



Rolling Hills Community News

Exira
Elk Horn
Kimballton
Brayton

January 11, 2024

There are three



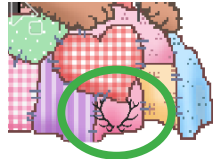
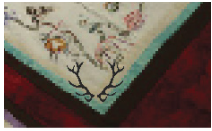
Volume 4 - No. 1

The mystery of:
"The Hiding Elk Horns"
In the Dec 14 paper

pg 14. This was not fair. It is very small and got on a black/white page which made it VERY difficult to see. Bear on right quilt

pg 3 lower right of quilt

Page 18 lower right of STEM ad



So..
What happened to the Dec 28th paper ?? !!



We both were hit with COVID...
We went into hiding

Welcome to 2024..
Remember, when you write that date... it is not 2023 anymore



Pick up your FREE copy of Rolling Hills Community News at your Post Office, library, bank and local stores. And PLEASE thank the merchants for their advertisements. They make this paper possible.

We publish on the 2nd and 4th Thursday (sometimes Friday) **of the month.**

Deadline for content is the **SUNDAY BEFORE.** We REALLY APPRECIATE the content you have been sending. We would ask that you try your best to get it to us by the deadline - Earlier is MUCH appreciated.

Please send your content in digital form to our email:

content@rollinghillsnews.net. We would appreciate:

- Content pictures sent as an attachment
- Text can either be in the body of the email or as an attachment.
- Text in Microsoft Word or similar format.
- Include contact information to resolve any issues

Questions? Contact: Steve or Dusty Turner:
(712)764-3441(home) (510)205-8840 (Steve's cell)
(510) 566-3063 (Dusty's cell)

The beliefs and opinions of submitted content should not be construed as reflecting the beliefs or positions of Rolling Hills News.

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- ADAIR**
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 Kimballton
\$89,000

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- ACREAGES**
- 2246 265th St., Exira..... **SALE PENDING**
 - 626 Hwy. 173, Elk Horn..... **\$249,000**
 - 1478 200th St..... **SALE PENDING**
 - 2404 400th St, Marne..... **\$159,000**
 - 2133 Hwy 44, Harlan..... **\$175,000**
- COMMERCIAL PROPERTY**
- 201 W. Washington St., Exira..... **SALE PENDING**
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Hours

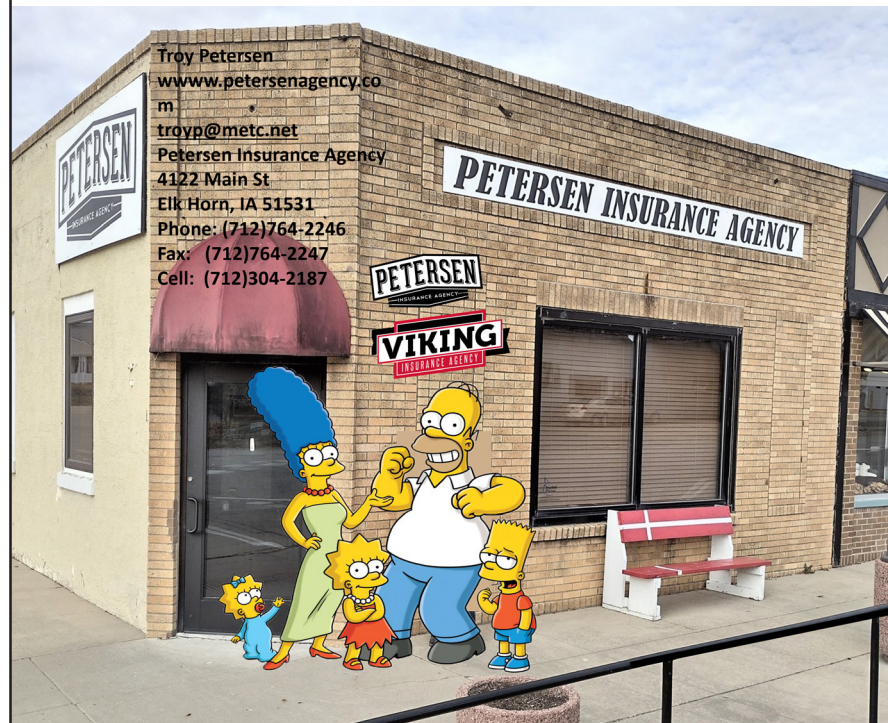
- Monday 10 am - 5 pm
- Tuesday 10 am - 5 pm
- Wednesday 10 am - 5 pm
- Thursday 10 am - 5 pm
- Friday 10 am - 5 pm
- Saturday 10 am - 5 pm

Words of Wisdom from Troy:

Those that respect the law and love sausage should watch neither being made.

Mark Twain

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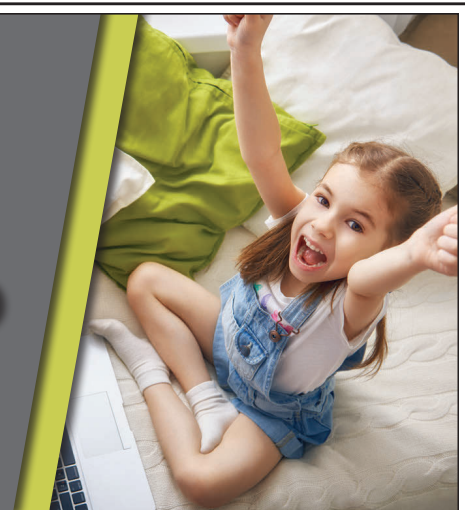
February 7 | Elk Horn Town Hall
 February 14 | Walnut Community Center
 February 21 | Neola Community Center

3:00 - 7:00 PM

Get your questions answered at our upcoming Open Houses!



NEW
YEAR
 NEW
SPEED
 NEW
FUN



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A decision was made in the grocery store this morning



A woman came home to find her retired husband waving a rolled-up newspaper around his head.
 Wife: "What are you doing dear?"
 Husband: "Swatting flies. I got three males and two females".
 Wife: "How on earth do you know which gender they were?"
 Husband: "Easy: three were on the beer, and the other two were on the phone."

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News From The Mill January

Another year is upon us and we're excited to see it here. There aren't too many updates to provide at the moment. Apart from inventory and other year-end processes, not too much happens at the windmill this time of year.

We're still waiting on the official Welcome Center numbers, but it looks like we experienced at least a 12-13% increase in visitor traffic this year. We had visitors from all 50 states again in addition to a number of foreign countries including every continent besides Antarctica. We're optimistic about our gift shop revenue as well, with sales figures that will likely be our highest on record since 2009. We hope to have all of the official numbers soon.

In the meantime, planning for the annual meeting is underway. This year we're rebranding the event as the "Windmill Expo" in an attempt to make the event more appealing to the community and encourage attendance. The usual annual meeting and election of board members will take place, but we hope to encourage the public to attend this event and learn about everything we do as an organization over the course of the year. This event also typically doubles as a membership drive, and as usual, we encourage everyone not already part of our membership program to consider getting involved this year. We need all of the support we can get from our community and hope to have a strong showing when we gather together at the end of this month.

The Expo will be held on Tuesday, January 30th at 5:30PM in the Elk Horn Town Hall. Food and drinks will be provided and the event will feature a presentation by Shaun on everything the organization accomplished in 2023 and what our projected plans are for foreseeable future including 2024. This is a great opportunity to come and talk with our staff and Board of Directors about everything our organization does and what else you might like to see us get involved with in the future. As always, this event is free to attend and open to the public. We hope everyone can make it.

