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WEARING OF THE GREEN

Dallas County




The Dallas County Iowa State University Extension and Outreach staff dressed up for St. Patrick's Day March 17. Front row: Val Cameron, Rosa Gonzalez, Jackie Giles and Sarah Wood; and, back row: Anne Schlieman, Aleta Cochran, Michelle Sackville and Kathy Beni. ■

ADEL WEATHER FORECAST

FRIDAY HIGH 49 | LOW 28
Mostly sunny and windy 

SATURDAY HIGH 61 | LOW 39
Mostly sunny and windy 

SUNDAY HIGH 74 | LOW 50
Sun turning to clouds in the p.m. 

MONDAY HIGH 74 | LOW 53
Turning cloudy and very warm 

TUESDAY HIGH 77 | LOW 58
Intervals of clouds and sunshine 



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FROM THE PUBLISHER

IS YOUR REFRIGERATOR RUNNING?

There are some things many of us did as kids that today's youth simply can't understand. One of them is the fine art — if you can call it that — of the prank phone call.

Now, before any of you get too judgmental, let's remember this was a different time. And even though prank calls may not have been considered funny by everyone — either then or now — many of us still took part in them and giggled our way through the experience.

You know the classics: "Is your refrigerator running?" "Do you have Prince Albert in a can?" "Can I speak to Al?"

If those lines sound familiar, it's probably because you either delivered them yourself or stood nearby while a sibling or friend did the honors. Either way, you remember how it went.

In fact, there's a pretty good chance you're smiling right now. Maybe even cringing a little.

Prank calls might have been more of a boy thing. I'm not entirely sure about that. But I do know what happened when kids were left unsupervised for an hour with access to a telephone.

Of course, this was back when telephones were attached to the kitchen

wall by a cord that could stretch halfway across the room. It was also a time before caller ID, which meant you truly had no idea who might be on the other end of the line. That uncertainty made prank calls possible.

There was always a small fear of somehow being tracked down, though, so the calls had to be quick. Efficiency mattered. You delivered the line, waited for the response and tried — with varying levels of success — to keep a straight face. That was the real challenge.

No matter how many times we rehearsed beforehand, the moment the person answered the phone, the giggles started. The brave soul holding the receiver would attempt to power through the joke while the rest of us collapsed into silent laughter nearby.

And when it inevitably fell apart, the line of retreat was always the same.

"Sorry, wrong number." Click.

Of course, the person receiving the call often had a pretty good idea what was going on. Sometimes they even guessed exactly who was on the other end of the line. Nothing ended a



prank call faster than hearing your own name.

I doubt my kids ever made a prank phone call. And I'm fairly certain my parents never did either. But during those years from the late 1960s through the late 1980s, prank calls were a fairly common form of entertainment. In fact, the comedy group The Jerky Boys eventually turned prank telephone calls into a full-blown career, which proves that sometimes even the most juvenile ideas can have surprising staying power.

Yes, prank phone calls were ridiculous. And yes, they were juvenile. They still are. But every now and then, when someone mentions a refrigerator running, a lot of us of a certain age still have the same instinctive response: "Well, you'd better go catch it."

And somewhere, deep down, the giggles return.

Have a great week, and thanks for reading. ■

Shane Goodman
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GARY'S RIDE

On Saturday, May 16, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Gary's Ride will be held, starting at the Waukee Raccoon River Valley Trailhead and ending in Dallas Center downtown Main Street. The event will be held to increase awareness of glioblastoma and support Richard Deming Cancer Center's terminal brain cancer patients through their integrative medicine program, Iowa Oncology Research Association for Glioblastoma Clinical Trials, MercyOne Des Moines Foundation for gift cards for terminal brain cancer patients and their families, and Gary's Compassion Fund for financial assistance for terminal brain cancer patients and their families. Help to "pedal" forward in reaching the funding goal and be the difference for these loved ones and their families afflicted by terminal brain cancer/glioblastoma. Registration and information are available at garysrideiowa.org. ■

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. This is a freewill donation meal. All are welcome. ■

