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ADEL ROTARY RECOGNIZES ADM SENIOR AUBREE TIMMER



Adel Rotary's ADM Senior of the Month for November is Abree Timmer. Aubree was the ADM High School Marching Band's senior drum major this year. Her responsibilities included conducting, leading the other drum majors, and ensuring that all section leaders and sections were prepped and ready for rehearsals and performances. "Aubree was reliable, kind and helpful," exemplifying the Rotary ideal of "Service Above Self."

The ADM Rotary Senior Recognition Program honors students who demonstrate consistent kindness, a helpful spirit, and a commitment to making a positive difference both at school and within the greater community.

Aubree is pictured with Rotary Treasurer Kevin Howe, left, and President Rylan Vos, presenting Aubree with a certificate of accomplishment and a \$25 award. ■

ADEL WEATHER FORECAST

FRIDAY HIGH 33 | LOW 21

Cloudy and not as cold

**SATURDAY HIGH 30 | LOW 8**

Cloudy; a little afternoon snow

**SUNDAY HIGH 15 | LOW 2**

Low clouds and colder

**MONDAY HIGH 25 | LOW 21**

Not as cold with clouds and sun

**TUESDAY HIGH 30 | LOW 15**

Not as cold; sun turning cloudy



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FROM THE PUBLISHER

A LOT OF FOAM... AND A LOT OF FUN

I have written numerous columns about my childhood toys through the years. I am not sure why, but simply thinking of them makes me smile. Just last week, I touched on the Etch a Sketch and the Clackers, and I received responses from many of you who enjoyed them, too. In years past, I have written about my Hot Wheels collection, Silly Putty, the Slinky and my treasured Big Wheel.

Having three older siblings helped with the Goodman family toy inventory, as many were passed down the line to me. Having a mom who worked at a toy store made a difference, too.

Here is another toy that made its way into our home and likely many of yours, too — the Nerf ball. Not those foam dart guns or other foam-based weaponry that some of you younger readers may recall, but the simple 4-inch polyurethane orange foam ball. Yes, the world's first official indoor ball. In 1970 alone, more than four million Nerf balls were purchased.

That's a lot of foam.

You may wonder where the name Nerf came from. The Parker Brothers toy company, which originally developed Nerf, chose the name as a take-off from Nerf bars, the protective tubing that was, and still is, used to avoid minor collisions on off-road vehicles. Interestingly, the inventors referenced the Nerf ball internally as the "falsie-ball," drawing a parallel to the padding used in bras for, well, enhancement. A couple of my male friends who dressed as women at our Halloween parties can attest to this multi-use.

My Nerf ball came with a miniature basketball hoop that hung on the back side of my bedroom door. It was appropriately called "Nerfoop." Nerf balls didn't dribble very well, so any form of basketball we played with this ball incorporated full-contact tackling, often coupled with long distance



leaps from my bed.

Then came the holy grail of Nerf products — the Nerf football. Every kid I knew had one, as it allowed little hands to finally be able to grab a football like the pros we watched on TV. Leave it to a Minnesota Viking to invent such a wonderful toy. Yes, kicker Fred Cox, along with game inventor Reyn Guyer, came to Parker Brothers with an idea for a football that was safe for indoor play. Well, safer, anyway.

Nerf products were turned over to Kenner, then the Tonka Corporation and, ultimately, Hasbro. Annual revenues now exceed \$400 million. Now, that's a lot of foam. And a lot of fun.

Have a great week, and thanks for reading. ■



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CHRISTMAS IN MINBURN

Enjoy Christmas in Minubnr on Dec. 6 with activities at the Minburn Public Library, skating rink and Minburn Methodist Church.

