



Wilton-Durant Advocate News



Founders Day coverage, p. 18-19

August 26, 2021 Wilton, Iowa Volume 127, No. 34 www.wdadvocatenews.com 28 pages \$1.00

Townsend Commons helps open Wilton school year

By Derek Sawvell
Managing Editor, Advocate News

When the 2021-2022 school year started

Wednesday, Aug. 25, the new Townsend Commons at Wilton High School officially welcomed students for the first time.

The Wilton School District used Point

Builders as the construction manager on the project. The new air conditioned Townsend Commons include a new commons area on the south end of the Wilton High School gymna-

sium with concession stand, restrooms, office space and storage area. The school's trophy cases will eventually be displayed in the commons, and there will be plenty of tables and furniture added for seating. Superintendent Joe Burnett noted that the tables can fold up and be moved around the commons, to accommodate banquets, dance practices, or other events as needed.

The gym also received air conditioning as part of the project.

The \$2.6 million addition is funded by the Townsend Foundation, being paid in installments with the school district paying the interest on the note. Ground was broken in June of 2020, as crews were able to start early due to school ending earlier as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Townsend Commons will serve as the entrance to the Wilton gym for all events. "That's an added perk for people wanting to know how to get into the school," added Burnett.

Once inside, the original two sets of doors on the south end of the gym will be used as the entrances for both home and away fans for athletic events.

TOWNSEND COMMONS

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The exterior to the new Townsend Commons at Wilton High School is pictured above. The commons is attached to the south end of the high school gym, and features a new concession area, commons, restrooms, office space, TVs, ample seating, and eventually more furniture and trophy cases. Photo by Derek Sawvell

All aboard the steam engine train!



The Wilton Fire Department, in conjunction with the Iowa Interstate Railroad, held steam engine train rides all day Sunday, Aug. 22. Rides were scheduled at 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., noon and 1:30 p.m. The steam engine train (pictured above) left from the historic Wilton Depot, where passengers got on and off, each time. The train then traveled east toward Walcott before being towed back for the next excursion. The fire department sold 1,400 tickets for the event. For more photos, see page 10, and online at wdadvocatenews.com. Photo by Derek Sawvell

Durant homecoming parade set for Sept. 8

By Layce DeLong
for the Advocate News

Officials approved the closure of city streets for the Durant High School homecoming parade at the Aug. 23 Durant city council meeting. Homecoming is Sept. 10, with the parade planned for Wednesday, Sept. 8 at 6 p.m. The police department will provide barricades to close streets during the parade.

Officials discuss COVID pay for employees

The police department has an officer off with complications caused by COVID-19. City Clerk Deana Cavin told officials she has the authority to pay employees the first 80 hours of time off for COVID, and any remainder needed council approval.

She said sick time can be used but it is paid out at 75 percent of normal gross pay. Police Chief Orville Randolph said when he was sick he was off for around a month and expected this officer gone for around the same amount of time. In order to qualify for short-term disability, employees must use all available vacation and sick time.

Cavin added that the city received around \$48,000 to pay for COVID-related expenses, and it has used around \$33,000. She was hesitant to use all of the funds, saying she didn't know how the future months would play out.

Officials decided to follow the example of

DURANT COUNCIL

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Durant City Council

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SPECIAL SECTIONS:

Muscatine County Freedom Rock to revive Smorgasbord event Sept. 6

The Muscatine County Freedom Rock project is planning on reviving a Wilton tradition — Smorgasbord — to celebrate the completion of the Muscatine County Freedom Rock site located in front of the historic Wilton Depot in downtown Wilton at the intersections of Railroad and Maurer streets.

The celebration will be held on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 6, and will run from 4 to 7 p.m.. In the tradition of the Smorgasbord that was started by Jake Davies back in the 1960s, a meal of a pulled pork sandwich, baked beans and a bag of chips will be sold for 25 cents to the first 500 people who attend. The Wilton Boy Scouts will be selling bottled water and soda for 50 cents. The committee suggests everyone bring a lawn chair to enjoy live music that will be provided.

“As a two-pronged effort, we’re hoping that we can revive the Smorgasbord with this event,” said Ted Marolf, a member of the Freedom Rock committee. “So we’re pulling out all the stops to make it a memorable event. We’re having live music by the River City 6 Band starting at 4 p.m., the fire whistle will sound at 5 p.m. to start the meal, and maybe most exciting, we’re having the raffle drawing at 6 p.m. Raffle prizes are a 65” 4K HDTV, a Masterbuilt Barbecue, a Powermate generator, a Generac power washer, a hand lawn mower, and an MB 200 Warrior Mini Bike.”

The Freedom Rock group is now selling raffle tickets for the prize drawing. Tickets are \$5 each and they will be available at Brammeier’s Service Station and the Wilton Candy Kitchen. The committee had them available for purchase at Founders Day Aug. 20-21. The net proceeds of the raffle will go into the site maintenance and repair fund.

“The second intention of our event is to celebrate the one-year anniversary of the opening of the Muscatine County Freedom Rock, and also the completion of the site with the addition of 106 new engraved veteran pavers,” said Marolf. “It seems the site has turned out to be greater than the sum of its parts.”

Marolf continued, “In addition to those pavers, which bring the number of pavers engraved with the names of armed services veterans of Muscatine County to a total of 616, a donor plaque (pictured) has been installed with the names of individuals, businesses and other organizations that lent time, money and expertise to the building of the Freedom Rock site. And finally, a storyboard has been installed that tells a brief account of each of the scenes painted on the rock in 2020 by (artist) Bubba



Recently, 106 new pavers were added to the Muscatine County Freedom Rock site, which brings the total to 616 pavers commemorating Muscatine County veterans. The Muscatine County Freedom Rock committee is hosting a Smorgasbord event on Labor Day, Sept. 6, from 4-7 p.m. in downtown Wilton at the site, located at the intersection of Maurer and Railroad streets. Festivities will begin at 4, with the dinner whistle to blow at 5, followed by a 25-cent meal and prize drawing. Photos by Derek Sawwell

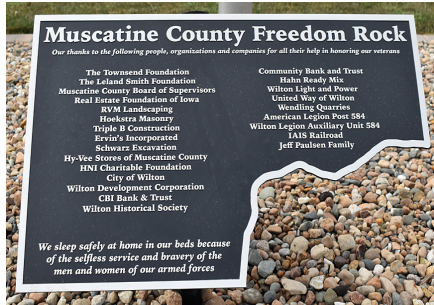
Sorenson.”

“This has been a long time coming,” said Marolf. “Between the first crude sketches and outlines we did to this point of a completed site, is about four years. The nice thing about this project and the physical layout of the memorial is that, when the time is right, additional engraved pavers can be added. We’re very pleased with the way the site turned out, and we’re pleasantly surprised by the amount of people making the trek to downtown Wilton to visit the site.”

Becky Allgood, Director of the Wilton Development Corporation, added, “The Freedom Rock committee can’t thank enough the city of Wilton, the Wilton light plant, Triple B Construction, RVM Landscaping, Hoekstra Masonry, Mike and Nancy Peirce for the geraniums at the star, and F&S Engraving for all their efforts to make this a truly unique Freedom Rock site in the state of

Iowa. Our thanks also go out to the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors for not only their financial donation, but the donation of the 1857 Napoleon field cannon on display. It gives our Freedom Rock a very unique look.”

For additional information on the Freedom Rock Smorgasbord, go to the Muscatine County Freedom Rock Facebook page, or call 563-554-4750 for updates.



COVID-19 booster announcement

The following release was submitted by Muscatine County Public Health Aug. 18.

Health and Human Services (HHS) public health and medical experts released a joint statement on the plan for COVID-19 booster doses for all Americans beginning the week of Sept. 20. At that time, the individuals who were fully vaccinated earliest in the vaccination rollout, including many health care providers, nursing home residents, and other seniors, will likely be eligible for a booster. The rollout of this process is yet to be determined by the government.

HHS, CDC, and FDA continue to study data to understand how long vaccine protection lasts. The authorized COVID-19 vaccines continue to effectively reduce the risk of severe disease, hospitalization and death, even against the highly prevalent Delta variant. Evidence has shown that over time vaccines provide less protection against mild and moderate COVID-19 disease.

