### Look inside for the ONLY poll mailed to EVERY residential household. VOTE NOW!



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Residents share their passion for their favorite teams

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### WELCOME

# **MAKE** way for the Super Fans!

Just admit it. We all know some. Or maybe you are one? Either way, these folks are easy to find.

I am talking about Super Fans, and they stick out like a banana in a bowl of blueberries.

Bumper stickers promoting their teams on their cars aren't enough for Super Fans. They have the personalized plates and the clever number and letter schemes that the rest of us need one of those secret decoder rings to decipher.

Of course, their closets are full of their team-

themed shirts, sweatshirts, hats, pajamas, socks, slippers and underwear. You name it, and Super Fans have their team logo on it. And regardless of how worn and tattered those items have become, they never throw them away.

The pre-set stations on the car radios of Super Fans are locked in to sports talk and sports talk only. Don't even think about turning the dial.

They fork out more money on game tickets than they do on groceries, and they are just fine with that.

Super Fans spend countless hours on Twitter or X or whatever you call it just to be the first to know the latest news on trades, injuries or other breaking news about their teams.

And to top it all off, and to show their true commitment, Super Fans spend their hard-earned money having their team mascots or logos permanently tattooed on their skin. And not just one tattoo, either.

I am not a Super Fan. Far from it. I enjoyed participating in sports and coaching, and I do enjoy watching occasional games and sporting activities, but it stops there. Even so, I am greatly entertained by those who are Super Fans. I love their passion, their feistiness, their spirit. And I can look past those fading tattoos.

Does this all sound familiar to you? Well, you don't have to be a Super Fan to enjoy this month's feature story on local residents who are.

Thanks for reading.

hand

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FEATURE

### **By Chantel Boyd**

What's your favorite college team? NFL? NHL? Most of us have been asked similar questions at one time or another. Some people, however, don't need to be asked. The team shirt and hat they are wearing, the banner hanging on their garage door, the bumper stickers on their cars, the photos of them with their faces painted cheering at the stadium all shout out their affiliations. Those are the people who have crossed that fine line between fan and Super Fan. Residents share their passion for their favorite teams

John and Lori Mann are Iowa Hawkeyes Super Fans.

### **FEATURE**

### Family of super fans

When it comes to super fans, the Ferm family has more than one in its ranks — and they aren't rooting for the same team. So, when it comes to memorabilia, there's quite a mishmash in the collection.

The memorabilia is mostly Cory Ferm's, but his mom, Christy Ferm, keeps it at her house. She is also the most avid collector.

"We kind of mix our stuff together. But all the Niners are hers," says Cory.

Cory is a superfan of the Cowboys and Red Sox.

"Being a Cowboys fan was an easy choice because my mom is a huge 49ers fan," jokes Cory.

Even though Christy shares space at her house for Cory's memorabilia, there is a friendly rivalry.

"I wanted to have some competition and not root for the same teams," Cory says.

Cory's favorite memories in recent history involve the Red Sox and the 2013 and 2018 World Series games. He hasn't had much to celebrate with his football team.

"Unfortunately, there have not been many



Cory Ferm's mom, Christy, keeps his sports memorabilia collection at her house.

memorable moments being a Cowboys fan lately, but just enjoying Sunday barbequing and smoking food and having a great time with family watching the games is enough," he says.

Cory says it is difficult to count how many Cowboys games he has watched. He has also been to one at AT&T Stadium.

"Going to that NFL Cowboys game was such a fun experience," he says.

He has attended multiple Red Sox games.

"This year, my wife, Shawna, gifted me a trip to Fenway Stadium for my first time, and it was a blast," shares Cory.



Cory Ferm is a Boston Red Sox Super Fan, so his wife, Shawna, gave him tickets to a game.



### October is National Vental Excleme Month

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### **FEATURE**

While his family has plenty of memorabilia, Cory does have a few favorites.

"I have a few pieces of memorabilia from Rafael Devers — a glove and jersey — as well as multiple Cowboys helmets," he says.

Cory has been a super fan for most of his life.

"I have been a big fan since I was 8, but a Super Fan probably since I was 15. My son, Kane, has developed that trait as well," he says.

Kane, however, is not rooting for his dad's teams, so there will soon likely be a new team added to the memorabilia at his grandmother Christy's house.

"He has chosen the Chiefs, but he is a big Red Sox fan, and Devers gave him a ball at his first game," Cory says.

At the game, Kane held a sign that read, "Raffy is the GOAT (Greatest of All Time)."

Kane is not the only Ferm family youngster who enjoys attending ball games.

"My 11-year-old daughter, Myleigh, plays for 12U ADM Tigers and went to the Red Sox game in Kansas City on Labor Day weekend," says Cory. "Kane plays travel ball for 9U Midwest Pride Elite, so that does not give us as



Cory Ferm is a big fan of the Dallas Cowboys and his collection includes helmets like this one.

much time to go see games."

Cory also has two young daughters (4-yearold Ryleigh and 2-year-old Maisyn) who go to their siblings' games on the weekends and run around. The youngest Ferm kids have not gone to any professional games... yet. More Super Fans may be in the making.



Kane Ferm's dad and grandmother are sports enthusiasts, and he is growing up to be one, too.

### **Couple cheers together**

A chill is in the air, and fall is finally here. John and Lori Mann are ready to celebrate the harvest season and, shortly after that, the holidays, in the same way they have for decades.

Throughout the football season, John and Lori Mann attend football games and





The Manns' affinity for the Hawkeyes is clear in their décor.

tailgate. If not at a game, they are watching it from home. And their games of choice? Well, their home is decked out year-round with memorabilia from their favorite team. They are Super Fans of the Iowa Hawkeyes.

Framed photos, art, windsocks, birdhouses, helmets, signs, art and more line and adorn their basement walls.

When it is time to go to a football game, Lori and John don their team gear — Kinnickembroidered hats, Herkey-embroidered black and gold bibs, and team screen printed T-shirts.

The two began tailgating in 1984, as one of John's screen-printed shirts tells. They set up their Hawkeyes-branded tent, tablecloth and banner, and the fun begins.

John and Lori are also avid fans of the Chicago Cubs and Chicago Bears, so they have memorabilia for those teams, too.

"Our basement is filled with knickknacks and posters of each of those teams, but we are season ticket holders for Iowa football," says John.

When Christmas comes around, they decorate their tree in black and gold in honor of the Iowa Hawkeyes.

"Our favorite memorabilia is the Hawkeyethemed Christmas tree with bowl-game ornaments we've collected throughout the years," says John, adding that the University of Iowa football team has been to 35 bowl games in its history.

Even though the Iowa Hawkeyes and Iowa State Cyclones are rivals, the Manns host their



John and Lori Mann and their friends and family enjoy the rivalry between Iowa State and University of Iowa and even have their own CyHawk trophy to award to the winning fan group.

version of a Cy-Hawk friendly rivalry gettogether with family, some of whom cheer for the Cyclones. The family even has their own game trophy.

"We have a Cy-Hawk trophy that goes to the winner. Hawks won this year, so I get to keep the trophy," shares John.

Even in inclement weather, John and Lori tailgate.

"Tailgating in the snow was fun. We tailgate in any weather," he says.

John grew up in Iowa City so, "naturally, I became a Hawkeye fan," he says. "My favorite memories are the undefeated regular season in 2015 and every time we went on bowl trips together."

In recent memory, some of the best wins John has witnessed were when the Hawkeyes upset a favored team or came back from behind to win. He names the best.

"Iowa beating Ohio State 55-24 in 2017. The Hawks' last-second win over Penn State."



John and Lori Mann have a Christmas tree that features ornaments commemorating the Hawkeyes' bowl appearances.

John began attending games when he was 10, so he has been to hundreds.

"This year marks the 35th year Lori and I have been going to games together," he says.

Although John and Lori enjoy their massive collection of memorabilia, the memories made are the best part of being Super Fans.

"We take a victory selfie after each win," John says. ■

### The ONLY poll mailed to residential households. VOTE NOW!



# T'S BACK!

### Who will be voted favorite in Dallas County?

We all have our favorite local people, places and things. And now it's time to share your choices and honor those who deserve the recognition.

SCAN HERE TO

**VOTE TODAY!** 

Make your voice be heard and cast your votes in the 2023 Dallas County Residents' Choice Poll. This contest is being hosted by Iowa Living magazines, and the results will publish January in Waukee, and February in Adel and West Des Moines - Jordan Creek editions. You can vote in one or every category, or anywhere in between.

### HURRY! POLL CLOSES DEC. 8, 2023.

See rules and vote at www.iowalivingmagazines.com/residentspoll. One vote per resident, please.