The Jingle Bell Store will take place from 10 a.m. to noon, where children can shop for family members and friends free of charge. Volunteers will be on hand to help wrap gifts. At 5 p.m., a one-of-a-kind nativity will be lit up at the skating rink, and everyone is invited to come sing Christmas carols together. Following the lighting of the nativity scene, the Friends of Minburn Library invite everyone to come to Minburn Methodist Church for a freewill donation soup supper from 5:30-7 p.m., crafts for children and a Santa visit. ■

CHARLIE'S FREE MARKET

Charlie's Free Market is an opportunity for families to pick out toys for their children free of charge. Come to Adel Faith Lutheran Church, 602 S. 14th St., on Saturday, Dec. 6, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. ■

SOUP DINNER WITH FANCY DESSERTS

Adel First Christian Church invites you to a Soup Dinner with Fancy Desserts on Sunday, Dec. 14, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Adel First Christian Church, 218 N. Ninth St., Adel. Come dine in the magic of the Festival of Trees. Free will offering. ■

COMING UP IN ADEL LIVING MAGAZINE

Super Bowl parties: Do you have a tradition of holding a Super Bowl party? Tell us about your party plans, recipes and other ideas. Email tammy@iowalivingmagazines to share your story. ■

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ADM SPORTS SCHEDULE

Friday, Dec. 5

- 4:30 p.m. **Basketball:** Girls JV @ North Polk
 4:30 p.m. **Basketball:** Boys JV @ North Polk
 5:45 p.m. **Basketball:** Boys Freshman @ North Polk
 6 p.m. **Basketball:** Girls Varsity @ North Polk
 7 p.m. **Basketball:** Girls JV2 @ North Polk
 7:30 p.m. **Basketball:** Boys Varsity @ North Polk

Saturday, Dec. 6

- 9 a.m. **Wrestling:** JV Invitational @ Des Moines North
 10 a.m. **Wrestling:** Varsity Invitational @ DCG

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HOLIDAY SPIRIT CONCERT

Adel United Methodist Church will hold its Holiday Spirit Concert in the Fellowship Hall, 115 S. 10th St., on Saturday, Dec. 6, 5:30 p.m. Enjoy the sounds of the holidays. A freewill donation will be accepted for Tori's Angels. ■

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL

Adel United Methodist Church, 115 S. 10th St., serves a meal Wednesdays, 5-6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall downstairs. Serving is 5-6:30 p.m. This is a freewill donation meal. All are welcome. ■

LIVE NATIVITY

Adel United Methodist Church, 115 S. 10th St., is holding a live nativity scene Friday, Dec. 5, 5-7 p.m., during Adel's Sips & Samples. Meet Reba the goat, Helen the lamb and Ozzy the cow. Live animals provided by Barnyard Buddies. ■

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 drive-thru pickup for free groceries. ■

LIGHT UP ADEL HOLIDAY LUMINARY

The Adel Women's Club is selling luminary kits for the second annual Light Up Adel event. Kits are \$10 and include five plastic-coated, reusable weather resistant bags, five LED candles, and five baggies for adding material of your choice for weight in the bags.

Memorials are \$5 each. Names are recorded in a permanent record and will be read aloud at the Dec. 14 Holiday Celebration and Community Display.

Starting at 4:30 p.m., The Adel Women's Club will be serving holiday refreshments at the Raccoon Valley Bank Adel Community House, 1016 Main St., Adel. They will sing carols and read the memorial luminary names at the Adel Pavilion. Luminaries will be displayed in the area. The Adel Community is asked to display their luminaries in front of their homes on Dec. 14 as well.

Luminary kits are available at Adel Flowers and Gifts, 801 Main St., Adel. They will also be available Dec. 5 at the Adel Sip and Sample on the Courthouse Square or by emailing adelwomensclub@gmail.com. ■

ADEL HOMETOWN HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Enjoy the Adel Hometown Holiday Celebration Friday, Dec. 5, and Saturday, Dec. 6. Friday activities include balloon animals with Mrs. Claus, a visit from Santa and holiday crafts and cookies with hot chocolate from 1:30-3 p.m. at the Adel Public Library. For the evening, there will be live reindeer on the square, Sip and Sample starting at 5 p.m., a lighted parade and caroling. A Festival of Trees will be open at First Christian Church from 5-7 p.m. on Friday night as well. Saturday, shoppers are encouraged to shop local and enjoy carriage rides around Kinnick-Feller Riverside Park from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Keep an eye on the Adel Partners Chamber social media page for updates on the weekend's events. ■

50s PLUS MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Enjoy board games, conversation, coffee and good food at the 50s Plus meetings. 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. ■

DALLAS COUNTY CONSERVATION EVENTS

www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation or call the DCCB office at 515-465-3577.

All programs are free to the public and open to all ages.


