

Flag Essay Contest , from page 1

thoughts and ideas in written form for others to interpret," said COU fifth grade teacher Jessica Jepsen. "They have to focus on effective word choices because there is a limit to how many words they can use." There were two first place winners, one from Charter Oak area and one from the Ute/Soldier area. The first place students received \$10 each, and their essay was sent on to their district, one to the eighth district and the other to the ninth district, to be judged. If they won at the district level, the essay was sent on to the state competition.

The American Legion thanks the students and Jepsen for participating.

Gavin Amunson
1st Place Winner - Ute and Soldier Legion

It's an estimate that around 1.2 million people have died fighting for the flag. When I see the flag I think about the people that have served for our country throughout time. They are very brave, willing to risk their lives for us.

There is a beautiful poem called the Pledge of Allegiance. I usually say the pledge at the beginning of my day at school. When I say the pledge I stand there and look at the flag proudly with my right hand on my heart. After saying the pledge every morning I got curious and looked up what the stars and stripes mean. The stars represent the 50 states and the stripes represent the 13 original colonies.

Something I love about America is that we have rights. The biggest one is that we have freedom of speech. That means we can talk about whatever we want. Another freedom we have is to vote, which means we can vote whoever we want to be president, which I love. Anyone can be

President and we can have our own opinions about the President, good or bad.

Everything on the White Table means something but there's one in particular that means a lot to me. A slice of lemon for the bitter fate of the missing. That's important to me because my grandpa told me stories about his uncles not coming home. He also told me about his times in war and how hard it was.

In conclusion, I love the flag and everything that the flag represents. I love that we have rights and freedom. And I respect that people are willing to risk their lives for our country, and for us. They are very brave. I know people that have done that and I admire them.

Abigail Wanberg
1st Place Winner - Charter Oak Legion

The American flag has served our country. It has very many purposeful meanings to me. On June 14, 1777 the American flag was made!

The pledge of Allegiance is something I do every day to honor the flag. Every time I say the pledge I promise to honor the nation as a citizen in our country. I will never disrespect the flag because the flag is very important to me. It is a very big part of life for me and my family. We celebrate the flag every New Year's and the 4th of July.

I'm honored for all the people that fought for this country. Soldiers put their life on the line for people that they didn't even know! For their family, or towns, or our state! I hope for all the soldiers to be safe. I don't wish to be in the military when I grow up but my friend will. One of my Grandpa's was in the war and was injured very badly. He did survive the war.

The 50 stars and 13 stripes

both represent our nation: the 13 stripes represent the 13 colonies and the 50 stars represent the 50 states. The American flag should not be held the same height as any other flag. It should always be at the peak of the pole the flag is on.

The American flag is very important to me. The country will never be forgotten from all of these very special things people have done for this country! I will always remember the flag and what people have done. The flag will stand!

Hunter Bentz
2nd Place Winner - Ute and Soldier Legion

The flag is a symbol of peace and respect to America. The flag should be respected and cared for. Imagine if we were a country with no flag.

I show respect for the flag. Sometimes People put an American flag over a soldier's casket when they die because they served their country and protected it. The flag's union is on the right side over their heart.

I will interact kindly with the flag because of all we have here in America. We should honor it everyday by not letting it go below another nation's flag. That's just how we show respect.

I'm inspired by the flag. I want to go to the U.S army to serve my country and to protect my country and I like the fact that when I go I will think about the lives I'm saving.

I am so intrigued by the fact they have monuments all over the world where their positions are and where most stood in Virginia because of all the big battles. What I find really fascinating is the wall with all of the soldier's names on it and how did they get those names on there and it is so interesting is how many names are on that wall and

It takes a lot of time to carve names on the wall.

What the flag means to me is everything it stands for, in my country being protected so we can all live in peace and be safe and that people risk their lives to spare our lives. That is just wild to me and how many people died fighting for that flag and the country and for us that's awesome.

Sean Staley
2nd Place Winner - Charter Oak Legion

The flag represents America. Treat the flag with respect and display it properly. I personally see the flag at school every day. When I see the flag I sometimes hear "Whoosh whoosh" from the flag because of the wind. An interesting fact about the flag was that it was made on July 14, 1777.