Finally, we are seeking volunteers this year for a number of different projects. The windmill is sitting on a large archive of photographs, newspaper clippings, and documents that need to be digitized. This work can be done on site using our own equipment. Anyone interested in helping us document these records is welcome to do so, only basic proficiency of operating a computer is required. To learn more or express interest, get in touch with Shaun at 712-764-7472 or via email at mgr@danishwindmill.com.

A little boy came home from Sunday School eating a big candy bar. Seeing the candy bar, his mother asked him where he got it. "I bought it at the store with the money you gave me."
"But that dollar was for Sunday School", his mother replied.
"I know Mom, but the Pastor met me at the door and got me in for free!"

News From The Mill December

Traffic at the windmill has finally slowed down with Christmas approaching and the holiday shopping season coming to a close. While we don't have the final numbers just yet, December proved to be an outstanding month to cap off what will undoubtedly be a historic year for us. Sales skyrocketed to heights not seen in over 10 years, and if we don't hit 70,000 visitors before the end of the year we will certainly be close. We want to thank everyone for following along and hope you are as excited about the year we had and what that might mean for next year.

Our annual appeal for donations went out two weeks ago. We're so very thankful for those who have already given this year and hope to continue raising funds into the next year to help with covering next year's substantial operating expenses. As the letter we sent out acknowledged, our operation is by no means profitable. And while sales revenue from the gift shop are very exciting, we are still well below our ability to cover all of the expenses of operating the windmill and everything that comes with it. This year we spent \$20,000 just on the interstate billboards encouraging travelers to come to Elk Horn. These expenses, while less exciting than capital projects, account for the most critical needs of our organization to function, and we hope that people may continue to give in support of our cause.

The publication of our annual appeal carried with it another problem that we hope to have resolved soon. At some point in the last 6 weeks or so, the function of our website to accept electronic donations has broken down. Unfortunately, at the risk of disrupting site traffic and end-of-year webstore sales for the gift shop, this situation could not be resolved before the end of the year. We hope to have it addressed after January 1.

On a more positive note, though, the resolution we did come up with was to debut our new membership site slightly ahead of schedule. While it is still technically under construction, we encourage everyone to have a look over at danishwindmill.wildapricot.org (to be danishwindmill.org soon). This website is part of the membership/donor management software we invested in at the beginning of the year as part of grant funding received from the Pomeroy Foundation. It is intended as a membership-specific website for members of our organization (which everyone reading this paper should already be!). On this website, you can manage your membership, make secure donations, download our quarterly newsletter, learn about volunteering opportunities, and much more. We're already in the process of uploading files from our digital collection including the Vestergaard account book which was completely scanned in high resolution images last year. Going forward, you will even see the articles we publish in this paper including this one! So go ahead and check out danishwindmill.wildapricot.org. We're very excited to finally have this new website out in the open. And danishwindmill.com isn't going anywhere... for now. From the Danish Windmill to all of you, we wish all of our supporters far and wide a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We'll be busy conducting inventory through the rest of the year. If you want to help us out, just come in and buy something!



YES, THERE IS GOOD NEWS!

We were talking about what it takes to be a Christian and how important is it. We saw that the word Christian is used only 3 times in the scriptures – in one of those uses, Acts 11:26, it reads, “The disciples were first called Christians at Antioch.” And so it behooves us to consider this word “disciple” for it is used over 270 times in the scriptures. I believe it is important!!

The first time we encounter the word disciple is in Matthew 5:1 – many will recognize this as the start to the famous ‘sermon on the mount’. “Now when He saw the crowds, He went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to Him and He began to teach them”.

In the Greek language the word Mathetes (#3101 from Strong’s Lexicon) is translated disciple, i.e., “a learner, indicating thought accompanied by endeavor”. So, not just learning but also doing”.

A disciple is more than a student of learning, he is a doer of that which is being taught.

There have been times that I, when asked, have labeled myself a “believer” – and this is quite different than either Christian or disciple. We read in John 8:30 “As he spoke these things, many believed in him. Jesus therefore said to those Jews who had believed him, ‘If you abide in my word, then you are truly my disciples. You will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.’”

Jesus, aware of their belief in Him, went on to tell them they also needed to abide in His word. Eventually, this group of Jewish believers turned away from Jesus because they could not ‘abide in His words’. They were believers no more!

Do you abide in His words? Do you know His words? Have you read His words? Many people imagine that they have a relationship with the Savior and yet they do not abide in His words.

Another example of being a disciple is found in Matt. 13:9-11, Jesus said to them, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear. The disciples came, and said to Him, ‘Why do you speak to them in parables?’ He answered them, ‘The knowledge of the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven, have been given to you but it is not given to them.’” Notice that it was the disciples who came to ask this of Him and that this same knowledge has not been given to the world.

Are you a disciple? Do you abide in His words? Do you know “the myteries of the Kingdom of Heaven”?

Jesus wants more than people who call themselves by His name. He wants more than those who say they believe in Him. He wants disciples!! More on this topic next time.

Bill Rollins 12-22-23

“Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.”
— Mark Twain

GOOD NEWS!

IT’S ONLY SCIENCE

There may be some folks that think this is not science. But science is the study of and the search for facts.

The facts are for many people of various religious beliefs, this is the holiest time of the year. It does not matter which religious doctrine you follow; they are all trying to guide you to be a better person. Some of the teachings they share are really simple.

You should not judge people by the color of their skin. For the color of their skin is not an indicator of what lies within.

You should not judge someone by what they cannot do. The actions they can take provide a much better judgement of them. It is amazing how often a person with some type of disability is so very gifted in another respect.

You should not judge someone by their appearance. You have no idea what the situation is for them. The people of the First Nations sagely said, “unless you have spent time in their skin you cannot judge them”.

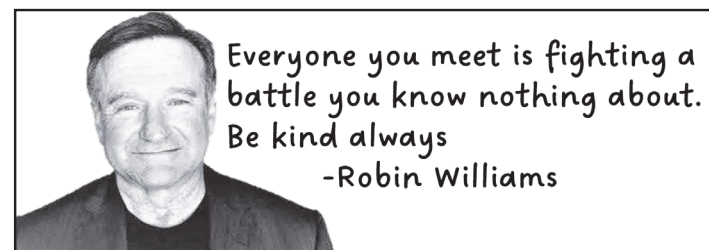
You should be happy to help those in need. Sometimes all that is needed is a hand up or compassion for their problems.

You should never shut your door to those who are fleeing danger. It matters not whether this person is from another country, just fleeing an abusive situation.

And it does not matter if your personal beliefs are that there is no supreme entity out there. Or if you think that this life is a cosmic coder’s construct. That the DNA of living things and the atomic structure of inanimate things are the “lines of code” that determine their existence. For this to be a better world that we leave for our descendants, we need to become better ourselves. We must realize that the actions we take will affect the future of this planet and all of its living things. Let’s become like the legendary Atlas. We need not take the world on our shoulders, but we must learn that what we do can have an influence on the world we leave behind.

I hope that no matter your beliefs, you and your families will have a Happy Holiday season and renewed hope for the New Year.

Bob Mortenson 12-23-2023.



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Broke Ole walks past a pub. He looks at the door longingly. But since he has no money, he walks on. Just then, he spots a lamp lying in the gutter. He picks it up and rubs it, and a genie emerges. "I will grant you three wishes", intones the genie. "Give me a bottomless mug of beer" Ole says. A mug of beer appears in his hand. He takes a sip, then another. With each chug, the mug magically refills. "And for the other two wishes?" asks the genie. Between swallows, Ole shouts, "Give me two more just like this one!"

The American Legion Thanks You, Marne Elk Horn for your Donation

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As this goes to press, Christmas 2023 will be over. Hope you had a merry one with family and friends. A new year dawns and we make our annual resolutions, most of which will be forgotten long before January is over. Instead, we think about frigid temperatures, blizzards and cold feet. My thoughts go back in memory to the 1930's before we had electricity and depended on wood and coal-fueled stoves for heat, especially warmth from the one we called "the cook stove."

