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MILROY NAMED CHAMBER PRESIDENT

The Adel Partners Chamber of Commerce announced the appointment of Erin Milroy as its new president in charge of business development and program management. Milroy steps into the role ready to lead the chamber into a new era of growth, innovation and community connection.

Milroy brings a wealth of experience in operations management, annual budgeting and forecasting, and organizational leadership. Her proven ability to lead high-performing teams and manage complex programs positions her as a dynamic and

strategic leader for the chamber.

“I am honored and excited to take on this role,” Milroy said. “There is tremendous growth and opportunity in Adel, and I’m excited to build upon the strong foundation already in place. I look forward to cultivating and strengthening community relationships and strategic partnerships.”

In her new position, Milroy will focus on key initiatives including



expanding member services, enhancing community engagement and partnering with businesses and the city of Adel for future growth. She also aims to increase the Chamber’s visibility and accessibility to both long-standing members and new entrepreneurs.

“We are thrilled to welcome Erin as the new president of the chamber,” Alicia Hadfield, chair of the board of directors said. “Her passion for community-building and her collaborative leadership style make her the ideal person to guide the chamber into its next chapter.” ■

CEMETERY DECORATION NOTES

Maintenance staff at Oakdale Cemetery will begin to remove decorations beginning April 1 to allow

proper maintenance during the growing season. Decorations that are part of a headstone or monument will be left

in place. Decorations removed can be picked up in the south parking lot near the garage in Kinnick-Feller Park. ■

ADEL WEATHER FORECAST

FRIDAY HIGH 56 | LOW 29
Cloudy and breezy

SATURDAY HIGH 62 | LOW 45
Periods of clouds and sunshine

SUNDAY HIGH 51 | LOW 29
Sunshine and a few clouds; windy

MONDAY HIGH 52 | LOW 35
Breezy with sun followed by clouds

TUESDAY HIGH 53 | LOW 35
Increasing amounts of sunshine

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FROM THE PUBLISHER

'I'M EIGHTEEN AND I LIKE IT!'

"I'm a boy and I'm a man — I'm eighteen and I like it!" Those are the words from the Alice Cooper band's 1970 rock hit entitled, "I'm Eighteen." I can hear the music coming from my brother's 8-track home stereo like it was yesterday. The song details the anxiety that comes with being in the midst of childhood and adulthood that most any 18-year-old boy can relate to.

But, why 18? What's so special about that number that makes it the determining age for many activities? And, if it truly is a special number, then why isn't it used uniformly for every other age-requirement? In this time of most everyone being a victim, 18-year-olds clearly need to cry out.

Most of us know that a person must be 18 to vote in elections. Fair enough.

We also know that males at age 18 can be drafted into the Armed Forces. So, in today's world, is this is not only age discrimination but sex discrimination, too?

In Iowa, one must be 18 to legally marry. Although, with

parental consent and judicial approval, a person can marry at 16.

Iowans must be at least 18 years old to receive a tattoo without parental consent.

If you are following along, our 18-year-olds can vote, be drafted, marry and get a tattoo.

How about getting a license to drive? Well, that can be done a few years earlier than 18. Sixteen, officially, and even younger to obtain learners permits. You just can't be 16 and drive with a tattoo.

Lots of things change at age 21, though. Three years apparently makes quite a difference in the mental growth of young people during that time. A 21-year-old can now legally purchase and consume alcohol and can also purchase or use tobacco products. That includes vaping. People this age can also legally rent a car that they were able to legally drive for five years prior — but they will have to pay higher fees than those age 25 or



older. Yes, car rental companies (and insurance companies) can discriminate based on age, but they only do so for younger people. Ninety-five-year-old drivers are not a risk, apparently.

But what if you are an 18-year-old and want to run for president of the United States? Sorry, you will have to wait until you nearly double your life span, as the president must be 35 years old.

The Alice Cooper band continues: "I got a baby's brain and an old man's heart. Took eighteen years to get this far. Don't always know what I'm talkin' about. Feels like I'm livin' in the middle of doubt." With all the age disparity in our local, state and federal rules and regulations, can you blame them?

