

HUMBOLDT NOW!

Volume 7 • • Issue 8 • • August 2016

! Iowa Tree Service

! On the go

! Ford's Chevy Caprice

! Hungry in Humboldt... Unkies

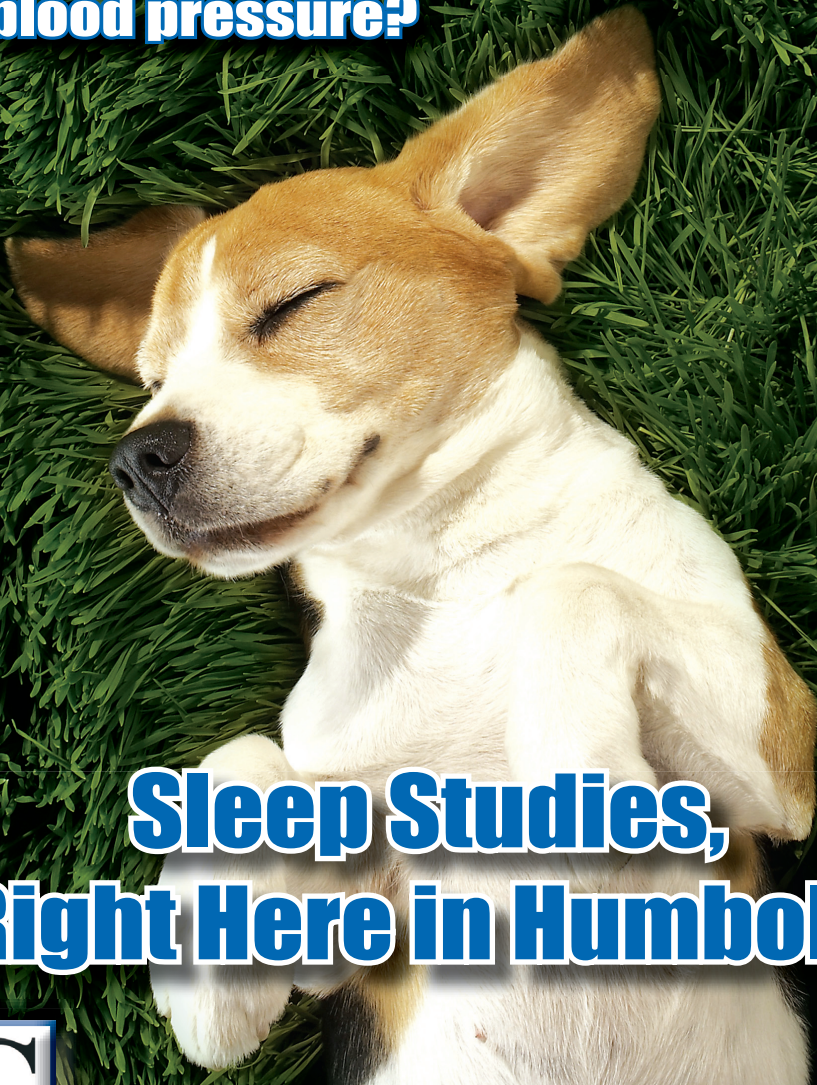
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Humboldt NOW!
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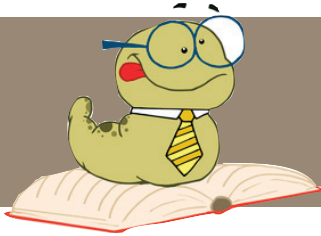


On the cover: Wildflowers along the Cottonwood Trail. Photo by Jen Jensen.

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THE BOOKWORM!

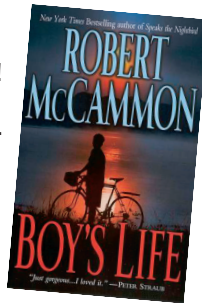
My "To Read" List

By Demi Johnson, Humboldt Public Library Director



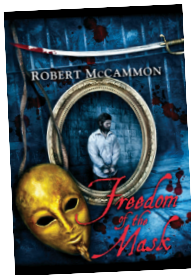
I thought I might shake things up a bit with you this month and rather than talk about a book that I want you to read, I am going to tell you about a few books that are on my "To Read" List.

I want to reread *Boy's Life* by Robert McCammon, for the third time. I love this book; it may be one of my absolute favorites! (But I do have a lot of those and they change from moment to moment.) Many reviews for *Boy's Life* begin with "The best book I have ever read." This is the 25th anniversary of the publishing of *Boy's Life*.



"Both a mystery that will satisfy the most finicky aficionado and a boisterous travelogue through a stormy season in a 12-year-old's life, this novel follows a boy and his father as they seek a killer in 1964 Alabama." *Publishers Weekly*.

This wonderful coming of age tale takes place in Zephyr, AL, in 1964, a young man named Cory Mackenson will melt your heart and keep you smiling and pondering dreamily long after you have finished this masterpiece. Cory has a little piece of every young man I fell in love with. This brilliantly written book contains many life lessons, most importantly being imagination.



Freedom of the Mask is Robert McCammon's newest book.

"The year is 1703, and Matthew Corbett, professional "problem solver," is missing. Last seen by his friends in New York before he departed on a lucrative, seemingly straightforward mission for the Herral Agency in Charles Town, he's been too long absent. His comrade-



Last but not least on my list is *Playing with Fire*, by Tess Gerritsen, why? Because Jenny Boswell told me to!

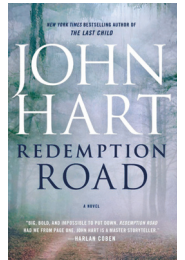
"Compelling . . . I defy you to read the first chapter and not singe your fingers reading the rest."—David Baldacci

Need a little something to spice up your summer reading list? Stop by and check out a little sizzle at your library. **LA**

in-arms, Hudson Greathouse, has an increasing sense the young friend he thinks of as a son must have met with some unexpected peril."

This is a series, but a good author will have written each book in the series as a stand-alone and properly fill you in on what you need to know.

Redemption Road by John Hart. I have not read many novels by John Hart, but the ones I have read I have really enjoyed especially, *The King of Lies*, *Down River*, *The Last River*, and *Iron House* are others you should consider reading. John Hart is the only author in history to have won the Edgar Award for consecutive novels, 2006 *The King of Lies* and 2007 *Down River*. Hart is a southern writer, and I can imagine you have picked up from reading my reviews, I do love Southern writers.



I started listening to *Redemption Road* on audio as I gave the book away to someone who wanted to read it even more than I did. Hart is often compared to the author, James Lee Burke, whom I have written a couple of reviews for, both spinning their tales with such beautiful atmospheric prose.

"John Hart loves the terrain where good people tough by nature or circumstance try to set things right while also rarely asking for help." After one disc, I have already gasped out loud and had to remind myself to breathe. I am going to wager this will be unrelenting suspense.



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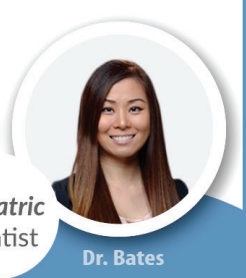
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With eyes wide shut

By Vivien Aasland Hansen



It's happening! Everyday, another reminder! Whole chunks of the social planks of our history platform are dropping out, disappearing! I'm talking about "then and now," relating to the younger generation, understanding each other. Some examples follow. Try talking about "the milkman." The WHAT? Explain that he (never she) delivered milk to the door. That milk was in glass bottles, not

cartons or plastic jugs, that the bottles were sterilized and used over and over. Here you can insert (brag) that we were great recyclers! Now throw in the word "cream" and how it rose to the top! Bewilderment! But how could they know?

A few years ago I was addressing envelopes at work in the library, a kid about 12 comes by, stops, stares and says, "What is that thing?" A TYPEWRITER! My "Grands" are fascinated and happily pound away on my very nice typewriter, which, when purchased was state of the art, top of the line! I haven't bothered to educate them about carbon paper or white-out.

