



# Rolling Hills Community News

Exira  
Elk Horn  
Kimballton  
Brayton

October 12, 2023

There are three



Volume 3 - No. 16

The mystery of:  
"The Hiding Elk Horns"  
In the Sept 28 paper

## SAY HALLØJSA TO SVEND

pg 12 lower right picture

Page 10 upper left picture

Pg 19 Bottom left picture



Greetings from Denmark AND Argentina! My name is Svend Buus, and I am the new Curatorial intern at MoDA. I am of Danish descent, but I was born in Argentina in a town very similar to the Danish Villages—I have found many parallels already, and I love getting to know and learn more about Danish communities in the U.S.

Prior to accepting this internship, I lived in Copenhagen where I worked as a tour leader, showing tourists around the city and talking about Denmark and Scandinavia. I obtained my MA in archaeology at the University of Copenhagen. One day, I hope to establish a museum for Danish immigrants in Argentina, which is the other reason why I arrived in Elk Horn—to learn how the Museum of Danish America works and to establish a connection between American and Argentinian Danes! I was raised on Danish traditions, but I found that my Argentinian identity strengthened while living in Denmark. I describe myself as a mix between two very different cultures, and now I'm finding out about the American way of life! I look forward to saying hello to all of you during my time at the Museum of Danish America.



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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**HOMES:  
ACREAGE:**

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- ELK HORN:**
- 4316 Union St..... **SALE PENDING**
- 2123 Washington St..... **NEW \$249,000**
- 4205 Madison St..... **PRICE REDUCED \$129,900**
- 3 Lots on Sjaeland St..... **SALE PENDING**
- 2126 Washington St..... **SOLD**
- 2123 Broadway Ave... **PRICE REDUCED - \$799,000**

**EXIRA:**

- 303 W Washington..... **PRICE REDUCED \$82,000**
- 204 E. Harrison St. .... **SALE PENDING**
- Viking Addition Lots ..... **4 LOTS REMAIN**

**DEXTER**

- 8439 Rosewood St., Vacant Lot..... **\$10,000**

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• 4218 Main St. Elk Horn, ..... - **\$29,000**

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### Words of Wisdom from Troy:

If we were meant to talk more than listen, we would have two mouths and one ear.

– Mark Twain

### Elk Horn Office

4122 Main St.  
Elk Horn, Iowa 51531  
Phone: (712) 764-2246  
Fax: (712) 764-2247  
Monday-Friday: 8:00-5:00  
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Hours

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Tuesday	10 am - 5 pm
Wednesday	10 am - 5 pm
Thursday	10 am - 5 pm
Friday	10 am - 5 pm
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DANISH WINDMILL

No amount of evidence will ever persuade an idiot  
– Mark Twain



Joanne Greving's  
Come & Go Birthday Party!


Saturday 1-4pm  
October 28th

Elk Horn Town Hall



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But please bring a card with your favorite Jo memory!



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*Bethany Farm's*  
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**28 OCTOBER, 2023**  
5:00 - 9:30PM

SOUP CONTEST, BONFIRE, HAYRIDE, HOT CHOCOLATE,  
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**HUGE GARAGE SALE!!!  
DON'T MISS THIS SALE!!!!**

**2000 WASHINGTON ST.  
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**OCT 13TH NOON – 6PM  
OCT 14TH 8AM-4PM**



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AND MUCH MORE!

A slightly drunk woman is watching TV and yells

“DON'T GO THERE ! DON'T GO TO THE  
CHURCH YOU DUMB WOMAN !

Her husband ask “What are you watching?”

She replies, “Our wedding video”

## News From The Mill



I just don't know how a cemetery can raise burial prices and blame it on the cost of living

Politicians and diapers must be changed often, and for the same reason.  
- Mark Twain



September was quite the month for the windmill. We had 1,535 signatures in our guestbook for the month, up 200 from last year. The leading states were Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado, Illinois, and California. We had at least 48 visitors from foreign countries. And Phyllis is happy to announce we have finally gotten Rhode Island for all 50 states. We received a number from Denmark as well.

We're still in the process of ramping up inventory for the holiday season. Our Denmark shipment is expected in just a few weeks, and we're excited to have some returning items as well as some we haven't had for a while including cast iron aebleskiver pans and stainless steel rullepølse presses. Our new crewnecks have just arrived, available in two designs, and our Danish Windmill hoodie is now in stock, too. We have more exciting stuff on the way including our new stainless steel tumblers, so watch out for those.

The windmill itself is doing just fine for the moment. There are some small repairs and improvements anticipated to be made before winter, but it has been running joyfully in the wind for the meantime. With the help of Mike's Welding, we had iron weights fabricated and bolted onto the sails for rebalancing, allowing them to turn in lower 5-6 mph winds. Before they wouldn't budge at less than 10 mph gusts. We also ground rye flour in the mill for the first time in several years. The stones aren't quite producing fine enough flour yet, but it's believed they will get there after several sessions. Shaun ran the stones himself for the first time last week, and while he's still getting the hang of it, everyone is excited for how grinding is going to improve visitors' experiences.

We also have some exciting events coming up. The Skjaldborg Vikings will be here this weekend, Saturday October 14, for anyone interested in catching their show which can include both blacksmithing and battles. We also partnered with Norse Horse and the Museum of Danish America to host a night of Danish food and history on October 19. Norse Horse will be serving a Danish meal special for a limited time and both the windmill and MODA's Genealogy & Education Center will be open late for the event. Finally, we also want to share that the Shelby County History Museum and Warren Watson will be hosting a cemetery walk at the Elk Horn Lutheran Church at 6:30pm, October 26.

We're also happy to announce that the two Danish documentaries on Elk Horn and Kimballton, Denmark on the Prairie and Back to the Prairie, are now on YouTube and available for public viewing there. We are working on organizing a public viewing event that might happen later this year. Don't miss all of this and more down at the Danish Windmill. The next issue of The Breeze will be out soon, as will our totally-revamped Christmas catalog. Stop down at the windmill and see everything going on, and don't forget to thank the staff for all of their hard work. We wouldn't be open without them.

Two mafia hit-men are walking deep into a forest in the middle of the night.  
One of them says, "I gotta admit I'm scared out here".  
The other replies, "You're scared... I gotta walk back alone!"

## YES, THERE IS GOOD NEWS!

GOOD NEWS!

We began this series of articles by wondering how a fleshly human being could be considered holy. From there we wondered how that human could fulfill the admonition from our God to “be holy as I (God) am holy”. It sounded like a very tall order for us to accomplish.

But then we read in the scriptures that “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible”. And again in our most recent article I quoted from Isaiah 57:15, where God says this, “For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: ‘I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite.’”

