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HISTORY

OYSTERS AND ICE CREAM: ADEL'S EARLY RESTAURANTS

BY MIKE FLINN

From its earliest years, Adel has been blessed with many places to dine. The earliest reference to an eating establishment I could find was in a business directory, dated February 1867, that lists a Williams and Perry Oyster Saloon. Why oysters? Previous to this time, oysters were considered rich man's fare. However, they became so abundant in the late 1800s that America was swept up in the midst of a "great oyster craze."

An array of eating establishments followed the oyster saloon. The City Restaurant was around for many years. It was first mentioned in December 1890 as having fresh celery and oysters constantly on hand. By 1894, City Restaurant was boasting its "bakery and restaurant, a specialty in cigars tobacco and confectionary, fruits, fancy groceries,



oysters, and lunch at all hours." Jay Tice was listed as proprietor and James Edwards as manager.

The Little Gem Restaurant, in a January 1894 advertisement, claimed "solid bulk oysters — no water. I.G. Lambert proprietor."

The G.A.R. Restaurant is also first mentioned in 1894. It may have operated out of the G.A.R. Hall (A Civil War veterans' group). Meals

could be had at all times. By June of 1894, J.S. Crummer had purchased the G.A.R. from a Mr. Bunce and renamed it the Guard Restaurant.

In the great fire of October 1894, the Little Gem and the City Restaurant went up in smoke. Nearly a block of buildings was destroyed altogether and \$60,000 in loss estimated. With its two competitors out of business, newspapers reported "the Guard Restaurant has had quite an accession of customers." Both the Little Gem and City Restaurant were soon back in business, however.

It appears that, around 1896 or 1897, Jay Tice of the City Restaurant started a new restaurant. The Adelphia Restaurant, Jay Tice proprietor, advertised "The finest line of candies in town. The bon

OYSTERS, CONTINUED ON BACK

ADEL WEATHER FORECAST

FRIDAY HIGH 85 | LOW 64

Less humid; plenty of sunshine

**SATURDAY HIGH 88 | LOW 73**

Partly cloudy; a.m. t-storms

**SUNDAY HIGH 93 | LOW 72**

Cloudy and windy; a.m. t-storms

**MONDAY HIGH 95 | LOW 73**

Mostly sunny, windy and hot

**TUESDAY HIGH 86 | LOW 63**

Partly cloudy; p.m. t-storms



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dan.juffer@dmccityview.com



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FROM THE PUBLISHER

THE SCENTS OF SUMMER

Has summer started? That depends on whom you ask. The official astronomical start of the summer season is June 20, but the meteorological start was June 1. For most of us, when the kids are out of school, that's when summer begins. No more teachers. No more books. At least that's what Alice Cooper said.

But there are some other signs of summer, too, and they come from what we sense in our olfactory system. Yes, the scents of summer.

My friend Brent recently told me how he enjoys the smell of lake water, as it takes him back to the days of his youth at Okoboji.

Others think the smell of chlorine in a swimming pool is a definite sign that summer has begun. I don't know if the summer sun on concrete has a scent, but what I recall of it, combined with

the pool chlorine, takes me right back to my youthful days at the pool.

On a related note, when the scent of coconut hits, someone nearby is typically applying sunscreen — or mixing a Malibu Rum drink.

I wrote last week about s'mores, and those of you who connected with that may also connect the smell of a campfire with summer. And that smell sticks with you — or at least with your clothes.

For me, the smell of freshly cut and slightly damp grass is the scent of summer, at least in June. Mowing dry grass in August is a different smell altogether.

My mother had peonies planted around our yard, and that scent continues to be memorable for me, especially when I got too close to them with the lawn



mower.

Whenever I catch a whiff of meat cooking on the grill, I look around to see where it is coming from. The old saying, "Where there's smoke, there's fire" may hold true, but I prefer, "Where there's smoke, there are cheeseburgers."

And, finally, who can forget the earthy smell of rain when it first hits dry ground? Scientists call that geosmin. I call it another wonderful scent of summer.

How about you? What scents remind you of summer? Send me a note and let me know.