ADEL VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE FIREMAN'S DANCE

Adel Volunteer Fire and Rescue will host its Fourth Annual Fireman's Dance on Saturday, March 28, at Country Lane Lodge, 29300 Prospect Circle, Adel. The event is a fundraiser to purchase needed equipment for the department. Tickets for the dinner and dance are \$25 and can be purchased at city hall or from any volunteer firefighter. Doors open at 5 p.m. with dinner at 6 p.m. and dance, with Suede performing, from 7:30-11 p.m. ■

TAKING NEW PATIENTS
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ADM SPORTS SCHEDULE

Friday, March 27

- 6 p.m. **Soccer:** Boys JV Scrimmage @ Des Moines East
 6 p.m. **Soccer:** Boys Varsity Scrimmage @ Des Moines East
 6:45 p.m. **Soccer:** Girls Varsity Scrimmage vs. Johnston

Monday, March 30

- 4:30 p.m. **Soccer:** Boys JV2 @ Perry
 5:30 p.m. **Soccer:** Boys JV @ Perry

Tuesday, March 31

- 4 p.m. **Esports:** Varsity vs. Benton Community
 4 p.m. **Track:** Girls JV/Varsity @ Waukee Northwest
 4:30 p.m. **Track:** Boys JV/Varsity Coed Invitational @ Earlham
 4:30 p.m. **Track:** Boys JV/Varsity @ Dallas Center-Grimes

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ST. JOHN'S COMMUNITY FISH FRIES

St. John's, 24043 302nd Place, Adel, is hosting Fish Fries for Lent on Fridays, March 20 and 27, 5-7 p.m. They will be serving fried pollock, french fries or baked potato, cheese sandwich, coleslaw and homemade tartar sauce. Assorted desserts will also be available. March 20: Children 5 and younger eat free, children 6-12 are \$7. March 27: Children younger than 12 eat free. All days: \$15 for adults, family maximum of \$50. ■

EASTER EGG HUNT

Mark your calendars for the annual Adel Kiwanis Club Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, March 29 at Kinnick Feller Park in Adel. Don't forget to bring a non-perishable donation for the Adel Good Samaritan Food Pantry. ■

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. ■

GOOD SAMARITAN FOOD PANTRY MOBILE VAN RIBBON CUTTING

Join the Adel Chamber for a ribbon cutting to celebrate the Good Samaritan Food Pantry's mobile van on Friday, March 27, noon, at 215 N. 11th St., Adel. ■

ALL THINGS KIDS RUMMAGE SALE

It's the perfect time for spring cleaning. As you sort through your kids' clothes, toys, books and gear, consider donating them to help make our All Things Kids Rummage Sale a success.

Donation drop-off is Thursday, April 9 and Friday, April 10, 3-6 p.m. at 602 S. 14th St., Adel. Then come back to shop on Saturday, April 11, 8 a.m. to noon.

You'll find great deals on kids clothing, toys and books, baby gear, games, puzzles and more. Clean out those closets, bless another family and support Faith's Flock Preschool at the same time. We appreciate our amazing community. ■

ALZHEIMER'S EDUCATION SERIES

Edencrest at Adel announces its 2026 Alzheimer's Education Series of informative conversations intended to help members of the greater-Adel community understand and recognize the signs of Alzheimer's and how to best care for loved ones living with it. Each presentation in the series takes place at 621 302nd Place, Adel, on the last Tuesday of each month from 6:30-7:30 p.m. between February and September. This series is free and open to the public. The series lineup includes:

- **March 31:** Communicating Effectively
- **April 28:** Healthy Living for your Brain and Body
- **May 26:** 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's
- **June 30:** Building Foundations of Caregiving
- **July 28:** Supporting Independence
- **Aug. 25:** Managing Money ■

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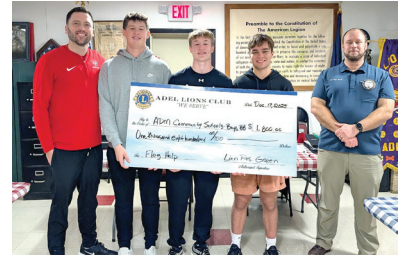
ADEL LIONS CLUB PRESENTS WINTER CHECKS



The Adels Lions Club presented the Adels Boy Scouts a check for \$5,825.



The Adels Lions Club presented the Adels Community Schools Band a check for \$800.



The Adels Lions Club presented Adels Boys Basketball a check for \$1,800.



The Adels Lions Club presented Adels Boys Track a check for \$825.



