



# Rolling Hills Community News

Exira  
Elk Horn  
Kimballton  
Brayton

December 15, 2023

There are  
three



Volume 3 - No. 19

The mystery of:  
"The Hiding Elk Horns"  
In the Oct 26 paper

pg 10 lower  
left of pict

Page 6  
teddy bear  
on right

Pg 19 tree:  
Bottom right



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.

## WAYNE HANSEN Real Estate

4216 Main St., Elk Horn, IA 51531 and 110 W. Washington St., Exira, IA 50076

Check out our website for more details [www.waynehansen.com](http://www.waynehansen.com)

List your farm where the action is! • Homes • Acreages • Farms • Real Estate Auctions • Crop Insurance

	<b>Wayne Hansen, Broker</b> Cell: 712-249-1785 Office: 712-764-7653 40 Years Experience		<b>Abby Rasmussen, Broker Associate</b> Cell: 712-249-1311 Email: <a href="mailto:abbyssellshomes@gmail.com">abbyssellshomes@gmail.com</a> 12 Years Experience		<b>Kathi Kilworth, Salesperson</b> Cell: 712-249-5233 Email: <a href="mailto:kk1965@metc.net">kk1965@metc.net</a> 24 Years Experience
---	--	---	---	---	--

**For Crop Insurance done right.  
Call Wayne today.  
Farmers Mutual Hail.**  
One of the only American owned  
Crop Insurance Companies.



**Farmers Mutual Hail**  
Insurance Company of Iowa



**504 2nd Ave.,  
Audubon  
REDUCED  
\$94,800**

Updated, cozy cottage. Gardeners paradise outside.  
Contact Abby Rasmussen at 712-249-1311.



**626 Hwy 173  
Elk Horn  
\$249,000**

3 Bedroom Home- Hard Surface Road  
Contact Kathi Kilworth at 712-249-5233.



**108 W. 2nd St.  
Kimballton  
\$75,000**

Main floor living with possibilities for a third bedroom  
Contact Abby Rasmussen at 712-249-1311.



**204 W. 1st St.  
Kimballton  
\$89,000**

Adorable home. Many updates  
Contact Kathi Kilworth at 712-249-5233.

- HOMES:**
- AUDUBON**
- 1106 Broadway St..... **NEW \$110,000**
  - 504 2nd Ave..... **REDUCED \$94,800**
- EXIRA:**
- 504 Hillhaven St..... **NEW \$60,000**
  - 402 E. Main..... **SALE PENDING**
  - Viking Addition Lots..... **4 LOTS REMAIN**
- ELK HORN:**
- 2123 Washington St..... **NEW \$249,000**
  - 2123 Broadway Ave..... **PRICE REDUCED - \$799,000**
- KIMBALLTON:**
- 108 W. 2nd St..... **NEW \$75,000**
  - 204 W. 1st St..... **NEW \$89,000**
- ADAIR**
- 904 Guthrie St..... **REDUCED \$199,000**
- ATLANTIC**
- 705 Locust St..... **NEW \$159,000**

- ACREAGES**
- 2246 265th St., Exira..... **NEW \$125,000**
  - 626 Hwy. 173, Elk Horn..... **NEW \$249,000**
  - 1478 200th St..... **SALE PENDING**
  - 2404 400th St, Marne..... **NEW \$159,000**
  - 2133 Hwy 44, Harlan..... **NEW \$175,000**
- COMMERCIAL PROPERTY**
- 201 W. Washington St., Exira..... **SALE PENDING**
  - 2109 Broadway..... **\$350,000/\$650,000**
  - 4218 Main St. Elk Horn, **PRICE REDUCED \$25,000**
- CASS COUNTY LAND:**
- 66459 750th St., Massena..... **SOLD**  
3+ Acre lots to build on still available.  
..... **STARTING AT \$45,000**

**Farmland**  
• 72 Acres M/L, Sec. 11  
Sharon Twp., Audubon County  
\$8,000/acre or \$576,000

**WE'D LOVE TO LIST YOUR PROPERTY**

Call Wayne, Abby or Kathi today to list your home, acreage or farm with us!



Mr. Magoo

## Log Cabin Quilt Shop

Better Homes & Gardens  
**Quilt Sampler TOP SHOP**

Who is this?

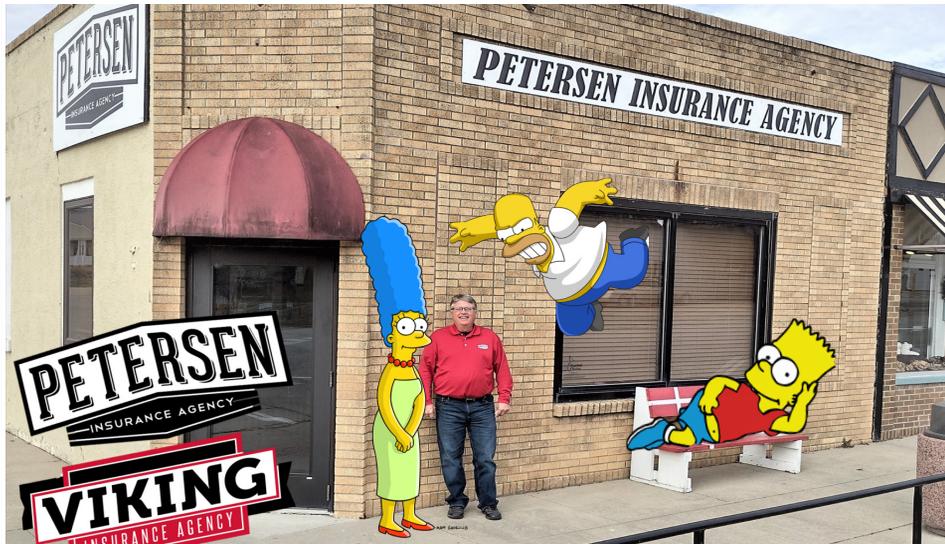
Hours  
Monday 10 am - 5 pm  
Tuesday 10 am - 5 pm  
Wednesday 10 am - 5 pm  
Thursday 10 am - 5 pm  
Friday 10 am - 5 pm  
Saturday 10 am - 5 pm

Phone: (712) 764 2487  
Email: [rhoffman1963@gmail.com](mailto:rhoffman1963@gmail.com)  
Address  
Log cabin Quilting  
2109 Broadway Ave, Elk Horn, IA 51531

### Words of Wisdom from Troy:

Let us live so that when we come to die even the undertaker will be sorry.  
- 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  
[www.petersenagency.com](http://www.petersenagency.com)



**PETERSEN INSURANCE AGENCY**

**PETERSEN**  
INSURANCE AGENCY

**VIKING**  
INSURANCE AGENCY

ALL I WANT for Christmas IS  
**FAST INTERNET!**

Add New Internet or Boost Your Current Service. Contact Us Today!

