## LOVE: Child recalls parents prioritized religion, education

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"We didn't think anything of that," Kay said of their short courtship. "We knew we were in love and wanted to get married."

But before the wedding, Elmer approached Kay's grandfather, a large, rather intimidating man, according to Elmer, to ask for her hand in marriage.

"Mom's grandfather asked who his family was, and my dad said his mother was a Zalaznik," said son Byron Heitz, of Dubuque. "Mom's grandfather said, 'Zalaznik? Any relation to Frank and Matt?"

"Those are my mom's brothers," Elmer replied. Years earlier, Frank and Matt Zalaznik swam across the Maquoketa River to help put out a barn fire. The barn belonged to Kay's grandfather.

'He said, 'You're from good people,'" Byron said. "After that, he just melted."

Elmer gave Kay a diamond engagement ring a week after her Oct. 1 birthday.

"I didn't want to give it to her on her birthday," he said. "Those were two very different and special occasions. So, we had three long weeks to get ready (for the wedding)."

After a three-week honeymoon in California, the couple settled in Dyersville, where Kay had gotten a job at the new hospital. Elmer continued to work in farm machinery sales.

One year later, they moved to Farley, where they still make their home.

Byron remembers progressive parents who believed that faith and education were paramount.

"I remember seeing them in their bedroom, one on either side of the bed, kneeling down and praying before going to bed," he said.

When they would travel, which they did often in combining business and pleasure with Elmer's job, the couple made sure their children learned about the history of whatever town they visited

"Even if it was just pulling over and reading historical markers," Byron said. "They'd say, 'Let's look for something unique in this town. Let's find out what's interesting."



Contributed

Elmer and Kay Heitz married on Nov. 8, 1969.

One of Byron's fondest memories is dining in a pizza parlor somewhere in Canada.

"The owner was Italian and spoke very little English," he said. "There wasn't another soul in the place, and he made us the best pizza we'd ever had. Even today with my family, we're always looking for local flavor everywhere we go."

Byron said his parents were forward-thinking in teaching their children to be self-sufficient adults and to share duties equally with a life partner.

They said that the future wouldn't include the luxury of a spouse that could stay home," he said. 'They told us to make sure there was a balance between you and your partner. Mom taught us how to shop, how to clean, how to do laundry, how to garden, how to cook. And Dad would show us how to run a blowtorch, how to talk to clients, how to collect money — everything he did in his business."

When Kay was 60, she completed her first RAG-

"I had always wanted to do it," she said. "I asked if there were any family members that wanted to do it

#### Know a long-married couple?

Love That Lasts is a series highlighting local couples who have been married for at least 50 years.

To nominate a couple to be featured in this series, contact reporter Michelle London at 563-588-5655 or michelle.london@thmedia.com. Be sure to include the couple's names, city of residence, contact information and how long they have been

with me, and we ended up with a group of about 15.

Although she hasn't done it in a while and hasn't done a full ride since that first one, she has completed legs of the ride when it has come near their home.

Elmer is proud of his wife's boundless energy, and he helped her pick out a bicycle for that first ride.

'She's like the Energizer Bunny," he said. After she completed the ride that first year, Elmer met Kay in Dubuque and gave her a gold chain with

"It was one of the many wonderful gifts he's given me," she said.

Byron said his parents always have supported

"Anything she wanted to attempt, he would support her 100%," he said. "Likewise, she supported him. They would say, 'Your needs, my cost, no matter the expense.' They both thought that way."

Elmer is still smitten with his bride after 53 years. "She's so beautiful," he said. "She's very person-

able and intelligent. All of the right things. The couple reserves every Friday night for date

"It doesn't have to be the best date," Kay said.

"Sometimes, we just go out for coffee." Byron would disagree with his mother.

"I don't think they've ever had a bad date," he said. "Mom would always say, 'When I'm with Elmer, no matter where we are, he's the best date in

## **WORKFORCE:** Participants discuss value of college degrees

Continued from page 1A

better opportunities to the margins.

Black residents at both sessions pointedly noted discriminatory practices put better jobs out of reach for

Carla Anderson, a member of the

city Equity and Human Rights Commission speaking Oct. 17, cited a negative experience applying for a local government job; Eric Terrell, speaking Oct. 18, said a past criminal conviction complicated his efforts to find a good job, even while multiple



White employees also had criminal

U.S. Census Bureau data compiled by the Community Foundation has outlined extensive disparities in income, employment and poverty rates between racial and ethnic groups in Dubuque, with Whites receiving the

highest per-capita incomes, though uted. While some attendees spoke poslower median incomes and higher unemployment than Asians and Latinos, while Black and Pacific Islander residents faced higher rates of unemployment and poverty.

