

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
LOW 8 HIGH 16	LOW 2 HIGH 15	LOW 2 HIGH 16	LOW -9 HIGH 6	LOW -5 HIGH 5	LOW -12 HIGH 0	LOW -8 HIGH -3

SIoux COUNTY

CAPITAL-DEMOCRAT

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New storefront will support GENESIS HOUSE



By SARAH WEBER
Co-Editor

ORANGE CITY — Genesis House is a faith-based housing facility that offers holistic support for women and children impacted by homelessness and domestic violence. The vision is “to empower women and children to a life of independence free from poverty, addiction, and violence.” To help support this effort, Genesis House is opening Restored 517 at 104 Central Avenue in Orange City. Becky Erdmann, Executive Director of Genesis House, explains, “The name Restored 517 comes from 2 Corinthians 5:17, which says, Therefore if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone; the new is here.”

The scripture speaks of new life; something Genesis House seeks to help women find: a new beginning. Restored 517 will offer a new beginning to furniture and household decor.

“What we have has been donated. Some things we put out as is, others we have rebuilt, repainted, and given a new look,” Erdmann said.

The idea came from a pop-up store, Genesis House, held during Tour of Homes.

“We had some items for sale at the pop-up store located inside Brad’s Breads. The store generated a ton of interest. For example, we had this cute pink vanity that we painted and added new hardware too; people were fighting over it; they were so excited!”

And many people in the community wondered where the storefront for the pop-up store was. “Lots of people asked, but we needed the right place, and we found it,” she said. The

pop-up store raised \$1500 in two days during tour of homes; the group is excited to see the new storefront offer more to the community.

It will sell tables, chairs, dressers, entertainment centers, and many decor items at affordable prices. All of the items will be staged to help people see a vision of how it will fit into their homes. The space also offers places for women to sell craft items. “If we have a woman that sews or crochets and wants to sell goods, we will make that available to them as well,” Erdmann said. She adds, “The women would also be able to work at the store if they want to. That falls under our mission of breaking cycles of poverty and empowering independence. The store won’t just provide money for Genesis House but provide opportunities for them as well, living into our mission.”

Money raised from the restore will go toward the holistic support of Genesis House. “We want to assist women physically, spiritually, and mentally through case management, self-sufficiency plans, sobriety plans counseling, Bible study, and life skills classes.”

Erdmann sees a potential for more in the space. “The back of the store could be open for meeting rooms, a space to talk, community outreach, crafting; there is so much potential there. It is a great space; we are very excited.”

If you are interested in donating items to Restored 517, email restored517oc@gmail.com or call 712-395-3377. The grand opening will take place in January, but keep an eye on Genesis House’s facebook page for a sneak peek and pop-up hours in December.



Sports:
RAIDERS PREPARE FOR CHAMPIONSHIP

See page 8 for more details



High school students learned Innovative solutions at NWC

By SARAH WEBER
Co-Editor

ORANGE CITY — On Tuesday, Dec. 6, 97 students from six area schools attended Innovate at Northwestern College. Students from MOC-Floyd Valley, Western Christian, Rock Valley, Boyden-Hull, Sioux Center, and Spencer worked together to solve problems and learn in a competitive business environment, with prizes awarded to the winners.

Students who participated in Innovate, sponsored by DEMCO, learned the five steps to creating an Innovative solution. The first step is figuring out the problem you are trying to solve. In the case of Innovate, the problem was helping DEMCO improve and market the trailer couplers they make.

Nathan Anderson, a sophomore at MOC-Floyd Valley, explains. “Students in the Dutch Design class attended the event, but we didn’t work with our school. Instead, we were put into groups with students from several different schools,” he said.

Once in groups, the group worked through the next four steps of the five-step process.

After figuring out the problem, students had to analyze the problem. Then together, they gathered criteria, and information about DEMCO, how they make decisions, and what standards they are expecting. After that, they brainstormed to come up with solutions to the problem, trying to improve and market the coupler. Finally, they had to pick the best solution, move forward, and develop a plan to show the group how to improve the product.

“My group came up with the idea of painting the DEMCO logo brighter, so it stands out more. Other ideas involved social media and pushed marketing through social media and newspaper advertisements,” Anderson said.

The groups worked for three hours and the last hour of the day did presentations for three judges. They also worked with a Northwestern College business student and a DEMCO employee to use as resources throughout the day. Students in the first place group received \$50 each, \$25 each for second place, and \$10 for third.

“I thought it was a pretty cool experience, working with people I hadn’t before. Most of us weren’t familiar with this type of thing. We learned and problem solved with different people using each other’s strengths,” Anderson said.

LIBRARIES OFFER LENDING CONSORTIUMS AND NEW PROGRAMS IN 2023

By SARAH WEBER
Co-Editor

ORANGE CITY — A new peer-to-peer lending consortium will now join Alton, Boyden, Hawarden, Hospers, Hull, and Orange City libraries, allowing cardholders to check out books at any library. The consortium authorizes users to directly search other libraries for materials on their online portal, allowing cardholders access to thousands of materials they can find from their home computers.

The flex share program is located in the library catalog, which is available locally at www.orangecitylibrary.org. A link to view the catalog is at the top of the page on the far right. From there, select the search other libraries tab, and select which library you wish to view. When searching for a book in stock or researching a subject, patrons can quickly scroll through what is available at six different local libraries. When reserving items, materials can be sent to the patron’s home library, or they can choose to drive to the library and pick the item up on the same day. The other convenience offered is that all six libraries serve as book drop locations; any library books from participating libraries can be returned to any location.

“The advantage is that it provides patrons acquisition of materials in any participating libraries and brought to a home

library. If you are passing through a library, you can drop anything off at any library,” says Orange City Library Director Lisa Johnson. “This will provide resource sharing between libraries and help us better see how libraries are used. For example, if someone from Boyden is requesting a lot of materials at our library, but we see our patrons aren’t using it, is it better to switch materials between libraries,” she said, adding, “The system provides collaboration across the system opening new avenues in the future with other resource sharing.” What made this possible was all participating libraries are on the same integrated library system. Also, “The State of Iowa opened up a transportation system for traditional library materials doing transit twice a week. We can utilize that for these library materials instead of traditional postage service. This transportation system



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