**CONTACT US**

 **Marne Elk Horn**  
Your Local Connection  
[www.metc.net](http://www.metc.net)  
712.764.6161 • Elk Horn  
712.764.2211 • Walnut & Avoca



## museum of danish america

2212 WASHINGTON ST  
ELK HORN, IA 51531

### Genealogy & Education Center Exhibition

Visit our hyggelig exhibition space to learn how to have a proper Danish Julefrokost and reminisce on 45 years of Julefest in the Danish Villages!

The Genealogy & Education Center also features a beautifully displayed shopping area! We hope you'll stop in!



### Museum of Danish America Exhibition

#### Fabric of a Nation: Art Quilts and Immigrant Stories



Quilts are often much more than simple pieces of cloth stitched together. For those who make them, they represent hours of time, thought, and labor. For those who admire them, every element tells a story – from the fabric used to the techniques present to the final design. From Danish immigration to the United States, to the people who come to America by crossing the southern border, to the Hmong people who came as refugees from Southeast Asia, explore quilting traditions that represent three different immigration stories.

The Community Story Cloth Quilt is also part of this exhibition. In collaboration with the Elk Horn Public Library, MoDA asked residents of Elk Horn and the surrounding communities to create their own quilt square inspired by Hmong story cloth traditions. From children to seniors, from people who have moved to the community recently to those who have lived here their entire lives, the quilt squares share parts of their own family or individual story. We would like to thank Mary Secress for creating the quilt, the library and Paulette Madson for their collaboration and sewing the story cloth templates, the Log Cabin Quilt Shop for their advice and expertise, and to all the participants who shared their stories.



# Christmas

## AT BETHANY FARM!

SUNDAY  
17 DECEMBER, 2023  
6-8PM

COME AND WORSHIP  
THE KING WITH US.  
ENJOY WARM  
FELLOWSHIP AROUND  
THE BEAUTY OF THE  
NATIVITY STORY AND  
CAROLS.

## Velkommen to the Danish Windmill

**OPEN DAILY**  
Monday - Saturday 9-4  
Sunday 12-4  
Visit an authentic Danish windmill today!

- Exhibits and Tours
- Scandinavian Specialty Shop
- Danish Festivals and Events
- MorningStar Tiny Chapel & Replica Viking House
- Stone-Ground Flour
- Iowa Welcome Center

**A Spin Through History**  
4038 Main St. Elk Horn, IA  
(712) 764-7472 | www.danishwindmill.com

**DANISH WINDMILL**

## News From The Mill

It has been awhile, and as usual there is plenty to catch up on at the windmill. More repairs were made on the windmill. Julefest has come and gone, we had our annual Christmas market in Des Moines, and as of this week our Christmas lights are installed on the windmill's enormous sails. And we were even awarded another major grant for 2024.

Earlier in November, the windmill lost a shutter, the same one that had broken back in 2020. The repair failed and the brace holding the two flaps together was broken entirely in half, dangling only by a sliver. Since a lift would be required, Shaun used the opportunity to get some extra maintenance done on the windmill before the end of the year. One of the suggestions Erik the millwright made when he was here was to add eyebolts to the fantail blades and frame, so that the mechanism could be securely disabled with a ratchet strap. We also wanted to go through each of the sails and make sure all bolts and fasteners were secure or lubricated as needed. Tim Palmer volunteered his services to help, and together Shaun and Tim spent a couple days modifying the fantail and going through the sails. They fixed a shingle that had come loose, tightened a number of nuts that endlessly varied in size and shape, and lubricated all of the joints of the shutter system to get it operating more smoothly again. Shaun also used the lift to finish wrapping the building in the new ambient lighting that can be seen around the whole millhouse. The high winds made some of the work up on the sails more challenging, but it was good to get some of the maintenance done before winter sets in.

The 2023 Polar Run was held last Saturday morning during Julefest. The weather was cold, but not terrible, and a cheery group of runners made the trek from the Mermaid to the Mill. Logan Moore won the fastest time award with a time of 21:57. Omar Sallak received the award for best costume. We want to extend our sincere thanks to Emily Nelson of Kimballton for volunteering to help administer the run. Unless the Mill can find new volunteers to help with the run next year, this will be the final Polar Run. The rest of Julefest went wonderfully with many of our annual visitors coming into town for the festivities, even in spite of the snowy weather on Saturday. Traffic was noticeably slower this year, but it did enable our visitors to browse the store and tour the windmill without the hassle of battling against any large crowds. This year at the windmill we sampled aebleskiver which many of our visitors had never had before. We would like to thank Sarah McDonald for volunteering to operate two aebleskiver pans for the demonstration.

We would like to take a moment to extend a special thank you to Dick Soll, a regular viewer of our Millcam. We had the windmill turning all throughout Julefest, and Dick noticed one of the shutters didn't appear to be sitting quite right in position. He called the windmill to let us know and after Shaun inspected the shutter, it became clear the locknut had failed and fallen out. Within a short time, Shaun replaced the nut and the windmill was turning again to the delight of those who braved the weather that day. We always appreciate those in town looking out for us, and we always encourage people to let us know if something doesn't look quite right.

The windmill staff did well to turn around quickly as we regrouped from Julefest and prepared for the annual Christkindlmarket in Des Moines. Julie, Tami, and Shaun all ran the hut from Thursday evening through Sunday. The weather was mild and the crowd was fierce as the days blurred together into one long 30 hour shift during which our hygge hut had almost 950 transactions. For the math wizards out there, that's a sale every two minutes! We were quite literally

blown away by the turnout this year and we're excited to aim for an even larger turnout in 2024. Our hut also cleaned up among the event awards, achieving the most votes for "Best Display" and "Most Authentic" while placing 2nd in "People's Choice."

With Christmas just around the corner, it was time to put the lights up. We collaborated with Nate Potts who made sure we had all the materials we needed. Aaron Larsen of Larsen Equipment and Dirk Wasson of Top Hand Tree Service drove a 55' lift to the windmill last Monday. It was a clear day with little wind, and although the windmill was supposed to be facing West that day, Shaun had to turn it manually from East to West to make sure the crew had good access to the sails. A 55' lift is enough to reach the center-point, but not the top, so the guys strapped lights on one sail at a time while Shaun and Nate manually turned the sails along until all four were lit. We want to thank Nate, Dirk, and Aaron for their assistance in keeping this tradition alive in Tom Potts's memory. We also want to thank Mike & Lou Howard for their generosity in making this possible.

We're also thrilled to announce that the windmill has been awarded \$6,900.00 from the Iowa Tourism office for the Iowa Tourism FY2024 grant cycle. This money will go towards an extensive marketing campaign via Reagan Outdoor Advertising which includes geofencing, targeted digital ads, and poster floods (small billboards) that will all be coordinated around seasonal tourism, Tivoli Fest, and Julefest. We will have 5 smaller billboards in the local area for Tivoli Fest and 3 for Julefest to further encourage patrons to come experience the Danish Villages at their best. We're excited for this opportunity to breathe some new innovation and freshness to our marketing strategies and look forward to working with other local organizations and businesses to further enhance these projects next year.