Have a great week, and thanks for reading. ■



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SUMMER FOOD TRUCK AND LIVE MUSIC

Country Lane Lodge, 29300 Prospect Circle, Adel, is hosting its Summer Food Truck and Live Music events Wednesdays from 5-8 p.m. Admission is free. Yard games and full bar are available. The lineup includes:

June 12: Reese's Roadside Eats and Treats with music by Dustin Baird

June 19: Sticky Fingers and Whip Delight with music by Corey Jamison

June 26: General Lee's Smoke Stack and Outside Scoop with music by Josh Sinclair

July 3: Harrington's Dining Car and Totally Rolled Ice Cream with music by Brian Congdon

July 10: Hungry Boys Mexican and Whip Delight with music by Luke Fox

July 17: Chick-Fil-A and Street Sweets with music by Brian Herrin

July 24: Nina's Tacos with music by Brian Allen

July 31: What the Fries and Totally Rolled Ice Cream with music by Jake Schrodt

Aug. 7: Off the Griddle and Outside Scoop with music by Neva Alden

Aug. 14: Brick & Ember Pizza Co. and Street Sweets with music by Lucas Beebe

Aug. 21: Magoo's Pizza and Kona Ice with music by Brian Allen

Aug. 28: Zipp's Pizza and Kona Ice with music by Corey Jamison ■

SAND VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

A sand volleyball tournament for ages 18 and older will be held Saturday, Aug. 10, starting at 1 p.m. at Evan's Park. Cost is \$100 per team. The tournament is sponsored by the ADM Volleyball program. For information, email trevor.irwin@admschools.org. ■

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ADM SPORTS SCHEDULE



Saturday, June 15

9 a.m. **Baseball:** Varsity Tournament @ Glenwood

Monday, June 17

10 a.m. **Baseball:** 9th @ Carroll

5 p.m. **Softball:** Varsity @ Urbandale

3 p.m. **Softball:** JV @ Urbandale

5 p.m. **Softball:** Varsity @ Urbandale

Tuesday, June 18

10 a.m. **Baseball:** 9th @ Carlisle

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DALLAS COUNTY DATA

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NEEDS LIST FOR VETERANS AT THE DES MOINES VA HOSPITAL

Since federal funds may not be used to purchase personal items for veterans at VA Hospitals, American Legion Auxiliary Units like Adel ALA Unit 464 step forward to collect clothing and other items needed by veterans in the Des Moines VA Hospital or in their domicile. Currently, the following are being requested: men's sweatpants/athletic pants (size S-XXL), men's sweatshirts (size S-XXXL), men's athletic shorts (size S-XXL), men's underwear (size S-L), shampoo, large-print books, individually wrapped snacks, and decaf ground coffee.

Donations can be dropped off at 1305 S. 15th St., Adel, or contact Shirley McAdon at 515-993-4862 for pick up. ■

THIRD MONDAY BINGO

Enjoy Bingo on Monday, June 17, 6-8 p.m. at the Masonic Lodge, 411 S. 12th St., Adel. Seventeen games (\$0.25/card) plus an 18th Progressive Blackout (\$1/card) will be held. Packaged snacks and non-alcoholic drinks will be available. Bring a dauber if you have one. They will also be for sale. ■

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BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

A birthday party will be held in honor of Mike Flinn's 80th birthday on June 16, 2-4 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church, 602 S. 14th St. in Adel. ■

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL

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

ADEL PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS

303 S 10th St., Adel • 515-993-3512 • adelpl.org

- **50s Plus Senior Gathering**, June 18, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 - ***Reader's Theater Camp** (grades 2-5), June 17-21, 10 a.m. to noon every day
 - **Reader's Theater Performance**, June 21 at noon
 - ***Family Program: Exploring the Land Down Under** (ages 5 and older), June 17, 2 p.m.
 - **Teen Book Club: "Mortal Engines"** (grades 6-12), June 20, 1-3:30 p.m.
 - ***Library D&D** (grades 7-12), June 21, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 - **Reading is G.R.A.N.D. with Juggler Dan Kirk** (family event), June 24, 1 p.m.
 - ***Pokémon Training Camp** (grades 2-5), June 25, 2 p.m.
 - **Teen: Boba Tea & Manga** (grades 6-12), June 27, 1-3 p.m.
 - **Family Bluey Party** (3-8 years and family), June 29, 9:30-11:30 a.m. ■
- *Programs with an asterisk require registration. You can easily register at adelpl.org.*

