back and we were paying, I had my friends sign the guest book. Thelma was visiting with them about where they were from, etc. She commented that one of George's childhood/youth teachers lived there and the teacher was having a special birthday coming up. So Thelma asked the Waterloo gals if they would deliver flowers to this person. She gave them the name, address and \$60 cash to purchase and deliver the flowers... I just said, "That's Thelma!" They did get the flowers, delivered them, and had a lovely conversation with George's teacher... — Connie Zeleny

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



More than 10,000 COVID-19 cases in Iowa

DES MOINES — As of May 5, the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) had been notified of 408 additional positive COVID-19 cases for a total of 10,111 positive cases. There have been an additional 3,000 negative tests for a total of 50,458 negative tests to date, which includes testing reported by the State Hygienic Lab and other labs.

According to IDPH, an additional 19 deaths were also reported, 407 are currently hospitalized, and 3,572 Iowans have recovered. At this time, 1 in 52 Iowans have already been tested.

According to the IDPH the additional 19 deaths were reported in the following counties: Allamakee County, 1 older adult (61-80 years)

Black Hawk County, 1 middle-age adult (41-60 years), 1 older adult (61-80 years), 1 elderly adult (81-plus)

Dallas County, 1 older adult (61-80 years), 1 elderly adult (81-plus)

Jasper County, 1 elderly adult (81-plus)

Linn County, 1 middle-age adult (41-60 years), 5 older adults (61-80 years),

Polk County, 1 adult (18-40 years), 1 elderly adult (81-plus)

Tama County, 3 elderly adults (81-plus)

Woodbury County, 1 elderly adult (81-plus)

The state of Iowa has released an updated dashboard on coronavirus.iowa.gov that will be updated daily to include comprehensive tracking of COVID-19 in Iowa. The new dashboard includes cases, deaths, and tests conducted in each county. The state is now providing demographic information that was not previously provided as well as Iowa's epidemiological curve.

Older Iowans encouraged to vote by mail in June primary

DES MOINES — Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate and AARP Iowa are calling for older voters to continue practicing social distancing and to utilize absentee voting by mail for the June 2 primary election. Secretary Pate mailed every active registered voter in Iowa an absentee ballot request form in April and AARP will launch radio ads today encouraging older voters to take advantage of voting by mail.

Additionally, Pate has extended the absentee voting period for mailed ballots in Iowa to 40 days, which means ballots were mailed by county auditors starting April 23.

"The safety of our voters has to be the top priority during this pandemic and the safest way to vote in the June primary will be by mailing an absentee ballot," Secretary Pate said.

Voting by mail is easy and safe. Here are the simple steps Iowa voters should take to vote in the June 2 primary:

Make sure your address is correct on your voter registration so ballot request forms are sent to the correct address. You have to be registered as a Republican or a Democrat to participate in the primary.

Fill out an absentee ballot request form and mail it to your county auditor. Ballot requests will be sent to every active registered voter. Iowans can also download the request form directly from the Iowa Secretary of State website, VoterReady.Iowa.gov. Requests must be received by the county auditor before 5 p.m. on Friday, May 22.

Once you receive your ballot, fill it out and put it in the mail.

"On behalf of AARP and older voters across the state, we commend Secretary Pate for making it easy and safe for voters to participate in the upcoming primary election," said Brad Anderson, AARP Iowa State Director. "We know older voters make their voice heard loud and clear every election cycle."

Statistics show older Iowans vote in higher percentages than any other members of the population. More than 80 percent of Iowans 50 and older participated in the 2016 general election.

Durant school district gifted 2,000 RIF books



The Durant Community School District received a generous donation of 2,000 books from the Reading is Fundamental (RIF) Program. The books will be distributed among pre-K through eighth grade students and given out at the end of the school year in May. Reading is Fundamental is committed to a literate America by inspiring a passion for reading among all children, providing quality content to make an impact and engaging communities in the solution to give every child the fundamentals for success. As the nation's largest children's literacy non-profit, Reading is Fundamental maximizes every contribution to ensure all children have the ability to read and succeed. Pictured with the donated books are Elementary-Middle School Principal Rebecca Stineman (left) and Director of Instruction and Innovation Maria Brown. Contributed photo

State looking for younger primary poll workers

DES MOINES — Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate announced a new statewide initiative to recruit poll workers for the June 2 primary. Normally, Iowa poll workers tend to come from age groups that are more vulnerable to COVID-19. This June, Secretary Pate asks younger Iowans to step up and serve.

Poll workers are a crucial component of Iowa's elections. They check in voters, make sure they have the correct ballot, answer questions and help ensure elections run smoothly in each precinct. Polling locations will be open in all 99 counties on June 2. However, many

counties are consolidating precincts due to fewer poll workers being available because of the pandemic.

"This is a call to action for patriotic Iowans. Your state and country need you on June 2," Pate said. "We need younger, healthy Iowans to help staff our polling locations to ensure a clean, smooth election process. Also, these are paid positions. You can put a little extra money in your pocket."