But we aren't out of the woods yet. We want to express our assurance that our annual appeal for donations will be going out soon. It took a considerable amount of time to receive the necessary reports from Møllebygger Petersen ApS for the work we aim to have done within the next two years, and by then, the chaos of the holidays had already set in. We are working to turn around and get this information out to all of you as soon as we can, but we still welcome donations of all amounts in the meantime. As busy as the gift shop always seems, and as hard as our staff works year long, the revenue alone is not enough to keep our doors open, and without the generosity of those who have donated to us over the years, we would not still be here. As fun and exciting as capital campaigns are, especially with our 50th anniversary just around the corner, our priority is and will remain closing the remaining gap of our annual operations cost, which is still quite large.

Finally, please join us in thanking all of our staff for what is projected to be an incredible year. They have done everything asked of them to keep everything running as smoothly as possible, working long hours and weekends to keep the Mill open to locals and visitors. We owe it all to their unrelenting dedication and passion for the windmill, and by extension our town. Thank you, sincerely, to Faye & Clويد Farley, Joanne Greving, Phyllis Hoegh, Tami Jacobsen, and Julie Nelson.



## YES, THERE IS GOOD NEWS!

GOOD NEWS!

What do you think of Christians? Are you one of them? Is it important to God that one of His children be called a Christian? Is this term a powerful influence in the bible?

The term "Christian" is used only three times in the scriptures. If you are like me, you are surprised at that statement; somehow I thought it was more prevalent as an influential word. It is used in the book of Acts 11:26, "The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch." Again in the book of Acts 26:28 we read, "Then (King) Agrippa said to Paul, 'Do you think that in such a short time you can persuade me to be a Christian?'" Finally in 1 Peter 4:16 it says, "If you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name."

And that is all there is! Outside of the bible, this word is used quite often in our society. What does it mean and is it important? Strong's Greek dictionary of the Bible tells us the definition, "One who is a follower of Christ". And, yes, I believe that it is important. But let us take a look at the three instances of its use in scripture.

In Acts 11:26 we should understand that a Christian is a disciple. In Acts 26:28 we see that an act of persuasion is necessary for one to become a Christian. And in 1 Peter 4:16 we may surmise that a Christian can experience some sort of suffering as a result of bearing that 'name'. If you are a self-proclaimed Christian then, do you fit into this three-fold definition?

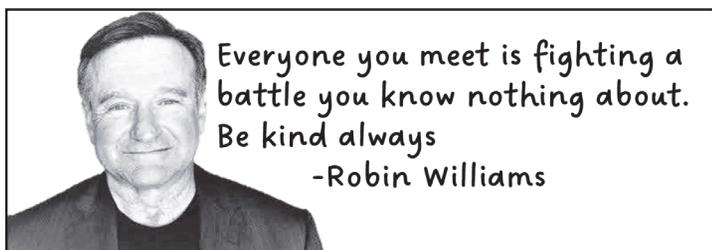
Are you a disciple? (We will look into the definition of this word shortly.) Were you persuaded, or was it just something handed down to you by your parents? Have you experienced any form of suffering because of your life as a Christian?

First of all there is more than one way to suffer; it does not have to be a physical suffering at the hand of some persecuting unbeliever. It may be a personal suffering through the realization of how hard it is to refrain from some sin in our lives. Suffering is part and parcel of the life of a follower of Jesus Christ. Society itself, most often, will ridicule those who cling to their Savior in faith. Jesus said to us, "All men will hate you because of Me." (Matt. 10:22)

Secondly, just accepting the role of a "Christian" because it was something you were born into, is not a true conversion. Taking upon oneself the life of a Christian must be a personal choice. At baptism two questions should be considered by the individual; "Have you repented of your sins"; and "Do you accept Jesus Christ as your personal Savior". Salvation is never a group decision, it has to be personal!!

Thirdly, (and here is the crux of the matter), are you a disciple? This word 'disciple' (as opposed to the word 'Christian') can be found over 270 times in the New Testament. It will take some looking into in future articles – but in the meantime, consider how you might fit into the first two categories.

Bill Rollins 12-8-23



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

## ITS ONLY SCIENCE

Last article we talked about community and economic development. And covered a few things that are sometimes overlooked. One way to avoid this problem is to do a SWOT study. This is simply a hard look at the factors that will affect your actions.

"S". This stands for what are your community's strengths. These can be your location, is it scenic or unique? What condition is your built environment? Are your streets in good repair? Do you have available structures to buy or lease? Which of the services that people expect do you have in your town? Are there skilled workers like plumbers, carpenters, electricians, roofers, etc. available? Is your community as a whole well kept? And you must also consider the condition of the highways that lead to your community.

"W". This is an honest look at what weaknesses your community may have. It could be a lack of available housing. Are there homes to buy and apartments to rent? Are there services that many people want that you do not have? What about your residents? Are only the same people doing the work at events or helping to plan for your community's success? What about your businesses? Does your business district have too many hobby or vanity types of business? These are businesses that do not have set hours that they are always open. Or businesses that exist because the owner wants to show off a special skill but does not really want a full-time business. Some businesses are seasonal and are not open during some part of the year.

"O". This stands for opportunities. Where are the glaring lacks that you could work to provide. Does your community have a certain identity that could be used to promote community growth? Ethnic identity is one of the best ways to attract new people and businesses to your town. Are there events that your community could host to raise awareness of how special your place is? Businesses and people tend to look for "greener pastures". How can your town sow the seeds to become that greener pasture. If you have a seasonal business is there a way for a different seasonal business to make use of their space? A good example could be a snowmobile shop that in warm seasons turns into a bike shop. Another opportunity is to hone your recruitment to encourage more people to participate in fun events and planning.

"T". This stands for traps. Although I prefer "C" which stands for challenges. What things are going to make your efforts difficult or cause them to fail. Is it something that is out of your direct control? Is it something that needs a change in zoning? Is it in regard to what your current water, sewer, electricity can provide to a potential business. And sadly, in some cases it is simply a lack of those who will join the efforts with thoughtful suggestions and continued involvement in what is often a long process.

We have a small town with many things one would not expect to find in a community our size. But for us to continue to grow and prosper, we cannot be complacent! Speak up, join us, and watch us grow!

Bob Mortenson 10-13-2023.

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

**Deb Bieker** 1h · 🌐  
**Danish Sisterhood Christmas luncheon yesterday at Luther Memorial Church in Des Moines. I sat with Donna Archer and Trudy Juelsgaard. I got to talk to many of my mom's friends as she was active with this group. This was... See more**



## SPECIAL OFFER



**Oak and Walnut oven squirrels**  
**buy 3 get one free**  
**Walnuts: \$25.00 ea**  
**Oak: \$20.00 ea**



**Old Danish Workshop**  
 Reglue Chairs • Repair - Refinish Furniture  
 Custom Building • Cribbage Boards  
 Birdhouses/Feeders • Butterfly Houses  
 Crosses • Toys • Canes... and more!  
**Gene (Beaver) Thomsen**  
**(712) 249-5983**

“It takes a village”

THANK YOU to our lovely community near and far for supporting Kids in the Village - Elk Horn at our 2nd annual Aebleskiver breakfast during Julefest! If you missed out and still would like to make a donation to our 501c3 non profit organization, checks can be mailed to KITV PO Box 214 Elk Horn, IA 51531

Sincerely,  
 KITV Board & Staff & Volunteers!