• Vaccine effectiveness against COVID-19 associated hospitalization was 86 percent during the first 2–12 weeks post-vaccination and 84 percent effective during the following 12-week period.

• The vaccine was found to be 90 percent effective against COVID-19 associated hospitalizations for people without immunocompromising conditions.

• For those with immunocompromising conditions, the vaccine was found to be only 63 percent effective against hospitalizations associated with COVID-19 (over the 24-week study).

• CDC now recommends that people whose immune systems are moderately to severely compromised should receive an additional dose of mRNA (Moderna or Pfizer) COVID-19 vaccine at least four weeks after their second dose, for a total of three doses.

• Widespread vaccination is a critical tool to reduce the risk of hospitalization due to COVID-19.

People who are at higher risk or were vaccinated during the earlier phases of the vaccination rollout will need a booster dose to continue to have the maximum protection that the vaccines provide. CDC’s independent advisory committee, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), will continue to meet and discuss data on the evolution of the pandemic and the use of COVID-19 vaccines.

Our top priority is to protect our Muscatine County residents from COVID-19 and its complications with safe and effective vaccines. We remain committed to providing additional information regarding booster doses as it becomes available to our Muscatine County Public Health Department. Thank you for your continued fight against COVID-19.

For information and updates related to COVID-19, visit Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) | CDC. For the joint statement from HHS Public Health and Medical Experts on the COVID-19 booster shots, visit Joint Statement from HHS Public Health and Medical Experts on COVID-19 Booster Shots | HHS.gov



A storyboard was added to the Muscatine County Freedom Rock site in downtown Wilton, in the northwest corner where new pavers were placed recently.

CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS

Inland Cemetery

Inland Cemetery Association is continuing to seek funds to resurface the lanes and driveway at Inland Cemetery near Bennett. As of Aug. 15, the Cemetery Association had reached over half of its goal of \$48,000.

Trustee Jo Treadwell said the association wants to recognize the 60 individuals and families who have donated approximately \$18,000. With \$10,000 from the association’s trust fund, the project has now reached over half of the cost to asphalt the lanes and driveway at the cemetery.

Treadwell said the original projection for

completion was the summer or fall of 2021, but without adequate funding, the project may not be completed until the summer of 2022. All donations will be used to improve accessibility at Inland Cemetery and to complete the project at the earliest time possible.

Anyone wishing to donate can send a donation to the Inland Cemetery Association, c/o Karis Horstmann, Sec/Treas at 2067 – 270th St. Bennett, IA 52721.

Anyone with questions may contact any of the Inland Cemetery trustees: Jo Treadwell 563-886-6224; Junior Horstmann 563-893-2453; or Ken Beuthien 563-374-1010.

Wilton - Durant
Advocate News

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Wilton Public Library game day Aug. 28

The Wilton Public Library is celebrating the return to in-person programming with a special hour of games, crafts, and cookie decorating. Come to the library on Saturday, Aug. 28, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. to participate. All ages are welcome.

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Durant Athletic Boosters Football Yard Line Fundraiser

\$25 for a chance to win \$50 if/when at the end of each quarter the ball ends on your yard line. New this year: yard lines will be randomly chosen at Meet the Wildcat Night (August 23rd at the Football Field), or at the first home football game of the year (August 27th).

Thanks for your support of Wildcat Athletics!

For questions or more information, please contact Leslie Callison at 563-650-9335 or leslie.callison@durant.k12.ia.us

If you would like to join the Durant Athletic Boosters please talk to a current member or email us at durantiowaathleticboosters@gmail.com

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K-12 teachers, students invited to statewide design challenge

DES MOINES — The Iowa Department of Education announced the Build Iowa's Future Design Challenge, an opportunity for K-12 students to create innovative projects, connect them to careers and compete for up to \$1,000 awards for their schools.

The Iowa Clearinghouse for Work-Based Learning and the Home Builders Association of Iowa (HBA of Iowa) are hosting the challenge to engage more students in authentic professional experiences that transform education for the workforce. The Iowa Association of Community College Trustees, Kreg Tool Company and Pella Corporation are sponsoring the challenge awards. The challenge is in keeping with the Future Ready Iowa goal of 70 percent of the workforce having education

or training beyond high school by 2025.

"The Build Iowa's Future Design Challenge will help students see how subjects like math and science can be applied in the real world while cultivating creativity, problem solving and other critical skills," said Iowa Department of Education Director Ann Lebo. "Through work-based learning opportunities, students see the connection between the classroom and the workplace where they can explore and prepare for careers that fit them. The challenge is available to all students in rural and urban communities across Iowa, and I'm excited to see the projects they produce."

"With approximately 7.5 million construction jobs projected nationwide by 2026, and ongoing industry expansion, we want students

to explore those opportunities for great-paying jobs. This project makes that introduction in a creative way," said HBA of Iowa Executive Officer Jay Iverson. "Our members are excited to see what students are able to come up with."

Elementary and middle school students can participate in the Iowa Home Design Challenge by constructing a model home using toy plastic construction bricks, wood blocks or other materials of their choice. High school students can participate in the Iowa Dream and Design Challenge, which involves conceptualizing and designing a project that could improve their community, such as a school athletic storage facility, a ramp for a home of someone with limited mobility or a prairie birdhouse. Students will seek feedback

about the project's feasibility from people who would be impacted, but students will not actually build the project.

Teachers are invited to submit a form letter of intent to participate on the Clearinghouse website by Sept. 29. Submission of the form letter by the deadline is required. On May 4, 2022, three awards — \$1,000 for first place, \$500 for second place and \$300 for third place — will be made to schools in each of the K-5, 6-8 and 9-12 grade bands for projects scored and selected by reviewers. Outstanding designs may be shared on Clearinghouse and HBA of Iowa websites and through other publications and events. Learn more about the design challenge at: <https://clearinghouse.futurereadyiowa.gov/challenge>.

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The Wildcat Chronicles

Durant High School

August 26, 2021

School nurse keeps an eye on Delta variant

By Kiyah Daily

The Delta strain of the COVID-19 virus is causing a surge in cases nationwide as the 2021-2022 school year opens.

Durant school nurse Mrs. Mary Dorris said that the Delta variant “is something we need to pay attention to because we have a lot of students that are not vaccinated or under 12 and don’t have the option to be vaccinated.”

At the time of this article, the Iowa Department of Public Health [IDPH] is currently not performing positive case investigations.

It has “adjusted COVID-19 surveillance to follow the influenza model,” according to a fact sheet from the department.

Like any other virus, this is always changing and will be “continuously evaluated and adjusted as needed,” the fact sheet stated.

School districts in Iowa are doing

things a little differently, as directed by the IDPH, and will not trace positive cases this year and will not notify families when students have been exposed to COVID-19.

Mrs. Dorris said she will watch for any signs of an outbreak, though.

“It’s something that I will keep an eye on and work with the county public health,” said Mrs. Dorris.

With the Delta variant and COVID-19 cases rising, some people are concerned about sporting events going back to how they were last year with having to be socially distant, having to get tickets, or whole teams getting quarantined.

Durant Superintendent Joe Burnett said he doesn’t anticipate that Durant will have to go back to limited tickets and physical distancing at sporting events.

Both Mr. Burnett and Mrs. Dorris said that Durant is going to follow the guidelines from the health departments of both the

state and county.

Across the river in Illinois, masks will be mandatory when students return to school. In Iowa, it’s a different story.

Students do have the option to wear a mask if they choose to, but schools cannot require anyone to wear them.

Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds signed act HF 847 on May 20, which prohibits school districts from requiring anyone on school grounds to wear a mask.

In interviews with several students, most of them were excited, to say the least, about getting to return to school without them.

“They [masks] were almost as normal as taking a backpack to school,” said junior Max Thoma. “But it will definitely feel better not having to wear them anymore.”

While most students were excited to take off the masks this year, some are still taking precautions.

“I’ll definitely bring one [mask] but it depends on a lot of factors,” junior Korbryn Ryan said.

Some students might be pressured by their classmates’ decision to not wear a mask, but Ryan said that he would not because “we have all taken precautions we think are necessary beforehand.”

Another student, junior Jacy Wiese, also feels that masks need to be a choice.

