

Yard and Garden: Spring Houseplant Care

Suggestions for getting your houseplants off to a good start in the spring

PRESS RELEASE

AMES, Iowa - Houseplants provide beauty and green indoors throughout the year. As spring weather approaches and the days get warmer and longer, indoor plants can start thriving. Iowa State University Extension and Outreach horticulturists discuss what you can do with your houseplants now that spring has arrived.

How do you know it's time to repot a houseplant?

Frequent repotting is not always needed because most houseplants prefer to be slightly root-bound. It's time to repot when plants become top-heavy, growth slows and/or potting soil quickly dries out. Over time, potting soil will break down and become more compacted and poorly drained. This is another indication that it is time to repot.

Potting or repotting can be done any time of the year. However, most gardeners have the best success doing it in late winter or early spring, as houseplants start growing more vigorously with the warmer temperatures and longer days of spring.

How do you repot a houseplant?

Start by finding the best container. When repotting, only move up one (maybe two) container sizes. Houseplants do not benefit from moving from super cramped quarters to overly large pots. Pick broad, wide-based containers for taller plants so they will be stable and less likely to tip.

To repot houseplants, remove the plant from the old container. Run a knife around the inside perimeter of the pot to make it easier to pull the root mass from the old container. Lightly break up the soil and remove limp, brown or dead roots.

Place a small amount of potting soil in the bottom of the new container. If needed, a small screen or broken pottery shard can be placed over a large drainage hole to prevent soil from falling out. In most cases, they are unnecessary and may clog or greatly slow the pot's drainage. Do not put gravel or rocks in the bottom of the container. This creates a wetter zone of soil closer to developing and growing roots, promoting root rot.

Place the root mass in the container and fill around the root ball with fresh potting soil. Lightly firm the soil to hold the plant in place. The top of the soil should be at least 1/4 to 1/2 inch lower than the container's rim. This creates an area for water to pool and soak in, making watering easier. Once finished, thoroughly water the plant.

Dust has accumulated on the foliage of my houseplants. How can I clean the plants?

Cleaning houseplants improves their appearance, stimulates growth and may help control insects and mites. Large-leaved plants may be cleaned with a mild dishwashing soap solution (add a few drops to lukewarm water) and a soft sponge or cloth. Plants can also be cleaned by placing them in the sink or shower and gently spraying them with lukewarm water. Be sure to adjust the pressure and water temperature before spraying the plants. African violets and other fuzzy-leaved plants can be cleaned with a damp, soft cloth or soft-bristled brush.

When should I fertilize houseplants?

Spring and summer are the best times to fertilize houseplants. Fertilizers are available in liquid, crystalline, granular, spike and tablet forms. Use fertilizers specifically formulated for houseplants or use a complete all-purpose fertilizer. Mix all-purpose fertilizers at half or a quarter of the strength outlined in the instructions because houseplants grow slower

than the outdoor plants the instructions on the fertilizer label are written for. When using fertilizers formulated for houseplants, mix at the concentration outlined on the label.

The frequency of application depends upon the product and varies from every two weeks to once every three to four months. Carefully read and follow label directions.

How do I move houseplants outdoors for the summer months?

When moved outside during the warm parts of the growing season, houseplants can flourish in the warm temperatures and high humidity of an Iowa summer. Indoor plants can safely be moved outdoors when nighttime temperatures are consistently and reliably above 50 degrees Fahrenheit (mid to late May).

Not all outdoor locations are suitable for houseplants. It is important not to move houseplants into too much light. Houseplants will do best if they "summer vacation" in full or part-shade outdoor locations.

Moving houseplants outside is a significant change in environmental conditions, so acclimating them is important. Never move houseplants from indoors to full sun. Leaf burn, discoloration and drop can occur. Acclimate houseplants to brighter locations by moving them from an indoor location to a full-shade location outside. Then, introduce more light over 10 to 14 days. Protect plants with some cloth or shade material if a full-shade location cannot be found. Many houseplants can be in full shade the entire summer, and others can be moved to a spot with part shade once acclimated.

Monitor plants closely, especially for the first several weeks. Even with the gentlest of transitions, some indoor plants, like weeping fig and tropical hibiscus, are prone to leaf drop when moved to a new location. New leaves will emerge in a couple of weeks to replace the ones lost.



WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG?



BY RICK JANSSEN

It had been so long since I had fished, I think I was starting to get the shakes. The last time I went fishing was ice fishing in North Dakota on Feb. 13, and my last open water fishing was sometime in the middle of Oct. That was 6 months ago!

