

Christmas, from page 1

Soldier

The Soldier Community Club will be having a Christmas potluck supper with Santa on Sunday, Dec. 11 at the Community Building starting at 5:30 p.m.

Mapleton

The Kids Shopping Spree is back this year and will be held at St. John's United Methodist Church on Saturday, Dec. 3 from 9-11 a.m. The gifts are 25 cents each and are for household members only. Children are only allowed inside as there will be helpers available to help the children.

Fisher Whiting Memorial Library will be celebrating twelve days of Christmas in one night. This family program will happen on Thursday, Dec. 8 at 6:30 p.m. Kids will get to do crafts, have treats and prizes, read a storybook and maybe even get to see Santa. Twelve Christmas stations will keep things moving, some old fashioned and some new at this program. Please call 881-1312 or stop in the library to register for the program.

Santa's Village will open on Friday, Dec. 9 with the Lighted Parade and Community Soup Supper on Sunday, Dec. 11. More information to follow next week.

Christmas in November winners

Christmas in November was held at the Monona County Historical Museum for two weekends in November. The following were the winners:

- Winner of bows tree: Misty Bush
- Silver tree: Larry Stevens
- Top 3 "vote-getters": Onawa Bobcats 4-H Club; Whiting Badgers 4-H Club; and Castana Jr. 76ers, GRWC/Iowa



This is a picture of the Castana Jr. 76ers tree at Christmas in November.

Education, from page 1

Kala is a physical therapist, Alyssa is an attorney, Tessa is a loan officer at a bank, and Tarin is a veterinarian.

Alyssa graduated from COU in 2006 and was involved in everything: volleyball, basketball, softball, track, choir, band, speech, student council, and she even video taped football games for the team. She was also involved in 4-H as well as our Catholic youth organization.

"At Charter Oak-Ute, we were team players to keep our programs thriving," Alyssa said.

Alyssa went to Iowa State University and majored in political science (graduated in 2009). She attended law school at the University of South Dakota and graduated in 2013.

She practices law in Cherokee and Mapleton and lives on a farm in Pierson.

"Everything I learned from time management, prevailing in the face of adversity, to goal setting and local support at Charter Oak-Ute has been of use to me as an attorney," Alyssa said. "Getting ready for a trial is a lot like getting ready to play at State Basketball. There are mental and physical pressures. Additionally, you learn advocacy in a small school setting and get to work with your teachers, administrators, and coaches to resolve conflict."

A number teachers, coaches, and administrators made an impact on Alyssa:

-It was business teacher Mr. McCool who taught her life isn't won from 9-5.
-It was Mr. Wiebers who encouraged them to go for it, even when they felt small...it's still a great day to be a Bobcat.

-It was Mrs. Houston mathematics class that showed them small efforts of perfect practice can lead to mastery.
-It was Coach Block who taught her that faith and humbleness are part of being a champion, too.

"There are so many more examples imprinted on my heart," Alyssa said. "Education is a team effort."

Kala also graduated from COU in 2006. In high school she was involved in basketball, softball, volleyball, track, student council, marching band, the school newspaper, the National Honor Society, speech, and dance.

She attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where she graduated with degrees in Spanish and Psychology. Kala went on to physical therapy school at the University of Nebraska



Tarin Clausen showed the students an animal ultrasound. She is a veterinarian in Denison.



Kala (Kuhlmann) Priester did an activity with the students during Career Day. She is a physical therapist.



Tessa (Lally) Genners talked to students about her career in banking.

Medical Center.
She now works as a pediatric physical therapist at Wiggles & Giggles Therapy for Kids in Columbus, NE. She lives on a farm outside of Lindsay, NE.

"I became a pediatric physical therapist because I love kids and I love helping them improve their lives in even the smallest way," Kala said. "At COU, I learned that success comes with hard work and dedication and anything that is worth pursuing is worth the time and effort it requires."

Staley said last year COU started the career venue at the end of the

school year by touring the local businesses in Charter Oak and highlighting job opportunities in their own communities. Each business talked to the students and told them what opportunities they offered and the educational path that they would need to pursue in order to start a career in that field.

"If you know an area graduate with an interesting story, send the Mapleton Press a message by email: reporter@mapletonpress.com or call 712-881-1101. We are looking for story idea for our series "Where Are They Now."

Volunteer Hall of Fame Award nominations open

Volunteer Iowa today released nomination materials for the 2023 Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame Awards. Nominations must be submitted online or post-marked by January 20, 2023; honorees will be recognized during a special ceremony at the Capitol next spring. Details and nomination materials are online at volunteeriowa.org/hof.

Induction into the Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame is the highest state-level honor or volunteers can receive; the people selected have changed the community, the state, the nation, or the world through the gifts of their time and talent.

Any Iowa individual, national service member (current or alum), family, group, organization, nonprofit, business, or corporation, who has made a long-lasting positive and meaningful difference in the lives of people through their volunteer service activities, may be nominated for the Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame.

The Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame Awards are coordinated by Volunteer Iowa. For more information, e-mail info@volunteeriowa.org or call 1.800.308.5987.

About Volunteer Iowa
Volunteer Iowa and its partner agencies work with organizations and individuals on three main fronts. The first is to help agencies develop quality programs that use service as a strategy to fulfill their missions and address Iowa's greatest areas of need. The second is to help engage Iowans in their communities by promoting service and expanding the volunteer base. Finally, the third area of work is to connect individuals with appropriate service opportunities by building the volunteer infrastructure. More information is available at volunteeriowa.org.

Art Beeck
will celebrate his
90th birthday on
December 11th, 2022.

His family is requesting family and friends to send a card to help him celebrate.
His address is:
**3 Sunrise Avenue,
Apartment 8,
Mapleton, Iowa 51034**

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Staying informed is always a good decision!

The Mapleton Press

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Thank You

Thank You to so many friends, neighbors and relatives for the prayers, cards, flowers, food, memorials, visits and phone calls during our last three months of health issues and at the passing of husband, father, and grandfather, Vernon Thies.

Special Thanks to Maple Heights Staff, Home Health Care staff, Mapleton Ambulance for answering our 911 calls 24/7 since Vernon's Stroke 12 years ago, Pastor Peitsch for his comforting words, Darrin and Sarah Goslar's Funeral Home, and Barb & Deb at the Beef N Brew for the delicious dinner. We are so thankful for all the kindnesses we have been shown.

May God bless each of you with the same love and kindness we received.

Evelyn
Terry & Dana Thies Family
Sheryl & Dr. Steven Dierenfeld Family
Douglas & Melanie Thies Family

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Ute Community Calendar

December 1:
Ute VFW Meeting

December 2:
Ute Firefighters Annual Men's Night

December 4:
• Ron Kuhlmann Memorial Farm Toy Show at Charter Oak Community Building
• Santa Night in Ute

December 13:
• COU Winter Concerts Elementary-5:30 p.m.
Junior High-6:30 p.m.

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Charter Oak COMMUNITY CALENDAR

December 1:
Charter Oak Community Club

December 4:
• Ron Kuhlmann Memorial Farm Toy Show at Community Building
• Charter Oak Library Book & Bake Sale
• COU Annual Vendor Fair at School
• Santa's Visit to Charter Oak
• St. John's Lutheran Church Cookie Bazaar

December 5:
Charter Oak City Council Meeting

December 13:
COU Winter Concerts

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