“If you feel the mask works and you need to wear it to protect yourself, feel free to do so,” said Wiese. “But if you don’t believe in masks and choose not to wear one, that should be up to you.”

Thoma said that if Durant students would have to return to wearing masks, he would not agree with it, but he would wear one.

Mrs. Dorris said that she would only be wearing a mask while treating people with symptoms or at-risk patients.

Girls’ golf team 9th at state meet

By Carlie Jo Fusco

Before school was out in May, the Durant girls’ golf team qualified for the state tournament and finished ninth out of 10 teams overall at the meet in Ames June 1-2.

The meet featured two rounds, and Durant scored 816 total strokes, 414 on the first round and 402 on the second.

Belle Rockow, a now graduated senior, was a key golfer this year and averaged 49 per nine holes for the season. She earned 26th place at state and was only one stroke off her personal best.

“We had the mindset since last season that we had the potential to go [to state] and seeing our team pull through was very exciting,” Rockow said. “We knew we had potential, especially when our team would win tournaments and more duals than normal.”

Makenna Buesing, another graduated senior, averaged 55.9 per nine holes during the season and placed 53rd at state.

“I’m not sure if we had an established team motto, but the joke between Belle and I was ‘If the ball moves closer to the hole, it’s a good shot,’ so we wouldn’t get worked up over bad shots,” Buesing



The girls’ golf team finished ninth at the state meet and included Rebecca Paus-tian, McKenna Rockow, Makenna Buesing, Emily Huston, Belle Rockow, Kiley Stineman, and Karissa Hoon.

said.

Buesing believes that if she could go back and change anything throughout her years of playing, it would be to improve her chipping and her mid-game.

“Since freshman year, I’ve always struggled with knowing what club to use on certain spots,” Buesing said.

Another star player, Karissa Hoon, a junior during the season, averaged 56.6 per nine holes for the season and placed 44th at state.

“I think as a team we just wanted to have fun and improve throughout the season,” Hoon said.

At state, the players agreed they had a great experience at the tournament.

“None of us shot a personal best at state, but we were more focused on soaking up the experience than winning the whole thing,” Rockow said. “There are some outstanding teams in that tournament that were on a level we could not yet reach.”

Teen drivers can now learn from parents

By Kayden Johnson

Durant High School students learning to drive can now be taught by their parents, according to a new law passed by the Iowa Legislature.

This law allows for new drivers to get their driver’s license without taking a driver’s education course with a paid instructor. The new drivers must pass a DOT driving test, however, before getting their license.

“I would definitely feel more comfortable taking it at home and having my mom or dad teach me, but taking a driving test at the DOT would make me nervous,” said incoming freshman Rilynn Buesing.

One of the benefits of parent-taught instruction is it will save families around \$370 plus additional fees, said the mother of Rilynn, Mrs. Shelby Buesing.

“As far as the disadvantages go, I think it will be hard to hold parents accountable to teach their child all of the information needed,” said Mrs. Buesing.

See DRIVER, page 3

Legislation opens doors for neighboring students

By Kennedy Schumacher

A dozen Davenport school district students have open enrolled to Durant since a new law eliminated the diversity plans of five school districts statewide, including Davenport’s.

The law has “potential to benefit the Durant district,” said Superintendent Joe Burnett in an interview earlier this month.

“It will be interesting to see where we’re at on August 25, which is our first day of school,” said Mr. Burnett. It is possible Durant could still pick up more students after the start of the school year, he said.

In order to keep a diverse pool of students in the Davenport district, the district has had a plan in place since 2008 that considered students’ socioeconomic background when deciding whether they could open en-

roll out of the district.

According to *The Des Moines Register*, three school districts, Davenport, Des Moines and Waterloo, would “weigh socioeconomic status when considering requests” and could “deny transfer requests if those requests would affect their plans, allowing them to balance their socioeconomic diversity.”

The West Liberty and Postville school districts also had diversity plans based on socioeconomic status and English language learner status.

However, a new state law signed May 10 strikes down those diversity plans.

Mr. Burnett believes this new law “opens the door to let families choose where they want their kids to go to school.”

Durant has been losing enrollment,

so this law could change that trend and become beneficial to Durant because it is close to a district that had a diversity plan, according to Mr. Burnett.

Over the past five years, Durant’s enrollment has decreased from 659 students to 585 students.

The additional students from Davenport will provide a band aid to Durant’s enrollment numbers.

In the 2020-2021 school year, Durant did have 76 students open enroll into the district while only 42 students open enrolled out of the district.

With an increase in students who open enroll from Davenport, Durant also receives additional funding for these students.

Last year, school districts received \$7,243 per student, and 80 percent of that

money went toward staff salaries and benefits, and 20 percent funded fixed costs such as equipment and utilities, according to Mr. Burnett.

“Depending on how many students we have [open enroll], we should be able to accommodate them [with the current staffing levels we have],” Mr. Burnett said.

Transportation could also be a factor for families when deciding which school they want to open enroll to. As a district, Durant is not allowed to provide transportation outside of its district, according to Mr. Burnett.

With the new law, Mr. Burnett thinks the Davenport schools are now going to have to increase their efforts and ensure they are offering the best education for their students.

Editor feels need to make up for lost time

By Sofia Reyna

This school year, Durant students will return to school with a sense of normalcy as they are no longer required to wear masks in school. As editor of *The Wildcat Chronicles*, I look forward to leading our publication in its third year.

However, Durant seniors like myself may have a problem that other grades do not—the feeling that we have to make up for lost time.

Since the pandemic started, students have had to face changes, such as a three-month school shutdown to end the 2019-2020 school year and COVID-19 restrictions last year that included the option of online schooling.

With little to no restrictions this year, students will be able to experience school normally once again.

However, there is a sense of disappointment for me when thinking back to the previous two years spent during COVID. I wasn't able to experience the two school years to the fullest. That dread started when I was unable to participate in a dance team showcase cancelled because of the shutdown.

That first summer of COVID, I was stuck at home, and to make matters worse, I opted for online schooling that first semester back, and that experience was horrible because I felt suffocated at home and had no motivation to learn.

4-sport athlete hopes to return this fall from knee injury

By Ally Happ

Time. You only get so much time in high school to experience everything you want. One thing I didn't want to experience was a season-ending injury, but I did.

On June 20 during an off-season basketball scrimmage, I felt a cracking sensation in my knee coming down from a lay-up. At that instant, I knew something was wrong but tried to brush it off knowing I had a softball game the next day, and I could not miss it over a little basketball injury.

So I tried to keep scrimmaging with my team, but I could barely walk, let alone run. Shortly after, my coach Ross DeLong pulled me out and sat me on the bench. I knew this was not good.

During COVID, my classmates were spread apart from each other, both figuratively and literally. Friend groups had split up or changed during this time. Also, some students have experienced falling grades, myself included, during the pandemic.

Expecting everything to return right back to normal is quite a large task after a worldwide pandemic has taken place. I personally believe that trying to experience my senior year to the fullest will be a hard task since I will have to focus on bringing my grades up again and preparing to leave for college while simultaneously trying to make up for the lost time of the two previous years.

So what does that lost time look like? For me, I didn't get to spend time with my friends, who I didn't get to see regularly even before the pandemic. When I did catch up with some of them, they would tell me about their experiences during the pandemic and what was happening around them. I felt like I was an outsider who knew nothing about what was happening in my circle of friends and also at school, somewhat like a social pariah.

High school is also when young adults are supposed to learn more about themselves and try to figure out what they're going to do later on in life.

I haven't had much time to prepare for living on my own, and there are many things I want to experience—like learning how to cook, pay bills, or even how to



Senior Sofia Reyna, the new editor of *The Wildcat Chronicles*, edits the first issue of the 2021-22 school year.

change a flat tire—before I have to focus on more important things like renting my own apartment and having to buy groceries on my own.

In other words, I will have to learn how to rely solely on myself.

Even as I wrote this column, I realized how difficult it was to put my feelings into words about how the pandemic has affected me. It was hard for me to explain ev-

erything that I lost.

Even though I do feel a bit wary towards the upcoming school year, there's also a sense of excitement that we will finally have one year of normalcy.

While this is my last year at Durant, I believe things will actually feel normal again in due time, maybe when I go dress shopping for Homecoming or when I have my first choir concert.

