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RIBBON CUTTING



A ribbon cutting was held for the new Good Samaritan Food Pantry van on March 27. ■

ADEL WEATHER FORECAST

FRIDAY HIGH 80 | LOW 34
Windy with thunderstorms 

SATURDAY HIGH 53 | LOW 31
Windy, times of clouds and sun 

SUNDAY HIGH 61 | LOW 37
Partly sunny and breezy 

MONDAY HIGH 72 | LOW 54
Sunny to partly cloudy; breezy 

TUESDAY HIGH 63 | LOW 40
Plenty of sun 



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FROM THE PUBLISHER

THE FAMILY TRUCKSTER

Metallic pea green. Fake wood slapped on the sides. Big enough to qualify for its own ZIP code.

Yes, I am talking about the Family Truckster from “National Lampoon’s Vacation.” For a lot of us, that car defines the station wagon.

People actually bought station wagons. Drove them. Loved them, even. Some of you or your parents or your grandparents proudly piloted one down the highway, kids bouncing around in the back like loose change in a cup holder. A few brave souls might still be doing it today.

Before the minivan and the SUV took over suburbia, the station wagon was the family car — the undisputed heavyweight champion of road trips, grocery runs and “don’t make me turn this car around” warnings.

We are talking legends here. The Ford Country Squire. The Buick Roadmaster. The Chevrolet Caprice Wagon. The Oldsmobile Custom Cruiser. Names that sound less like cars and more like retired Navy admirals.

The station wagon didn’t start as a suburban status symbol. Around

1910, it was a workhorse — a modified Ford Model T used to haul people and luggage from train depots. They called them “depot hacks,” which sounds less like a car and more like a guy you don’t trust with your wallet.

Over time, these wooden-bodied haulers evolved. By the mid-20th century, they had transformed into something sleeker and much more family-friendly. The Ford Country Squire came along in 1950, and suddenly the station wagon wasn’t just practical. It was aspirational.

Early models were called “woodies” because they were made with real wood panels. This sounds charming until you remember that cars are exposed to weather. Rain and wood are not exactly best friends. Still, Ford made it work — partly because it literally owned forests. Eventually, real wood gave way to steel bodies with wood-look trim, because nothing says “class” like pretending your car is made of lumber.



For a few glorious decades, station wagons ruled the road. They carried families, dogs, luggage and the occasional crisis across America. They were long, low and unapologetically practical. And then — poof. The 1980s brought the minivan. The 1990s unleashed the SUV. Suddenly, the station wagon looked less like the future and more like your uncle who still uses a flip phone. The wagon faded into the background, replaced by taller, bulkier vehicles that promised adventure but mostly delivered school drop-offs.

Still, trends have a funny way of circling back. So who is to say the station wagon won’t rise again? Maybe one day, a new generation will embrace the long, low, wood-paneled glory. Hopefully just not in metallic pea green.

Have a great week, and thanks for reading. ■

Shane Goodman
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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. ■

SPRING CLEANUP AND HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS MATERIALS DROP-OFF

The city of Adel Spring Cleanup is Saturday, April 18. All items must be out at the curb by 7 a.m. for pickup. Large household appliances require a \$20 sticker. TVs up to 24 inches in size require a sticker valued at \$20, TVs 25 inches and larger require a sticker valued at \$30; and consoles and projector TVs require a sticker valued at \$45.

The Household Hazardous Materials Drop-Off will be at Kinnick Feller Park from 10 a.m. to noon. For more information, call the South Dallas County Landfill at 515-993-3148 or visit the SDCL website, sdclandfill.com. ■

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 6-7 p.m. between February and September. This series is free and open to the public. The series lineup includes:

- **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 ■

ADM SPORTS SCHEDULE

Friday, April 17

- 4:30 p.m. **Soccer:** Boys JV2 @ Dallas Center-Grimes
 5:30 p.m. **Soccer:** Girls Varsity Tournament vs. Multiple Schools
 5:30 p.m. **Soccer:** Boys JV @ Dallas Center-Grimes
 7 p.m. **Soccer:** Boys Varsity @ Dallas Center-Grimes