Well, when Saturday turned out to be such a nice day I finally had to get out. It was a very windy day so I waited until late in the afternoon hoping that the wind would die down. Around 4 pm my wife and I drove out to Beeds lake to give it a try. The wind was still blowing hard out of the South so we decided to start on the South shore hoping we could fish out of the wind. We went to the public dock and realized that we were NOT out of the wind, but since we were here, we had to try. Let me tell you, casting with the wind at your back is crazy. I thought our best chance of catching some fish would be to find some crappies that tend to hang out in that area. We were using just a small jig and bobber and slowly reeling it back in hoping to attract the attention of some hungry fish. After only about 20 mins we knew nothing was happening, but it just felt good to be out. The public docks at the lake make it easy to fish and are handicap accessible.

We decided to move to the campground area to really get out of the wind and try around that shore and jetty. When we got there, I noticed someone was already fishing the jetty, so we just cast out from the shore. Again, we did not have any luck, but we enjoyed our time outside. I noticed that right along the shore were two trees that showed signs of beaver activity. I have never actually seen a beaver at the lake, but from the many chewed trees around the lake, I am sure they are around.



Finally, open fishing season is back

On Sunday we decided to give Maynes Grove a try. Today the wind was out of the North, so we went to the fishing dock on the North shore. We had the same jigs and bobbers, but the jig I had put on my wife's pole was much smaller than mine. She was the first to connect with a fish, and it was the typical Maynes Grove tiny bluegill, but she had her first fish of the open water season. After she caught more bluegill, a small bass, and a crappie, and I had caught nothing I decided to switch to a smaller jig. That was the ticket as I finally managed to land a few small fish of my own. Overall, she still out fished me, but at least we did catch some fish, even though they were all small.

Later that evening I was invited to go wading in Clear Lake to try for some walleye. Wading at dusk is an unusual experience. You go out while it is still light and wade out about mid chest depth and just start casting. Prime time is just as the sun is setting and we were all set. We did not catch anything in the area we started, so we moved a bit West to try something new. It did not take long in the new area, and I had my first fish. While it was not the walleye I wanted, it was a nice yellow bass. My friend then caught another yellow bass and we knew we were in the right area. We caught several more yellow bass until it got so dark we were having a hard time seeing where we were casting so we decided to give it up.

Wow three different fishing trips in two days. I AM BACK!

PS: Just in case you were wondering. I did NOT get a turkey during the first season. Might try again in season 4. Stay tuned.



Rick's wife, who outfished him



3 things to know about childhood vaccines

1. Vaccines work.

Most childhood vaccines are 90% to 99% effective in preventing diseases and have saved millions of children's lives.*

2. Vaccines are safe.

Vaccines are thoroughly reviewed and tested before being recommended.

3. Vaccines protect.

Vaccines help protect against serious diseases by strengthening your child's immune system.



Protect your kids. Talk to their healthcare provider about getting your child vaccinated.



*Source: American Academy of Pediatrics

Readers! We need YOUR HELP!
Please submit any stories or events to us at news@hamptonchronicle.com
Let's keep our community informed!

In loving memory of
Dale Robert
Heitland
1938-2024



Dale Robert Heitland, 85, of Hampton, passed away peacefully on Friday, April 19, 2024, at Israel Family Hospice in Ames. Woodley Funeral Home of Hampton is caring for Dale and his family.

A funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, April 26, 2024, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Hampton with Pastor Nikoli Falenschek officiating. Visitation will be at 10:00 a.m. at the church. Following the service, Dale will be laid to rest at Hampton Cemetery.

Dale was born on November 12, 1938, in Hampton, IA to Herman and Catherine (Janssen) Heitland. He was the youngest of 5 children. Dale grew up on the family farm by Hansell and graduated from Hansell High School in 1957. He was active in FFA and played basketball and baseball. He played softball after graduating. On May 29, 1965, he was united in marriage to Ann (Pendergraft) Heitland and to their union, two daughters were born: Teresa and Laurie. Dale and his wife Ann made a wonderful couple and complimented each other well when it came to managing their farm and household. He farmed for most of his life. He had cattle early in his farming career. He grew grain and raised hogs for many years. After he retired, he raised small groups of chickens. He met many new friends with the farm fresh eggs.

Dale was strong, hardworking, quiet and resilient. It was only after getting to know Dale well, that you would get the opportunity to experience his quick wit and sense of humor. He was a simple, traditional, and well-respected man. Dale wasn't much for crowds but thoroughly enjoyed those close to him who would stop and visit for coffee.

