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County TIF plan hits speed bump

Bassett mayor says he expects council will approve plan in early January

By **BOB FENSKE**
editor@nhtrib.com

The Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors was unable to move forward Monday with setting up an urban-renewal plan that would use millions of dollars in tax-increment financing to fund various county road and building projects. Board members learned that the

city of Bassett had not held what is a "consultation" meeting and had yet to approve a joint agreement that would allow the supervisors to move forward with the TIF plan. Because the urban-renewal area comes within the two-mile radius of the county's smallest city, the board needs the joint agreement approved before it can move forward with setting up the plan.

In early October, county leaders accepted a plan put together by the county's TIF Committee that included using funds generated by the Chickasaw Wind Energy turbines for a variety of improvements. They include major road projects, the replacement of the Conservation Board's storage building, improvements and/or construction of replacement building at the Secondary Roads

shop and the renovation of the current Sheriff's Office building, as well as the construction of a 24-hour holding facility adjacent to the current structure. Two weeks later, supervisors agreed in principle to add Homeland Energy Solutions to the TIF area so that the ethanol plant could receive about

\$1.18 million in TIF funding for a planned \$40 million expansion. On Monday, supervisors held a

SEE SUPERVISORS, 3

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Kirk Hardcastle/North Iowa Area Community College
New Hampton dance team members perform their state championship prop routine at the Iowa State Dance and Drill Team Championships last Thursday in Des Moines.

Live Windows certainly felt like Christmas

Despite the cold, latest Chamber holiday event draws a huge crowd

By **BOB FENSKE**
editor@nhtrib.com

It was cold; then again, it always seems to be frigid for these New Horizons-Chamber holiday events, but by golly, we showed up anyway for Live Windows and the Light Parade last Thursday. "I was actually kind of shocked, when I saw all the people downtown," said Liz Zweibohmer, the director of the chamber that put on the event. "I mean it just kind of blew me away. I guess I shouldn't be surprised, but it speaks volumes about how much people love our little city and want to support our members." Temperatures may have been in the teens and the wind chill may have been near 0, but folks came out to check out a festive downtown area, take in the Festival of Trees, watch the Light Parade, visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus and see the event's newest visitor, Papa Noel. The good news is that Saturday's Little Light of Mine celebration that included another visit by Santa as well as fireworks was held on a balmy Saturday evening. The bad news? It's going to be cold again for the chamber's last big event of the holiday season — Holiday Hustle for Him — that is scheduled for 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. today (Thursday).

SEE CHAMBER, 3



Kelly Terpstra/Tribune
Santa and Mrs. Claus enjoy a conversation with a child during the annual Live Windows event that was held last Thursday in downtown New Hampton.

CHALK UP ANOTHER STATE TITLE

NEW HAMPTON DANCE TEAM HANDLES PRESSURE, CLAIMS STATE CROWN FOR A FIFTH CONSECUTIVE SEASON

By **BOB FENSKE**
editor@nhtrib.com

Cinetta Schwickerath napped. Her mom and coach, Emma Schwickerath, re-watched her team's routine over and over. Kylee Junk stayed up and fretted. No matter what the members of the New Hampton dance team did last Thursday, it was a long and agonizing wait to find out if the state championship streak remained intact. And it is, for more than nine hours after they took their baseball and softball prop routine on the floor at Wells Fargo Arena, New Hampton learned it was No. 1 for a fifth consecutive year as Emma Schwickerath's young squad claimed the Class I prop title.

SEE DANCE, 3



Photo courtesy of Emma Schwickerath
New Hampton dance team members pose with their state competition trophies after Thursday night's awards ceremony.



Bob Fenske/Tribune

Singing Christmas carols!
St. Joseph Community School students Calvin Holthaus and Artemis Maddox (above) sing with their fellow middle-school students while Edith Wegner (right) sings a solo with students in grades 2-4 at the school's Christmas Concert Sunday. **See MORE PHOTOS, Page 2**



Talented artists
Charlotte Thronson's drawing of her favorite "winter wonderland scene" is one of the five winners in the Tribune's annual contest for third-graders at New Hampton Elementary School and St. Joseph Community School. **See OTHER WINNERS, Page 4**
See ALL DRAWINGS, Pages 9-16

Christmas Greetings!
Check out our annual section that features letters to Santa, holiday wishes from our sponsors
Next week's Tribune

Chickasaw year
New Hampton basketball teams come up with a sweep over Turkey Valley
Page 19

Home opener
NH/TV boys get a chance to wrestle in front of their home fans
Page 21



The student body of St. Joseph Community School, under the direction of music teachers Jason Speltz and Emily Schueth (above) sing the Christmas Concert finale, "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas" while Skylar Phillips and Haizlee Fye (right) sing and sign "Silent Night" with their fellow students in grades 2-4 Sunday morning.



St. Joe's students celebrate Christmas with a concert!



Music teacher Jason Speltz (left) wishes a student well as he takes the "stage," preschooler Maci Schueth (above left) sings the "Jesus version of Jingle Bells," Josie Eichenberger (above right) sings "Oh Holy Night" with students in grades 2-4 and Lila Mitchell (right) belts out "Angels We Have Heard on High" with K-1 students.

St. Joseph Community School Christmas Concert photos by Bob Fenske

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Kelly Terpstra/Tribune

The three "Wise Men" — aka Chub Freese, Rich Bast and Brandon Hemann — pose for a photo at Pedal Play & Sports during Live Windows last week.

Christmas spirit alive, well in area

CHAMBER: FROM 1

Still, Zweibohmer said that she is appreciative of how well not only residents but also visitors have supported chamber events that also included the Holiday Open House in early November and Small Business Saturday later in the month.

She said the chamber's holiday punch card program is off to a great start.

"We don't really count them until the end of the shopping season," she said, "but it feels like, if that makes any sense, this is going to be one of our best years. Obviously, I'm going to tell you how important it is to shop local as much as we can, but at the same time, I'm not just saying that because it's my job. The local businesses are the ones that support the chamber, support our schools, support our booster clubs. That's just a fact."

And while the chamber's events come to a close tonight with an evening focused on the late-shopping males in the community, the chamber director said there are still plenty of ways to get your holiday fix before Christmas arrives.

She pointed out that the New Hampton Parks and Recreation Department will hold its annual Breakfast with Santa from



Kelly Terpstra/Tribune

A New Hampton Municipal Utilities truck hauls Santa and his sleigh down Main Street during the Light Parade while "Papa Noel" poses with kids during a stop in town for the annual Live Windows event.

8:30 to 10 this Saturday morning and that the Little Light of Mine holiday display will continue to brighten Mikkelson Park through the end of the year.

"We're lucky here that we have a community that comes together — not just for our events but for everyone," she said. "I know I'm biased, but that what makes New Hampton such a special place."



Board has to hold off on adopting urban-renewal plan

SUPERVISORS: FROM 1

public hearing on the issue, and Bassett Mayor Jim Ashley questioned why the urban-renewal area only included the New Hampton Community Schools district and not the entire county.

Ashley said that the so-called "start-up costs" for a TIF area could be saved if the supervisors just included the entire county, but Ahlers and Conney's Jason Comiskey, who serves as the county's TIF attorney, said while that was possible, "that's a policy decision up to them," referring to the supervisors.

What TIF does is allow the county to capture a portion but not all of the taxes generated by the increased property values for urban-renewal and road projects. Comiskey said that there are some items — he named school PPEL, instructional support levies and debt service, along with

the county's debt service — that are exempt from TIF.

He also said that while he understood what Ashley was saying, he said most urban-renewal plans are amended.

"It would be fantastic to do this one time and never have to do it again, but that's unfortunately very unrealistic," Comiskey said. "It's almost always the case that people are amending the original plan to add different areas ... or to add new projects."

Both Board Chairman Scott Cerwinke and County Engineer Roman Lensing said that there would be a possibility that using TIF funds for road projects within the New Hampton school district could free up funds for other parts of the county.

New Hampton Schools Superintendent Jay Jurrens said the district was in support of the urban-renewal plan even though the district receives about 50 percent of the tax

dollars generated from the wind turbines.

"It doesn't take money away from the school," he said. "There's a misconception about that, I think, out there. I've had a lot of people ask me that. Certainly, if you didn't TIF this, our rate would be lower."

In the end, Ashley said he felt that the Bassett City Council would approve the joint agreement, which would mean the urban-renewal plan would not have to be redrawn to avoid it coming within two miles of the city.

But the mayor said the city does not have money in its budget to pay council members for a special meeting, which means the Bassett council won't meet again until Jan. 6.

Supervisors discussed possibly having a meeting on Jan. 7 to act on the resolutions they were hoping to vote on this past Monday.



Photo courtesy of Devin Bass

New Hampton junior Kylee Junk performs her individual dance at last week's state competition.

Dance team brings energy to the floor, claims a state crown

DANCE: FROM 1

"I'm not going to lie, I think it was very bittersweet," said the younger Schwickerath, one of just two seniors (the other is foreign-exchange student Aurora Paladini) on the team. "I'm sad to leave, I'm happy — really, really happy — we won."

For the veterans on this team, the "wait" is just part of the game, even if this year's was exceedingly long.

New Hampton performed its hip-hop routine at Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines at 8:30 Thursday morning and then took the floor for its prop show at 12:15 p.m., but the awards ceremony wasn't held until late in the evening.

"You get used to it," Emma Schwickerath said, "but it seems like it takes forever. We went back to the hotel, that helped, but ask the girls, it's a little nerve-wracking."

It helped that New Hampton was confident it had, as junior Madi Shawver put it, "left it all out on the floor."

And when the awards were announced, New Hampton claimed the fourth-place trophy for its hip-hop routine and then learned that it had bested the other four teams in its prop class to bring home yet another state title. New Hampton scored 343 points, 11 more than runner-up Graettinger-Terril-Ruthven-Ayrshire.

New Hampton won a state hip-hop crown in 2020 before reeling off back-to-back-to-back prop championships heading into this year's state competition.

"That's a good question," junior Kylee Junk said when asked if she and her teammates felt pressure on Thursday. "I mean, you want to keep the streak going, but you have to kind of live in the moment. You just have to go out there and do your best and realize, whatever happens, you can't change it. We just had to go out there and do our best."

And to a girl, that's what they did.

"I felt like we brought so much good energy to the floor," Shawver said, "and when we walked off, it felt good, it felt right. That's all that really matters, that's what I kept telling myself at least."

Their coach certainly felt the same way.

STATE CHAMP DANCERS

Seniors: Cinetta Schwickerath and Aurora Paladini.

Juniors: Kylee Junk and Madi Shawver.

Sophomores: Belle Broughton, Brooke Vestel, Cassidy Meyerhoff and Marjie Reicks.

Freshman: Austyn Rosonke, Abby Utley, Ariel Hanson and Harper Humpal.

"They came out and, in my mind, they nailed both routines," she said. "It was so much fun watching them, knowing that all that hard work paid off."

And Emma Schwickerath said this year's title may have been just a little bit more meaningful, and why not?

Her daughter was a senior after all.

"I think we've done a good job with at practice, I'm coach and at home, I'm mom," she said, "but when I saw the picture of Nettie getting the trophy, I was definitely in mom mode. I cried for like a half-hour, but I'm so proud of all my girls. They rose to the occasion again."

And the team trophies weren't the only ones New Hampton brought home last week as Junk competed in the individual portion of the state championships and finished eighth in a field that included the best 80 dancers in the state.

"I don't think anyone besides dance people understands how truly remarkable that is," Emma Schwickerath said. "Kylee was simply amazing. Not that it surprises me, but it was so fun to watch her because I know just how hard she works at this."

Junk was asked what she prefers — individual or team — and after thinking long and hard, she called it a tie.

"They're both really fun for me," she said. "The individual is special because I can really lose myself up there and just be me. And I choreograph my own dance so I can really focus on what I'm good at, but there's something really cool about being on the floor with some of my best friends and seeing how far we've come as a team."

She paused and laughed.

"I know I'm not really answering your question," she said, "but they both mean a lot to me."

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Consider these year-end financial moves

As we enter the holiday season, your life may well become busier. Still, you might want to take the time to consider some financial moves before we turn the calendar to 2025.



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MARKED SENSE OF INVESTING

Here are a few suggestions:

- Review your investment portfolio. As you look at your portfolio, ask these questions: Has its performance met my expectations this year? Does it still reflect my goals, risk tolerance and time horizon? Do I need to rebalance? You might find that working with a financial professional can help you answer these and other questions you may have about your investments.

- Add to your 401(k) and HSA. If you can afford it, and your employer allows it, consider putting more money into your 401(k) before the year ends — including “catch-up” contributions if you’re 50 or older. You might also want to add to your health savings account (HSA) by the tax-filing deadline in April.

- Use your FSA dollars. Unlike an HSA, a flexible spending account (FSA) works on a “use-it-or-lose-it” basis, meaning you lose any unspent funds at the end of the year.

So, if you still have funds left in your account, try to use them up in 2024. (Employers may grant a 2½ month extension, so check with your human resources area to see if this is the case where you work.)

- Contribute to a 529 plan. If you haven’t opened a 529 education savings plan for your children, think about doing so this year. With a 529 plan, your earnings can grow tax deferred, and your withdrawals are federally tax free when used for qualified education expenses — tuition, fees, books and so on. And if you invest in your own state’s 529 plan, you might be able to deduct your contributions from your state income tax or receive a state tax credit.

- Build your emergency fund. It’s generally a good idea to keep up to six months’ worth of living expenses in an emergency fund, with the money held in a liquid, low-risk account. Without such a fund in place, you might be forced to dip into your retirement funds to pay for short-term needs, such as a major car or home repair.

- Review your estate plans. If you’ve experienced any changes in your family situation this year, such as marriage, remarriage or the birth of a child, you may want to update your estate-planning documents to reflect your new situation. It’s also important to look at the beneficiary designations on your investment accounts, retirement plans, IRAs and insurance policies, as these designations can sometimes even supersede the instructions you’ve left in your will. And if you haven’t started estate planning, there’s no time like the present.

- Take your RMDs. If you’re 73 or older, you will likely need to take withdrawals — called required minimum distributions, or RMDs — from some of your retirement accounts, such as your traditional IRA. If you don’t take these withdrawals each year, you could be subject to penalties.

These aren’t the only moves you can make, but they may prove helpful not only for 2024 but in the years to come.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Edward Jones, Member SIPC



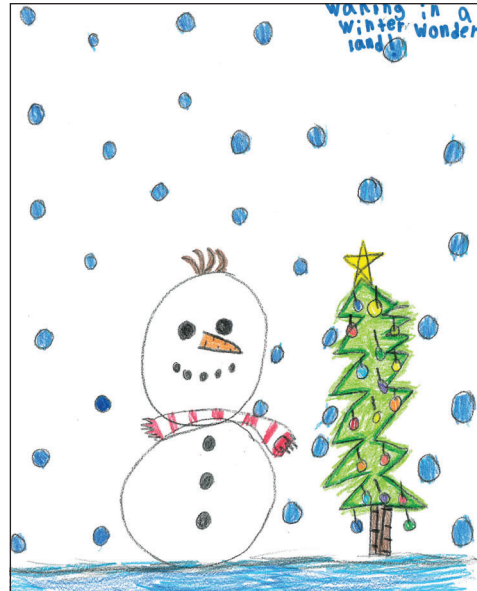
Winners in the Tribune’s annual third-grade winter wonderland scene drawing contest includes pieces by (clockwise from top left) Autumn Johnson, Oakley Johnson, Quinn Abbas and Ella Kinley.

Judges have some tough choices to make with annual drawing contest

Let’s put it this way: Scores of third-graders at New Hampton Elementary School and St. Joseph Community School didn’t make it easy for the judges of the Tribune’s annual winter wonderland drawing contest.

Each year the Tribune asks third-graders at the two schools to spread a little winter cheer with their art and numerous businesses sponsor the drawings.

Judges pick one winner from each of the five classrooms, and they included four from New Hampton Elementary



and one from St. Joe’s. The winners by classroom were as follows:



- Charlotte Thronson from NHES teacher Kelly Hoskins’ classroom.
- Autumn Johnson from NHES’ teacher Michelle Reicks’ classroom.
- Quinn Abbas from St. Joe’s teacher Tom Larsen’s classroom.
- Oakley Johnson from NHES teacher Amanda Kleespies’ classroom.
- Ella Kinley from NHES’ teacher Michael Stille’s classroom.

Briefs

Blood drive set for Christmas Eve

There will be a LifeServe community blood drive on Tuesday, Dec. 24 at the New Hampton Community Center, 112 E. Spring St. New Hampton, from 9 a.m. until 12:50 p.m.

Appointments are encouraged and may be made by texting LIFESERVE to 999-777, by calling 800-287-4903 or by visiting the website at lifeservebloodcenter.org.

Santa’s on the farm this Friday

Santa will be coming to town or, should we say, to the farm! Join the Northeast Iowa Dairy & Agriculture Foundation for this year’s Santa on the Farm event on Friday, Dec. 13, from 5-7 p.m. at Iowa’s Dairy Center.

Community members will be able to meet Santa from their vehicles. The drive-through event will take visitors right through the farm’s freestall barn to see a close-up view of the milking cows. Cookies and milk will be served right to vehicles. The community members who attend will also receive a fun goody bag with dairy activities and more.

This family-friendly event is free to the public, but donations

are appreciated. It will be held weather permitting. For up-to-date information or questions, visit the Northeast Iowa Dairy & Agriculture Foundation’s Facebook page.