The holiness of our God does not find the unholiness of man a suitable dwelling place. Remember, in Hebrews 12:14 it says, “Pursue peace with all men and holiness for without holiness no one will see the Lord.”

And so, that being the case, Isaiah tells us that God dwells “with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit”. Ah-ha, we have our first clue to attaining this holiness! Oh, wait!! That is actually our second clue. The first one was stated in a previous article “with God in the equation ‘holiness unto completion (or perfection) is possible. In fact it is the only way it is possible!! We must rely upon God for the impossible but we must pursue a contrite and humble heart so that our God will dwell with us.

Does all of this seem a little complicated? Shall we try and smooth it all out?

The starting point for this journey into holiness begins with ..... wait for it: THE GOOD NEWS!! Yes, the gospel message of the Kingdom is found in our Savior, Jesus of Nazareth. Paul expresses it this way, “For it is by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not of your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

I like to think of it this way; righteousness is a gift which may be likened to a key. That key, God freely gives to us upon repentance and baptism. The key is what we then use to unlock the door to holiness. As we walk through that door we become aware of so much that we may attain in regards to holiness. It is a walk with our heavenly Father (baby steps at first) which is attained little by little as we then continue our pursuit of His Holiness.

Once again, Paul gives us a hand with this, “I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness which leads to holiness.”

Bill Rollins 10-6-23

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

— Mark Twain

## ITS ONLY SCIENCE

Let’s take a deep dive into the science we call ecology. I know that there are those that think this all started a couple of decades ago by some “tree huggers”. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Ecology is the study of how everything on our planet is in some way connected to everything else. The action or use of one item affects the reaction of everything else to some degree.

It is a little like when you are riding a motorcycle. Everything you do with your body affects what the bike does. You just lean a little and the bike wants to turn. Crouch down and the bike will put on a little more speed even though you didn’t twist the throttle. Just the reduction in surface area makes it possible by reducing drag.

The people of the First Nations were the first ecologists. They believed that all living things on this planet shared a connection. And we can document that thousands of years ago they had knowledge concerning the beginnings of the seasons. They built monuments that gave a permanent way to know when the seasons were beginning. They lived. In intimate contact with nature and did not need the various scientific instruments we use today.

They could witness how a boom in certain prey animals resulted in a boom in those animal’s predators. Or how a bumper crop of wild berries increased the birth rate of the creatures that fed on those berries. When one of the resources that they used seemed to be running short, they either switched to another resource, or simply pulled up stakes and moved.

Today we have satellites That take precise measurements of the gases that make up our atmosphere down to the parts per million. We can see how the temperature of the earth and its oceans has increased. We can track the loss of the ice caps and glaciers has not only begun but is accelerating at an alarming rate. And the ecologist has come to the same conclusion the people of the First Nations knew thousands of years ago. All living things on this planet do have some connection to all other living things.

We do not have the ability to just move to another planet, but we have started to move to another possibility. When our use of one resource has caused it to become scarce, or when it is causing problems, we are beginning to use different sources. By moving to wind and solar to produce electricity we are moving away from fossil fuels. Working to make more efficient use of fresh water and protecting the sources of our fresh water is another important step we are taking. And working to reduce spoilage of our foods can help to make certain we have food for everyone.

We can all become ecologist in own rights by carefully considering how our actions will affect others, and our planet.

Bob Mortenson 10-4-2023.



We know it's cold out there, and we have just what you need! Embrace the frosts of Fall with a soft, warm crewneck from your favorite windmill! The Danish Windmill design on the right is also available as a hoodie. Sizes S-3XL available and all very reasonably priced. Now available in the gift shop or online!

And while you're at it, check out our hard cider from Iowa's own Wilson's Orchard, now back in stock. Get a can for yourself or create your own 4-pack out of any of our 5 delicious flavors: Honey Crisp, Blueberry, Cherry, Peach, and Apple Cider Donut.

Get yours today!

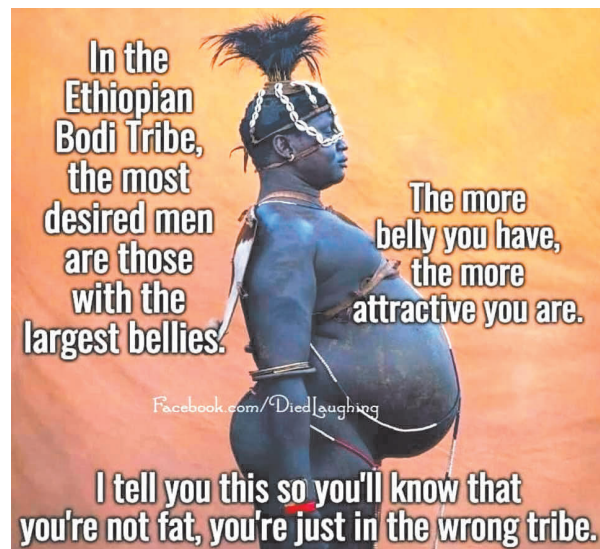
## THE SKJALDBORG VIKINGS

### SATURDAY - OCTOBER 14 at the Danish Windmill

Educational Lectures | Blacksmithing Demonstrations | Real Battles



when i was a kid, my parents would always say "Excuse my French" just after a swear word... I'll never forget my first day at school when my teacher asked if any of us knew any French.



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JOIN US FOR A NIGHT ON THE TOWN IN ELK HORN, IOWA

# THROWBACK THOR'S DAY

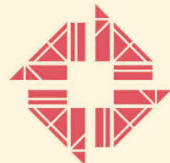
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RED ROASTED POTATOES



MODA'S GENEALOGY CENTER  
OPEN LATE: 10AM - 8PM  
LETTERHEAD PRESS DEMONSTRATIONS

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

## Scratches From The Rusty Quill

By Wava Petersen

By the time this appears on the printed page we will be over two weeks deep into October. Harvest will be well underway, possibly even finished for some. Pumpkins appear everywhere and kids' thoughts are on Halloween parties, costumes and trick-or-treating. So maybe it's time to write about something a little bit ghoulish.

I grew up in a family where the rules for civilized living must have been ingrained in our genes. We automatically knew our limits. My dad's discipline was usually nothing more than a stern: "Just don't let it happen again because next time....." We never did find out what would happen next time because we made sure a next time never happened. Dad did, however, love to tease and sometimes the teasing went somewhat beyond acceptable limits. This time it made for a good story to tell our grandkids.

Dale and I must have been in 1st grade when every kid in our country school was gifted with a toothbrush and a small container of something called tooth powder, which could have been the forerunner of toothpaste. I suspect these were a promotional for whatever company provided it. There may have been a note along with the gift suggesting that all school kids should have their teeth examined. And so it was that the night before the dreaded visit to the dentist, Dad took it upon himself to properly inform two worried little kids what would take place.