The next day I tried to play my softball game, but as I stepped up to the plate, I knew if I hit the ball, I would not make it to first on my leg. Thankfully, I struck out and walked back into the dugout. I was done after the first inning.

The following day, I went to the

ORA office in Bettendorf and got an x-ray that showed I had a possible cartilage injury within the kneecap. The doctor told me I could either get an MRI done or try to just ice the knee, take pain medications, and rest it.

I knew I had to get an MRI to make

sure there was nothing too damaging in my knee.

On Wednesday, one day later, I woke up early and got the MRI. My next scheduled appointment was planned for the following Monday, but later that same day, the doctor's office called my mom and asked if we would want to come back to discuss the MRI scan.

Instantly, I got worried. I wondered why the doctor wanted to see me so soon after. It was going to be one of two options: 1. All good news, nothing is wrong with you, you just need to rest, and you'll be back to sports really soon or 2. Stop what you are doing right now because you severely hurt your knee.

It was the second option.

The MRI scan showed a piece of cartilage detached from my kneecap, and I needed arthroscopic surgery to remove it. Just like that, my junior softball season was cut short.

Surgery was set for July 1. The doctors removed the loose cartilage while also drilling tiny holes in the kneecap—a procedure known as microfracture—to create new cartilage.

The recovery time was three to six months, and physical therapy started right away.

For the first six weeks of recovery, I was stuck in a knee brace to mobilize it and let the new cartilage heal. During those weeks, physical therapy was not aggressive, and I focused on doing exercises to help my other muscles in my left leg stay as strong as possible.

But this also meant I did a lot of exercises at home to help my leg get stronger outside of physical therapy.

Now my senior volleyball season is up in the air. Currently, I am unaware if my leg will be strong enough to return before volleyball season ends and even if it does, is it worth risking another possible injury to my knee.

Or would the safer option be to let it heal more and miss out on my entire senior volleyball season, my last time ever playing volleyball competitively.

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Durant Hub's mixologist of the month
Sophomore Macy Huston started working at the Durant Hub in June. Her favorite beverage to make is the Farmer's Market. The best part about working at the Hub "is being able to work with some of her best friends." Owner Brittney Ingles works with her employees to create school-friendly schedules.
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Liberty Trust & Savings Bank's teacher of the month
Mr. Tim Rouse has been teaching at Durant for 18 years. He has seven shop classes. Mr. Rouse said, "I teach because it's the best way I know to help kids become more productive citizens and members of their communities. I enjoy passing down skills that they can use everyday in their post-secondary lives."
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More sights from Wilton Fire Department steam engine rides



Photos by Derek Sawwell



Wilton PD's Robert Dearmore hired part-time in Durant

DURANT COUNCIL
continued from page 1

many employers and have city employees use vacation and sick leave until they can qualify for short-term disability if off work due to COVID-19.

Engineer report

MSA engineer Kevin Bailey updated officials on the 12th Avenue sewer project. He said the agreement was signed and a permit has been issued so the next step will be to advertise for bids. He would like the winning bid to be accepted by the Sept. 27 council meeting so that the project could be completed before winter. Bailey anticipated the project would take four weeks to complete.

Miscellany

In other action, council:
* Opened the meeting with the approval of the agenda, approval of city bills and approval of the minutes from the Aug. 9 council meeting.
* Approved resolution 2021-41, hiring Robert Dearmore as a part-time officer for

Durant. Officer Dearmore works full-time with the Wilton Police Department, and also serves in the Iowa National Guard.

* Approved a purchase of a transmit meter for the wastewater treatment facility at a cost of \$1,418.

* Approved a bid not to exceed \$11,139 for replacing UV lamp racks and a control system at the wastewater treatment facility. According to public works director Jared Semsch, the part needs replaced soon and the bid was for "the worst case scenario." The contractors are coming from California, and they are trying to coordinate with another project in order to lessen travel expenses.

* Approved resolution 2021-42, establishing a special revenue fund for funds received by the American Rescue Plan Act. Cavin said a separate account was needed for tracking funds. The city is anticipating it will receive \$138,000 this year, with another round of payouts next year. She said the funds have to be spent toward public health and COVID-19 relief with much of the spending recommendations focused on improving storm water. The city will have time to decide where the funds can be directed, but the money must be spent

by December 2024.

Council members Diane Quiram, Dave Schulz, Dan Sterner and Mayor Scott Spengler were present. Members Noel Price and Kevin

Mundt were absent. All action taken was unanimous unless otherwise noted. The next city council meeting will be held on Monday, Sept. 13 at 6 p.m. at City Hall.



The Durant Police Department hired Robert Dearmore (middle) as a part-time officer, making it official at the Aug. 23 city council meeting. Dearmore is pictured above with Police Chief Orville Randolph and Mayor Scott Spengler. Dearmore serves full time on the Wilton Police Department.
Photo by Layce DeLong

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[Signature]

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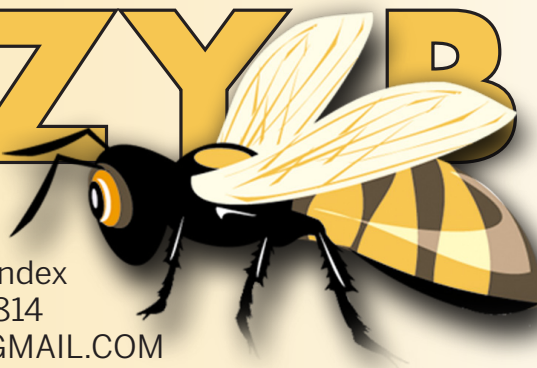


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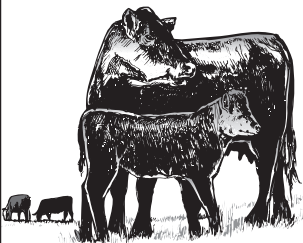
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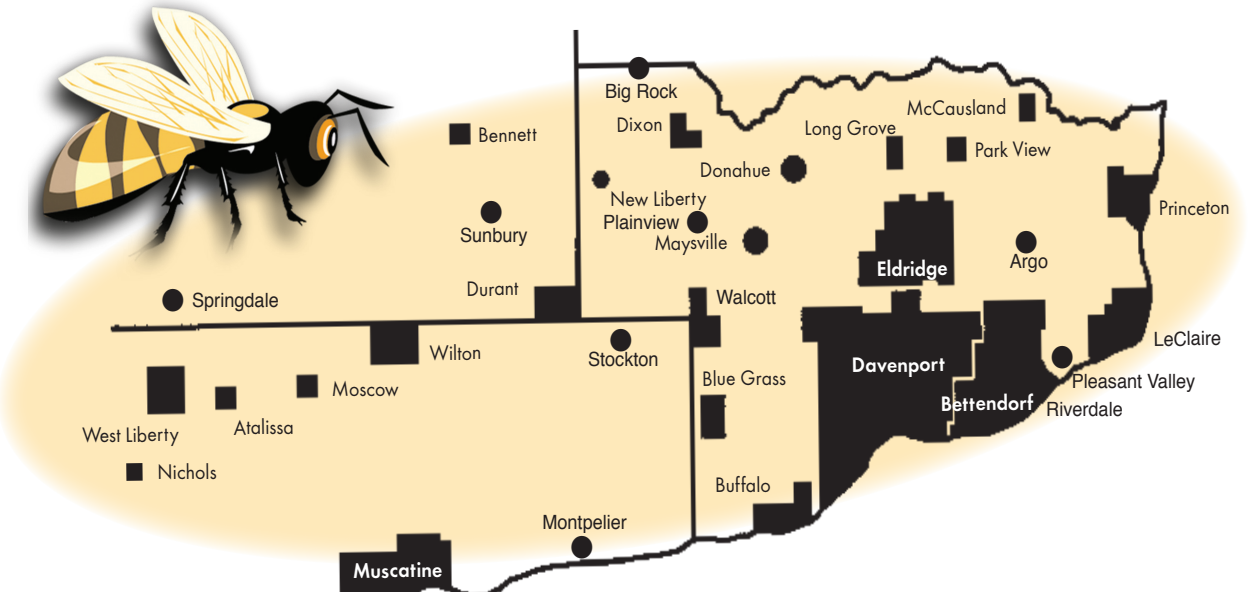
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WILTON FOUNDERS DAY 2021