The flag represents the United States. What I think is cool about the flag is that it symbolizes multiple things such as the 50 states and the 13 original colonies and the U.S.A. There are many names to call the flag. You could say it is the "symbol of America" or "Old glory" and also "Stars and Stripes".

The flag should be respected. On Veteran's Day I got to shake the veterans' hands and I told them "Thank-you for your service." I didn't realize how much veterans have helped our country. One of the veterans said "If you serve in the Army you are sharing a piece of your heart with your country" because you help our country and you risk your life for other people.

The flag is important to me because my grandpas both fought in the Vietnam War. They were both friends with each other. They were true Americans. When I am 18 I want to enlist in the Army.

(Some really common questions about the flag I have heard are "how many versions of the flag are there: " or "Why are the colors Red, White and blue?" and many more.)

When I wake up I see the flag in my room.



Group had a friendly competition to build a paper airplane and see which one would fly the farthest.

Charter Oak Achiever November Meeting

Ryder Meseck served as the host of the meeting for the Charter Oak Achiever 4-H club's November meeting. Micah and Zander Friedrichs lead the group in a friendly competition.

Each member had to build a paper airplane and see which one would fly the farthest. There were definitely some unique flight patterns in the group!



Ryder Meseck served as the host for the November meeting.

Charter Oak Achievers December meeting

The Charter Oak Achievers started their December with a shopping trip to buy Christmas gifts for a family they chose to adopt. It surely is better to give than to receive. Following the shopping, the club went out to eat. For a fun club activity, the group took turns unwrapping the saran wrap ball full of candy and goodies. To end the day, the club members exchanged gifts. Club members pictured above: Jodee Kruse, Abbey Meseck, Ryder Meseck, Micah Friedrichs, Zander Friedrichs, Naomi Heyne, Anamarie Mallory.



Schleswig Community School
Kindergarten Round-Up Parent Meeting
Tuesday, April 4, 2023
at 6:30 p.m.
Parents only.

If your child will be five years old by September 15, 2023, he or she will be eligible to attend transitional kindergarten or kindergarten!

Please call the school at 712-676-3313 with your child's name, birthdate, parents' names, email address, and mailing address.

Let us know if you would like childcare during the meeting!

4 County Fair Trophy Auction & Dinner

March 25, 2023
Social Hour 6:30
Dinner 7:00pm

\$25 in Advance
\$30 at the Door



For info contact Bob Buresh 712-552-5761. The event is a great time, come out and support the 4 County Fair, our exhibitors and help us put on another great fair!

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

This space is provided free of charge by The Mapleton Press.

- Loess Hills Pheasants Forever Banquet March 25
- Easter Egg Hunt in Mapleton..... April 1
- Easter Bunny stops in Schleswig April 1
- Grateful Heart Concert at Ute Town & Country April 1
- JK Country Band at Charter Oak Comm. Bld..... April 1
- Danbury Fire Dept. Pancake Breakfast..... April 2
- Soldier Fish Fry April 7
- Ute VFW Easter Egg Hunt..... April 8
- Castana Easter Egg Hunt..... April 8
- Trivia Night in Mapleton..... April 14
- MVAOCO Prom..... April 22
- First Saturday in Mapleton Kickoff..... June 3
- Mapleton 4th of July Celebration..... June 30 & July 1

To include your event in this list, contact The Mapleton Press at 712-881-1101 or news@mapletonpress.com. The purpose of this free space, which will run on a space available basis, is to help groups plan events without conflicting with other scheduled events. The information is limited to date and name of the event. This is a free space and The Mapleton Press has the right to decide how the activities are listed.

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www.communitybankiowa.com

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Schleswig, Iowa
www.Schleswigia.com

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The Hoffman Agency Mapleton, IA
www.hoffmaninsuranceagency.com

.realestate/auctions
Midwestern Land and Auctions, Inc. Mapleton, IA
www.iowaland.net

First Security Realty Mapleton, IA
www.firstsecurityrealty.com

.schools
Maple Valley-Anthon Oto Community Schools
www.mvaoschool.com
Charter Oak-Ute Community Schools
www.co-u.net

Schleswig School
www.Schleswig.k12.ia.us