### **FOOD AND DRINK**

- Restaurant
- Restaurant for Breakfast
- Restaurant for Lunch
- Restaurant for Dinner
- Restaurant for Dessert
- Place for Ice Cream
- Pizza Establishment
- Bar
- Coffee Shop
- Catering Company
- Server/Bartender

#### **AUTOMOTIVE**

- Auto Service
- Auto Body Shop
- Car Dealership

### COMMUNITY

- Preschool/Daycare
- Nonprofit
- School (name of building)
- Park
- Community Festival or Event
- Church
- Pastor
- Chamber of Commerce
- Library
- Camping Spot

### SHOPPING

- Grocery Store
- Boutique
- Retail Store
- Thrift Store
- Home Improvement Retail Store
- Liquor Store
- Nursery or Garden Center
- Place to Purchase a Gift for a Man
- Place to Purchase a Gift for a Woman
- Bakery
- Florist

### ENTERTAINMENT

- Dad/Child Date Spot
- Mom/Child Date Spot
- Place to Take Your Mom and Dad
  - Place to Take Your Kids or Grandkids
- Place for Child's Birthday Party
- Golf Course

### **HEALTH/BEAUTY**

- Hair Salon
- Physicians Clinic
- Dental Office
- Orthodontist Office
- Mental Health Service
- Chiropractic Office
- Audiologist/Hearing Clinic
- Vision Care
- Health Club or Gym

### **HEALTH/BEAUTY**

- CBD Store
- Pharmacy
- Cosmetic Service
- Physical Therapy
- Dance Studio
- Gymnastics/Tumbling Studio

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- Senior Living Establishment
- Insurance Agency
- Realtor
- Bank/Credit Union
- Photographer
- Place for Guests to Stay
- Home Builder/Remodeling
- Outdoor Lawn Equipment Store
- Pest Control

# Safe Halloween Tips

All costumes, wigs and accessories should be fire-resistant

Fasten reflective tape to costumes and bags, or give children glow sticks

When buying Halloween makeup, make sure it is nontoxic and always test it in a small area first

Remove all makeup before children go to bed to prevent skin and eye irritation

If your older children are going alone, plan and review a route acceptable to you

Agree on a specific time children should return home

Teach your children never to enter a stranger's home or car

Instruct children to travel only in familiar, well-lit areas and stick with their friends

Tell your children not to eat any treats until they return home and an adult has checked for opened packages

10. Children and adults should put electronic devices down, keep heads up and walk, don't run, across the street



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### 'FIDUCIARY' is an important word

"Fiduciary" is a funny but important word to consider when finding the right person to help you plan for retirement. It comes from the Latin "fidere," meaning "to trust." The term may not roll right off your tongue, but we all understand and value the concept of trust.



In the financial industry, a fiduciary must, by law, act impartially and provide advice that is in their clients' best interest. Choosing a fiduciary

can help put you at ease when looking for the right retirement planner. This person should be transparent and thoroughly explain investment options and fees. If you are working with someone who doesn't have a fiduciary duty to you, you have fewer legal options should you discover that your best interests were not served. When interviewing a potential retirement planner, a few questions are, "What's your legal obligation to my investments?" and "What investment services or advice will you be providing me?" It's also a good idea to ask for regulatory documentation on how they handle conflicts of interest and what procedures they have to ensure your best interests are placed before theirs.

Check that your retirement planners are all investment advisors registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. They will uphold the regulatory requirements needed to be financial fiduciaries. Aside from regulatory requirements, being a fiduciary is necessary to protect the families and individuals they work with.

Some retirement planners have also passed a rigorous certification and training process established by the National Association of Certified Financial Fiduciaries to obtain the Certified Financial Fiduciary designation. While the other financial designations you might see cover the legalities of a fiduciary, there is no other designation that focuses solely on understanding and being the best fiduciary one can be. This training not only puts retirement planners in a better position to help families and individuals plan for retirement, it keeps the critical word "trust" at the forefront of the entire retirement planning process. Obtaining the Certified Financial Fiduciary designation allows retirement planners to apply a wide array of knowledge to your retirement and ensure that all facets of your plan are intentional, customized and transparent.

When planning for retirement, the Latin you may want to live by is "carpe diem." This phrase means to seize the day, enjoy the moment, and worry less about tomorrow. Finding a retirement planner you trust can help you do just that.

Information provided by Loren Merkle CFP®, RICP®, Certified Financial Fiduciary®, Merkle Retirement Planning, 1860 S.E. Princeton Drive, Grimes, 515-278-1006.



Investment Advisory Services offered through Elite Retirement Planning, LLC. Insurance Services offered through MRP Insurance, LLC.

#### By Scott Hall

### **ROLE** of an attorney when you sell a home

Black's Law Dictionary defines "real property" as follows: "Land and anything growing on, attached to, or erected on it, excluding anything that may be severed without injury to the land." Perfecting clean title to

LEGAL



real estate and transferring title properly is vital. If you are selling your home, there are many issues to consider first.

Before you accept an offer, you are required by law to provide a completed Residential Property Disclosure Statement detailing any damages or repairs made to the home that you are aware of during your ownership. If your home was built before 1978, then you also must disclose any knowledge of the use of lead-based paint in the home. Once those disclosures have been made and a potential buyer is ready to make an offer, then your attorney will draft the purchase agreement, make sure it is signed by all parties, and take possession of earnest money in down payment.

At that time, you must locate your abstract of title, a bound legal document, detailing the chain of title to your real property from the date of government entry to the date of your purchase. The abstract is then sent to a licensed abstracting company so it can be updated through the date of the purchase agreement. The updated abstract is sent to an attorney for the buyers, or the buyers' lender, for examination and the issuance of a preliminary title opinion. That opinion tells your attorney all clouds on the title (i.e., mortgages, easements, assessments), and then you are required to clear any objection lodged pursuant to the Iowa Land Title Standards before or on the date of closing. If your home is served by a septic system, that system must be inspected by an approved inspector prior to closing. To close, your attorney will draft up the warranty

deed, declaration of value, groundwater hazard statement (if needed), and any other title clearance documents, calculate the property tax proration you are required to credit to the buyers, review the settlement statement to ensure its accuracy, and make sure all terms of the purchase agreement are followed.

Iowa has some of the cleanest land titles in the country because of the involvement by Iowa attorneys in every transaction. Realtors are experts in marketing, value and trends in home sales, and worth every penny, and attorneys make sure the deals are completed correctly pursuant to Iowa law. ■

Scott Hall graduated from Drake Law School in 2008 and became a licensed attorney in 2009. He has lived in Adel with his family since 2014. Information provided by Scott A. Hall, Partner, Carney Appleby Law, 303 Locust St., Suite 400, Des Moines, 515-282-6803.



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### **MEET** Andrew Schmidt

From military service to teaching

After growing up south of the Twin Cities in Minnesota, Andrew Schmidt received a degree in art education from Minnesota State University Mankato. This fall, he started his first year teaching art at Adel Elementary School and Meadow View Elementary School. During his job search, Schmidt says he was drawn to the Adel-DeSoto-Minburn Community School District because of its smalltown charm and demonstrated dedication to its students.

"So far, I have really enjoyed the community spirit and kind reception that I have received during my past month



Andrew Schmidt says his art students learn many valuable life skills through art and have fun.

here. While my time here has been admittedly brief, based on what I have seen, I am looking forward to what the future holds," Schmidt says.

When developing lessons, Schmidt says he tries to integrate a healthy combination of critical and creative thinking practice along with problem solving and team building. He also tries to ensure that his students are able to practice these skills in a fun and exciting format. For example, during fall conferences, Meadow View Elementary students and families can look forward to life-size superhero artwork on the walls and in the hallways. This project will be completed by Schmidt's fourth-grade students and will help them develop communication, team work, and problem-solving skills, with a bit of fun.

"I am excited by the amount of freedom that is afforded to me to create an art program that supports the students by developing their ability to critically think and problem solve, while doing it in a medium that is as fun and exciting as art is," Schmidt says.

One of the most interesting challenges Schmidt has faced as an educator is his transition from military life to being an elementary school art teacher. He was deployed with the U.S. Army right up to when he began student teaching. That complete and sudden shift in environments was definitely an interesting experience, says Schmidt, adding it was both rewarding and challenging.

"Choosing just one thing that is best about teaching elementary art is difficult to answer. If I had to choose, I would say that it's just simply fun. I get to go to work every day and make art with a bunch of kids who are absolutely stoked to be there. I really can't think of a better job," Schmidt says.

When not teaching, Schmidt enjoys being outdoors and is a huge fan of camping and backpacking. During the summers, he can usually be found in the Northern Minnesota Boundary Waters Canoe Area or somewhere on the North Shore. He is also getting involved in shipwreck SCUBA diving in the Great Lakes. ■

### HAVE the marriage you've always wanted

Have you ever looked at a happily married couple and wondered, "Why are you so happily married? What is your secret sauce recipe?"

FAITH

Author Shaunti Felhahn surveyed married couples and



found one key attitude that was a common trait in happy marriages and missing from unhappy or failing marriages. Are you ready to hear it? What you're about to read could be a game changer for your marriage... Here we go: Choose to believe your spouse has the best of intentions, even when they hurt you.

If you're in any kind of relationship with another person, especially a marriage relationship, you will eventually get your feelings hurt. But a mark of a healthy marriage is when each person chooses to believe their partner cares about them and has good intentions. In other words, believe the best in your spouse. When we get hurt, we all know it's so easy to think things like: "He is trying to be inconsiderate and hurt my feelings..." "She knew that would make me mad and yet did it anyway..."

But the happiest couples were able to say: "Ouch, that hurt, but I bet he doesn't realize what he did..." "Ouch... but I know she still appreciates me..."

It turns out God has been saying the same thing all along: Love always trusts. Trust is necessary in any relationship and essential in love. The Bible gives an interesting description of love: "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails" (1 Corinthians 13:4-8). Sadly, there are times when one spouse does try to hurt the other, and, when this happens, trust is shattered. This marriage is in trouble. But a couple that strives to trust, to believe the best in the other, will enjoy a more loving and healthy relationship.

Can I offer one more word of encouragement? One key to developing a healthy marriage is to surround yourself with other people who have a healthy marriage. These are the people who will offer you a godly example, godly advice, and support you and your marriage through the ups and downs of life. In other words, a local church community can be a strategic setting to help you grow. There are several good churches in and around Adel. If you don't already have a church home, pick one and check it out. I think you will be glad you did.

Information provided by Dr. Ryan Whitson, Lead Pastor, New Hope Church, office 712 Cottage St., Adel, 515-993-5325, www.newhopeadel.org.



### **EVENTS IN THE AREA**

Be sure to check for cancelations

### "Not-So-Scary Halloween" Party

Oct. 25, 5:30 p.m. Adel First Christian Church, corner of Highway 169 and Rapids Street

Kids and their families are invited to wear their Halloween costumes and join in a light meal (Hallo-

meal (Halloweenies and chips) and stay for a story and crafts. The party will end at about 6:30 p.m. with trick-or-treating in the haunted hallways. Children



younger than 6 should be accompanied by an adult. Everyone is invited to join in on some spooky fun.