Words come and go, change and drop out of use. Being called a Yankee for the first time was unsettling to me. I had just finished an interview for a teaching position in Charleston, SC. The principal looked up and said, "We don't have many Yankee teachers here." I was astounded! I knew about the Civil War, but that was history to me - - not to them! Still isn't. At least he didn't use the word *cracker*! I was hired. It was perplexing for relatives, when they came to visit in Charleston, to read the words on a laundromat window in the South in the mid 1960s, "NO COLORED." They wondered, why no colored clothes could be washed there? Iowa naiveté!

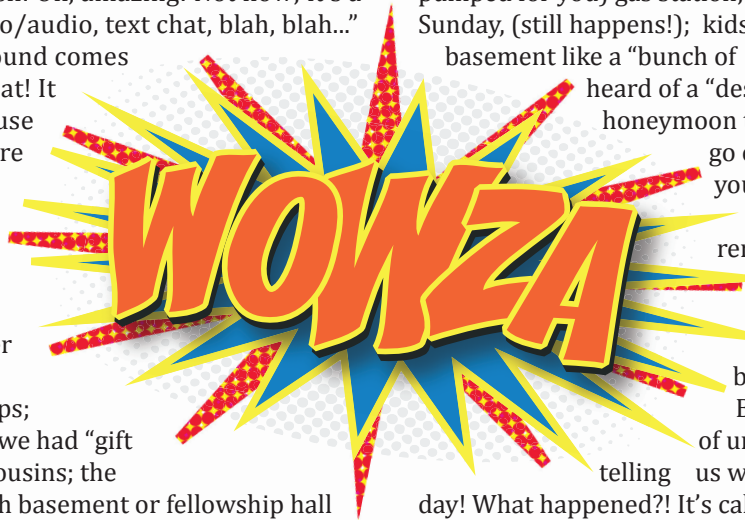
Here are some words to toss to your "little people:" GO APE, COW CHIPS, SPUTNIK, WPA, 8 TRACK TAPES, TV DINNERS ON TV TRAYS, BURNING RUBBER, TANG, COOK STOVE, THUNDER MUG, BOOGIE (not found in your nose!) HOME PERM, AIR RAID, PANTY RAID! (No! I just added that last one for fun!)

The mystified look, the sorry glaze of their eyes, the



inching away! It has always been around. When did we learn what “isinglass” was? Or “flapper;” or “WOWZA!” Sure, we thought – Oh, gosh! Oh, amazing! Not now; it’s a “whole media server, video/audio, text chat, blah, blah...” Huh? Well, what “goes around comes around.” But do not say that! It is too hard to explain! To use a quote, “Children today are tyrants. They contradict their parents, gobble their food and tyrannize their teachers.” (Socrates, 470 BC)


Now let’s play Remember When: Sunday afternoon drives to check out the crops; wedding receptions when we had “gift openers,” usually special cousins; the reception was in the church basement or fellowship hall and “waitresses,” (more young cousins!) wearing special, frilly little aprons, scurried around, offering more cake and coffee or took your plate, (it was a honor to be asked!); high school graduation when we had the special, solemn service of “baccalaureate” beforehand; confirmation and graduation gatherings held at *home*; receiving a Bulova watch for confirmation and a clock radio for graduation; you bought the new car yourself, after you’d saved enough money, after



you’d helped pay for college, after you’d found a job; having a running account at the grocery store; a full service (gas pumped for you) gas station; sitting in the same pew every Sunday, (still happens!); kids running around in the church basement like a “bunch of little heathens!” We never heard of a “destination” wedding.” Maybe a honeymoon to Wisconsin, but really?! I could go on, but you can think of more on your own.

If they would just watch reruns of “Happy Days” or even “Little House on the Prairie,” they could learn sooo much! Is it too late? Have we already been “Back to the Future?” Better practice the nod, the look of understanding when they start telling us what they learned in school that day! What happened?! It’s called “generation gap,” or “social change,” our society becoming so P C we are not supposed to call out bad behavior or point out wrongs. Fragile psyches, you know. No more running with May baskets or bringing cupcakes to school when you turn 8, either! . . . sigh . . .

Guess I’ll get off this contraption called a computer and make my destination the kitchen to stir up some homemade treats and offer them to all who *DARE* eat them! ■



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August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	EVERY MONDAY Board of Supervisors - 8:30AM Humboldt City Council - 5:30PM	ST. MARY SCHOOL REGISTRATION 8 & 9 • 8AM-5PM		School Registration MS Cafeteria - 8AM-6PM	- IOWA SALES TAX HOLIDAY - H-DC Chamber 2016 Golf Outing Humboldt Country Club	THAT DAM SKUNK RACE Reasoner Dam - Rutland Dam - 8AM
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
7 ROTARY FLY-IN BREAKFAST Humboldt Airport - 7AM-NOON			Dakota City City Council - 7PM		EVERY SATURDAY 8AM-NOON DOWNTOWN HUMBOLDT	Fun Hog Tourney Humboldt Country Club
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Humboldt City Council - 5:30PM		GREEN RUNNERS - 6:30PM 16 NW High School Parking Lot/ Trail			FB Scrimmage Clear Lake HHS - 5:30PM	Cy-Hawk Tournament Humboldt Country Club
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
St. Mary School Open House & Potluck 	Open House MS - 5-6:30PM HS - 6-7:30PM 9th Gr. Orientation 6PM Cross Country @ IF-Alden - 5PM	FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL 		5th Gr. Computer Night - 5-6PM Humboldt Reads! Dinner & Discussion Pasquale's - 5:30PM	9th FB @ Webster City - 4:45PM Football @ Webster City - 7:30PM	Varsity VB Tournament HHS - 9AM 9th VB @ Dike-NH - 9AM
28	29	30	31			
JV FB @ Pocahontas - 6PM		 Cross Country @ Webster City - 5PM		AUGUST 27 8AM-NOON DOWNTOWN HUMBOLDT		

To submit items for the Community Calendar please email independent@humboldtnews.com or call 515.332.2514

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OUT & ABOUT!

Summerfest on Sumner Saturday, July 16

By Kent Thompson



Above: Brothers Tyler Paterson, 11, and Jacob Paterson, 6, enjoy petting "Chewbacca" a Flemish Giant who weighs 17 pounds. Try pulling that out of your hat!



Left: Charity Bork, 10, of Eagle Grove, has raised rabbits herself and know they take a lot of care and love. Donna Wood of Bradgate brought some of her show rabbits to the Humboldt Farmer's Market for the special Summerfest on Sumner, Saturday, July 16.



Six-year-old Morgan Dickey of Humboldt celebrated her birthday a few days early by playing and acting silly with the bubble wand.



The Trailblazers horse group had a stand where they sold homemade baked goods to raise money to go on trail rides, attend horse clinics and pay for entry fees for horse shows. Pictured front row from left: Abby Wickre and Bella Opheim. Back row from left: Alondra Torres and Lindsey Warren.



Right: Linda Hedglin of Ottosen offered her delicious specialty stuffed cupcakes for display and sale.



Chris Briggs offered many colorful crocheted items for sale. Popular characters are the Minions.

Below: Two-year-old Hadley Asche of Humboldt picks out the cupcakes at the Sweetest Things Bakery while mom, Mallory assists and father Jacob (not pictured) digs into his wallet.



Above: Dean Schnetzer (left) and Amy Craven (right) chat at the Summerfest on Sumner event July 16, surrounded by some interesting glassware. Right: Michael Johnson, 10, of Bode, pitched like a pro in the child's bean bag toss.



Above: Suncatchers, feathered jewelry and beads were among the items for sale in this colorful display.

The avenue wasn't so crowded at the July 16 Summerfest on Sumner that Ron Maifeld of Humboldt couldn't enjoy a stroll with his pet Shih Tzu, Sophie.



Right: A bicycle/stroller built for two fits Ada, 2, and Axel, 4, just right, as long as dad, Alex Rhead of Humboldt, provides the leg power. The children are enjoying a sucker outside of Gordy's at Rustix during the Summerfest on Sumner event recently.



Above: Pam Stalpes was one of the featured singers at Parley Finch Plaza for the special Humboldt Downtown Farmer's Market on July 16.



Ford's Chevy Caprice

By Jeff Gargano

A 1975 Chevy Caprice Classic convertible is back in the “Sugar” family after sitting in storage for more than 20 years.