The Secretary of State's Office is providing masks, hand sanitizer, cleaning supplies, social distancing markers and other materials

to every precinct to protect voters and poll workers from the risk of spreading COVID-19.

For more information and to sign up to become a poll worker, visit Pollworker.Iowa.gov.

To reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19, the safest way to vote in the June primary is casting an absentee ballot from home. Secretary Pate sent absentee ballot request forms to every active registered voter in Iowa. For more information on voting in the June primary, visit VoterReady.Iowa.gov.

Child Care Provider Appreciation Day May 8

Cedar/Jones Early Childhood Iowa would like to recognize child care providers in the area on Friday, May 8 as part of the national Child Care Provider Appreciation Day.

This special day is intended to recognize all those who nurture, teach and care for children in multiple settings across the counties. Child care settings include school- and community-based preschools, Head Start programs, child care centers, and child care development homes.

Over the past decade, Iowa has ranked in the top three states for children under age 6 whose parents are working. Child care providers give

parents peace of mind as they leave for work knowing their child is receiving nurturing, safe and healthy care.

The care a child receives during the first five years of life should be the highest quality, as 90 percent of brain development occurs during those years. Care also provided before and after school keeps children engaged in school, supports social development, increases physical activity and reduces stress on families.

Although Provider Appreciation Day is recognized every year in May on the Friday before Mother's Day, it is important to show appreciation year-round for individuals who

serve an important role in providing high-quality child care. Nurturing and responsive early care and education provides a solid foundation for children's ongoing success. Research indicates that there is a direct link between caregiver training and quality of care, so to achieve a high quality of care, child care providers must receive suitable training and compensation.

For more information about child care in Cedar and Jones counties, contact Early Childhood Iowa at sheri.hunt@co.jones.ia.us or Child Care Resource and Referral, <https://iowaccrr.org/>.



New show barn being added at Muscatine County Fairgrounds—Rolling up their sleeves once again for the Muscatine County Fair, the crew from Muscatine's Petersen Construction got busy late last week in raising the new small show barn at the fairgrounds in West Liberty. From left, Bob Peterson, Dalton Peterson and George Townsley work on one piece of the puzzle. The building is being paid for through donations to the fair and anyone still interested in contributing should contact fair director Kelsey Morris at 319-627-2414. Photo by Tim Evans



Crews from Wilton Municipal Light & Power installed hanging flower baskets in downtown Wilton this week. Richard Janney of the light plant is shown hanging a basket in front of the Wilton Chamber of Commerce, which supports the project. Photo by Carissa Hoekstra



Spring HOME IMPROVEMENT

100-year-old house receives a complete remodel

Approximately 100 years ago, the house that stands at 1101 Sixth Street in Durant was built. This single-family home was transformed into a duplex rental house for many years and was just recently transformed back to its original single-family structure.

Paper's Construction Company, operated by Gary and Jenny Paper of Durant, purchased the property Sept. 2, 2015 from Jenny's parents – Ron and Connie Shelangoski. This large two-story house is located on a corner lot across from Durant's Jaycee Park. "The house has a front porch facing the park, and we could envision a family moving in and enjoying watching their kids play across the street," said Gary Paper.

Two existing tenants lived in the duplex, one downstairs and the other on the second level. "The intent in purchasing this was always to have this as a 'flip' house, however, it came with tenants and (we had to wait) until the

timing was right," expressed Gary.

Once existing leases were up, the duo began renovations Nov. 1, 2018. Standing for 100 years, the house is approximately 1,900 square feet with three bedrooms, two bathrooms, dining room and living room. It's located on a corner lot that's 150 feet deep.

Being stripped down to the bare studs and framework, this house took approximately one year to renovate. When the duo wasn't working on other jobs, they would work on the remodel with their two kids: Mackenzie, a junior at the University of Iowa, and Brendan, a senior at Durant High School.

Spending anywhere from 30 minutes to eight hours a day working on the Durant house renovation, Paper's Construction Company supplied a lot of its own building materials to complete the renovation, but did work

Durant Story continued on page 12



The house above in Durant was built over 100 years ago and is located at 1101 Sixth Street. Originally built for a single family, the house had previously been transformed into a duplex rental for many years. After purchasing the house in 2015, Paper's Construction Company had visions of remodeling the house and restoring it back to a single-family dwelling, which began in late 2018.

Contributed photo

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Spring HOME IMPROVEMENT



The exterior of the house received a complete remodel. Existing asphalt and wood shingles were torn off and replaced with new architectural shingles. New Simonton Vinyl windows were installed throughout the house along with all new aluminum soffit, vinyl siding, gutters and downspouts. The front and back porches received new treated joists and Fiberon Composite Decking. The original outside set of steps leading up to the upstairs unit were removed after transitioning the house back to a single-family residence.