Twitter: @WDAAdvocateNews
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Tigue Snider wins 40th Wilton Eager Beaver 5K run

Eager Beaver 5k Results

MENS 5K OVERALL WINNER

TIGUE SNIDER 17:08
WOMENS 5K OVERALL WINNER
JILL NAAB 18:18

FEMALE 14 & UNDER

Kinsey Drake 25:46:00
Paycee Sorgenfrey 28:57:00
Madison Poll 30:18:00
Olivia Fagner 30:21:00
Hadley Naab 32:25:00
Everleigh Naab 34:52:00

FEMALE 15-19

Charlotte Brown 21:21:00
Seann Houghton 24:30:00
Ava Barrett 26:43:00
Lucas Gerst 37:28:00

FEMALE 20-29

Hannah Paulsen 24:17:00
Brittany Marks 27:20:00
Tenley Brockmann 34:10:00
Karrissa Storjohann 40:25:00
Samantha Cook 42:53:00
McKaylyn Lane 44:48:00
Stephany Richardson 46:27:00
Elizabeth Locey 47:00:00
Madison Thorpe 52:48:00
Allison Paulsen 52:48:00

FEMALE 30-39

Jill Naab 18:18:00
Meaghan Snider 21:37:00
Laura Jones 24:14:00
Krystal Wilson 24:59:00
Shannon Edwards 26:49:00
Emily Woodward 29:13:00
Courtney Dusenberry 31:44:00
Amanda Smith 31:56:00
Natalie Richards 32:25:00
Lisa Salemink 32:25:00
Jen Haecker 33:01:00
Kirsten Carter 34:22:00
Trisha Nartker 34:23:00
Amber Bowers 34:37:00
Shannon Bean 44:43:00
Carrie Axtell 44:47:00
Lea Borders 46:59:00
Amanda Elkins 53:46:00
Heather Brade 53:49:00
Steph Miller 53:51:00

FEMALE 40-49

Amy Shelangoski 23:11:00
Patches Breed 37:48:00

FEMALE 50-59

Lora Knouse 38:18:00

FEMALE 60 & OVER

Teresa Flack 33:13:00
Janet Boulund 35:04:00
Peg Johnson 35:04:00
Cindy Axtell 37:34:00

MALE 14 & UNDER

Dawson Kaska 21:32:00
Gabriel Breed 21:51:00
Aiden Nartker 22:35:00
Jordan Dusenberry 23:24:00
Brylin Kelly 23:31:00
Oaklan Jirak 23:35:00
Owen Milder 23:37:00
Mason Shirk 23:47:00
Hayden Hill 24:10:00

Grayson Hartung 24:21:00
Nick Drake-Metzger 24:27:00
Austin Etzel 25:17:00
Gunner Edwards 25:18:00
Briggs Oien 25:26:00
Andrei Robles 28:32:00
Tyler Ellithrope 30:03:00
Clay Ledger 30:10:00
Romann Derksen 37:36:00
Aidan Grace 37:45:00

MALE 15-19

Zach Hein 17:51:00
Deacon Duffe 19:04:00
Brody Deerberg 20:02:00
Brody Brisker 23:53:00
Tristin Sorgenfrey 24:53:00
Cael Wagaman 34:47:00

MALE 20-29

Tim Hyde 18:57:00
Joe Petersen 21:33:00
Kyle Messal 23:49:00
Andrew Shoppa 26:05:00
Nathaniel Fagner 27:42:00
Ivan Moedano 37:38:00

MALE 30-39

Tigue Snider 17:08:00
Sean Prunchak 19:37:00
David Naab 22:14:00
Reese Wiggins 22:45:00
BJ Axtell 22:51:00
Jesse Miller 24:01:00
Nicholas Enslow 24:58:00
Aaron Healy 28:24:00
Luke Edwards 28:43:00
Cory Gorsuch 29:51:00
Tammy Michael 32:33:00
Aaron Pestle 33:14:00
Kyle Parks 35:32:00
Daniel Fitzpatrick 35:36:00

MALE 40-49

Austin Sorgenfrey 22:15:00
Anthony Milder 26:19:00
Kevin Brisker Jr 28:01:00
Zac Boulund 36:39:00

MALE 50-59

Kevin Drake 21:30:00
James Gavin 29:31:00

MALE 60 & OVER

Dallas Kaufmann 26:55:00
Howard Eckert 27:08:00

One Mile Results

BOYS 1 MILE OVERALL WINNER

OLIVER GRUNDER 6:22
GIRLS 1 MILE OVERALL WINNER
ABREN BAZAL 7:04

GIRLS 1-MILE 4-5 AGE GROUP

Estella Bean 10:47
Kyla Pestle 11:36
Kendall Boorn 18:16

GIRLS 1 MILE 6-7 AGE GROUP

Kensington Boorn 10:39
Vivyan Voss 13:19
Zella Marolf 18:55

GIRLS 1 MILE 8-10

AGE GROUP

Natalie Wagaman 8:00
Talia Bazal 8:10
Evie Grunder 8:42
Braelynn Zuniga 9:23
Kinley Boorn 10:25
Delani Edwards 10:38
Neveah Langley 10:50
Avery Thompson 10:51
Emma Grace 13:27
Erinn Grace 16:27

GIRLS 1 MILE 11-12 AGE GROUP

Abren Bazal 7:04
Emily Hopkins 7:46
Peyton Schroeder 7:54
Emma Meade 10:26
Lauren Grace 10:46

GIRLS 1 MILE 13-14 AGE GROUP

Madison Hopkins 9:48

BOYS 1-MILE 4-5 AGE GROUP

Jason Fitzpatrick 13:12
Walker Smith 13:58
Miles Lenz 17:26

BOYS 1 MILE 6-7 AGE GROUP

Colin Thornton 7:57
Boulder Stone 11:08
Gunnar Jones 11:24
Oliver Voss 13:54

BOYS 1 MILE 8-10 AGE GROUP

Charlie Bazal 7:30
Cash Carpenter 7:38
Cole Carpenter 7:43
Kinnick Maine 7:54
Dawson Driscoll 8:22
Drew Harris 8:29
Joe Johnson 8:54
Finley Torrance 9:00
Thomas Derksen 9:08
Owen Johnson 9:13
Abel Robles 9:24
Hayden McQuillen 9:47
Carter Johnson 10:33
Kade Edwards 10:34
Briggam Bean 10:35
Kellan Chaffee 11:12
Raylan Marolf 11:12
Finny Bean 11:50

BOYS 1 MILE 11-12 AGE GROUP

Tate Hartman 7:16
Krue Maine 9:04
Hunter Jones 9:09
Connor Thornton 10:41
William Voss 11:05

BOYS 1 MILE 13-14 AGE GROUP

Oliver Grunder 6:22
Tommy Drake-Metzger 6:46
Gabriel Brisker 7:03
Kalen Maine 7:24



Wilton Eager Beaver 5K winners Jill Nabb (left) and Tigue Snider. Snider was the overall winner with a time of 17:08. Nabb was the top finishing female in a time of 18:18.
Photos by Matt Brown



Eager Beaver one-mile winners Oliver Grunder and Abren Bazal. Grunder finished in a winning time of 6:22, and Bazal finished in 7:04.



At right, area youngsters leave the starting line in the one-mile race at the 40th annual Wilton Eager Beaver run held during Founders Day Saturday, Aug. 21.



