

HISTORY **RESTAURANTS JUST BEFORE WORLD WAR II** BY MICHAEL FLINN

As the decade of the 1940s began, Adel had many choices for dining. Burd Café, Woods Café, Wolter's Coffee Shop, Dick and Bob's, Howell's and Dox all competed with the well-established Mack's and Clancy's cafés. In addition, the new sale barn now featured a restaurant and, if you didn't mind a 5-mile drive to the north, the Shady Lawn, at the corner of 169 and 64, served an excellent chicken dinner.

Adel's oldest and busiest café. Mack's, was not immune to the current hard times. In March of 1940, the café was closed following actions by its creditors. It remained closed until late April when the McClearys were able to secure financing and reopen. The popular café had been in business for nearly 15 years by this time.

Clancy's, on Highway 6 at 14th Street, proudly offered those delicious Temptee steak sandwiches, either beef or pork. Clancy's was



The news of the bombing of Pearl Harbor reached many people in Adel around 3 p.m. as they watched a movie at the Rialto, and area eateries prepared for the supper crowd.

a popular place with the railroad crews whose trains often blocked 14th Street for an hour while they enjoyed their noon meal.

Doc Scott continued operating a restaurant in his medical building

on Main Street (currently home of Fiesta). It was known as Dox Café back then but probably did not serve particularly healthy foods.

..... **RESTAURANTS, CONTINUED ON BACK**

ADEL WEATHER FORECAST

FRIDAY HIGH 54 | LOW 35 Mostly cloudy and cooler



SUNDAY HIGH 54 | LOW 38 Periods of rain and a t-storm MONDAY HIGH 68 | LOW 46

Mild with plenty of sunshine

TUESDAY HIGH 72 | LOW 43 Sunny and delightful





WEEKLY NEWSLETTER SCAN THIS OR COD



FROM THE PUBLISHER WHERE YOU LIVE HAS A LOT TO DO WITH HOW MANY MILES YOU DRIVE

Like most of you, I recently compiled information for my taxes. And, like most of you, I dread doing it.

As part of the process, I gathered documentation on the business miles I drove in the past year, as well as the personal miles. I seem to average about 14,400 miles total per year. That's a bit more than the average American, who drives 13,476 per year, according to lookupaplate.com. I use a vehicle quite extensively for work purposes, as I drive between our two offices frequently. But, apparently, others are driving nearly as much for a variety of reasons.

Although I put the pedal to the metal between our offices, my commute from home is quite short - less than 10 minutes. Meanwhile, the average driver is behind the wheel for up to 55 minutes per day. That's almost an hour. On the road. Every day. Add it up, and that's two weeks of drive time. Yikes.

Most of you would guess that men drive more than women. And, most of you would be correct.

How much more? According to the same data set, men drive an average of 6,000 more miles per year than women. Don't tell my wife,



as I actually prefer to have her drive.

Do you ever wonder how many combined miles Americans drive each year? Inquiring minds want to know, and I found the answer - 3.26 trillion miles per year. Trillions sound like a lot, but 3.26 is only about 10% of our national debt, which also sounds like a lot. Meanwhile, the number of miles Americans drive is expected to increase by 22% by 2049. Let's hope our national debt doesn't do the same.

Apparently, where you live has a lot to do with how many miles you drive, and the answer may not be what you are thinking. The state with drivers who rack up the most miles? It's Wyoming, averaging 24,069 miles per driver each year. The question is, are Wyoming residents coming or going? My

friend Alan always says, "Take your time going but hurry back." That must be Wyoming's state motto.

The state with the lowest average miles driven? Well, it's not really a state, but Washington, D.C. is the answer, averaging 7,013 miles per driver each year. They have nowhere to go, apparently.

Is age a factor? Absolutely. Those ages 35-54 drive more than any other age group, averaging 15,291 each year. Throw the male vs. female aspect in with age, and it gets even more interesting. Men ages 35-54 drive the most, while females ages 65 or older drive the least.

And 65-year-old women from Wyoming who are concerned about the national debt? You don't want to know.

Have a great week, and thanks for reading.



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ADEL Living Weekly

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.



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Guide kids on the ultimate Alaskan adventure where northern lights glow over majestic mountains, racing rivers and glistening glaciers. As kids trek the tundra, they'll explore how easy it is to lose sight of what's true in our wild world today. Pointing them toward Jesus, True North VBS shows them that he is a faithful friend we can always trust. Runs from June 9-13, 9 a.m. to noon at 602 S. 14th St., Adel. Register at https://vbspro.events/p/801972. ■

MASTER GARDENER PLANT SALE

The Dallas County Master Gardener's Fifth Annual Plant Sale is coming up on Saturday, May 3, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Dallas County Community Building, Dallas County Fairgrounds, 28057 Fairground Road, Adel. Along with unique plants and healthy vegetable starts, you will find helpful Master Gardeners on hand to answer questions and provide information for planting success.