Dale enjoyed fishing, watching Hawkeye football and basketball and the KC Chiefs. In his younger years he also had a motorcycle that he loved to ride. That evolved to a scooter and finally a side-by-side which he used on the farm for chores.

Above all else, his family was of the upmost importance and he really valued the time that he spent with his family and close friends. He had a strong faith and was ready to be reunited in heaven with his wife Ann. His legacy will continue on in his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, family and friends.

Those left to cherish his memory include his daughters, Teresa (Bryce Feldhoff) Heitland of Ames, IA and Laurie (Tod) Huen of Claremore, OK; grandchildren: Heather (Robert) Robinett, Harley (Audrey) Coyne, Isaac Feldhoff and Lane Huen; great-grandchildren: Carter Robinett, Cooper Robinett and one on the way; nephews: Mike (Jan) Heitland and Kevin (Jerre) Rust and many other nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Ann Heitland in 2017; parents, Herman and Catherine Heitland and siblings: George Heitland, Clarence Heitland, John Heitland and Lorraine Rust.

In loving memory of
Arlo L.
Pralle
1928-2024



Arlo L. Pralle, 95, of Latimer, passed away Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at the Rehabilitation Center of Hampton under the care of St. Croix Hospice. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, April 20, 2024, at Immanuel United Church of Christ in Latimer. Visitation will be held from 9:00 a.m. until service time at the church on Saturday. Arlo will be laid to rest in the St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery in Latimer. Woodley Funeral Home of Hampton is caring for Arlo and his family.

Arlo Laverne Pralle was born November 15, 1928, on the farm a mile and a half east of Latimer, Iowa, to Richard and Bertha (Honold) Pralle. He grew up on various farms in the Latimer area and attended schools at Franklin Consolidated before beginning to farm alongside his father full-time at age 16.

Arlo was united in marriage to Marian Buseman on February 1, 1951, at the Dumont Reformed Church. The couple made their home two miles east of Latimer, where they raised their children on the farm. In addition to crop farming, the farming operation included raising hogs, chickens and milking cows by hand. In addition to farming, Arlo worked as parts man at Latimer Implement for two years and sold Trojan Seed (later DeKalb) for 30 years. Marian passed away August 13, 1992. Arlo moved into Latimer in 1994.

Arlo was united in marriage to Marian (Schumacher) Muhlenbruck on November 8, 2014, at Immanuel United Church of Christ in Latimer.

Arlo enjoyed traveling, including two trips to Hawaii over the years, numerous bus trips to Florida, Mackinac Island, Nashville, Branson and South Dakota. He was an accomplished woodworker, making Christmas decorations, including nativity scenes, Santa Clauses and reindeer, as well as flower pots and other items for family and friends. Later, he began quilting, making blue jean quilts for his grandchildren and baby quilts for his great-grandchildren.

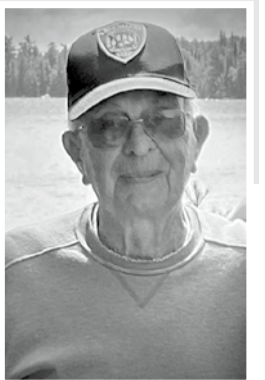
Arlo's faith was incredibly important to him. He was raised and confirmed at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Latimer before later becoming a member at Immanuel United Church of Christ.

Arlo is survived by his children: Darwin (LaDonna) Pralle of rural Latimer, Rodney (Sandra) Pralle of rural Hampton, Wayne (Amy) Pralle of rural Latimer, Colleen (Mike) Trees of Belmond and Wanda (Brian) Hiscocks of Britt; stepson Ron (Theresa) Muhlenbruck of Osage; 14 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; three nieces; along with special friends Doug and Karen Musson of Iowa Falls.

Arlo was preceded in death by his parents, wife Marian of 41 years, wife Marian Muhlenbruck-Pralle, grandchildren Dusty Spittler and Afton Spittler, sister Donna Mae Johansen and brother-in-law Ralph Johansen.

Memorials may be directed to St. Croix Hospice, 302 N Grand Ave Suite 5, Charles City, Iowa 50616.

In loving memory of
Lyle 'Lyle' Leslie
Craighton
1934-2024



Lyle Leslie Craighton, known affectionately as Lyle to his friends and family, passed away peacefully on April 17, 2024, in Austin, Texas, at the age of 89. Born on December 17, 1934, in Geneva, Iowa, Lyle was a man of remarkable character and resilience, whose life was a testament to the values of hard work, dedication, and the pursuit of knowledge.