Contributed photos

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Spring HOME IMPROVEMENT

Kitchen remodel completed with new appliances

Durant Story continued from page 10

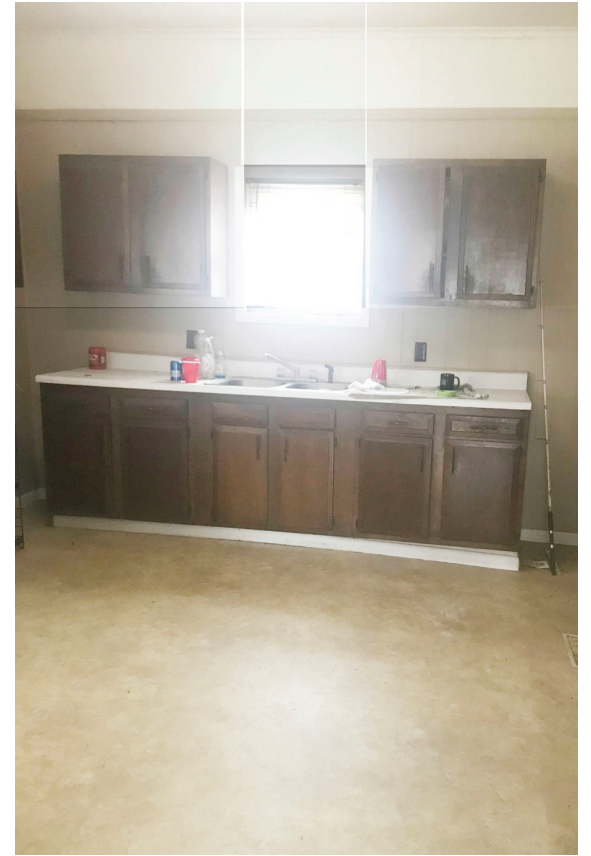
right alongside a couple of local businesses: Mike DeLong Electric, Price's Heating & Air Conditioning, Premier Plaster & Drywall, Petersen Plumbing and Quad City Door.

After removing and demolishing everything in the house down to the framework, many new items were installed — new plumbing, heating, electrical, roofing, siding, gutters, insulation, drywall, interior doors and trim, cabinets and floor coverings.

Flooring throughout the house was removed and replaced with carpet, wood and luxury vinyl tile. In the kitchen, all new Mid Continent maple cabinets were installed with dovetail drawers. A new laminate countertop was also installed. Along with new hard surfaces, a desk, pantry, microwave and dishwasher were

Durant Story continued on page 14

“The house has a front porch facing the park, and we could envision a family moving in and enjoying watching their kids play across the street,” said Gary Paper.



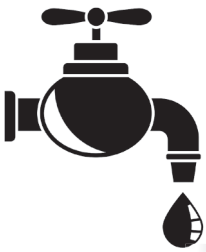
The remodeled kitchen (left) remained in the same location and received a complete makeover. Paper's Construction Company removed the old cabinets and replaced them with brand new maple cabinets complete with dovetail drawers. A new laminate countertop was installed, along with a new microwave, dishwasher, pantry and a desk.

Contributed photos

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Spring HOME IMPROVEMENT

Stairs receive a new location with updated look



The original staircase (right) was a steep and narrow set of steps leading to the upstairs. Paper's Construction Company opened up an eight-foot wide portion of the upstairs floor and built a new U-shaped staircase (left) from the first floor to the second floor. "This was probably one of the most difficult jobs we did on this house," said Gary Paper "However, it turned out to be the focus of the interior of the house." To complete the new staircase, hand-stained poplar parts with iron balusters were installed.

Contributed photo



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Spring HOME IMPROVEMENT

Two bathrooms completely updated

Durant Story continued from page 12

purchased and installed.

During renovations, the Papers wanted to keep some of the 100-year-old charm previous residents enjoyed. The first floor had 11-foot ceilings that were mostly kept with the exception of lowering the ceiling in some locations to place heating and ductwork. The original brick chimney that ran from the basement to the peak of the roof was kept and exposed throughout the house. Another characteristic that remained were the 10-inch deep window-sills throughout the house.

With any home renovation comes some

hiccups along the way. After taking the interior down to the studs, Gary and Jenny had to even out the flooring and walls throughout the entire house. They installed new support posts in the basement to get the house as level as possible.

When transforming from a duplex rental to a single-family home, the original set of interior steps were completely moved. The original steps were very steep and narrow, including 19 treads. A large area was opened and a new staircase was built to include a U-shaped designed landing. "This ended up being the focal point of the first floor," said Gary.

After renovations, the house was listed for sale on Jan. 28, 2020 and the duo received an offer to purchase on April 8.

For anyone who is thinking about remodel-

Durant Story continued on page 15



This 100-year-old property was previously a duplex rental, complete with one bathroom on each floor. The upstairs bathroom received a new tub/shower, toilet, a maple double vanity and linen cabinet.

