

POLK CITY *Living Weekly*

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POLK CITY NATIVE RANKS FIRST IN WORLDWIDE BUSINESS STRATEGY GAME

Michael Williams, a Polk City native, was one of two recent Grace College business graduates to rank first place worldwide in the online Business Strategy Game (BSG). In the BSG, more than 3,000 teams from 200 schools are faced with a series of business decisions as they compete in a global market.

Williams, who studied business management and earned his MBA at Grace, is one of the first Grace students to achieve first-place status in the BSG competition globally. He found the game to be a fun challenge.

"The game helped me understand how many different things go into running a company and how much a single decision can affect other areas of the company," says Williams.

Williams will begin working at Lloyd-Otto Agencies, an insurance



Grace College 2023 business graduate Michael Williams was one of two recent Grace College business graduates to rank first place worldwide in the online Business Strategy Game (BSG).

agency in Schaumburg, Illinois, this summer.

The BSG is part of the senior seminar class mandatory for all business majors at Grace. The class

requires students to participate in the game as individuals, prompting them to make nearly 40 business decisions on their own in competition with the other students in their class as well as students playing around the world.

"Giving each of the students their own company forces the students to look at the bigger picture of their companies instead of focusing on their areas of specialization," said Dr. Rick Koontz, professor of information systems and instructor of the senior seminar course. "The goal of this exercise is to have students look at business both strategically and holistically."

To learn more about our School of Business at Grace, visit www.grace.edu/academics/undergraduate/academic-schools-departments/school-of-business. ■

POLK CITY WEATHER FORECAST

FRIDAY HIGH 85 | LOW 62

Times of sun and clouds



SATURDAY HIGH 82 | LOW 62

A shower and a thunderstorm



SUNDAY HIGH 75 | LOW 52

Breezy; a morning shower



MONDAY HIGH 80 | LOW 56

Mostly sunny and beautiful



TUESDAY HIGH 82 | LOW 62

Sunny much of the time



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FROM THE PUBLISHER

'OH, YEAH!'

The two words in this headline conjure an image of a glass pitcher with a smiley face for generations of kids who grew mixing packets of powder, sugar and water together for a tasty drink to “wipe out thirst.” Some of you still have the containers you made this stuff in with the stains on the plastic to prove it.

Yes, I am referencing Kool-Aid and the ever-popular Kool-Aid Man. Kool-Aid still exists as a brand of flavored drink mix and is now owned by Kraft Heinz, but it certainly doesn't have the allure it had decades prior.

Edwin Perkins of Hastings, Nebraska, invented the powder form of Kool-Aid in 1927 when trying to improve on a liquid concentrate called Fruit Smack. Like most all great inventors, his experiments started in his mother's kitchen. Perkins was attempting to create a powder version of Fruit Smack that would be easier — and less expensive — to ship. Once he devised a solution, he moved production

to Chicago. This success sparked the interest of large companies, and Kool-Aid was sold to General Foods.

If you have ever been to Hastings (about 100 miles west of Lincoln), you know how important Kool-Aid is to the community, as the residents have a festival called Kool-Aid Days on the second weekend in August. And, of course, Kool-Aid is Nebraska's official soft drink. Why not?

The original six flavors of Kool-Aid were cherry, grape, lemon-lime, orange, raspberry and strawberry. I preferred grape or strawberry, but they were all fantastic. Singles flavors were later introduced including black cherry, tropical punch, lemonade, pink lemonade, cherry, watermelon, orange and summer punch. Again, how could you go wrong?

General Foods introduced The Kool-Aid Man and the ingenious



marketing shortly after acquiring the brand in the 1950s. You may remember the Kool-Aid Man crashing through walls and fences and then making a batch of Kool-Aid for kids while shouting, “Oh, yeah!” I had a ring-neck Kool-Aid T-shirt with this image and slogan on it as a kid. I wore it out.

Kool-Aid is now available in liquid drops, but it just isn't the same. There was something about being a kid and standing on a chair at the kitchen counter, measuring the Kool-Aid powder and mixing it up with a wooden spoon that just can't be replicated with any type of drops. Yes, this is a job for Kool-Aid. “Hey, Kool-Aid!”

What are your Kool-Aid memories? Send me a note and let me know.

Have a terrific Tuesday, and thanks for reading. ■



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FARMERS MARKET

Thursday evenings through Sept. 18, 4-7 p.m.