It was like getting a death sentence as he listed the order of events: "First, they put tongs in your ears and hang you up by a rope on a pulley from the ceiling." Tongs of our childhood had only one meaning, the huge tools Dad used to carry the 50-pound blocks of ice he sometimes brought home to use when we made ice-cream. The ropes and pulleys imagined were the heavy-duty types used to pull huge forkfuls of hay up into the haymow. Summoning up his best dramatic voice he added, "Then he comes with great big pliers with long handles, grabs your tooth and twists and pulls until it comes out." By the time he paused for breath we were both petrified and I don't have any recollection of any additional advice he gave us. I think I was too scared to cry, but Dale, with tears streaming down his cheeks locked his arms and legs around the sturdy leg of the kitchen table vowing to hang on forever if it took that long to avoid the torture chamber.

Our mother must have reassured us that all would be OK as she unwrapped Dale from the table leg and accompanied us upstairs to bed. She had her own quiet ways of dealing with Dad's nonsense.

The next morning Mama dutifully ushered us into Dr. Stiles' office on upper Main Street in Elk Horn. Clinging to her hands we warily entered the inner sanctum, a stark, cavernous room with an enormously high ceiling and a single bare window. Cold and depressing, it was furnished with only "the chair" that looked as formidable as an electric chair to a condemned man. The basin attached to the stand holding



the drill had an offensive reddish-brown stain running down the inside below the faucet. Though it was probably a rust stain from the water I presumed it to be from the expectorated blood of countless previous victims. Add to that the primitive dental accoutrements of the 1930s and it made for quite an unnerving chamber of horrors.

Well, it wasn't so bad after all, no ropes, tongs, pulleys or huge pliers. The dreaded dentist didn't look anything like Frankenstein's monster as he performed a rather perfunctory examination. I actually don't remember much about it except that it was painless and Dr. Stiles really seemed quite nice. And I learned an early lesson in how not to prepare your child for a first trip to the family dentist. Never-the-less, I still view every appointment with trembling and apprehension.



The new bicycle seat and bed for children



Everyone you meet is fighting a battle you know nothing about.  
Be kind always  
-Robin Williams

EXIRA CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
 108 E WASHINGTON ST. – CITY HALL  
 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2023  
 7:30 PM

The Exira City Council met in city hall on Monday, September 11, 2023. Present were Mayor Mike Huegerich and Council Members: Dwight Jessen, Clark Borkowski, Dorreen Schrader, Nathan Wahlert, and Mark Paulsen. City Clerk Meg Andersen, City Attorney Clint Fichter, Deputy Seaton, Deputy James, Blake Birkel and four residents were also present.

Mayor Huegerich called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

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

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

Mayor Huegerich presented the August 2023 Sheriff's report. Deputy Jimmy James introduced himself.

Public comments were heard on odor, refuse, and animal nuisances at 307 S Carthage St. A motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Borkowski, to pursue condemnation of 307 S Carthage St. All voted aye, motion passed.

Blake Birkel with JEO consulting group presented wastewater treatment upgrade options and answered questions from council regarding funding and next steps in the process.

A motion made by Jessen, seconded by Wahlert, to set a public information meeting to discuss the City of Exira's intent to apply for USDA funding on October 9, 2023 at 7:30 PM. All voted aye, motion passed.

City Clerk presented progress report on the Edgerton Street bridge project and reconstruction options. A bridge engineer from JEO is planning to attend the October 9th council meeting to explain reconstruction options and provide a professional recommendation.

A motion made by Jessen, seconded by Borkowski, to approve the sidewalk reconstruction permit at 105 N Carthage St. Four Ayes, Wahlert abstained, motion passed.

A motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Paulsen, to approve fence permit for 301 E Depot St. All voted aye, motion passed.

Mayor Huegerich proclaimed 5 PM to 7 PM on Tuesday October 31, 2023, as trick or treat night for in the City of Exira.

A motion made by Borkowski, seconded by Wahlert, to approve city clerk attendance and associated costs for ILOC annual conference, IMPI Fall session, and IMFOA Fall conference. All voted aye, motion passed.

A motion made by Borkowski, seconded by Jessen, to approve Ordinance 244 Trees and waive the second and third readings of Ordinance 244 Trees. Roll Call Vote: Paulsen-aye, Schrader-aye, Wahlert-aye, Borkowski-aye, Jessen-aye. Ordinance 244 passed and effective 9-11-2023.

A motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Schrader, to credit \$46.13 in sewer charges to 201 N Cottage St. All voted aye, motion passed.

Exira EHK yearbook sponsorship was tabled.

City Clerk office hours are 8 AM to 3 PM on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, with remote work approved on Wednesdays.

A plaque will be ordered for the Curry memorial bench using remaining memorial funds.

The City of Exira was awarded USDA grant funds in the amount of \$28,900 towards the fire department roof replacement.

The City of Exira was awarded \$5,000 in funds from the Community Forestry

Grant. A community tree planting day will take place on October 14, 2023, at 8 AM in the City and Legion Parks. Volunteers are needed to assist in planting 38 new trees.

City Clerk provided status updates for street paving on W South St., N Cottage St., N Kilworth St., and S Carthage St. as well as Snyder & Associates survey work.

Council discussed potential future windmill proximity to the City of Exira. City Attorney will prepare presentation for next council meeting.

A motion made by Schrader, seconded by Borkowski, to adjourn at 8:57 PM.

Mike Huegerich, Mayor                      Meg Andersen, City Clerk





**Support to:**

# HEAL.

**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 **3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday** of every month from **6pm-8pm**

**Contact (712) 304-5779 with questions**

There is a new opportunity for people who have incurable chronic conditions like, autoimmune diseases including; multiple sclerosis, lupus, fibromyalgia, as well as chronic pain or Long-COVID; it is a support group, called HEAL, that meets from 6-8 pm the 3rd Wednesday of the month in the Exira Library meeting room. It was started by two ladies who suffer from chronic fatigue who found comfort in concolling each other over the past decade and wanted to bring that comfort to others struggling with chronic conditions. "I have noticed that chronic conditions are becoming increasingly more prevalent yet every chronically ill person I have ever met, including myself, struggles with feeling alone and isolated. Our goal in creating HEAL is to bring these people together to encourage, support and help them realize they are not alone," said cofounder Lydia Wahlert. The name of the group is HEAL which is an acronym that stands for Hope, Empathy, Acceptance and Love.

**Hope-** By definition the people in this group have no hope of a cure for their condition, which is a very hard pill to swallow. Staying positive and finding a way to live with your condition often feels impossible and hopeless. Talking with others who have similar experiences and struggles can help them restore their hope of being able to live a viable life.