Contributed photo



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The first floor bathroom was next to a small extra room on the main floor. Paper's Construction Company converted the entire area into a new 3/4 bath with shower, toilet and vanity. The additional small room was turned into a large laundry room that includes a new 200A service panel. A pocket door divides the two spaces.

Contributed photo

Remodeling tips

Durant Story continued from page 14

ing a house, Gary and Jenny gave a few tips that might help in the process. They recommend over-shooting the cost of renovations because a lot of unexpected problems can be found when doing an intense remodel.

"Having a professional contractor involved in the process helps alleviate potential prob-

lems, as they are accustomed to the unexpected," said Gary.

"We recommend hiring professionals to perform the work. Verify they are licensed and insured. Try and use as many local, reputable contractors as possible. Set a budget and stick with it if possible. Use high-quality materials that will hold up to the test of time," added the couple.



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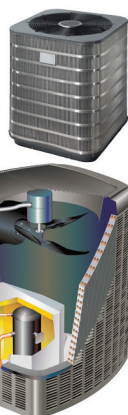
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...Continued from page 16

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HALE PRINTING 2020 TAHOE GRAPHICS.....	648.00
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INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS NET-.....	
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ION ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS WATER/WASTE-.....	
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#6	114,015.67
PRICE OIL COMPANY OFF ROAD DOESE.....	377.98
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AGREEMENT	2,500.00
SDEVORE ENTERPRISES LLC CPR INSTRUCTOR	
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DENTAL	23,361.01
WENDLING QUARRIES INC ROCK & MANSAND FOR...	
SEWER PLANT.....	1,873.13
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SECURITY, BACKUP.....	519.39
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CONTRACT	92.14
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TRIPLE B CONSTRUCTION CORP SEEDING AT WW	
TREATMENT PLANT.....	12,155.00
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VISU-SEWER SEWER IMPROVEMENTS PER	
PROPOSA	27,770.00
Grand Total (excluding void checks):	334,589.74

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors

Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 27, 2020

The Muscatine County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 9:00 A.M. via Go To Meeting 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. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.
A Public Hearing was called to order by Chairperson Sorensen at 9:01 A.M. on the plans, specifications, form of contract and estimate of cost for the Muscatine County Sheriff's Deputy's Quarters Project. Saucedo stated he had a question regarding the driveway. No one spoke for or against the proposed public improvement. On a motion by Sauer, second by Mather, the public hearing was closed at 9:04 A.M. Roll call vote: Ayes: All. Mike Nolan, Horizon Architecture, joined the meeting and responded to Saucedo's question regarding the driveway stating the one-way exit onto Park Avenue is so the boat can be pulled straight out of the garage onto Park Avenue.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Mather, the Board approved Resolution #04-27-20-01 Approving Plans, Specifications, Form of Contract and Cost Estimate for the Muscatine County Sheriff's Deputy's Quarters Project. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

RESOLUTION #04-27-20-01 APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, FORM OF CONTRACT AND ESTIMATED COST FOR ADDITONS AND RENOVATIONS TO THE MUSCATINE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

WHEREAS, the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors has retained Horizon Architecture to provide consulting architectural/engineering services for additions and renovations to the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS, Horizon Architecture has prepared plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated cost for the project, which documents have been on file and available for public inspection in the Muscatine County Administration Office since Wednesday, April 22, 2020; and

WHEREAS, following notice of public hearing published in accordance with the law, a public hearing was held on Monday, April 27, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in the Muscatine County Administration Building and via GoToMeeting at which members of the public were allowed to be heard on the issue of the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office Additions and Renovations Project, and on the documents prepared in connection therewith.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors:

1. That the plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated cost of the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office Additions and Renovation Project are hereby approved.
2. That the Muscatine County Administration Office shall advertise for sealed bids for the proposed improvement by publishing notice in accordance with the law.
3. That bids must be received in the Muscatine County Administration Office on or before 10:00 a.m. on the 14th day of May, 2020.
4. That bids shall be publically announced at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, May 18, 2020 at the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors meeting.
5. That the sealed bids must be accompanied by a bid security equal to ten (10) percent of the bid.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 27th day of April, 2020.

Leslie A. Soule, County Auditor

Jeff Sorensen, Chairperson

Board of Supervisors
Discussion was held with Unity Public Health Director Christy Roby-Williams regarding COVID-19 response activities, related expenses and the need for additional funding. Roby-Williams updated the Board on COVID-19 response activities. Roby-Williams stated she is asking for a budget amendment in the amount of \$148,251 from Muscatine County. Roby-Williams stated she may not spend all of it, if it is determined she can use other funds towards COVID-19. Sorensen asked if they would receive any federal funds given to hospitals. Roby-Williams stated the funds were for hospitals only and would not be available to Public Health. Administrative Services Director Nancy

Schreiber stated the funds requested would come from the General Fund which usually has funds left over at the end of the year, so she believes the County could cover this. Mather asked if Public Health is planning to ask for any more next year. Roby-Williams stated that depends on what transpires with COVID-19. Mather stated he thinks it would be wise to also set aside money for next year. Sorensen stated there will be cash flow issues for all of the local entities, city, school and county. Schreiber stated a budget amendment for next year cannot be approved until July since next year's budget has been certified. Mather stated the planning can still be done and make it official in July. Sorensen stated he does not see this slowing for a couple of months, so the County needs to be prudent. Sauer stated the County needs to be on the alert this fall/winter and needs to plan going forward.