## Create a Personal Price Plan™

Call, click or stop by for a home & auto



**Clark Ahrenholtz RICP®**  
 Agent

2114 12th Street  
 Harlan, IA 51537-2056

Bus: 712-755-5724  
 Toll Free: 800-845-9715  
 clark.ahrenholtz.jb69@statefarm.com



Prices vary by state. Options selected by customer; availability and eligibility may vary.  
 State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, State Farm Indemnity Company, State Farm Fire and Casualty Company, State Farm General Insurance Company, Bloomington, IL  
 State Farm County Mutual Insurance Company of Texas, State Farm Lloyds, Richardson, TX  
 State Farm Florida Insurance Company, Winter Haven, FL

## Scratches From the Rusty Quill By Wava Petersen

Season's Greetings from the Petersen Farm,  
Its Christmas – carols fill the air,  
and I've survived another year just slightly worse for wear. The crops are in, I've had good health, the tomcat's still around. The family all are doing well, my blessings do abound.

In this issue, the Quill is scratching snippets of poems and stories from my life in an effort to catch some of the essence of memories of Christmases past and present.

Coveralls, stocking caps and mittens; hay for the cattle, warm milk for the kittens.

Wooly sheep bleating and hungry calves eating, all with frost covered heads.

Cookies baking, parties, shopping, cards from loved ones, popcorn popping;

Children clad in flannel 'jammies' snuggled warm in upstairs beds.

Family gathered at the table, carols reminding of the stable and birth of our Redeemer in a stall.

As we celebrate the season let us not forget the reason and be thankful for the greatest gift of all.

It was the mid-century - year 1950 - and the first Christmas of our marriage was approaching. We were as poor as church-mice, buying a house and Lyle's meager wages, barely adequate for necessities, did not allow for any luxuries. Though I dreamed of a Christmas tree in our first home, I agreed that we just could not afford one. I resigned myself to be content but secretly longed for that one little luxury.

One December evening Lyle arrived home from work carrying a paper sack, handed it to me with a self-satisfied grin on his face and told me to open it. Inside was a box of 12 round, very plain ornaments, red, blue, green and gold. Two tinsel ropes, one red, one green came next, a simple string of lights, and last a box containing a beautiful tinfoil star to top the tree. It was a gift of love. My thoughtful husband then went out, sawed off a branch of the old Scotch pine behind the house and pronto, we had ourselves a decorated Christmas tree. Tears of happiness found their way down my cheeks as I gazed on that wonderful little tree.

It almost became a sacred ritual as down through the years we annually placed that tinfoil star atop our tree. Though we managed to have a tree every year, most were mediocre and some were downright ugly, especially the one that lost all its needles the third day. Our Christmas cards were hung on its empty branches to cover its nakedness. We joked that when the house was debt free and we



had \$10,000 in the bank we would have a tree that reached to the ceiling. (Ten grand was a lot of money in those days.) Eventually we indulged in a beautiful artificial tree, full of symmetrically placed branches and needles that didn't fall off. And yet, it never looked as pretty to me as that little Scotch pine branch with its simple decorations, crowned with a thirty-nine-cent tinfoil star and blessed with the love that filled our first home on Christmas, 1950.

This gem by my brother, Dale, (plus a few minor changes) was written under threat of duress when our high school English teacher assigned our class to write seasonal poems of at least 12 lines (and I'm sure Dale stretched it out far enough to get his 12 lines).

Twass the day before Christmas and all through the shanty

Every creature was stirring including my auntie.

She took all her blankets and made up the beds

Then grabbed the two geese and off went their heads.

She baked several pies, mince, apple and pumpkin

Then gave Uncle Jake a kick in the rumpkin,

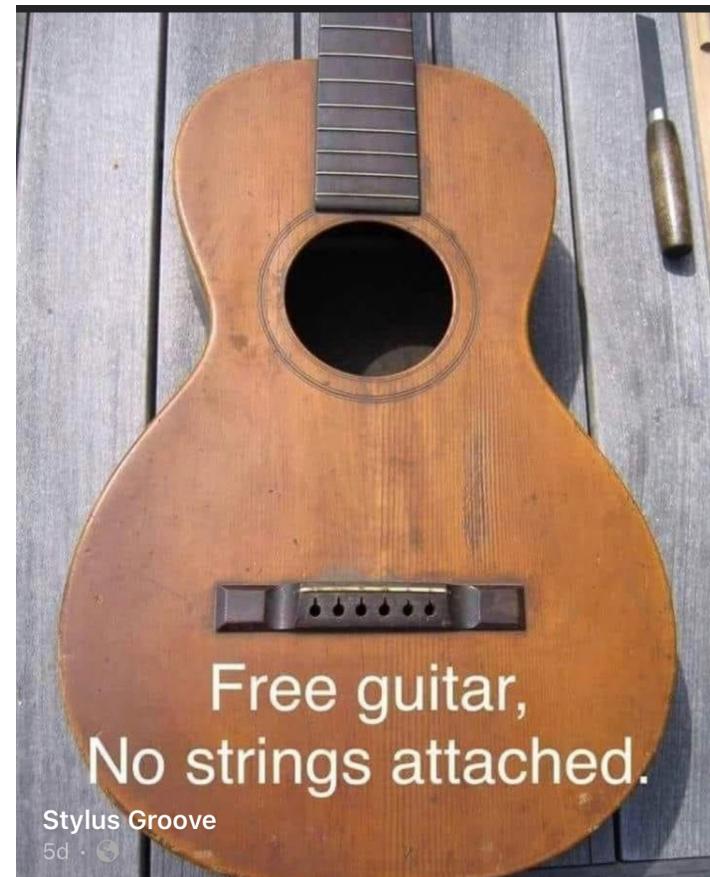
She nagged him until the lazy old flea

Went out and dragged in the Christmas tree.

The children strung popcorn and ate most of it.

I wrote more than 12 lines so I guess I will quit.

May each one of you have a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year!





### New Director for Kids in the Village Daycare

The board of Kids in the Village Daycare is excited to announce that Heidi Johnson, a former EHK graduate, has accepted the position of KITV director. Heidi said that she and her husband Jon, who also graduated from Elk Horn, are very happy to be back in the area and excited to be a part of the community again. It's been great reconnecting with people in Elk Horn.