WILTON FOUNDERS DAY 2021



Twitter: @WDAvocateNews
Facebook: WDAvocateNews

Wilton parade participants, onlookers try to beat the heat

Wilton Founders Day 2021 Parade Results

Floats
First Place: Durant Hub
Second Place: Treadmill Heroes
Third place: Class of 1992

Horses
First Place: Sonia Coult
Second Place: Megan Burton

Novelty
First Place: Community Bank & Trust
Second Place: Kraklio Arms

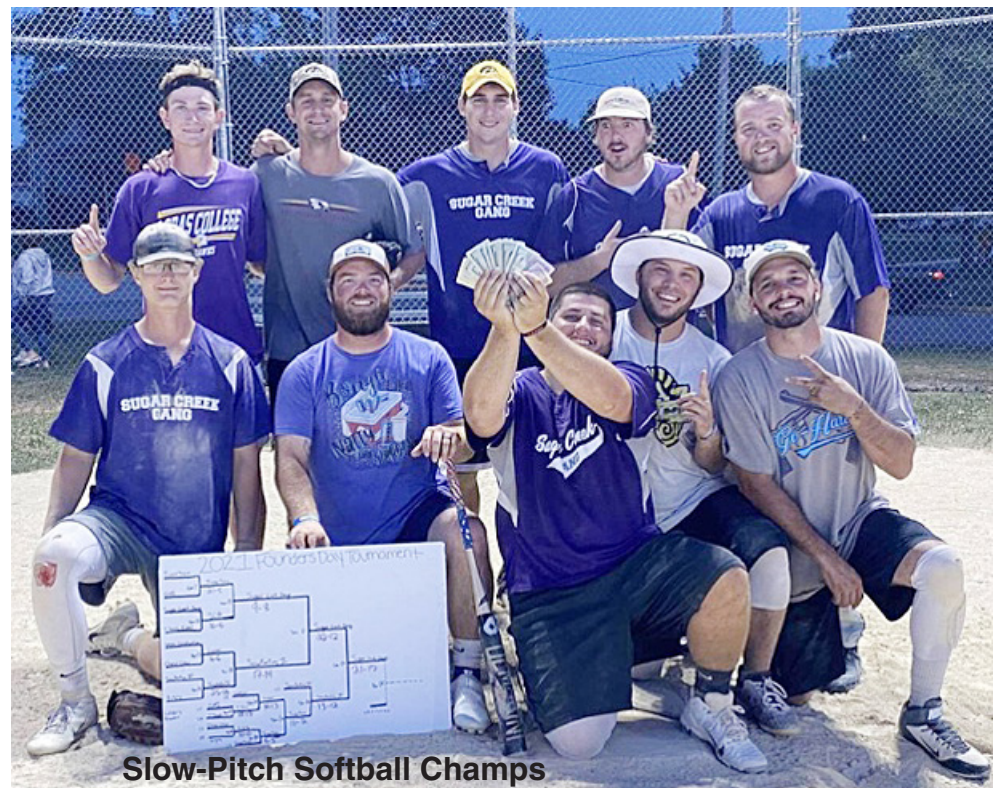
Vehicles
First Place: Jeremiah James
Second Place: Rick Janney
Third Place: Trevor White

Kids Tractor Pull Winners
4-year olds: Zeke Kramer
5-year olds: Kendall Almandinger

6-year olds: Rohan Wilson
7-year olds: Colin Thornton
8-year olds: Kate Wilson
9-year olds: Cash Smith
10-year olds: Brogan Axtell
11-year olds: Hunter Jones



Sand Volleyball Champs



Slow-Pitch Softball Champs

Exterior decals make Townsend Commons 'pop.' More to come

TOWNSEND COMMONS
continued from page 1

School logos and other decals have been added to the exterior of the building, and Burnett said the district is working with Ben Shirk of Shirk Photography to add some art-work on the interior of the commons.

"We needed to have something out there. There's so much pride in our community and school spirit. That makes it pop," said Burnett

of the exterior decals. "We don't want a sterile environment. This is the home of the Beavers."

Of the interior, Burnett said, "This will look different by Christmas. It's like buying a new house, and now we need to get things on the walls. Plus we need to get people in here to see how it flows and gets used."

Descendents of the Herb Townsend family, plus members of the foundation, were honored Aug. 19 inside the new commons at a teacher welcome event hosted by the school district and Wilton Chamber of Commerce.

More photos of the Townsend Commons are available online at wdadvocatenews.com.

The Townsend Commons will feature a new concession stand (right) with stainless steel tables and appliances. There's plenty of prep space, cook space and large coolers in a separate area. The old cafeteria and commons will no longer be used at athletic events and other activities.

Photo by Derek Sawvell



A look at the new concession stand inside the Townsend Commons on the south end of the Wilton High School gym, with the "Welcome to the Townsend Commons" sign above one of two openings to the stand.
Photo by Derek Sawvell



The entrance to the Townsend Commons is pictured, with fresh school logos and the message, "Home of the Beavers." An old vintage Beaver logo was placed between two sets of double doors that will take students and visitors into the new commons on the south end of the high school gym.
Photo by Derek Sawvell

Cedar Falls vocalist wins 2021 Iowa State Fair Bill Riley Talent Search

DES MOINES — Lily Gast, 21, of Cedar Falls, won the senior division during the championship round of the 61st annual Bill Riley Talent Search Competition held Sunday, Aug. 22 at the 2021 Iowa State Fair. Gast was awarded a \$10,000 prize for her vocal solo.

Andrew Park, 18, of Davenport, was awarded second place and \$5,000 for his lyrical dance solo.

Third place and \$2,500 went to Lucy Gannon, 15, of West Des Moines, with a piano solo.

Acts competed statewide to qualify for competition in this year's Bill Riley Talent Search at the Iowa State Fair. The championship round took place on the Anne and Bill Riley Stage sponsored by Pepsi with media sponsor iHeart Radio. Bill Riley, Jr. hosted the show.

After 25 years on stage, Bill Riley, Jr., will be retiring after the 2021 season of the Bill Riley Talent Search. He took over the reins from his father, Bill Riley, Sr. in 1997.

More than \$20,000 was awarded to the senior and sprout divisions combined. This year's contest was sponsored by Hy-Vee.

Sprout winners

Gwenyth Franczyk, 11, Urbandale, Piano Solo

Ava Kloppe, 12, Cumming, Contemporary Dance

Annie Hopkins, 11 Unionville, Guitar & Vocal Solo

Reegan Thomas, 12, Coon Rapids; Jenna Meadows, 12, Denison; Bailee Arkfeld, 12, Westphalia; Tap Dance

Mia Olson, 9, West Des Moines, Ventriloquist

Emma Strayer, 11, Davenport, Musical Theater Acrobatic Dance

Star of Tomorrow

Maria Steinkamp, 3, Wall Lake, Vocal



Townsend Foundation recognized prior to 2021-2022 Wilton school year—The Townsend Commons were dedicated at a luncheon provided for Townsend family members, the Townsend Foundation and Wilton School District staff by the Wilton Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, Aug. 20. Superintendent Joe Burnett honored Herb Townsend and the Townsend Foundation, mentioning that Townsend was a lifelong farmer and businessman who lived in Wilton his entire life, except for his years serving in the Korean War. He was, Burnett said, "truly an unbelievable man that had an unbelievable legacy." Burnett praised Townsend's generosity not only to Wilton schools, but also, for example, to the University of Iowa Stead Family Children's Hospital. Burnett recognized some of Townsend's nieces and nephews in attendance. Pictured include (front row from left), Elizabeth Stoffer, a niece of Townsend; Linda Shoppa, niece; Joan Bartenhagen, niece; Barbara Soenksen, niece and member of the Townsend Foundation board of directors; Dennis Henning, president of the board; back row, Frank Townsend, nephew; Kristi Townsend; Dwight Glenney, nephew and board member; Dianne Glenney; Ron Soenksen; Eric Thomsen, board member. Board member Mark Gillett was unable to attend.
Photo by Catherine Brown

5 teachers join Durant High School staff

By Madison Weber

As the 2021-2022 school year begins, the Durant school district will gain five new teachers in the high school alone.

They include choir teacher Ms. Jeanine Link, English teacher Mrs. Cathy Pearlman, art teacher Mr. David Houk, special education teacher Mr. Joe DeGeorge, and science teacher Mr. Andy Strunk.

Ms. Link previously taught at Grinnell Middle School as a choir director and general music teacher and has been teaching for 10 years. She has also taught vocal music at Bettendorf High School and Pleasant Valley High School and Junior High.

She is excited to make music and teach voice lessons with students at Durant. Ms. Link looks forward to teaching different styles of music throughout the year and the Florida band and choir trip during spring break.

She is eager to have her students

perform at community events, concerts, and several honor choir opportunities.

"I want to provide students with a variety of music to sing in different styles and also give them the chance to create their own music," said Ms. Link.

When the position became available, Ms. Link was thrilled to apply. She wanted to teach high school and junior high music and graduated from North Scott High School in Eldridge, so a small-town environment was perfect for her.

