

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
LOW 26 HIGH 33	LOW 26 HIGH 34	LOW 25 HIGH 34	LOW 30 HIGH 37	LOW 29 HIGH 38	LOW 26 HIGH 31	LOW 23 HIGH 31

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STUDENTS AT WORK IN Dutch Design

By SARAH WEBER
Co-Editor

ORANGE CITY — Dutch Design is a new course at MOC-Floyd Valley High School, allowing students to step into the world of graphic design and digital media and apply their knowledge in the classroom and out into the community. Jade Niemyer teaches the course and shares, “The idea for the class came about by chance. I heard about and started following a University of Iowa student from Carroll who creates media posts for the Iowa football team. I found out about a program Carroll High has called Tiger Vision. They have a very popular and intense video streaming service and a retail store. Dutch Designs is kind of based on Tiger Vision with

a different twist.” The class offered at MOC-Floyd Valley focuses on media technology and business.

“Sophomores through seniors can take the course; this year, we have three sections and a total of 31 students,” Niemyer said.

The course starts with soft skills and basic business skills, and advances to specialties. “I have a couple of students that want to specialize in photography and are now certified to take photos at sporting events,” he said. A senior student is planning to go to college for digital design “and is already creating fantastic stuff through Adobe digital design, work she will see in college.”

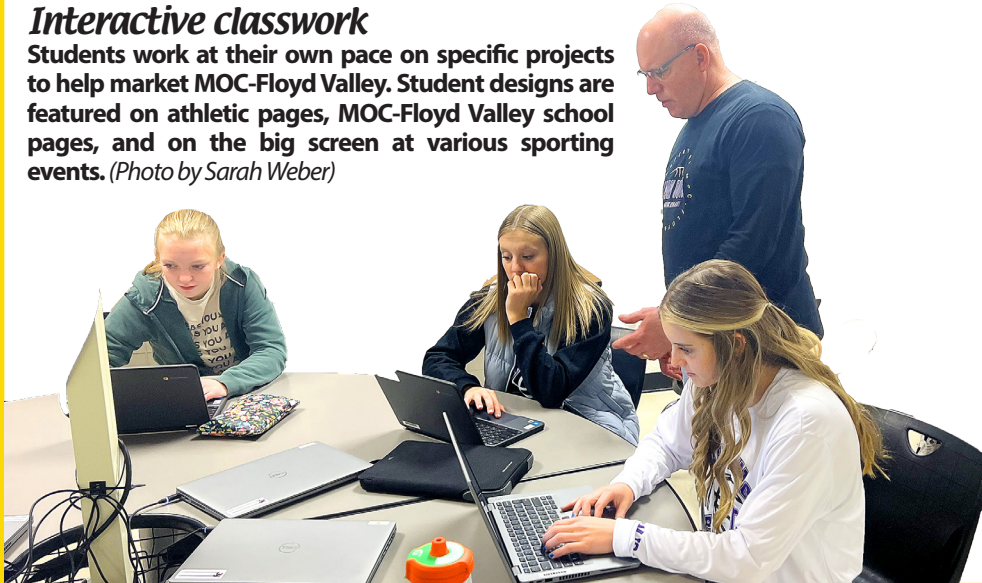
The Dutch Design students are responsible for many of the marketing and advertising happening at MOC-Floyd Valley. They submit slides to Mr.

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Interactive classwork

Students work at their own pace on specific projects to help market MOC-Floyd Valley. Student designs are featured on athletic pages, MOC-Floyd Valley school pages, and on the big screen at various sporting events. (Photo by Sarah Weber)



Sports: RAIDER FOOTBALL ROMPS TO FINAL

See page 8 for more details



Keep your engines in shape this winter

By SARAH WEBER
Co-Editor

ORANGE CITY — Northwest Iowa winters can take a toll on any gas-powered engine; here are some helpful tips to help keep your engines sharp and running smoothly all winter long.

Nick Noteboom of Noteboom Oil Company shares some helpful tips for car care.