**Empathy-** The biggest obstacles in today's society that people with chronic illness have to overcome in order to feel seen and empathize with is education or knowledge of the condition itself. Like long-COVID many chronic conditions are new or under researched by the medical community, so not even the doctors know or understand what is happening to them. Patients' symptoms are often disbelieved, belittled, or brushed off by the very people who are supposed to be making them better; in fact it takes an average of 3-5 years of sickness before patients receive their diagnosis. Meeting with others who have experienced your symptoms and understand what you are going through helps validate your experience and reassures you that they are real.

**Acceptance-** Learning to accept that you are going to have an illness for the rest of your life is never easy, but learning to accept the daily restrictions that your illness causes is seems insurmountable. Normally when you get sick you "fight" through it and get better, however with chronic conditions you have to learn to stop fighting your body and start listening to it. You can't redirect your anger at the disease to getting better, like other non chronic conditions because it will just make you worse. Seeing other people with similar constraints helps you accept your own limitations because you see that they are surviving and living despite them.

**Love-** The end goal for someone with an incurable chronic condition is to learn to love your diseased and broken body and live a full meaningful life, despite the restrictions it imposes on your life. Being encouraged and comforted by people who face similar restrictions helps achieve this goal way faster than doing it alone or with people who can't imagine what you are going through.

If you know someone who struggles with everyday activities due to a chronic condition that can't be cured please spread the word that we are here waiting for you to come help us HEAL together! Meet us Wednesday October 18th from 6-8pm at the Exira Library. If you have questions, concerns or just need a listening ear please contact Lydia Wahlert at 712-304-5779 or lydiawahlert@gmail.com.

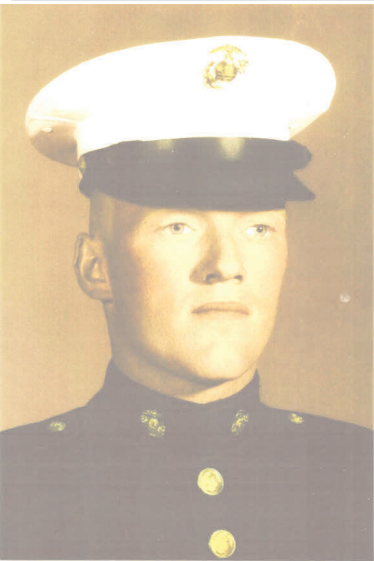
CITY OF EXIRA  
CITY PARKS

## TREE PLANTING DAY

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO HELP  
US PLANT 33 NEW TREES IN OUR  
PARKS

DATE: SATURDAY OCTOBER 14  
TIME: 8AM-NOON  
WHERE: EXIRA CITY PARK &  
EXIRA LEGION PARK  
BRING: GLOVES, SHOVEL, RAKE

CONTACT MEG ANDERSEN AT  
712-268-2187 WITH ANY  
QUESTIONS



ALAN STEEN

The steamy jungles of Vietnam and the corn fields of Iowa don't have much in common. They were, however, both locations where Al Steen lived. It was his choice to call the Iowa corn fields his home; it was Uncle Sam who chose the jungles of Vietnam for him.

In late 1969 Al received his draft notice. The Army wanted him. He was ordered to go to Omaha for induction. The atmosphere around the Steen house was quite subdued and somber the night before he left—with one excep-

tion. One of his sisters had invited a friend over. Being girls with a lively sense of humor, they prepared a surprise for him, waiting to be discovered at the induction center. The next day in Omaha, as Al undressed in preparation for his military physical, unbeknown to him the girls had printed in bold, black letters across the seat of his undershorts "WISH WE KNEW YOU BETTER." The chuckles and laughs of the fellow recruits alerted Al to what he hadn't seen. If only he had paid closer attention when he dressed in the early morning hours. Those rascally girls—at least they helped him see that humor can pop up in the most unexpected places.

As the induction process went on, a sergeant came into the room. He announced that three recruits were needed for the Marines and asked for volunteers. No one volunteered. He left but returned shortly with a clip board. He read the names of three men who were being transferred to the Marines. Al was one of the three.

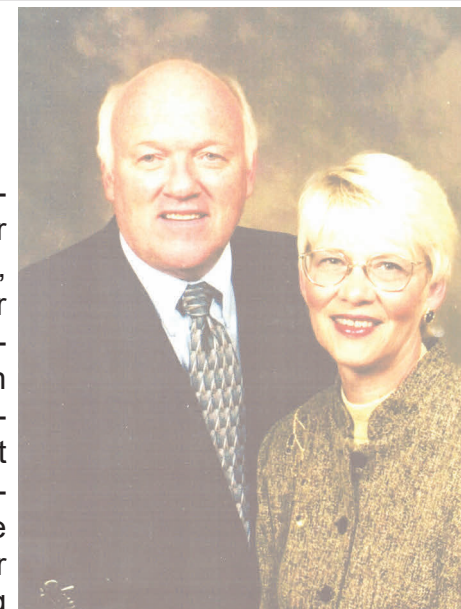
At 22 years old, Al was one of the oldest Marines in boot camp. During infantry training he realized that the many hours he had spent hunting as a boy growing up gave him an advantage. When the results came back from the shooting range, he was informed that of the 800 Marines he had scored third highest. That meant he qualified for sniper training. Although he was not anxious to be a sniper, he did like the idea that the additional training time meant he would be delayed in going to Vietnam.

Once in Vietnam Al was stationed so close to Laos that it seemed if he stepped in the wrong direction, he would have left Vietnam and be in Laos. He quickly learned that sleeping on the ground certainly didn't feel like sleeping in the bed he left behind in Iowa. Far more "uncomfortable" than the hardness of the earthen bed were the night sounds of the jungle. Were those sounds coming from animals? From enemy soldiers? From branches and vines blowing in the wind? In the darkness a Marine's mind could run wild with imagination. Could they be the sound of "rock apes"—those mysterious creatures written and talked about by hundreds and hundreds of soldiers who served in Vietnam? Scientists say rock apes are an urban legend, comparable to the Loch

Ness Monster, Big Foot or the Abominable Snowman. But when a soldier is deep in the jungle on a dark night, those threatening sounds—whatever they were-- could make sleep impossible! One sound that left no problem in identification was the whistling of missiles heading toward camp! Al's honest response is that every soldier is terrified. His earnest prayer was "Let me die at home, not here." However, after the initial moments of panic, training kicks in.

Troop movement was always made more dangerous by threat of ambush. Al remembers once where there were three ambushes within a week's time. Another memory he shared was when, at the end of troop movement, one of the trucks was missing. No information was ever received as to what happened to the truck or what became of those Marines. In the event of casualties, it was more difficult to evacuate the wounded than the KIA.