Heidi has a degree from Iowa State in Early Childhood Special Education. She has been the Lead Infant Teacher at both Ann Wickman Child Development Center in Atlantic and at Small Miracle Preschool and Daycare in Omaha. Earlier at Small Miracle, she was the Lead Early Preschool Teacher. Heidi also served as the Faith Formation Director at Trinity Lutheran Church & Preschool in Webster City, Iowa.

Heidi and Jon have a son, Jethro(10) plus 3 grown children, Aaron, Stephanie and Ian. They have all graduated from ISU as well.

Please join us in welcoming Heidi and her family back to the Danish Villages Community. We are looking forward to working with Heidi to see KITV thrive as a vital service for our children.

Thank you,  
Susan Ahrenholtz

1978	2023
Long hair	Longing for hair
8 Tracks	Cataracts
KEGs	EKGs
Streaking	Leaking
Acid Rock	Acid Reflux
Seeds and stems	Fiber
Stayin' Alive (the song)	Stayin' Alive (the goal)
Hoping for a BMW	Hoping for a BM
Going to a new, hip joint	Getting a new hip joint
Rolling Stones	Kidney Stones
Bell bottoms	Big bottoms
Disco	Costco
Whatever	Depends
Rock n' roll all night	Sleep through the night
Think you know everything	Think you know your name



**Deb Bieker**

7h ·

**Fun Christmas luncheon this noon at Norse Horse for our local Red Hat Ladies! Great turnout. If you are interested in joining, let any of us know!**





A little over a week ago, we held our Festival of Lights event. And wow, what a great turnout we had!! We had a full house at the Event Center and Santa was able to visit with a bunch of the kids. Thank you to all the amazing and wonderful people who helped get the town and Event Center ready for this festive event! As well as the ones that take part in our event to make it enjoyable and memorable.

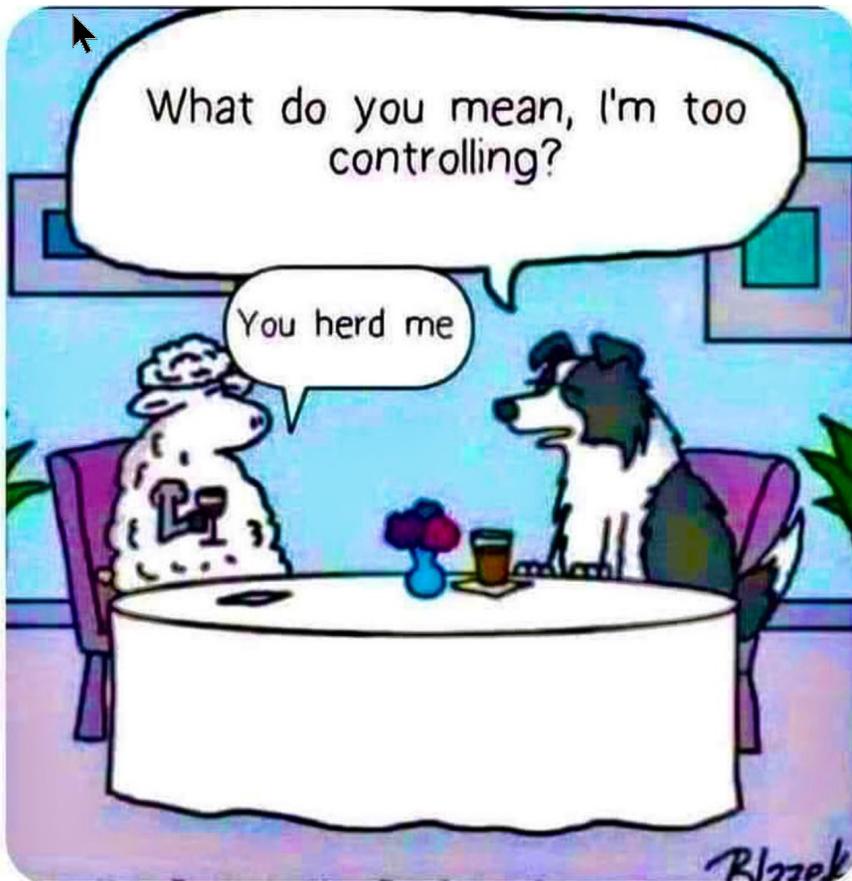
- Tom & Sara Paulsen- For donating the tree. And their helpers for getting the tree to town.
- Tony Young, Brett Christensen, John Sandbothe, Kent Schlater, Nathan Wahlert and Beck Benton- For getting the tree put up and decorated. Aaron Andersen and Charlie Asberry- For allowing them to use their equipment.
- John Sandbothe, Tony Young and Kayla Nelson- For getting lights put on the buildings on Main Street and the Event Center. Aaron Andersen- For allowing them to use his equipment.
- Judi Nelson and John Kilworth- For decorating the City Park.
- Tim Wahlert and Mike Lauritsen- For getting the winter banners and snowflakes hung up.
- Exira-EHK 5th Graders- For helping get the Event Center set up.
- Exira-EHK Leos- For helping serve food & hot cocoa and cleaning up that evening. Also, Christina Nelson and Jacqueline Phippen- For helping in the kitchen.
- Exira Community Band- For playing Christmas tunes that evening.
- John Sandbothe & Kayla Nelson- For driving families around town on the lighted hayrack to look at Christmas lights.
- Santa- For taking time out of his busy schedule to visit with the kids.
- Everyone who volunteered to make bars and sandwiches.
- Everyone who donated to the toy drive and food drive.

If we missed mentioning someone, we apologize. Please know that if you volunteered or donated, it didn't go unnoticed and we truly appreciate it!

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!!







Myrtue Medical Center

Recognized with 2023 Performance Leadership Award in Patient Outcomes and Patient Perspectives

The Chartis Center of Rural Health and the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health that Myrtue has been recognized for overall excellence in patient outcomes and patient perspectives based on the results of the Chartis Rural Hospital Performance INDEX.

This Performance Leadership Award recognizes top quartile performance (75th percentile or above) among rural hospitals in the United States in the areas of Quality, Outcomes and Patient Perspective. Data for this award is gathered independently by Chartis and is used to measure and monitor performance across several areas impacting hospital operations and finance. It also is an acknowledgment of the efforts of hospitals, along with their staff, who are driven to deliver high quality care in rural communities. "It is an honor to be recognized in the top quartile of performers for high quality of care at Myrtue. The innovative, personalized care we give to patients is exceptional, and our commitment to delivering positive outcomes is a top priority," stated Dr. Brian Anderson at Myrtue Medical Center.



"In 100 years we have gone from teaching Latin and Greek in high school to teaching Remedial English in college."

- Joseph Sobran



## LYNN JOHNSON

Imagine a little six-year-old boy sitting with his family at the kitchen table listening to the radio. The announcer is talking about Pearl Harbor, Japanese planes, ships sinking, many, many Americans losing their lives and the beginning of war. What is this all about? For a young child it sounded very scary. This was Lynn's introduction to World War II. Although no one from his immediate family served during the war, the news was all around him. It left him with a strong desire to serve his country in whatever way or at whatever time he was needed.