The first known cooking appliance was built of clay during the Qin Dynasty (221-207 BC.) The first cooking stove patented was in Strasburg, the capital of the Alsace region of France in the year 1557. This was two centuries before the Industrial Revolution. Consequently, iron was still prohibitively expensive and such high-end consumer items only gradually became widely used. The Stew Stove or Castro, one of the early cooking stoves, was designed by a French designer in 1735. Probably the best-known of the early metal stoves made in the United States was the Franklin, not surprisingly invented by Ben Franklin in 1742. Much of an antique stove is made of steel but the fire box, cooking surface, doors and drafts are made of cast iron. This is because the melting point is much higher than that of steel.

Fortunately, I was well-versed in the care and feeding of a cook stove because that is what I started married life with in 1950. But the stove I remember most is the one of my early childhood. The firebox at the front end was fed cobs and wood through the front opening or into the holes over the fire pit. The stove-top had several of these round openings with removable lids. The ashes fell through the grates into an oblong pan below. The ash pan had to be carried out and emptied daily. The cobs didn't just make an automatic appearance in the basket that stood in front of the stove. An after-school chore for school kids was filling the cob basket every night. When the cob pile produced by the mechanical corn-sheller was exhausted we had to pick up cobs from the pig pen. (Pigs were often fed the entire corn ears, discarding the cobs just like people do.) One day Dale and I decided to fool our mom. We wasted a lot of time getting an old 5-gallon can lid propped up in the basket, leaving only a few inches at the top to fill. We were laughing so hard when we came in that our mom soon figured out what we were up to. But Mother had the last laugh as we slowly made our way back to the pig pen to finish filling the basket.

There was a black stove-pipe attached to the back of the stove that emptied smoke into the chimney. Our stove had a reservoir on the back end that had to be filled manually with water. It provided some hot water whenever the stove was hot. And there was also a warming oven above the stove-top where Mother placed her tins of bread dough to rise on chilly mornings. It was also a great place for drying snowy mittens and husking gloves during corn-picking season.

The oven door was a wonderful place to warm your feet. And its warmth radiated out into the room when the big round wash tub was placed on the kitchen floor for our weekly baths. Being youngest I was fortunate to be first into the water. The head washing wasn't always pleasant as we had no sweet-smelling shampoo and I well-remember the sting of the soap when it got in my eyes. Dale was next, then our mom and finally dad. I've often wondered how much the water rose when he cramped his 200-pound frame into that round tub. I'll tell you, that bath water was pretty grimy

when we all got through. But you didn't change water for each person when every drop had to be carried by the bucketful up the hill from the well.

During the cold winter months Dale and I were left alone in the house while our parents did the milking. We apparently had received explicit instructions in what constituted good behavior while they were out as we never got into any real mischief. But we did have one game we never told them about. It was our version of Hotseat. As the fire burned low the back end of the stovetop cooled first. We took turns sitting atop the reservoir, then gradually sliding towards the front, jumping off just before our bottoms got blistered. The one who got nearest the front before jumping off won the game.

A lot of good food came from the cooking surface and the cook stove oven back in the early to mid-century years of the 20th century. Those stoves served many purposes. Beginning in the 15th century folks started calling them kitchen ranges, referring to the multiple openings on top providing a wide 'range' of places to cook as well as many other uses besides cooking. I couldn't find a picture but if you visit Bedstemor's House in Elk Horn, the green and yellow cookstove in the kitchen closely resembles my mother's kitchen range. And while you are there take a peek in the oven where her bread tins may still be stored.

In 1953 our cob-eater was exchanged for a sparkling new electric stove and now, many, many years later I never cease to be filled with wonder and appreciation whenever I tap a button and have instant heat. But never again could I produce the light, airy cream puffs that I baked in that old kitchen range. And the oven door on an electric stove just isn't a very cozy place to warm your feet on a cold winter night.

Here's wishing each and every one of you a Happy, Healthy New Year.

THE CASE OF THE MONA LISA

Bertie Tilford, England's gift to the international get-rich-quick set, decanted Dr. Brilliant's best brandy and sniffed critically.

Brilliant prepared himself for the latest of Bertie's money-making schemes.

"It is true, began Bertie, "that in the past I have asked you for money for enterprises which -- I shall confess -- were not quite proper. But now I've a chance at something big! daVinci's Mona Lisa!"

"I thought the painting is in Paris," said the sleuth. "Ha! So does the world!" exclaimed Bertie. "You will remember it was stolen in 1911. The painting which the authorities recovered was really a forgery by the superb Japanese counterfeiter, Yakki Yakameko."

"The genuine Mona Lisa was hidden in Tokyo until a buyer was found. Now it is coming to Texas, rolled up in a bolt of finest silk and shipped unwittingly by one of Japan's most reputable mills. "I would not be a party to any criminal venture," Bertie hastily assured the criminologist. "I have, however, a contact who guarantees me that he can intercept the silk shipment and recover the painting. He needs only \$30,000 to bribe the ruffians who guard it. The French will pay a reward of \$1,000,000 for its recovery, I'm positive." "If you could advance me the \$30,000, dear boy," concluded Bertie, "I can personally promise you half the reward!"

"You won't get ten cents from me," snapped Dr. Brilliant.

WHY NOT ??

See page 8 for the answer

IT'S ONLY SCIENCE (#2)

It always amazes me when people ignore facts. And in this modern world many of the facts are a product of science. What is even more astonishing is that people will except some facts and yet reject others.

There has been a big fuss made about the potential development of a large solar array being built near Lincoln Nebraska. The opponents are crying about the loss of farmland. Yet the land is still going to be there. They are talking about the loss of crops once the solar array is built. Saying that this is a critical issue. Yet studies have shown that one acre of solar panels produce an equivalent amount of energy as one hundred acres planted in corn for ethanol. And some of the objections made in this case and others are simply not based in fact. The panels will create an unbearable amount of glare for those passing by. Yet because they must absorb sunlight they are built with non-reflective materials. They will make too much noise. With no moving parts I can only assume that they are worried about the wind blowing around these stationary panels. There are even those who claim that the panels will contribute to climate change by making the surrounding landscape warmer. Yet the panels capture sunlight and convert it into energy that leaves the site carrying part of the sun's energy away from the site.

And then there are accusations that the farmers turning over their land to this use are simply doing so for the money. And yes they are going to be compensated for the use of their land. And they are not going to be subject to market fluctuations, cost of seeds, chemicals, etc. And frankly many of those putting forth this objection would gladly sell their land to a housing developer for more than its current value. And that would permanently remove the land from farming.

Another argument is that solar panels will lower property values. Yet studies done by real estate experts have not seen this to be true. There are other possibilities of producing electricity still in the research phases. With the panels having a projected life span of around 25 to 30 years, it is possible that they would not need to still be used after that. In that case, the ground beneath them will have set fallow for that period of time. Allowing it to regenerate itself and emerge, shall we say, from the shadows in better condition than when it was covered.

We, as responsible guardians of our planet need to make choices that will leave it in better condition than it was when we received our lifetime appointment as caretakers of this world.

Bob Mortenson 1-4-2024

An old cowboy walks into a barbershop for a shave and a haircut. He tells the barber he can't get all his whiskers off because his cheeks are wrinkled from age. The barber gets a little wooden ball from a cup on the shelf and tells the old cowboy to put it inside his cheek to spread out the skin. When he's finished, the old cowboy tells the barber that was the cleanest shave he'd had in years, but he wanted to know what would have happened if he had accidentally swallowed that little ball. The barber replied, "Just bring it back in a couple of days like everyone else does."