### Dallas County Coat Giveaway

Saturday, Oct. 14, from 9-11 a.m. Adel First Christian Church, corner of Highway 169 and Rapids Street

New winter coats, hats and mittens will be available in infant to adult sizes. The Clothes Closet, with gently used clothing and shoes in all sizes, will be open as well. The new coats, hats and mittens are donated by the Adel Rotary Club, St. John's Knights of Columbus, Faith Lutheran Church, the Adel Women's Club, and Adel First Christian Church. Everyone is welcome. Everything is free.

Nut Sale

Orders due Oct. 15

### Memorial wall to be dedicated

Veterans Day, Saturday, Nov. 11, at 10:30 a.m.

### Freedom Park in Minburn

A public dedication of the Dallas County Veterans Memorial Wall will be held. The DC Veterans Memorial Wall was organized by a small committee of Minburn citizens and will be completed this fall. The wall was built by family and friends dedicating a brick to a veteran they know, concluding in 325 bricks total. The Memorial Wall is placed near the Dallas County Freedom Rock, completing the Freedom Park.



Adel Circle of Friends, along with Adel United Methodist

November. A variety of nuts, party mixes, and chocolate-covered

options are available. For information on ordering, call Bev Smith,

Church, is taking orders for nuts that will arrive in mid-



### **EVENTS IN THE AREA**

Be sure to check for cancelations

### **ADM Gala**

### Saturday, Oct. 14 The Rewind Hotel, 6075 Mills Civic Parkway, West Des Moines

Tiger Fans won't want to miss the first ADM Gala, a semi-formal adult-only evening with dinner, drinks and entertainment. The goal of the ADM Gala is to raise money for all ADM Booster Club sports teams. Dinner, prepared by Johnny's Italian Steakhouse, will feature options of: Honey Madeira Glazed Salmon, Tuscan Chicken, or Parmesan Crusted New York Steak. The evening will have games, silent auction items, live auction, and the band Birdchild performing.

Tickets are \$75 per person; you may purchase tickets individually or for a table of 10 people. Upon purchasing a table, you can select to provide the name and phone number of each guest or add them at a later date. Guests will then be sent a link to make their dinner selections. This event capacity is 300 people. For more information and a link to purchase tickets, visit http://admboosterclub.org/shop.

### Wednesday Night Meal

Wednesdays, serving 5-6:30 p.m. Adel United Methodist Church, 115 S. 10th St.

The Adel United Methodist Church is hosting a weekly Wednesday Night Meal in the fellowship hall downstairs. This is a freewill donation meal. All are welcome.

### **Third Monday Bingo**

Monday, Oct. 16, 6-8 p.m. Masonic Lodge, 411 S. 12th St., Adel

Enjoy 17 bingo games (\$0.25/ card) plus an 18th Progressive Blackout (\$1/card). Packaged snacks and non-alcoholic drinks will be available. Bring a dauber if you have one. They will also be for sale.



### **Music in the Prairie – Peter Mayer Concert** Sunday, Oct. 8, 4-6 p.m.

### Kuehn Conservation Area, 32828 Houston Trail, Earlham

Dallas County Conservation Board invites the public to enjoy the music of singer-songwriter Peter Mayer at the Music in the Prairie concert. Peter's music will change the way you walk Dallas County's wilds. You will be humming his songs and smiling in the weeks following the concert, with some new additions to your favorite playlist. The concert is free. Bring your lawn chairs for seating in the arena at Kuehn. In the event of rain, the concert will be relocated to Earlham High School. To be notified of updates or event relocation, register on Eventbrite here: https:// www.eventbrite.com/e/716096934207. ■

lowa Living magazines will be saluting veterans in November issues. If you are a veteran who would like to be included, please send a photo (military or current) and the following information:

**HUNUK** 

NAME: TOWN YOU CURRENTLY LIVE IN: MILITARY BRANCH: RANK AT DISCHARGE: DEPLOYMENTS: QUOTE: Please answer the question, "How can the public best honor veterans?"

Family members submitting on behalf of veterans should include the veteran's answer to the above question.

Email to tammy@iowalivingmagazines.com or mail to: Big Green Umbrella Media, 8101 Birchwood Court Suite D, Johnston, IA 50131

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### HOW TO CHOOSE A TREE SERVICE

Trimming or removing trees from your property is difficult work, not something you'd want to attempt yourself. Making sure your trees are healthy while avoiding property damage requires employing a professional tree service.

Follow these tips to find a qualified, professional tree service in your area:

• Ask friends, family and neighbors. You may know someone who has used a tree service in the past. They can tell you who does the best work.

• Contact at least three tree services. Inform them of the situation and request a site inspection. It gives you the opportunity to ask about issues and get a feel for the experience and expertise of each company. Take notes so you can compare your results afterward.

• Find out how long each company has been in business, their experiences, references and whether they are licensed and insured. Check with the Better Business Bureau for outstanding complaints. Even reliable companies may have a few problems. It is how they resolve the issue that counts.

• Request estimates. These figures can vary widely. Some companies are better equipped for certain jobs, so they can offer more competitive pricing.

Other companies are slow or may be trying to "fill-in" appointment slots with smaller jobs just to keep their crews busy. Don't choose a company strictly by cost. Tree work is dangerous. Proper equipment, welltrained employees and insurance create high operating costs. It is worth paying more for peace of mind and excellent service.

• Look at a copy of their insurance policy. Coverage should include personal liability, property damage coverage, workers' compensation and damaged vehicles or home coverage.

• Inspect their previous work by looking at their portfolio. Each tree service company

has a work style. Verify that it suits your needs. Photos of past work might also be on their website.

• Get a detailed written estimate of any work to be performed before signing a contract. Responsible companies will provide detailed descriptions, along with the time and cost for your records. This estimate should also offer information about cleanup expectations. Are logs to be cut up or left for firewood? Will the company haul everything away or leave it for you to manage? Will leaves and twigs be raked up or run through a chipper? If they are removing an entire tree, what will happen to the stump?

• Verify the workers wear property safety gear. They should be wearing helmets at all times. In addition, they should use face shields or protective glasses and steel-toe boots. The person who climbs the tree should have arborist climbing ropes, specialized safety and climbing gear, the proper saddle, helmet and safety glasses.



### HOW TO CHOOSE A CHILDREN'S FITNESS CENTER

Younger children love to be outdoors and physically active. But, as they grow older, other activities replace and sometimes act as deterrents to their physical wellbeing. School, socializing, phones, TV and video games all conspire to eat up a child's day and upset the balance.

Providing that balance is key to kids growing up happy, healthy and welladjusted. And parents should provide that encouragement, because developing a healthy active lifestyle early on can lead to a lifetime of good health.

Unfortunately, parents are busier than ever before, so they may need a little help encouraging activity. Finding a good fitness center that works with children is a smart option. When the kids attend regular fitness sessions with peers, they'll find opportunities for exercise ranging from tumbling, gymnastics and cheerleading to parkour and pre-school fitness.

A good health center will also help your child explore a variety of equipment and

exercise regimens, learning how to take care of their bodies in safe and comfortable environments and under the watchful eye of trainers experienced in working with children. Support and camaraderie from coaches and peers at the health center can also be a big plus. Learning how important it is to be active, to manage nutrition and the best ways to be physically and mentally fit will help your child grow into a successful adult.

Here are some criteria to consider if you think your child could benefit from attending a fitness center.

**Coaches and trainers:** Coaches and trainers will be a child's mentors. And fitness center staff will ultimately affect how enthusiastic your child is about working out. Make spontaneous visits to fitness centers you are considering to observe staff and available activities at different times of day. Centers will prefer appointments, but any that do not allow unplanned visits should not be considered. Family should be allowed to visit, watch sessions and get a general idea of the center's operations.

**Environment:** Here are some questions you should ask yourself when you visit a center: Is the fitness center's equipment age-appropriate? While there may be private and group training, what is the ratio of staff to child? Is the fitness center generalized or do they lean toward specific categories of training? Does equipment look well cared for? Are areas clean and maintained? Are mats and padding frayed or flat and unsafe? Are bathrooms clean and well lit? Only parental vigilance can ensure a child walks into a safe and healthy fitness environment.

Other factors include variety of classes and programs, class sizes, location, costs, and if the fitness center has associations with local schools. But don't ignore your instincts. You know your child and, whether it's through referral or research, only you can find the best fit. ■



### HOW TO CHOOSE RENTAL EQUIPMENT

Rental equipment plays a key role in construction projects. That's because even the biggest builders don't have the resources to buy, transport and store every piece of equipment they need. Renting tools for the job is the most efficient way to complete most building projects.

Why is that? Because you can quickly access the perfect equipment to do the job while only paying for the time you're actually using it.

#### THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT

Always use the right tool for the job. That's one of the first lessons professionals learn in construction, and a good rental company can deliver precisely the right tools to the job site.

A solid rental company will not only have a wide selection of products — from heavy machinery to smaller but important items like traffic cones and barriers — but they also will have expert employees who know the construction industry inside and out.

They also will be able to provide

the accessories that can customize the equipment for your needs. Having the correct blades, bits and add-ons can make a major difference in how the equipment works.

#### SERVICE AND DELIVERY

Hard-working equipment can break down. It's a fact of life, as even the most wellbuilt mechanical devices will still need maintenance and repairs.

You should know up front how the maintenance needs will be handled, especially for long-term projects where the chances of equipment needing to be fixed or replaced goes up substantially.

The best rental companies want to keep their equipment clean and in top shape for both current and future renters. Keep that in mind as you shop for vendors.

Find out about the company's delivery policy, too. Make sure you ask about delivery fees — including extra charges for nights and weekends.

#### **CLEAR BILLS**

Like any good service provider, your bills for renting equipment should be easy to understand. The total cost for the rental period, along with any other fees — including delivery and pickup, if needed — should be clearly spelled out in your agreement.

Before you sign the rental agreement, make sure you understand the details about any costs that could be added for damaged equipment.