Tree of Love ornaments available

Honor your loved ones this holiday season with a beautiful keepsake ornament by taking part in Cedar Valley Hospice’s long-standing Tree of Love fundraiser. With a contribution, you will receive a keepsake ornament in appreciation of your donation.

Each ornament, story and memory are golden treasures that make up the Tree of Love. Gifts honor your loved ones and support Cedar Valley Hospice’s work of Making Each Moment Matter in our community.

Also, with the purchase of an ornament, you are also able to place a name, photo and memory on our Tree of Love Tribute Wall on our website and then share it with family and friends. View the Tribute Wall or purchase ornaments at cvhospice.org or scan the QR code in the ornaments photo.

Tree of Love ornaments are available for pick up at each site location (excluding the Hospice Home). Shipping is also available for \$6/ornament. For more information, call Cedar Valley Hospice at 800.626.2360.

NHHS to hold Winter Music Festival

New Hampton High School vocalists and instrumentalists will perform their annual Winter Music Festival this coming Monday in the competition gymnasium.

The concert will begin at 7 p.m. and include performances by the New Hampton Nu-Hi Chorale, the Chamber Choir and the Concert Band.

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Pastor Peter Faugstad

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Pastor Cory Orr

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ELMA CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Pastor Paula Hemann
207 Plum Street Elma

Service time: 10:30 a.m. Sunday.

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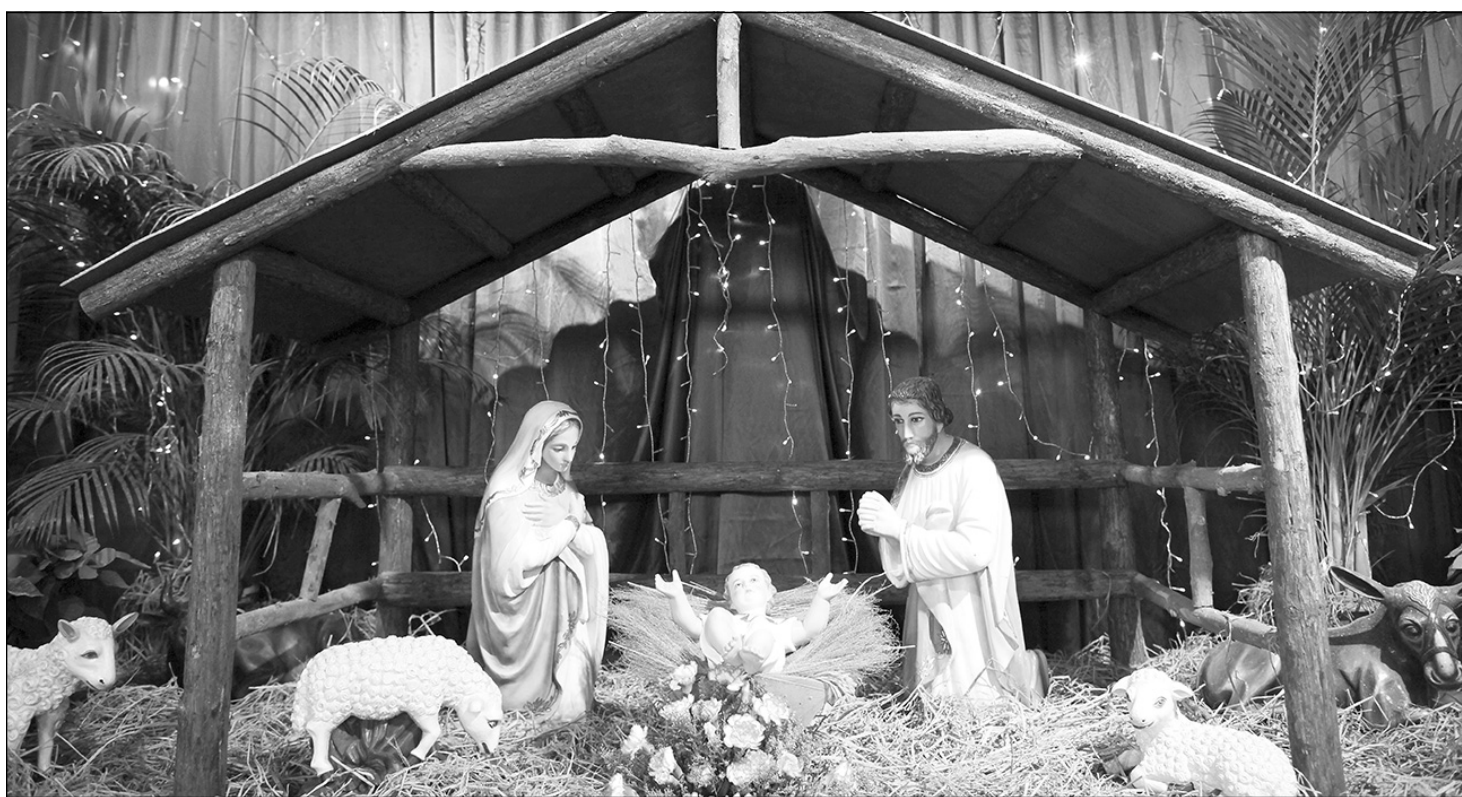
Father Jim Goerend
Mass: Saturday, Dec. 21, 6 p.m.



Photo courtesy of Trinity Lutheran Church

Trinity confirms a dozen

Trinity Lutheran Church held its annual Confirmation worship service on Oct. 27, and 12 students were confirmed during a special ceremony. Confirmants are pictured with Pastor Sue Cira and include (front row, from left) Elizabeth (Betsy) Hyer, Ainslea Pint, Jersey Pemble, Gretta Kuehner, Abigail Utley, Kirsten Nuss, (second row) Asher Jirak, Ely Suhr, Carson Laures, Austyn Kleppe, Kye Rausch and Aiden Zeien.



Remember the 'meaning' of Christmas

When fall has given way to winter and snow covers the ground while lights twinkle from house to house, you know that Christmas is coming. Christmas is one of the most important Christian and cultural holidays of the year, but what is the true meaning of Christmas? Is it the gifts? Is it the annual economic boost?

The meaning of Christmas can vary for different people and cultures, but it is generally celebrated as a Christian holiday that commemorates the birth of Jesus Christ. For Christians, Christmas is a time to reflect on the significance of Jesus' birth, emphasizing themes of love, peace, and goodwill toward all.

Beyond its religious roots, Christmas has evolved into a widely celebrated cultural and festive occasion in many parts of the world. It often involves exchanging gifts, spending time with family and friends, decorating homes with festive

ornaments, and partaking in special meals and traditions.

Christmas is a time of spiritual reflection on the important foundations of the Christian faith. It's also a celebration. It's when Christians celebrate God's love for the world through the birth of the Christ child: Jesus. The Bible tells of his birth hundreds of years before, fulfilling prophecies.

And that brings us to an important question: What is the meaning of the word "Christmas?"

The term originates from the Old English Cristes mæsse, or "Christ's Mass," first recorded in historical documents around 1038. This phrase evolved into Middle English as Cristemasse, beautifully capturing the heart of this holiday as a time to honor and remember the birth of Jesus Christ.

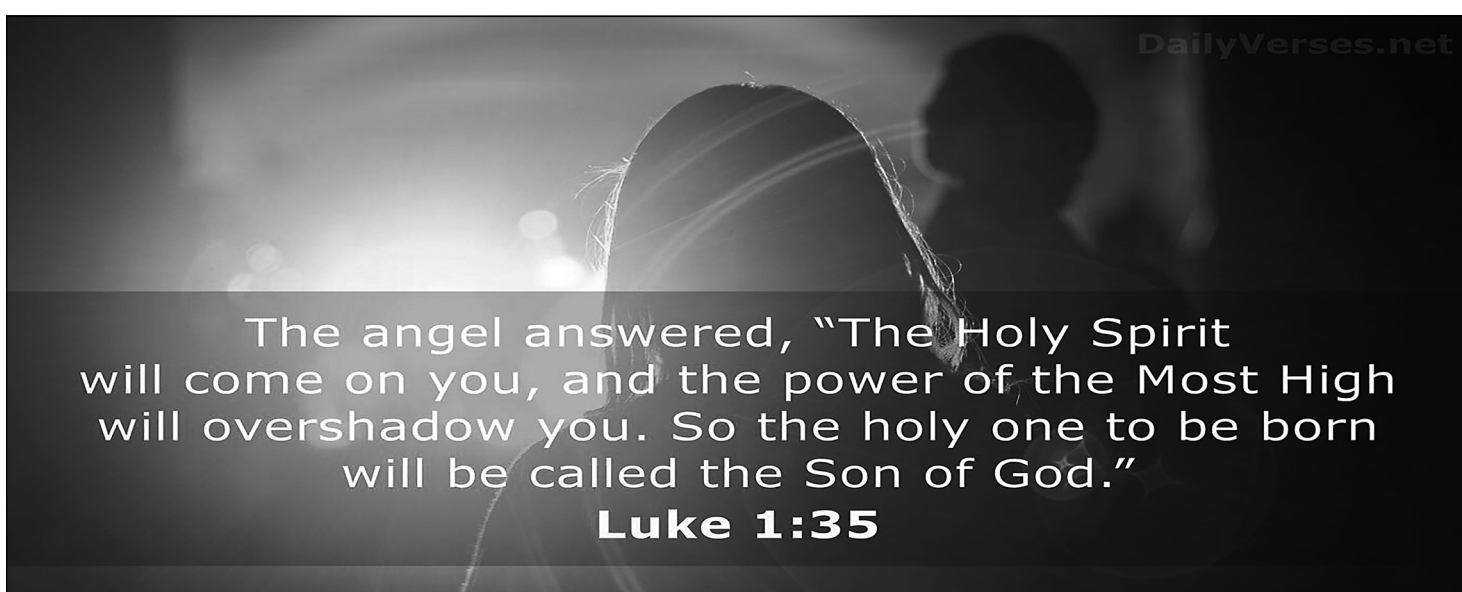
In Christian tradition, "Mass" refers to the celebration of the Eucharist—an

essential and sacred observance commemorating the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. By coming together for "Christ's Mass," early believers celebrated His entrance into the world, setting the stage for a transformative message of hope and salvation.

You might have also seen the term "Xmas," which sometimes causes confusion. But "Xmas" has deep roots in the Greek language, as the letter "X" (Chi) is the first letter in Χριστός (Christos), which means "Christ." Far from being a modern abbreviation, "Xmas" holds a rich, historical connection to Christ and reminds us of the enduring message of Christmas: that Jesus came to be with us and bring us closer to God.

So, as we say "Merry Christmas," let's remember its profound meaning — a celebration of Christ with us!

— christianity.com



The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God."

Luke 1:35

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littlebrownchurch.org
Pastor Drew McHolm

Service times: Sing-A-Long Service, 10:15 a.m., and worship service at 10:30 a.m., Sunday.

REPUBLIC CHURCH

1794 280th St., Ionia
Pastor Sarah Namukose

Service time: 10:30 a.m. Sundays.

UNITED METHODIST

CHURCH

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Pastor Sarah Namukose

Service time: 9 a.m. Sundays.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN

300 Merrill St.
Pastor Todd Burrichter

Service time: 9 a.m. Sundays.

CEDAR POINT CHURCH

310 Main Street
Pastor Darin Cerwinski

Service time: 6:30 p.m. Friday.

ST. MICHAELS CHURCH

602 Cedar Street
Father Tom Heathershaw

Service time: 6:30 p.m. Saturdays.

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Pastor Drew McHolm

Service time: Sunday, 9 a.m.

LAWLER

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3030 Highway 24
Father Nick Radloff

Mass: Saturday, 4 p.m.

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CREEK LUTHERAN

CHURCH

2616 140th St, Lawler
Pastor Sue Cira

Service time: 9:30 a.m., Sunday.

FREDERICKSBURG

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SYNOD

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Pastor Ron Koch

Service time: 8:30 a.m., Sundays.

PEACE UCC CHURCH

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Pastor Scott Smith

Service time: 9 a.m., Sundays.

WAUCOMA

ST. MARY CATHOLIC

218 3rd St. NW
Father Nick Radloff

Mass: Sunday, 8:30 a.m.

ST. LUCAS

ST. LUKE CATHOLIC

215 East Main
Father Nick Radloff

Mass: Sunday, Dec. 22, 10:30 a.m.

PROTIVIN

HOLY TRINITY

124 N. Main St.
Father Nick Radloff

Mass: Sunday, Dec. 22, 8:30 a.m.

LITTLE TURKEY

ASSUMPTION OF THE

BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

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Father Nick Radloff

Mass: Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

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OF CHRIST

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Rev. Peter Wenzel

Service time: 10 a.m., Sundays.

Almanac

	H	L	P
Wednesday	39	4	--
Thursday	20	4	--
Friday	34	14	--
Saturday	55	26	--
Sunday	54	24	--
Monday	46	22	--
Tuesday	29	21	--

Forecast

Thursday: Mostly cloudy and cold with a high of 11 and a low of 7.

Friday: Mostly cloudy with a chance of snow developing later in the day; high 24, low 19.

Saturday: Chances of snow and then freezing rain with a high of 31 and a low of 21.

Sunday: Partly cloudy with a high of 35 and a low of 22.

Extended forecast: We'll start the work week with highs in the 30s and lows in the teens.

Meetings

MONDAY

• Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors, 9 a.m., Courthouse.

• New Hampton School Board, 6 p.m., High School Family and Consumer Science Room.

• New Hampton City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall.

History

• In 1787, Pennsylvania becomes the second state and the first so-called "big state" to ratify the U.S. Constitution, by a vote of 46-26.

• In 1913, two years after it was stolen from the Louvre Museum in Paris, Leonardo da Vinci's masterpiece The Mona Lisa is recovered inside Italian waiter Vincenzo Peruggia's hotel room in Florence.

• In 1937, during the battle for Nanking in the Sino-Japanese War, the U.S. gunboat Panay is attacked and sunk by Japanese warplanes in Chinese waters.

• In 1965, rookie running back Gale Sayers of the Chicago Bears scores six touchdowns against the San Francisco 49ers at Chicago's Wrigley Field, tying the National Football League (NFL) record for most touchdowns in a single game.

Birthdays

• John Jay, the first chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, was born in 1745.

• American singer and actor Frank Sinatra was born in 1908.

• Longtime "Price is Right" host Bob Barker was born in 1923.

• Mayim Bialik, who starred as Amy Farrah Fowler on TV's "Big Bang Theory," turns 49.

• American actress Jennifer Connelly turns 54.

• Former U.S. tennis great Tracy Austin turns 62.

• American singer Dionne Warwick turns 84.

Corrections

• The Tribune wants to make sure all information it presents is accurate and correct.

If you see an error, please call Editor Bob Fenske at 641-394-2111.

Tribune

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Dana August Dimel, 62

Dana August Dimel, age 62 of Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, passed away peacefully at his home on Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2024.

Dana August Dimel was born to John and Joann Dimel on Oct. 9, 1962, in Columbus, Ohio, joining his siblings Leslie, Johnny, Jessica and Matthew. The stories those kids could tell about growing up with all of their cousins nearby. Dad John was a bombardier in World War II and later worked in Columbus. Mother Jo Ann, who Dana affectionately referred to as Josephine, was a happy homemaker.

If you think that Dana was a sweet person – look no further than his precious Josephine to know exactly where that sweet gene came from. Dana took very special care of his parents in their later years before their passing.

Dana graduated from Upper Arlington High School (OH), then attended Hutchinson Junior College and graduated from Kansas State University – forever a K-State Wildcat.

He attended a summer camp with the Minnesota Vikings and left due to injury – at which point he returned to his college alma mater to embark on his storied coaching career.

Dana was kind, compassionate, smart and very generous. Dana loved to laugh, and he always had a smile on his face. He had the most positive attitude that a person could possess. He had a heart of gold and was absolutely one hundred percent genuine. D treated everybody with kindness and respect no matter their stature in life.

Dana had an absolute love for all animals. His gentle nature provided for many special relationships with his four-legged kids. When he arrived home in the evenings he loved to make a huge commotion with all the animals provoking barking, howling, and nose kissing. D was greeted in heaven by his many "pretty girls" and "such handsome boys," and he definitely sat down and gave them all good ear rubs, tummy scratches and lots of kisses.

Dana had a deep passion for the game of college football. Coach Dimel was the head football coach at the University of Wyoming, University of Houston and UTEP. He had stints of coordinator and assistant coaching responsibilities at Kansas State University, University of Arizona and most recently, the University of Illinois.

Coach D was mainly an offensive coach but had great knowledge of the full game. Coach D also had a great eye for talent and his goal was to develop strong, smart players who were good stewards in life.

He found the good in all and was always willing to give chances to those that maybe would not have been provided opportunity. He was dedicated to developing his players into productive men and help them establish a good moral foundation to go on and succeed in life. Coach D's community of football coaches and college football professionals reached out on a nationwide level.

The relationships he had with his brothers in coaching were so very treasured by Big D. As a head coach he loved to give coaches their first job and help develop their professional skills. He was a mentor, a father figure and has left a lasting impact on many players, coaches, program staff and football families.

Many of the meetings that Coach D would have with a player or a coach ended up not being about football at all, but just thoughtful conversations about life. Coach D's coaching career is not done yet – he will now watch over us and will coach us up when necessary.