Have a great week, and thanks for reading. ■

Shane Goodman
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CELEBRATE ADEL

Adel Partners' Chamber of Commerce will host Celebrate Adel Thursday, April 24, 5-7 p.m. at Country Lane Lodge, 29300 Prospect Circle, Adel. More than 250 attendees meet to network and honor the Business and Citizen of the Year. Meet and connect with business members and experience the Taste of Adel and De Soto. Member restaurants and caterers will be sampling delicious items. This is the one event you don't want to miss. Register online at <https://business.adelpartners.org/events/details/celebrate-this-is-adel-3554?calendarMonth=2025-04-01>. ■



SPRING BASKET SALE

The Friends of the Adel Public Library is holding its Spring Basket Silent Auction April 1-11 and is seeking donations of baskets starting March 24 at the library. Themed gift baskets are requested. Ideas include adult or child gardening, health and wellness, birding, pet treats and summer fun. Include a tag listing basket theme, basket items and name of person or business donating. Proceeds benefit scholarships presented by the Friends. ■

ADEL FIREMAN'S DANCE

The Adel Fireman's Dance is April 5 at Country Lane Lodge, 29300 Prospect Circle, Adel. It will feature the music of Suede. Doors and silent auction open at 5 p.m. Dinner, catered by DM Bacon and Meat Company, will be served at 6 p.m. The band plays from 7:30-11 p.m. All proceeds go to the Adel Fire Association to help purchase needed equipment. Tickets are \$40 and available from any Adel Volunteer firefighter or message the group on Facebook, Facebook.comAFD25. ■

ADM SPORTS SCHEDULE



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FUNERAL NOTICES

Funeral notices can be emailed to tammy@iowalivingmagazines.com

RONALD GORDON COOPER

Ronald Gordon Cooper, 82, of Des Moines died March 10, 2025. Born on Aug. 7, 1942, in Knoxville, Ron lived most of his younger years around the greater Des Moines area, attending high school in Indianola.

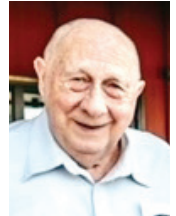
Ron spent much of his life in service to his country. In 1960, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. He served a tour in Vietnam. In 1974, he joined the Iowa Air National Guard, working as a life support specialist until he retired as senior master sergeant in 1994. It was through his military travels that he met his wife, Sharon, whom he was married to for more than 50 years.

He enjoyed spending time with family, friends and enjoying the outdoors, including time at the family cabin on the Des Moines River. He liked fishing, playing cards and bowling in a league. After his retirement, Ron enjoyed working in the yard and was passionate about feeding the birds, squirrels and even an occasional neighborhood cat. He and Sharon traveled frequently, staying at casinos, visiting their children and grandchildren, and making countless cherished memories along the way.

Ron is survived by his children, Cephus Cooper-Payne (Lisa), Doris Lourance (Brian), Misty Todd (Dan) and Randy Cooper (Emily); his brother, Denny Cooper (Melody); sister, Connie Boucher; and by many nieces, nephews, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren.

Ron was preceded in death by his wife, Sharon Cooper.

Visitation was March 18 at Caldwell Parish Funeral Home in Adel followed by burial service at the Iowa Veterans Cemetery in Adel. Memorial donations can be made to the Wounded Warrior Project or Honor Flight Network. ■



WILLIAM EARL 'BILL' RENFROW

William Earl "Bill" Renfrow, 93, of Adel, died March 13, 2025, following a short illness. Visitation will be held from 12:30-2 p.m., on Friday March 21, at Iles Brandt Chapel in Dallas Center. A funeral service will follow at 2 p.m. Interment will follow at Brethren Cemetery, Dallas Center.

Bill was born on Feb. 24, 1932, in Summersville, Missouri, to Luther R. and Mildred P. (House) Renfrow. The family moved to Iowa when Bill was a child and lived mainly in Dallas County. He was drafted into the Army, serving honorably for four years during the Korean conflict. He returned to Dallas County and began his career at Hy-Line International and retired in 1994.