"I like the open air of Durant with corn and bean fields nearby," said Ms. Link.

Ms. Link's passion for music came from growing up in a musical home and continued to grow from her high school choir experiences.

"I want to provide a similar experience to my students here in Durant where they excel as musicians and learn the power of making music together," said Ms. Link.

Ms. Link composes her own music and also writes music for other choirs.

She also enjoys biking, running, hiking, water skiing, and cross-country skiing.

Mrs. Cathy Pearlman is starting her first in-person teaching position after teaching virtually for three months last spring.

"I am just excited to have a classroom," she said. "I taught virtually in the spring, and it wasn't the same as being in a classroom."

She had previously been a substitute teacher and associate at Durant, so when the position opened up earlier this month, she was excited to have the opportunity to work in the same community.

"I want to build excellent relationships with my students, and I am excited to share my love for English literature with the students," said Mrs. Pearlman.

From her previous experiences as

an associate and substitute and being the mother of two Durant students, Zachary and Garrett Pearlman, she gained this love for teaching, which drove her to go back to school and get her teaching degree.

Mr. DeGeorge has been teaching for 22 years and has previously taught at three different high schools and three different colleges.

"I am really looking forward to the educational environment on a daily basis," said Mr. DeGeorge. "I consider myself a lifelong learner and hope to learn with the students as the year progresses."

Mr. DeGeorge is excited to form great relationships with students and staff at Durant and to get back into a full-time teaching position.

"I wanted to pay tribute to the many teachers and coaches who have helped me and to make a positive difference in the lives of students," said Mr. DeGeorge.

Shop students volunteer time to build storage shed

By Karissa Hoon

Every summer, Mr. Tim Rouse, industrial arts teacher at Durant High School, gives his high school shop students a chance to volunteer to build a house with him to gain hands-on experience.

This summer, however, he had to come up with his own project because of COVID-19 restrictions, so his students used a pole barn kit to build a storage shed adjacent to his classroom.

Because summer schedules are hectic and hard to line up, Mr. Rouse was more than willing to work around anything to get the job done.

The building will be used to house all of the equipment that students might need at the shop.

"It's going to be a 24x40 building that we're going to house all of our equipment and things in, like our skid steer, mini excavator, and job trailer. All of that stuff will get housed in there," said Mr. Rouse.

In order to get the building pro-

cess complete, the students had some help from local community members including Tim Ruth, Doug Schwarz, Bruce Feuerbach, Ryan Storjohann, and Jeffrey Workman.

Local residents also donated helpful supplies, which included two truck loads of lime from Jeff Graves, a scissors lift from Ruth, a JLG lift from Travis Bullard, and concrete forms from Schwarz.

Gerdau of Wilton supplied the rebar.

Ten businesses and community organizations helped to fund the building project. These included the Durant Education Foundation, Iowa 80 Group, Leland R. Smith Foundation, Liberty Trust and Savings Bank, Hills Bank, Land O'Lakes, Corteva, Cedar County Community Foundation, and Croell Inc.

Mr. Rouse said that Kalona Post and Frame also provided the school with a great price on the building package.

Four high school shop students, Ty Seligman, Ethan Schlapkohl, Braden Bar-



Photos contributed by Mr. Tim Rouse

Senior Ethan Schlapkohl works on the framework of a shed for the summer shop program.

clay, and Spencer Meinert, were the major volunteers for the project, while other students offered assistance during the project.

Meinert thinks this building opportunity is good for students to get involved in.

"I think it's a good way to learn how to do stuff because you get to do stuff

hands on as Rouse watches you and gives you pointers and tips as you need them. And I think when you do it hands on, you retain it more," said Meinert.

Schlapkohl said he knew it would be hard work building the shed, but he enjoys working with Mr. Rouse.

Driver From page 1

"It makes me nervous to think about all of the inexperienced drivers out on the roads."

According to the *Quad-City Times*, the DOT received over 500 applications from parents in July after the law went into effect. With this new law comes not just new requirements for the students, but also the parents teaching their children, and involves a three-step process.

Step one: Parents complete and submit the pre-qualification application. Although this step is optional, it is highly recommended, according to the DOT website. This application shows the DOT that the parent is fit to teach the course. Parents must have a valid driver's license themselves and have a clear driving record for the last two years. If approved, an email will be sent to parents confirming that they have completed the requirements. If denied, a letter will be

sent listing what was missed in the requirements.

Step 2: Students must complete the course requirements. Parents are allowed to purchase one of four pre-approved courses in order to teach their children how to drive. Once the course has been completed, the parent must submit the application, which includes an approved course completion certificate and a copy of a completed driving log.

According to the DOT website, the driving log must include 30 hours of street and highway driving. Three of those hours must be at night.

The recorded log must have "the dates and times when the lessons were conducted and notes on driving activities including a list of driving deficiencies and improvements, and the duration of the driving time for each session," the DOT website

says.

Step 3: Students obtain driving privileges. After receiving the certificate of completion, parents must set up an appointment for their children to take the driving test. If the test is passed, the child is granted driving privileges.

Shop teacher Mr. Tim Rouse, a former driver's education instructor himself, said he is concerned that parents may not take their roles as instructor seriously enough.

"I am more scared of how this will affect student school permits," said Mr. Rouse. "Younger drivers spend way too much time texting and multitasking when they are not ready. So short answer is I'm a little more worried about the lack of practice. Parents will need to definitely take a more active role. I do not think that parents will honor that commitment."

Freshman Lauren Callison said she would prefer to learn how to drive from her parents because the driver's instruction would be "more on the go with my parents because I think it might put you in more real-life situations."

Callison said that she would be comfortable taking a DOT driving test because it makes sure that she is qualified to drive.

"I personally would rather have my parents teach me the course rather than having to spend hours in a classroom, and I feel like it would be easier if they taught me, and I would learn more," said Callison.

Callison hasn't actually talked with her parents yet about teaching her how to drive.

"I think that they would be willing to take the initiative and help me out and make it easier on me," said Callison.

Senior Nate Voss follows line of students to work for Dick Taber Estate Sales

By Shannon Head

Senior Nate Voss is the latest in a long line of Durant students who have worked for Dick Taber Estate Sales.

For two years, Voss has been working for the local business, which travels to different households in the Quad Cities area that have to be cleared due to a death or a move out.

Voss and fellow employees empty out any household items that will likely not be sold. Then the estates sales prices each of the saved, valuable items that it thinks might be successfully bought during the selling period.

Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays

are the end-of-the-week sale days. Voss and his coworkers sit and wait for any possible customers who might want to purchase heavy-duty objects.

If that time comes, Voss helps carry or deliver any of the items that the buyers can't do alone.

The first day of the sale has fully priced items. The second day, items are 25 percent off and relatively cheaper. The third and final day of the sale extends the sale to 50 percent off.

Overall, the job has been relatively easy for Voss especially since the job is mostly a clean out of the home followed by a waiting period for potential buyers.

"The hardest part is carrying something heavy," Voss said.

So far, he has cleared and emptied around 105 houses in his time with the job. On average, Voss carries around five to ten items from each household he has been through.

Since Voss is now a senior at Durant, his next chapter after high school is right around the corner. His plans are to attend a trade school and leave Durant after he graduates. Voss is interested in continuing with the Dick Taber Estate Sales "for a couple more years," he said.

"I think other people should get into it," he said. "You meet a lot of people."

In fact, this business has employed several students from Durant in the past, according to Mr. Taber, including graduates Nick Keimig, Alex Rouse, Jake Benischek, Justin Moeller, Logan Keese, Aaron Bartenhagen, Russ Young, Kevin Young, and many others.

Mr. Taber has been in business for 22 years and has 40 years of experience in antiques and estate sales.

Mr. Taber believes this business is a great job choice for students in high school considering it is not a full-time position.

In fact, Voss played baseball for the Wildcats during the summer and was able to fit both activities in.