Big D had such special love for his family, friends and friends who became like family. He had a true concern and interest for what was happening in their lives and the truest of love for all of those close relationships.

Daughter Josey and Dana's life together started when JoJo was just a toddler. There were many silly special moments between the two of them. They had so much love for each other and he was so proud of Josey and her academic and equestrian sport accomplishments. No doubt it was Dana's magic that brought Josey and her fiancé



Dana Dimel

DJ together. May they feel the warmth of D's love and wisdom as they begin their wedded life together.

There are no words to fully describe the special bond that D had with his son Winston. The love they had for each linked them intrinsically. Winnie and his dad spoke daily and were an extension of each other. And there are no two louder people to be around when they are watching a game or sporting event together. Such a special, special relationship the two of them had. Their bond is for eternity.

Dana and Julie were married on the 50-yard line of War Memorial Football Stadium in Laramie, Wyoming, on Aug. 7, 1999. Big D adored his JuJu and she adored him, they had a deep soulful connection. He doted on her and made sure she had everything she needed and wanted. Dana certainly did that with such love. Their free time was spent following the kids and all of their activities and sports, but the precious moments were spent with the two of them crunched in their big chair together watching sports and movies. Or they enjoyed just sitting outside listening to music, enjoying a cocktail while loving on their animals. He and Julie were absolute best friends and each other's "person."

Since his passing, D surely has had his arm around her whispering encouraging words in her ear which he will continue to do forever until they meet again. Their bond of love transcends any earthly presence ... a true love story.

Dana was a man of very strong faith and leaned into his faith with prayer and counsel. God certainly welcomed D's precious soul into his new heavenly life. May Dana's love and light shine eternally.

Dana is survived by his wife, Julie, son, Winston (Evelyn Vasquez) of Las Cruces, New Mexico; daughter, Josey Thompson (DJ Stoneburner) of Paso Robles, California; his mother-in-law, Nancy Josephson of New Hampton; brothers-in-law, Jeff Josephson and Jon Josephson (Staci Vrzak), both of New Hampton; sisters-in-law, Krissi Josephson and Terri Josephson, both of New Hampton, and Suzi Whitman of Guthrie Center; Winston's mother and stepfather, Kim and Scott Iverson, of Manhattan, Kansas; Winston's "Grame," Berneice Black, of Manhattan, Kansas; and the greatest group of nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts and uncles a guy could ask for.

Preceding Dana in death are his parents, John and Jo Ann Dimel; siblings, Leslie Route, Johnny Casbarro, Jessica Riegel and her husband Jeff Riegel, and Matthew Dimel; his father-in-law; Duane Josephson; and Grampe Jim Black.

A message from those left behind to embrace your legacy.

Dearest Dana (Big D, Coach D, Big Danes, Daddy Dim Dog) – If the amazing love that is felt for you could build a bridge to heaven and bring you back, it would be done many times over. You are loved, you are precious, you are everything that is good in this world. And you will be missed beyond measure. Our world will never be the same.

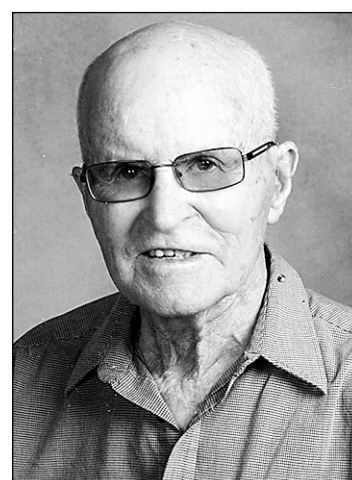
We love you, buddy – forever.

A memorial tribute was held on Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2024, at 4 p.m. at the University of Illinois Memorial Football Stadium's Colonnades Club in Champaign.

A second life tribute event will be held at Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas, at a later date after the football season. More information will be released.

Condolences may be made to www.morganmemorialhome.com.

James Jirak, 96



Jim Jirak

James Jirak, age 96 of Little Turkey, died Sunday, Dec. 1, 2024, at Whispering Willow Assisted Living and Memory Wing in Fredericksburg.

A Memorial Mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday, December 13, 2024, at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church in Little Turkey with the Rev. Nick Radloff celebrating the Mass.

Inturnment will be held at St. Marys Catholic Cemetery, Little Turkey.

Friends may greet the family from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12, 2024, at Hugelback-Johnson Funeral Home & Crematory in New Hampton. Visitation continues an hour prior to the Mass at the church in Little Turkey on Friday.

James Francis "Jim" Jirak, was born to Edward Senior and Helen (Kunt) Jirak on August 20, 1928, in Little Turkey. Jim lived a full and vibrant life that touched the hearts of all who knew him.

Jim's early education was rooted in the local country school until the eighth grade, after which he graduated from Rudolphinum Catholic High School in Protivin in 1945.

It was at a basketball game that fatefully led Jim to the love of his life, Barbara Riha. Introduced by a friend, Jim and Barbara's story began, leading to their marriage on September 14, 1949, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Waucoma. Together they embarked on a life of love and farming on the Jirak Family farm, where they lovingly raised five children and developed a successful comprehensive hog and grain operation.

After 30 years in the Little Turkey area on the family homestead, Jim and Barbara built their forever home just three miles down the road, where

Wilfred Walz, age 96 of New Hampton, died Thursday, Dec. 5, 2024, at New Hampton Nursing & Rehabilitation Center.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2024, at Holy Family Parish, New Hampton with the Rev. James Goerend celebrating the Mass.

Interment was held at Calvary Cemetery in New Hampton with Wilfred's grandchildren serving as pallbearers.

Friends greeted the family from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2024, at the church prior to the Mass.

Wilfred August Walz was born to William and Caroline (Demmer) Walz on July 27, 1928, in Fergus Falls, Minnesota. Wilfred grew up in a world far different from the one we know today, yet, throughout the decades, his loving, gentle and passionate spirit remained a constant beacon of light to those around him.

Wilfred's formative years were spent in Monticello, where he received his education and eventually developed a lifelong love for agriculture. His youth was punctuated by joyful visits with family friends, the Nehls, in Alta Vista.

It was there he met the love of his life, Joanna Nehl. Their courtship blossomed into a beautiful marriage on June 7, 1950, at St. Bernard's Catholic Church in Alta Vista. Together, they embarked on a journey of love and partnership, first as farmers near Hawkeye and later in the Lawler area, where Wilfred pursued his passion for dairy farming. This union was blessed with the birth of six

they continued to create a warm and welcoming space for family and friends for the next 45 years. The couple celebrated an incredible milestone of 75 years of marriage this year, coinciding with their granddaughter's wedding on Sept. 14, 2024.

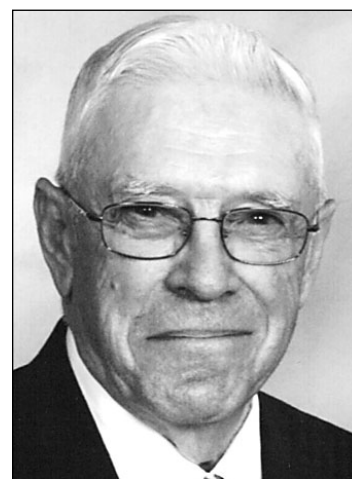
Jim was a man of the land, but his interests extended far beyond the fields. He and Barbara were known for their graceful dancing, earning them the titles of Polka King & Queen of Iowa. Their Sundays were joyously spent traveling across Northeast Iowa to polka dances.

The couple also cherished their biannual fishing trips to Canada, a tradition spanning over 50 years. They were also seasoned travelers, participating in Farm Journal Tours, with their favorite visits including farms in South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, and Mexico.

In 1993, Jim discovered a new passion for golf when the Jackson Heights course was built, and he quickly became an avid golfer.

His love for community was evident in his participation in the neighborhood card club, and he took pride in showcasing his '52 pickup and '37 coupe in

Wilfred Walz, 96



Wilfred Walz

wonderful children.

In 1967, the family moved to an acreage east of New Hampton, where Wilfred and Joanna enjoyed the simpler pleasures of their hobby farm. Throughout his career, Wilfred worked for various farm-related businesses. Still, it was his role as a custodian at the New Hampton High School, from 1973 until his retirement in 1990, that many will fondly remember him for.

Wilfred's life was marked by active involvement in his community and his faith. As a child, he was engaged in 4-H which he really enjoyed. He grew to be a devoted member of the Knights of Columbus and Holy Family Parish. He was a man who not only believed in the values of hard work and service but also lived them every day.

His interests were as rich and varied as the life he led. Wilfred was an avid fisherman, making annual trips to Minnesota with his family for 34 years—a tradition his children hold dear to their hearts.

area parades.

Jim was very handy and collected and rebuilt machinery he used from his younger days as a farmer. He ended up with a personal museum on the farm. Jim was a craftsman with wood, creating treasures from the walnut trees in his yard, such as little bear chairs and rocking horses, which he generously shared in his family and the surrounding communities.

Jim's faith was as strong as his work ethic. He was a baptized and devoted lifelong member of the Assumption of the BVM Parish in Little Turkey. His commitment to his church community was unwavering, especially known for lending a helping hand at the annual August 15th church dinner. Jim was a man who cherished simple pleasures, such as puzzling, his special love for dogs, and the joy of a warm hug.

Jim's legacy is not only in the rich soil of his farm, or the craftsmanship of his woodwork, or in his passion for dancing, but in the hearts of those who experienced his kindness, his embrace, and his unwavering love for his family and his community.

Jim is survived by his wife, Barbara, of Fort Atkinson; three children, Jerome (Gayle) of Waucoma, Joan (Alvin) Bakley of Tuthill, South Dakota, and Janet (Mel) Bodenstener of West Union; 22 grandchildren and 39 great-grandchildren; son-in-laws Richard (Colleen) Uhlenhake of Ossian, and Roger (Jan) Gilb of Lakeville, Minnesota; and sister-in-law, Helen Jirak of St. Lucas.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two daughters, Joyce Uhlenhake and Jane Gilb; and siblings, Vernelle (Roy Schmitt) (Wes Dostal) and Edward Junior.

The family vacations to the Black Hills and Colorado were filled with adventure and laughter, creating memories that would last a lifetime. At home,

Wilfred could often be found in his garden, woodworking, or playing a competitive game of euchre or 500. Traveling the Midwest, camping in their 5th wheel, and spending precious time with his grandchildren were among his favorite pastimes.

In retirement, he discovered a talent for golf, a pastime he quickly excelled at and thoroughly enjoyed.

Wilfred August Walz will be remembered as a man who embodied the virtues of love, gentleness and passion in every aspect of his life. His presence enriched the lives of those around him, and his memory will continue to inspire and comfort his family and friends for generations to come.

Wilfred's legacy lives on through his six children: Susan (John) Kriener of Omaha, Nebraska, Jane Einck of New Hampton, Mary Lou (Ron) Balk of Denver, David (Molly Abraham) Walz of Iowa City, Roger (Erica) Walz of Maple Grove, Minnesota, and Steven (Stacia) Walz of Denver, Colorado; his nineteen grandchildren; and twenty-three great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister-in-law, Joan Walz of Oelwein.

Wilfred was preceded in death by his parents, his beloved wife, Joanna, who passed away in September 2023; his brothers, Leo, Albert at childbirth, and Cletus; son-in-law, Tim Einck; and daughter-in-law, Judy Walz.

Briefs

Chickasaw Event Center to hold fundraiser on Dec. 31

To achieve its goal of a new roof, the Chickasaw Event Center is holding a New Year's Eve bash.

The "Rai\$e the Roof event will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 31 at the center, 301 N. Water Ave. in New Hampton, starting at 5 p.m.

Tickets are \$25 per person, which includes lasagna, soup, salad, relish tray, dessert and drink, with cards — euchre or 500 — to follow dinner.

No tickets will be sold at the door, and all ticket sales are final. Contact Janet at 641-394-3173 for tickets.

Kolache fundraiser to be held Dec. 21 in Waucoma

The Latecomers Relay for Life team will be holding a kolache sale to raise money for the American Cancer Society on Dec. 21 at the Waucoma Library Building.

The walk-in sale starts at 9 a.m. with no pre-orders taken. The cost is \$15 per dozen.

The Latecomers team raised a little over \$37,700 during 2024 with a sizable portion raised from the Hawkeye and Cyclone quilt fundraiser.

The team will again be doing a quilt giveaway in 2025

Book fair/bake sale set for next week at MercyOne

A Scholastic Book Fair is set for Monday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Tuesday from 7:30 a.m. to noon and will benefit New Hampton Elementary School Media Center and the MercyOne Free Little Library.

The fair will be held at the MercyOne Health Education Center. In addition, a bake sale will also be held during the same hours and location as the book fair will be held and benefit the Friends of MercyOne New Hampton.

Newspaper foundation scholarships

The Iowa Newspaper Foundation (INF) again has college scholarships available for students preparing for a newspaper career. Historically, the INF awards approximately eight scholarships totaling more than \$8,000 and anticipates awarding at least as much in 2025.

The scholarships available for 2025-2026 are outlined at <https://innews.com/learn/scholarships/>.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS AND LETTERS TO SANTA IN NEXT WEEK'S TRIBUNE

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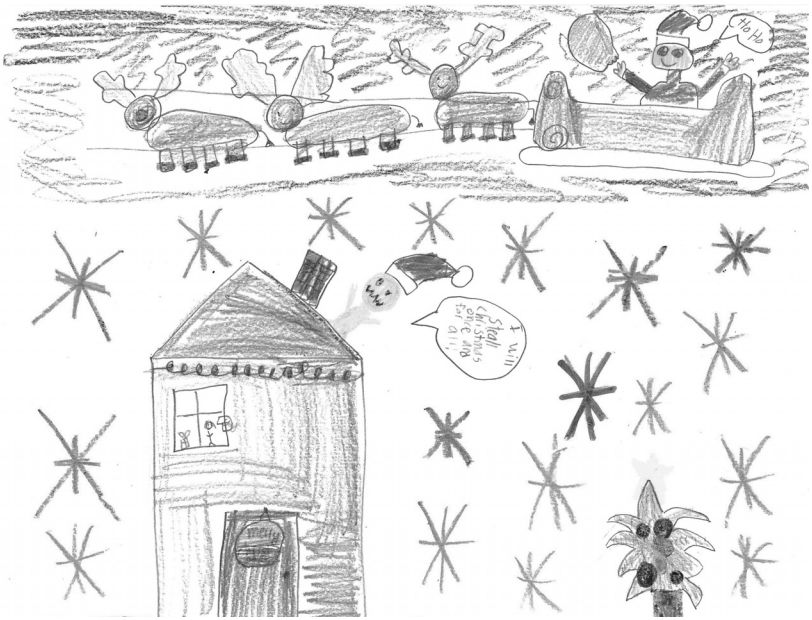
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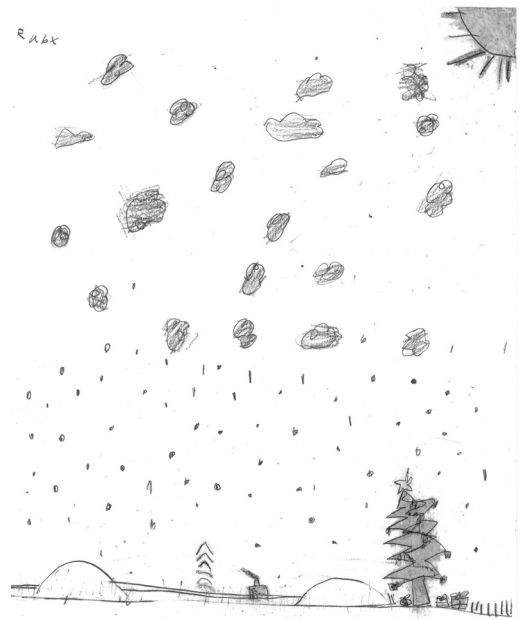
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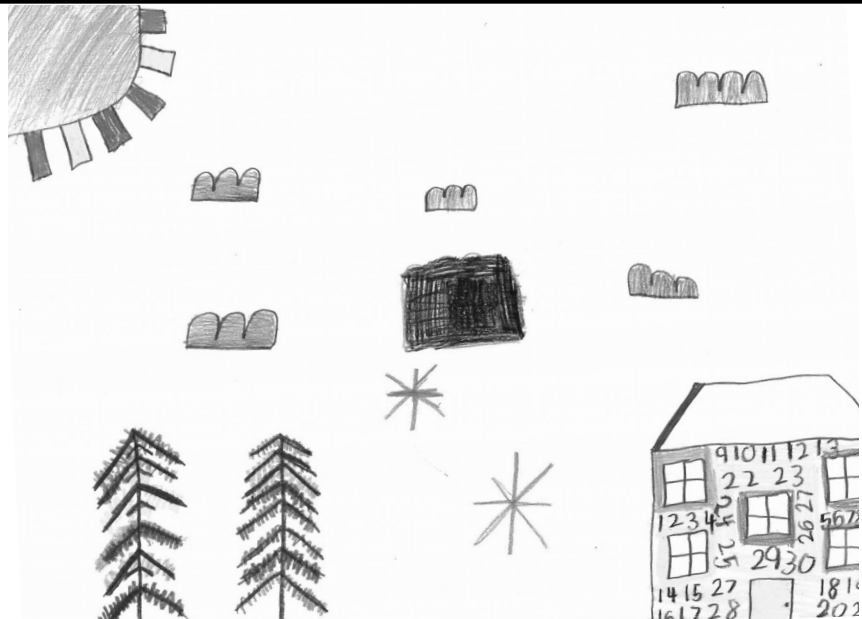
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Quinn A. - Schueth Ace Hardware