Answer to Mona Lisa:

The real Mona Lisa could not be rolled up in a bolt of the finest silk. It is painted on wood.

EXIRA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

108 E WASHINGTON ST. – CITY HALL

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2023

The Exira City Council met for their regular meeting in city hall on Monday, December 11, 2023. Present were Mayor Mike Huegerich and Council Members: Clark Borkowski, Nathan Wahlert, and Mark Paulsen. City Clerk Meg Andersen, City Attorney Clint Fichter, and Tim Wahlert of public works were also in attendance. Dave Sturm and Deputy Brooks were also guests for a part of the meeting. Mayor Huegerich called the meeting to order at 7:27 PM.

A motion made by Borkowski, seconded by Wahlert, to approve the agenda. All voted aye, motion passed.

A motion made by Paulsen, seconded by Borkowski, to approve the consent agenda. All voted aye, motion passed.

Deputy Brooks presented the November sheriff's report.

Dave Sturm presented the street inventory and condition report from Snyder & Associates.

Clint Fichter provided an update on nuisance proceedings.

Right-of-way tree maintenance was discussed. City Clerk will draft a request for proposal.

A motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Paulsen, to reallocate American Rescue Plan Act funds totaling \$58,759.24 towards tree maintenance projects. All voted aye, motion passed.

A motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Borkowski, to designate 25% with a maximum of \$25,000 pending award as city funding for the FY24 IEDA Catalyst Grant application. All voted aye, motion passed.

Meg Andersen presented the FY 25 budget calendar and special considerations were discussed.

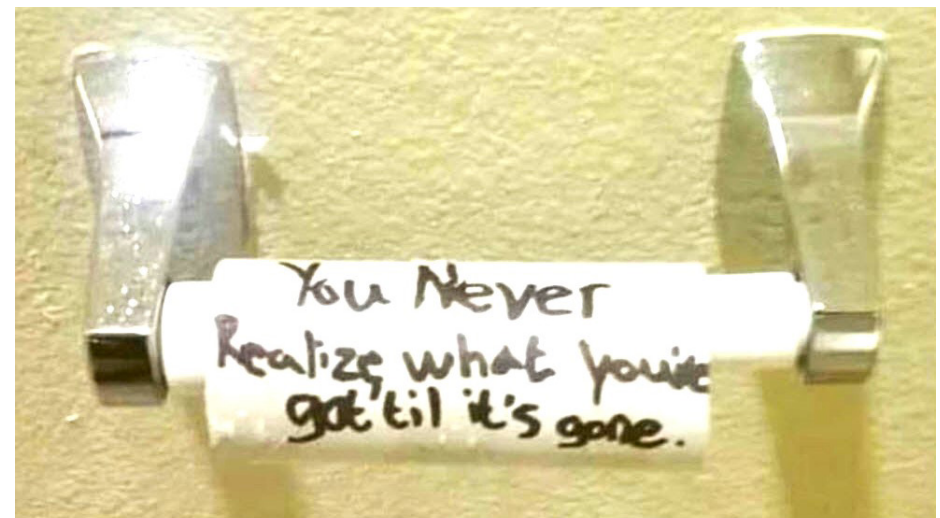
A motion made Borkowski, seconded by Wahlert, to approve \$500 to Council of Governments Housing Trust Fund. All voted aye, motion passed.

There will be no garbage pick up on December 25 or January 1 due to the holidays. Garbage needs to be set out Thursday December 21st and Thursday December 28th for overnight pickup.

A motion made by Borkowski, seconded by Paulsen, to approve \$200 city employee Christmas bonus for Meg Andersen, Mike Lauritsen, and Tim Wahlert. All voted aye, motion passed.

Oath of office was taken by Mayor Huegerich, and Council Members Borkowski, Paulsen, and Wahlert for the term beginning on January 2, 2024.

A motion to adjourn was made by Paulsen, seconded by Borkowski at 8:48 PM. All voted aye, motion passed.



WHAT HAPPENS WHEN CHRISTMAS IS OVER?

Pastor Tim

As I'm writing this, it is two days after Christmas, and ten more days remaining in the Season of Christmas – the "Season of Hope." I thought I would say something here about hope.

Last week, my daughter Jennifer told me a story about herself I had not heard before. She said that on Christmas Eve 25 years ago, she was scheduled to be one of several dancing angels in her church's Christmas Eve service. After having dinner with her family, she loaded up the back of her Ford Festiva with all the angels' costumes and started out (slightly late) for the church. She recalled that there were big fat snowflakes falling and they were starting to accumulate on the ground. The streets began getting slippery. Then, on the highway, part way to the church, the engine of her car started acting up. She needed to take an exit, which she did, but then her car died right on the exit ramp. It appeared to Jennifer that she could now be seriously late.

She started out on foot for a nearby gas station she had spotted, thinking they might have a towing service – or at least a phone, but had only gone a few steps when a sweet family stopped their car and the father got and asked how he might be able to help her. Just then her car, on its own, began sliding off the exit and toward a ditch. She said they both let out a simultaneous yell and chased after the car. Fortunately, the car came to a stop without hitting anything. The man was able to push her out from where the car had stopped, and then managed to get the car restarted.

Jennifer was so glad and thankful that due to this man's kindness she could be on way and get to church in time for the "angels" to don their outfits. As the real life "angel" was getting back in his car with his family she asked his name. He said, "Salvador." How perfect was THAT? The meaning of his name in English is "savior", the perfect reminder of what Christmas is all about, a truth not lost on Jennifer who had just experienced a true rescue of another kind.

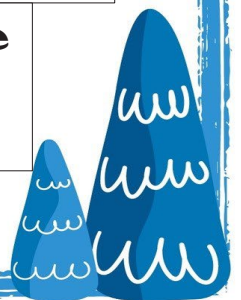
As you read this, a few weeks have already separated you from the Christmas holiday and season, but God's rescue through His own Savior, Jesus, has been ongoing for almost 2,000 years, each-and-every year, year round. The coming of Jesus Christ into the world began the fulfillment of what God had planned even longer ago. Through Jesus, God would redeem humanity and whole creation from the ravages of sin. He is the hope of the world. He lifts us up from the mire of sorrow and pain, degradation and corruption, and where once we were dead, he breathes new life into our souls.

For these reasons, Christmas is often thought of as a season of hope, and it is. But what happens when Christmas is over? The full truth of it is that Christmas is never over. Jesus is alive, and every day he comes giving life to all who invite Him into their hearts.

Immanuel / Bethany Women's Ministry**SOUP SUPPER****(for Women)****Sunday, January 14th****6:00 p.m. at the Parsonage****Cost: FREE!****Great Fun, Good Fellowship,
Visioning**

Please RSVP to:

Cindy White @ 402-910-2144

**January Worship
Bethany/Immanuel****January 14****9:00 Immanuel****10:15 Sunday School****January 21****9:00 Bethany****10:15 Sunday School*****10:00 Bethany
Annual Meeting****January 28****9:00 Immanuel****10:15 Sunday School*****10:00 Immanuel
Annual Meeting****Visitors are
Always
welcome!**

Volunteer Luncheon & Hygge Holiday Brown Bag Luncheon Glade jul, dejlige jul, engle daler ned i skjul!

What wonderful work our MoDA volunteers do, and what fun to celebrate them with a luncheon catered by Main Street Market and pies from Darrel's Place. Afterwards, we enjoyed music provided by Tova & Svend and crafts with Alissa as part of our Hygge Holiday Brown Bag Lunch.