Saturday, April 18

- 8:30 a.m. **Golf:** Boys Varsity Invitational @ Bos Landen Golf Course
 9 a.m. **Soccer:** Girls Varsity Tournament vs. Multiple Schools

Monday, April 20

- 4:15 p.m. **Track:** Boys MS Invitational vs. Multiple Schools
 4:30 p.m. **Track:** Girls JV/Varsity @ Bondurant-Farrar
 4:30 p.m. **Track:** Boys JV/Varsity @ Gilbert



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DALCO CUP

Mark your calendars for the fifth annual DalCo Cup on June 18, 8 a.m. at River Valley Golf Course, 22927 Valley View Trail, Adel. Register at <https://events.humanitix.com/dalco-cup-26>. ■



TEA-OFF FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH

Join the Dallas County Hospital Foundation at a Tea-Off for Women's Health on Friday, May 8, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Dallas County Hospital Wellness Center, 610 10th St., Perry. This fundraiser supports women's health at Dallas County Hospital. Proceeds will benefit the Dexa Scanner, which can assist with osteoporosis management during menopause and a cancer diagnosis. More information available at www.facebook.com/events/804300729381280. ■



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. ■

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. ■

IOWA FARM AND FOOD CONFERENCE

Iowa State Extension presents the Iowa Farm and Food Conference June 11-12 at the Waterloo Center for the Arts, 225 Commercial St., Waterloo. This biennial event — previously known as the Community Food Systems + Farm to School and Early Care Conference — engages, supports and inspires professionals across all sectors of the food system. The conference theme, "Futuring Our Food System," is about imagining bold, transformative possibilities for the future and the systematic, creative and connective measures that get us there. For more information and to register, visit www.extension.iastate.edu/ffed/cfs-annual-event. ■

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

The 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. 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. ■

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ADM HISTORIC CONCERT

Mark your calendars for Monday, May 11 at 7 p.m. for an upcoming Historic Concert by the ADM band in observance of America's 250th anniversary. In between sets, history department students will be presenting patriotic readings. ■

DALLAS COUNTY CONSERVATION

www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation | All programs are free to the public and open to all ages.

The Dallas County Conservation Board offers a variety of programs that are free to the public. They are open to all ages. Visit www.dallascountyiowa.gov/501/Conservation and click on "Public Programs" for more information and registration links.

- **Spring Ephemeral Wildflower Hike:** Sunday, April 26, 2-3 p.m., Voas Nature Area, 19286 Lexington Road, Minburn.
- **Intro to Snake Board Monitoring:** Friday, May 29, 10-11 a.m., Voas Nature Area, 19286 Lexington Road, Minburn.
- **Full Moon Float:** Friday, May 29, 8:30-10 p.m., North Raccoon River Wildlife Area - Snyder Tract, 21468 Minburn Road, Minburn.
- **Paddle Camp:** Monday, June 2 to Tuesday, June 3, 9 a.m. to noon, Glissman Conservation Area, 32185 Panther Creek Road, Adel.
- **Creek Walk:** Wednesday, June 3, 10-11 a.m., Kuehn Conservation Area, 32828 Houston Trail, Earlham.
- **Free Fishing Weekend:** Saturday, June 6, 2-5 p.m., Glissman Conservation Area, 32185 Panther Creek Road, Adel.
- **Family Fun with Bees:** Friday, June 12, 10-11 a.m., Voas Nature Area, 19286 Lexington Road, Minburn.
- **Iowa Critters:** Thursday, June 18, 9 a.m. to noon, Kuehn Conservation Area, 32828 Houston Trail, Earlham.
- **Healing of the Mounds Story and Visit:** Sunday, June 21, 5:30-7 p.m., Kuehn Conservation Area, 32828 Houston Trail, Earlham.
- **Summer Solstice:** Sunday, June 21, 8:30-9:30 p.m., Hanging Rock, 416 Redfield St., Redfield.
- **Bee Survey Field Day:** Friday, June 26, 10-11:30 a.m., Voas Nature Area, 19286 Lexington Road, Minburn. ■