Polk City Square

The Polk City Farmers Market is underway. Enjoy visiting a variety of vendors and live entertainment. ■

ELKHART CITY FESTIVAL

Elkhart is celebrating its 10th year of the Elkhart City Festival with a variety of family-friendly activities on Saturday, June 24. This year features a truck pull, car show, 5K run/walk, parade, petting zoo, bounce house and other activities for all ages. The festival also includes food trucks and vendors. A live band and fireworks cap off the evening. ■



FOUR SEASONS FESTIVAL

Friday and Saturday, July 15 and 16

Join a fun-filled weekend at the Four Seasons Festival in Polk City Friday and Saturday, July 15 and 16. The festival will feature food trucks, a beer garden, youth and teen activities, a toddler zone, vendor fair, contests and competitions, among many more activities. Friday's highlights are a family movie, three-point shootout and live music. Saturday morning is the fun run, parade and Kiwanis pancake breakfast. The afternoon includes live music, family-friendly activities, bandstand contests, punt-pass-kick contest and car show, followed in the evening by youth/teen movie, live music and dancing. Visit <https://www.fourseasonsfestival.com/> for more details and see June's North Polk Living for a story about the festival. ■

NPHS SPORTS SCHEDULES

Friday, June 9

10 a.m. **Baseball:** Freshman @ Winterset

5:30 p.m. **Baseball:** JV vs. Van Meter

5:30 p.m. **Softball:** JV1 @ Van Meter

7 p.m. **Softball:** Varsity @ Van Meter

7:30 p.m. **Baseball:** Varsity vs. Van Meter

Saturday, June 10

1 p.m. **Softball:** Varsity Tournament @ Xavier

Monday, June 12

5:30 p.m. **Baseball:** JV vs. Ballard @ Nite Hawk Field - Slater

6 p.m. **Softball:** Varsity vs. Ballard

7:30 p.m. **Baseball:** Varsity vs. Ballard @ Nite Hawk Field - Slater

Tuesday, June 13

10 a.m. **Baseball:** Freshman Double Header @ Gilbert

5:30 p.m. **Softball:** JV1 vs. Saint Edmond

7:15 p.m. **Softball:** Varsity vs. Saint Edmond

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JOKE OF THE WEEK



I tried to organize a professional Hide-and-Seek tournament, but it was a complete failure. Good players are hard to find.

JESTER PARK NATURE CENTER ACTIVITIES

Polk County Conservation invites the public to enjoy its parks and programs. For links to more information on any of these opportunities, visit www.jesterparknaturecenter.com. The Jester Park Nature Center is a focal point within our community where recreation, education, tourism and conservation efforts all intersect into a gathering place for people of all ages to engage in the natural world. We want all to enjoy the outdoors and learn about Iowa's natural heritage.

OUTDOOR RECREATION & WELLNESS CENTER

Located adjacent to the nature center, is the Outdoor Recreation & Wellness Center. Within the building there is indoor archery and air rifle range, as well as a bouldering room. You can also rent summer and winter equipment such as canoes, kayaks, paddle boards, cross-country skis, and snowshoes.

BISON & ELK HERDS

The bison and elk herds that live in this wildlife animal enclosure have been popular attractions at Jester Park for almost four decades. In 2012, renovations were made to the area and the Elk and Bison Educational Plaza was opened to the public. Improvements include an accessible observation deck, educational displays, spotting scopes, high quality art components and an inviting viewing and picnic area. An electric fence surrounds the animal exhibit. Please use caution and stay away from exhibit fencing.

BOATING

Jester Park offers two boat ramps leading into Saylorville Lake. One is located off Jester Park Drive near the main campground, with the other located at the Lincoln Access beside the Mile-Long Bridge. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers warns boaters to use caution upstream from the Mile-Long Bridge. A "No Motorized Vessel Zone" is located north of the Mile Long Bridge from April 1 to Aug. 31. During periods of flood storage, restriction may be lifted.

CAMPING AND CABINS

Jester Park offers more than 148 campsites along the lakeshore and across the wooded hills overlooking Saylorville Lake. There are 80 electric sites, 62 non-electric sites, four walk-in primitive sites, and two youth areas. Two campground shower houses are

open mid-April through the end of October (weather permitting).

EQUESTRIAN ACTIVITIES

The Jester Park Equestrian Center offers riding lessons, shows and clinics, team building, trail riding, wagon and sleigh rides, camps, and therapeutic and at-risk programming.

GOLFING

The Jester Park Golf Course is an 18-hole championship course. Excellent playing conditions and challenging holes have helped make Jester Park a popular course for state tournaments. Jester Park also offers a 9-hole par 3 course especially popular with beginning golfers, as well as a modern Golf Learning and Practice Facility with driving range and practice greens.

JESTER PARK LODGE

The Jester Park Lodge is a full service banquet and conference center nestled along the northwest shore of Saylorville Lake at Jester Park with all of the amenities you expect. Minutes away from Des Moines and yet a world apart. More information [here](#).