Lyle grew up as one of eleven siblings, learning early the importance of family and community. Although he was preceded in death by six of his siblings, the strong family ties he fostered in his youth carried through to his own family. Lyle is survived by his loving wife, Linda Dillard Craighton. He was a loving father to his seven children – Danny, Leslie, Keith, Donnie, Terri, Janet, and Robb – and a doting grandfather and great-grandfather to 14 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. Each of them benefitted from Lyle's wisdom, patience, and the creative spark he brought to every aspect of his life.

After graduating from Hampton High School, Lyle was drafted into the U.S. Army and served with distinction in the 82nd Airborne Division. His time in the service imbued in him a sense of discipline and honor that he carried throughout his life. Upon returning to civilian life, Lyle embraced the heartland's call and became a farmer and rancher, working with the land in a way that only those with a true connection to the earth can.

Lyle's hands were rarely still, for he was a man who found joy and purpose in the act of creation. Carpentry was not just a hobby for him but a way to express his innate creativity and handy nature. His children and grandchildren often marveled at how he could bring wood to life, crafting pieces that were as sturdy as they were beautiful.

A voracious reader, Lyle's thirst for knowledge was unending. He believed in the power of books to transport and transform, and he instilled this love of reading in his offspring. Fishing was another of Lyle's passions, a tranquil counterpoint to his active pursuits, and he spent countless serene hours by the water's edge.

History held a special place in Lyle's heart, and he was a frequent visitor to museums, where he would immerse himself in the stories of the past. These visits were not mere pastimes but journeys of discovery that allowed him to connect with the broader narrative of human experience.

Described by those who knew him as handy, creative, and wise, Lyle was a wellspring of knowledge and ingenuity. He lived by the words of Abraham Lincoln: "The best way to predict your future is to create it." Indeed, Lyle's life was a canvas upon which he painted a future of his own design, marked by the love he gave and the lives he touched.

As we remember Lyle, we celebrate a life well-lived, a legacy of strength, love, and wisdom that will continue to inspire his family and all who were privileged to know him. His was a life that truly made a difference, and his memory will be cherished in the hearts of his family and friends forever.

Lyle Leslie Craighton's journey on this earth may have come to an end, but his spirit endures. We take comfort in knowing that his teachings, his laughter, and the memories he created will be with us always, guiding us like a beacon as we navigate the paths of our own lives. Rest in peace, Lyle, and thank you for everything.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, April 20, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at Koenig-Belvill Funeral Home & Cremations, 208 W. Pearl St., La Grange, TX.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Koenig-Belvill Funeral Home & Cremations, 208 W. Pearl St., La Grange, Texas. Family and friends can view and sign the guestbook online at www.lagrangefunerals.com.

House Committee Advances Bill To Raise Pay For Lawmakers, Statewide Elected Officials

BY ROBIN OPSAHL
IOWA CAPITAL DISPATCH

A panel of House lawmakers approved legislation Wednesday that would increase pay for legislators and statewide elected officials by \$10,000. The House Appropriations Committee passed House Study Bill 750 on a 17-8 vote. The bill raising salaries for legislators and statewide elected officials advanced quickly in the expected final days of session. The measure was introduced Tuesday, and a subcommittee unanimously approved it the same day.



STOCK PHOTO

Lawmakers quickly moved on the bill during the committee meeting, with Rep. Adam Zabner, D-Iowa City, saying that it is "a good bill, it's good for Iowa."

During the subcommittee meeting on the legislation, lawmakers spoke more in depth about the need for a pay increase. Rep. Steve Holt, R-Denison, said no one likes to talk about giving themselves a pay raise, but that legislators need to face the "reality" that action must be taken to ensure that all Iowans are able to realistically consider serving in office.

"The unfortunate reality we face is: Do we want our Legislature made up of a bunch of rich folks and retired folks?" Holt asked. "Because that'll be the only ones that can afford to serve up here. Or do we want the representation of the Legislature to be based upon the people of Iowa?"

The bill would increase the pay for Iowa representatives and senators to \$35,000 a year, as well as raising the pay for lawmakers in leadership positions including House speaker, Senate president and each chamber's majority and minority leaders to \$47,500.

The House speaker pro tempore and Senate president pro tempore would earn a salary of \$37,000. The bill would also grant a \$10,000 raise to statewide elected officials, putting Gov. Kim Reynolds' salary at \$140,000 and Iowa Attorney General Brenna Bird at \$133,669. Other elected officials, including Iowa's secretary of state, state auditor, treasurer and secretary of agriculture would all have their salaries increase to \$133,212 annually.