Lynn was undecided what he wanted to do after high school graduation. His parents offered to help if he wanted to go to college. Wisely he knew he needed to grow up or school would be a waste. So, he chose to enlist in the Army.

Once in the military, it became apparent that Lynn was a good marksman. He was assigned to infantry, then advanced infantry training. He credits some of his skill to the fact that he spent many days hunting for fox and pheasant.

When Lynn was pulled for cold weather training, he knew that was a strong signal that he would be heading to Korea. When the Army said cold weather training, they really meant it! During bivouac in Fort Carson, Colorado the temperature dropped to -20 degrees. All the soldiers were in tents. There was no possible way to keep even a semblance of staying warm. Within a short period of time after maneuvers and going in the tents for the night, the soldiers soon learned to put their boots in their sleeping bags with them. If not, the boots were frozen stiff the next morning. All the soldiers knew that one of the most dangerous enemies they would face in Korea was the bitterly cold weather.

After Lynn had finished cold weather training, he was surprised his assignment was to Fort Myer in Arlington, Virginia, the location of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The requirements for duty there were: height – between 5'10" and 6'2", not married, no glasses, waist measurement of no more than 30", and have a military bearing. Learning to polish all leather to a high

gloss required several hours each night. The soldiers were issued Tropical Worsteds uniforms for summer duty and Dress Blues for winter. They were the only Army Company of Non-Coms to wear them.

Lynn and other members of the Honor Guard participated in many functions of the Unit. These included being an escort for the burials in Arlington Cemetery and parades every Sunday. To this day whenever he hears a Sousa march, he gets a lump in his throat.

The Army began guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in 1926. (After the internment of the World War I Unknown Soldier in 1921, the Tomb remained unguarded until 1925 when a civilian guard was present during the day.) In 1937 the guard was increased in size and began 24-hour shifts. The changing-of-the-guard occurred once each hour.

Two events that he remembers well are the time he carried King Saud's flag as he laid a wreath at the Tomb and the time he was selected to be one of the four service members (one from each branch of service) to escort President-elect Eisenhower to the ball at the Statler Hotel. They were allowed to stay for the remainder of the evening. A gentleman offered to buy drinks for them if they wanted. When Lynn asked his name, he answered that he was Conrad Hilton, owner of the Hilton Hotels.

When Lynn hears taps played at military burials and at the graveside of veterans, he still reflects on the unique privilege he had to serve our country at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

### INTERESTING FACTS REGARDING THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER

How many steps does the guard take during the walk across the tomb: 21, It alludes to the twenty-one-gun salute which is the highest honor given any military or foreign dignitary.

How long does he hesitate after his about face to begin his return walk: 21 seconds.

Why are his gloves wet: to prevent losing his grip on the rifle.

Does he carry his rifle on the same shoulder all the time: No, he carries it away from the tomb. After his march across the path, he executes an about face and moves the rifle to the outside shoulder.

Guards are changed every thirty minutes, twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year.

In 2003 as Hurricane Isabelle was approaching Washington, D. C., the military members assigned the duty of guarding the Tomb were given permission to suspend the assignment. They respectfully declined, "No way, Sir."





Karla Jo Andersen  
February 10, 1959 — November 5, 2023  
Audubon

Karla Andersen, age 64, of Audubon, passed away on Sunday, November 5, 2023, at the University of Iowa Hospital in Iowa City. The funeral service will be at 12 noon on Monday, November 13, 2023, at Elk Horn Lutheran Church in Elk Horn with burial in Elk Horn Lutheran Cemetery. Visitation will be after 11 a.m. on Monday at the church.

Karla Jo, daughter of Charles Keith Andersen and Marilyn (Andersen) Bennett, was born February 10, 1959, in Harlan, Iowa. She grew up in Elk Horn and graduated from Elk Horn-Kimballton High School. Karla continued to make her home in Iowa and moved to Texas for a while. About ten years ago, she returned and settled in Audubon, Iowa. While Karla needed help for herself, she enjoyed helping others even more, working as a counselor and as an aide at Salem Lutheran Home. She was very artistic and loved to draw and paint. Being in the country and cheering on the Kansas City Chiefs were favorite pastimes of Karla. She loved all of her family.

On Sunday, November 5, 2023, Karla passed away at the University of Iowa Hospital in Iowa City, at the age of 64 years, 8 months and 26 days.

Karla was preceded in death by her father Charles Andersen. Karla is survived by her mother Marilyn Bennett of Atlantic; her son Jeff (Charlene) Hoegh of Texas; two grandchildren: Dalton (Sydney) Knox and Kaitlyn (Jonathan) Plunkett; four great-grandchildren: Addilyn, Madalynn and Boone Knox and Kellen Plunkett; her sister Angie (Paul) Garrett of Texas; and her brother Matt (Sandy) Andersen of Arkansas; nieces and nephews: Zack Garrett and Katie (John) Lopez and their children: Ethan, Makayla and Jaxsen.

**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 **2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday** of every month from **6pm-8pm**  
**Contact (712) 304-5779 with questions**

*Thank  
you*

It is with much gratitude we express to extended family, friends, neighbors, and caregivers for the expression of love and compassion you provided to our family during the loss of our mother, daughter, and sister, Karla Jo Andersen. Karla was kind, giving, compassionate, and always had a sense of humor that will be deeply missed. Thank you to all!

Marilyn Bennett  
Jeff and Charlene Hoegh  
Paul and Angie (Andersen) Garrett  
Matt and Sandy Andersen