MINIATURE GOLF

Located next to the Jester Park Driving Range, the new Jester Park Miniature Golf Course is an 18-hole, nature-themed miniature course packed full of fun obstacles with the added bonus of a beautiful park view.

NATURE PROGRAMS

Polk County Conservation naturalists offer many year-round nature programs at Jester Park. View their complete calendar to learn about upcoming programs at Jester and other parks in Polk County. ■

KIWANIS SCHOLARSHIPS PRESENTED

Three North Polk students — Calvin Owen, Kara Jesse and Ally Verbrugge — received \$1,000 scholarships towards their future education program at the North Polk Senior Awards Night on May 17. Presenting the awards were Kiwanians Al Burrows and Kyle Matzen. ■



Calvin Owen



Kara Jesse



Ally Verbrugge

RAISING READERS IN THE HEARTLAND

Raising Readers in the Heartland (RRITH) is excited to bring Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to Alleman, Elkhart, Polk City and Sheldahl. Parents in zip codes 50007, 50073, 50226 and 50243 can sign up to have a free, high-quality book mailed to their homes for children ages birth through 5 years. There is no cost to parents of children in the program.

A launch event and registration will be held Saturday, June 10, 10 a.m. to noon at Big Creek Elementary School, Polk City. The first 100 parents who register their children on-site will receive their first book, "The Little Engine That Could." Additional activities include a "celebrity" reader, coloring station, treats and giveaways for kids. Come join the fun and get registered. If you are unable to attend, you can register your child online by visiting www.rrith.org (click on the Sign Up tab to access the link to register). ■

ELKHART CITY WIDE GARAGE SALES

Enjoy hopping from garage sale to garage sale at the Elkhart City Wide Garage Sales on July 22 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Maps will be available at each sale. ■

ST. LUKE'S FREE CLINIC

A free medical clinic is held the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 6-8 p.m. at Polk City United Methodist Church, 1421 W. Broadway St., for those in need. Before coming to the clinic, you are asked to read the procedures and restrictions in place by visiting www.polkcitymc.org/free-clinic.html. For more information, call Clinic Manager Tess Young at 515-238-6425. ■

EVENTS IN THE AREA

EMAIL YOUR EVENT INFORMATION TO
TAMMY@IOWALIVINGMAGAZINES.COM

CAMP DODGE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Camp Dodge

Various dates

These free concerts are held Thursdays in June from 7-9 p.m. at the Pool Complex at Camp Dodge. Food trucks will be serving starting at 6 p.m. Entertainment on June 8 is Standing Hampton, along with a car show; June 22, Pianopalooza Dueling Pianos; and June 29, 34th Army Band will perform for Alumni Night.



MUSIC UNDER THE STARS

Music Under the Stars, one of the oldest musical traditions in Central Iowa, begins its 76th season June 11 with a free concert featuring the Des Moines Metro Concert Band and the Big Band exploring the theme "As Summer Was Just Beginning." The season includes six free concerts.

June 11, West Capitol Mall, "As Summer Was Just Beginning," Vocals: Gina Gedler

June 18, West Capitol Mall, Drake Night/Juneteenth Celebration, Vocals: Tina Haase-Findlay

June 25, West Capitol Mall, "76 Trombones," Guest Artist: Dr. Tony Baker, trombone. Vocals: Kellie Kramer

July 2, West Capitol Mall, "Stars and Stripes and Sousa," Vocals: Napoleon Douglas

July 9, Lauridsen Amphitheater at Water Works Park, "Musical Madness," Vocals: Max Wellman

July 16, Lauridsen Amphitheater at Water Works Park, "Down on Bourbon Street" featuring NOLA. Vocals: Abbie

Sawyer

Program details may be found at the Music Under the Stars website at www.musicunderthestars.org.

JUNETEENTH WEEK

Various locations

June 19-23

Juneteenth week will have several events across several locations in the metro; iowajuneteenth.org

CAJUN FEST

Cowles Commons, 221 Walnut St., Des Moines

June 17

Cajun delights make their way into downtown Des Moines with a spicy food contest, mask making, costume contest, live music and all the Cajun food your heart desires. www.cajunfestiowa.com/cajun-fest-2023

SCIENCE IOWA'S SCIENCE FESTIVAL TRAIL

Raccoon River Park,

2500 Grand Ave., West Des Moines

June 18

Non-profit Science Iowa's Science Festival Trail returns on Father's Day 1-4 p.m. The free, family-friendly event will host stations designed to help Iowans have fun while learning about science. <https://iowascienceinterface.com>