#### REPUTATION

Finally, the rental company should have a strong reputation in your industry. The best rental equipment providers will have a long track record of providing good service in your area. They should have lots of satisfied clients and leave a positive impression with the people who have rented from them in the past.

If you can find a company with all these highlights, you've found a rental company worth sticking with for the long haul. ■



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### HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT INSURANCE AGENT

Finding the right insurance agent isn't as simple as choosing the cheapest policy. A good insurance agency is an advocate for your needs and represents your interests in covering your health, home, auto and other insurable valuables. They'll guide you through the maze of options available to you and help find policies that protect you and your budget. Unfortunately, not every agent is the reliable, reputable agent professional you'd hope.

Here's some guidance on how to find the best agent or broker for your needs.

#### **ASK FOR REFERRALS**

Family, friends and colleagues have likely worked with insurance agents in the past. Ask people you trust for referrals. If you receive a recommendation, it is because that person has had a positive experience. There is a strong likelihood you will have similar results.

Good agents understand that offering great service will keep them in business. Their careers depend on word-of-mouth. If you are happy with the service you receive, your insurance agent will appreciate your willingness to send business their way.

#### RESEARCH

If you do not have recommendations, begin researching your options. Begin by looking at local companies and brokers. As you conduct your research, be thorough and critical. Buying a policy is similar to purchasing a new car or home. It truly is that important.

Select a company that is highly regarded by consumers. Read reviews of each company to determine which has the most satisfied clients. Are they easy to work with? Have there been any problems with collecting on a policy?

Also, check that any prospective agent has all necessary licenses and training.

#### **INTERVIEWS**

After narrowing your list of prospective agents, make an appointment to visit each one. Prepare a list of questions and concerns about your personal situation. Take notes during your meeting. Remember that you must feel comfortable with the answers before purchasing a policy.

If an agent tries to pressure you into making a decision right away, inform him that you need more time and cannot sign anything immediately.

The right agent will let you take as much time as you need to understand the implications of each policy. They will give you useful information and not subject you to high-pressure sales techniques.

The relationship doesn't end once the sale is completed. Your dialogue should be continuous. The best agents are available in the event you have to file a claim.

A seasoned, skilled insurance agent will be an invaluable resource for safeguarding your future. ■

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### HOW TO CHOOSE THE BEST DAYCARE

Choosing the best care for your child away from home involves many important considerations. Chief among them, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics, is the effect on a growing child.

All of a child's early experiences, whether at home, in child care or in other preschool settings are educational, the AAP reports. When that care is consistent, supportive and geared to the child's age, development and temperament, the association says, it increases the chances for a positive effect on children and families.

#### Here are a few things to consider:

**Staff:** The quality of a daycare rests on its employees. The staff must be reliable and responsible. Request information on background checks of the staff. Ask about the ratio of caregivers to children. Adults cannot do their jobs effectively if they have to care for 30 children at once with no extra assistance.

#### Good hygiene habits are a must:

Sickness is easily spread among children and adults at a daycare. What types of hygiene and protocol do they have and use when dealing with germs or sick children?

**Observe how the employees interact with children:** They should communicate well and like kids. The best daycare employees do not play favorites. They spend equal time with everyone and make every child feel important.

**Facility:** The facility should be in a safe and inviting environment. It should have bright colors and fun decor. The lighting needs to be adequate. Inspect the bathrooms, dining areas and nap rooms. Everything should be decorated with children in mind.

Look outside at the play areas. Are they well-maintained? Is there plenty of room for children to run around? Is the play equipment safe?

Every area should be designed with safety in mind. Look for locks on doors, sharp edges and dangerous objects that might be in a child's reach.

**Entertainment and activities:** No child should be bored at a daycare. High-quality daycares offer activities to keep your child occupied throughout the day. Make sure they don't only offer fun activities — it should be a learning center as well. A center that incorporates fun into learning is the best type of daycare.

Ask the director what kinds of activities are available for children. It should be a mixture of free play and structured activities. Crafts, music, stories and ageappropriate lessons will help your child grow.

Selecting a daycare is an important decision. Look at each option thoroughly before making a final decision. ■



### HOW TO SELL YOUR HOME FAST

Everyone with a home on the market wants their property to sell fast and for the highest price possible. It not only means money in your pocket, but also speeds up the move into your new home — not to mention the relief of not having to keep your place in tiptop shape every day.

However, the quick sale doesn't always happen due to timing, market fluctuations and the condition and attractiveness of your home.

But there are some time-tested steps you can take that will make it much easier to see a "sold" sign in your front yard quickly.

**Pricing:** The most important step is to price your home correctly at the outset. Price it too low, and you'll leave money on the table. Price it too high, though, and your home will take longer to sell.

To hit the pricing bull's eye, you've got to know what is comparable in your market.

An appraiser can pull data about recent comps, typically from the last six months, for sales of homes that are similar to yours.

The closer your price is to homes that are actually selling, the more likely you are to get a quick sale.

**Staging:** Staging your home is sometimes thought of as an elaborate process that involves redecorating and renting beautiful furniture to make your interior look its best, but it doesn't always have to be that intense.

Staging is about presenting your home in the most appealing way possible. The goal is to get buyers to imagine putting their own things in your home, so basic steps like clearing out clutter and removing your personal photos can help their imagination go to work.

**Photography:** For most buyers, the first impression of your house won't be made in person. It will be made through photos of

your home they see online or in print ads.

That's why it's critical to have good, quality photographs of your home.

In some markets, that might mean having a professional photographer shoot images of your home when it's staged at its best.

The more clear, well-lit pictures that show off the beauty and features of your home, the more buyers are likely to take the next step and schedule a showing. Fix it up: Finally, you have to pay attention to details to make sure your home is in top shape cosmetically.

You'll want to make sure the gardens, flower beds and other landscaping are neat, clean and free of weeds. You should also make a checklist of simple handyman tasks to complete, like replacing burned-out light bulbs, making sure doors and hinges shut properly, and removing stains from your carpet. ■



### HOW TO CHOOSE A FINANCIAL ADVISOR

Working with a professional financial advisor could be the best investment you'll ever make. The best planners can help you meet your financial goals now and in the future. An advisor can bring their experiences and objective perspective to advise you on how best to save, invest and spend your money. They can also suggest avenues of money management. Some investments help lower your tax liability. Also they can help guide you through uncertain financial times.

To find a reliable financial advisor, start by asking your friends and family for suggestions. Research online for advisors in your area. Searching a potential advisor using brokercheck. finra.org will list any disclosures and the advisor's work history. Remember to research each advisor with an eye toward your own situation and goals. Once you have a list of possible advisors, set a time to meet, and see if the fit is right for you.

#### **AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

Financial products can contribute to your well-being and peace of mind. Some common investments are CDs, bonds, mutual funds, stocks and commodities. Weighing risk is essential. Some products will be better for your portfolio than others. An experienced financial advisor can customize a portfolio especially for you. The financial advisor should also understand how much risk you want to take.

#### FEES OR COMMISSIONS

Inquire about how your advisor is paid for their services. Make sure you understand the fees you are paying, and that you are only paying for services you're actually using. Typically accounts are either fee based or commission based. A fee-based account charges a monthly fee based upon the value of your account. In a fee-based account you are able to make changes in the account without additional expenses. A commission-based account only charges a fee if, and when a trade is placed. The commission may be at the front end or back end for both the buy and sell depending upon the product.

Once everything has been completed to your satisfaction, you can choose a financial advisor. They will partner with you to reach your goals whether it's retirement, emergency savings, a vacation home, or another goal that you have.

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### HOW TO CHOOSE A PRESCHOOL FOR YOUR CHILD

There's substantial evidence that children gain valuable skills by attending preschool. Pre-kindergarten programs are a great start to prepare young children for their education experiences to come. Social skills balanced with academics are a great foundation for their future education journey.

Choosing the right preschool is an important part of preparing your child for their school years. It's the foundation for starting quality education. Finding a program that aligns with your family's beliefs and core values is a great place to start in choosing a program that best suits your child. Curriculum and availability are other factors that may play a part in the decision process.

With so many options for parents, how can you pick the right one? Here are some things to consider.

#### **TEACHER TRAINING**

One of the most important things to consider

is the experience, training and qualifications of staff. Qualified, college-educated, welltrained teachers/staff are able to balance a play-based curriculum with age-appropriate academic learning to provide a safe, loving environment for preschool-age children. This can set one program apart from another.

#### **LENGTH OF DAY**

Another aspect that can vary with different preschool programs is the length of the day. Some schools are designed around a few hours per day, while others are a full-day program. Neither method is superior, but each provides for different needs for your family and your child.

#### CURRICULUM

Research has shown that play-based curriculum is the most age appropriate for preschool aged children. a well-rounded program will provide social skills, problem solving, self-confidence with education tools to meet each child where they are in all areas. Finding a preschool that offers a curriculum that fits your family values is a great place to start.

#### **PLAYTIME PHILOSOPHY**

Studies show that play serves a vital role in your child's mental and social development. You should make sure the preschool's philosophy surrounding this is a great fit for your personal expectations.

When structured properly, much of education can take place during play time when children are free to learn and explore in their own individual ways. Ask the staff about how they incorporate play into the children's day.

In the end, by finding a preschool program with the right schedule, curriculum, philosophy and staff, you will be providing your child with a great step forward and provide a foundation for a happy, healthy, positive future.



### HOW TO CHOOSE A ROOFER

Notice a leak when it rains? Or perhaps you've seen a stray shingle on the ground near your home. Stepping back to inspect your roof, you might notice even more damage or erosion.

If even just one of these issues is true — or maybe you just want to update and improve the look of your home — it's time to hire a professional roofer for your home's first line of defense against the elements.

Putting a new roof on your home can significantly increase its value. So, it is essential that you pick the right contractor to do this job.

Your first step in finding a reliable roofer is to ask your family, friends and neighbors if they have recommendations or referrals from work they have had done.