These increases would go into effect starting in the 2025 legislative session. Beginning in 2026, the bill would apply a cost-of-living adjustment each year to legislators'

pay equal to the average adjustments negotiated by public collective bargaining units representing workers like police officers and government employees.

Current salaries — legislators make \$25,000 annually — have been brought up in retirement speeches as lawmakers seek to end the session. Rep. Phil Thompson, R-Boone, said during his retirement speech earlier in April that while he enjoyed serving as a legislator, he could not afford to continue to serve as he and his wife are expecting their first child, Radio Iowa reported.

"As rewarding as this work is, it really isn't cut out for working age families," Thompson, 33, said. "You guys should really fix that if you want a representative government."

The Iowa Legislature generally meets four months out of the year and many lawmakers maintain other employment.

Rep. Joel Fry, R-Osceola, said Tuesday "we'll see where where we go" with the bill this year, as it has not been agreed upon with Senate Republicans or the governor. He also echoed others' comments about why the pay increase is needed.

"I think it's a very modest increase actually, what we're looking at here on this bill, and also believe that if we want the representation of people across Iowa to serve in this role, that we have to look into that we're paying those folks to be here," Fry said.

Read more from Robin Opsahl online at IowaCapitalDispatch.com.
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Bill On History, Social Studies Class Requirements Clears Legislature

BY ROBIN OPSAHL
IOWA CAPITAL DISPATCH

Iowa House lawmakers have sent a bill to Gov. Kim Reynolds that would add requirements for instruction in social studies classes related to the history of the U.S. and western civilization.

House File 2545 would require the Iowa Department of Education director to conduct a review and make recommendations on the state's curriculum and content standards. The Senate amended and passed the legislation earlier to include components of a previous House proposal on social studies curriculum requirements.

The bill would direct the Iowa Board of Education to review and make changes to the state's social studies core curriculum standards by Dec. 31, 2025. The standards would require that Iowa students in grades 1 through 12 receive instruction on important events and influential people in the history of western civilization, the U.S. and the state of Iowa. Classes would also be required to cover the structure and role of U.S. and state government, how it differs from other forms of government and "the crimes against humanity that have occurred under communist regimes since 1917."

Rep. Skyler Wheeler, R-Hull, said the Senate amendment was a "majorly scaled down version" of what the House passed previously. He said he would prefer the bill

be "a lot more prescriptive than it is right now," saying that many students are not receiving instruction on subjects from the Korean War to the more recent "War on Terror."

He also said this lack of instruction on American history and the Founding Fathers is what has led to recent movements



STOCK PHOTO

like calls to tear down statues of people like Thomas Jefferson. Jefferson, primary author of the Declaration of Independence, spoke and wrote in opposition to slavery and the transatlantic slave trade throughout his life, while being a slave-owner himself.

"The problem in this country is we have people that want to tear down statues of our founding fathers, which tells me that they're not getting. I would say, the full view of history," Wheeler said. "They're being taught the history, but there is some sort of a specific push being made, to tear down a statue of Thomas Jefferson. If you knew the whole history of Thomas Jefferson, yeah, he had problems. But also that same guy, in his original draft and integration, attacked the King of England for the transatlantic slave trade."

Read more from Robin Opsahl online at IowaCapitalDispatch.com.
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2024-2025 STREET REHABILITATION PROGRAM HAMPTON, IOWA

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, FORM OF CONTRACT AND ESTIMATED COST FOR THE 2024-2025 Street Rehabilitation Program Hampton, Iowa

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: The City of Hampton, Iowa, will hold a public hearing on the proposed plans, specifications, form of contract, and estimated cost for the 2024-2025 Street Rehabilitation Program project, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 26, Code of Iowa, at 6:00 p.m. on May 9, 2024, at the Hampton City Hall, 122 First Avenue NW, Hampton, Iowa. Bid Proposals will be acted upon at that time or at such time as may then be fixed. At said hearing, any interested person may appear and file objections thereto.

The scope of the project is as follows: Project Name: 2024-2025 Street Rehabilitation Program Project Description: This project will include pavement scarification, curb and gutter removal and replacement, sidewalk removal and replacement, storm sewer intakes, HMA Overlay and miscellaneous related work.

This Notice is given by authority of the City of Hampton Iowa, Ron Dunt, City Manager

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on April 24, 2024.