His lifelong passion was horses. His expertise and skill as a trainer were sought throughout Iowa and beyond. Most evenings and weekends would find him in his arena or attending horse shows throughout central Iowa. He also enjoyed farming in his spare time.

Bill was married to Rowena Murrell in 1956 in Winterset, and they made their home in rural Adel.

Bill is survived by his children, Brian (Leslie) Renfrow and Becky (Scott) Schumann; grandchildren, Jaimie (Regi) Francois, Kylie Moore, Kayden Renfrow, Connor Renfrow, Sierra (Craig) Post and Nick (Lindsey) Christian; six great-grandchildren; friend Jan Renshaw; as well as numerous nieces, nephews and their families. He was preceded in death by his wife, Rowena; sister, Wilma Bender; and brother, Wilbur Renfrow.

Memorials may be directed to the Iowa Associated Saddle Clubs, in care of Lindsay Janke, 8391 46th Lane, Prole, IA 50229. Online condolences are welcome at www.IlesCares.com. For those unable to attend, the funeral service will be livestreamed. A link will appear just prior to the service on Bill's obituary page. Arrangements are by Iles Brandt Chapel - Dallas Center. ■



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CHARLES DEAN HADEN

Charles Dean Haden died Feb. 19, 2025. He was born on May 21, 1935, to Elbert Wayne and Iona DeVee (Brideson) Haden in Perry. He grew up in Panorama. After graduating from high school in 1953, he attended Iowa State University for two years studying ag engineering and training in the Army ROTC. On March 26, 1955, Charlie married Roxie May Smithson.



The family farmed in the area, and Charlie took up backhoe work. He did extensive work for Northwestern Bell Telephone/US West while continuing to farm. He installed many septic systems at Lake Panorama and the surrounding area.

Charlie was a lifelong follower of Christ. An ardent student of the Bible, he participated in and led countless Bible studies and taught Sunday School for many years.

Charlie approached life with a rare blend of warmth, wisdom and wit. Family was a cornerstone of his life, and he thoroughly enjoyed his time with grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He was a devoted caregiver to his loving bride to his last days.

Charlie is survived by his wife, Roxie; two daughters, Beth (Marvin) Rasmussen and Lynelle (Norm) Diers; son, Brian Haden; grandchildren, Jarrod Diers, Jolyn Hartson, Micah Rasmussen and Miriam Mendoza; great-grandchildren, Noah and Brianna Diers, Sophia, Xander and Angel Diers, Mariah and Jordan Hartson, Isabella Mendoza, Ellyanna, Aliyah and Fynneas Rasmussen; and many nieces, nephews and extended family.

He was preceded in death by sisters, Sandra Boots and Sharon Mattke; brother, Melvin McCord; daughter, Lori; son, Greg; and grandson, Jeremy Diers.

A Celebration of Life was held March 1 at Lighthouse Assembly of God Church in Panorama. A luncheon and procession to Pleasant Hill Cemetery followed.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Online condolences may be expressed to the family at www.caldwellparrish.com. ■

SUSAN LEE O'LEARY

Susan Lee O'Leary, 85, died Feb. 18, 2025, at her residence in Panorama. She was born in Whitefish, Montana, to Laura and Edwin McKenzie in 1939. She grew up at Bay Point on Whitefish Lake. She married Jim Llarinas in 1962. They had three children: John, Ed and Erin. They divorced, and she married Arthur O'Leary in 1973.



They lived in the northwest and Alaska. In 2018, Sue made a move to Iowa to be with her daughter, Erin, and her family. She resided at Lake Panorama with her beloved cat, Ebby. Sue liked to entertain and would invite anyone to a party or dinner. All who knew her were touched by her joy, hospitality, kindness and love. Sue was most happy when all her family was together.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Arthur O'Leary; first husband, Jim Llarinas; sisters, Faye Holm and Nancy Garrett; and many dear friends.

She is survived by her three children, John and wife, Lisa; Ed and wife, Holly; Erin Merschman and husband, Alan; her youngest sister, Kona Luke; grandchildren, Steven, Jennifer, Kelsey, Abby, Jacob and Joel; and countless friends.