**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

**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.

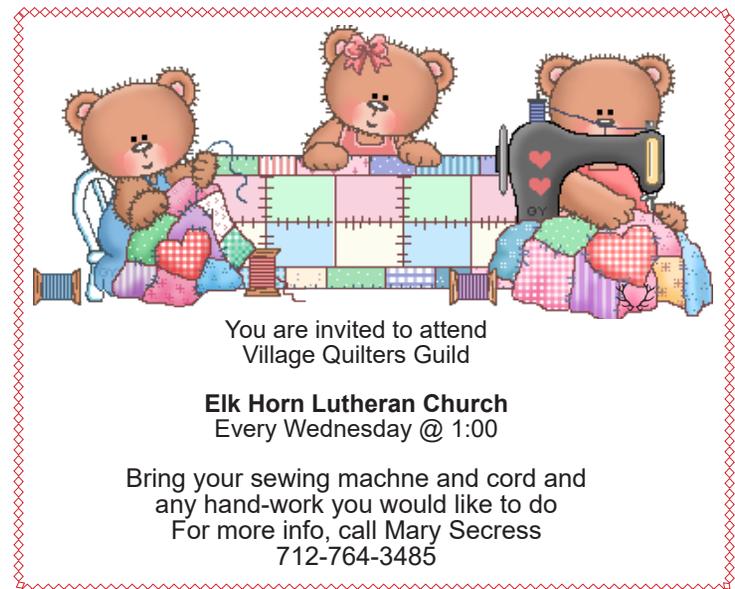
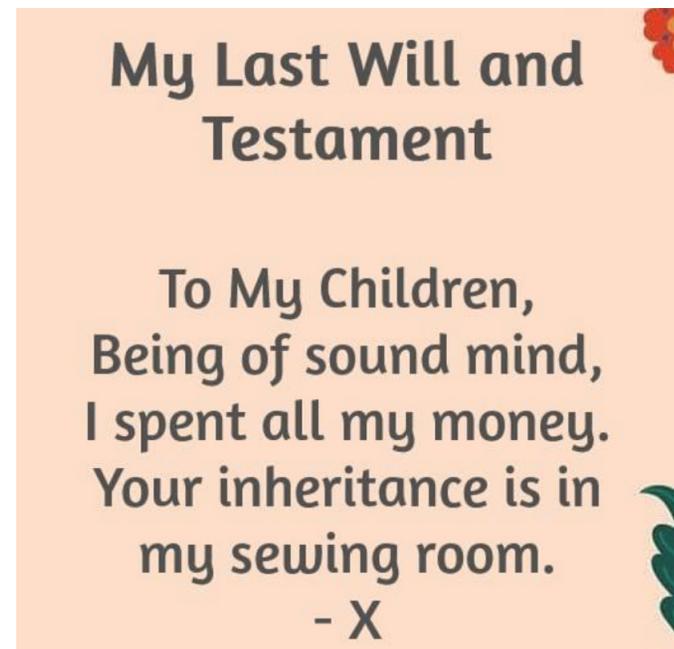
Hogberg moved, seconded by D. Petersen to enter Closed Session at 7:09PM pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5 (1)(C) Civil Rights Complaints – Ayes 4, motion carried.

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



Two beautiful quilts made by Karma Sorensen given to Lanny Olson and Willis Hansen for their Military service.



I was afraid this would happen



December Students of the Month: Jillian (HS), Ryder (MS), Paisley (Elem)! Congratulations and keep up the good work!



This is the second (and last) part of Ben Hansen's response to Oct 26 "Just Asking". Thank you for your thoughtful contribution, Ben.



-- How is it that the government can't control petrol prices...but the weather is something they can fix?

The claim that the government can't control gasoline prices but can control the

weather is a misunderstanding of the roles and capabilities of government.

1. Economic Factors: Gasoline prices are primarily influenced by a complex interplay of global economic factors, including supply and demand, oil production, geopolitical events, and market forces. Government intervention in

fuel prices often involves taxation and regulation but cannot dictate global oil prices.

2. Limited Control Over Nature: The claim that the government can control the

weather is incorrect. While governments invest in meteorological research and

disaster management to predict and respond to weather events, they cannot

actually control or change the weather. Weather is a natural phenomenon influenced by various complex atmospheric processes.

3. Separate Domains: Gasoline prices and weather patterns are completely different domains. Governments can influence economic policies and regulations related

to fuel prices, but they cannot change the fundamental laws of physics that govern

weather patterns.

4. Responsibility and Scope: Governments play a role in addressing the consequences of extreme weather events, such as natural disasters, through

preparedness and relief efforts. However, this is different from the claim that

they "control" the weather, as governments cannot prevent or alter natural weather patterns.

In summary, comparing the government's inability to control gasoline prices to

its capacity to control the weather is a false equivalency. These are distinct issues with different causes and mechanisms, and it's important to understand

the limits of government influence in each domain.

-- Why were we told to lower our Air Conditioner usage on hot days to

prevent overwhelming the electric grid while simultaneously being told to trade in our petrol cars for electric vehicles?

The idea that reducing air conditioner usage and transitioning to electric vehicles are contradictory actions is not entirely accurate.

1. Diverse Energy Sources: The call to lower air conditioner usage on hot days aims to manage peak electricity demand by reducing strain on the grid. In many places, electricity generation comes from a variety of sources, including fossil fuels, renewables, and nuclear power. Transitioning to electric vehicles (EVs) is part of a broader effort to reduce emissions by promoting cleaner energy sources.

2. Grid Management: Lowering air conditioner usage during peak demand helps prevent blackouts and grid overloads. While electricity grids may face challenges during peak periods, encouraging energy efficiency and smart grid technologies can mitigate these issues.

3. Cleaner Energy Mix: Transitioning to EVs is seen as an important step in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and addressing climate change. As the electricity grid becomes greener over time, charging EVs becomes a more sustainable and environmentally friendly choice.

4. Long-Term Goals: Both efforts are part of broader, long-term strategies to reduce energy consumption, emissions, and environmental impact. Reducing air conditioner usage during peak times helps manage immediate challenges, while transitioning to EVs contributes to a more sustainable future.

In conclusion, the call to reduce air conditioner usage on hot days and promote electric vehicles is about balancing immediate grid management with long-term environmental goals. These actions are not necessarily contradictory and can be part of a comprehensive strategy to create a more efficient and sustainable energy system.

**Puzzle and Pizza**  
**Teen Competition**  
 January 5th at 6pm

Compete in teams of 3 to see who can complete the puzzle first!

Sign up by emailing the library at [ehlib@metc.net](mailto:ehlib@metc.net) or calling 712-764-2013

This event is free!

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

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.

### Help for Stuttering is as Close as Your Library

Thanks to generous donors, the Stuttering Foundation has donated books and DVDs to public libraries across the country, including the Elk Horn Public Library.

Stuttering Foundation books are directed to parents of children who stutter, adults who stutter, speech pathologists, pediatricians, family physicians, nurses, health care professionals, hospitals, schools, clinics, day-care centers, and all those concerned with the problem of stuttering. The DVDs feature some of the world's leading therapists with children who stutter. Since the original publication, Foundation materials have reached millions of individuals worldwide.

More than three million Americans stutter, yet stuttering remains misunderstood by most people," said Jane Fraser, president of The Stuttering Foundation. "Myths such as believing people who stutter are less intelligent or suffer from psychological problems still persist despite research refuting these erroneous beliefs."

Sixteen books and DVDs produced by the 76-year-old non-profit Stuttering Foundation are available free to any public library. The Foundation has provided free materials to over 20,000 public libraries nationwide. A public library that will shelve them can e-mail [info@stutteringhelp.org](mailto:info@stutteringhelp.org).

Patty Reed  
 Information Specialist  
 The Stuttering Foundation  
 PO Box 11749  
 Memphis, TN 38111-0749  
 1-800-992-9392  
[www.stutteringhelp.org](http://www.stutteringhelp.org)  
[www.tartamudez.org](http://www.tartamudez.org)  
 Since 1947 - Helping Those Who Stutter

So..  
 Daffy Duck and Elmer Fudd break into a distillery...  
 Daffy turns to Elmer and says, "Is this Whisky?"..  
 Elmer says, "Yeth, but not as whisky as wobbing a bank"..  
 ..