PROBATE BILLIE M. OELBERG ROSE WAYCHUS ESPR501936

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF BILLIE M. OELBERG ROSE WAYCHUS, Deceased CASE NO. EPR501940 NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Billie M. Oelberg Rose Waychus, Deceased, who died on or about March 26, 2024:

You are hereby notified that on April 15, 2024, the Last Will and Testament of Billie M. Oelberg Rose Waychus, deceased, bearing date of March 20, 2024, was admitted to probate in the above named court and that Denise M. Harrison was appointed Executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be for-

ever barred. Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred. Dated April 18, 2024. Denise M. Harrison, Executor of Estate 2530 Coach and Surrey Lane Aurora, IL 60506 John P. Lander, ICIS#: AT0004583 Attorney for Executor Brown, Kinsey, Funkhouser & Lander, P.L.C. 214 North Adams P.O. Box 679 Mason City, IA 50402-0679 Date of second publication May 1, 2024

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on April 24 and May 1 2024.

TRUST NOTICE IN THE MATTER OF THE JIMMY AND HELEN RULE REVOCABLE TRUST

TRUST NOTICE IN THE MATTER OF THE JIMMY AND HELEN RULE REVOCABLE TRUST

To all persons regarding Jimmy Rule, deceased, who died on or about March 25, 2024. You are hereby notified that Jeanne Lanferman and Scott Rule are the Trustees of the Jimmy and Helen Rule Revocable Trust.

Any action to contest the validity of the Trust must be brought in the District Court of Franklin County, Iowa, within the later to occur of four (4) months from the date of second publication of this Notice, or thirty (30) days from the date of mailing this Notice to all heirs of the decedent, spouse of the decedent, and beneficiaries under the Trust whose identities are reasonably ascertainable. Any suit not filed within this period shall be forever barred.

Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the decedent or the Trust are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned Trustee and any person or entity possessing a claim against the Trust must mail proof of the claim to the Trustee at the address listed below via certified mail, return receipt requested, by the later to occur of four (4) months days from the second publication of this Notice or thirty (30) days from the date of mailing this Notice, if required, or the claim shall be forever barred, unless paid or otherwise satisfied. Dated this 17th Day of April, 2024. Jimmy and Helen Rule Revocable Trust

By Jeanne Lanferman, Trustee Attorney for Trustee: Jonathan N. De Reus, ICIS Pin No. AT0013643 Grefe & Sidney, PLC 1304 Washington St Pella, IA 50219 Published in the Hampton Chronicle on April 24, May 1, 2024

WEST FORK COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MINUTES APRIL 17, 2024

West Fork Community School District Board Minutes Official Proceedings – Regular Meeting – April 17, 2024 – unapproved

The West Fork Board of Education met for its regular meeting in the Media Center in Sheffield. The meeting was called to order at 5:15 PM by Board President, Grant Petersen. Board members present: Holly Henricks, Erin Suntken, Amber Marzen, and Travis Butler. Also present were Superintendent Mike Kruger, MS Principal Lance Thompson, HS Principal Daren Huisenga, Elementary Principal Ashley Flatbo, and West Fork Board Secretary Lacey Pueggel. Visitors: Jeremy Harms, Amanda Huston, Madalyn Schott, Destiny Hagenow

Constituent Communications: Jeremy Harms shared that the date on the Agenda stated Monday, April 17th rather than Wednesday, April 17th. We apologize for the typo.

Marzen made a motion to approve the Agenda, Minutes from March 18th and March 25th, April 2024 bills, Open Enrollment requests, and March 2024 Financials; seconded by Suntken. Motion carried 5-0.

Principals Report: Elementary students have completed ISAP testing MS/HS students will be finishing up ISAP testing this week for missed tests

FAST testing will take place next week

Spring Concerts – 4th and 5th grade on May 7th, K-3rd on May 14th, 6th-12th Choir concert on April 22nd, 6th-12th Band concert on April 23rd MS Dance was a success on April 5th

Track has started, and we have great participation

May 19th is Graduation in the gym in Sheffield

May 15th is Senior Breakfast in the morning and Senior Awards in the evening

April 27th is Prom HS is working on updating graduation credit requirements, working with other districts in the area to compare

Superintendent's Report Legislation update: State Supplemental Aid set at 2.5% and the increase to Teacher pay of \$47,500 and \$60,000 for 12 years+, the AEA bill also passed

New bill to watch is HF 2286 on School Safety

There is a listening session with SiteLogIQ tonight at 6:30pm in the cafeteria in Sheffield and next Wednesday at 6:30pm in Rockwell Transportation Report

Attended a Zoom on Electric Bus Grants with Tony Laudner, transportation director Buildings and Grounds Updates to the Softball/Baseball diamonds prior to the start of the season, including safety nets New Business

Henricks moved to enter Public Hearing for the 2024-2025 Budget; seconded by Butler. Motion carried 5-0. Ayes: Butler, Henricks, Suntken, Marzen, Petersen. Nays: N/A.