Genealogy & Education Center Iowa Genealogical Society Presentation

The Genealogy & Education Center is the research library of the Museum of Danish America and has one of the largest collections of materials on Danish immigrants in the United States, including many rare and unique items. In addition to supporting museum exhibitions and collections, the Center is open to the public for research. Since 1996, the Center has assisted many individuals in finding links to their Danish immigrant past and has located lost relatives for both Danish and American genealogists. Watch the recorded presentation with presenters, Wanda and Alissa, who share an overview of what the Genealogy & Educator Center does as well as its collection and resources here: <https://rb.gy/uot8w8>



New Exhibition at the Genealogy & Education Center The Denmark-Russian-America Journeys by Annette Andersen

Visit the Genealogy & Education Center to view a new exhibition by Annette Andersen entitled The Denmark - Russia - America Journey, which includes a family tree scroll, maps, photos, memorabilia, and artifacts!

"In the 1980s, living on our farm in Sharon Township, I became interested in our family's genealogy. I was aware of the 1922 scroll from Denmark where my father's genealogy goes back to 1710. From this scroll, I gleaned the genealogy information I needed. On my Underwood typewriter, I started our story..."





Lifestyle & Brain Function
The Topic of Next **Healthy U**

Dr. Emily Chang will speak at the January session of **Cass Health's Healthy U** lunch-and-learn series. The session will be on Thursday, January 18 at noon in Conference Room 2. Although primarily known as an OB/GYN, Dr. Chang is also board certified in Lifestyle Medicine. Her presentation on Lifestyle & Brain Function is for men and women of all ages. Dr. Chang received her BA degree from Illinois Wesleyan University in Mathematics and Natural Sciences and a Bachelor of Medical Sciences from Midwestern University in Illinois. She graduated from Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2003. She completed her residency at Mercy Hospital & Medical Center in Chicago. She is board certified through the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology, a Fellow of the American Congress of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and a Diplomate of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Space is limited! A free boxed lunch is provided for all attendees, so reservations are required. Call 712-243-7479 to reserve your seat. For more information about Healthy U, visit casshealth.org/healthyu.

Nothing that grieves us can be called little: by the eternal laws of proportion a child's loss of a doll and a king's loss of a crown are events of the same size.
Mark Twain



Hopefully, no one reads this straight across - left to right, like I did !

No man's life, liberty, or property are safe while the legislature is in session.
Mark Twain

Snow Shoveling ❄️

Contact
Jonas LaCanne at 712-304-7155 for an estimate

Services
Shoveling Sidewalks and Driveways



WINDMILL EXPO

AND

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Food & Drink Provided
Tuesday, January 30th
5:30 PM
Elk Horn Town Hall

DANISH WINDMILL



STEVE HEUTON

It's near the end of the 1960s. If you listen, you can hear a tape of the Beatles, the Beach Boys, Bob Dylan, or The Rolling Stones playing inside a garage. Or more likely, you can hear a motor revving inside that garage. You are standing outside where Steve Heuton is busy spending time enjoying his passion—hot cars with big motors. Before long, those hot cars with big motors will be exchanged for big vehicles with powerful engines. The music might stay the same, but the location it is broadcast from will be on the other side of the world.

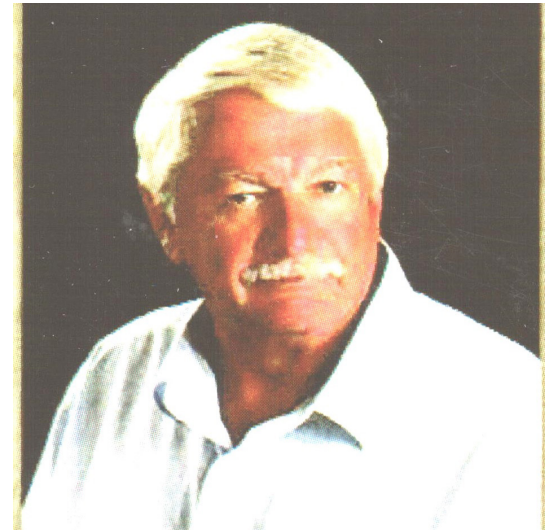
When Steve was 19 that unwelcome letter from Uncle Sam arrived in his Kimballton, Iowa mailbox. He said his goodbyes to family and friends and, along with one of his classmates, headed to Fort Lewis, Washington for Basic Training. He was more than a little surprised when, instead of continuing in Advanced Individual Training, he was sent to Fort Bragg, North Carolina to become part of the 82nd Airborne. After spending nearly a year at Fort Bragg as part of a reconnaissance platoon where his responsibilities included “looking for and locating the bad guys,” during war games. Then orders came for him to head to Vietnam.

With rice patties and rubber plantations along the route, the job of driving a 5-ton truck loaded to the max with 50 lb. cans of gun powder and ammunition for the 8” and 175 mm howitzer of his artillery unit kept everyone on edge with tension. Steve's experience with “fast cars” was an appreciated skill as he “moved like hell down those jungle roads.” Avoiding mines never left his mind. One experience he recalled was when the truck in front of his truck and the one behind his truck both hit mines. He remembers another time a soldier tried to alert them that the road ahead was covered with mines. The soldier was so frightened he could hardly talk. He stuttered “m-m-m-m-m-m-, mines ahead. M-m-m-m-m- mines ahead.” Steve got the message!

Base camp for Steve was not exactly 5-star accommodations, but he says it was not nearly as primitive as many locations. Two batteries of soldiers (about 200-300) occupied camp. Their water source for showers was provided by a tanker truck which pumped water out of a river. It was hauled to camp and pumped into towers heated by the sun. The towers were suspended high enough to allow soldiers to get a somewhat decent shower. The toilet facilities might have been more on the order wild west pioneers of long-ago experienced. Their toilet was a long plank with 12 holes. 12 barrels were under the holes. When filled, whoever was assigned “bathroom duty” mixed diesel fuel with a little bit of gasoline, then stirred the “contents” and lit each barrel on fire. It was hard to decide which was worse—the black smoke that billowed up or the smell.

Steve grins when he says he was in Vietnam for 10 months, 16 days, 2 hours, and 8 seconds. He had experienced a good unit with good guys. Although he left Vietnam, Vietnam did not leave him. Stand in Steve's basement TV room (his bunker) and look at the many pictures of his buddies, the maps, the books in his bookcase, the American flag hanging on the wall. Listen to him share his thoughts. One picture shows an army jeep with Steve and three other young men standing around or sitting on the hood. He points to one of those smiling young men and quietly says, “He took his life a few years ago.” Beside one of the maps of Vietnam is a map of Iwo Jima. Steve's father, a young Marine, was on the island when the American flag was hoisted in 1945. Although he did not see the flag raised, he told Steve that the ships were all blowing their horns. All the Marines were shouting and cheering. The Marines in his father's platoon were hoping the Japanese had surrendered.

Steve has gone far beyond what many veterans do in sharing their experiences. Not only has he been active in veterans' organizations, he also has written a book. *Back in the Day*, published in 2018, is an honest and reflective presentation of his life. You just might want to put that book on your “birthday gift idea” list.



Myrtue Behavioral Health Launches Comprehensive Substance Abuse Treatment

HARLAN – Year after year, the local community names addiction as one of the top community health challenges. In the 2023 Community Health Needs Assessment for Shelby County, alcohol and drug abuse ranked number one and three respectively as the top risky behaviors impacting overall community health. That same assessment found mental health therapy and substance abuse treatment to be two of the top three medical services most needed in the community. Local residents clearly feel the weight of these challenges, and now they have a new resource for support. Myrtue Behavioral Health announced it will launch a comprehensive substance abuse treatment program in January of 2024 that will not only target drug and alcohol recovery but will also address issues of mental health and trauma that often lie at the heart of addiction.