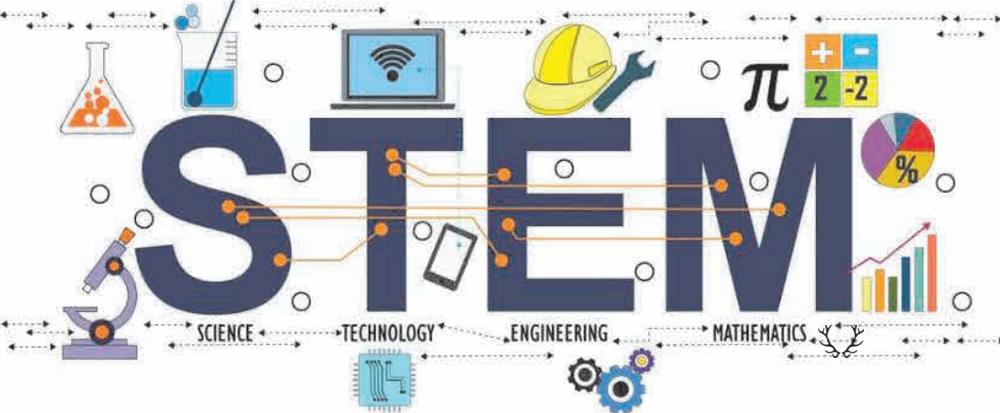
I don't know why men go to bars to try and meet women....  
 Go to Target..  
 The female to male ration is like 10 to 1 ..  
 And they're already looking for crap they don't need...  
 ..



## Elk Horn Public Library

2d · 🌐

### Join us at the Kimballton Townhall on December 28th form... See more



SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING MATHEMATICS

We got crafty Tuesday with Laura guiding us in creating a junk journal of our own.



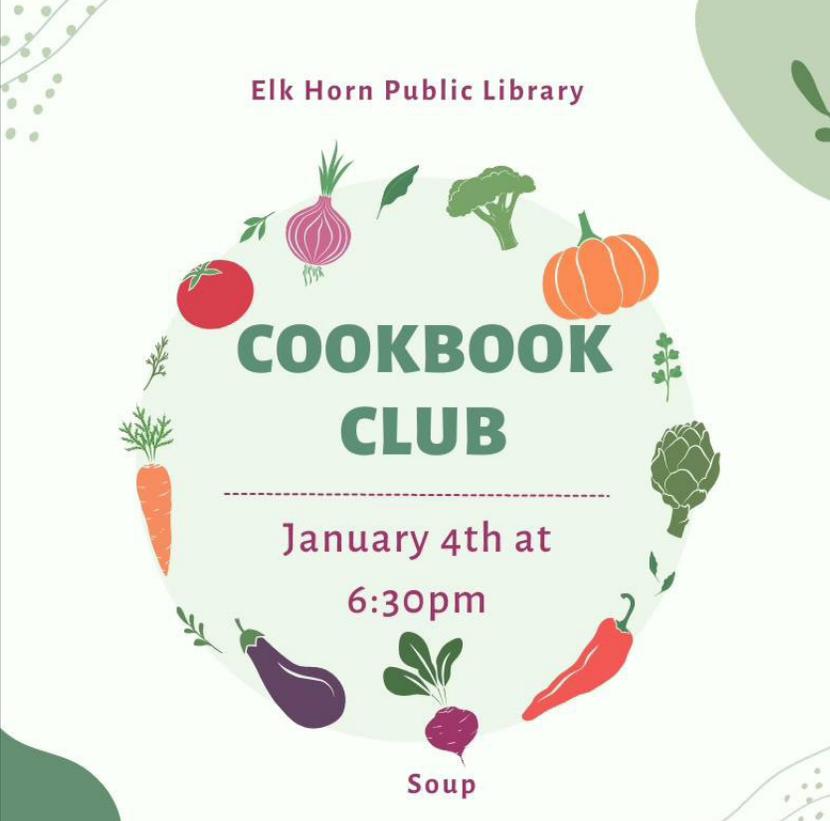
BETWEEN THE LINES BOOK CLUB  
4TH - 6TH GRADERS

# THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER

**27TH DEC** | ELK HORN PUBLIC LIBRARY

STOP IN AND PICK UP A COPY OF THE BOOK.

1pm movie of the book with popcorn. Discussion to follow.



Elk Horn Public Library

## COOKBOOK CLUB

January 4th at  
6:30pm

Soup

October 18th-  
Each year the Southwest District and Iowa FFA officers plan and facilitate Greenhand Fire Up Conferences for FFA members in the Southwest district. Atlantic welcomed FFA chapters from all over the Southwest district on October 18th. While at Atlantic on Wednesday, district and state officers lead four interactive workshops for first year high school FFA members, also known as Greenhands, for the annual Greenhand Fire Up Conference. The workshops facilitated were leadership focused with an emphasis on the experiences that occur in the lives of beginning high school students. Iowa FFA President, Sam Martin, stated, "Greenhand Fire Up provides a chance for first-year high school members to get a sneak peek of the opportunities that FFA holds, and is a conference for members to meet and interact with state and district officers." The officers prepared and facilitated workshops of: authenticity, balancing priorities, communication, and FFA opportunities – in order to provide the first-year FFA members with skills they would use both within and outside of FFA. The goal was to engage FFA members in learning about the tools that would allow them to be successful in anything they are part of through high school and beyond. Greenhand Fire Up is made possible with support from the Iowa FFA Foundation.



**Bethany and Immanuel December Worship Schedule:**

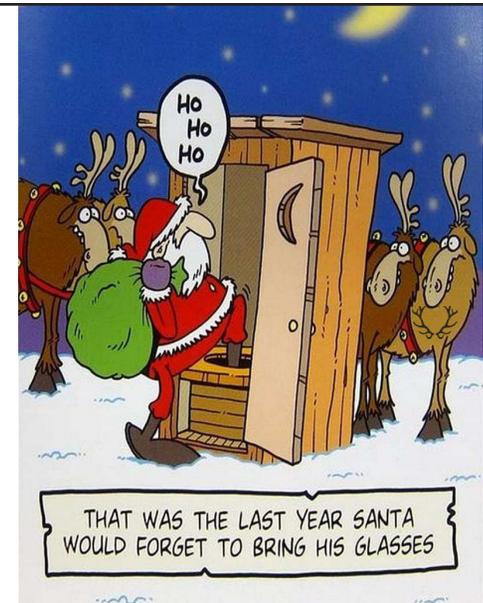
**December 3 @ Immanuel with communion**

**December 10 @ Bethany with communion**

**December 17 @ Immanuel with Sunday School program  
Dancing around the tree and coffee fellowship to follow**

**December 24  
4:00 @ Bethany  
5:30 @ Immanuel**

**December 31 @ Immanuel  
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**



**Christofferson**  
SEPTIC PUMPING

**A FLUSH BEATS A FULL HOUSE!**

**Duane Christofferson**

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

## Christmas Windows