- **Wilderness Trail Tales**
Thursday, Dec. 11, 5:30-7 p.m., Dallas County ISU Extension Office, 28061 Fairground Road, Adel
- **Winter Solstice**
Sunday, Dec. 21, 7-8 a.m., Hanging Rock Conservation Area, 416 Redfield St., Redfield
- **Critter Crafts**
Monday, Dec. 29, 10-11:30 a.m., Forest Park Museum, 14581 K Ave., Perry
- **Voas Owl Prowl**
Monday, Dec. 29, 1-3 p.m., Voas Nature Area, 19286 Lexington Road, Minburn
- **Winter Survival**
Monday, Dec. 29, 1-4 p.m., Kuehn Conservation Area, 32828 Houston Trail, Earlham ■

NEEDS FOR VETERANS AT THE VA

Veterans Day is a reminder that our veterans still need our help when they are hospitalized or homeless. Federal funds cannot be used at the Des Moines VA Hospital or Community Resource and Referral Center for personal items. That's when the Adel American Legion Auxiliary and other groups step up to collect contributions from the community as well as provide funds from Poppy Day donations.

Current new items needed are long sleeved shirts, XL boxers/briefs, duffle bags, sweatpants/sweatshirts (M-2XL), and pullover and zip-up sweatshirts (M-XL); personal care items; and coffee and snacks. Please refer to the Adel American Legion Facebook page for a detailed list. Of note is that Branch-of-Service clothing, blankets, hats and insulated mugs are residents' favorite items.


Contributions may be dropped off at 1305 S. 15th St., Adel, or call Shirley McAdon at 515-993-4862 for pick up. ■



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EVENTS IN THE AREA

EMAIL YOUR EVENT INFORMATION TO
TAMMY@IOWALIVINGMAGAZINES.COM**TINSELTOWN IN THE PARK****Through Dec. 20****Water Works Park****2201 George Flagg Parkway, Des Moines**

Mark your calendars for Tinseltown in the Park, featuring live Christmas tree sales, biergarten specials, food trucks, entertainers, unique visits from holiday A-listers, photo opportunities, and more to celebrate the holiday season in the park. Visit www.waterworkspark.org/tinseltown-in-water-works-park/ for schedule of events.

**THE CHRISTKINDLMARKET****Dec. 11-14****Principal Park, 1 Line Drive, Des Moines**

Experience a German-inspired Christmas Market. Enjoy the sights, sounds, smells and flavors of the holidays as you participate in a 750-year-old tradition. Shop regional vendors selling old-world, hand-crafted products from wooden vendor stalls; enjoy lively performances of polka music, traditional dance and choirs in Yuletide Hall; participate in children's activities; sip Glühwein (warm, mulled wine); and savor European beer. More information available at <http://www.christkindlmarketdsm.com>.

HOLIDAY PROMENADE**Various dates, 5-8 p.m.****Historic East Village**

Enjoy extended hours at local shops and restaurants, special promotions and pop-up experiences, live music and entertainment, visits from Santa and other holiday characters and free trolley rides throughout the neighborhood.

• **Dec. 12:** Ugly Sweater Contest across East Village businesses.

• **Dec. 19:** Drone Show with Santa Claus.

Visit eastvillagedesmoines.com/promedade for the latest event updates and details.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA AND MRS. CLAUS**Sunday, Dec. 14, 8 a.m. to noon****West Des Moines Elks Lodge****2060 N.W. 94th St., Clive**

Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus will be giving out goody bags, talking with the children and providing photo opportunities. The breakfast buffet includes: biscuits and gravy, French toast, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage patties, cheesy potatoes and, of course, all you can eat pancakes (including blueberry and chocolate chip pancakes), orange juice, milk and coffee. Enjoy a Bloody Mary or mimosa for \$3.50. Serving is from 8 a.m. till noon. Cost is \$11 for adults and \$5 for children 10 and younger. Breakfasts are held the second Sunday of the month. There will also be a Christmas bake sale. Proceeds support the Elks' Hoop Shoot Program, other youth activities, veterans and community charities.