ADM SPORTS SCHEDULE

Friday, April 18

| ····· | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 11 a.m. | Golf: Boys Varsity Invitational @ |
| | Bos Landen Golf Course |
| 4:30 p.m. | Soccer: Boys JV2 vs. Dallas |
| | Center-Grimes |
| 5:30 p.m. | Soccer: Boys JV vs. Dallas |
| | Center-Grimes |
| 7 p.m. | Soccer: Boys Varsity vs. Dallas |
| | Center-Grimes |
| <u>Saturday, April 19</u> | |
| 8:30 a.m. | Golf: Boys Varsity Invitational @ |
| | Bos Landen Golf Course |
| 9 a.m. | Soccer: Girls Varsity Tournament |
| | vs. Multiple Schools. |
| <u>Monday,</u> | <u>April 21</u> |
| 4 p.m. | Golf: Boys Varsity vs. Gilbert @ |
| | River Valley Golf Course |
| 4:30 p.m. | Track: Girls JV/Varsity @ |
| | Bondurant-Farrar |
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APRIL 18-24, 2025

ADEL Living Weekly

MOBILE FOOD BANK

Adel Mobile Food Bank is the fourth Wednesday of the month at New Hope Church, 25712 Highway 6, Adel, from 5-6:30 p.m. or until the food is gone. This is a drivethru pickup for free groceries.

TRIVIA NIGHT

Grab your team and have a blast at Adel's Free Trivia Night on the third Monday of every month. The next event is Monday, April 21, at Adel Family Fun Center. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with food and drink specials. Trivia provided by Select Entertainment starts at 7 p.m.

THIRD MONDAY BINGO

The next Third Monday Bingo is April 21, 6-8 p.m., at the Masonic Lodge, 411 S. 12th St., Adel. Enjoy 16 games of bingo (\$5/card) plus a 17th progressive blackout (\$1/card). Packaged snacks and non-alcoholic drinks will be available.



FUNERAL NOTICES

Funeral notices can be emailed to tammy@iowalivingmagazines.com

KAREN KAY JONES

Karen Kay Jones, 82, of Perry, died Thursday, April 10, 2025, at her home. Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 19, at Caldwell Parrish Funeral Home in Adel with burial at Panther Creek Cemetery west of Adel. The family will greet friends Friday, April 18, at Caldwell Parrish Funeral Home from 4-6 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the family for



future designation. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www. caldwellparrish.com.

Karen was born on Jan. 20, 1943, in Newton. She was an avid bowler, secretary, farmer, expert fisherman, chicken wrangler, pool care specialist and, most of all, a supportive, loving wife and mother.

Karen is survived by five children: Chris (Tammy) Wheeldon, Rhonda (Jeff) Wheeldon, Liz (Rod) Zabel, David (Pauline) Jones and Martha (Ronnie) Wiedman; 27 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren; one great-great grandchild; two brothers, Rod (Kathy) DeReus and Dale DeReus; two sisters, Kora DeReus and Pam DeReus; one son-in-law, Dan Sheehan; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert "Farmer" Jones, and her daughter, Sarah Sheehan.

VERLA JEAN SLYCORD

Verla Jean Slycord, 84, of Adel, died Saturday, April 12, 2025, at her residence. A private family burial took place on April 16 at the Oakdale Cemetery in Adel. Memorials may be sent to the Adel Fire Department in Verla's name. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.calwellparrish.com.



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LOIS LAVONNE MARTIN

Lois LaVonne Martin, 95, died March 5, 2025. She was born in Monroe on March 19, 1929. She graduated from Runnells High School and attended Cedar Falls Teaching College. She enjoyed teaching kindergarten in Redfield and Pocahontas. While in Redfield, she met Roger Martin. They married on Aug. 21, 1949, had seven children and enjoyed 73 years of marriage.



The family farmed near Redfield. LaVonne was an active member of the Redfield Methodist Church and later the Adel Methodist Church. She taught Sunday school, was a 4-H leader, and was a member of the garden club, bridge club, Farm Bureau, neighborhood pitch club, square dancing group, and many more organizations and activities. She was instrumental in the opening of the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden and the Reiman Gardens in Ames. She enjoyed taking groups of women on social outings which usually involved a stop at a tea room.

In 1963, they moved to a farm one mile west of Adel that Roger farmed and later purchased. In 1970, LaVonne and Roger built their dream home at Lake Panorama. They enjoyed being members of the HALO club and Par 3 golf course, where LaVonne shot a hole-in-one.

When the Iowa farm crisis hit in the 1980s, the dream home was sold and LaVonne worked as a nurse's aid, substitute teacher and at Panora greenhouse to help Roger keep the Adel farm. Later in their lives, they purchased the Martin family farm in Redfield where they lived for the remainder of their lives.