CRAIG MORGAN FEATURED AT DALLAS COUNTY FAIR

Craig Morgan with opening act Ashley Barron will perform at the Dallas County Fair Saturday, July 13, at the South Arena at the Dallas County Fairgrounds, Adel. Opening act starts at 7 p.m. with Morgan at 8:30 p.m. Admission is \$25 until July 1 when tickets will be \$35. Tickets can be ordered through a link at www.dallascountyfair.com. ■

SWEET CORN 5K RUN/WALK

Registration is open for the Sweet Corn 5K Run/Walk to be held Aug. 10. The race will take place along the scenic brick streets of Adel. Register at <https://runsignup.com/Race/IA/Adel/AdelSweetCornFestival5K>. ■

ADEL FARMER'S MARKET

The Adel Farmer's Market is held at the Dallas County Fairgrounds on Tuesdays from 4-7 p.m. ■

ADM FREE MEALS FOR KIDS

ADM Community Schools is offering free meals to those 18 and younger now through July 26, Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to noon at Adel Elementary cafeteria, 1608 Grove St. This is dine-in only. Enter through the preschool doors. A grab-and-go breakfast for the following day will be available Monday through Thursday and grab-and-go meal packs will be available on Fridays. The meal program will not be held July 4 and July 5. ■

TAKING NEW PATIENTS

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EVENTS IN THE AREA

EMAIL YOUR EVENT INFORMATION TO
TAMMY@IOWALIVINGMAGAZINES.COM**REO SPEEDWAGON
WITH NIGHT RANGER****June 21, 6:30 p.m.****Lauridsen Amphitheater, Des Moines Water
Works Park, 2251 George Flagg Parkway
dsmwaterworkspark.com****CITYVIEW'S SUMMER STIR
- DOWNTOWN DES MOINES****Friday, June 21, 5-9 p.m.****Court Avenue District, downtown Des Moines**

CITYVIEW's traveling cocktail party is back in downtown Des Moines. Sample many of summer's finest drinks at some of the area's best bars and restaurants. Try 10 different drinks for only \$25 with your online order (\$30 at the door). For more information and for tickets, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cityviews-summer-stir-2024-downtown-des-moines-tickets-875340997487?aff=oddtcreator>.

CAJUN FEST**June 22****Cowles Commons****221 Walnut St., Des Moines****www.cajunfestiowa.com**

Get ready to put some south in your mouth. The self-proclaimed Mardi Gras of the Midwest is an all-day celebration of Cajun culture, from food to music and back to food again.

IOWA TAKE STEPS WALK**June 22, 9 a.m.****Iowa State Capitol Grounds**

The public is invited to join the Iowa Take Steps Walk to benefit the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation. The event starts at 9 a.m. to a ribbon cutting ceremony at 10 a.m. Learn more at cctakesteps.org.

**JASPER WINERY
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES****June 27****2400 George Flagg Parkway, Des Moines****www.jasperwinery.com**

When the warm weather rolls in, Jasper Winery welcomes all for its Summer Concert Series, occurring Thursdays from 6-9 p.m., May through August. Bring your lawn chair, listening ears, appetites and thirst. Damon Dotson Band will be performing June 27.

ANKENY PRIDE CELEBRATION**June 22, 4-9 p.m.****Ankeny Market and Pavilion, 715 W. First St.**

This will be the third installment of this event with parade, food, fun and festivities throughout the evening. Visit www.ankenypride.org for more information.

IOWA REPTILE SHOW**June 23, opens at 10 a.m.****Hilton Garden Inn****205 S. 64th St., West Des Moines.**

Speak directly with some of the top reptile breeders with access to thousands of reptiles, amphibians, feeders, invertebrates, supplies and more available to the public. ■

RECIPE

CAP THE NIGHT WITH A BROWN SUGAR DELIGHT

(Family Features) These Brown Sugar Meringues provide bursting summertime flavor in a little, handheld bite. They're ideal for sharing with loved ones after a weekend barbecue or birthday celebration and, with just a few ingredients, they're as easy to make as they are to enjoy.