Ruby P. - Rebel Diamonds



Wesson D. - Klunders Kafe



Ryan E. - Pocketful of Posies



Gabby U. - Hometown TV & Appliance



Jose V. - Community Insurance



Oakley - Fareway



Zoe - Vern Laures Auto Center



Braun - Rapid Printers



Weston - Office World

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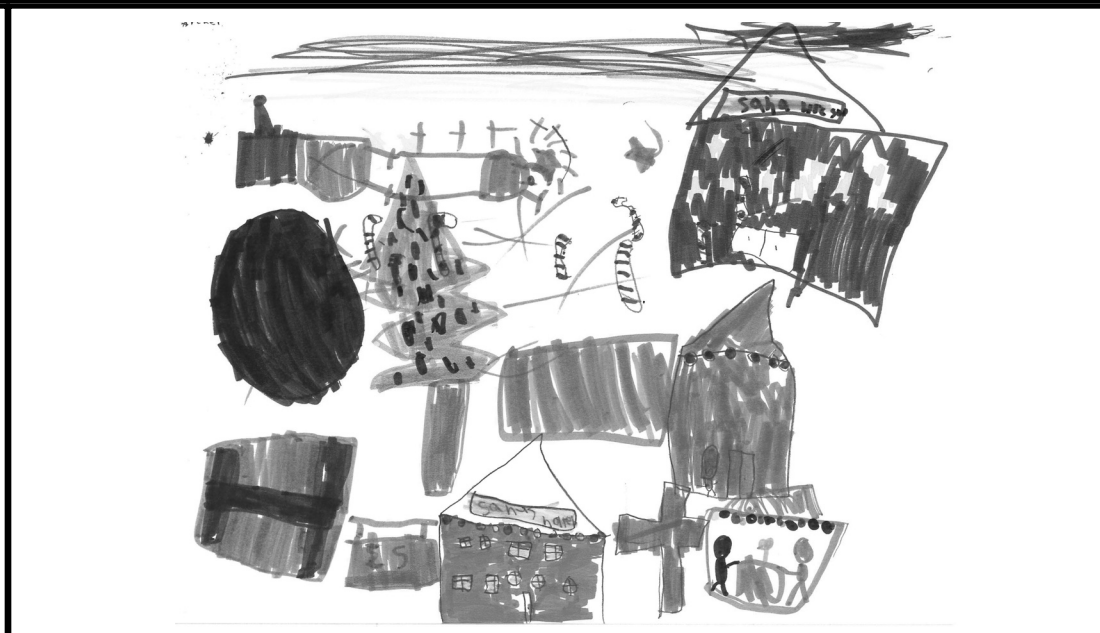
Ella - Community Insurance



Charlie P. - Fareway



Jameson - Vern Laures Auto Center



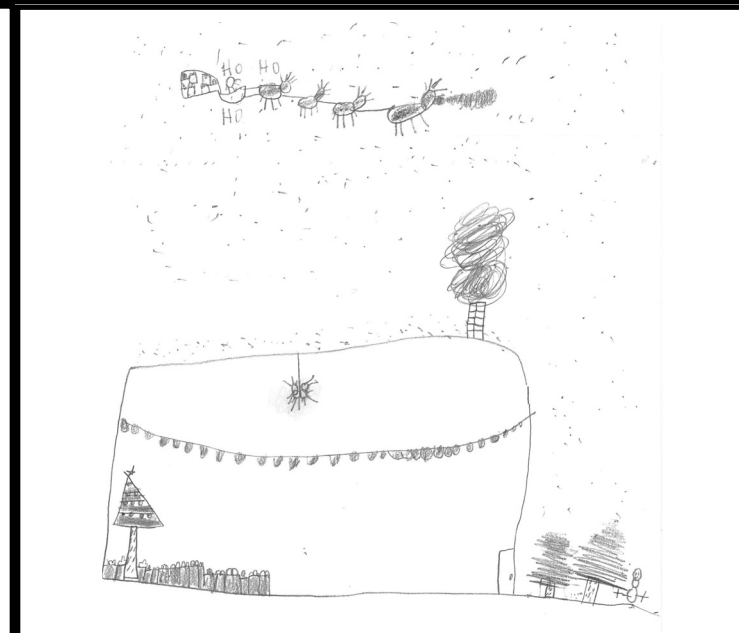
Archer - Security State Bank



Landon - Rebel Diamonds



Claire H. - New Horizons Chamber



Maclin - Phillips Refrigeration



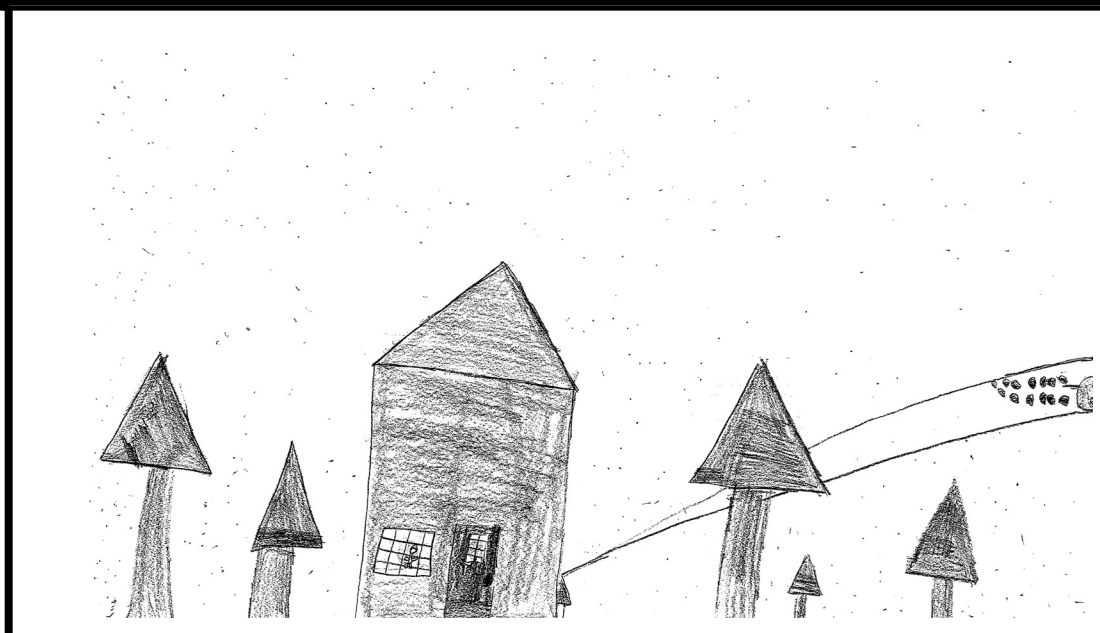
Ella-Mae - Bank Iowa



Logan - Schueth Ace Hardware



Sara - New Hampton Park & Rec.



Jon - Busti Lumber

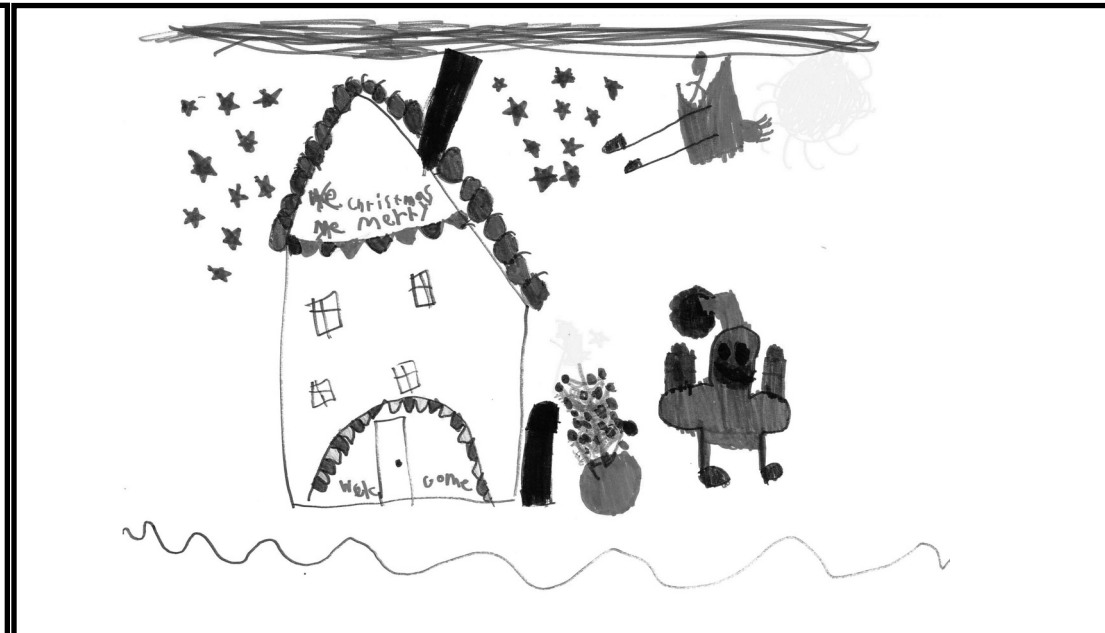
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Adissyn - Schueth Ace Hardware



Holden - Dungey's Furniture and Flooring



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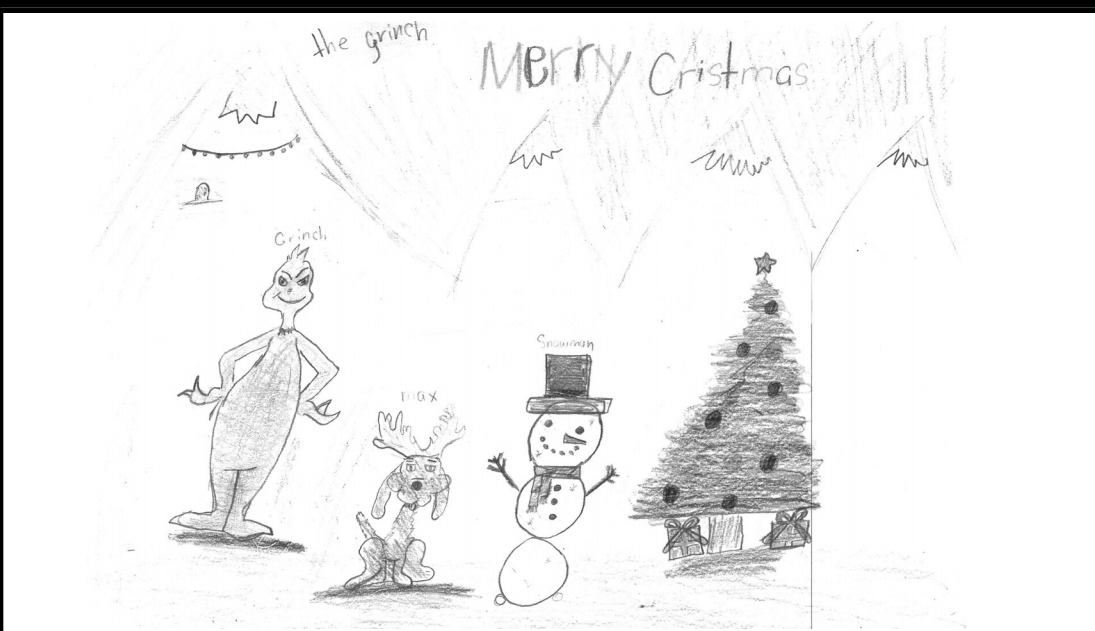
Iker - Bank Iowa



Harper - Vern Laures Auto Center



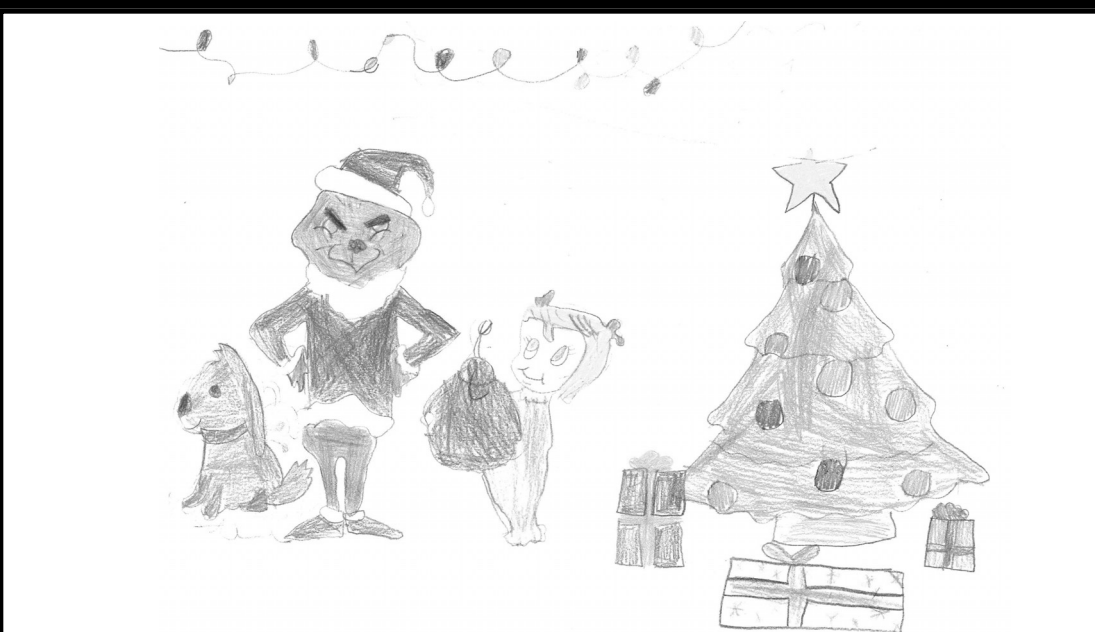
Victoria V. - Dungey's Furniture and Flooring



Autumn J. - Hometown TV & Appliance



Dominic L. - Rebel Diamonds



Sloan D. - Dungey's Furniture and Flooring



Ronaldo P. - HR Surveying

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Korey P. - Hometown TV & Appliance



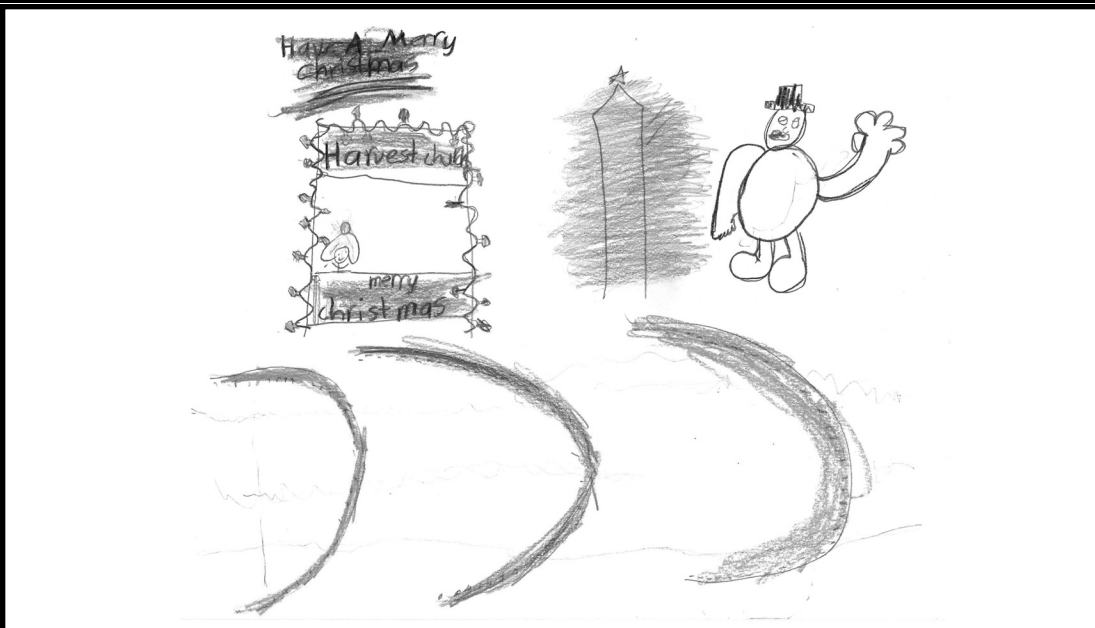
Mark P. - Bank Iowa



K.C. H. - Vern Laures Auto Center



Emmett B. - Farmers National Company-Randy Mitchell



Olivia S. - Security State Bank



Emerson K. - Hacker Nelson & Co., CPA's



Max D. - TriMark Corporation



Emersyn P. - Sweets By KeKe

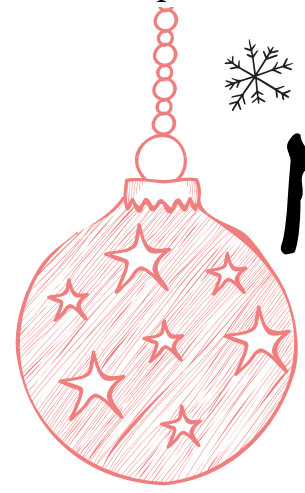


Jada A. - Rebel Diamonds



Lillian K. - Prairie Lakes Church

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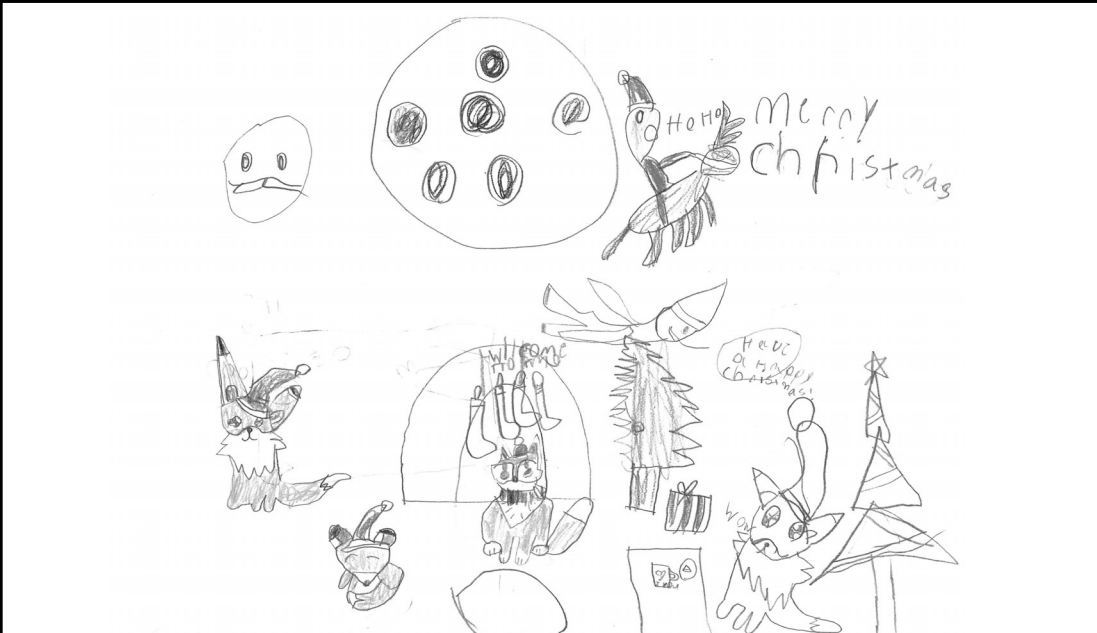
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Ivory B. - Schueth Ace Hardware