And for Carolyn “Sugar” Ford, it was a no-brainer she had to buy it and bring it back into the family.

The painted robin egg blue convertible was purchased new in 1975 by Marcella Carr, who used her tip money from waitressing tables at Woods Motor Inn and the Red Rooster in Iowa Falls to buy her dream car.

Marcella's granddaughter, Pam, is married to Carolyn Ford's brother, Larry Shugar and they live on a farm near Iowa Falls.

“She had saved her tips and she wanted a convertible. Her brother was a car dealer in Hampton (Carr Chevrolet), so when she had enough

saved up she bought one through her brother,” Pam Shugar said. She was 50 when she bought the car and she had it for 29 years until she passed away in 1999.

who lived about five miles away from Larry and Pam. He put a cover over it and stored it.

“He told Larry he wanted to sell it and asked if we'd be interested. We took a look, but decided not to.

Larry and Carolyn got to talking and Carolyn likes her convertibles.

So Carolyn decided to go take a look,” Pam said.

Carolyn and her husband, John, bought it on the spot in the fall of 2015 and hauled it back to Humboldt.

“He (the seller) said I caught him at a weak moment,” Carolyn said. “It was in great shape and only had 32,000 original miles on it. Being in storage that long it needed a few things replaced.”

Hoses, plugs, points, brakes and wheel bearings were replaced. New carpet was installed along with a new trunk lining. But the original leather seats look like new. The car has air conditioning, power steering, electric windows and



Caprice Classic

The logo on the side of the car.

“She took it to parades and drove it on weekends. My grandparents weren't showy people. They were proud. I know the car was real special to her,” Pam said.

The convertible stayed in the garage during the winter and was not taken out in the rain. And after Marcella passed away, the car was sold to a guy

Right: Carolyn Ford (behind the wheel) and her sister-in-law, Pam Shuger, are pictured in a 1975 Chevrolet Caprice Classic convertible. Pam's grandmother purchased the car new, using tip money she earned. After a long absence, the car found it's way back to the family and now is owned by Carolyn and John Ford. Left: Note the fender skirts over the back tire.



powerful 350 horsepower two barrel V-8 engine.

The car measures nearly 223 inches long, the same length as a 2010 Suburban.

"It just floats down the road," John Ford said.

A scissor top operates via an engine to put up and take down the white top. The original robin egg blue exterior features a white top and white interior.

Just over 8,000 were sold in 1975, but the model is becoming more and more rare with some 1975 Chevrolet Caprice Classic convertibles selling for more than \$25,000.

"It's nice to have it back in the family," Pam said.

"It's a neat thing to have it. We only had one chance. The previous owner planned to have his son take it to Arizona where he knew it would sell quickly," Carolyn said. "It's something to enjoy, something to have fun with."

Pam said her three children and six grandchildren think it's a pretty cool vehicle.

"Carolyn said when it's time for prom it's something they can use if they want to. That's pretty neat that they'll be able to use their great, great grandma's car," Pam said.

Pam said she has good memories of the car, driving her grandmother in it to go get produce and run errands.

"It was a pretty special car to her. She worked hard for it," Pam said.

For Carolyn and John, they're part of a local convertible club and have taken it to some of the club's gatherings.

Carolyn is on her third Mustang

Right: The original white leather seats are in mint condition.



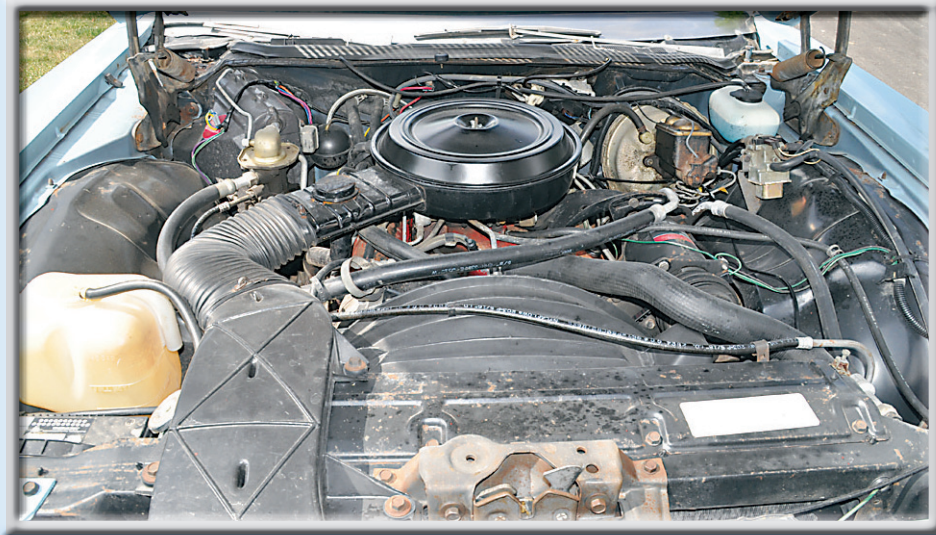
The front dash of the 1975 Chevrolet Caprice Classic convertible.





“My grandparents weren’t showy people. They were proud. I know the car was real special to her.”

The 1975 Chevrolet Caprice Classic convertible is shown in a parade in the late 1970s.



The powerful V-8 engine.



convertible, a 2015 model she drives currently. She bought her first convertible from a former student, Brian Skow, at Springvale Motors.

Carolyn taught for 30 years in the Humboldt public schools, most of which were at Taft Elementary and the remainder at Humboldt Middle School. She closed her career with three years at St. Mary School.

John retired in 2013 after 33 years in business. He owned and operated John’s Ag Service.

“This was a unique opportunity to buy the car that my sister-in-law’s grandmother bought brand new,” Ford said. “We’re enjoying ‘going for a ride in the 75.’”



Above: The car measures 222.9 inches long, the same length as a 2010 Chevrolet Suburban.

Left: Three people could fit comfortably in the trunk.

business card

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Humboldt's Fourth of July

Photos by Jeff Gargano, Jen Jensen, Phil Monson & Kent Thompson





HISTORICALLY SPEAKING!

by Carolyn Saul Logan



Ottawa Corn Sheller at Museum

The Red Barn at the Humboldt County Museum houses a range of hand corn shellers, all based on the design commonly attributed to Lester E. Denison from Middlesex County, CT. On Aug. 12, 1839, Denison was issued a patent for a freestanding, hand-operated machine that removed individual kernels of corn. The machine pulled the cob through a series of metal-toothed cylinders, which stripped, off the kernels. Not long after, other patents were granted for similar machines, sometimes having improvements over Denison's original design.

These hand-powered machines were fine for one farmer with plenty of hand labor on tap. But with the Ottawa Corn Sheller, the labor was shifted to an engine and the capacity of the machine was multiplied a hundred fold.

Look for the museum's Ottawa Model C corn sheller in the Erickson

Building. It is a huge machine, much the worse for wear, but it is still possible to trace the path of the corn through the machine and understand just how much such a machine made the job of shelling corn so much easier.

The operation of a corn sheller is similar to that of a threshing machine.

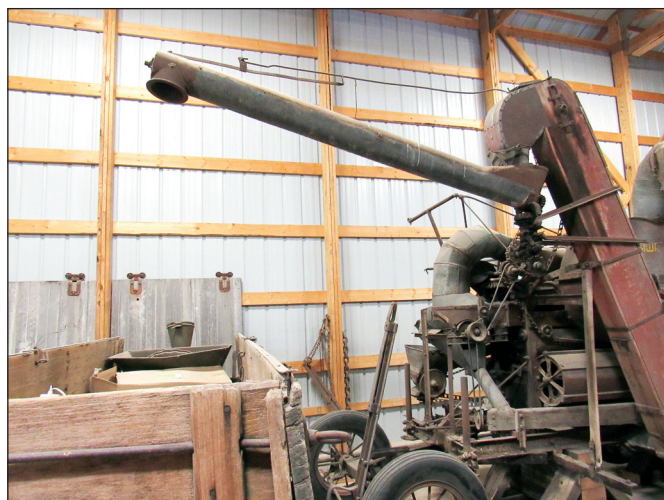
It's differences deal with the larger grain size of corn compared to wheat and other crops. Whole corn cobs are fed in. They are pulled between toothed wheels, made of metal. Each wheel spins in the opposite direction from the other. The teeth pull

Shelled corn was ejected from the sheller into a wagon.

the kernels off the cob as well as other debris.