The Adels Lions Club presented De Soto Betterment a check for \$3,000.



The Adels Lions Club presented Adels E-Sports a check for \$1,100.



The Adels Lions Club presented Adels Girls Basketball a check for \$1,200.



The Adels Lions Club presented the Adels Girl Scouts a check for \$1,200.



The Adels Lions Club presented Adels Strength Training a check for \$800.

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EVENTS IN THE AREAEMAIL YOUR EVENT INFORMATION TO
TAMMY@IOWALIVINGMAGAZINES.COM**CAN PLAY FORE ALL GOLF OUTING****Friday, April 24, 3-7 p.m.****MidAmerican Energy Company RecPlex
6500 Grand Ave., West Des Moines**

Join Can Play and the 2026 West Des Moines Leadership Academy for a fun, small-format golf outing supporting accessible outdoor recreation and youth programming. Golfers will play through a creative course designed by community members and local businesses, built entirely from non-perishable food items to benefit Can Play's programming. All proceeds will benefit Can Play, whose mission is to bring adapted and no cost recreational programs to our communities by removing barriers to play. Register and donate online at <https://givebutter.com/WDMLA>.

**WDM ELKS SPRING STYLE SHOW
FUNDRAISER****Saturday, April 11, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.****West Des Moines Elks Lodge No. 2752
2060 N.W. 94th St., Clive**

Tickets for the Spring Style Show are \$15 each or reserve a table for eight for \$140 or a table for four for \$70. Doors open at 10 a.m., with the style show starting at 11 a.m. and a salad luncheon to follow. Many vendors will be present, including Purple Poppy, Salon Classic and others. Funds raised will benefit Veterans' Children's Christmas and other Elks charities and outreach.

**THE EVENING AFRICAN VIOLET CLUB
SALE AND SHOW****Friday and Saturday, April 24-25****Plumbers & Steamfitters Local Union 33
2501 Bell Ave., Des Moines**

The Evening African Violet Club of Des Moines invites the public to its 2026 African Violet Show and Sale, "Music in Bloom." Members of area garden clubs and plant societies are especially welcome as club members share many interests in indoor and outdoor gardening with them. This is a nationally sanctioned show and sale that will have judges from the African

Violet Society of America. Hours are Friday, April 24, noon to 6 p.m., and Saturday, April 25, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Judging of Violets, Gesneriads and Floral Design will take place on Saturday, April 25 from 10 a.m. to noon. Hours follow from noon to 5 p.m. for sales. Only members of EAVC are eligible to enter plants and designs in the show.

TORI'S ANGELS 2026**Thursday, April 26, 5:30-8:30 p.m.****Glen Oaks Country Club
1401 Glen Oaks Drive, West Des Moines**

Celebrate 15 years of hope, helping Iowa children with life threatening illnesses by funding vital medical and travel expenses not covered by insurance, allowing them to pursue life-saving treatments and cures. For more information, contact Patty Reeve at 515-238-3829 or patty@torisangels.org. www.TorisAngels.org

GIVE LIFE 5K**Saturday, May 2, 8:30 a.m.****Raccoon River Park, West Des Moines**

Iowa Donor Network honors those who have given the gift of life, celebrates the lives of organ and tissue recipients, and recognizes those who continue to wait for a life-saving transplant at the annual Give Life 5K. This is a family-friendly event so, no matter your skill level, the event is open to everyone. Join us to honor and support those who have been impacted by organ and tissue donation and celebrate the gift of life by registering for the Give Life 5K today. Visit GiveLife5K.com.

**DES MOINES COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA
SPRING CONCERT****Sunday, May 10, 2 p.m.****Drake University Sheslow Auditorium
2507 University Ave., Des Moines**

Enjoy the Des Moines Community Orchestra in concert with guest conductor Kara Mather and featured soloist Dr. Kevin Allemagne on the clarinet. ■

RECIPE

CREATIVE CUPCAKES TO COMPLETE YOUR EASTER FEAST

(Family Impact) Once the Easter baskets are put away and the main course is cleared from the kitchen, you can liven up the dessert table or send guests off with a thoughtful treat thanks to these Chocolate Easter Egg Cupcakes. Moist cake, creamy frosting and chocolate-coated candies combine for a seasonal sweet that's sure to impress.