DES MOINES ARTS FESTIVAL

Pappajohn Sculpture Park,

1330 Grand Ave, Des Moines

June 23-25

The Des Moines Arts Festival will host 190 of the nation's top artists in a beautiful urban street setting surrounding the John and Mary Pappajohn Sculpture Park and the Krause Gateway Center. The event will feature live music, food vendors and critically acclaimed art. The outdoor festival celebrating arts and culture attracts more than 200,000 people each year. www.desmoinesartsfestival.org ■

RECIPE

A MAIN COURSE THAT EASILY PAIRS WITH OTHER BRUNCH FAVORITES

(Family Features) If you need a brunch dish that feeds a crowd, put this Hearty Bacon and Egg Breakfast on the menu. Ready in 35 minutes, it can satisfy cravings for a group of up to 12 as a main course that easily pairs with other morning favorites.

As an ideal complement to the eggs, bacon and cheese, Minute Rice & Quinoa can make this family-style recipe a breeze. In just 10 minutes, the tasty blend of brown rice, red rice, wild rice and quinoa cooks up light and fluffy for a slightly chewy, nutty flavor. It's also a dependable replacement for oatmeal in other breakfast dishes so you can complete your mission to make meals quick and enjoyable. Not to mention, the bag is BPA-free and recyclable via store drop-off in most communities, while the carton is recyclable curbside. ■

HEARTY BACON AND EGG BREAKFAST

Prep time: 5 minutes

Cook time: 30 minutes

Servings: 12

- Nonstick cooking spray
- 1 1/2 bags Minute Rice & Quinoa
- 9 eggs, lightly beaten
- 5 bacon slices, cooked and crumbled
- 3/4 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- black pepper, to taste

Directions:

Preheat oven to 325 F. Coat 12-cup muffin pan with nonstick cooking spray.

Prepare rice and quinoa according to package directions. In medium bowl, combine rice and quinoa, eggs, bacon,



cheese, salt and pepper, to taste.

Divide batter between prepared cups and bake 18-20 minutes, or until eggs are just set.

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SUMMER READING

The 2023 Summer Reading Program is here. This year's theme is Reading is Delicious. We have programs for kids, teens and adults.

KIDS AND TEENS: THROUGH JULY 27

Stop by the library to pick up our paper packets for details on how to participate. See what free events we have, and how to earn prizes. We'll have Movies on Mondays, Story Time on Tuesdays, Comets Kids Club on Wednesdays (K-5), and our Performers Series on Thursdays during our summer reading program. There will also be teen events. Programming runs June 5-July 31, but you can begin logging your reading June 1.

ADULTS: THROUGH JULY 31

Tickets towards grand prizes can be earned by reading and attending programs. We have a fun lineup of summer programs including Home Brewing with Fenders, Cookie Decorating with Rising Sun, How to create a Charcuterie Board, Death by Chocolate, a discussion with local author Jolene Philo and publisher Anne Fleck of Midwestern Books, and more.

STORY TIME TUESDAYS

June 13, 20, 27 at 10 a.m. or 11 a.m.

Join us at the library for stories, songs, bubbles, and a craft or activity. Weekly registration is required. Registration will open on Tuesday of the previous week.

COMETS KIDS CLUB (K-5) WEDNESDAYS

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June 14, 21, 28 at 10 a.m. or 11 a.m.

Join us at the library for fun arts and crafts activities. Weekly registration is required. Registration will open on Wednesday of the previous week.

D.I.Y. TEEN "FOOD" SQUISHIES

Monday, June 5, 2 p.m.

Teens will have fun creating their own squishies in the shape of food in this fun craft program. Register online at polkcitylibrary.org

ADULT D.I.Y.: GARDEN GNOME CRAFT

Thursday, June 15, 6 p.m.

Join us for a fun evening of crafting. We will be painting flower pots and assembling them into a garden gnome craft. All supplies will be provided. Ages 17 and older. Register online at polkcitylibrary.org. ■

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE: Nice bunk beds. Solid built. \$175. call or text 515-238-3198 and I can send photos.

LOOKING TO BUY VINYL RECORDS:

Paying cash for 60's-90's rock and jazz and blues. Please call Brian at 515-326-5033.

WANTED: Electronics, stereo receivers, guitar or amps, speakers, radios, etc. Any age or condition for parts or repair. Call 515-445-6023.

FOR SALE: 1981 Ford F100 Truck, Blue/white. Ran when I shut it off two years ago. For someone who wants to repair/restore. \$500 or make an offer to take it away. Call 515-238-3198.

FOR SALE: Older China Cabinet for sale. Antique and in great usable shape. \$50.00. Call or text 515-238-3198 and I can send photos.

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

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