Discussion was held regarding emergency funding/budget impacts of COVID-19 countywide. Sorensen stated the Eastern Iowa Mental Health Region is projecting an \$850,000 - \$870,000 budget shortfall. Community Services Director Felicia Toppert stated she is concerned about utility and rent assistance due to people not being back to work yet. Toppert stated she is also concerned about commitments increasing due to people going into crisis during this pandemic. Sorensen stated he is sure the Medical Examiner is also feeling the pinch. Sorensen stated per County Treasurer Amy Zybarth, there are \$3.7 million of March payments that have not come in yet which will have approximately an \$800,000 effect on County cash flow, but will also affect the schools and municipalities. County Engineer Keith White updated the Board on secondary road projects.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Saucedo, the Board approved the following utility permits: Eastern Iowa Light and Power - installing a new overhead power line to service a new house at 2600 Jasper Avenue; Eastern Iowa Light and Power - boring a line beneath 165th Street to service a grain bin at 3020 165th Street; Windstream Communications - running a copper line to 1997 111th Street to service a residence. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

County Engineer Keith White updated the Board on secondary road projects.

On a motion by Mather, second by Sauer, the Board affirmed a request from County Auditor Leslie Soule to the Iowa Secretary of State's Office for \$7,200 in CARES Funds via the Vote Safe Iowa Initiative. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Sauer, minutes of the April 20, 2020 regular meeting were approved as written. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

Correspondence:
Holliday reported a call from Andy Carter offering the use of the fairgrounds as a COVID-19 testing site.

Holliday reported Kelsey Morris would like to meet with the Board to discuss struggles the Muscatine County Fair Board is having with money due to March and April cancellations. Holliday stated the Fair Board would like permission to use funds received from the County for operating expenses.

Sorensen, Sauer and Mather reported emails regarding concerns at the Jail.

Sauer reported a contact thanking the road department for rock and grading on the western side of the County. Sorensen reported the Supervisors received a letter from the Johnson County Board of Supervisors and Iowa City Mayor Bruce Teague's Office regarding the situation at the Jail.

Sorensen reported the Supervisors received communication from Sheriff C.J. Ryan regarding action he has taken at the Jail.

Sorensen reported the Community Foundation is interested in developing a revolving loan fund concept for housing assistance. Sorensen would like to discuss using the remaining funds left over from an old state housing grant to use as seed money for this. Board consensus was for Sorensen to continue discussions with the Community Foundation.

Sorensen stated the County has been asked to be the employer of record for the Mississippi Valley Workforce

Authority employee at no cost to the County. Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber stated all County costs would be covered and the Authority could save money. Sorensen stated he would be agreeable as long as the employee would have the same benefit package as Muscatine County employees and there would be no cost to the County. Board consensus was for Sorensen to continue with discussions with the Mississippi Valley Workforce Authority.

Committee Reports:
Sorensen and Holliday attended a Muscatine County Joint Communication Commission (MCJCC) meeting electronically April 23rd.

Sorensen and Saucedo attended a Bi-State Regional meeting electronically April 22nd.

Saucedo attended a West Liberty Economic Area Development (WeLead) meeting electronically April 23rd.

Sauer attended a Muscatine County Conservation meeting maintaining social distancing at a large Discovery Park shelter April 20th.

Mather had informal meetings with the ad hoc committee regarding replacement of the County Attorney. Sorensen attended an Eastern Iowa Mental Health Region meeting electronically April 10th.

Saucedo asked about the possibility of putting plexiglass in the Treasurer's and Recorder's Offices. Sorensen stated General Services Manager Oscar Alvarez is looking into this. Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber stated the project has grown in scope so they have asked Mike Nolan, Horizon Architecture, to bring a plan to the Board for consideration.

County Auditor Leslie Soule informed the Board that although the County would prefer everyone vote absentee by mail for the June 2, 2020 Primary Election, in-person absentee voting will begin May 4, 2020. Soule stated if the Administration building is still closed to the public, the front door would remain locked with voters directed to the handicapped accessible door off the back parking lot which would be unlocked for voter's access to the Auditor's Office only. Soule stated the interior door to the first floor would remain locked to prevent the public from accessing other parts of the building. Voters will only have access to the second floor Auditor's Office via the stairs or elevator. Soule stated absentee request forms mailed by the Secretary of State to everyone registered voter should start showing up in mailboxes Wednesday.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Sauer, the Board accepted the April 2020 payroll claims. Roll call votes: Ayes: All.

Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber stated she has received the health/dental insurance renewal paperwork which reflects a significant increase in stop loss fees, so she asked for additional proposals which she has received and reviewed. Schreiber stated she plans to have the Board take action next week, but a presentation from Wellmark will not be given to the Board until after the County opens again.

Edward Askew, 2952 155th Street, Muscatine, asked if the Board has moved forward with a policy that addresses postings on media sources by non-elected employees. Sorensen stated he has been reviewing the drafts provided by Askew and Michelle Servadio Elias. Schreiber stated as part of the HIPPA project she and Information Services Director Bill Riley are making changes to the computer policy and this will be incorporated into that as well.

Michelle Servadio Elias, 609 W. Third Street, Muscatine, expressed concern about money the County is spending on coronavirus precautions as the virus can be transferred through air conditioning. Servadio Elias also suggested the County look at the Jail Administrator's religious policy for inmates.

Henry Marquard, 108 Eagle Watch Road, Muscatine, stated a change in jail staffing offers the opportunity to review all jail policies. Marquard also expressed concern about large out-of-state real estate companies buying up trailer lots and the effect increased rent could have on general assistance requests.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:24 A.M.

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

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Iowa Bankers Association raises \$40,000 for the Food Bank of Iowa

JOHNSTON — The Iowa Bankers Association announced that with the help of its member banks and industry partners it has raised \$40,000 for Food Bank of Iowa. The money will provide nearly 160,000 meals to help feed the increasing number of Iowa children, families and seniors who are struggling with hunger as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

The IBA launched the food drive earlier this month, asking its member banks, employees and industry partners to join the effort. In addition to the many individual contributions,

SHAZAM, the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines and the IBA all provided significant contributions.

“In times of crisis, Iowa bankers know how important it is to come together to support their communities. From putting in long hours to help small businesses secure Paycheck Protection Program loans to purchasing local restaurant gift cards for their bank employees — they have been giving back to their communities in a number of ways,” said John Sorensen, IBA president and CEO. “This food bank initiative

was just one more way we could come together, collectively as an industry to help Iowans facing financial hardships. And we thank SHAZAM and Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines for helping to make it happen.”

In 2019, Food Bank of Iowa distributed about 1.5 million pounds of food each month to more than 625 pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, schools and other partner agencies across their service area. Now it’s working to fill orders for their partners more than twice their normal size, along with creating new mobile distributions

to meet the need in various communities, according to Michelle Book, president and CEO of Food Bank of Iowa.

“The need for food assistance continues to increase as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic,” Book said. “As this crisis continues, we have to remain flexible at Food Bank of Iowa, and the generosity of the Iowa Bankers Association and its partners will give us the support required to meet the changing needs across our service area.”



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2017 Jeep Cherokee Latitude: 55,000 miles, one owner, 6 cylinder, towing package up to 4,500 pounds, gas mileage 27-30, 4x4, automatic, heated seats and steering wheel, back-up camera, color: white, interior: grey. \$17,900. Call or text 319-330-4209 19-TFN-NSP

2016 Honda Fit: White, 4-door, fairly new tires, remote start, good shape. 52,000 miles, \$9,000. Call: 319-480-3448. 17-NSP

2000 Cadillac Seville SLS: 141, 332 miles, white diamond - tan interior, no rust. \$3,000 firm. North Star V-8 Engine. New alternator and battery. Tires are only 1 year old. Call: 563-355-2228 Cell: 563-321-0141 11-NSP

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NEW LIST: 45 Acres +/- Investment and Recreation Land NW of Elvira. Acreage can be adjusted. \$293,000 **Dennis**

LONG GROVE: 114 A +/- 0.04 tillable, 75 CSR. \$9,000/A. **Ken**

JACKSON COUNTY: 101.2A. Recreation/hobby/investment farm w/ ranch style bldgs. Maquoketa River frontage. Beautiful scenic land. \$6,522/A. **Dennis**

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EPA, CDC release guidance for cleaning and disinfecting

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released updated guidance to help facility operators and families properly clean and disinfect spaces. Developed in concert with the White House, the guidance provides step-by-step instructions for public spaces, workplaces, businesses, schools and homes, and falls in line with the Opening Up America Again guidelines.

EPA's expertise on the safe and effective use of disinfectants against the virus that causes COVID-19 informed the development of this comprehensive plan. The guidance offers a practical, three-step process for preparing spaces for reopening:

- * Develop a plan,

- * Implement the plan, and
- * Maintain and revise the plan.

Cleaning and disinfecting surfaces is an important, two-step process central to any effort to reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19.

* Clean: Use soap and water to remove germs, dirt and impurities from surfaces. It lowers the risk of spreading infection.