To find more dessert ideas that satisfy chocolate lovers — and all your loved ones — visit Culinary.net. ■

CHOCOLATE EASTER EGG CUPCAKES

Recipe adapted from A Classic Twist

Prep time: 30 minutes

Cook time: 15 minutes

Cupcakes:

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/3 cup cocoa powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 egg, at room temperature
- 1/2 cup buttermilk, at room temperature
- 1/2 cup hot water
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Frosting:

- 3 sticks unsalted butter, softened and cubed
- 3 cups powdered sugar, sifted
- 2-3 tablespoons milk
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1 pinch salt
- 2-3 drops brown food coloring
- egg-shaped chocolate-coated candies

Directions:

- **To make cupcakes:** Preheat



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHUTTERSTOCK

- oven to 350 F. Line 12-cup muffin tin with cupcake liners.
- In bowl of electric mixer, sift flour, sugar, cocoa powder, baking soda, baking powder and salt.
- In medium bowl, whisk egg, buttermilk, water, vegetable oil and vanilla extract.
- Mix dry ingredients on low speed 1 minute. Add wet ingredients. Mix 2 minutes on medium speed and scrape sides and bottom of bowl. Mix 1 minute on medium speed.
- Divide evenly among cupcake liners.
- Bake 12-15 minutes, or until

- toothpick inserted in center comes out almost clean.
- Cool cupcakes on wire rack.
- **To make frosting:** Using paddle attachment of electric mixer, whip butter 8 minutes on medium speed until pale and creamy. Add powdered sugar, milk, vanilla extract and salt; mix on low speed 1 minute. Increase speed to medium and mix 6 minutes until frosting is light, creamy and fluffy. Add food coloring and whip 1 minute.
- Pipe frosting onto cupcakes and top with egg-shaped chocolate-coated candies.

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STORYTIMES

- **Move and Groove Storytime:** Every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m.
- **My First Storytime:** Every Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.
- **Preschool Storytime:** Every Thursday at 9:30 a.m.

ELEMENTARY

- **Elementary Maker Lab - 3D Printed Shoelace Tag:** Tuesday, March 31 from 4-5:30 p.m.*
- **Tail Wagging Readers:** Thursday, April 2, at 4:30 p.m.
- **Elementary Art Club: Junk Journaling:** Tuesday, April 7, at 4 p.m.

TEEN

- **Nerf Battle:** Grades 6-12, Friday, March 27 from 2-4 p.m.
- **Teen Advisory Board:** Wednesday, April 1, at 4 p.m.
- **Teen Chef: Dirt and Worms:** Wednesday, April 8, at 4 p.m.

ADULTS

- **Exercise Group:** Meets every Monday through Thursday at 9 a.m.
- **Yoga:** every Wednesday at 6 p.m.*
- **50-plus Senior Group:** Tuesdays, April 7 and 21, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **Adult Craft: Yarn Birds:** Monday, April 20, at 5:30 p.m.

*Registered event, register at www.adelpl.org. ■

PERSONAL ITEMS NEEDED BY VETERANS AT THE VA HOSPITAL AND VA CRRC

The March 2026 needs list includes military ball caps (new), slip-on tennis shoes (men's sizes 9.5-13), boxer shorts (L, XL, XXL), duffel bags, backpacks, sweatpants (M-3XL), sweatshirts (M-SXL), personal care items, individually-wrapped snacks, and coffee. Please see the Adel American Legion Facebook page for the detailed list.

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

Thank you to all those supporting veterans. ■

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The image shows the cover of the 'Living' magazine. The main headline is 'A 'fur-ever' HOME' with a sub-headline 'Residents share stories about the animals they rescued.' Below the headline is a photo of a woman sitting on a couch with a dog. To the right of the photo is a State Farm advertisement for David F. with a 5-star rating and a phone number: 'State Farm David F. 515-993-3402'. At the bottom left of the magazine cover is a QR code.

The advertisement features a thermometer on the left with a sun icon at the top. The text reads: 'IT'S HOT OUTSIDE! Make your A/C check appointment today!' Below this is the logo for 'ADEL & Winterset' with 'Est. 1960' in a red circle. Underneath the logo is the text 'T.V. & APPLIANCE • HEATING & COOLING' and the address '916 MAIN STREET IN ADEL • 993-4287'.