To help bake this delicious dessert, you can trust Domino to deliver quality, consistency and results that only a century of experience can bring. Its Light Brown Sugar offers a buttery, caramel flavor, making it a perfect choice for sweets of all kinds. ■

BROWN SUGAR MERINGUES

Prep time: 20 minutes

Cook time: 1 hour, plus 1 hour rest time

Yield: 3 dozen meringues

Ingredients:

- Water
- 6 large egg whites, at room temperature
- 1 cup Domino Light Brown Sugar
- 3/4 cup Domino Granulated Sugar Easy Baking Tub
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons Domino Turbinado Sugar (optional)

Directions:

Preheat oven to 225 F. Line three baking sheets with parchment paper. Set aside.

Pour 1 inch of water into medium saucepan and heat it until simmering. In heat-proof bowl, mix egg whites, brown sugar, granulated sugar and salt. Put bowl on top of saucepan and warm mixture until it reaches 125 F. Stir continuously and make sure mixture does not touch water.

Carefully remove from heat. Using electric mixer,



beat mixture at high speed 8-10 minutes. Transfer meringue into piping bag fitted with star tip. Pipe 12 meringues per baking sheet.

Sprinkle turbinado sugar on top of meringues, if desired. Bake 1 hour. Turn off oven and allow meringues to rest inside oven 1 hour. Remove from oven and enjoy.

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DALLAS COUNTY CONSERVATION

To register for events, visit www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation, click on "Public Programs" and scroll down to see program descriptions and to register. If you don't have computer access or need assistance, call the DCCB office at 515-465-3577.

SUMMER YOUTH VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Tuesdays, through July 9, 8 a.m. to noon

Voas Nature Area, 19286 Lexington Road, Minburn

Are you interested in a meaningful summer of service in the outdoors? This program is for students ages 10-14. The group will work on a savanna restoration project that began seven years ago. There will be an educational component and plenty of time to enjoy nature play. Registration required. Space is limited. Register if you know you can attend the majority of dates. For more information, email mike.havlik@dallascountyiowa.gov or call the DCCB office at 515-465-3577.

SUMMER SOLSTICE SUNSET CELEBRATION

Thursday, June 20, 8-9 p.m.

Hanging Rock, Redfield

Join DCCB naturalists at the astronomical clock atop the ridge at Hanging Rock to observe and celebrate the sunset of Summer Solstice. The meaning of the word "solstice" is "sol," sun, and "stice," to stand still. Perhaps the frenetic pace of your life could use a little stand-still time. Explore metering time in a different scale, a clock made of rocks, and enjoy the magic of a sunset. No registration required. ■

OYSTERS, FROM FRONT

bons at the Adelphia Restaurant will make the finest kind of Christmas present."

Another name that first appeared in 1898 was the Oxford Restaurant, which specialized in ice cream. "You can't please your girl better than to take her to the Oxford Ice Cream Parlors" claimed J.L. Johns, proprietor. Remember, this was before electricity, so the ice cream maker was hand cranked, and the ice had to be saved from last winter. The milk or cream would probably have been fresh from a nearby farm. Can't

you just taste it? And for only 5 cents a dish.

With a new name and new management, The Star Restaurant, located two doors north of the post office, offered confectionery, bread and pastry, canned goods, oysters (of course) and tobacco.

Finnegan's Restaurant claimed to be the best place to buy bread, and, in that same 1901 newspaper, it was proclaimed that the Columbian Restaurant, next door west of the Leader on Main Street, was now open. "We will serve you oysters of any style."

Next: early 1900s eateries. ■

CLASSIFIED ADS

HELP WANTED: Lube Tech & Tire Tech Openings. M-F, 8-4. Competitive wages. Stop by Alley Auto in Adel or call Jim at 515-490-5403.

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

LOOKING TO BUY VINYL RECORDS: Paying cash for 60's-90's rock, blues, country and jazz. Call Brian at 515-326-5033.

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