While Myrtue Behavioral Health has long treated issues of addiction within the scope of mental health services, the clinic began offering a dedicated substance abuse treatment program in 2017. Through the course of providing this treatment program, it became evident to the team that they needed to integrate more fully a structure to address the underlying causes of addiction. Addiction does not happen in isolation, and the need to have a truly co-occurring treatment model was evident. Co-occurring treatment addresses issues of substance abuse integrated with treatment of mental health conditions and trauma-related impacts.

“We have learned so much in recent years about addiction and its driving factors,” said Behavioral Health Director Lindsey Kinney, LMHC. “Because of this, Behavioral Health wants to provide treatment that will address the underlying concerns that lead to substance abuse and provide the best possible outcomes for our clients and our community.”

After dedicating time for research and collaboration with the entire team, including therapists, psychiatric medication management practitioners, and community support staff, Myrtue Behavioral Health has created a new model for substance abuse treatment designed to address the needs of the whole person in recovery.

“Over time, it became apparent that the needs of our clients weren’t being served simply by addressing their substance use. We saw that the majority of clients who struggled with substance abuse were also struggling with significant trauma and/or mental health diagnoses that led them to use in the first place,” said Brittany Miller, LISW, one of the program’s lead therapists. “Without addressing what underlies the use, we aren’t actually addressing the whole issue. It’s important to consider the factors that lead a person to use and to support them in finding healthier ways to cope with the various challenges in their lives.”

Britney Randolph, LISW, and Brittany Miller, LISW, are therapists specially trained in substance abuse treatment, and together they co-lead the program. However, Miller and Randolph are quick to point out that working with individuals in recovery involves the whole department.

“Possibly the greatest thing about Myrtue Behavioral Health is our team of professionals. We have such a wide array of experience, background, knowledge, and skills. When we decided to ‘go back to the drawing board,’ we quickly found that there is no existing curriculum that meets the goals we are trying to accomplish,” said Randolph. “We also knew that we already had what we needed right in our department with the passion and expertise each person brings to the team. In collaboration with our dedicated professionals, we were able to design and develop a curriculum that we feel will meet the needs of our clients from a holistic perspective.”

To start the treatment process, clients will first meet with Miller or Randolph for a substance abuse evaluation. During this appointment, the individual will complete assessments and walk through an evaluation process with Miller or Randolph to identify key needs and the appropriate level of care for recovery. This initial visit allows the therapist to make personalized recommendations that will guide the treatment process moving forward.

If Miller or Randolph determine the Behavioral Health substance abuse treatment program is appropriate for the client, they will work with that person to set-up a

treatment schedule that will include a weekly recovery-focused therapy group and individual therapy. The core group will not only focus on issues specifically related to addiction; it will also incorporate involvement from other Behavioral Health staff to provide understanding and tools related to topics such as mental health medications and the impact of trauma. Treatment may also include other groups at Behavioral Health such as the Movement Therapy Group to address stored stress and trauma in the body, or the Starting Point Therapy Group to build core coping strategies.

The substance abuse evaluation may determine that the client needs a higher level of care, such as an inpatient program. In this case, the Myrtue Behavioral Health staff will work closely to refer and collaborate with appropriate treatment providers.

The Behavioral Health team notes that people come to treatment through many doors. Sometimes people recognize that drug or alcohol use has gotten out of control, and they are ready for help. Sometimes a critical incident, such as getting an OWI or becoming involved with DHS, can be the catalyst for change. Wherever someone is on their journey, the first step is calling Myrtue Behavioral Health at 712-755-5056 to schedule that substance abuse evaluation.

“The bottom line is that individuals who struggle with substance abuse have needs that aren’t all too different than yours or mine. Life can be incredibly challenging. It is a rarity that any of us can get through these challenges without support or without learning healthier coping strategies to manage the ups and downs thrown our way,” said Miller. “Our program aims to teach individuals supportive strategies that reduce or eliminate the need to use substances to manage the hardships of life.”

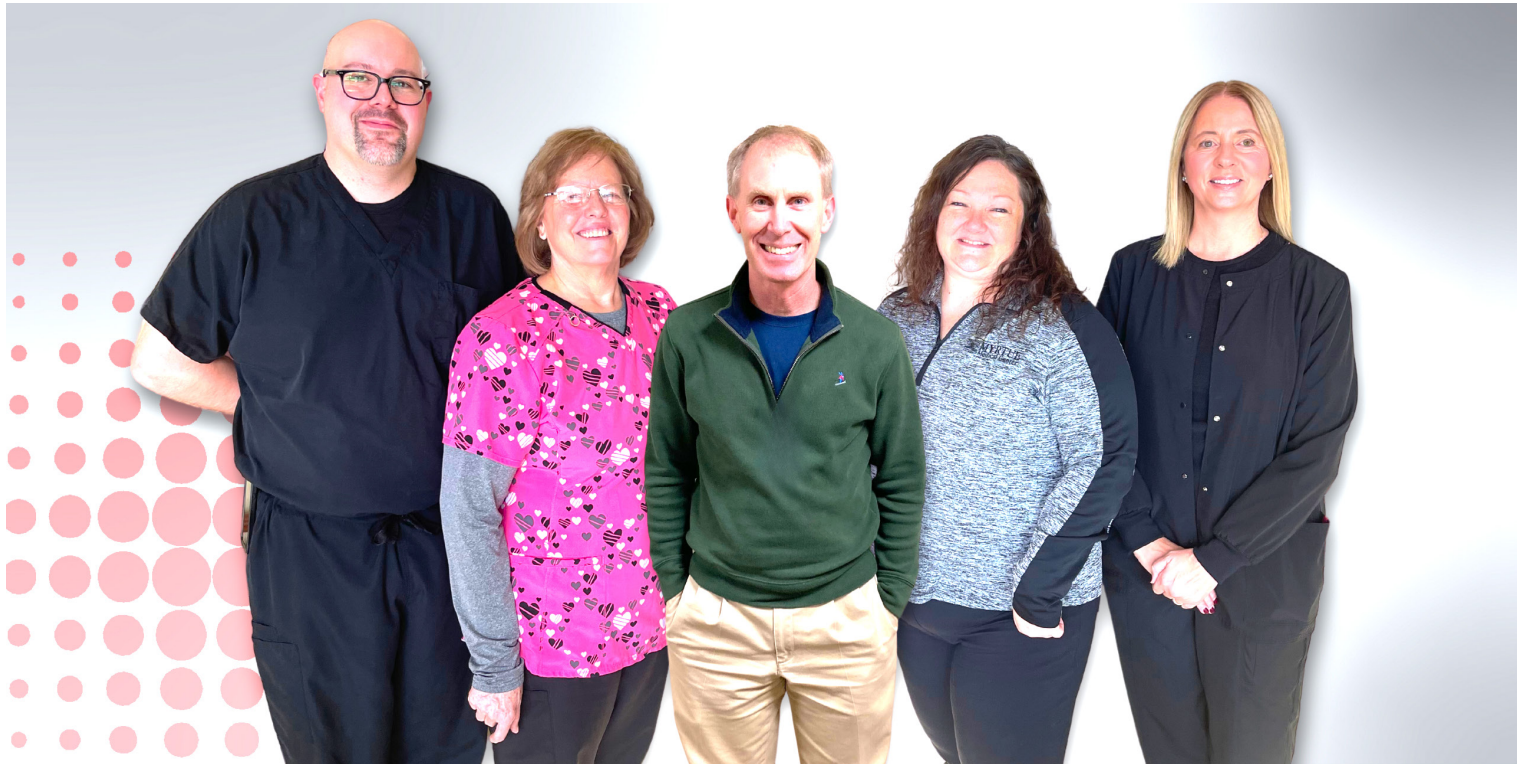
To learn more about Myrtue Behavioral Health’s substance abuse treatment and all services, visit their website at www.myrtuemedical.org/services/behavioral-health or call Myrtue Behavioral Health at (712) 755-5056. Behavioral Health is located at 1110 Morningview Drive in Harlan. The clinic also offers therapy for individuals of all ages as well as couples and families, therapy groups, medication management, and community support services.