You can also look on the internet for roofing contractors in your area. Some websites offer lists of professionals, along with reviews of their work.

Personal recommendations will give you the best information. Be sure to focus on

the quality of work as well as the cleanup process. You don't want scraps of shingles and nails left over after the contractors have gone home. Don't hire professionals who leave debris after they are gone.

Pick someone you connect with and trust. Some contractors travel the country looking for work. If you hire one of them, they may not be able to provide realistic guarantees for their work. After all, they may be on the other side of the country if you begin to experience problems with their work.

Once you have contact information for several roofing contractors, call them. Inquire about the company's background and how long they have been in business. Generally, a good roofer should offer a material and workmanship warranty.

Be sure to ask questions about time frames and estimates. You should always get a written estimate before proceeding with any work. Communicating with the contractor will let them know that you will be taking a hands-on approach to your project.

Find out if the roofer's product recommends what they will do if they find damaged decking and when they might be available to start. You should also ask about the warranty and whether you can have it confirmed in writing.

Every professional who works on your property should be licensed and insured. Insurance is particularly important for roofing contractors. They should be able to cover any damages they might cause to your property. It is also essential that workers are covered under their insurance as well, in the event someone is injured during the job.

Before work commences, you should receive a written contract from the roofer. Read it over carefully. It will state the type of materials to be used, what the work will entail and the final cost.

Following these tips will help you find the best roofing contractor in your community. ■



### **BUILDING POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS.**

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### HOW TO CHOOSE A CAMPGROUND

There's nothing like camping to truly "get away from it all." Unplugging from a hectic daily life in the city or suburbs and getting back in touch with nature can offer not only the benefits of recharging, but fun and relaxation amid natural beauty.

Picking the right campground isn't always easy, though. Some are designed for a family-style experience, while others cater to more intimate outings. And, of course, location is a huge factor.

Here are some factors to weigh.

#### LOCATION

The first and most important choice is the campground's location.

If you're going on a faraway trip, then you'll obviously need a campground close to the destination. More often, though, camping is just as fun when you stay reasonably close to home. Look for a site that's convenient for a weekend getaway, yet far enough away that it feels like a real vacation.

#### **AMENTIES**

Let's face it: There's one part of camping that people seemingly never agree on - just how much civilization should be involved in the experience.

For some campers, only a primitive campsite that can be reached by remote hiking counts as true camping.

For others, a luxury RV with full hookups and paved walking paths is as primitive as they want to get.

Ask about electrical connections, RV hookups, showers, bathrooms and any other amenities you might want for your camping trip. The best campgrounds will offer a range of services at different price points to meet your needs.

#### LAYOUT AND RULES

For many people, camping is all about peace, quiet and isolation. For others, it's more about partying with friends.

Whatever your style of camping, you should make sure the campground's layout and rules are a good match for your kind of

fun.

Talk to the campground's manager if you have any questions about what's allowed and what's not. Knowing and following the rules will not only help keep you safe, but also make you a better camping neighbor so everyone has a good experience.

#### RESERVATIONS

Finally, you should look for a campground that accepts reservations well in advance, especially if you plan to camp on a holiday, a weekend or during a busy time of year.

Every campground has its own procedures for how they handle reservations. The most popular sites can be reserved months or even years in advance for the heavy travel season, so plan far ahead if you want the best selection.

By picking a campground with the right location, amenities and policies, then reserving it well in advance, you'll be setting the stage for a memorable, fun experience enjoying Mother Nature.



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### HOW TO CHOOSE A BASEMENT REMODELING CONTRACTOR

A basement renovation can transform an underutilized space into a beautiful and functional part of your home. However, selecting the right basement remodeler is a critical decision that can make or break your project's success. Here's a guide to help you choose the perfect remodeler for your basement transformation.

**Research and referrals:** Start your search by asking friends, family and neighbors for recommendations. Personal referrals can provide valuable insights into a remodeler's reputation and quality of work.

**Check credentials:** Ensure that the basement remodeler you're considering is licensed, insured and bonded. These credentials demonstrate their professionalism and commitment to quality work.

**Experience matters:** Experience matters when it comes to basement remodeling. Look for a remodeler with a track record of successfully completing similar projects. A seasoned remodeler will have the skills and knowledge to handle unexpected challenges that can arise in a basement renovation.

**Portfolio and references:** Review the remodeler's portfolio of past projects. Pay attention to the quality of their work and whether their style aligns with your vision. Ask for references and contact previous clients to inquire about their experience working with the remodeler.

**Transparent communication:** Effective communication is crucial for a successful renovation. Choose a remodeler who listens to your ideas, provides clear timelines and estimates, and communicates openly throughout the project.

**Quality of materials:** Inquire about the materials the remodeler plans to use for your basement renovation. High-quality materials will ensure the longevity and durability of your space. Ask if they have partnerships with reputable suppliers or if they source materials from trusted sources.

**Permits and regulations:** A reputable remodeler should be well-versed in local building codes and regulations. They should guide you through the permitting process

and ensure that your renovation complies with all necessary codes and standards.

**Cost and payment structure:** Get detailed estimates from multiple remodelers, including a breakdown of costs. Be cautious of overly low bids, as they may indicate subpar workmanship or the use of inferior materials. Discuss the payment structure and avoid paying the full amount upfront.

**Warranty and guarantee:** Ask about the remodeler's warranty and guarantee on their work. A reliable remodeler should stand behind their craftsmanship and offer a warranty that covers any issues that may arise after the project is completed.

In conclusion, selecting the right basement remodeler requires careful consideration and research. Take your time to evaluate candidates, check their credentials, and communicate openly about your expectations. By choosing a qualified and trustworthy remodeler, you can turn your basement into a stunning and functional space that enhances the overall value and comfort of your home. ■



### HOW TO CHOOSE GARAGE DOORS

Garage doors are often an afterthought to homeowners — but they shouldn't be. Garage doors are the first thing most notice about a home, so when it comes to choosing them for a new home or replacing them significant thought and research should take place. If your garage faces the front of the house, a new door could dramatically improve your curb appeal and change the overall look of your home. If you're selling, worn, dated doors tend to say a lot about the condition of the rest of the home. A garage door is also an excellent security asset for your home, allowing you to secure your vehicle inside. If you're thinking about installing a new garage door, you may be surprised at just how many options are on the market — and how affordably they can be installed.

#### THE LOOK

Garage doors have seen an explosion in styles, materials and colors that are designed to match the architecture of any home, from rural barns to craftsman bungalows or sleek urban getaways. So if you thought your choices were limited to simple sheet metal styles, think again. You should also pay close attention to the materials. Today's garage doors can be made from expensive hardwoods, textured vinyl, fiberglass or basic aluminum, all of which will have a big impact on the look and longevity of your doors. Pay close attention to the maintenance needs of whatever material you choose. Some will hold their color longer than others, and real wood doors can require regular staining and sealing every few years to keep them looking spectacular.

#### INSULATION

Depending on climate, the insulation of your garage door can be an important factor to help reduce your energy bills. This is especially important in heated garages. But even an insulated door on unheated garages can make a positive impact on your energy usage if it can keep the hot and cold weather away from the interior of your house.



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### **ADEL** Museum attendance jumping

Carrico and other committee members promote museum.

Bev Carrico is celebrating. She is a member of the Adel Historical Museum Committee, which operates and promotes the museum in downtown Adel. Traditionally, few people tour the museum, but, in recent months, the numbers have grown beyond expectations.

The museum is housed in a two-story brick building at 1129 Main St., and the building itself has quite an interesting history. From 1857-1870, it was a schoolhouse, then, from 1872-1898, it was the residence of the Leroy Lambert family. Lambert was a state legislator and banker. From 1898 to 1943, the house was the home of the Thornton family, with some rooms later rented out as Thornton's Boarding House. From 1949-1973, the Bowles family lived in the house, and then, from 1973-1998, it was owned by the Historical Society. In 1998, it was given to the City of Adel.

Specific showcases in the museum include Straight Engineering, United Brick & Tile, Ortonville Circus, Military, and Living and Décor of the 1800s and early 1900s. The newest addition, the Nile Kinnick display, honors the former Iowa Hawkeye football star and Adel native.

In 2022, a committee was formed to operate the museum and plan for its future. Members include Connie Cooper, Aubrey Dunbar, Nadine Law, Mary Ockerman, Karen Smith and Bev Carrico.

"We're all volunteers, every one of us," says Carrico.

Since the committee's inception, the museum



has come to life, as events have been added to bring awareness of what the museum offers. The standard hours are Saturdays, 1-3 p.m. in June, July and August. Carrico stressed that interested persons are encouraged to call and request visits at other times. More information is available on the Adel city website. There is no set admission price to tour the museum. Instead, a freewill donation is welcomed.

"On July 5, we had our first annual garden party, and the museum was open for tours," says Carrico. "The museum had beautiful flowers throughout in the backyard. We had the Dunbars to thank for providing the flowers, and we had a harpist."

She estimated the attendance was around 150 and said the committee plans to make this a yearly tradition.

Another influx in attendance happened during the Sweet Corn Festival in August when a lot of alumni went through the museum reminiscing.

"They really enjoyed themselves," says Carrico. "And, most recently, we had a River to River Retro Roadtrip come through, and they had chosen the museum to make their stop."

She said the tour included 26 cars and about



Paula James of BigDeal Car Care presents the Good Neighbor certificate to Bev Carrico.

40 people. The group spent about an hour and a half at the museum.

"It was a fun time and a beautiful morning," she says.

Carrico told of some of the upcoming events and displays at the museum. In November, a display about World War I veterans and memorabilia will be on loan from the state. The details on days and hours will be announced when finalized.

In December, the museum will be featured in the Festival of Homes event. Carrico points out that, because the museum is an old, twostory house, it isn't accessible to persons who use a wheelchair.

Carrico says she is thrilled with the sudden increase in attendance, and noted that, "Everybody's enjoying it, and we welcome more to come."