The Budget presentation was given on the proposed budget for FY25. The district will have an 11.2850 Tax Rate, which is a decrease from the prior year and a decrease from the Proposed Property Tax statement.

Following discussion, Marzen moved to exit public hearing for the 2024-2025 school budget; seconded by Henricks. Motion carried 5-0. Ayes: Butler, Henricks, Suntken, Marzen, Petersen. Nays: N/A.

Henricks moved to adopt the budget as presented with an 11.285 tax rate for FY2025; seconded by Suntken. Motion carried 5-0.

Suntken moved to approve the Budget Guarantee: RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of West Fork CSD, will levy property taxes for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the regular program budget adjustment as allowed under section 257.14, Code of Iowa. Grand total levy rate: 11.2850 and FY 2025 Regular Program Budget Adjustment of \$19,311.00; seconded by Marzen. Motion carried 5-0.

Suntken moved to enter Public Hearing for the 2024-2025 School Calendar; seconded by Marzen. Motion carried 5-0. Ayes: Butler, Henricks, Suntken Marzen, Petersen. Nays: N/A.

Supt. Kruger shared the details on the 2024-2025 School Calendar. Start date will be August 23, 2024, end date May 30, 2025. 1115 total hours in the calendar, and 1080 are required. Inclement Weather days will be e-learning days.

Following discussion, Suntken made a motion to exit the Public Hearing for the 2024-2025 budget; seconded by Marzen. Motion carried 5-0. Ayes: Butler, Suntken, Marzen, Henricks, Petersen. Nays: N/A.

Marzen moved to approve the 2024-2025 school calendar as presented with an August 23, 2024 start date; seconded by Butler. Motion carried 5-0.

Following discussion, Henricks moved to approve the 2022-2023 audit report as presented; seconded by Butler. Motion carried 5-0.

Following discussion, Marzen

moved to approve the first reading of board policy 710.02; seconded by Suntken. Motion carried 5-0.

Mary Schlichting joined the meeting at 6:20pm. Marzen moved to set the Public Hearing to amend the 2023-2024 Budget for May 20th at 5pm in Rockwell in the Band Room; seconded by Henricks. Motion carried 5-0.

Following discussion, Henricks moved to continue to commit our AEA media and Ed service funds to Central Rivers AEA; seconded by Marzen. Motion carried 5-0.

Suntken moved to approve the last day of school as Friday, May 24, 2024; seconded by Marzen. Motion carried 5-0.

Following discussion, Henricks moved to approve the agreement with the West Fork Education Association for 2024-2025 as presented; seconded by Butler. Motion carried 5-0.

Mary Schlichting left the meeting at 6:30pm. Following discussion, Marzen moved to approve the PSA and PDA with SiteLogIQ pending the addendum and amendments for the scope of project to be determined at a later date; seconded by Henricks. Motion carried 5-0.

Marzen moved to approve a contract to Peterson Jean-Pierre to serve as the JV Baseball coach for 23-24; seconded by Butler. Motion carried 5-0.

Marzen moved to approve a contract to Kayden Ames to serve as the JVV Baseball coach for 23-24, he will remain the Head Baseball Coach as well; seconded by Butler. Motion carried 5-0.

Marzen moved to approve a contract to Desirae Randle to serve as the MS Softball coach for 23-24; seconded by Butler. Motion carried 5-0.

Marzen moved to approve a contract to Jessica Johnson to serve as a Kindergarten Teacher starting in 2024-2025 school year; seconded by Butler. Motion carried 5-0.

Marzen moved to approve the resignation of Kenzie Waters, a para educator at the Rockwell campus; seconded by Suntken. Motion carried 5-0. Thank you for your service to the district.

Next Regular Board Meeting is May 20, 2024 in Rockwell in the Band Room at 5:00pm.

Henricks moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 pm; seconded by Suntken. Motion carried 5-0.

Board President – Grant Petersen Board Secretary – Lacey Pueggel Published in the Hampton Chronicle on April 24, 2024.

www.HamptonChronicle.com

Got a Legal Notice to Submit?