The family enjoyed traveling extensively. LaVonne liked entertaining and being surrounded by friends and family. She will be remembered for her quick wit, laughter and love for life and family.

LaVonne is survived by her children, Darwin Martin (Joyce), Natalie Pendroy (Jim), David Martin (Karen), Dallas Martin, Minalee Martin Scheuerman and Duane Martin (Lorie); 17 grandchildren; 34 greatgrandchildren; and 16 great-great grandchildren.

LaVonne was preceded in death by her husband, Roger Martin; her son, Daniel Len Martin; her brothers, Dick, Ron and Orville Harmison; and her sister, Alice Pittman.

A visitation will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 26, at Adel United Methodist Church followed by a memorial service at 11 a.m. A private family inurnment will take place at Oakdale Cemetery in Adel. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.caldwellparrish.

RACCOON RIVER PRESCHOOL TRIVIA NIGHT

Enjoy an evening out with friends at Raccoon River Preschool Trivia Night fundraising event on April 26 at Country Lane Lodge, 29300 Prospect Circle, Adel. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Dinner is provided. A cash bar will be available and a live auction held. Registration is \$30 per person or purchase a table. Sign up online at raccoonriverpreschool. com under the fundraising tab.

ALL THINGS KIDS SALE APRIL 26

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 April 24 and 25 from 3-6 p.m. at 602 S. 14th St. (use the fellowship/gym entrance).



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ADEL Living Weekly

EVENTS IN THE AREA EMAIL YOUR EVENT INFORMATION TO TAMMY@IOWALIVINGMAGAZINES.COM

FAMILY EASTER

Saturday, April 19 Living History Farms 11121 Hickman Road, Urbandale

Celebrate Easter with an old-fashioned flair. Ongoing egg hunts will be held for toddlers to 12-yearolds, with allergy-free options available. Attendees will also find Easter games, crafts and stories, a baby chick exhibit, demonstrations, horse-drawn wagon rides, pictures with the Easter Bunny and more. For more information, visit lhf.org/event/family-easter/.

WDM ELKS SPRING STYLE SHOW FUNDRAISER

Saturday, April 26, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. West Des Moines Elks Lodge No. 2752 2060 N.W. 94th St., Clive

Tickets are \$15 each or reserve a table for eight for \$130 or a table for four for \$70. The Style Show starts at 11 a.m. with a salad luncheon at 12:30 p.m. and door prize drawing at 2 p.m. Many fantastic vendors including K.A.B.E. & Co clothes and accessories will be available. Funds raised will benefit Veterans Children's Christmas and other Elks approved charities and outreach.

SPRING WILDFLOWER PHOTOGRAPHY WALK

Saturday, April 26, 9 a.m. Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge 9981 Pacific St., Prairie City

Join photographer Mike Cox for a free guided photo walk. Stroll the half-mile Oak Savanna trail and discover spring ephemerals. These are the first wildflowers that bloom in the oak savanna. Discover how to take stunning photos as you enjoy the spring weather. Any type of camera is fine for this program, including cell phone cameras. The program will start at the Oak Savanna Trailhead. This trail is a half-mile loop with a gravel surface. The trail has several gradual inclines. The parking lot has a restroom. Wear pants and sturdy walking shoes. Bring a refillable water bottle and insect repellent. Contact nancy_corona@ fws.gov or call 515-994-3400 to register and for information.

EAT|DRINK|ARCHITECTURE

Sunday, April 27, 1 p.m. shotgun start Iowa Taproom, Royal Mile, Hessen Haus, Fong's Pizza (choose your preferred departure location when you register)

The Iowa Architectural Foundation announces the return of EatlDrinklArchitecture, a one-of-a-kind walking tour that celebrates the intersection of notable architecture, delicious food and craft beverages. EatlDrinklArchitecture offers attendees an engaging and social experience, guiding them through a curated walking route featuring notable architectural landmarks and unique spaces. Along the way, participants will enjoy stops at partnering Full Court Press restaurants, each offering a taste of their signature flavors. This year's route will feature the new Fong's Pizza location in the East Village. Proceeds support IAF's educational programming, including Architecture in the Schools and Architecture in the Community initiatives, which promote architectural appreciation and literacy throughout Iowa. Tickets and additional details are available at EDA2025.eventbrite.com. Tickets are \$50 and must be purchased in advance.

EARTH DAY ADVENTURE

Sunday, April 27, noon to 3 p.m. Water Works Park

2201 George Flagg Parkway, Des Moines

Bring the friends and family for an afternoon of sustainable activities and outdoor exploration of areas in Water Works Park that you may not even know exist. Go for a hike, bring your bike, identify wildlife and discover The Wild.