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2021 Fall Sports - Wilton



Wilton Football—**Front row** from left, Ryan Bowers, Gavin Schnepfer, Gage Oien, Mason Ormsby, Nolan Townsend, Briggs Hartley, Jackson Hull, Carl Kleppe, LeSane Bitterman; **second row**, Alex Kaufmann, Tyrrell Hughes, Cade Nolte, Colten Weaver, Aidan Walker, Caden Kirkman, Max Yohe, Alex Rae, Robert Martin; **third row**, Justin Geurink, Aiden Hewitt, Hunter Kaufmann, Ben Marine, Chaz Allison, John Clelland, Landyn Putman, Trent Valet; **fourth row**, Austin Etzel, Kale Caffery, Keagan Wells, Carter Drake-Metzger, Bret Stark, Kale McQuillen, Jordan Dusenberry, Drew Keith, Owen Milder; **fifth row**, Alex Andreas, Blaine Dohrmann, Cade Souhrada, Mason Tyler, Damian Pestle, Owen Hassell, Carter Hull, Sam Gray. Not pictured: Karson Willey, Clayton Guyer, Clay Ledger. The Beavers are coached by Ryan Hetzler.



Wilton Volleyball—**Front row** from left, Kailee Martin, Peyton Souhrada, Alexa Garvin, Kaylee Coss, Taylor Drayfahl, Lauren Thompson; **back row**, Kiley Langley, Olivia Oveson, Jozalynn Zaiser, Kelsey Drake, Carly Puffer, Ella Caffery, and Mallory Lange. The Beavers are coached by Brenda Grunder.



Wilton Cross Country—**Front row** from left Hannah Rogers, Charlotte Brown, Ava Barrett, SeAnn Houghton, Olivia Fagner; **back row**, Deacon Duffe, Gabriel Breed, Lucas Gerst, Grayson Hartung, Cael Wagaman. Not pictured: Imogen Jirak, manager. The teams are coached by Patches Breed.

WHS photos by Derek Sawvell & Contributed

Wilton Football

| | | |
|----------|----------------------|--------|
| Aug. 27 | @ Tipton | 7 p.m. |
| Sept. 3 | vs. Northeast | 7 p.m. |
| Sept. 10 | vs. Highland | 7 p.m. |
| Sept. 17 | @ Durant | 7 p.m. |
| Sept. 24 | vs. Regina | 7 p.m. |
| Oct. 1 | @ Mediapolis | 7 p.m. |
| Oct. 8 | vs. Louisa-Muscatine | 7 p.m. |
| Oct. 15 | @ West Branch | 7 p.m. |

Wilton Volleyball

| | | |
|----------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Aug. 28 | @ Easton Valley Tournament | 9 a.m. |
| Aug. 31 | @ Wapello Tournament | 4 p.m. |
| Sept. 2 | vs. Regina | 7:15 p.m. |
| Sept. 9 | @ Tipton | 7:15 p.m. |
| Sept. 11 | Home Tournament | 9 a.m. |
| Sept. 14 | vs. Mid-Prairie | 7:15 p.m. |
| Sept. 16 | vs. Monticello | 7:15 p.m. |
| Sept. 18 | @ Clinton Tournament | 8:30 a.m. |
| Sept. 23 | @ Durant | 7:15 p.m. |
| Sept. 28 | vs. West Branch | 7:15 p.m. |
| Sept. 30 | @ West Liberty | 7:15 p.m. |
| Oct. 7 | @ Bellevue | 7:15 p.m. |
| Oct. 9 | @ CR Prairie Tournament | 9 a.m. |
| Oct. 10 | Regional | TBD |
| Oct. 12 | @ Monticello RVC Tournament | 5 p.m. |
| Oct. 14 | @ Monticello RVC Tournament | 5 p.m. |

Wilton Cross Country

| | | |
|----------|----------------------|-----------|
| Aug. 31 | @ Louisa-Muscatine | 4:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 2 | @ Iowa City | 5 p.m. |
| Sept. 7 | @ Tipton | 5 p.m. |
| Sept. 11 | @ Monticello | 9 a.m. |
| Sept. 14 | @ English Valleys | 4:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 21 | @ Mount Pleasant | 4:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 7 | @ Central DeWitt | 4 p.m. |
| Oct. 12 | RVC Meet @ Iowa City | 4:30 p.m. |

Schedules via www.rivervalleyconference.org & are subject to change



The Wilton Schedules are Sponsored by the following Beaver Boosters



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2021 Fall Sports - Durant



Durant Football—**Front row** from left, Mason Badtram, Ryan Wulf, Kenny Salemi, Nolan DeLong, Charlie Huesmann, Gus Thoma, Noah Barclay, Brady Schult; **second row**, Brady Daufeldt, Nathan Moomey, Wyatt Cole, Ethan Gast, Ben Orr, Tayton Felske, Drake Williams, Zac Pearlman, Michael Ostofi; **third row**, Rylan Perry, Caden Meyer, Bryce Daufeldt, Michael Iossi, Tevin Miller, Drake Shelangoski, Nicholas Poston, Anthony Miller-Brugman, Reed Clark, Grant Hein; **fourth row**, Robbie Olsen, Brady Meincke, Max Thoma, Bryce Czarnetzki, Hunter Bacorn, Colyn Dean, Joshua Paustian, Josh Peel, Cole DeWulf. The Wildcats are coached by Joel Diederichs.



Durant Volleyball—**Front row** from left, co-head coach Shannon Telsrow, Madison Weber, Lauryn Tate, Ally Happ, Avery Paper, Kiyah Daily, Kenzie Oberlander, co-head coach Peyton Miedema; **back row**, Katelynn Toft, Rylie Rock, Layla Streeter, Isabelle DeLong, Kylie Schult, Shannon Head, Elizabeth Daufeldt. Not pictured: Peyton Buesing, Kennedy Jehle, McKenna Rockow.



Durant Cross Country—**Front row** from left, William Richardson, Kale Dean, Mason Schuett, Race Starr, Kayden Johnson; **second row**, Addison Schuett, Ava Streeter, Kylee Hahn, Carlie Jo Fusco; **third row**, Ally Schumacher, Jenna Lowder-Ingle, Jocelynn Richardson, Rebekah Lerma. Not pictured: Alex Rappel, Colton Buesing, Royce Richman. The Wildcats are coached by Tracy Tappendorf (girls) and Andrew Hermiston (boys).

DHS photos by Derek Sawvell

Durant Football

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| Aug. 27 | vs. Sigourney-Keota | 7 p.m. |
| Sept. 3 | @ Cascade | 7 p.m. |
| Sept. 10 | vs. Northeast | 7 p.m. |
| Sept. 17 | vs. Wilton | 7 p.m. |
| Sept. 24 | @ Louisa-Muscatine | 7 p.m. |
| Oct. 1 | @ West Branch | 7 p.m. |
| Oct. 8 | vs. Mediapolis | 7 p.m. |
| Oct. 15 | @ Regina | 7 p.m. |

Durant Volleyball

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| Sept. 4 | @ Muscatine Invitational | 9 a.m. |
| Sept. 9 | @ Regina | 7:15 p.m. |
| Sept. 14 | vs. Tipton | 7:15 p.m. |
| Sept. 16 | vs. Bellevue | 7:15 p.m. |
| Sept. 18 | @ Marion Tournament | 9 a.m. |
| Sept. 21 | @ Mid-Prairie | 7:15 p.m. |
| Sept. 23 | vs. Wilton | 7:15 p.m. |
| Sept. 25 | @ North Cedar Tournament | 9 a.m. |
| Sept. 28 | vs. West Liberty | 7:15 p.m. |
| Sept. 30 | @ West Branch | 7:15 p.m. |
| Oct. 2 | @ Northeast Tournament | 9 a.m. |
| Oct. 7 | @ Camanche | 7:15 p.m. |
| Oct. 9 | Home Tournament | 9 a.m. |
| Oct. 12 | @ Monticello RVC Tournament | 5 p.m. |
| Oct. 14 | @ Monticello RVC Tournament | 5 p.m. |

Durant Cross Country

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|----------|----------------------|-----------|
| Aug. 31 | @ Clinton | 4:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 7 | @ Tipton | 5 p.m. |
| Sept. 14 | @ English Valleys | 4:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 16 | @ Cascade | 4:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 20 | @ Bellevue | 4:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 30 | @ Iowa City | 4:15 p.m. |
| Oct. 4 | @ Bellevue | 4:15 p.m. |
| Oct. 12 | @ IA City (RVC Meet) | 4:30 p.m. |

Schedules via www.rivervalleyconference.org & are subject to change



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