The corn kernels fall out through a screen into a wagon placed underneath one outlet of the machine. The cob is ejected out another outlet and the chaff and other debris are blown out a third.

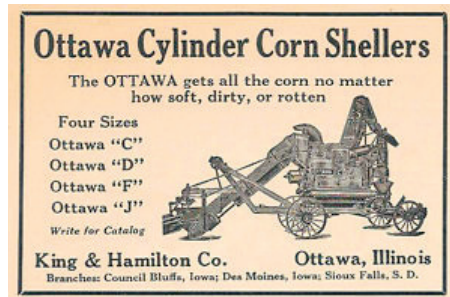
This particular machine was owned



Left: Ottawa Model C Corn Sheller in the Erickson building at the Humboldt County Museum.

and operated by Lenhard and Gilbert Holden, brothers who traveled from farm to farm in the Ottosen/ Bode area during the 1920s and '30s, shelling corn in the field. It was manufactured by the King and Hamilton Company of Ottawa, IL, before 1920.

The King and Hamilton Company started in 1868 as Gilman, King and Hamilton Company, manufacturers of farm implements including corn shellers, corn planters, and corn plows. The original office was a small, two-story, brick building erected about 1880. The company grew into larger, more impressive buildings and King and Hamilton remained in business through the 1920s. The two extant buildings of the King and Hamilton factory complex are among the few remaining structures in the Heritage Corridor associated with the manufacture of agricultural implements. **U**



Above: Ad for Ottawa Corn Shellers. Below: Hand corn sheller in the Erickson building.



Ottawa Model C corn sheller in the Museum was manufactured by the King and Hamilton Implement Company in Ottawa, IL.



Chain links that carried the corn through the sheller.



***Iowa Tree
Service
has served
Humboldt for
22 years***

Anchored with rope and harness, Jim Kvale safely trims a dead branch with a chainsaw.

By Phil Monson



Jim Kvale carefully scaled the towering tree, pulling himself up with a rope.

Within a few minutes, he was 25 feet in the air and in position to trim dead branches off a tree in south Humboldt.

Just another day at the office for Jim, who along with his wife, Nicky, have owned and operated Iowa Tree Service for the past 22 years.

"We sleep in Goldfield but we keep our equipment in Humboldt. This is our main business area where we work," Jim said. "I'd say 90 percent of our work is in Humboldt."

"We love having our business here in Humboldt. God guided us to Humboldt through this work and we have really enjoyed it and made a living doing it," Jim said.

Jim and Nicky, Wright County natives, began the business in 1995 after he had worked for another individual for three years in the tree trimming business. The experience created the vision and incentive for them to begin their venture.

"I saw there was a good opportunity for my wife and I to make a living in this business," Jim said. "At first we didn't know where the business was going to take us. We didn't know how big or small it would be, so we named it Iowa Tree Service, instead of locally or with our name on it. We give Iowa the honor instead of ourselves."

Education and safety are big with Jim and Nicky.

"Safety is priority number one. After that is education, knowing the biological process of the tree, what makes it live

and what hurts it, that's where we have educated ourselves to make our business better," Jim said. "We have taken classes through the International Society of Arborists and the Iowa State Arborists. Through these classes we have learned much."

"We attended class in Minnesota to take part in safety classes. We went to the ISA Convention in Minneapolis one year where we met people from all over the world involved in tree service. They also had tree climbing competitions, among many other activities," Jim said. "You learn so much rubbing elbows with the world of arborists," Jim said.

"Jim and I have really enjoyed having the chance to meet people from all over the world through the classes and conventions," Nicky said.

The training has helped them educate the public when customers call asking to cut down or trim a tree.

"The physical and biological efforts of the tree have to be taken into consideration if we make certain cuts on it or if they are in question as to whether or not they should save the tree," Jim said. "We are tree-friendly people. We'll tell the people if the tree is healthy enough to live its life there as a mature tree until it starts to decline and become a hazard, then you can remove the tree at that time."

"If the tree is a hazard and they are building or remodeling a home, then sometimes it is best to take a tree down so it doesn't fall onto their garage or home," Jim said. "If the tree does not need to come down, we don't want to make a fast buck and tell people it should come down. We



Nicky (left) and Jim Kvale have owned and operated Iowa Tree Service for 23 years, serving Humboldt and the surrounding area.

are honest and sincere enough to make what we feel is the best recommendation.”

Jim and Nicky see the ramifications from errors made at tree planting time.

“One of the big problems people make is planting a tree under wires or power lines. They’ll say, ‘it was only this tall when I planted it.’ So we have to work with them,” Nicky said.

“We have worked with families who planted a tree that their child brought home from school. People will name a tree. Sometimes the education doesn’t always go out with the tree when it is given away,” Nicky said.

“We place orange pylons around our trucks to keep people away when we are parked on the street for a job. But we have seen kids ride their bikes around those cones, which are the same cones used when kids take bicycle training.”

When it comes to equipment, they don’t take any shortcuts.

“We use Stihl chainsaws. We also use the best saddles and climbing gear. We use forestry rope, many more times the strength than what you can buy at a hardware store,” Jim said. “When we bought the boom truck, we bought it from a bucket/boom sales service. They tested the whole truck to make it safe and ready for use.”

“You can buy aerial trucks and bucket trucks at auctions, but you don’t know what you are getting. There is so much that can go wrong with the hydraulics or anything else that would be the mechanical part of the lift,” Jim said.

“It’s not cheap, but it is our lives that we put on the line when we use the equipment, so we use the best,” Jim said. “You can say you bought something cheap at an auction. But really, you can’t cut corners with safety.”

When Jim and his co-workers use the boom bucket, they use a lifeline to connect the bucket and boom for extra safety.

With their professional designations, Iowa Tree Service has provided consultation with malpractice situations where someone in the past misdiagnosed a tree problem, stating a tree was infested with bugs and needed to come down, despite actually being healthy. Jim is also an emerald ash borer spotter and is a consultant for Iowa State University.

“I’ve given talks to people and groups about trees. Right now the emerald ash borer is not a problem in Humboldt County. We are pretty isolated here,” Jim said.

“The only way it would get here is if someone actually brought it here, like another tree service or someone with firewood from someplace else,” Jim said.

“The ash borer is the size of Lincoln’s head on a penny. We try to educate people every year at the Humboldt Home Show,” Nicky said. “It is the larvae from the borer that kills the tree.”

Among the biggest challenges they face are removing trees off of houses after a storm. Jim has also taken down a tree that was entangled within a windmill.

“Taking trees off of houses, you should know the structure of the tree because each tree is different. A maple tree is different from a locust tree,” Jim said. “A

locust tree is different from a pine tree. You have to understand the wood structure of a tree when you take it down or take the weight of it off a building.”

“It is a lot of engineering taking a tree off of a building. We have had very good success of not damaging the house after the storm has caused the damage,” Jim said.

“I look at our business with a positive attitude in that we are helping people. You learn from your experiences,” Jim said. “You must teach yourself the tree business and keep updated by reading literature and books.”

“Cutting an oak tree for example, you don’t do it this time of the year. That is a job for winter. Once you make that cut, an insect can enter the tree and potentially cause *oak wilt* due to the weather conditions from the summer heat,” Jim said. “We work on oak trees during the cold of winter.”

“If a tree gets infected, it could be two or three years before it will show. Then people will wonder why their tree is dying,” Nicky said. “The oak wilt travels from root system to root system. It can destroy a whole grove of those trees.”

“During construction I have seen situations where people will build right by a tree and then smother the lawn with a large pile of dirt. It smothers the feeder root system. A tree will not leaf out a year later because of that,” Jim said.

“It is good to call a tree service before you do any construction to see how it may impact some trees that you want to keep. It takes years and years for a tree to grow, but not as long to kill a root system,” Nicky said. “We have seen parts of trees killed because some of the main root systems were cut.”