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### LIBRARY

By Olivia Osborn, marketing and collection management librarian

### **ADEL** Public Library news

Hello from the Adel Public Library. As the weather cools down outside, we are happy to offer plenty of fun, indoor programming for all ages.

### Storytimes

RUNNER-UP

LAWN & LANDSCAPING

Bring your little ones into the library for storytimes this month. We read stories, sing songs and make crafts three mornings a week.

- Move & Groove Storytime every Tuesday at 10 a.m.
- My First Storytime every Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.
- Preschool Storytime every Thursday at 10 a.m.
- Storytime at Evans Park Oct. 16 at 10 a.m.
- Storytime at Evans Park Oct. 30 at 10 a.m.

### Teen activities

October is TeenTober. There will be many different activities for teens at the library this month, along with other after school programs.

• \*Elementary STEAM: Monster Fun (grades 2-5) – Oct. 3 at 4 p.m.

- Teen Advisory Board (grades 6-12) Oct. 5 at 4 p.m.
- Tail Wagging Readers (all ages) Oct. 5 at 4:30 p.m.
- \* Nerf Battle (grades 2-5) Oct. 6 from 2-3 p.m.
- Teen: Fall Party (grades 6-12) Oct. 12 at 4 p.m.

• \*Elementary Art: Spooktacular (grades K-5) – Oct. 17 at 4 p.m.

• Teen: Open Craft (grades 6-12) – Oct. 19 from 4-5:30 p.m.

- No School Movie: "Elemental" Oct. 23 at 10 a.m.
- Teen Movie: "Haunted Mansion" Oct. 26 at 1:30 p.m.

\*Programs with an asterisk require registration. You can easily register at adelpl.org.

### Adult programs

If you're an adult looking to get out of the house, we have plenty of options for you, too.

• \*Yoga at the Library – Every Wednesday in October at 5:45 p.m.

• Exercise Group – Monday through Thursday at 9 a.m.

• 50's+ Senior Gathering – first and third Tuesday of the month at10 a.m. (Iowa Author Mike Flynn joins us at Oct. 3 gathering.)

- Brown Bag Book Club Oct. 12 at 12 p.m.
- Cook Book Club Oct. 18 at 11 a.m.
- Evening Book Club Oct. 26 at 6 p.m.

\*Programs with an asterisk require registration. You can easily register at adelpl.org.

We are excited to see you in the library this month.

# 



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### FINANCE

#### **By Caroline Williams**

# **SET** yourself up for financial success

Ignorance is not always bliss. If you choose to ignore financial responsibilities, it could cost you dearly. On the other hand, if you choose to make it a priority, it can make your life a little easier. There are several different ways to set yourself up for success. The key is finding the way that works for you. Below are a few simple, but significant, tips to help steer you in your right direction:



#### 1. Track your spending

While check registries are becoming less and less common, tracking doesn't have to. Online banking is a great tool you have at your fingertips. In today's world, it's so easy to swipe and move on. Review your accounts each morning so you know what you have available before you start spending.

Most online banking applications also allow you to set alerts. Setting an alert for when your account dips below a certain threshold can help you limit spending.

#### 2. Separate your money

Having your entire paycheck deposited into your checking account might make it more tempting to spend. On the days you get paid, set up automatic transfers into other accounts. This takes away the temptation. You can have one account for spending, one for bills, maybe one for vacations, and even one to save for that new car.

#### 3. Automate your debt

Just about every debt you can think of can be set up for automatic payments. By doing this, you don't have to stress about forgetting.

You can even go a step further and ask if you can align your payments with your payday. If you get paid biweekly, set up partial payments to come out the days you get paid. For example, if your payment is \$100/month, set up a \$50 biweekly payment on the days you get paid. This will not only help by spreading your payments over time but can sometimes save you in interest.

#### 4. Use the snowball method

When you are buried in debt, seeing the light at the end of the tunnel can be difficult. Putting together a solid plan and sticking to it can help. One method is to focus on paying off smaller debts first. Once those are paid, add that dollar amount to the next smallest payment. This will eventually snowball into applying more funds to your larger debts while maintaining the same budget.

These are only a few tools of many you can utilize throughout your financial journey. Again, the key is to find the tool that works best for you. ■

Information provided by Caroline Williams, retail banking officer, Raccoon Valley Bank, Adel, Dallas Center, Grimes and Perry, 515-465-3521.

### HEALTH By Jane Clausen

### **AVOIDING** costly Medicare mistakes

Whether you are already enrolled in Medicare or looking ahead, it is important to understand what Medicare covers and when to enroll. From missing enrollment windows to selecting a prescription plan not



suited to your needs, Medicare mistakes can be costly.

Medicare is the federal health insurance plan for people aged 65+, younger people with qualifying disabilities, or those with permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or transplant. Coverage is divided into segments:

Part A (hospital insurance)

Part B (medical insurance)

Part D (prescription insurance)

Not enrolling at the right time is one of the costliest mistakes you can make. There is a seven-month window for Medicare enrollment that begins three months before your birth month and ends three months after your birth month. Missing this window could result in a late enrollment penalty. Enrolling in a Part D

program is optional, but, with a few exceptions (e.g., employer coverage), if you do not enroll when you first become eligible, a lifetime penalty will be added to your premium when you do enroll.

With so many options to consider, selecting the right Medicare Part D plan can be overwhelming. Many seniors simply select the plan with the lowest premium. Others enroll in a plan and then never reexamine it to see if it still fits their needs. With prescription costs varying widely between plans, selecting the wrong plan can be costly. Consider your priorities when choosing your plan:

• You currently take medications — look for plans that include your medications in their formulary.

• You want extra protection from high prescription drug costs — look for plans that will offer you coverage in the coverage gap.

• You want drug expenses to be balanced throughout the year — look for plans with a low or no deductible or with additional gap coverage.

• You take a lot of generic prescriptions look for a plan that offers low or no copayments on generics.

• You don't have many drug costs now (but want peace of mind and to avoid future penalties) - look for a plan with a low monthly premium.

• You prefer the extra benefits and lower costs available by getting your health care and prescription drug coverage from one plan and are willing to accept the plan's restrictions on what doctors, hospitals and other health care providers you can use — look for a Medicare Advantage Plan (Part C) that includes prescription coverage. Part C is available through private insurance companies that contract with Medicare.

Plan options change, as do your needs. Be sure to reevaluate your coverage annually so you can change plans during Open Enrollment if there is a better option. It could save you hundreds and even thousands of dollars. We know that selecting a Medicare Part D plan can be intimidating. If you are unsure if your current plan is the best one for you or need advice about selecting a new plan, talk to your pharmacist.

Information provided by Jane Clausen, Adel HealthMart, 113 N. Ninth St., Adel, 515-993-3644.







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### HEALTH By Delecia Crannell

# **GET** your annual mammogram

October is a melancholic month for me. My sister died at the age of 26 from breast cancer, leaving two young children, siblings and parents who loved her behind.

Rather than mourning or raging over my loss, I focus on helping to prevent another family from sharing the experience. Therefore, October is my month to push all women to do their screenings.



Breast cancer accounts for a third of all new female cancers annually. Although it mainly occurs in middle-aged and older women, a small number of women diagnosed are younger than 45. My sister was one.

So, ladies of all ages, know your tatas! Do your self exams every time you shower. If something feels new or different, get it checked and get those annual mammograms. ■

Information provided by Delecia Crannell, ARNP, FNP-BC, Triune Health and Wellness, 715 Cottage St., Adel, 515-478-9660.

### HEALTH By Elijah Evans

### **EMOTIONAL** validation makes or breaks relationships

Emotional validation is a critical skill for healthy relationships. To validate someone's emotions is to communicate the understandability or reasonableness of their feelings. This is not the same as agreeing with the person's stance, and, in fact, this skill becomes all the more important when the feelings of the person you are acknowledging are different from your own. For example, I find coffee disgusting, but, for all the coffee lovers out there, I respect that, to you, it is an



invigorating brew in which you find genuine satisfaction. The alternatives to validation include the assertion of one's own perspective (e.g. coffee is gross) or attempts to change a person's feelings (e.g. arguing tea is the superior hot, bitter beverage). These alternatives become problematic when responding to the emotions of others because they imply there is something wrong with the way they feel, since you are either unwilling to relate to their feelings or suggesting they should be different. Instead, practicing validation communicates empathy and respect for differences, which are crucial for navigating conflict. While the coffee example is a mundane way to demonstrate validation, one can easily imagine an emotionally charged interaction in which one person expresses an important feeling, and validation is the only thing that would make them feel seen and cared for.

Information provided by Elijah Evans, TLMHC, SS Therapy and Consulting, Ltd, 4725 Merle Hay Road, Suite 205, Des Moines, 515-528-8135, evans@ sstherapyandconsulting.com, www.sstherapyandconsulting.com.

### HEALTH

#### By Leslie Herron

### **PROPERLY** storing medications

The bathroom cabinet may be convenient, but there are safer places to store medications.

Medications are expensive, so store them so they don't go bad. Also think about protecting others especially children and pets.

Although the bathroom "medicine cabinet" may be convenient, it's not ideal for medications. Bathroom heat and moisture can make medications less potent or break down and go bad early. Find an

environment with consistent temperatures and follow instructions on the label. Other precautions:

• Store in a cool, dry, dark place to prevent damage from heat/light/ air/moisture.

- Use a child-proof latch or lock.
- Keep out of reach of children and pets.
- Keep medication with you when you travel.
- Don't keep it in the car glove compartment.
- Don't combine all together in one bottle.

• Store medicine that might have abuse potential under lock and key. Even if properly stored, medication may go bad earlier than expected. If it looks odd — the color or texture changed or it smells bad — don't take it.

Nor should you take pills that are cracked, stuck together, or seem harder/ softer than normal. And do not keep medicine beyond its expiration date.