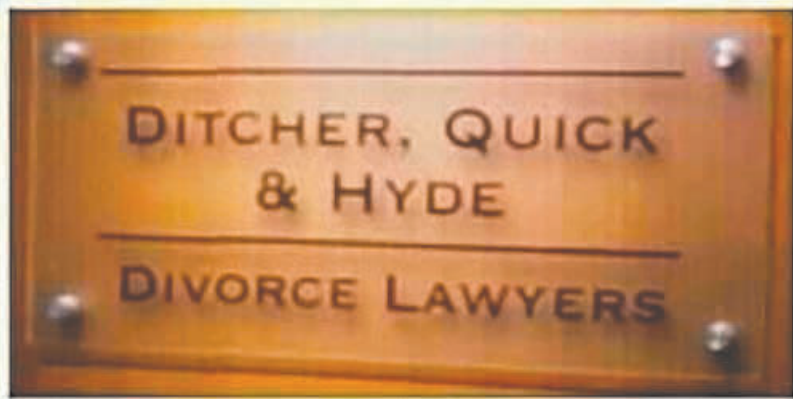
Although Al had been trained as a sniper, he never served as one. He learned he was included in part of President Nixon's plan for early troop withdrawal from Vietnam. He would be reassigned and ended up spending only about three months in Vietnam. He spent most of the remainder of his service time at the Marine headquarters in Okinawa. He was sent to the Philippines for a short training period in jungle tactics. He also spent time in Japan where he took cold weather training at Mt. Fuji—Japan's highest mountain. Al finished at Camp Pendleton as a rifle coach. He was given an early out to come home and attend college.



Join us for our first Third Thursday Family Game Night! We will start at 7:00 pm on October 19th! We hope to see you here!



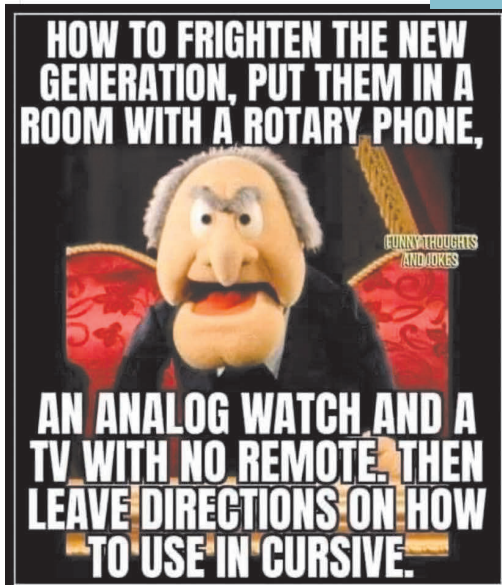
Join us Friday, October 27th from 2 - 4 pm for a Crafty Good Time All ages welcome, come and go as you wish. No Charge



Back in my day we didn't have GPS.



We had Road Maps.



The first two weeks of Story Time have been great!! What a sweet group of kiddos! So far we've read about Fall and all the pretty colors that come along with it, and also about Spookly the Square Pumpkin!



Why is cancelling student debt a good idea? Does it make sense to reward people who do not honour their financial commitment by taxing the people who do?

Are we living in a time where intelligent people are silenced so that stupid people won't be offended?

The most powerful governments on earth can't stop a virus from spreading...but they say they can change the earth's temperature if you pay more taxes.

**Violet Pleake**  
**Jan 14, 1937 - Sept 30, 2023**

Funeral Service for Violet Pleake was held on Saturday, September 30, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. at United Methodist Church, Irwin, Iowa with Pastor Sue Thomas, Officiating. Casket Bearers were Jeff Keller, Colby Keller, Connor Keller, Caden Keller, Ethan Carter and Liam Carter. Congregational Hymns were "How Great Thou Art", "Just As I Am", Shelly Christensen, Pianist. Recorded Hymn was "I Can't Have A Home In This World Anymore".

Place of Rest at Oak Hill Cemetery, Irwin, Iowa.



Violet Smith, daughter of Roy Sr. and Julia (Barton) Smith, was born January 14, 1937, in Gardiner, New York. She graduated from Andrew Jackson Senior High School in Jacksonville, Florida with the Class of 1954. Violet then attended Iowa Western Community College in Council Bluffs, Iowa, Bellevue College in Bellevue, Nebraska and then the University of New Hampshire in Durham, New Hampshire.

On July 15, 1955, Violet was united in marriage with Richard Robinson Jr. at Kingsland, Georgia. Four kids were born to this union. During this time, Violet worked in banking. The couple later divorced.

When Violet made her home in Omaha, Nebraska, she worked in the food, beverage and gift departments at Eppley Airfield. From 1987 to 2002, she operated "Miss Vi's Daycare and Preschool" in her home near Lake Manawa in Council Bluffs.

On November 7, 2002, Violet was blessed with a second marriage, this time with Kenneth E. Pleake in Harlan. They made their home northeast of Irwin where she enjoyed being active in the community. Violet was a member of the Irwin United Methodist Church and served with the UMW, on the Nominated Committee and as Financial Secretary. She volunteered with the Lied Irwin Public Library and enjoyed being a member of the Craft Club and Jefferson Club.

Violet suffered a stroke about 10 years ago, but remained strong until her health began to decline in 2021. On Sunday, September 25, 2023, Violet passed away at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, Nebraska at the age of 86 years, 8 months and 10 days.

Violet is survived by her husband Kenneth Pleake of Irwin; a son Thomas Robinson and wife Kathy of Florida; step daughters: Sherry Christiansen of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Michele McCracken of Houston, Texas; a stepson Kenneth Pleake of Huxley, Iowa; a brother Asa Smith of Florida; and by several grandchildren and step grandchildren; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a daughter Kathy Moss; sons Kenneth and Michael Robinson; a brother Roy Smith Jr.; and three sisters: Bessie Stafford, Helen Naylor and Shirley Thompson. Ohde Funeral Home in Manilla in charge of arrangements. [www.ohdefuneralhome.com](http://www.ohdefuneralhome.com)

## SHELBY COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM



### Shelby County Historical Museum Hosts Historical Cemetery Walk

Elk Horn, Iowa – The Shelby County Historical Museum announces that they will host a Historical Cemetery Walk at the Elk Horn Lutheran Church on Thursday, October 26th at 6:30PM.

The event will begin at 6:30 with a guided tour of the Elk Horn Cemetery at 4313 Main St. in Elk Horn led by Warren Watson. The tour will be followed by a presentation on the history of the Elk Horn Cemetery in the Elk Horn Lutheran Church sanctuary.

"We are very excited to partner with Warren Watson and the Elk Horn Lutheran Church for this program and share Shelby County's history outside of Harlan," says Sarah McDonald, Executive director of the Shelby County Historical Museum. "I am particularly interested in learning more about Danish burial traditions, including the helhest, from Warren's presentation."