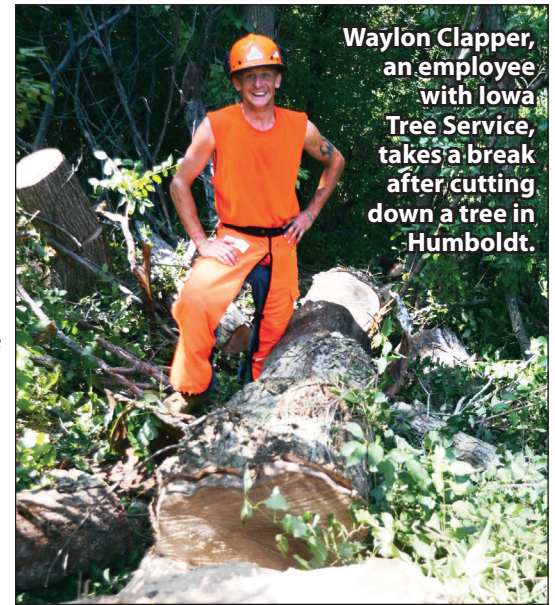
Employees in the business include

Waylon Clapper, Jacob Vote and David Decker of Humboldt.

Jim and Nicky have four grown children. Becky, the oldest, resides in Des Moines. Casey, the second-oldest, lives in Boston. Jacob lives in the immediate area and Andrea lives in Garner. They have 11 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

“We have teachers, nurses and one that works for the veterans of the United States.

Jim Kvale of Iowa Tree Service uses a “hot stick” that extends high into a tree to place a rope for climbing.



Waylon Clapper, an employee with Iowa Tree Service, takes a break after cutting down a tree in Humboldt.



We have grandchildren in all walks of life," Nicky said.

When they are not working on trees, Jim and Nicky help others through their ministry. Jim is an ordained pastor through the Christian National Church and leads worship services in Eagle Grove and Clarion at two nursing homes in those communities.

"Before I became a minister, we actually found out that people out there are interested in talking about God. I've seen the hunger in people with questions," Jim said. "I don't want to start my own church, but I want to send people back to church."

"We are non-denominational. We have all denominations of Christians taking part," Jim said. "The church is the people."

"I have met so many wonderful and different people in this business over the years," Nicky said. "You meet people where you get that one-on-one situation with them. We try to accommodate the customer and do what is best for the situation."

"This is our home and where we work - here in Humboldt. We have Humboldt businesses come to Goldfield for service work at our residence," Jim said. "But we are here most of the time. This is where we work. We support the community and school through sponsorships in the Humboldt Independent Newspaper. Humboldt has been good to us and we try to give back to the community." 📌



Jim Kvale of Iowa Tree Service begins his climb up a tree for trimming on a recent job in Humboldt.



Above: Waylon Clapper removes a stump with a grinder after a tree was cut down in the backyard of a residence in Humboldt recently. Below: Safety is rule number one with Iowa Tree Service when it comes to working at a job site.



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HUNGRY

IN HUMBOLDT

By Traci Holm

Unkie's Entertainer

Awe! Here we are. Arriving at on-the-go August. The last of the dog days of summer and doggone it where has the time gone?

Many Americans have spent hundreds of their summer hours on bleachers, in the stands or in front of their televisions watching our favorite pastime, baseball. As I write this article Wildcat boosters are beaming with pride over the Humboldt High School baseball and softball teams' conference champion titles. Cubs fans are praying that this is the year the curse is finally broken. Die-hards are just beginning to crack open their excitement as they begin their hunt for October.

Even with the hundreds of games presented to us each year we seem to yearn for more baseball. Hollywood tries to scratch our itch for more with some classic sport cinema. There were a slew of baseball films in the '80s and '90s: *The Sandlot*, *A League of their Own*, and *Eight Men Out* to name a few. As an '80s kid I remember the excitement buzzing through the state about the movie called *Field of Dreams*. A movie filmed in an Iowa corn field? Yay! Kevin Costner as leading man? Woohoo!

Field of Dreams was about a novice, handsome farmer who hears a supernatural voice in his head telling him, "If you build it, he will come." Much to the dismay of his local banker and townsmen, the farmer proceeds to risk losing the family farm by plowing under his corn crop and to build a baseball field for the scandalous 1919 Chicago White

Lobster tail and crispy hashbrowns with cheese.

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Sox. The baseball diamond and its location did not make a lot of sense to those who could not hear the voice. It was one of those things others had to see to believe.

The success of the baseball field lends my thinking to Unkies in Thor. They built it and people do come. In fact they come from all over!

Over 20 years ago there was a fire at the one and only restaurant in Thor. The prior owner decided not to rebuild, but Thor residents wanted a place to dine in town. The city pulled together, had a few fundraisers and remodeled the building. The next step was to find someone to manage it. Into the lineup steps Kevin Olson. "I have been in the restaurant business since I was 13. I would go to work in Fort Dodge with my sister who was waitressing at the time and that's when I started my career." Kevin continues to work with family as his sister Sherry has been working with him for the past 19 years.

For about five minutes I was put on the Unkies roster and I really loved it! Kevin was willing to coach me on their appetizer process.





Prime rib is served on Friday and Saturday nights.



There's something for everyone at Unkie's!

Back to the kitchen we went and for a few brief moments I got to stand 'batter up' making Unkies ever popular fried green pepper rings. The menu offers hand-breaded, cut fresh mushrooms, cauliflower, onions, and green peppers. The vegetables are double dredged into a simple egg mixture and two flour based batters. Then they are popped into the fryer. The appetizers come out piping hot and with a crispy coating. The vegetable still has its bright flavor and body integrity. The fresh not frozen vegetable makes an amazing amount of difference.

The entrée menu is a surf and turf lover's dream. The signature beef entrées are fresh cuts of USDA choice beef. "I fresh cut all of our beef daily. The fresher the cut the better the flavor." Menu items include a 10-ounce filet mignon, an 8-ounce ground sirloin smothered with sautéed onions and mushrooms and an 8- or 10-ounce rib eye. Unkies will custom cut rib eyes per request. Each cut of beef is cooked over an open flame just the way you like it. Prime Rib is served on Fridays and Saturdays with a king, queen, and open faced sandwich option.

Unkies offers a nice variety of seafood including a six-piece grilled shrimp dinner and 8-ounce halibut and Atlantic salmon plates as well. The surf options also include hand battered and fried black tiger shrimp in regular and jumbo size. The jumbo shrimp are just that jumbo! All entrées come with a salad and potato choice option. All of the portion sizes are very generous.

One of my favorite things at Unkies is the lobster tail. This is why. I love lobster and the hard work is done for you. Unkies cuts the tail open so there is no fuss or muss for the customer. Your hands stay clean and you can retrieve the delicious lobster without cracking any shells. Honestly, I cannot figure out why more restaurants don't do this?!? It's awesome! Another little tip is to go to Unkies with someone who



Kevin Olson cracks an egg into the batter for Unkie's appetizers.

doesn't mind sharing. One of you order the seafood and the other order the beef. It's a winning strategy.

Unkies is inching closer to its 20th anniversary. I jokingly asked "Do you think you'll bring in the fine china? It is the traditional anniversary gift." Kevin smiles and says "I don't think we will be doing that." They are going to keep doing what they have been doing. It seems to be working well. Each weekend the restaurant is packed full of dinner guests. Truth is even when their tables are completely full, customers like me will wait as long as we need to be seated. Kevin opened Miranda's several years ago because of overflow. Miranda's is a place to sit down, have a drink, and visit with your friends while waiting to be called to your table. For article purposes we will call it the bull pen! Kevin is refreshingly modest about Unkies success and popularity. "We are what we are." From the dugout it looks like a grand slam to me!

This August I hope you make time for the seventh inning stretch. Open your eyes wide and take in the beauty around you. Admire the beautiful tasseled corn, the Iowa native grasses, and the blooming wild flowers. If time allows jump in the car and investigate this great state of ours. Biking in Decorah, sightseeing the covered bridges of Madison County, or taking a pilgrimage to the Grotto in West Bend. If I may be so bold to make a request. While in your car shout "Take me out to the ball game" with your best Harry Carey imitation. If you sing it, joy will come!

Love and shamrocks until we meet again. 🍀



Fried appetizers are always the best!