“Be sure to check your antifreeze and that it stays full. This plays a role in also keeping your heater running well,” Noteboom shares.

He recommends checking all your fluids, ensuring your wiper fluid is full and your wiper blades are working well. “If a blade is ripped or torn, they won’t wipe well, obstructing views. You can also purchase winter blades that keep snow from getting stuck on your windshield.”

Checking the tread on tires and keeping them adequately filled is also a good tip for winter. And to keep your car looking as good as it runs, Noteboom says, “You should hand polish your car, giving it a layer of protection.” When the temperature is above freezing, it is also good to wash it, even in winter months, to remove the salt and grime that builds up on and under your vehicle.

“I always tell my kids to also have a winter survival kit in their car. Have an extra blanket, a candle, something little to eat and drink, and a shovel to dig out in case you get stuck somewhere,” he says.

To prevent accidents, his number one tip is to plan ahead for any road travel. “Too often I see people rushing around and late, but leaving your house early and driving slow is the safest way to travel in the winter.”

Small engines need attention year-round as well. Marv De Koster of Marv’s Outdoor Power and Equipment shares tips on winterizing lawnmowers and keeping snow blowers running smoothly.

“The biggest tip I give people is to run Sea-Foam through their mowers at the end of the season and their snow blowers in the spring after the snow melts,” De Koster said. He says to run it through the machine and keep it running until it runs out of gas. Sea-Foam is an oil-based gas additive, “and it keeps everything oiled up and running smooth and clean.”

The winter months are also the perfect time for a tune-up. “Many people will drop off their mowers at the end of the season for a complete tune-up. We sharpen blades, change oil, check belts and cables, and get it ready for the next season,” he said.

Based on the number of snow blowers he has in the repair shop, it is a tip that translates to snow blowers too. It helps to be proactive ahead of the season so that you know your machine is tuned up and ready to go when that first snow hits. De Koster also recommends “getting new gas for your snow blower. There is a difference between summer gas and winter gas; your summer gas from your tank used for your mower won’t fire as well in the cold weather, so refresh your gas tanks!”

VETERAN RECALLS SERVING IN AFGHANISTAN

By SHARON VERMEER
Correspondent

PEOPLE of Sioux County

ORANGE CITY — For those who remember, 9/11 was a time of shock and horror. The al-Qaeda militant Islamist extremist group carried out four suicide terrorist attacks that morning, hitting both Twin Towers in New York City and the Pentagon. The fourth plane crashed into a field following a passenger revolt instead of the Washington D.C. building it was intended. Nearly 3,000 people died.

That day made a difference for Joel De Jong and some of his classmates. “I enlisted almost exactly a year after 9/11,” recalled De Jong. “I turned 17 in August of 2002 and had just started my senior year. I wanted to join the National Guard, and my parents had to sign a waiver so I could!” At the time, De Jong did not care about college or money; he was just ready to serve his country.

Immediately after graduation, he was sent to Fort Knox for Basic Training. “Fortunately, I was ready physically because I had been a wrestler,” he smiled. “Mentally, I was as ready as a 17-year-old can be! My biggest challenge was that it was the first time I had been away from home for any length of time. But I pushed through it.” After finishing Basic Training, he continued at Fort Knox for his job training in Armor and Reconnaissance. After graduation, he was



sent back home to join the Le Mars National Guard Unit. However, when he reported in, he was told to report back in a month: they were deploying to Afghanistan.

De Jong was ready: he had trained for this. The Unit trained in Sioux City, then Camp Dodge, and finally went to Fort Hood, Texas, for three months. “We learned how a modern deployment works: convoy operations, detaining the enemy combatants, more advanced marksmanship, urban warfare training, and other skills,” he explained. “When we finished, we flew about thirty hours to Bagram Air Force Base. It was culture shock! When you landed and the door of the C-130 opened, I remember the unpleasant smell and the heat. It was 100 degrees and very bright and sunny.”

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