Services are pending. Memorial contributions can be made to Vine Maple Place. This nonprofit helps single mothers with financial, housing assistance and life skills: Vine Maple Place, 21730 Dorre Don Way S.E., Maple Valley, WA 98038, vinemapleplace.org. ■

SPRING CLEANING ALERT

Declutter and make a difference. Donate gently used baby/kid items to Faith's Flock Preschool's All Things Kids Sale on Saturday, April 26, 8 a.m. to noon. All proceeds fund preschool scholarships. Donations can be dropped off on April 24 and 25 from 3-6 p.m. at 602 S. 14th St. (use the fellowship/gym entrance). ■

THIRD MONDAY BINGO APRIL 21

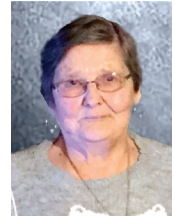
The next Third Monday Bingo is April 21, 6-8 p.m., at the Masonic Lodge, 411 S. 12th St., Adel. Enjoy 17 games of bingo (\$0.25/card) plus an 18th progressive blackout (\$1/card). Packaged snacks and non-alcoholic drinks will be available. Bring a dauber if you have one. They will also be for sale. ■

FUNERAL NOTICES

Funeral notices can be emailed to tammy@iowalivingmagazines.com

JOSEPHINE HELEN ROSS

Josephine Helen Ross, 83, of Earlham, died Feb. 18, 2025, at MercyOne Des Moines Medical Center. She was born on Nov. 24, 1941, to Joseph John and Gertrude Josephine (Dwinnell) Marxen in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She had lived in Winterset for 18 years, coming from Minneapolis.



Josephine was a member of the Earlham Church of Christ in Earlham. She had been a nurse and worked in dietary care. Josephine and Edward Irece Ross were married on Feb. 12, 1987.

Josephine is survived by her children, Linda, Barbara, John (Lanae), Eula and Anthony; her grandkids, Cierra (Dionne), Zachary (Estrella), Dillon (Shania), Aija, Trey, Paige, Edward and Kiara; her great-grandkids, Zoey, Conner, Lyvia, Chance, Princetin, Londyn, William and Kingston; her brother, Tony; and her sisters, Pauline, Louise and Patricia.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Edward Irece Ross; grandson, Dominic; and brother, Tommy.

Funeral services were Feb. 24 at the Earlham Church of Christ. Memorials may be made to the family for a future designation. Online condolences may be expressed to the family at www.caldwellparrish.com. ■

DONALD M. HUBEL

Donald M. "Mickey" Hubel, 87, of Creston, died Feb. 15, 2025, at UnityPoint Health - Lutheran Hospital. Per Donald's wishes, cremation took place and a celebration of life will be held at a later date. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.caldwellparrish.com. ■

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RECIPE

EASTER APPS MADE EASY

(Family Features) If you'll be hosting friends and family for Easter this year, opting for an array of appetizers can help keep hungry people out of the kitchen until the main course is ready. Featuring easy prep and short cook times, these apps from "Cookin' Savvy" can let you spend more time creating memories with loved ones. ■

DEVILED EGGS

Recipe courtesy of "Cookin' Savvy"
Yield: 16 deviled eggs

Ingredients:

- 8 boiled eggs
- 1/2-3/4 cup mayonnaise
- 2 tablespoons mustard
- 2 tablespoons dill pickle juice
- 1 package (2 1/2 ounces) real bacon pieces
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 2 teaspoons onion powder
- salt, to taste
- pepper, to taste
- smoked paprika, for garnish (optional)

Directions:

Slice each egg and place whites on plate and yolks in bowl.

In bowl of yolks, add 1/2 cup mayonnaise, mustard, pickle juice,



bacon pieces, garlic powder, onion powder and salt and pepper, to taste. With fork or hand mixer, blend until smooth. Add more mayonnaise until mixture reaches desired smoothness.

Spoon or pipe mixture into egg whites. Garnish with smoked paprika, if desired.

Note: Deviled eggs can be made day before and kept covered in refrigerator until needed.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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FOR SALE: Black & Decker air fryer. Never used. \$35. Call 515-953-5202.

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HELP WANTED: Need help on farms around Adel. Call 515-975-0602.

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