

# 2022 YEAR in Review

## February



**KinderZone opens**  
KinderZone in Orange City officially opened its doors on Wednesday, Feb. 9. Owners Colby Vlietstra and Laura Jeltrema designed the indoor play place to bring safe indoor play to children in Orange City and surrounding communities. (Photo submitted)

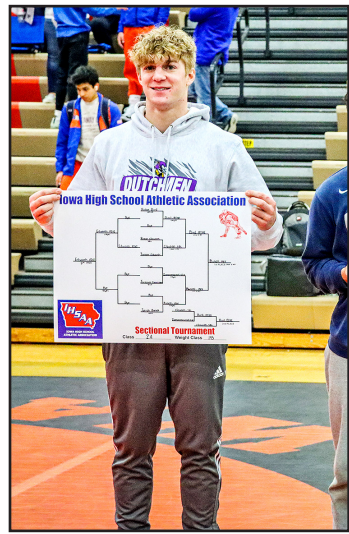


**City plans new park**  
Residents of Orange City were invited to view renderings for a new Puddle Jumper Park on Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2022. Plans for the park focused on inclusive play for all ages, genders, ethnicity and physical, mental, and emotional abilities. (Rendering submitted)



**State qualifiers!**  
Unity Christian returned to Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union state basketball competition with a win in the regional final. In the back row, from left, are coaches Jon Holwerda, Jay Schuiteman, Ryan Fedders and Brooke Fedders. In the middle row, from left are manager Ella Dekkers, players Ella Poppema, Gracie Schoonhoven, Molly Zylstra, Kortney Hofmeyer, Kylie De Boer, Katelyn Zevenbergen and managers Raeleigh Raines and Rylee Visser. In the front row, from left, are manager Olivia Fedders, players Cassady Dekkers, Dacey Driesen, Jenna Bouma, Tyra Schuiteman, Emma Byker, Anneke Klompien, Becca Dykstra, Haley Hofland and manager Maggie Alons. (Photo by Jeff Bylsma)

**Sectional champ**  
MOC-Floyd Valley wrestler Josiah Bundt (holding the bracket), 170-pounder, advanced to the district tournament after winning the sectional title at the tournament in Sergeant Bluff on Saturday, Feb. 12. Bundt wrestled two matches to claim the sectional title, downing Jacques Zomermaand of Sioux Center by technical fall, then punctuating the day with win by fall over Vitor Bird of Bishop Heelan. (Photo submitted)



**New facility is welcomed**  
The Orange City Ambassadors brought ribbon and scissors on Thursday, Feb. 3, to help welcome Safe Place Storage to the business community. The climate-controlled facility offers variously-sized units protected from heat and cold and available 24 hours a day. Partners in the venture are Perry Krossschell (left of the bow behind the ribbon), Matt Bosma (right from Krossschell), Marlin Vollink (right from Bosma) and John Klompien (not present). (Photo by Doug Calsbeek)

## March



**Changing hands**  
On Wednesday, March 16, Woudstra Meat Market began the process of shifting the retail portion of its business into a new space, the recently acquired former Radio Shack building directly south of the business on Central Avenue. Plans to join the two spaces are underway. Martina Hoogland, Store manager, is shown at the entrance of the building. (Photo by Sarah Weber)



**Coach of the year**  
Tom Rupp of MOC-Floyd Valley is pictured in the center with the trophy signifying the Iowa Wrestling Junior-High Coach of the Year. Rupp, with fellow coach Joel Boersma at his side, is surrounded by the Dutch JV team. (Photo submitted)



**Tulip Court costumes revealed**  
The 2022 Tulip Court revealed their costumes at the March 23 Tulip Festival Extravaganza at Prairie Winds Events Center in Orange City. The costumes hail from the province of Drenthe, in the northeast part of The Netherlands. The costume represents the typical Sunday and special occasion dress of the 1800s. From left are court members Catharine Hummel, Maren Beaty, Queen Naomi Mellema, Kate Van Der Werff and Chloe Bilby. (Photo submitted)

**All-tournament team pick**  
Tyra Schuiteman (20) of Unity Christian drives against Kaitlyn Tendal (12) of Estherville Lincoln Central in the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union 3A semifinal state basketball game in Des Moines on Thursday, March 3. Schuiteman, who was chosen for the 3A all-tournament team, led the Knights with 14 points and eight rebounds in the 57-44 loss to the Midgets. (Photo by Alysa Reitsma)



**Night show at city hall**  
Mamma Mia! will hit the Night Show stage at Town Hall on Monday, May 16, and run through Saturday, May 21, capping Tulip Festival 2022. Shown here are cast members chosen for the major roles. (Photo submitted)



**Fourth in state bowling**  
Tommy Tracy placed fourth in state bowling on Wednesday, Feb. 23, Tracy was MOC-Floyd Valley's first bowling representative. (Photo submitted)

## April



**First car charger**  
Dutch Mart in Orange City installed an electric-vehicle charging station, the first in the area, the nearest others located in Rock Rapids and Sheldon. Owner Scott Mulder said the company bought and sold a few electric cars, and decided to invest in a charger (Photo by Sarah Weber)



**Librarian retires**  
Murray Andersen, librarian for MOC-Floyd Valley Orange City Elementary, retired from teaching at the conclusion of this school year, ending a career of 33 years remembering the names of 400 student who passed through the school's library. (Photo submitted)



**First Accelerate Siouxland class**  
On April 14, 15 persons graduated from the first Accelerate Siouxland class through the Center of Innovation and Leadership at Northwestern College in Orange City. Graduates from Orange City included Mike Mulder, Noah Minnick, Matt Brossard, Benjamin Langton, Cameron McKinney, Noah Smith and Steven Van Meeteren. (Photo submitted)



**EMT retires**  
After joining the emergency medical technicians at the Orange City Hospital in April of 1982, Gary Cleveringa celebrated retirement at a party on April 4 of 2022. "I've met thousands of great people. And it's been very rewarding!" Cleveringa said. (Photo submitted)



**Welcomes new principal**  
Bryan Paulson joined Spalding Catholic as full-time administrator of the pre-kindergarten through sixth-grade programs, beginning with the 2022/23 school year. Paulson taught high-school special education and coached at George-Little Rock, prior to the new position. Paulsen has a masters degree in school administration from Northwestern College. Spalding Catholic serves families in Alton, Orange City, Sioux Center, Granville, Hoppers and Maurice. (Photo submitted)



**Retires after 43 years**  
Kim Starkenburg retired this year after 43 years of teaching, 36 of those years in Orange City. Starkenburg served the last thirty-six years in Orange City Christian School, the school in which Starkenburg grew up, attending from kindergarten through eighth grade. (Photo submitted)