THANK YOU

The Adel Knights of Columbus would like to thank the community for its support during the group's Lenten Fish Fry season. Once again, due to your generosity, this fundraiser has tremendously helped the local council. With the money earned, it can continue to support Christian programs such as Coats for Kids, FCA, InnerVisions, PID and others. ■

CELEBRATE ADEL

"Rooted in legacy, growing forward" is the theme of this year's Adel Partners Chamber of Commerce Celebrate Adel April 27, 5-7 p.m. at Country Lane Lodge. The Citizen of the Year and Business of the Year will be honored, and a special award will honor former Mayor James Peters. Also enjoy a "taste of Adel," with food from local businesses. Tickets can be purchased by scanning the QR code. ■



JOKE OF THE WEEK



Why does a moon rock taste better than an Earth rock?
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EVENTS IN THE AREA

EMAIL YOUR EVENT INFORMATION TO
TAMMY@IOWALIVINGMAGAZINES.COM**MOTHERS DAY BREAKFAST
BUFFET AND BAKE SALE**

Sunday, May 10, 8 a.m. until noon

West Des Moines Elks Lodge

2060 N.W. 94th St., Clive

Enjoy a delicious Mother's Day breakfast, which includes biscuits and gravy, French toast, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage patties, cheesy potatoes, and all-you-can-eat pancakes (including blueberry and chocolate chip pancakes), orange juice, milk and coffee. Cost is \$11, \$5 for children younger than 10. Enjoy a bloody mary or mimosa for \$3.50. Proceeds support the Elks Hoop Shoot Program, other youth activities and veteran activities.

**DES MOINES ART CENTER
MUSEUM HIGHLIGHTS TOUR**

Saturdays, 1-2 p.m.

Des Moines Art Center

4700 Grand Ave., Des Moines

Discover the vast variety of the Des Moines Art Center's permanent collections during the Museum Highlights Tour. This tour offers a unique journey through the galleries, featuring a selection of timeless paintings, sculptures and more. Join knowledgeable guides to uncover the stories, techniques and inspirations behind the art on view, and experience the highlights of the Art Center in a fresh and engaging way. This guided tour is perfect for art enthusiasts of all ages. Free to all, no registration required.

**GREATER DES MOINES BOTANICAL
GARDEN SPRING PROGRAMS**

Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden

909 Robert D. Ray Drive, Des Moines

For information and tickets, visit <https://dmbotanicalgarden.com/>.

- **Bulbs and Brews:** Tuesday, April 28, 5:30-6:30 p.m. or 7-8 p.m. Stroll through peak spring color on a guided tour with Director of

Horticulture Aaron Harpold while enjoying a local craft beer or kombucha. Two tour times. Drink included. Limited-time bloom experience. See these spectacular displays before they fade for the season.

- **Summer Camp Registration Open:** Give your child a summer of discovery, creativity and outdoor adventure. These nature-based camps combine science, art, exploration and play in a safe, inspiring environment led by experienced educators. Perfect for students entering grades 1-5.
- **Spring Garden Market Preview Evening:** Thursday, May 7, 5:30-8 p.m. Be first to shop the Spring Garden Market during this exclusive sip-and-shop event featuring early plant access, a signature drink, hors d'oeuvres, expert guidance from horticulture staff and door prizes. Upgrade to the Cultivator Ticket to demonstrate your support of the garden's missions, and for early entry, special recognition and exclusive perks.
- **Flora Mother's Day Buffet Brunch:** Sunday, May 10, Seatings at 9 a.m., 11 a.m., and 1 p.m. Enjoy a delicious buffet brunch in a beautiful garden setting. Reservations required at flora@dmbotanicalgarden.com or at 515-323-6288.

DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET

Saturday, May 2 to Oct. 31, 7 a.m. to noon, 8 a.m. to noon in October

Historic Court District, Downtown Des Moines

The 2026 season will feature 305 vendors, including 43 new participants, with 75 produce and agriculture vendors highlighting the region's strong farming community. Vendors represent 74 cities across 42 Iowa counties and span 12 city blocks from Water Street to Fifth Street. For more information visit www.dsmpartnership.com/desmoinesfarmersmarket/. ■

RECIPE

TAKE TO THE OUTDOORS WITH A FRESH, PICNIC-FRIENDLY SANDWICH

(Family Impact) When the weather breaks, and it is time to get outdoors, there is hardly any better place to be than resting on a deck, lounging in the backyard or curled up on a picnic blanket at a local park. Enjoy that leisurely time with loved ones by sharing a spread that includes these Picnic Party Sandwiches, perfect for a filling lunch that provides the energy you need for kicking around a soccer ball, playing tag or flying a kite.