* Disinfect: Use disinfectant products to kill germs on surfaces. By killing germs on a surface after cleaning, it can further lower the risk of spreading infection.

EPA has compiled a list of disinfectant products, including ready-to-use sprays, concentrates and wipes, that can be used against COVID-19. Always follow the product label instructions and safety information including

leaving the product on the surface long enough to kill germs, rinsing off the product to avoid ingesting it, and putting the product out of reach of children right away.

Also, avoid over-using or stockpiling disinfectants or personal protective equipment (such as gloves). This can result in shortages of critical products needed for emergencies. In the event that disinfectant products on the EPA list are not available, the guidance provides other techniques for disinfecting surfaces that are as effective in reducing the risk of exposure to COVID-19.

This guidance does not replace other measures that still need to be taken to reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19. It is important to continue to practice social distancing, wear

cloth face coverings, and wash your hands frequently. As we move forward to reopen America, continue to follow federal, state, tribal, territorial and local guidance.

To view the guidance, go to: <https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus/guidance-cleaning-and-disinfecting-public-spaces-workplaces-businesses-schools-and-homes>.

Online puppet shows

Eulenspiegel Puppet Theatre in West Liberty has canceled all live performances and workshops through June, with July on hold as progress of the coronavirus COVID-19 is monitored. A page has been added to the theater's website with recorded shows and workshops, free for anyone who wants access.

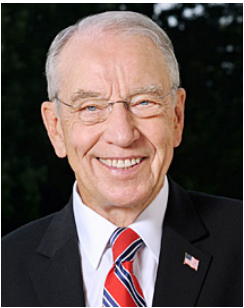
"We want parents to have teaching aids and kids to have things to watch and do. We also want to give ourselves a reason to keep producing new shows and workshops. For as long as this continues, we plan to keep adding content: shows, study guides, workshop videos and how-to PDFs. Currently, you can find three shows, two study guides, and two workshops at <https://owlglass.org/virtual-shows-and-workshops/>" according to a release from the theater.

A series of live stream performances is planned with dates and titles to be announced.

For further information, call 319-627-2487 or 319-855-0602 or e-mail monica@puppets.com.

Grassley becomes 10th longest serving Senator

BUTLER COUNTY, IOWA – Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) and President pro tempore of the United States Senate is now the 10th longest-serving Senator in U.S. history with 39.3 years of service. Grassley was first elected to the Senate in 1980.



"I'm honored to represent Iowans in the

people's branch of the federal government. I wake up every morning ready to work for Iowans and bring our commonsense values to the policymaking tables in Washington. The coronavirus pandemic underscores how important it is to keep open lines of communication with my constituents. It's my job to ensure all Iowans have a voice at the table," Grassley said.

Grassley is currently one of only two farmers serving in the U.S. Senate. He has not missed a vote since 1993 when he was in Iowa with President Clinton assessing the

need of Iowans to respond to the devastating floods.

While Grassley works in Washington when the Senate is in session, he returns to Iowa nearly every weekend. Grassley has held at least one question-and-answer session with Iowans in each of Iowa's 99 counties once a year since he was first elected to serve in the U.S. Senate. Though he is currently not holding meetings to comply with public health guidelines, he is in his 40th year of his annual 99-county meetings.

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Cedar County Community Foundation grants more than \$113,000

The Community Foundation of Cedar County (CFCC), an affiliate of the Quad Cities Community Foundation, awarded 38 Cedar County organizations grants totaling \$113,188.80 for their 2020 projects.

The following is a list of the organizations, their project name and the amount they were awarded.

American Legion Post 348, Veterans Park Storage Shed, \$1,700; Bennett Community School, Raised Garden Beds, \$1,000; Big Brothers Big Sisters of Muscatine County, Cedar County Bigs in Blue, \$2,000; Cedar County Conservation Board, Technology Modernization, \$4,000; Cedar County Fair Association, Floral Hall Floor Replacement and Improvement of Handicapped Accessible Entrances, \$5,000; Cedar County Historical Society, Dr. Ed Speer Veterinary Building – The Gentle Doctor Project, \$4,000; Cedar County Law Enforcement, Reserve Deputy Sheriff’s Bullet Proof Vests, \$1,200;

Cedar/Jones Early Childhood Iowa, Early Childhood Book Project in Cedar County, \$2,400; City of Durant, New Helmets, \$5,000; City of Durant, Speed Deterrence Signs, \$2,500; City of Durant, Playaway Audio Book Collection, \$1,200; City of Lowden, Books and More, \$1,500; City of Mechanicsville, 2020 Park Project, \$5,000; City of Tipton, Tipton Public Library – West Side Project, \$5,000; City of Tipton, Rockin’ the Downtown, \$3,500; City of Tipton, Electrostatic Cleaning Unit, \$2,454; CFCC, Operational Funds, \$1,150;