ON THE GO WITH DRIVER DAVE

Unexpected second career has been rewarding

By Kent Thompson



MIDAS Rural Transit driver Dave Ersland of Humboldt checks out his bus prior to a route recently.

For Humboldt's Dave Ersland, it's a matter of keeping things moving. Whether it's his riders on the Co-City bus or his feet on the pavement during one of his many distance runs, Ersland is a man in motion.

Dave is living proof that retirement is only a state of mind.

After 41 years at work, most of them as office manager of the Humboldt County Rural Electric Cooperative, Ersland stayed home for about 18 months, doing some babysitting, working around the house and dabbling in his hobby of woodworking. Dave felt the need for a part-time job.

Along came an opportunity with MIDAS Council of Governments, which operates the regional transit system of buses for the counties in its service

territory, Hamilton, Humboldt, Calhoun, Pocahontas, Wright and Webster.

Humboldt's system is the Co-City Bus, and on Aug. 1, Ersland will mark eight years on the job as one of the friendly faces behind the wheel who operate the 12-vehicle transportation fleet

“It's fun to see the folks on a daily basis and they are happy to see us. I've met a lot of people and made good friends from driving the bus that I otherwise never would have met.”

— Co-City bus driver Dave Ersland

serving the citizens in the area.

“It works out about perfect for me. It's a few more hours than I need (about 35 hours per week) but I enjoy driving and really enjoy the customers,” Ersland said.

“When I first started driving, I was doing the school routes and then I became the town route driver,” Ersland said.

It's a long day but it's divided into two parts. Drivers come in at 6 a.m.

and work till around 9 a.m., then are off work till 1 or 2 p.m., when the route starts again and runs till 5 p.m.

So who uses the Co-City bus? “It varies,” Ersland said. “People without cars or a means of transportation, elderly who no longer drive, working people without transportation and students are among the passengers,” Ersland said.

Where do people go?

“A lot are to doctor and dentist appointments, to the grocery store or restaurants, and it may surprise people the number of people we take to work and back home again on a daily basis,” Ersland said.

Quite a few of the riders use a wheelchair or walker, so the driver will assist in getting the passenger into and out of the bus. The Co-City buses have a wheelchair lift for riders who need assistance. They are secured with tie downs and belted in their wheelchair, just like they are in a seat in the bus.

“Schedules are made up at the home office. We have a computer tablet and when we come in the morning we are given an electronic itinerary of who to pick up at what address and where they are going,” Ersland said.

“We have daily riders and others

who ride one or two times a week, or some regulars who are less frequent.

We average

between 20-30 riders per day,” Ersland said.

Most of the MIDAS Co-City buses can haul 20 passengers. There is one larger bus that hauls 26. There is also a mini-van in use for some contract hauling.

There are nine Co-City drivers for MIDAS in Humboldt and two of them drive to Fort Dodge each day.

Dave said the reason he accepted the part-time job was because he liked to drive around the community and

“the riders are very nice. It’s fun to see people on the regular route and it’s gratifying to visit with them.

“They are so thankful for this service in Humboldt. They wouldn’t be able to do what they want to without it,” Ersland said.

“It’s fun to see the folks on a daily basis and they are happy to see us. I’ve met a lot of people and made good friends from driving the bus that I otherwise never would have met.”

Unlike some of their single-vehicle commuting counterparts, Co-City bus riders never seem to be in too much of a hurry.

“They are very pleasant, don’t complain, and are very understanding if the bus is running late,” Ersland said.

Although Ersland does not have the school route, he occasionally transports a person who works at the middle school and one wheelchair student who attends classes at the middle school.

He transports several clients to the West Fork Services workshop, who use the Co-City bus regularly.

Every year the Iowa Public Transit Association recognizes outstanding professional drivers.

MIDAS annually recognizes two outstanding drivers, one from the Fort Dodge DART program and one from the Rural Transit Association, which encompasses the 25 or so drivers in the rural regions of MIDAS. For 2015-16, Ersland was that driver, receiving his recognition last summer. To qualify, drivers must be accident free, work at



Dave Ersland will be celebrating eight years as a Co-City bus driver next week, and also will be ending his transportation career. He said he as really enjoyed the work. His last stop will be Friday, Aug. 5.

least one-quarter time, and have no more than two customer complaints in a fiscal year.

Fellow Co-City bus driver Allen Goche said Ersland is very deserving of the honor.

“We have a tremendous respect for him. He is a great leader and an incredible team player. His friendly attitude and willingness to help others is a shining example of what we all can be,” Goche said.

Ersland attended a statewide Iowa Public Transit Association professional driver recognition program and

banquet in Des Moines and also drove in a bus rodeo at the conference.

“I placed in about the middle of all of those entered. It was a fun experience,” Ersland said.

Going to work at MIDAS after retiring meant that Dave and his wife Patty could do a few “extra things,” and it gave him something to do.

Dave said there are driver training and safety meetings twice a year, one in the summer and one in the winter.

Each driver is responsible for their own pre-trip inspection, which requires a 20-point checklist, including everything



Co-City bus driver Dave Ersland can check passengers and traffic with the mirrors located in the front of the bus. Passenger safety is the number one priority in providing the transit service in and around the town of Humboldt Monday-Friday.

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Humboldt's Dave Ersland received an outstanding driver award last year for the five counties that make up the rural transit portion of MIDAS' coverage area. Driving the bus is something Dave has enjoyed doing since his retirement from Humboldt County REC (now Midland Power), nearly 10 years ago. Co-City bus drivers must obtain a Class C Commercial Driver's License and attend a day of training in both the summer and winter.

from making sure all lights and turn signals are in working order to cleaning out the bus at the end of the day.

"Each driver takes care of his/her own bus and we try to keep the same one," Ersland said.

Dave has served as a substitute driver for Humboldt County Head Start in Dakota City with Corrina Timm as the main Head Start driver.

With a one-way fare of \$2.50 for adults and \$2 for senior citizens or students, the Co-City Bus is a pretty economical form of transportation,

plus people get to meet nice drivers like Dave.

Driving the bus has kept Dave pretty busy the last eight years.

One thing he does enjoy in his free time is running and jogging.

"I started running when I turned 50 and have enjoyed competing in five kilometer (3.1-mile) runs around Iowa.

"It's something I enjoy doing. I've done a lot of work on the treadmill and on the trails in town. I've set some goals for myself, so it's something I hope to continue to do. It keeps me going," said

Ersland, who will turn 72 in August.

In addition to the 5k runs, Ersland has ran a couple of half-marathons and two marathon races.

"I've kept track of the towns I've ran in and right now it's right at 100. I've ran in about 200 road races over the years, that's one of the goals I've set."

Ersland said there aren't a lot of runners over

70, so in many senses, he's in a class by himself!

If there is a bit of melancholy to this story it's that Dave will be putting the brakes on his bus driving career shortly after his eighth anniversary with MIDAS. His last day will be Friday, Aug. 5.

"We haven't traveled a lot, so maybe that's something we can do a little more. I do some woodworking craft work, so that's something I could do more of," Dave said.

Dave and Patty have two sons, Ryan lives in Humboldt and works at Liguria Foods and Tony lives in West Lafayette, IN, and is the head wrestling coach at Purdue University.

"I hate to lose him," MIDAS Transit Manager Jay Kammerer said of Ersland.

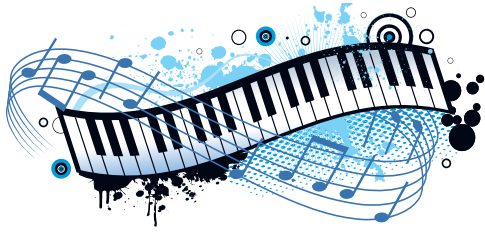
"He's one of the nicest guys you'd ever want to meet and he's friendly with staff and our riders. Dave has always been willing to go beyond the call if we needed more hours or had special events like RAGBRAI or Shellabration that required extra work," Kammerer said.

Ersland summed it up this way.