Find more lunch ideas fit for enjoying the sunshine by visiting Culinary.net. ■

PICNIC PARTY SANDWICHES

Recipe adapted from "Crunch Time Kitchen"

Total time: 20 minutes

Servings: 4

Ingredients:

- 1/4 cup salted butter
- 2 tablespoons fresh parsley, minced
- 1 large fresh baguette
- 1/4 cup fig preserves
- 6-8 ounces cured meats, such as prosciutto, salami and capocollo
- 6 ounces brie cheese, sliced
- 2 cups arugula
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 pinch kosher salt

Directions:

- Mash together room temperature butter with fresh parsley. Set aside.
- Cut fresh baguette length-wise and smear bottom half of the baguette with herbed butter. Top with fig preserves.
- Layer on cured meats followed by slices of brie cheese. For brie, cut off any large pieces of rind.
- In small bowl, toss arugula with lemon juice and salt. Add arugula to sandwich followed by top half of baguette.
- Cut baguette into four even sandwiches and eat immediately or wrap each one tightly in paper or plastic wrap.



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OBITUARY

Funeral notices can be emailed to tammy@iowalivingmagazines.com

GLADYS MARIE (JENSEN) WAHL

Gladys Marie (Jensen) Wahl, 80, of Des Moines, died at home Dec. 2, 2025. Gladys was born Sept. 14, 1945, in Jefferson to Howard H. and Mae B. (Parker) Jensen of Churdan. The family moved to Redfield in 1948 where Gladys attended school.

Gladys had a creative gift and talent beyond measure, accomplishing any task she set out to do, often saying she liked to keep busy. Gladys enjoyed genealogy, learning about her ancestors and the ancestors of those she loved. In her younger years, she enjoyed making cookies and candies to share with family and friends at Christmas time. Gladys made clothing for her children when they were young. Her passion for sewing bloomed exponentially when she began working countless hours making quilts for her loved ones. She also donated car loads of quilts to nursing homes, veterans' retirement communities and to many other people in need, demonstrating her loving, caring, giving spirit. Her finished quilted creations often tallied in the hundreds per year.

Gladys was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. She worked as a bartender for 30 years including more than 15 years at Donna's Lounge on the south side of Des Moines where she met and later married, on July 14, 1994, her husband of 31 years, John Loyal Wahl. Gladys and John enjoyed each other's company, watching movies and relaxing at home. John cared for and saw to her needs to the very end.

Gladys will be deeply missed by her family. She is survived by her husband, John L. Wahl; four children from a previous marriage, Romona L. Murphy, Sherry K. Norton, Linda L. (Gene) Libby and Keith E. Murphy; nine grandchildren, Colby (Rochelle) Foster, Lucas (Amanda) Hughes, Ethan and Madelyn Libby; Elizabeth, Sara, Neil (Makenzie) and Lily Murphy; and Isaac (Addilie) Norton; eight great grandchildren, Audrey, Autumn, Justin, Vincent, Calee, Bridger, Josephine and Benjamin; nephew, Randy Jensen; and niece, Susan (Randy) Day.

Gladys was preceded in death by her parents, Mae and Howard Jensen; brother, Larry Jensen; and great grandsons, Henry, Harvy and Philip Hughes.

A celebration of life will be held Saturday, May 2, noon to 3 p.m. at Redfield Legion Hall. ■



CLASSIFIED ADS

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

HELP WANTED: River Valley Golf Course is hiring for ProShop. Must be over 21 to be considered, 25-40 hours available per week, combination of weekday & weekend shifts, competitive pay based on experience and FREE GOLF! We'd love to have you be a part of our family! Call 515-993-4029 for more details.

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