Lyham S. - Rebel Diamonds



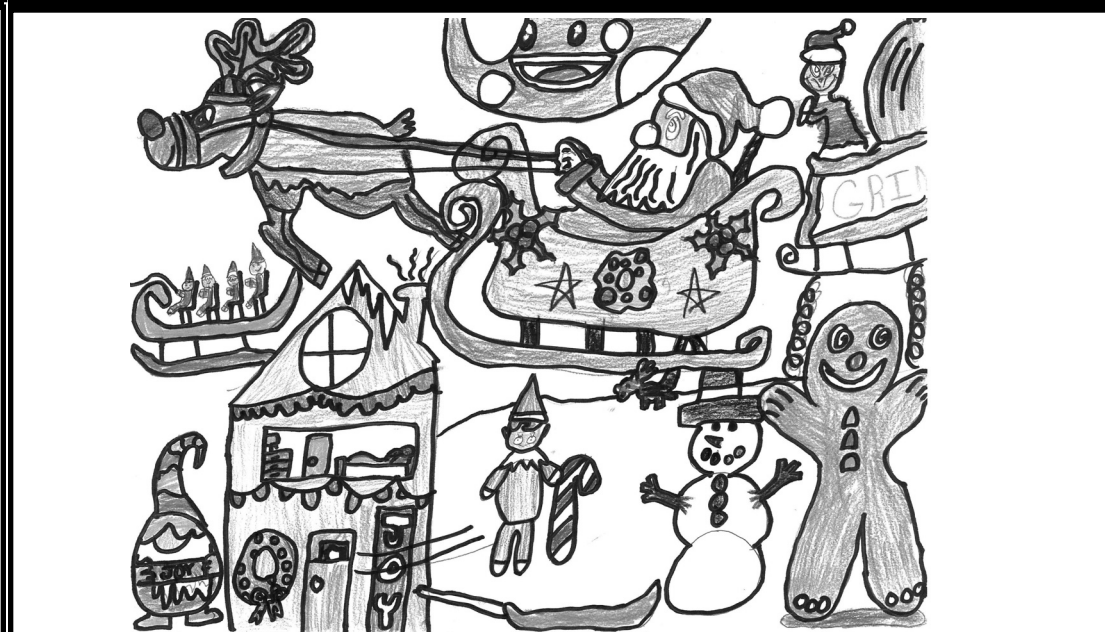
Ariel S. - Rustic Edge Salon-LeAnn Shekleton



Theo H. - Hacker Nelson & Co., CPA's



Levi K. - Chickasaw Wellness Center



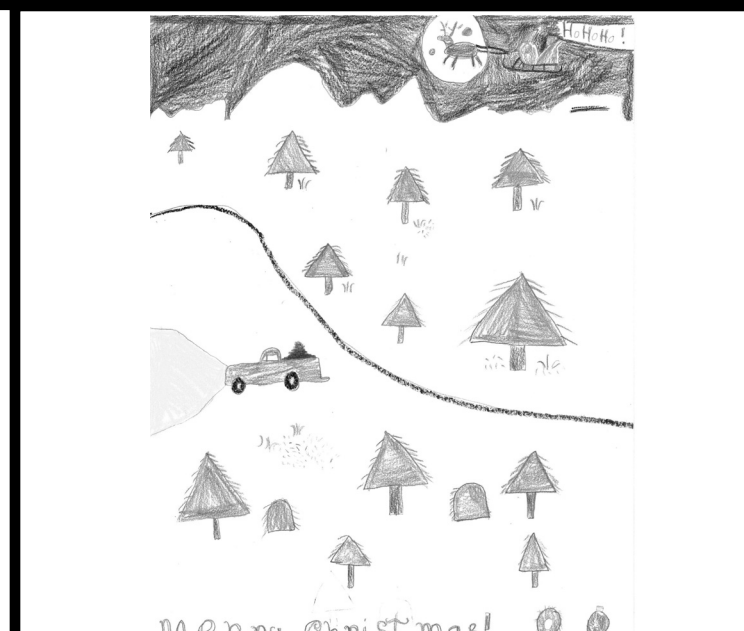
Charlotte T. - Bank Iowa



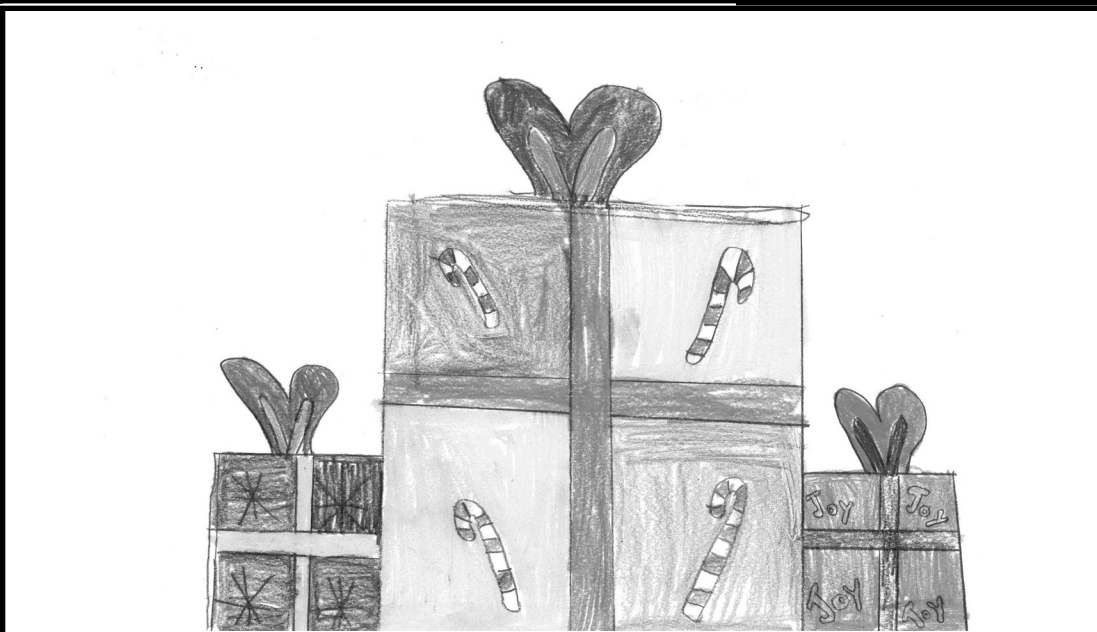
Ellie S. - Security State Bank



Macklen A. - Fidelity Bank



Liam S. - Dental Associates



Amelia N. - Farmers National Company-Randy Mitchell



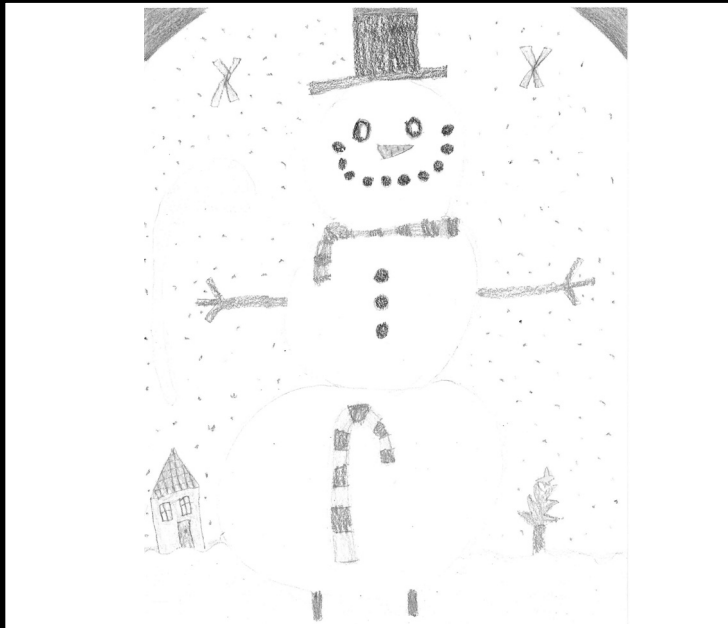
Grant F. - Cedar Valley Property Solutions



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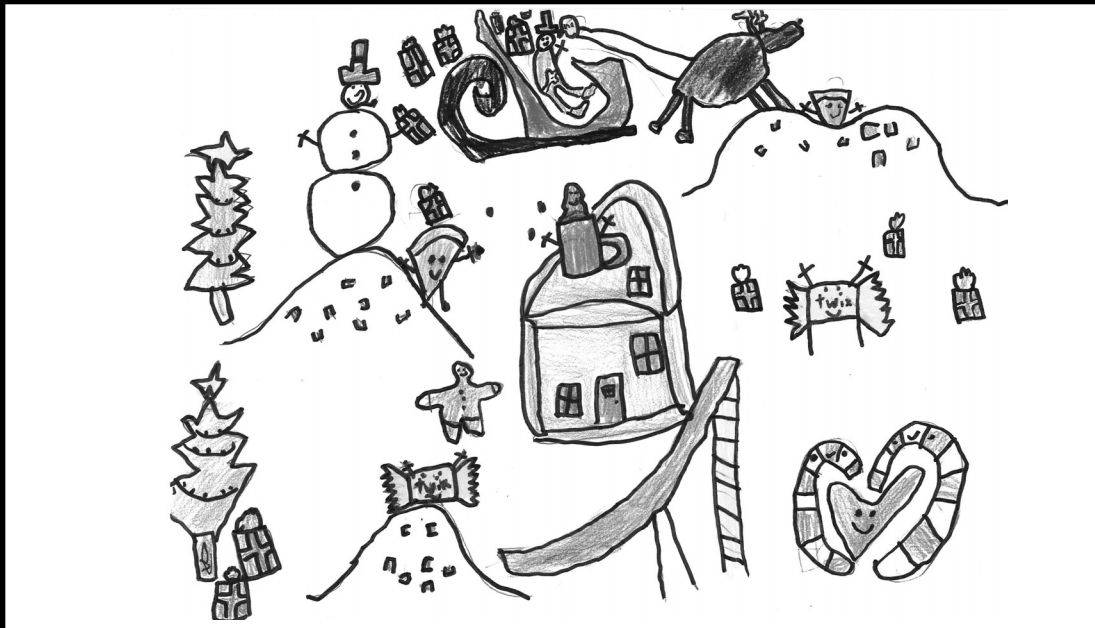
Kylie F. - Sweets By KeKe



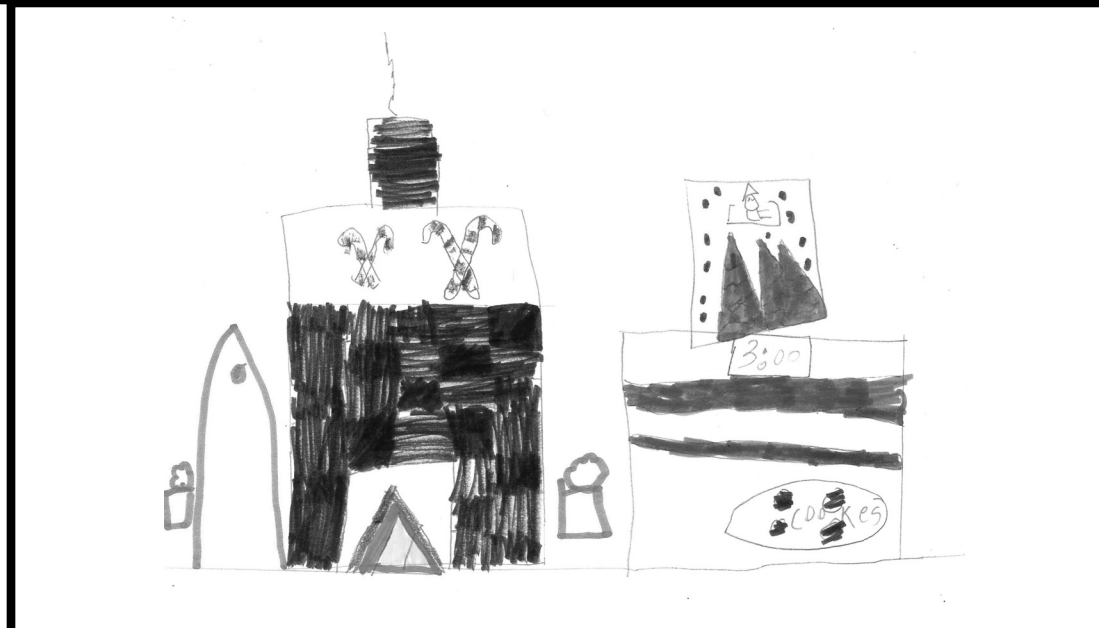
Maxwell B. - Riley's Inc.



Crosby F. - Security State Bank



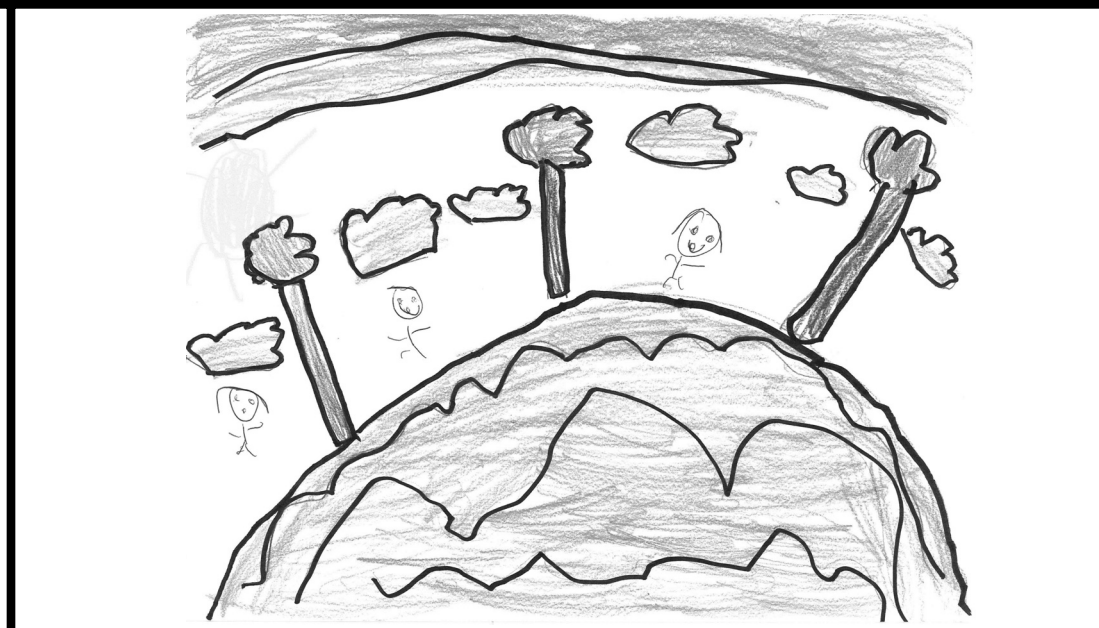
Connor L. - Lentz Excavating



Elijah F. - Prairie Lakes Church



Lucy R. - Holthaus Chiropractic



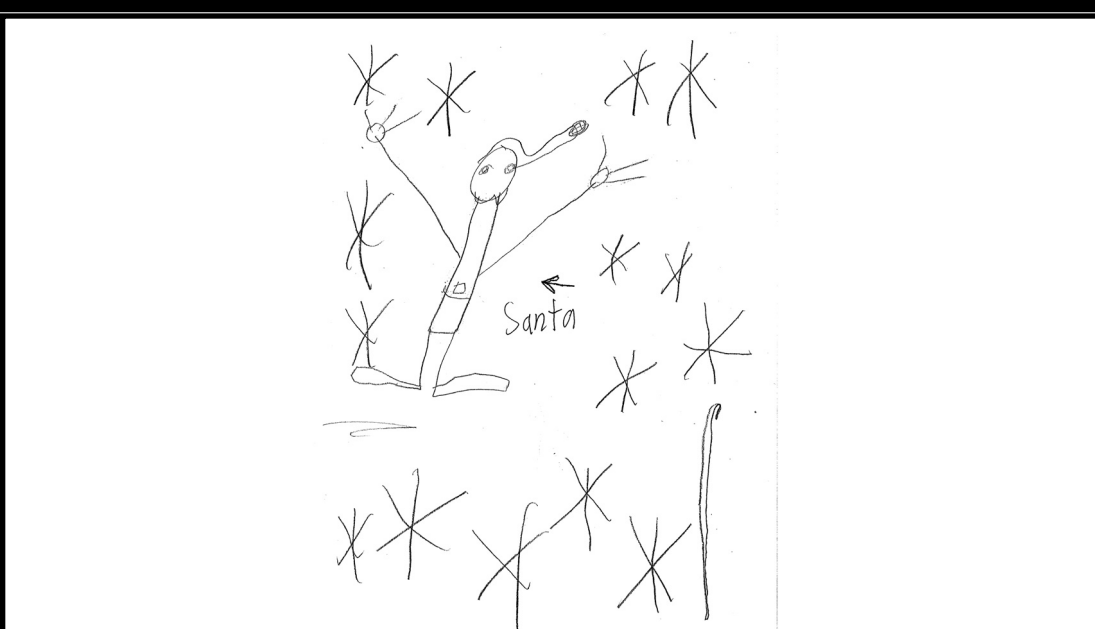
Matteo M. - Marv & Zips Repair, Inc.