Durant Children’s Group, Outdoor Materials, \$3,000; Durant Community School Group, Durant High School ACE Program, \$7,500; Durant PTO, Durant PTO Inclusive Playground Project, \$5,000; Families First of Cedar County, Cedar County Pin Wheels, \$1,000; Friends of the West Branch Public Library, Outdoor Seating at the WBPL, \$2,000; Iowa State University Extension Outreach – Cedar County, Check Out STEM, \$3,500;

Lowden Garden Club, Redesign of the Lowden Memorial Park Garden, \$544.80;

Lt. J.L. Shryer American Legion Post 430, Furnace Replacement American Legion First Floor Building, \$5,000; Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) – Des Moines, Healthy Families America-New Parent Program in Cedar County, \$2,000; Mechanicsville Fire & Ambulance Volunteers Inc., Stryker Cot with Power Load System, \$5,000; Mechanicsville Public Library, Youth Books for the Mechanicsville Public Library, \$1,000; RoEll Inc., Expansion of Services, \$3,000; Stanwood First Responders, Zoll Monitor, \$5,000; Stanwood Volunteer Fire Department, Dragger SCBA, \$5,000; The Gathering Tipton, Bike Rack, \$200;

Tipton Senior Park Apartments, Senior Park, \$2,000; Tri-County Heritage & Genealogy Museum, Cataloging of Museum Photos, Items & Genealogy Records, \$1,100; Trinity Lutheran Church, Backpack Buddy

Program for Tipton and Bennett Schools, \$1,000; Volunteer Services of Cedar County, Volunteer Transportation, \$1,740; West Branch Community Early Learning Center, Out With the Old, In With the New, \$5,000; West Branch Community School District, Outdoor Leadership & Adventure Program, \$5,000.

Durant Community School will be using their funds for their Architecture, Construction & Engineering (ACE) program. By combining CFCC grant funds with additional grants and donations, the program will be able to purchase a skid steer, mini excavator and a scissor lift. According to Future Ready Iowa, the most high demand occupations forecasted the 2019 through 2024 are construction, engineering and manufacturing productions. The Durant ACE program provides students with opportunities to learn, participate and gain experience in these high demand jobs and sets individuals up for a successful future.

IEDA awards \$1.2 million to expand apprenticeship programs

DES MOINES – The Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) announced April 29 \$1.2 million in new funding awarded to employers and high schools statewide to expand registered apprenticeship programs. Registered Apprenticeships prepare workers for high-demand jobs through on-the-job learning and help the state’s employers grow a highly skilled workforce.

The IEDA provided 54 awards through the Registered Apprenticeship Development Program (15C). Funding to help start new registered apprenticeship programs was part of the Future Ready Iowa Act, which Iowa

Gov. Kim Reynolds signed into law in January 2018.

“The opportunity to earn and learn with this program benefits both job seekers and employers alike across industries by providing a strong foundation to learn while also filling the skills gaps in our workforce,” said Gov. Reynolds. “Registered Apprenticeships are one way that Iowa will achieve its Future Ready Iowa goal of growing a skilled workforce by connecting more Iowans to the education and training needed for rewarding, high-demand careers.”

The Registered Apprenticeship

Development Program provides \$1 million in grants per fiscal year for organizations that develop a Registered Apprenticeship program in a high-demand industry, such as information technology, advanced manufacturing and finance. Funds carried over from the previous fiscal year account for the current award amount.

Eligible organizations can receive up to \$25,000 for a program, or up to \$50,000 for multiple programs. The funding is in addition to \$3 million made available annually through the Iowa Apprenticeship Act (15B), which helps offset training costs for Registered

Apprenticeships.

Iowa is nationally recognized for investing in Registered Apprenticeships, with 780 programs and nearly 7,800 registered apprentices. Awards include high school programs with Registered Apprenticeship that allow students to connect their interests to a career path.

Information about Registered Apprenticeships in Iowa is available at www.earnandlearniowa.gov. The website serves the needs of both job seekers and employers.



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1) Senior parents on the Durant Post-Prom Committee decided since they had money left from post prom last year, they wanted to do something to honor students who are losing the rest of their senior year. Apex Ink and Apparel designed the signs and Images in Ink printed them. The parents wish to recognize Alpen Ford for allowing them to display the signs at the car lot along Fifth Street. Photo by Teresa Benischek



2) & 3) In light of the COVID-19 pandemic causing schools to close for the rest of the school year, parents of graduates are getting creative in ways to celebrate their graduating seniors. Lindsey Thompson, mother of Cole Thompson from Wilton, is honoring her son to include a little humor with the signs displayed in their yard. Photo by Teresa Benischek



4) & 5) Noah Alloway’s mom, Whitney, from Wilton, is also honoring her son with pride in the colorful signs she has displayed in their yard. Photo by Teresa Benischek



Watch for our weekly special section of #InThisTogether. Please email adnews@netwtc.net with pictures that may be featured in the paper.