"I'd have to say that the passengers and the other drivers have made going to work a joy. MIDAS in Fort Dodge does a great job with the transit service. It's been a good second career." ■

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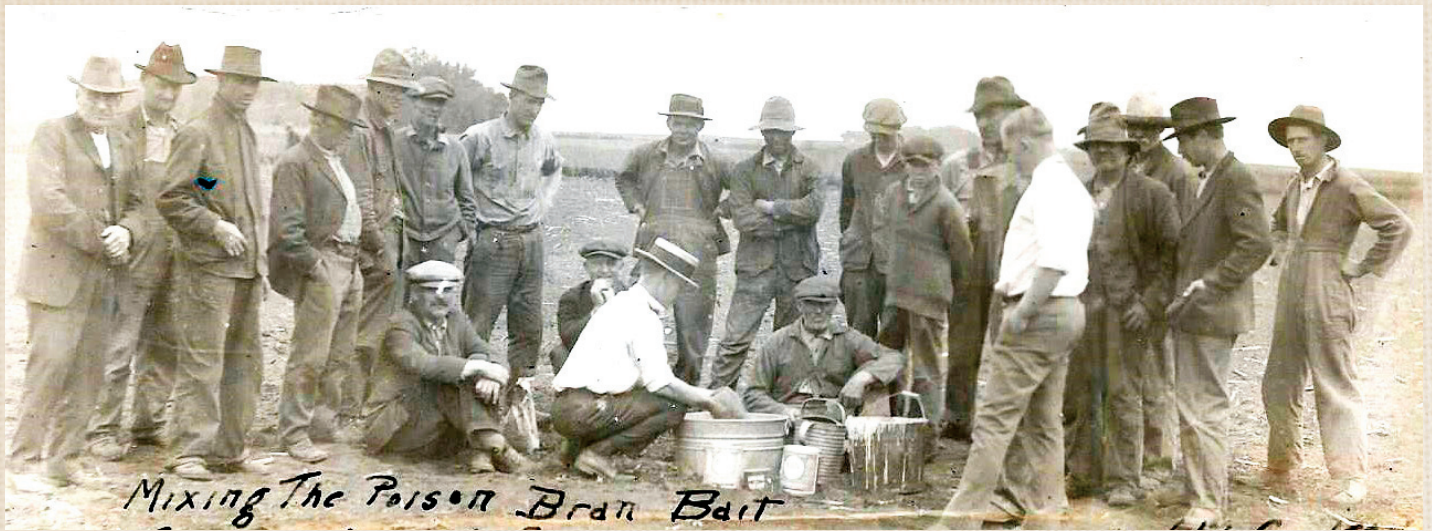
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Humboldt County Farm Bureau

By Jeff Gargano

Humboldt County Farm Bureau is celebrating 100 years of helping farm families prosper and improve their quality of life.

In 1916, The Farm Improvement Association was formed and Farm Bureau in Humboldt County arose from this group and was organized on Sept. 6, 1916, with a membership of 251. Thus, Farm Bureau was in existence two years before the state organization was federated in 1918.

Discontent among the farming population—the feeling that urban areas were growing rapidly and making great strides forward while the farmer was being left behind, caused farmers to decide to organize.

According to a pamphlet entitled, “50 years of Progress in Humboldt County,” the first year was a busy one with a seed corn campaign carried out through the rural schools. A Boys Acre Club was organized, and county corn show was held. Soils from 44 farms were tested for acidity. A campaign for the control of hog cholera was started and an Anti-hog Cholera Club was organized in each township. A number of farmers were influenced in growing sudan grass and soybeans. Demonstration plots of alfalfa were planted. Seed corn

testing demonstrations were held to demonstrate methods of testing seed corn. Much work was done in regard to treating oats and wheat for smut.

In 1917, a Home Economic specialist was secured who gave 19 demonstrations in canning by the cold pack method.

There was a campaign against noxious weeds, a campaign for increased winter wheat production. Maintaining a standard corn husking price of 7 and 8 cents where laborers had been asking as high as 12 to 15 cents per bushel was important in 1918.

In 1919, purebred pig, calf, and Aberdeen Angus sales were held. Purebred livestock breeders associations were organized. Petitions requesting the repeal of the Daylight Savings law were circulated.

In 1921, a motion was passed that each director appoint a lady chairman in his township to be responsible for women’s work. Mrs. E.H. Bennett of Hardy was appointed first County

Women’s Chairman of Farm Bureau in Humboldt County.

In 1924, the army worm caused great destruction wiping out entire fields and pastures within hours by eating everything in their path. When a field or pasture was found infested, the farmer would plow a deep furrow around the field or infested area. Some would put a tar barrier on top or dig postholes every 10 to 15 feet. As insects traveled along the furrow, they would fall into the holes. Farmers would then burn the insects with kerosene.

Also in 1924, potato plots were established on the O.F. Bastian farm, the Fred Engstrom farm and the Jon Drushella farm to demonstrate proper methods of potato production.

Farm Bureau helped propose deep waterway systems for field drainage and petitioned a plan to eradicate tuberculosis from the county.

Farm Bureau was involved in honey, oat, potato, wheat, barley, rye, corn and

Corn rows pictured before an army worm invasion struck in Humboldt County in 1924.



Left: Farmers used a poison bran bait consisting of 25 pounds of bran and one pound of white arsenic to try to control an army worm infestation in Humboldt County in 1924. Right: A potato demonstration plot at the Fred Engstrom farm in Vernon Township.

soybean production,

In 1926, the annual meeting was a good old fashioned community gathering held in the Legion building in Humboldt. Over 450 were present. In 1927, there were 537 active, paid up members.

In 1929, Humboldt County led the state with its work being done to encourage multiple hitch, thus getting more power from horses and mules, allowing one man to do the work of two.

Weed eradication became a major problem in the 1930s. The county purchased a sprayer and a drum of sodium chlorate for each township weed commissioner, and work began against the fields of Canada thistles, quack grass, European morning glory and horse nettles. Farm Bureau did much work to organize boys and girls 4-H clubs in each township.

Due to exceptionally low prices of farm products in 1933, just 200 members were secured. Because of the large number of people dependent on the county for food and help, relief gardens were set up to help the situation.

Farm Bureau organized a meeting in March of 1936 to consider the advisability of proceeding with rural electrification. The first lines were energized just two years later in 1938.

In 1938, the Iowa Farm Bureau set up an Auto Insurance Company and Humboldt County had 173 charter policies. Arthur Kirchhoff of Beaver Township was selected as agent and



Humboldt County was the first to reach its quota.

Alan Skow won the district corn picking contest by picking a net load of 2,430 pounds. He placed 12th at the state contest and was chosen as the cleanest picker.

By 1941, Humboldt County Farm Bureau membership reached 675.

In 1942, farmers helped with the war effort by growing hemp which was used to make rope.

By 1947, membership topped 1,460. There were more members than there were farms in the county.

In 1955, the Extension Service and Farm Bureau organizations were separated.

MODERN TIMES

For longtime Humboldt County Farm Bureau members Ron and Mary Reedy, the organization gave farmers a voice.

"Farmers were declining in population. We were cattle farmers and we worked together with Farm Bureau so farmers had a unified voice," Ron Reedy said. He joined Farm Bureau in 1966 after returning from the service and starting to farm.

The Reedys enjoyed participating in legislative trips where Farm Bureau

members could meet one on one with their Congressional delegations.

"We always got to meet with the Secretary of Agriculture," Ron said.

Mary said when she joined Farm Bureau Women, the group did a lot to promote commodities.

"We had Charlie Anderson (Hy-Vee Manager) come talk to our group one time about all the products that use soybeans," Mary said.

Ron said the 1980s were tough times for farming.

"The devaluation of farmland meant you lost your equity. Banks closed. Farmers left for other jobs. We lost a generation of farmers because people going through it didn't want their sons or daughters to go through it," Ron said.

Today, there is a lot of effort to make the public aware of where their food comes from.

Concerns remain with low commodity prices today.

"Input costs are high, but commodity prices are low. Farm debt is not as big as it was in the 1980s and farmland value has held up pretty well," Ron said.

Ron said although he's retired now, he still likes to be involved.

"One of the key roles of the local Farm Bureau chapter is keeping up



Farmers examine a corn field after army worms ate everything in their path.