Flashlights and booklets will be provided to share information and photos of family plots highlighted throughout the tour. The event is free, open to the public, and a great opportunity for all ages to learn about Shelby County history!

#### About the Shelby County Historical Museum

The Shelby County Historical Museum was founded in 1964 by over 50 individuals who were passionate about preserving local history for future generations. The museum is home to two exhibit buildings and two historic log cabins built in Shelby County in 1856 and 1857. Each year, they welcome thousands of visitors who experience rural Iowa's history through free exhibits and programming.



**Join the Kimballton-Elk Horn Optimists: Inspiring Optimism and Empowering Our Community**

**Kimballton-Elk Horn, 10/8/2023**

In the heart of our welcoming community, a group of dedicated individuals has come together to make a lasting difference in the lives of our children. The Kimballton-Elk Horn Optimists, a local chapter of the esteemed Optimist International organization, aim to foster optimism, empower the youth, and create a brighter future for all. If you're looking for a way to give back and be a force for good in our community, we invite you to join our ranks and become a part of something truly meaningful.

**Bringing Out the Best in Ourselves and Others**

At the core of the Optimist philosophy is the belief that positivity and a can-do attitude can transform lives. The members of the Kimballton-Elk Horn Optimists live by this creed, working tirelessly to bring out the best in themselves and others. Through our various programs and initiatives, we aim to uplift the spirits of children and families in our community, helping them reach their full potential.

**Investing in Our Community's Future**

What sets the Kimballton-Elk Horn Optimists apart is our unwavering commitment to our community, particularly its youngest members. Every penny we collect locally is reinvested directly back into the community. Our focus on children means that we prioritize programs and projects that enrich their lives and provide them with the tools they need to succeed.

From supporting local schools and extracurricular activities to organizing events that promote self-confidence and leadership skills, we are dedicated to making a lasting impact. You become an integral part of this vital mission when you join our club.

**Join Us for a Meeting**

If you're ready to make a difference in the lives of our community's children and contribute to the betterment of society, we invite you to join us for our monthly meetings. We gather on the first Saturday of every month at 8:00 am at the cozy Kringelman Coffee Shop in Elk Horn. It's a welcoming environment where like-minded individuals come together to discuss upcoming projects, brainstorm ideas, and share the joy of giving back.

Whether you have a passion for mentoring, organizing events, or fundraising, there's a place for you in our club. Together, we can amplify the positive impact we have on the lives of the children in Kimballton and Elk Horn.

**How to Get Involved**

Becoming a member of the Kimballton-Elk Horn Optimists is easy. Simply attend one of our meetings or reach out to us for more information. You can also visit our Facebook page to learn more about our ongoing initiatives and events.

In a world where optimism and community involvement are more important than ever, the Kimballton-Elk Horn Optimists are here to make a difference. Join us, and together we can create a brighter, more hopeful future for our children and our community. Remember our mission, "By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in youth, our communities, and ourselves." starts with you.

For inquiries or to get involved, please contact

Branon Baggett at [bbaggett@eehkspartans.org](mailto:bbaggett@eehkspartans.org) or by phone at 712-304-2486.

## 40 ACRES M/L CASS COUNTY LAND AUCTION

Melodi Jenkins, Jan Jensen, Ashley Jensen, Owners

Thursday, November 30th, 2023 • 10:00 A.M.

**SALE LOCATION:** Kimballton Town Hall  
205 N. Main St. Kimballton, IA

**JACKSON TOWNSHIP: Section 14  
CSR2: 65.9**

**Closing Attorney: Todd Argotsinger**  
(712)755-3141 • 711 Court St., Harlan, IA

**Auctioneers: Osborn Auction LLC • 712-579-4824**

**AUCTION CONDUCTED BY: OSBORN AUCTION LLC, Walnut/Harlan, IA**  
**Mitch Osborn, 712-579-4824 • John Clayton, 712-249-1024**  
**Curtis Osborn, 712-246-8722 • [www.osbornauction.com](http://www.osbornauction.com)**

Kim Reynolds  
Governor  
Adam Gregg  
Lt. Governor



Department of Public Safety  
Stephan K. Bayens  
Commissioner

**PROCLAMATION  
OPEN BURNING PROHIBITED**

ON SEPTEMBER 29, 2023, THE OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL RECEIVED A REQUEST PURSUANT TO IOWA CODE 100.40(1) (1995) FROM TYLER THYGESEN, EMA, REPRESENTING EACH FIRE DEPARTMENT HAVING ALL OR PART OF THEIR FIRE DISTRICT WITHIN AUDUBON COUNTY, THAT THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL PROHIBIT OPEN BURNING IN AUDUBON COUNTY. UPON INVESTIGATION THE FIRE MARSHAL FINDS THAT CONDITIONS IN AUDUBON COUNTY ARE SUCH THAT OPEN BURNING CONSTITUTES A DANGER TO LIFE OR PROPERTY.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT NO PERSON SHALL ENGAGE IN OPEN BURNING IN AUDUBON COUNTY, EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023 AT 8:00 AM EXCEPT AS SPECIFICALLY PERMITTED BY IOWA CODE 100.40(3) UNTIL SUCH TIME AS TYLER THYGESEN, EMA, REPRESENTING EACH FIRE DEPARTMENT HAVING ALL OR PART OF THEIR FIRE DISTRICT WITHIN AUDUBON COUNTY, NOTIFIES THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL THAT SUCH CONDITIONS DANGEROUS TO LIFE OR PROPERTY NO LONGER EXISTS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT PURSUANT TO IOWA CODE 100.40(2) ANY VIOLATION OF THIS PROCLAMATION ORDER IS A SIMPLE MISDEMEANOR.

Saturday, September 30, 2023

Dan Wood

STATE FIRE MARSHAL

## Seven Week Bible Study

# “When You Pray”

All Women Are Welcome

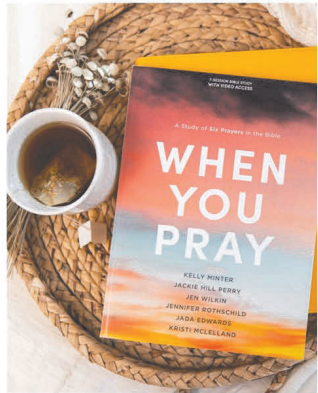
### TWO OPTIONS:

Each Sunday Beginning  
October 15th, 6:00-7:30 pm

OR

Each Monday Beginning  
October 16th, 1:30-3:00 pm

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
204 W. 2nd St. Kimballton



For Information Call or Text:  
Cindy White @ 402-910-2144

## Salem Lutheran Homes & Rehab Fall Bazaar

Tuesday Oct 17th, 2023 Elk Horn Lutheran Church

5:00 pm Free Will Donation Dinner

Prepared by Elk Horn's own Mayor Kelli Hansen

6:00 pm

Live Auction Hosted by Wayne Hansen

Raffle Drawing to follow



Raffle Quilt  
Donated by Sharlot Steen

Tickets are \$20.00 for 1 or 6 for \$100.00

Raffle Tickets can be purchased  
in the Business Office at Salem  
or call 712-764-4201

Need not be present to win



### Fareway Meat Bundle

- 4-8 oz Ribeyes
- 4-8 oz New York Strips
- 4-10 oz Iowa Pork Chops
- 4-10 oz Chicken Breast
- 5- 1 lb Ground Beef

2 Meat Bundles will be raffled off



## HISTORICAL CEMETERY WALK

PRESENTED BY WARREN WATSON

Thursday, October 26 @ 6:30PM

Elk Horn Lutheran Church & Elk  
Horn Cemetery  
4313 Main St., Elk Horn

History of the Elk Horn Cemetery  
Self-Guided Tour of Family Plots

HOSTED BY: SHELBY COUNTY  
HISTORICAL  
MUSEUM



The Kringle  
Man Pastries



712-764-3663  
Box 94, 4234 Main  
St  
Elk Horn, IA



## PLAYING WITH FIRE

On September 24 Allen Petersen's field caught on fire. While Allan's field was burning and Gude's long-time house was dangerously at risk, Kimballton, Exira and Brayton fire departments were on the site within minutes. Where was our very own fire department?

### **FACTS:**

- 1) Elk Horn city Fire Chief was forbidden to join in any fire or emergency calls. The decree came from the Elk Horn city council. The decision had nothing to do with his ability to perform his duties as Fire Chief. It was based on personal retribution.
- 2) Additionally, the people responsible for the suspension of the Fire Chief quit the fire department – knowing full well their action would essentially paralyze the emergency mechanism of Elk Horn.
- 3) As the fire burned, they accomplished their goal - No Elk Horn responders available to fight the fire. Had these people not chased a personal vendetta, our fire department would have been the first to protect our community.
- 4) This same group attempts to blame the suspended Fire Chief for the debacle.

What a sad affair when other cities must come to the rescue of an Elk Horn citizen while “our protectors” watch it burn. This group of people decided their attack on an individual was more important than the safety of the people they promised to protect. Sadly, this situation appears to be just one example of prioritizing personal agendas over community needs (including ambulance service) in this city. Once this group accomplished their goal of a terminated Fire Chief, they immediately rejoined the department. Let's remember, these actions had nothing to do with the leadership ability of the Fire Chief.

***More to come***

### ***The Community Voice***

Over the last few years, the paper has heard from many people requesting an opportunity to speak to the community. To this end, the Rolling Hills newspaper has decided to dedicate a page to the voice of the community – “The Community Voice”. This includes positive, complimentary articles as well as articles of concern. To submit your article to the paper, send a digital copy to [content@rollinghillsnews.net](mailto:content@rollinghillsnews.net). For assistance call the paper at 712-764-3441 or 510-205-8840.

This decision puts the paper on a “slippery slope”. We understand that opinions are often controversial and confrontational. However, slanderous comments are not acceptable. We will either edit them out or reject the article. To that end, we will have sole discretion regarding the content and publication of the articles. We will only publish articles with an accompanying name. Respectful rebuttals to an article will be accepted. Let's remember, dialogue is the goal.

PLEASE keep your articles succinct and factual. Let's let the truth prevail over rumor.

***“A lie can travel half way around the world while the truth is putting on its shoes.”***

— Mark Twain

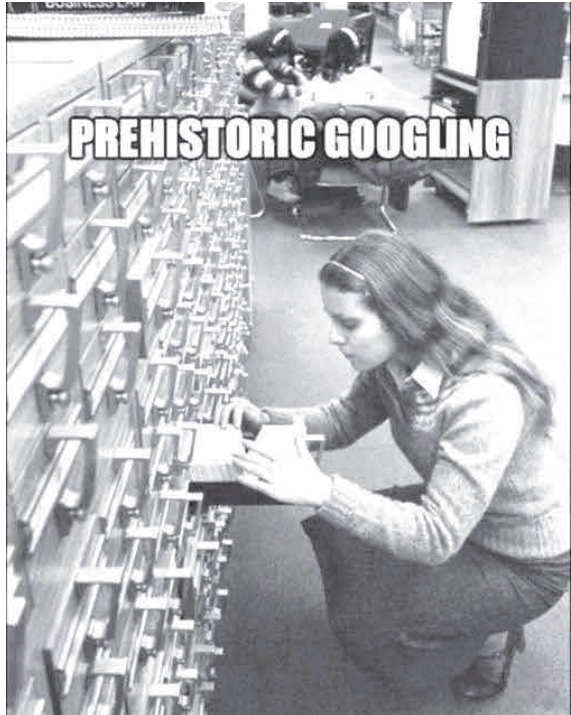


Atlantic, IA


During October, Cass Health will host two sessions of their Healthy U lunch-and-learn series. On October 19, Dermatology Nurse Practitioner Lacey Sindt will present on skin cancer. Sindt is a board-certified family nurse practitioner with a Doctorate in Nursing Practice from the University of Nebraska Medical Center. She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Iowa in 2019, after previously working as an LPN and RN for 10 years. With more than a decade of dermatology and facial aesthetics experience, Sindt offers a variety of dermatology care including skin checks, skin cancer screenings, acne, rashes, psoriasis, rosacea, toenail fungus, moles, warts, and other skin conditions.

On October 26, Dr. Matt Weresh will present on orthopedic surgery. Dr. Weresh is an orthopedic surgeon who specializes in hip and knee procedures, ranging from complex joint replacements to simple joint procedures and surgeries. With more than 25 years of experience in central Iowa, Dr. Weresh relocated his practice to Cass Health in 2018. He received his medical degree from the University of Iowa College of Medicine, and then completed his orthopedic residency at Akron General Medical Center. He then went on to complete an orthopedic trauma fellowship at the Carolinas Medical Center. Dr. Weresh is board certified and a Fellow of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgery.

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](http://casshealth.org/healthyu).