Britney Randolph –
LISW



Brittney Miller –
LISW





MYRTUE MEDICAL CENTER ACHIEVES RE-ACCREDITATION WITH ACHC

HARLAN, IA, Myrtue Medical Center (MMC) proudly announces it has achieved re-accreditation through the Accreditation Commission for Health Care (ACHC) for the services of the Respiratory Therapy Sleep Lab. Accreditation by ACHC reflects an organization's dedication and commitment to meeting standards that facilitate higher levels of performance and patient care.

Myrtue Medical Center's Sleep Lab is a diagnostic center used to identify sleep disorders such as restless leg syndrome and obstructive and central sleep apnea disorders that prevent you from achieving restful and restorative sleep. It is important to take sleep disorders seriously because they can have a significant impact on your overall health and well-being. If you are experiencing symptoms of daytime sleepiness or other sleep-related issues, talk to your doctor about the possibility of taking the Epworth Sleepiness Scale (ESS) or other screening tests. By identifying and treating sleep disorders early on, you can improve your quality of life and reduce your risk of developing other health problems.

"The 2023 ACHC accreditation achievement is a reflection and testament to our sleep lab's high-quality care and service," stated John Petsche, BA, RRT, Director of Respiratory Therapy. "Myrtue Medical Center's sleep lab has a 95% customer satisfaction rating and a 98% scoring accuracy by the American Academy of Sleep Medicine in providing the highest standard of care to our patients."

Dr. Brian Anderson is our sleep lab's medical director and Susan Erlbacher is our Respiratory Therapist certified in sleep testing. John Petsche is the Director of Respiratory Therapy and oversees the lab's function and operation.

Paddy walks into his local pharmacy with a small Irish whisky bottle and a tablespoon.

Paddy pours some of the content into the tablespoon and says to the pharmacist, "Could you taste this for me?"

The pharmacist put it in his mouth, swirls it around and swallows it.

"Does that taste sweet to you?", asks Paddy.

"No, not at all", says the pharmacist.

"Well, that is a relief", says Paddy.

Doc Flannigan told me to come here and get my urine tested for sugar".

My wife asked why I spoke so softly in the house. I said I was afraid Mark Zuckerberg was listening!

She laughed..

I laughed...

Alexa laughed...

Siri laughed ...

Veterans Appreciation Lunch

Free to any Veteran or Military Personnel plus
One Guest

The meal is provided by the Atlantic Elks Lodge:

Noon Saturday, January 13, 2024
411 Walnut Street, Atlantic, IA

The hustle and bustle of the holidays will be over and you can beat the winter blahs by joining us for food and fun.

If you need a ride, the Elks will pay for your and your guest's transportation with SWITA. Just let us know your address when you RSVP

You must RSVP by calling or texting:

712-249-7860

By 8:00 PM on Tuesday, January 12

(Give your name; tell us if you are bringing a guest and if you need transportation)

Others are welcome to attend for a fee of \$10 as long as you RSVP

Al and Lanny, representing Elk Horn American Legion, giving Ella Petersen a \$500.00 Scholarship. Ella is attending Augustana University in Soux Falls. Her major is Sign Language.



American Red Cross

Give blood. Help save lives.



Blood Drive

Elk Horn Community

Elk Horn Lutheran Church
Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Please contact Cindy Fredericksen at (712) 249-4582

or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter:
ElkHornIA to schedule an appointment.

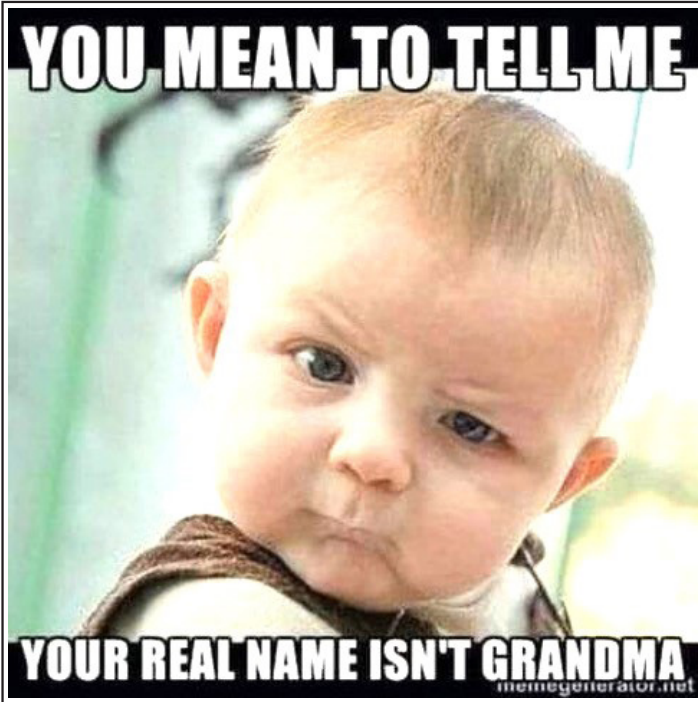


It's another "THANK YOU" card
from the auto body repair shop

Christofferson
SEPTIC PUMPING
A FLUSH BEATS A FULL HOUSE!

Duane Christofferson

1361 Little Field Dr, Elk Horn (712)249-1582



My three-year-old son opened a birthday gift from his grandmother. It was a water pistol. He squealed with delight and headed for the nearest sink. I was not so pleased. I turned to Mom and said, "I am surprised at you. Don't you remember how we used to drive you crazy with water guns!?" Mom just smiled and replied... "I remember"

We like a man to come right out and say what he thinks- if we agree with him. Mark Twain

WHAT A GREAT ADVERTISEMENT ! First person to learn who came up with this idea gets a free drink token from Doug @ Norse Horse - on us.

 **SPARK!**
 CULTURAL PROGRAMMING
 for PEOPLE WITH MEMORY LOSS

The Museum of Danish America is excited to announce the implementation of a free monthly cultural program for those with early- to mid-stage memory loss and their care partners called SPARK!

Thank you so much!
 Alissa LaCanne
 Youth and Community Educator

MUSEUM OF DANISH AMERICA'S GENEALOGY & EDUCATION CENTER
 E: ALISSA.LACANNE@DANISHMUSEUM.ORG | P: 712.764.7010
 4210 MAIN STREET, PO BOX 249, ELK HORN, IA 51531



Support to:

 **H.E.A.L.**
 HOPE EMPATHY ACCEPTANCE LOVE

Our Mission: To support those living with incurable chronic medical conditions that impact quality of life.

Meets monthly at the Exira Library Meeting room
 The 2nd Wednesday of every month from 6pm-8pm
 Contact (712) 304-5779 with questions

Popcorn is a great source of Fiber . . . so is Marne Elk Horn!

 **Marne Elk Horn**
 Your Local Connection

www.metc.net
 712-764-6161 - Elk Horn
 712-784-2211 - Walnut & Avoca

Internet • TV • Phone

The City Council of Elk Horn met in regular session Monday, December 4th, 2023, at 6:00 PM with the following members present: Mayor Hansen, Councilmen Teegerstrom, Fredericksen, D. Petersen, and Hogberg. Absent: K. Petersen. Employees: Chelsee Jacobsen, Jeff Nelson, Josh Nelson, and Jerry Evans. Mayor Hansen called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

Hogberg moved, seconded by D. Petersen, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes 4, motion carried.