Charlie R. - MiEnergy Cooperative



Tucker R. - New Hampton Auto Body & Trailer Sales



Markell P. - First Citizens Bank



Carver R. - Phillips Plumbing & Heating

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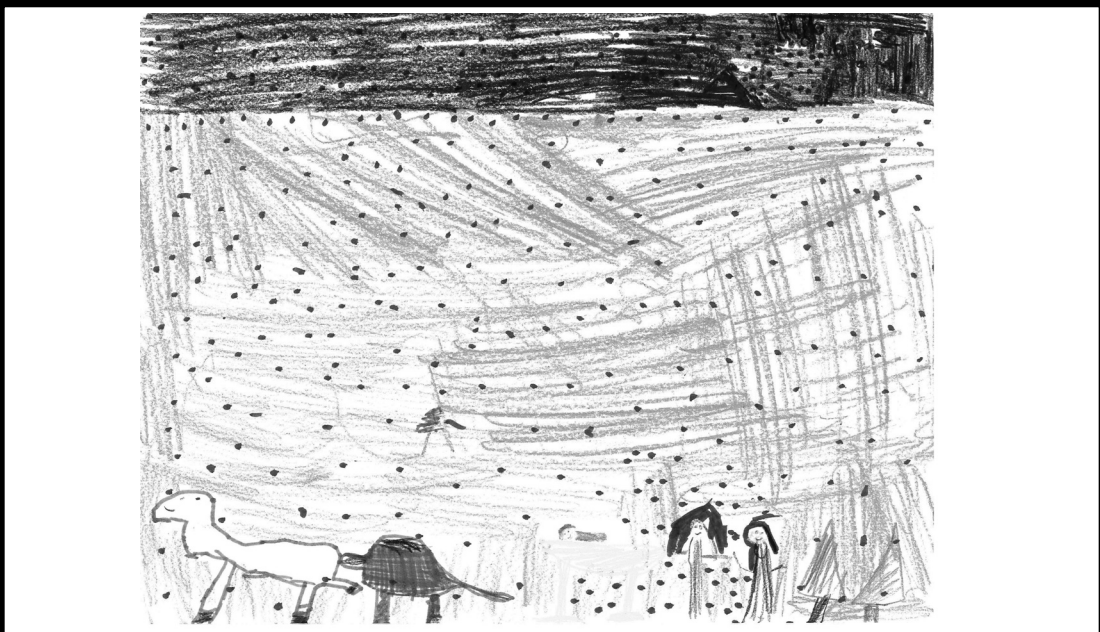
Bella O. - Farmers National Company-Randy Mitchell



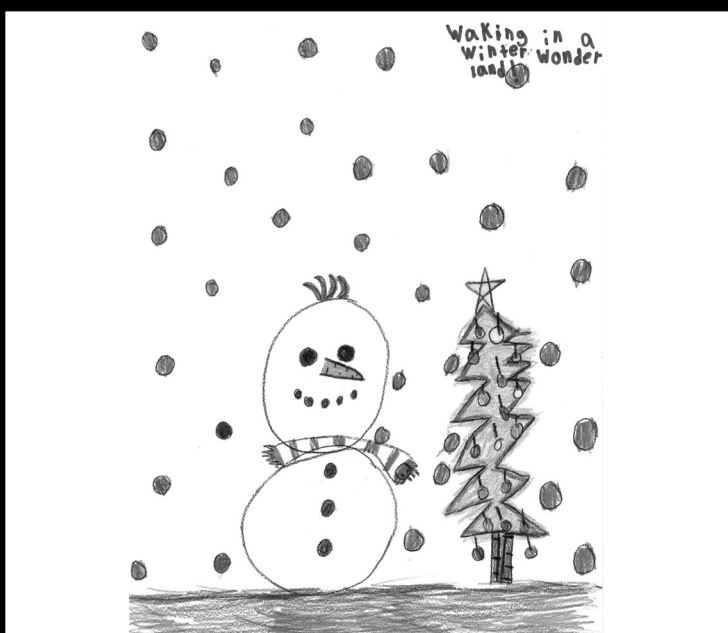
Margo C. - Milkhouse Candle Co.



Piper L. - Fidelity Bank



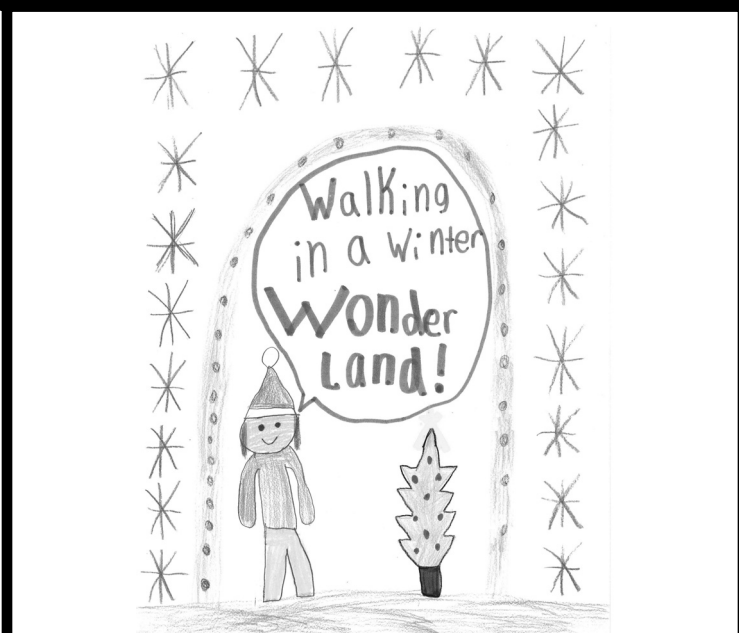
Forrest - Atek Metal Technologies



Ella K. - Riley's Inc.



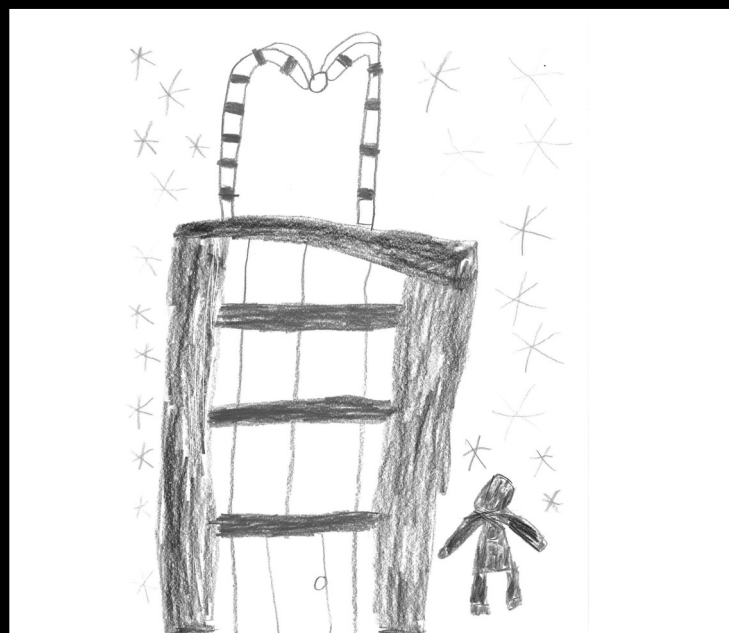
Abby B. - Stanton Electric



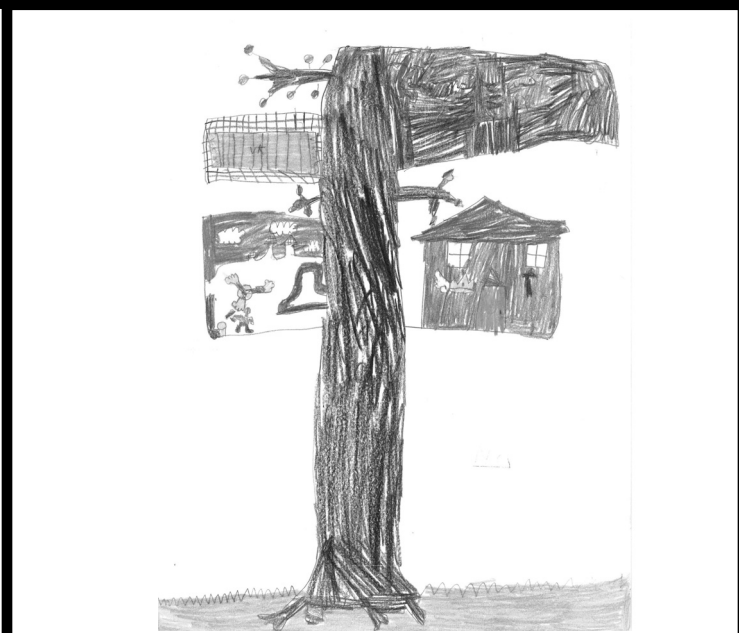
Allison - Croell



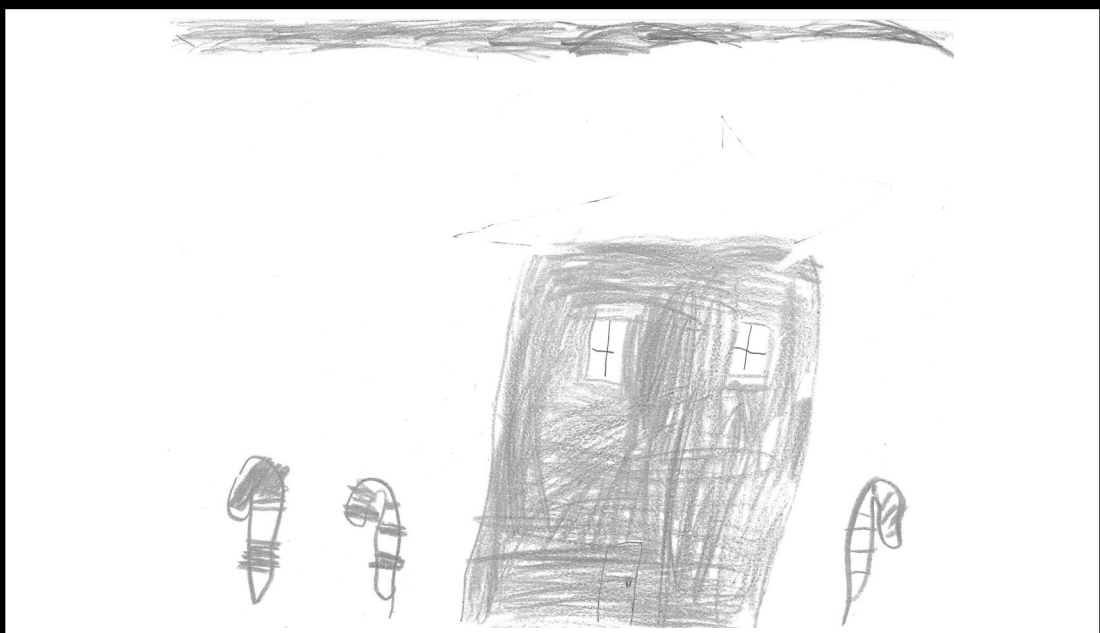
Rori Z. - TriMark Corporation



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Nico J. - Holthaus Chiropractic



Clive H. - Riley's Inc.



Brandon T. - Prairie Lakes Church

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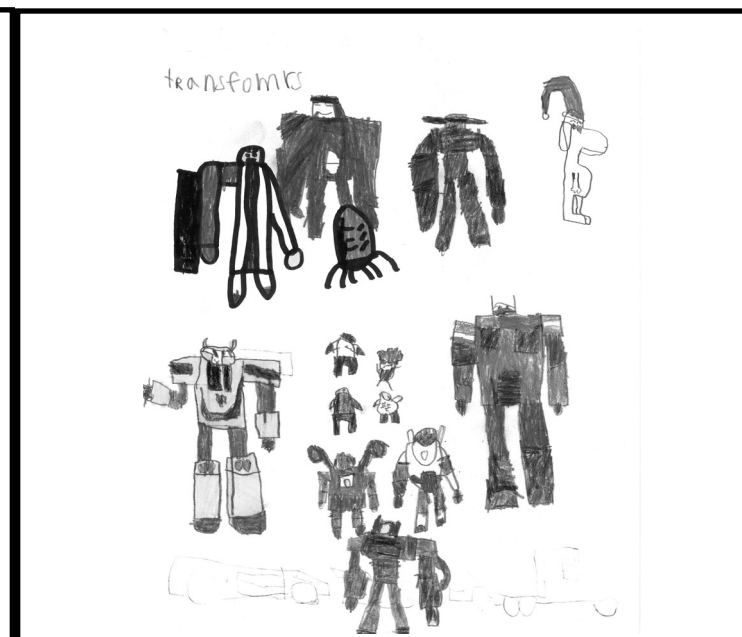
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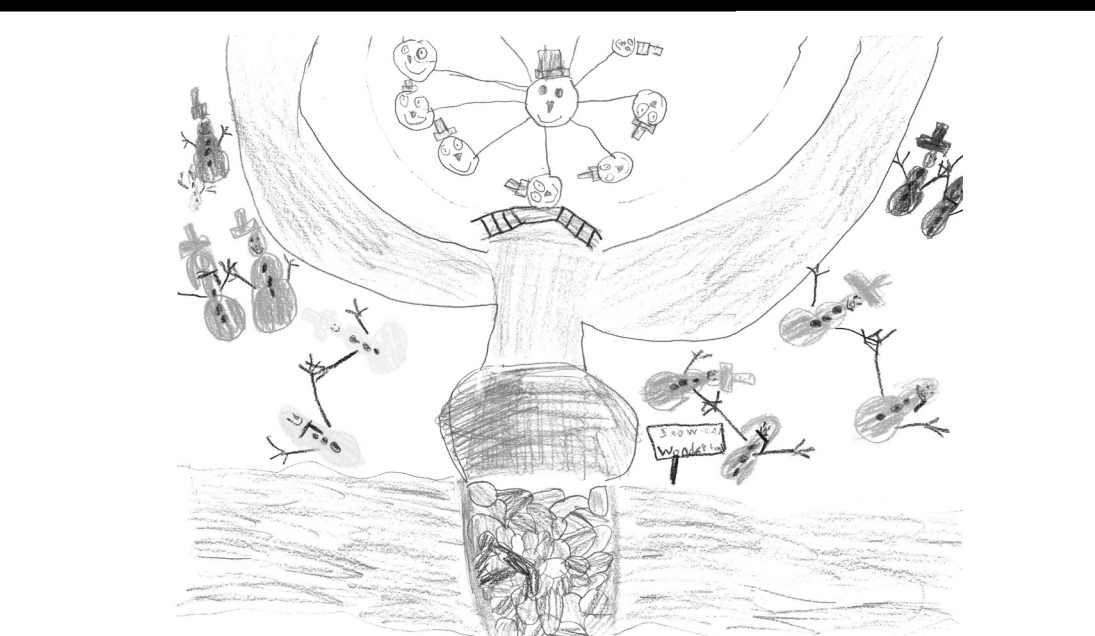
Aiden - TriMark Corporation



Riker - MiEnergy Cooperative



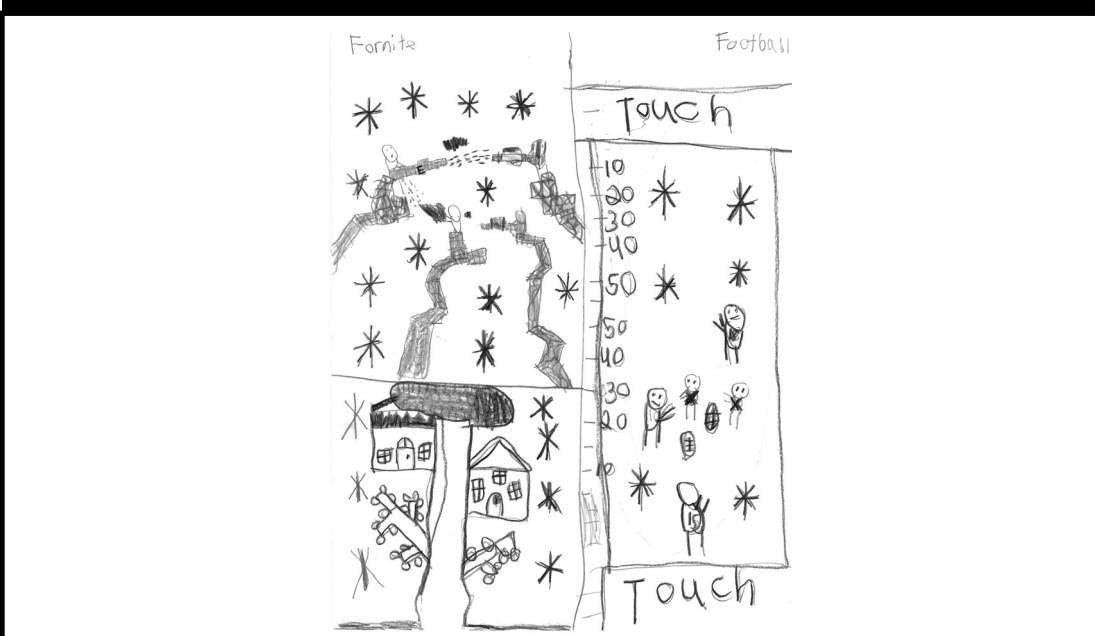
Jack - Marv & Zips Repair, Inc.