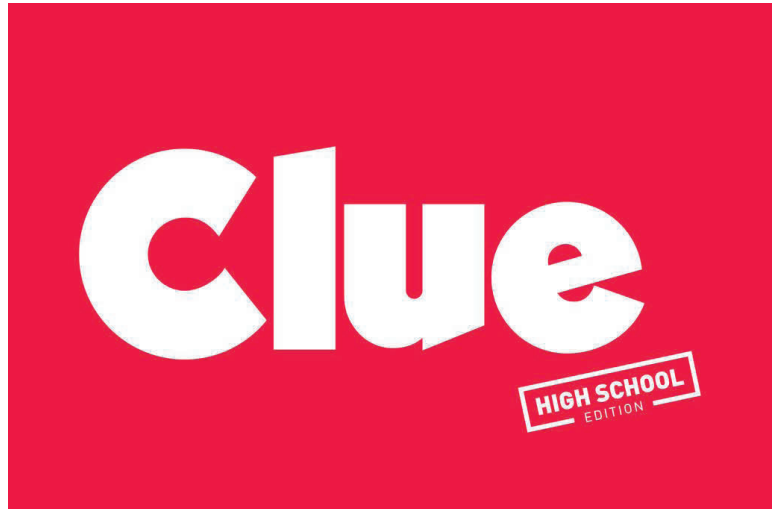


When a woman says "First of all.." in an argument, Run away.. She has prepared research data, charts and graphs ready to destroy you

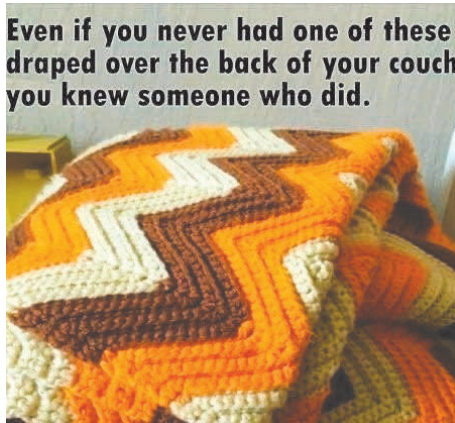


**Christofferson**  
SEPTIC PUMPING  
*A FLUSH BEATS A FULL HOUSE!*  
Duane Christofferson  
1361 Little Field Dr, Elk Horn (712)249-1582

On Tuesday night, our HS Play students had their second read through of "Clue: On Stage ~ High School Edition". This is sure to be a HILARIOUS show!! Make sure you mark your calendars for the weekend of November 18th & 19th! Was it Miss Scarlett in the Kitchen with the Rope? Was it Mr. Green in the Lounge with the Lead Pipe? Come join us for this fun show!!



**IN WINE  
THERE IS WISDOM,  
IN BEER  
THERE IS FREEDOM,  
IN WATER  
THERE IS BACTERIA.**



Even if you never had one of these draped over the back of your couch you knew someone who did.



Happy National 4H Week Spartans! Shelby County and Audubon County 4Hers and Clover kids pose in their 4H gear today!

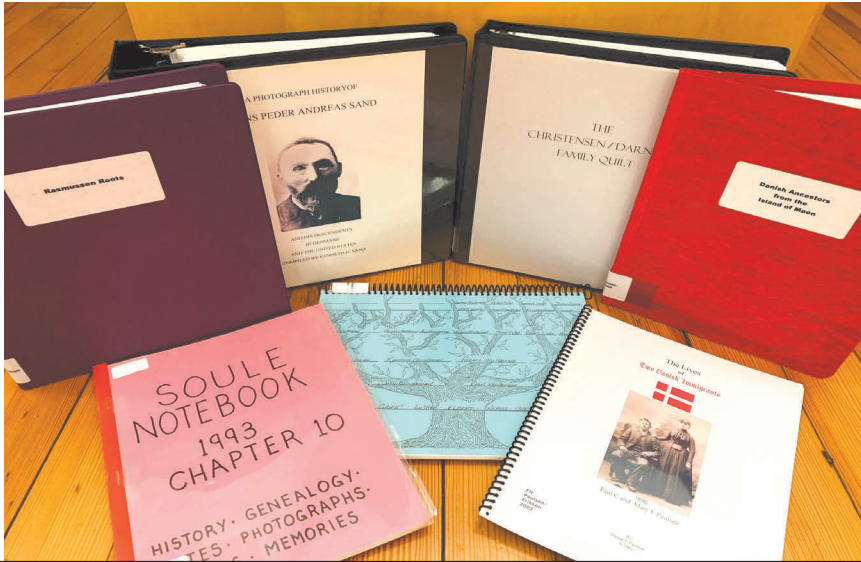


Alissa Jody LaCanne

October is Family History Month - During this special month, we're celebrating by sharing some of the Genealogy & Education Center's resources used by the community and visitors to enhance the research of their families.

\*The Genealogy & Education Center's resource library contains over 800 donated family history books including biographies and memoirs of Danish immigrants. Stop in and see how different families put together their stories.

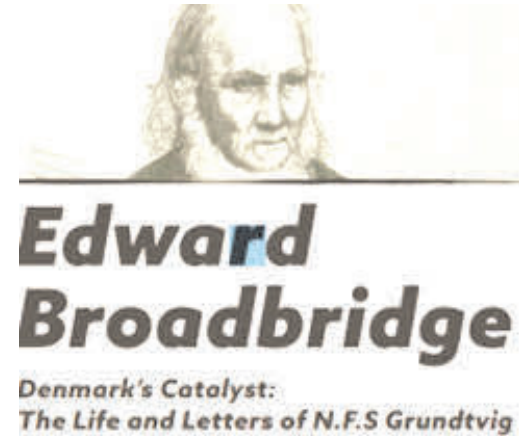
Genealogy Tip - Though it's tempting not to print things when it's so easy and inexpensive to share digitally, it's still important to print archival copies of your family history book for the sake of longevity. Your printed book never becomes inaccessible due to changing technology, or because no one remembers what website has your saved project.



### Brown Bag Lunch – October 19th at noon

Bring your lunch to the museum for MoDA's free monthly speaker series, made possible with financial support from former board member Dennis Andersen, Atlanta, GA.

Translator and editor Edward Broadbridge will discuss his new biography on N.F.S. Grundtvig, which views Grundtvig as the catalyst of modern Danish society.



We love school tours!

We all enjoyed having 50 third graders from IKM-Manning tour the museum, prairie, Bedstemor's, the Genealogy & Education Center and sample aebleskiver with the Kringle Man on a chilly October day!



# INTERESTED IN FFA??



We are now holding our annual membership drive for Exira-EHK FFA Members

**STUDENTS 8TH-12TH GRADES ARE INVITED STOP IN AND GRAB PAPERWORK!**

Membership dues are \$35 payable to Exira-EHK FFA and include our annual FFA t-shirt. Paperwork and money are due September 29th.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT MRS. BORKOWSKI  
KBORKOWSKI@EEHKSPARTANS.ORG



Mice die in mouse traps because they do not understand why the cheese is free. Just like socialism.

FFA Members are currently selling fruit, meat & cheese, candy & nuts, popcorn and pickled herring. Please let me know if I can send an FFA member to you! Thanks I'm advance for your support of our program!