ADEL Living Weekly

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COOKING UP COMFORT WITH EASE AND CONVENIENCE

(Family Features) Checking all the boxes with family meals — convenience, nutrition and, of course, deliciousness — can be a tall task. If you're aiming to add recipes to your dinner rotation that are equally flavorful and easy to make, look no further than Fettuccine with Pesto, Prosciutto and Asparagus.

This two-pan meal serves four and provides a warm, comforting taste without making a mess of the kitchen. The classic combination of fettuccine and pesto are complemented by prosciutto and thick, flavorful asparagus for a recipe practically made for spring.

As an added (but important) bonus, it's easy to prepare — just don't overcook it. All it needs is 5-8 minutes in boiling water, or, in this case, 5-6 minutes in a heated skillet for perfectly cooked, firm and delicious spears.

FETTUCCINE WITH PESTO, PROSCIUTTO AND ASPARAGUS

Recipe courtesy of Michigan Asparagus Servings: 4

Ingredients:

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- ½ pound fresh Michigan Asparagus, trimmed and cut into bite-sized pieces
- 1 pound fettuccine pasta
- 1/2 cup basil pesto
- 6 slices prosciutto
- ¼ cup whole milk ricotta cheese
- fresh cracked black pepper, to taste

Directions:

• In medium skillet over medium



heat, heat olive oil. Add asparagus and cook 5-6 minutes until tender.

- While asparagus is cooking, bring large pot of water to boil. Add pasta and cook according to package instructions. Drain and set aside.
- Add pesto to asparagus and add pasta. Toss pasta with pesto and asparagus.
- Divide between four plates. Top with prosciutto and 1 tablespoon ricotta per plate. Top with fresh cracked black pepper, to taste.





50s PLUS MEETINGS AND EVENTS

The 50s Plus Seniors group has been going for the last three years, during which time the group has played board games and enjoyed lots of conversations, plenty of coffee and a lot of good food. They invite anyone in Adel and the surrounding area to join them the first and third Tuesdays of the month, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Adel Public Library, 303 S. 10th St. If you have just moved to the area and would like to meet new people, this is a great way to do it. The group now has programs included in its activities. Programs are open to anyone, not just seniors.

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BIG GREEN UMBRELLA MEDIA

APRIL 18-24, 2025

ADEL Living Weekly

RESTAURANTS, FROM FRONT

The Adel Café, on the east side of the square, came under new management when the business was purchased by Mrs. Charlotte Randal.

August was a good time for ice cream sales. Mack's Café offered a one cent sale on Meadow Gold ice cream. Buy one pint for 15 cents and the second one was only a penny.

July 1941 saw the beginning of drive-in service when Clancy's advertised "Drive in for drinks. Your order will be promptly served in your car."

An interesting incident occurred in October of 1941 when Mrs. Laura Howell suffered a severe attack of indigestion. By Sunday, she was much improved and able to return to work as a cook at Howell's Café. Where did she get the indigestion?

ENHART PLUMBING Since 1950 23589 Nantucket Road, Adel 993-3426 www.lenhartdm.com





Also in October, Mack's Café began referring to its dance hall as a recreation room. There would be no more dancing...perhaps a reflection of the seriousness of the times.

Wolter's Coffee Shop, just across the street from the Rialto Theater, was a popular place for movie patrons. It was nearing 3 o'clock on a Sunday in December as the waitresses were cleaning up and preparing for the evening trade. Most of their dinner patrons were now at the Rialto enjoying the movie "A Yank in the R.A.F." starring Tyrone Power and Betty Grable. Suddenly, the radio broadcast was interrupted, and the restaurant grew quiet. Everyone listened in shock after the broadcaster announced, "The Japanese have bombed Pearl Harbor."

War would change Adel, and the world, in many ways. It hastened an end to The Great Depression but brought many new challenges. Food rationing helped cause an increase in restaurant patronage at a time when help was in short supply. Under great difficulty, the cafés of Adel somehow struggled through.



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FOR SALE: Large food/meat slicer. Still in original box. \$100. Call 515-993-5202.

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SERVICES: Find Your Peace! Overwhelmed by clutter? Let me help you create a calm, organized home for a healthier, happier living space. Services include home organization, decluttering, and tailored packages. Call Jennifer at (515) 991-2511 to book your consultation!

HELP WANTED: Adel Health Mart Pharmacy is seeking an enthusiastic and reliable individual to join our team as a part-time sales clerk. At this time, we are not hiring high school aged students as we need help during daytime hours. Fun and friendly environment and flexible schedule! Apply in person at 113 N. 9th Street, Adel.

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

BICYCLES WANTED: Any condition is ok. For parts or repair. Will pick them up. Phone 515-238-3343.

WANTED: Stereo & electronic radio stuff receivers speakers guitar amp etc. Any age or condition is OK. Call 515-238-3343.

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