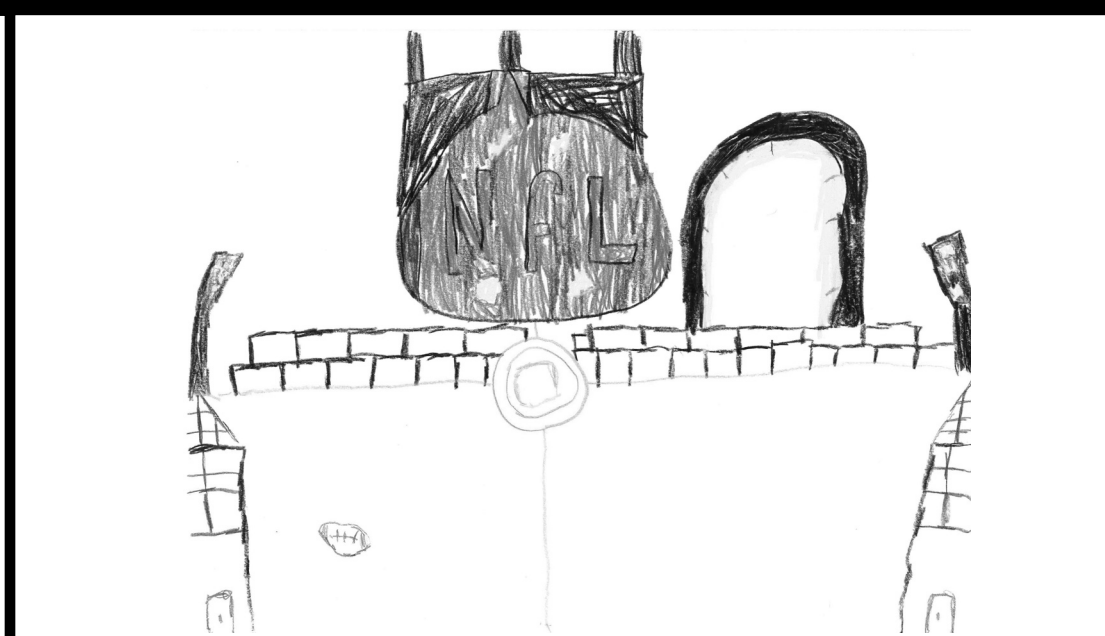
Becca - Cedar Valley Property Solutions



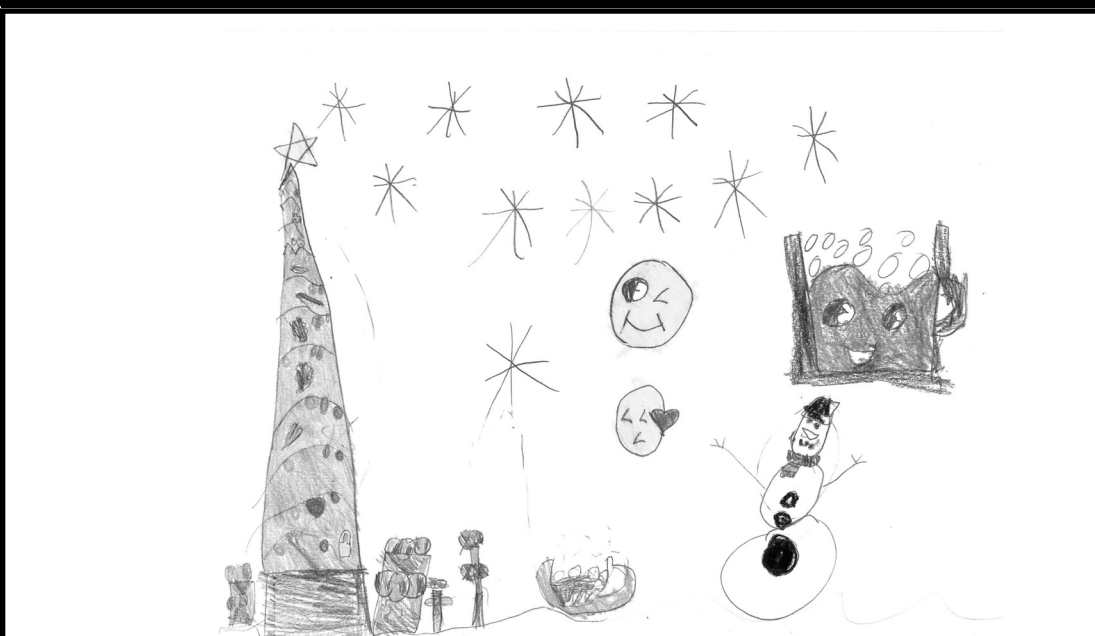
Corbett - New Hampton Auto Body & Trailer Sales



Aydin - Phillips Plumbing & Heating



Bryson W. - TriMark Corporation



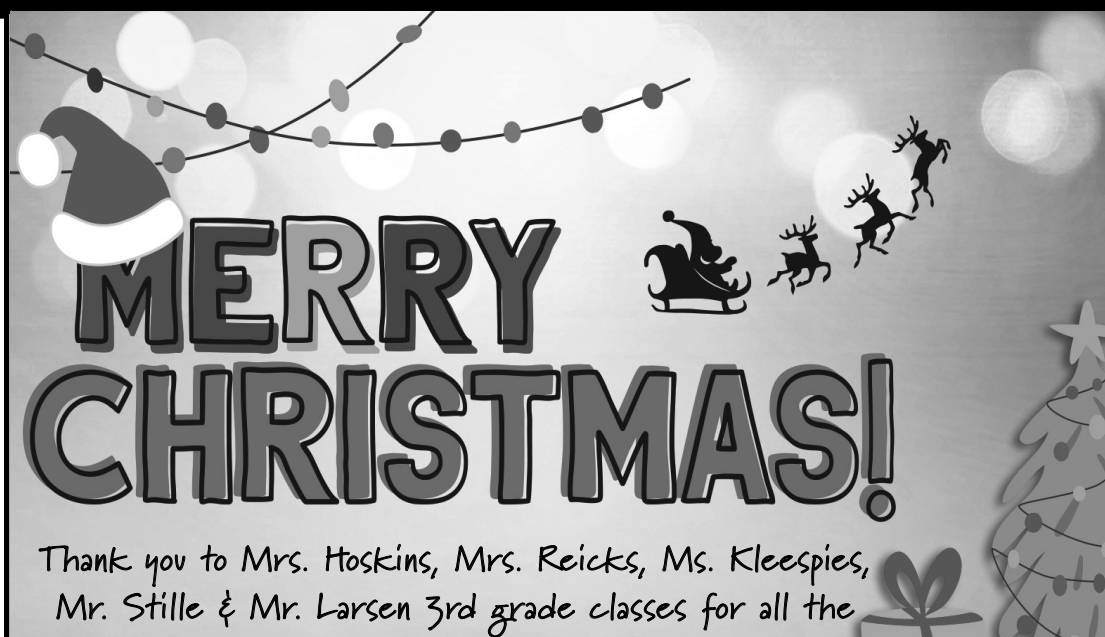
Scarlett - Prairie Lakes Church



Lexus W. - Cedar Valley Property Solutions



Kaylee G. - Stanton Electric



Thank you to Mrs. Hoskins, Mrs. Reicks, Ms. Kleespies, Mr. Stille & Mr. Larsen 3rd grade classes for all the beautiful Winter Wonderland drawings.

It's a weekend of tough knocks for Chickasaw boys

Shekleton's third-place finish at 150 highlights New Hampton/Turkey Valley's run at Cliff Keen tournament in Independence

By **BOB FENSKE**
editor@nhtrib.com

In some ways, the New Hampton/Turkey Valley boys wrestling team attended the proverbial School of Hard Knocks, Independence style, this past weekend.

Not that there weren't a couple of bright spots for the Chickasaws as a pair of sophomores — 138-pound Carter Cajthaml and 150-pound Jax Shekleton — earned trips into their

respective Cliff Keen Independence Invitational gold brackets.

But the final team standings — NH/TV finished 23rd in the 30-team two-day tournament — told the story.

"You know, a lot of guys didn't like where they finished and that's good," coach Matt Paulus



Shekleton

said, "but we're young, we're inexperienced and we're going to take some lumps. The whole idea of going to this tournament is to get better, and as much as losing sucks, I think — no, I know — we got better. It's all about how we respond."

Class 1A Alburnett claimed the team title with 348 points, 39.5 more than runner-up Carlisle while NH/TV finished with 121.5 points, and Shekleton and Cajthaml combined for more than half of the Chickasaws' scoring.

Start with Shekleton, who picked up two falls and a major decision during the pool round of the tournament on Friday that sent him into Saturday's quarterfinals.

After falling to IAwrestle's Class 2A ranked Ashton Moreno, Shekleton roared back to win



Cajthaml

three matches to claim his third-place finish. He capped his day with a first period pin over Carlisle's Mason Lucas, a two-time Class 3A state placwinner who was No. 7 in the first rankings of this season.

"That's a huge win for Jax, and both him and Carter had loaded brackets so we've got to feel good about where they're at right now," Paulus said. "Jax was tough pretty much the whole

SEE NH/TV BOYS, 18



Bob Fenske/Tribune

New Hampton's Kayme Hackman (above) hustles down court to knock the ball away from Turkey Valley's Addison Steinlage while the Trojans' Ellaney Bodensteiner (below) powers to the basket to score a field goal during Saturday afternoon's non-conference rivalry game.

Chickasaws pick up first wins of the season

New Hampton girls get contributions from host of players in 57-48 victory over Turkey Valley

By **BOB FENSKE**
editor@nhtrib.com

It was one play that in many ways signified the effort the New Hampton girls basketball team showed Saturday.

There was Turkey Valley's Addison Steinlage heading down court on her way to a seemingly easy fast-break layup, but there, too, was the Chickasaws' Kayme Hackman hustling down the court and just like that, the sophomore bundle of energy knocked the ball away from Steinlage.

"I think one of the things that's really important to remember is that there is no I in December," New Hampton coach David Leichtman said after his team finished off a 57-48 victory, "and it was plays like that, I think, that won an intense ballgame game. I'm so proud of all 10 girls that played today because they were all-in all the time."

The win was New Hampton's first of the year, and although Turkey Valley fell to 1-2,

Leichtman wasn't the only coach smiling following the tilt between the two non-conference rivals.

"I loved what I saw with the girls," Trojans coach Steve Hoffert said. "I told them after the game that we had a rough week. We had MFL on the road, Kee High on the road and then we came here. ... They played their tails off all week."

With senior Jackie Pickar scoring seven points, New Hampton jumped out to a 14-10 lead after one quarter, but the Trojans opened the second quarter with a 10-0 run in the second quarter to take a 17-16 lead.

The Chickasaws had an answer, closing the half on a 14-5 run that included scoring from five different players, and never trailed again.

Balance was the word of the game for New Hampton as Pickar finished with 17 points, Chloe Weigel added 14 and Ava Leichtman chipped in with 12.

SEE NH-TV GIRLS, 18



Bob Fenske/Tribune

After slow start, New Hampton boys stay the course on way to a 64-50 victory over Trojans

By **BOB FENSKE**
editor@nhtrib.com

It wasn't the start New Hampton boys basketball coach Ryan Rausch and his team wanted on Saturday in its game against Turkey Valley, but then again, it wasn't for a lack of effort.

And good things happen to teams that don't quit, right coach?

"I was really proud of our guys' effort," Rausch said after his team bounced back from two losses to beat the Trojans 64-50 in a non-conference game that Rausch hopes is a springboard to better days ahead. "I've gotten to the point where I've been tired of everybody telling us how great our effort was and we feel like we don't get results. I'm proud that the guys keep playing hard, don't get me wrong."

Turkey Valley, led by Cale Langreck's seven points, jumped out to a 13-7 lead late in the first quarter before New Hampton found its footing as the Chickasaws put together a 15-3 run to take a lead it would never relinquish.



Bob Fenske/Tribune

New Hampton's Adam Ewert is fouled by Turkey Valley's J.D. Kruse on a drive to the basket during Saturday's game.

to do that instead of where we used to be, where we'd give up a 15-0 run and go into the tank."

Leading 26-23 at halftime, New Hampton put the game away with its best quarter of the year as the Chickasaws out-

scored Turkey Valley 21-9 in the first eight minutes of the second half.

Schwickerath, who finished with 19 points, started the onslaught with an inside

SEE NH-TV BOYS, 18

NH/TV girls finds some success at Donnybrook

Glaser third, Trende takes fourth at two-day tournament

By **KELLY TERPSTRA**
sports@nhtrib.com

Sophie Glaser has taken perhaps another direction in her tremendous career thus far as a New Hampton/Turkey Valley Chickasaw grappler — and that means she's moving up and over.

In bracket terminology — that succinctly put means she's winning.

Not only is Glaser coming out on top in her matches — she's doing it in power-packed tournaments.

Glaser, ranked eighth at 135 pounds in Class 1A according to IAwrestle's first set of rankings released this month, placed third at the prestigious Dan Gable Donnybrook in Coralville — an assemblage of some of the best prep girls wrestlers the Midwest has to offer at the two-day event.

"The biggest thing for Sophie is her attacks were really, really good and she was being aggressive," said NH/TV head coach Caleb Ciavarelli. "She just went out for every match ready to go. It was a really good kind of turning point that we've been looking for with her — just put the full tournament together."

Glaser, now 11-4 on the season, wasn't the only NH/TV grappler that worked their way to the top of a challenging bracket loaded with marquee athletes.

NH/TV freshman newcomer — Chickasaw 235-pounder Ava Trende (10-4) — had a breakout performance for Ciavarelli's crew out on the mat as she won six matches (five via pin) to record a fourth-place finish at the tournament that started on Thursday.

Glaser wrestled in seven matches and lost only one — a quarterfinal loss to Aubrie Rohrbacher of Huntley (Illinois), who pinned the Chickasaw sophomore in 43 seconds on Thursday. After working her way through the blood round on Friday — which

SEE NH/TV GIRLS, 17



Glaser



Trende

Porath's record-setting day not enough for Chickasaw bowlers

Senior sets high game, high series marks in loss to Sailors

By **KELLY TERPSTRA**
sports@nhtrib.com

Records fell again for the New Hampton Chickasaw bowling team last week.

Those high scores are once again proving that it could be another special season for head coach Andy Aries' rollers this winter.

In a key clash last Thursday versus the host Waterloo Columbus Sailors on their home alley — Cadillac XBC (Xtreme Bowling Center) — the visiting Chickasaws broke the all-time team total tally, high individual game and series, as well as individual round total prior to the baker games.

Yes, New Hampton lost to Columbus by just 47 pins — 3,007 to 2,960 — but it was still a pretty stellar evening out on the lanes.

"I was happy about how they bowled as far as how they conducted themselves and their scores overall," said Aries. "The only negative behind everything is still that spare game. That's something we've definitely been working on. Spares are going to win you more meets than strikes will, honestly. As far as makeable spares, though, that's something we've got to clean up as a team in general."

New Hampton (1-1) is in just its third year of competition and was once again led by senior Jamison Porath. The left-hander broke the school record for high game (258) and high series (495).

He contributed to the team total of 2,960 and the cumulative score before the baker rounds, which came out to 2,001 — both school records as well.

That means four all-time marks were set at Cadillac Lanes, where Porath became the first ever New Hampton bowler to compete at state last year.