Deadline for legal notice submissions is Mondays at noon

WEST FORK COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BILLS APRIL 2024

Table with 3 columns: Vendor Name, Amount, and Vendor Name. Lists various vendors and their amounts for the West Fork Community School District bills for April 2024.

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Published in the Hampton Chronicle on April 24, 2024.

City Officials Give Downtown District Spring Clean

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

A group of city officials and residents came together to clean Hampton's downtown district Sunday afternoon, April 21.

A total of 18 people broke out into small teams to cover the four blocks in the district, which stretches from

The roster included John Lyman, Britt's Boutique owner Britt Lumley; Valeria Gonzales and Thelma Rivera from La Luz Centro Cultural; Hampton Public Library Board President Wen-

dy Lamos; city councilors Jerre Grefe (and her husband, Kevin Rust) and Barry Lamos; and Hampton Mayor Steve Birdsall.

Before hitting the streets, the clean-up crew met at First and Second Vintage Too! for trash bags and to decide who would go where. The volunteers dispersed and spent the next two hours picking up everything from cigarette butts to leaves.

First and Second Vintage Too! owner and Hampton City Councilor Jerre Grefe oversaw the project. She said that this is the first time, since she's been involved

with city council, that they've done a city clean-up, and that she's happy with how it went.

"I thought it would be great for the community to see their elected officials, business owners, outreach organizations and pillars of the community working together for the greater good of all," Grefe said. "Would love to do it again."

After the clean-up, the crew made their way back to First and Second Vintage Too! for refreshments.

"The after-party was nice. Hanging out in a casual atmosphere getting to know each other better," Grefe said.



Valeria Gonzalez and Thelma Rivera from La Luz Centro Cultural picking up trash.



Britt's Boutique owner Britt Lumley and her children picking up trash.



City officials and residents ready to clean Hampton's downtown district.



Hampton City Councilor Jerre Grefe and Mayor Steve Birdsall cleaning up trash behind First and Second Vintage.



John Lyman picking up trash in front of First Security Bank & Trust.



Kevin Rust cleaning up trash in front of First Security Bank & Trust.



Wendy and Barry Lamos picking up trash at Band Shell Park.



Cindy Grefe and Gyla Pullman picking up trash in front of the Franklin County Courthouse



La Luz Centro Cultural Program Coordinator Thelma Rivera picking up trash.



Hampton city councilor Jerre Grefe helping coordinate who would clean where.



Brittany West, Lili Velasco, Molly Johansen and Sarah Debour ready to greet more students in the entrance for the carnival



Kyra and Kara Koster overseeing the glow stick party at Cal Elementary's carnival.

CAL Elementary's New PTO Launches Presence with Carnival Fundraiser

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

CAL Elementary's first-ever carnival was a success, drawing nearly 100 children to the school on Thursday evening, April 19.

In the entrance, a group of volunteers greeted students and their families as they walked in — five bucks for children and adults could enter for free. Inside the gym, stations were set up with different games, from Jenga to one where students could throw small balls at teachers who had shaving cream on top of their heads. In the hallway, nerf battles were held and faces were painted. And in the auditorium, children danced in the dark while waving around glow sticks.

The event was the first of its kind at the school, said CAL Elementary Principal Abby Meyer, who's one of 11 PTO members at the school. Meyer explained that the school hasn't had an active PTO in several years and this new group of parents and teachers wanted to do a family-friendly fundraiser for the spring.

"The team of parents and teachers got together and were thinking about spring fundraisers and a family event that we could do to launch our PTO presence in the school and the community. So that's how it started," Meyer said. "We know that the HD Elementary PTO does one in March, so we morphed from there."

Meyer said the money they raised from the event will help them fund future projects, and that PTO members are now planning out teacher appreciation projects in May.

"I think it's about building up that PTO account so that they can provide opportunities for kids within the school and childcare to be able to do things that they couldn't usually do," Meyer said.

The co-presidents of the CAL Elementary PTO are Brittany West and Molly Johansen.



Hank, Amber and Lincoln Hamilton having a blast at the carnival.



A student runs for cover during a nerf gun battle.



Mike and Cora Freie in between stations in the gym



Bethany and Max Currier play at the rubber ducky station.



A pretend lemonade stand in the entrance where guests entered for the carnival.

CAL staff members Kendra Keehn and Cassie Riley take one for the team — students were encouraged to toss balls into the piles of shaving cream on their heads.



Crystal and Luis Pedreguera play at the Jenga station.