Information provided by Leslie Herron, Sumpter Pharmacy, 628 Nile Kinnick Drive, Suite 1, Adel, 515-993-1119.

HEALTH By Alicia Fisher, PT, DPT WHAT is diastasis?

Diastasis recti is a thinning or separation of the connective tissue, linea alba, between your front abdominal muscles, rectus abdominis. The linea alba connects the rectus abdominis muscle in the middle, separating it into two sides. When diastasis is present, you may see a doming or bulging through your abdomen. This can be present below the navel, above the navel, or can be a complete diastasis through the entire abdomen. Diastasis can occur



following pregnancy, abdominal surgeries, or from a general weakness in core muscles. The bulging is most commonly noticed when you strain or contract your abdominal muscles, which can often be seen when sitting up from a laying position.

If diastasis is present, it is important to work on progressive strengthening exercises to improve core strength, rib cage mobility, as well as work to balance pressures in the abdomen without any further straining to the linea alba. If diastasis is left untreated, this can result in low back pain, poor posture and pelvic floor issues. In severe cases, the connective tissue can tear or a hernia may develop, which may need to be corrected with surgery.

Information provided by Alicia Fisher, PT, DPT, Core Physical Therapy Inc., 803 Cottage St., Adel, 515-993-5599.





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### LAWN CARE By Kevin Johnson

# **WINTERIZE** your lawn this fall for improved health

Fall winterization of your lawn involves a heavy feeding of fertilizer, at the appropriate time, that maximizes the naturally occurring process that every lawn goes through each fall. In fact, this application of fertilizer does the most to directly benefit your lawn compared to others made when your grass is actively growing earlier in the season. If you could only fertilize once a year, this would be the time.



When is the best time to make your last application of fertilizer? As a homeowner, you all

have experienced that time of year when the growth of your lawn slows down in the fall, and you no longer have to mow. Although the growth of your grass has stopped, your lawn is still green and producing energy. The energy being produced is directed towards increased food reserves being stored in the roots of your lawn. This is a naturally occurring process that all perennial plants go through each fall. Increased food storage in your grass plants' root system results in benefits you'll see next year. This would include earlier spring green up, increased plant drought and disease resistance, and a healthy, thicker lawn.

If you want a better lawn next year, talk to your lawn care professional and schedule a late fall application of fertilizer.

Information provided by Kevin Johnson, All American Turf Beauty, 311 DeSoto Road, Van Meter, 515-996-2261.



**ANNUAL** coloring calendar contest showcases student artists and lowa agriculture



Autumn Greenless of Adel was honored at the State Fair for having her artwork chosen for inclusion in the 2023-2024 Choose lowa Coloring Calendar.

Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig recognized 16 Iowa students whose artwork was selected for inclusion in the 2023-2024 Choose Iowa Coloring Calendar. Autumn Greenless of Adel was among those honored. The ceremony was held in the Agriculture Building during the 2023 Iowa State Fair.

"Choose Iowa is all about connecting consumers to the highquality products that are grown, raised and made in Iowa," said Secretary Naig. "Iowa is fortunate to have so many talented students, and we are pleased to see how our youngest Iowans are taking the opportunity to learn more about Iowa agriculture and showcase our state in these artistic entries."

The Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship received more than 120 submissions from K-12 students across the state, and 16 student artists were selected for the annual calendar.

Students who are 18 years old or younger are invited to submit a drawing for next year's Choose Iowa Coloring Calendar (September 2024 – August 2025) now through May 2024. Pictures should be drawn in a horizontal orientation using only black lines on plain white, 8.5 by 11-inch paper. The pictures should not be colored in.

Artwork may be submitted by email at ChooseIowa@ IowaAgriculture.gov or mailed to the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Attn: Choose Iowa, 502 E. Ninth St., Des Moines, IA 50319. Each submission should include the artist's name, age, grade, school, address and hometown, along with a parent or guardian's email and phone number.

### RECIPE

### FILL your family's plates with cozy fall meals

(*Family Features*) Putting away the homework, turning off electronics and spending a little quality time together can help ease everyday stresses. Add a cozy meal packed with tastes you love and you'll have the perfect recipe for an autumn evening with your family.

Cooler days call for comforting flavors the entire family can enjoy at the dinner table like roasted veggies — from sweet potatoes to pumpkin and more — paired with hearty favorites like cheesy pierogies that provide a sense of warmth and coziness. Make this autumn one to remember by creating new meals and memories along the way.

For an extra special celebration with the ones you love in honor of the 15th anniversary of National Pierogy Day, consider a cozy, warming dish like Roasted Sweet Potatoes Brown Butter Pierogies, which is loaded with the flavors of the season. This comforting meal starts with cubed sweet potatoes — a hallmark of fall — along with pierogies tossed in a homemade brown butter sauce. Top with pecans for a nutty crunch and fresh thyme leaves for the final touch on a newfound favorite that'll bring loved ones running to the dinner table.

Find more ways to incorporate fall flavors into your family's everyday menu by visiting MrsTsPierogies.com. ■

### Roasted sweet potatoes brown butter pierogies

Prep time: 10 minutes Cook time: 30 minutes Servings: 4-5

- 1 bag (1.6 pounds) Mrs. T's Mini Classic Cheddar Pierogies
- 2 cups sweet potato cubes (approximately 1 large or 2 medium sweet potatoes, cut into 1/2-inch cubes)
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- salt, to taste
- pepper, to taste
- 4 tablespoons salted butter
- 1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- water
- 1/2 cup pecans
- fresh thyme leaves, for serving

#### DIRECTIONS

- Preheat oven to 400 F.
- Toss sweet potato cubes in olive oil, salt and pepper, to taste, and spread in even layer on baking sheet. Roast 25-30 minutes, tossing about halfway through, until potatoes are fork tender.



- In medium skillet over medium heat, brown butter 5-10 minutes. Avoid smoking or burning. Remove from heat. Allow to cool about 5 minutes then whisk in balsamic vinegar and lemon juice.
- In large saucepan, bring water to boil. Cook pierogies according to package directions, about 3 minutes. Drain and toss in brown butter sauce.
- Add roasted sweet potatoes and pecans to brown butter pierogies and toss gently to coat.
- Top with fresh thyme leaves.



#### HISTORY **Bv Mike Flinn**

### ADEL'S brick manufacturing history

Adel's brickmaking history goes back to 1878 when a man by the name of William McKissick made the first bricks. The first brick plant was built by R.M. Kerns & Co. in 1882. The plant was located in the northwest part of town just south of Oakdale Cemetery on Butler Creek. This later became Kerns and McKissick and then Harris and Company. It provided employment for about 25 men and turned out 20,000 bricks per day. When rail transportation became available, this plant was torn down and rebuilt near the railroad tracks on the southwest edge of the town. It was then called the Dallas County Brick and Tile Company.

Halver R. Straight came to Adel in 1907 and, along with his brother, Merton, purchased the company. It was then renamed Adel Clay Products, and H.R. Straight became president and general manager. In 1926, H.R. and Merton sold their plant at Adel to United Clay Products Company. Having retained the name Adel Clay Products Company, they moved to Redfield where they built another brick plant and continued in business. Merton, afterwards, ran this operation until the facility was purchased by the Goodwin family. HR also built and operated a large soybean plant at Redfield, now owned by Cargill.

While operating in Adel, H.R. Straight constructed numerous houses for employees of the brick manufacturing operation. Twentythree homes were still in company ownership in 1958 when the plant was acquired by Sioux City Brick and Tile company.

HR Straight also had 87 patents, many pertaining to brick manufacturing. He also purchased patent rights on a boxcar unloader, and his Straight Engineering Company of Adel manufactured this equipment. HR Straight died in 1956. Straight Engineering Co. was continued under direction of his son, Lee, and Lyle A. Hanson.

On Aug. 31, 1950, a loud blast shook the brick plant. Two men attempted to blow up a clay planer due to a labor dispute over wages and other issues. Pay, at that time, was 80 cents an hour, and the union was demanding a 30-cent increase as well as other benefits. Two men pled guilty to reduced charges of malicious mischief, and the strike was settled shortly thereafter.

In 1958, the Sioux City Brick and Tile company purchased the Adel and Des Moines plants of United Brick and Tile Company. After that purchase, a tunnel kiln was built in 1968 to modernize the facilities at Adel. The plant at Des Moines was closed that same year. A second tunnel kiln was constructed in 1978 and the last of the periodic kilns was phased out.

Three plant superintendents at Adel are remembered for long and outstanding management. L.E. (Pete) De Camp, William Ohmsieder and Kurt Hansen. The bricks manufactured at the present facility are shipped to every part of the United States. It is one of three large modern brick factories remaining in the state of Iowa.

### COMMUNITY

**By Lindsey Giardino** 

### FIRST ADM Gala will benefit athletics

Booster Club launches fundraising event.

On Saturday, Oct. 14, the ADM Athletic Booster Club will host its First Annual ADM Gala at The Rewind Hotel in West Des Moines.

This semi-formal. adult-only event will begin at 5:30 p.m. and include a meal prepared by Johnny's Italian Steakhouse, a variety



of games and contests, a silent auction, and live music by the band Birdchild. All proceeds from ticket sales, games and auction items will benefit the ADM Athletic Booster Club.

"In addition to the profits, we are looking forward to this event bringing our community together," says Kelly Shull, the club's president.

ADM Athletic Booster Club supports all 19 school-sponsored teams at ADM, including volleyball, football, basketball, wrestling, cheer, dance, cross country, track, esports, golf, soccer, softball, baseball, and the strength and conditioning program.

"So, we reach a lot of students," Shull says. "Annually, the Booster Club receives requests from coaches for equipment, uniforms, facility upgrades, travel expenses and a variety of other items. Then, together with our athletic director, our board and sport representatives for each team, we distribute funds to fulfill as many requests as possible."

Shull explains that, since there are some things that school funds cannot be used for, the Booster Club plays a big role in providing the extras to help give student athletes and Tiger teams an edge.