Aries talked about Porath — who has come on strong over

the course of the last year and has risen to the top of the leaderboard for his Chickasaws.

"He's left-handed and he's pretty much got that side to himself compared to everybody else that's kind of pushing oil around and making tracks over there," said Aries. "He gets to wear his own track hand and stuff like that. That does help considerably."

Porath rolled an opening game of 237, but followed that with a 258 — which broke current Chickasaw senior Landon Marr's old record of 248.

"The big thing behind it is he's starting to be quite a bit more consistent," said Aries about Porath. "He's definitely getting to where he needs to go to and he's throwing the ball really, really well."

The previous all-time best team total was 2,895 and came at Crystal Bowl in Grundy Center last year.

The NH boys baker round was 959 — which was 90 pins back of Columbus' 1,049. New Hampton led 2,001 to 1,958 prior to the start of the baker round.

Jaxson Porath, a junior, finished his round with a series total of 410.

The New Hampton girls team dropped its head-to-head matchup with the Sailors — 2,192 to 1,179.

Chickasaw freshman Vanessa Snyder bowled a personal-best 223 and senior Sofia Rivera was next in line with a score of 206. NH senior Zoey Dreckman (192) and junior McKenzie Herzberg (183) rounded out New Hampton's series scoring.

WATERLOO COLUMBUS 3,007, NEW HAMPTON BOYS 2,960
Medalist - Jamison Porath, New Hampton 237-258-495.

New Hampton scores - Porath 237-258-495, Jaxson Porath 218-192-410, Kody Kleen 211-192-403, Charlie Kriener 202-163-365, Landon Marr 167-161-328, Gabe Macon 158-144-302.

WATERLOO COLUMBUS 2,192, NEW HAMPTON GIRLS 1,179
Medalist - Alexa Vera, Waterloo Columbus 320.

New Hampton scores - Vanessa Snyder 125-98-223, Sofia Rivera 81-125-206, Zoey Dreckman 112-80-192, McKenzie Herzberg 107-76-183.

Turkey Valley boys face UIC gauntlet

By KELLY TERPSTRA
sports@nhtrib.com

Turkey Valley's start to the conference season didn't go as planned as MFL MarMac and Kee High both came away with comfortable wins over the Trojans during the first week of the season a week ago.

TV (0-3, 0-2) has not played a home game yet this year prior to that home contest that was played this Tuesday versus Central Elkader.

MFL took care of business over TV last week Tuesday by a score of 81-46 and Kee turned back the Trojans, 70-40 last Friday.

TV had trouble getting to the charity stripe as the Trojans attempted just five free throws versus MFL and three against Kee.

Logan Busta, a junior, hit double-figure scoring against MFL (12) and Kee (15). He grabbed five rebounds versus

the Bulldogs and produced three steals, two assists and two blocks. In the matchup versus Kee, Busta ripped down six rebounds. Busta was a combined 6-16 from beyond the 3-point stripe in those two league games.

Jordan Kriener, a sophomore, notched eight points on 4-for-6 shooting versus MFL.

Tucker Reicks, a junior, was 3-for-6 from the floor for seven points to go along with a made 3-point attempt.

MFL MARMAC 81, TURKEY VALLEY 46

TV 6 16 17 8 - 46
MFL 22 32 23 4 - 81

Logan Busta 4-15 1-2 12, J.D. Kruse 1-3 0-0 2, Cale Langreck 2-2 2-2 7, Kaden Schmidt 2-3 0-0 4, Treyton Franzen 2-5 0-0 4, Alex Hanson 0-0 0-0 0, Jayden Rausch 1-2 0-0 2, Caleb Kriener 0-2 0-0 0, Jonah Orvis 0-2 0-0 0, Tucker Reicks 3-6 1-1 7, Jordan Kriener 4-6 0-0 8, Wyatt Maklenburg 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 19-46 4-5 46.

3-point field goals - Busta 3-8, Langreck 1-2, Kruse 0-2, Rausch

0-1, Orvis 0-1.

Rebounds - Busta 5, Langreck 4, Reicks 4, Franzen 3, Kruse 2, Orvis 2, J. Kriener 2, Rausch 1, C. Kriener 1, Schmidt 1.

Assists - Kruse 4, Busta 2, Langreck 2, Franzen 1, Orvis 1.

Steals - Busta 3, Langreck 1, Franzen 1, Hanson 1, Rausch 1.

Blocks - Busta 2.

KEE HIGH 70, TURKEY VALLEY 40

TV 11 9 12 8 - 40
KEE 25 20 19 6 - 70

Busta 5-13 2-2 15, Kruse 3-9 0-0 6, Langreck 2-2 0-0 5, Franzen 2-5 0-1 4, J. Kriener 0-2 0-0 0, Hanson 2-5 0-0 6, Rausch 0-1 0-0 0, Schmidt 1-3 0-0 2, C. Kriener 0-0 0-0 0, Orvis 0-0 0-0 0, Reicks 1-1 0-0 2, Maklenburg 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 16-42 2-3 40.

3-point field goals - Busta 3-8, Hanson 2-4, Langreck 1-2, Kruse 0-2, J. Kriener 0-1, Rausch 0-1.

Rebounds - Busta 6, Kruse 6, J. Kriener 3, Rausch 3, Langreck 2, Hanson 2, Schmidt 1.

Assists - Kruse 4, Busta 2, Langreck 2, Franzen 2, Rausch 1, Orvis 1.

Steals - Franzen 5, Langreck 3, J. Kriener 2, Busta 1, Rausch 1, C. Kriener 1.

Trojan girls top MFL, give Hawks tussle

By KELLY TERPSTRA
sports@nhtrib.com

The Turkey Valley Trojans came up with a big road win over defending conference champ MFL MarMac last week Tuesday in Monona by a score of 45-40.

MFL (2-3, 2-1) won the league last year with a mark of 14-2 but could not get past the Trojans - who sank 16-24 from the charity stripe and outscored the Bulldogs, 13-5, in the third period.

"It was a great team win. The girls fought really hard tonight. This was a very physical game and we didn't back down from it. We made some clutch free throws late to seal it," said TV head coach Steve Hoffert.

TV junior guard Addison Steinlage paced the Trojans with 18 points on 5-from-13 shooting from the field.

She was also 7-for-11 from the free-throw line and ripped

down seven rebounds.

Bella Stika, a sophomore, grabbed 11 rebounds and netted six points. She also came away with four steals. Trojan senior frontcourt standout Delaney Busta also notched six points.

Turkey Valley - which has played three of its first four games on the road this season - dropped a UIC tilt to Kee High on Friday by a score of 39-30. The Hawks outscored TV, 14-4, in the third period.

Steinlage once again led the Trojans in scoring with nine points and junior Annika Bodensteiner pumped in eight points. Both of those starters for Hoffert combined to net Turkey Valley's three 3-pointers on the evening.

Stika once more registered double-digit rebounds (11) versus the Hawks and managed five steals.

"These girls just keep fighting. We had our opportunities but we just couldn't capitalize on them," said Hoffert.

TURKEY VALLEY 45, MFL MARMAC 40

TV 10 11 13 11 - 45
MFL 9 11 5 15 - 40

Addison Steinlage 5-13 7-11 18,

Annika Bodensteiner 2-5 0-0 5, Bella Stika 2-12 2-4 6, Delaney Busta 1-4 4-4 6, Hazel Nieman 1-3 2-3 4, Laynyn Schuchhardt 0-0 1-2 1, Emersyn Hoffert 1-7 0-0 3, Haylee Hanson 0-3 0-0 0, Ellaney Bodensteiner 1-3 0-0 2. Totals 13-50 16-24 45.

3-point field goals - Steinlage 1-3, A. Bodensteiner 1-3, Hoffert 1-3, Stika 0-2, Hanson 0-1.

Rebounds - Stika 11, Steinlage 7, E. Bodensteiner 5, Busta 3, Hoffert 3, Nieman 2, A. Bodensteiner 1, Hanson 1.

Assists - Stika 3, A. Bodensteiner 1, Schuchhardt 1, E. Bodensteiner 1.

Steals - Stika 4, Steinlage 2, Schuchhardt 2, Hoffert 2.

Blocks - Hoffert 2, Steinlage 1.

KEE HIGH 39, TURKEY VALLEY 30

TV 9 8 4 9 - 39
KEE 8 10 14 7 - 39

Steinlage 3-8 2-4 9, A. Bodensteiner 3-13 0-8, Schuchhardt 0-0 0-0 0, Stika 1-3 0-0 2, Busta 1-2 3-4 5, Nieman 1-8 0-0 2, Hoffert 0-0 0-0 0, E. Bodensteiner 2-5 0-0 4. Totals 11-39 5-8 30.

3-point field goals - A. Bodensteiner 2-8, Steinlage 1-2, Nieman 0-1.

Rebounds - Stika 11, Busta 4, A. Bodensteiner 4, Steinlage 3, Nieman 2, Stika 1, Hoffert 1, E. Bodensteiner 1.

Assists - Steinlage 2, A. Bodensteiner 2, Nieman 2, Hoffert 1, Stika 1.

Steals - Stika 5, A. Bodensteiner 2, Busta 2, Nieman 1.

Blocks - A. Bodensteiner 3.



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Chickasaws edge Union, fall to Osage in home-opening triangular

By Bob Fenske
editor@nhtrib.com

Little by little, New Hampton/Turkey Valley is taking those small steps that its coach believes will lead to more success on the mat when it really matters — in late January and February.

Take Tuesday night, for example, as the Chickasaws went 1-1 in a home-opening triangular as they beat Union 39-36 before falling to Osage 54-16.

"One of the things we talked about just now is through the good, the bad and the ugly, you have to keep fighting if you want to win a dual," NH/TV coach Matt Paulus said. "Osage is obviously a better dual team than Union, and I thought that one would be closer. It probably should have been closer, but we battled Union and it was nice to get a win out of that."

Union, on the strength of having four wrestlers ranked in the top three, is ranked third in the IAWrestle tournament rankings, but NH/TV found a way to win in a meet that featured five forfeits — two given up by the Chickasaws and three by Union.

NH/TV used pins from Jayden Bucknell (144), Jax Shekleton (150), Tate Schwickerath (157) and Lohen Tank (175) and the two forfeits to build a 36-18 lead but the



Bob Fenske/Tribune

New Hampton/Turkey Valley's Ty Moudry (left) scores a takedown while teammate Jax Shekleton (above) works to turn Union's Cooper Davis.

slew of forfeits pulled Union even heading into the final match of the dual at 126.

The Chickasaws' Ty Moudry gave up the first takedown but scored a reversal and four near-fall points to take a 6-3 lead after the first period. He would add a takedown in both the second and third periods to gain a 12-5 victory.

"Good for Ty, good for our guys to get a win in that dual," Paulus said. "We probably didn't carry over the momen-

tum like I thought we did, but we're young, we're inexperienced and we're learning."

In the Osage dual, Carter Cajthaml bounced back from a tough 4-1 loss to Union's third-ranked Kaydin Jones to score a technical fall at 138. Shekleton also scored a technical fall and

improved to 12-1 on the year.

NH/TV 39, UNION 36
132: Jace Hedeman (U) pinned Braiden Schaufenbuel, 0:31, 138: Kaydin Jones (U) dec. Carter Cajthaml, 4-1, 144: Jayden Bucknell (NHTV) pinned Dominik Montiel, 5:44, 150: Jax Shekleton (NHTV) pinned Cooper Davis, 2:59, 157: Tate Schwickerath (NHTV) pinned Jayden Paine, 1:13, 165: Brock Bergmeier (U) pinned Cade Carpenter, 1:03, 175: Lohen Tank (NHTV) pinned Weston Clark, 0:53.

190: Eric Zak (U) dec. Jackson Kellogg, 8-2, 215: Roy Barron (NHTV) won by forfeit, 285: Chase Gebel (NHTV) won by forfeit, 106: Coy Mehler (U) won by forfeit, 113: Stratton Luke (U) won by forfeit, 120: Brayden Bohnsack (U) won by forfeit, 126: Ty Moudry (NHTV) dec. Wesley Gaston, 12-5.

OSAGE 54, NH/TV 16
138: Cajthaml (NHTV) tech fall Dalton Burkhardt, 17-2, 144: Blake Fox (O) tech fall Bucknell, 18-1, 150: Shekleton (NHTV) tech fall Tysen

Stangel, 4:00, 157: Brock Trees (O) dec. Schwickerath, 10-6, 165: Voigt (O) pinned Carpenter, 1:27, 175: Gavin Muller (O) pinned Tank, 5:01, 190: Beau Wrage (O) pinned Kellogg, 0:37.

215: Ryan Baer (O) pinned Roy Barron, 3:09, 285: Gebel (NHTV) won by forfeit, 106: Nicholas Messersmith (O) won by forfeit, 113: Double Forfeit, 120: Preston Beyer (O) won by forfeit, 126: Jasper Sonberg (O) pinned Moudry, 1:33, 132: Easton Sonberg (O) maj. dec. Schaufenbuel, 11-0.

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10:00-3:00	7:30-6:00	7:30-6:00	7:30-6:00	7:30-6:00	7:30-6:00	7:30-5:00
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10:00-3:00	7:30-6:00	7:30-2:00	CLOSED	7:30-6:00	7:30-6:00	7:30-5:00
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Chickasaw hoops teams endure rough road trip to Osage

BY BOB FENSKE
editor@nhtrib.com



Bob Fenske/Tribune
Dylen Schmitt puts up a shot in Saturday's Turkey Valley game.

It started swell, but by the end of the night, a road trip to Osage turned into a pair of losses for the New Hampton basketball teams.

The Chickasaws played a strong first half in the girls game and had a halftime lead, but the host Green Devils turned it on in the second half — outscoring New Hampton 41-24 — to pull away for a 58-47 win.

“We played really well in the first half, and I’m just going to focus on the positives,” New Hampton coach Dave Leichtman said.

“It’s one of the closest games we’ve played against Osage

[recently] and we just have to learn to put two good halves together.”

Ava Leichtman led the Chickasaws as the sophomore finished with a double-double — scoring 22 points and grabbing 10 rebounds — while senior Cora Schwickerath scored 13 points and grabbed six rebounds as New Hampton fell to 0-2.

“The effort was absolutely excellent,” coach Leichtman said, “and just one game in, to see our younger players step in and really get after it, that bodes well for us.”

The boys game was all Osage as the Green Devils raced out to a 25-5 first quarter lead and extended the advantage to

46-17 at halftime.

“It’s one of those things where we just have to learn that we can’t let it all go south and have a run turn into a 15-0 one,” New Hampton coach Ryan Rausch said after his team fell to 0-2.

Osage outrebounded the Chickasaws 37-25 and while New Hampton took better care of the basketball, it seemed that Osage turned every one of the Chickasaws’ 15 turnovers into points.

Senior Adam Ewert led New Hampton with 12 points, five rebounds and four assists while Dylen Schmitt came off the bench to score nine points as the junior hit all three of his shots from beyond the arc.

OSAGE GIRLS 58, NH 47

NH	8	17	10	14	-	49
Osage	11	7	21	19	-	58

Ava Leichtman 7-21 5-8 22,
Jordan Thronson 0-5 0-0 0, Cora Schwickerath 5-11 2-2 13, Jackie Pickar 1-5 2-4 5, Chloe Weigel 0-8 0-2 0, Jersey Pemble 0-0 0-0 0, Tegan Dungey 0-0 0-0 0, Kayme Hackman 0-1 2-2 2, Caycee Crawford 1-5 0-0 2, Aleigha Cahoy 2-3 1-3 5.
Totals 16-59 12-21 49.

3-point field goals - Leichtman 3-10, Pickar 1-2, Schwickerath 1-3, Weigel 0-4, Thronson 0-5.

Rebounds - Leichtman 10, Schwickerath 6, Pickar 4, Cahoy 3, Crawford 3, Weigel 3, Hackmana 2, Thronson 2.

Assists - Thronson 4, Schwickerath 3, Leichtman 2, Pickar 1, Hackman 1, Crawford 1, Cahoy 1.

Steals - Schwickerath 3, Pickar 1.
Blocks - Schwickerath 1.

OSAGE BOYS 65, NH 39

NH	5	12	4	18	-	39
Osage	25	21	9	10	-	65

Jake Schwickerath 1-5 0-0 2,
Caden Rochford 2-4 1-2 5, Adam Ewert 4-12 1-2 12, Ryan Willadsen 1-2 0-0 2, Reid Rausch 2-6 0-0 5, Ethan Carter 1-4 0-0 0, Kinnick Wisner 0-0 0-0 0, Kye Rausch 0-2 0-0 0, Carson Laures 1-2 0-0 2, Trenton Horner 0-0 0-0 0, Dylon Schmitt 3-3 0-0 9, Braxton Bundy 0-1 0-0 0, Jacob McDonald 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 15-41 2-4 39.

3-point field goals - Schmitt 3-3, Ewert 3-7, R. Rausch 1-4, Bundy 0-1, K. Rausch 0-1, Carter 0-1, Schwickerath 0-1, Rochford 0-2.

Rebounds - Ewert 5, Willadsen 4, Schwickerath 3, Carter 3, Laures 3, R. Rausch 2, Rochford 1.

Assists - Ewert 4, Willadsen, Carter 1, Laures 1, McDonald 1, R. Rausch 1.

Steals - R. Rausch 2, Carter 1, Ewert 1, Rochford 1.

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