Ron and Mary Reedy said Farm Bureau has helped give farmers a unified voice.

such as energy, health, family farms and much more. Farm Bureau gives back to the community through scholarships, providing teacher training and classroom programs, promoting 4-H and FFA, promoting the Humboldt Farmer's Market, hosting shopping sprees and organizing an annual Honor Flight barbeque for our local veterans. Throughout the year, Farm Bureau also donates to Youth Environmental Ag Days, the Humboldt County Fair, Safety Day Camp, Take Root Workshops and Meals from the Heartland. **U**

with the legislators at the state and national level. Humboldt County has very good participation. A number of young people have really stepped up. We've had some hard times, but overall some excellent times," Ron said.

Mary said she didn't know much about farming when she married Ron.

"The women I met through Farm Bureau were outstanding farm wives and taught me so much. I learned from people like Joann Sandven, Hattie Naeve, Blythe Edge and Bette Hood," Mary said.

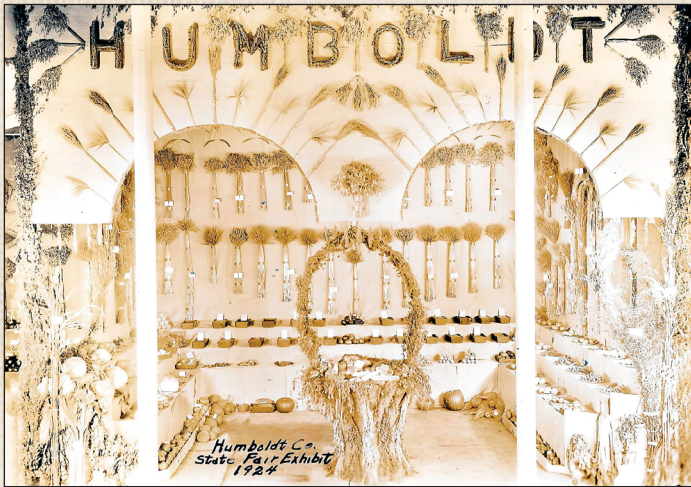
The Reedys say its important for our young people to travel and explore the world.

"If they don't go out and explore the world they might not appreciate what they have here. I've had the opportunity to travel and every time I come back to this county I think about how great it is," Ron said.

Humboldt County Farm Bureau continues to work hard to achieve prosperity, environmental quality and educational improvement in our community by supporting key areas

Farm Bureau helped establish potato plots at the O.F. Bastian farm in Rutland Township. The purpose of the plots was to demonstrate proper methods of potato production.





The board of Humboldt County Farm Bureau allocated \$35 for the members to make a booth and they were paid five cents for mileage to go to Des Moines to set it up in 1924 at the State Fair.

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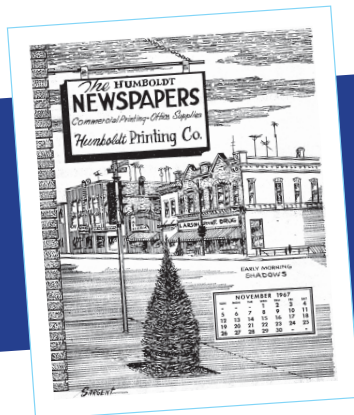


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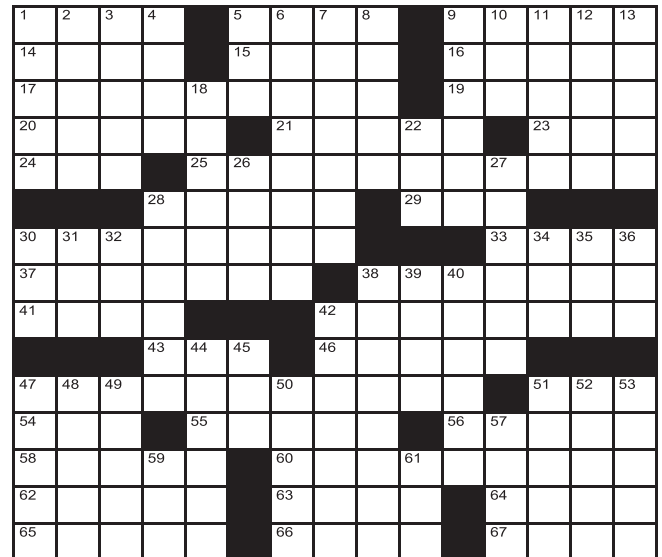


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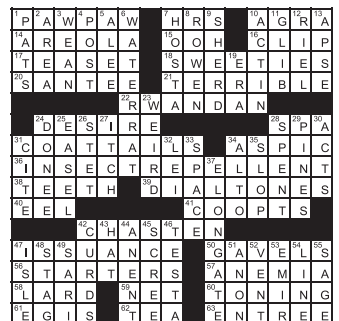
ACROSS

1. "Roots," e.g.
5. Thai currency
9. Hand _____
14. Eye drop
15. Apple spray
16. Apportion
17. Irrational
19. Abundance
20. Charles de Gaulle's birthplace
21. Dalmatian, e.g.
23. "Act your ___!"
24. "Malcolm X" director
25. Common in early email days
28. Cut
29. Ace
30. Disgraces
33. Finger, in a way
37. Akin to an apprentice
38. One who raises irritating objections
41. Sort
42. Comforting
43. "Chicago" lyricist
46. Brings (out)
47. Biased in thoughts
51. Clairvoyance, e.g.
54. Cabernet, e.g.
55. Cousin of a raccoon
56. "Fiddler on the Roof" role
58. Come to mind
60. A person that follows in office
62. Hoarse cough
63. Length x width, for a rectangle
64. Fast feline
65. Songs in praise of God
66. "___ we forget"
67. Affirmative votes

DOWN

9. One who casts
10. Final: Abbr.
11. Drink with a straw
12. Fake
13. Animal in a roundup
18. Computer whiz
22. Matherhorn, e.g.
26. Put up, as a picture
27. Invigorating drinks
28. Strong cotton fabric
30. Appropriate
31. "Don't give up!"
32. Blouse, e.g.
34. "Aladdin" prince
35. Checkers, e.g.
36. .0000001 joule
38. Outer region of an organ or structure (plural)
39. ___ vera
40. Regenerative dye
42. Height
44. Arm muscle
45. "You stink!"
47. Spinachlike plant
48. Fermented beverage similar to cider
49. Going to the dogs, e.g.
50. Twangy, as a voice
51. Arise
52. Leaf opening
53. Orange crablike Pokemon character
57. Catch a glimpse of
59. Juliet, to Romeo
61. Mouse catcher

JULY'S ANSWERS



Crossword sponsored by:

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Phone: (515) 332-2623
hccnorth@qwestoffice.net

South Care
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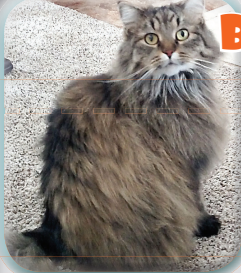
There was a large crowd of shoppers on July 16 for the special Humboldt downtown promotion. Humboldt Engraving and Gifts were among the stores offering free wine tasting.

pet of the MONTH!

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Owned by:
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Judy Miller, Bode



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Owned by: Mark & Nancy Siefert, Fort Dodge



TEBOW

Owned by:
Bruce Nash,
Humboldt

To submit a photo of your pet, email jen@humboldtnews.com. Please include pet's name, owner's name and hometown.

KIDS WORKS!

Submit your KidsWorks
by email to:
jen@humboldtnews.com or
drop off at 512 Sumner Ave.

College of Create classes at Humboldt Arts Center

Photos submitted by Witz End



Grace Smith



Meg & Gus Zweibohmer



Morgan Mayall



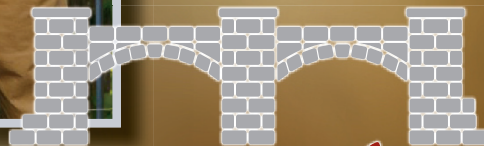
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Silly Sally the clown came to talk to Kindergartners this spring about standing up to bullying, good character, and making friends! Silly Sally, her puppets, and her magic tricks taught students tools they can use to make positive choices in their friendships. Our students showed great CATS behavior during the assembly and loved learning from the puppets!



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