Tickets for the gala can be purchased at admboosterclub.org/ shop. People who have items or services available to donate to the auction can let the Booster Club know through the Contact Us form on the website.

Local residents can also support the Booster Club at any time by purchasing a business or personal membership, which start at \$25 and are the primary source of funds for the organization.

As for the gala, "This is the first time the ADM Booster Club has organized this type of event, but we really hope to make it an annual event that members of the community look forward to every year," says Shull.

### **NEWS BRIEF**

### **IOWA** Spring acquires Northeast Spring

Iowa Spring announced that it has acquired Northeast Spring of Reading, Pennsylvania. The acquisition of Northeast Spring closed on Sept. 15 and expands Iowa Spring's growing presence as the premier supplier of precision-made springs for the overhead door, construction, agriculture, and recreational equipment industries across the globe.

Northeast Spring is a family owned and operated business that has supplied springs for more than 25 years. Primarily serving the overhead door industry, Northeast Spring operations include both its Reading, Pennsylvania, headquarters as well its Villa Rica, Georgia, facility. The company name and management team will remain intact with founder John O'Leary remaining onboard for the next three years to ensure a smooth transition.

Following the acquisition, Iowa Spring President and CEO Tim Bianco will oversee operations of Northeast Spring in addition to its three existing facilities: the original Iowa Spring facility, its recent 55,000-square-foot nearby expansion facility, and its sister company Southern Atlantic Spring of Granite Quarry, North Carolina.

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### CHAMBER NEWS By Jackie Wilson

### **UPTOWN** Vintage Market

License plate art, unique finds



Owners Matt and Mica Roundcount opened Uptown Vintage Market, 109 Nile Kinnick, in what was once a service station just southeast of the courthouse.

Vintage finds, such as furniture, toys, petroliana and industrial items have found their way to a perfect — and also vintage — location in Adel.

Uptown Vintage Market, located at 109 Nile Kinnick, is housed in a 1950s service station just southeast of the courthouse.

Owners Matt and Mica Roundcount opened the place in July of this year. The couple hail from southern Illinois where they began collecting different vintage items and repurposed them, such as turning an old pinball machine into a coffee table.

One unique find is Matt's license plate art. He creates wall hangings using plates including the ADM Tiger logo, as well as other images. These popular pieces are one of their signature offerings.

Over the past 12 years, they've had two previous store locations. When they moved to Adel four years ago, it was for job opportunities. A desire to get back into the vintage offerings meant opening up their Adel location.

"We wanted to invest in the community," says Mica. "We thought the old service station could be a great storefront. We've retained the service station vibe, the check-out counter is from an old workbench in the back, and the original tire racks are display shelves."

While they were renovating the store, Deb Bengtson with the Adel Partners Chamber of Commerce stopped by. "She introduced herself and talked about the chamber," recalls Matt.

The couple joined the chamber shortly after their opening. "We've seen things on Facebook and their website and how active the chamber is for promoting small businesses. The chamber is great at supporting the overall community as well," says Mica. After opening, Uptown Vintage Market was featured on the Adel Chamber Facebook page. "We saw a nice increase already with people coming in for items. This will help with expanding our customer base and what we offer," says Mica.

Mica cites their welcoming neighbors, Azalea Lane, Real Deals, Morning Grind and A You're Adorable. "We all bring something different to downtown. All the unique businesses help bring in more foot traffic. We also appreciate support from other Adel businesses, TJ Concrete LLC and Lenhart Plumbing, who helped us get up and running."

The couple chose Adel for its schools to raise their two children. They've immersed themselves in the community and school activities.

"We're excited for the growth and the future. Adel is a hidden gem," says Mica. "If you're a business owner, reach out to the chamber. It's definitely worthwhile."

Information provided by Adel Partners Chamber of Commerce, 301 S. 10th St., Adel, 515-993-5472.

### **OUT & ABOUT**



A ribbon cutting was held for Uptown Vintage Market by The Adel Partners Chamber of Commerce on Sept. 21.



Suzanne, Evan and Madelyn Roundcount at the ribbon cutting for Uptown Vintage Market held by The Adel Partners Chamber of Commerce on Sept. 21.



John McAvoy and Adel Mayor Jim Peters at the ribbon cutting for Uptown Vintage Market held by The Adel Partners Chamber of Commerce on Sept. 21.



Uptown Vintage Market owners, Mica and Matt Roundcount, at the ribbon cutting for Uptown Vintage Market held by The Adel Partners Chamber of Commerce on Sept. 21.



Kevin Howe and Tim Canney at the ribbon cutting for Uptown Vintage Market held by The Adel Partners Chamber of Commerce on Sept. 21.



Officials break ground on the new Dallas County Administration Building in Adel on Aug. 29.



Dallas County Supervisor Kim Chapman addresses the crowd at the Dallas County Administration Building groundbreaking in Adel on Aug. 29.



Jodi Kuhse presented ADM Student of the Month certificates to Sydney Kuhse and Elaina Dohlman at the Sept. 12 Kiwanis club meeting.



The Adel Kiwanis Club donated \$6,250 to the Adel Good Samaritan Food Pantry on Sept. 12. The money will specifically fund the Food Pantry Kids Backpack Program.

### **OUT & ABOUT**

### MARCHING Band

The ADM Tiger Marching Band performed during the football game on Sept. 15.



Adele Jorgensen



Caleb Oelberg



Charlotte Reynolds



Garrett Bonus



Luke Yanacheak



Jacob Dugan



Kaylin Dains



Keegan Holdmeyer



Kennedy Metzger



Kenny Steenhoek



Meredith Maddy



### UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS:

• Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2023 at 6:00pm \*For additional meeting dates/times, meeting information, or to subscribe for email notifications when Agendas are posted for City Council meetings please visit www.adeliowa.org/agendas-minutes/

#### **REMINDERS & CLOSURES:**

- Adel City Hall will be closed to the public on Monday, October 9th, 2023.
- OUTSIDE DEDUCT METERS: All outside deduct meters MUST be brought into City Hall during the month of October for the annual read to receive a credit. Any meters not read in the month of October will not receive a credit and will be considered discontinued.
- Yard Waste Pickup started Tuesday, April 4th and will continue every Tuesday through mid-November. Please make sure yard waste is either in a garbage can labeled "Yard Waste" or a paper bag. Tree limbs need to be bundled and no longer than 4 ft.



#### **BEGGARS NIGHT 2023**

Thank you to all the residents that participated in the poll to help the City decide what date to hold the annual Beggars Night. Based on the community's responses, **Beggars Night 2023 will be held on Saturday, October 28th from 6:00-8:00 p.m.** 

#### For more information and to register, visit adel.activityreg.com

**OVER 30 MEN'S BASKETBALL LEAGUE** – Sunday evenings, November 5 – January 28. Games are held at the District Administration Center (DAC) gym. \$25 per person fee includes t-shirt. Registration deadline is October 21st.



**OCTOBER 2023** 

**PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST** - Make a Jack-O-Lantern masterpiece and take a spooky picture with it. Submit your photo by email to rdillinger@adeliowa.org. Please include name and contact phone number. Free program. Photo deadline is October 31st.

**1ST/2ND GRADE BASKETBALL** – Practices will begin week of Oct. 16. Games held at Adel on Saturdays Nov-Dec. \$60 fee includes t-shirt. Registration deadline is October 6th.

3RD-6TH GRADE BASKETBALL – Practices will begin week of Dec.4. Games held in Adel and other area towns on Saturdays Jan. 6-Feb. 17.\$70 fee includes t-shirt. Registration deadline November 24th.

**OPEN GYM** - Recreational open gym time at the ADM District Administration Center Gym. 9-11am Monday, Wednesday, Friday, November – March.

**THANKSGIVING FREE-THROW TURKEY TOSS** - Each team must consist of one parent and one child from the same family. Teams will shoot 30 free throws (15 per person) from the free throw line. Competition divided up into 5 age divisions. The winning teams receive a gift certificate for a free turkey! Held at the District Administration Center Gym on November 18 at 2:00 pm. Free drop in program.

### **GET TO KNOW...**

What is your title? Detective/Lieutenant

What is your past work experience? 10+ years City of Adel Police Dept, Corrections with the Dallas County & Polk County Sheriffs Office, 9 years with Army/Army National Guard.



How long have you been working for City of Adel? Since June 2013.

What are you excited about for your

**department's future plans?** Growth and development of staff and continued community engagement.

What is a hobby you enjoy? Riding motorcycles and traveling.

#### HOME FOOTBALL GAMES

During Friday Night Home Football games, victory cannon will be let off as ADM Tigers celebrate victories.

### JOB OPENINGS WITH CITY OF ADEL

Visit adeliowa.org/permitsand-forms/employmentapplication/ for all our current job openings with the City of Adel.

### CITY HALL

Administration Public Works Compliance Officer Parks and Recreation

> 301 S. 10th St. P.O. Box 248 515-993-4525

M-Th 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. F 7:30 a.m. – noon www.adeliowa.org

### **PUBLIC SAFETY** Police and Fire Depts.

102 S. 10th St. P.O. Box 127 515-993-6723 M-F 8:30 a.m. - noon and 12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. EMERGENCY - DIAL 911

### LIBRARY

303 S. 10th St. 515-993-3512 M-Th 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. F 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Sat. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. www.adelpl.org

#### UTILITY PHONE PAYMENTS 866-229-7831

#### **OTHER NUMBERS**

Aquatic Center 515-993-5246

Ankeny Sanitation 515-964-5229

S. Dallas Co. Landfill 515-993-3148

### ADEL CITY COUNCIL

Mayor James F. Peters 515-993-4436 Mayor Pro Tem Shirley McAdon 515-993-4862 Bob Ockerman 515-238-9835 Jodi Selby 515-657-1315 Rob Christensen 515-478-3260 Dan Miller 515-979-6119

www.adeliowa.org



www.adelwintersettv.com

515-462-2939