D. Petersen moved, seconded by Hogberg to approve November 6th, 2023, meeting minutes. Ayes 4, motion carried.

Dan Petersen, Stan Jens, and Kayla Creek read Oath of Office for their 4-year terms beginning January 1st, 2024.

D. Petersen moved, seconded by Hogberg to approve Pay App # 2 to Precision Concrete Services – Pool House Project - \$25,840.00. Ayes 4, motion carried.

A public hearing is set for January 8th, 2024, for the Planning and Design loan for the water project.

D. Petersen moved, seconded by Teegerstrom to approve 4020 Solar Lane for 911 purposes. Ayes 4, motion carried.

The council will have a special meeting in January to meet with Township clerks and fire department members for the Fire department contributions.

Teegerstrom moved, seconded by Hogberg to approve City appointments for 2024. Ayes 4, motion carried.

Hotel plans were discussed. The council would like to see the property listed for sale to see what the interest is, have interested parties provide a business plan with goals and timelines, set a public hearing to discuss business plans and select a plan. Teegerstrom stated the electricity has been restored to the building but the main is currently shut off. Gas will be restored when MidAmerican replaces the outside meter, the gas lines from the meter to inside the building will need to be replaced by the new owner. The water meter was installed by McCarthy Trenching, Camblin will be installing the elbow to connect the meter to the service line.

Clint discussed the new budget schedule requirements. Will discuss more budget in January.

Clerk: Hogberg moved, seconded by Teegerstrom to approve Chelsee’s office hours from December 27th – January 3rd to be 8:00AM to Noon. Ayes 4, motion carried. The January monthly council meeting will be January 8th, 2024, in observance of New Years.

Teegerstrom moved, seconded by Fredericksen to approve Jerry Evans – Water Operator by Affidavit, to obtain 4 weeks of PTO to equal 80 hours. Ayes 4, motion carried.

D. Petersen moved, seconded by Fredericksen to approve purchasing a set of tires for the city truck and a set for the skid loader. Ayes 4, motion carried.

Clark Ahrenholtz presented to see if it would be possible to connect to the City’s water supply. Clark, Chelsee, and Clint will work on seeing what the options would be and the cost if it’s feasible.

Jerry Hoffman stated the Fire Department approved 2 new members. Medivac has ended their contract as of December 1st and now Shelby County has taken over.

D. Petersen moved, seconded by Teegerstrom to approve Vera Petersen’s resignation on the library board. The library is seeking an individual to fill the vacancy. Interested individuals can call or email the library to obtain an application. 4101 Madison St – Improvements have been made, 4116 Madison – Clint will work to proceed with obtaining the title of the property.

Teegerstrom moved, seconded by D. Petersen to approve the claims register as presented. Ayes 4, motion carried.

Hogberg moved, seconded by D. Petersen, to approve the timesheets as presented. Ayes 4, motion carried.

Hogberg moved, seconded by Fredericksen to approve the financial report as presented. Ayes 4, motion carried.

D. Petersen moved, seconded by Teegerstrom to approve Kayla Creek to join in the closed session. Ayes 4, motion carried.

Hogberg moved, seconded by D. Petersen to enter Closed Session at 7:09PM pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5 (1)(C) Civil Rights Complaints – Ayes 4, motion carried.

D. Petersen moved, seconded by Fredericksen to reopen the public meeting at 7:55PM. Ayes 4, motion carried.

D. Petersen moved, seconded by Teegerstrom to adjourn the meeting at 7:56PM. Ayes 4 motion carried.

Keli Hansen, Mayor Chelsee Jacobsen, City Clerk

An old cowboy walks into a barbershop for a shave and a haircut. He tells the barber he can’t get all his whiskers off because his cheeks are wrinkled from age. The barber gets a little wooden ball from a cup on the shelf and tells the old cowboy to put it inside his cheek to spread out the skin. When he’s finished, the old cowboy tells the barber that was the cleanest shave he’d had in years, but he wanted to know what would have happened if he had accidentally swallowed that little ball. The barber replied, “Just bring it back in a couple of days like everyone else does.”

PUBLIC NOTICE

Facility Name: Elk Horn Municipal Water Works

PWSID# 8325013

Date: November 20th, 2023

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

MONITORING VIOLATION OF THE WATER TESTING SCHEDULE

Our water system violated drinking water standard(s) over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations.

We, the City of Elk Horn Public Water Supply, are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking meets health standards. During 2023 we did not monitor or test 10 (TEN) Lead & Copper sites and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

What Happened? What is being done?

This sample was overlooked by our Public Works Director, The Mayor & City Council was notified and will closely monitor this violation with the appropriate staff.

For more information, please contact Public Works Director, Jeff Nelson at 712-304-3230

Congratulations to Kaitlyn Christensen, \$100 Pays for A's winner from Exira-EHK Schools for the second semester. Kaitlyn received her prize from Elk Horn's, Allison Buckholdt.



2024 is here, and so are the 4 Purposefull People Hall of Fame recipients in the area of Responsibility: Paisley Hansen, Weston Rasmussen, Madeline Andersen, & Amelia Creek! Well deserved, congratulations!!



December Students of the Month (sponsored by Always Ayzlee): High school-Jackson Radcliff, Middle school-Landon Angell, Elementary - Summer Pedersen. Congratulations!!



THANK YOU, Marne Elk Horn for your generous donation



Exira Library:
Marne Elk Horn presented our library with a very generous donation! They do this annually, and we are so very gratefully for their continued support of the library!



SPECIAL OFFER

Oak and Walnut oven squirrels buy one – second one \$5 off

Old Danish Workshop

Reglue Chairs • Repair - Refinish Furniture
Custom Building • Cribbage Boards
Birdhouses/feeders • Butterfly Houses
Crosses • Toys • Canes... and more!

**Gene (Beaner) Thomsen
(712) 249-5983**

Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness.
Mark Twain

We're Hiring!
Exira-Elk Horn-Kimballton Community School District

Available Positions for the 2023-2024 School Year:

Elementary School	Middle/High School	District
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> .5 Art Teacher .5 Title Teacher Preschool Teacher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HS English Teacher MS English Teacher MS Special Education Anticipated 6-12 Counselor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shared Business Office Specialist

[Click here to apply online today!](#)

Application materials can also be sent directly to the building principals.

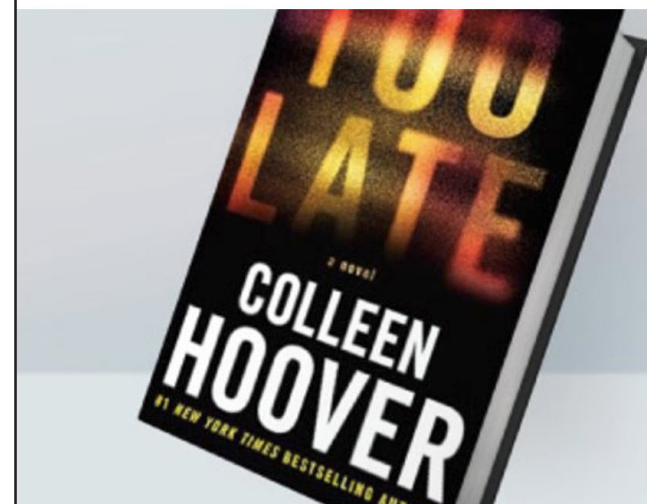
Questions?

Elementary Positions: Carrie Bauer, PK-5 Principal, (712) 268-5318, cbauer@eehkspartans.org
MS/HS Positions: Erika Van Cleave, 6-12 Principal, (712) 764-4616, evanleave@eehkspartans.org

Spartan Pride: Expect Excellence

Upcoming event

Exira Library



WED, JAN 17 AT 6 PM

January Book Club

11 Interested · 1 Going





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