STORIES WITH ST. NICHOLAS**Sunday, Dec. 14, 4-8 p.m.****Water Works Park****2201 George Flagg Parkway, Des Moines**

Immerse yourself in a special presentation from St. Nicholas and his reindeer, along with the Top Hat Carolers. St Nicholas will read "Twas the Night Before Christmas" along with a reading of "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" from none other than the Grinch himself. ■

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RECIPE

KEEP YOUR FOCUS ON THE ACTION WITH AN EASY GAME DAY WINNER

(Family Features) When spicy dips and saucy wings sound a little too overwhelming for your next game day gathering, turn to a simple yet still delicious solution. These Simple Salami Sliders can make game day planning a breeze with pregame ease and just a few everyday ingredients for the perfect snack at kickoff. ■



SIMPLE SALAMI SLIDERS

Recipe courtesy of "Cookin' Savvy"

Servings: 4-6

Ingredients:

- 1 package slider buns
- 8 slices Swiss cheese
- 8 slices salami
- 8 slices ham or other deli meat
- 1 stick butter, melted
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 teaspoon onion powder
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- Everything Bagel seasoning (optional)

Directions:

- Heat oven to 350 F.
- Halve slider buns, creating top and bottom portions. Set top portion aside, leaving bottom portion in original container. Place bottom portion and container in baking dish to prevent sticking.
- Layer Swiss cheese, salami and ham then cover with top buns.
- Mix melted butter, Worcestershire sauce, brown sugar, Parmesan cheese, onion powder and garlic powder. Pour over sliders.
- Cover with foil and bake 15 minutes then remove foil, sprinkle with everything bagel seasoning, if desired, and bake, uncovered, 10 minutes.

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CITY OF ADEL NAMES VICK AS NEW CITY ADMINISTRATOR

The city of Adel announced the appointment of Timothy J. Vick as its next city administrator, following an extensive national search. Vick will officially assume his duties on Jan. 12.

The city partnered in a rigorous national recruitment process that attracted 22 candidates. After a thorough review, finalists participated in a series of interviews with panels composed of elected officials, appointed officials and community leaders. A public meet-and-greet session was also held to give residents the opportunity to engage with the candidates and provide input.

“Tim’s depth of experience, collaborative leadership style, and strong commitment to public service made him stand out in an exceptional field,” said James West, chair of the Adel Council Personnel Committee. “We are confident he will be an outstanding fit for Adel and will help guide our community through continued growth and opportunity.”

Vick brings more than 25 years of progressively responsible experience in public administration, including more than two decades serving Iowa communities as a city manager and city administrator. He comes to Adel from the city of Manchester, where he has served as city manager since 2005. During his tenure, he led major strategic initiatives, championed economic and community development efforts, and oversaw more than \$45 million in infrastructure and utility improvements through a long-term capital improvement plan.

Vick holds a Master of Public Administration and a Bachelor of Science in Community and Regional Planning from Iowa State University, with a specialty in rural and small-town planning.

Beyond his municipal leadership, Vick has been actively involved in statewide and regional professional organizations, including serving as president of the Iowa City/County Manager Association and contributing significantly to programs recognizing excellence in city management. He has also been deeply engaged in community service, including leadership roles with the Lions Club and Community Childcare of Manchester.

“I am honored to join the city of Adel and excited for the opportunity to work alongside the city council, staff and the community,” said Vick. “Adel has a strong foundation and a bright future. I look forward to building upon the good work already underway and collaborating with a talented group of staff members to help the community achieve its long-term goals.” ■

CLASSIFIED ADS

SERVSAFE COURSE PLUS CERTIFICATION

EXAM: Saturday, January 10, 2026 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Cost: \$160. Use current best practices in safe food handling to keep your food establishment in compliance and protect the health of both customers and staff. Contact Jackie at ISU Extension and Outreach at 515-993-4281.

FOR SALE: Homemade caramel corn for \$8.00 in gallon size bag. I also knit too. Call sandy @515-710-7844.

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FOR SALE: 2001 Chrysler mini-van, handicapped equipped with rear lift. 148,000 miles. Asking \$5,200. Call 515-770-5071.

FOR RENT IN ADEL: Commercial retail space for rent. 1,800 square feet. 608 Greene St. on Highway 6. Call 515-988-7940.

FOR RENT IN PERRY: 312 Warford, Perry, IA. 1bedroom, 1 bath \$475 a month. Call Dave at 515-491-4157 if interested.

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