Caprice Jones, who moderated the Oct. 18 event, briefly stepped in to acknowledge what he called a "stacked deck of privilege" that created a hierarchy of race, education and criminal

While quality jobs exist in Dubuque, some participants noted, there are often barriers that limit the kind of residents eligible for them, from a concentration of jobs in manufacturing to barriers for low-income individuals and people with children, such as transit and child care chal-

"A quality job requires access to certain resources," said Loras student Rylee Quillen. "And without those, you're kind of screwed."

Resources are also unevenly distrib-

itively of area resources for job-seekers, Ron Axtell, a former manager of one such program, said re-



Ron Axtell

essarily a reliable pathway to a job. College students acknowledged they enjoyed an advantage seeking

sources like that are often

underfunded and not nec-

employment, particularly with local connections in Dubuque. "A college education is a resource,"

said Loras student Madi Atkinson. "I'm leaning on Loras a lot." On the other hand, others acknowledged a college degree did not confer the same benefits as it had a few years

earlier. A. Alanda Gregory, co-founder of Tri-Phoenix Group LLC, said her own daughter was seeking a career as a caterer after receiving a bachelor's degree in psychology.

Gregory and Axtell turned their group's conversation toward "non-traditional" paths into the job market that deemphasized a college education.

'Not everyone needs a college degree," Axtell said. "Apprenticeships are out there. There are jobs where you can learn while you work."

That group also openly acknowledged the complications poverty itself posed for seeking better jobs, like the benefits cliff - the income level where employees do not make enough to support themselves but are paid too much to qualify for federal benefits like Medicaid or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

That, they agreed, was too big to be addressed locally, but needed to be acknowledged more widely.

"We all see it, but it flies under the radar," Anderson said. "We should articulate that clearer and louder."

Joshua Irvine is a Report for America corps member and writes about issues related to poverty in the tri-state area for the Telegraph Herald.

# BIZ: Eatery makes all sauces from scratch | today's birthdays

Continued from page 1A

fried food, BBQ and sweets and such. So, we wanted to bring that (sandwich focus) into the restaurant as

For breakfast, the restaurant has a menu of breakfast sandwiches with a side of hashbrowns or potatoes. For lunch and dinner, she serves specialty burgers, sandwiches and wraps. The eatery also offers coffee drinks and a "goodie bin" filled with cupcakes and cinnamon rolls.

She added that she also makes all of the sauces used in the menu. One sauce uses a mix of raspberries and peppers, and her "shroom sauce" has beer added into it.

'I think it really opens up people's taste buds in an area that might not have been introduced or that they are accustomed to," she said. "It's able to offer that uniqueness and still have the common, heartwarming foods people like as well."

Dinger's D'Lite's is open from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday and Wednes-

### **Business tips sought**

Do you have an interesting story or news tip to share about a local business? Ideas can be shared with business reporter Kayli Reese at kayli.reese@thmedia.com or 563-588-5673.

day, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday. The restaurant can be found on Facebook.

Rock musician **Bill Wyman** is 86. Actor **F. Murray Abraham** is 83. Movie director-screenwriter **David S. Ward** is 77. Congressman and former NAACP President Kweisi Mfume is 74. Actor **B.D.** Wong is 62. Actor Zahn McClar**non** is 56. R&B singer, actor and TV personality Adrienne Bailon Houghton is 39. Rapper Drake is 36. Actor **Shenae Grimes** is 33. Actor Eliza Taylor is 33. Actor **Ashton Sanders** is 27. Olympic gold medal gymnast **Kyla Řoss** is 26. Actor **Hudson Yang** is 19.

Today is Monday, Oct. 24, the 297th day of 2022. There are 68 days left in the year.

#### ON THIS DATE

- In 1537, Jane Seymour, the third wife of England's King Henry VIII, died 12 days after giving birth to Prince Edward, later King Edward VI.
- In 1861, the first transcontinental telegraph message was sent by Chief Justice Stephen J. Field of California from San Francisco to President Abraham Lincoln in Washington, D.C., over a line built by the Western Union Telegraph
- In 1940, the 40-hour work week went into effect under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938.
- In 1996, TyRon Lewis, 18, a Black motorist, was shot to death by police during a traffic stop in St. Petersburg, Fla.; the incident sparked rioting.
- In 2002, authorities apprehended John Allen Muhammad and teenager Lee Boyd Malvo near Myersville, Md., in the Washington-area sniper attacks.

The Associated Press

#### **lotteries**

#### **IOWA**

SUNDAY EARLY

Pick 3-Midday: 0-2-8 Pick 4-Midday: 7-5-3-3

SATURDAY EVENING

Pick 3-Evening: 7-7-1 **Pick 4-Evening:** 8-3-2-3 Lucky for Life: 1-10-32-37-41 Lucky ball: 8 **Lotto America:** 5-19-44-49-52 Star Ball: 2 Bonus: 2 Jackpot: \$28.9 million

#### **ILLINOIS**

SUNDAY EARLY **Pick 3-Midday:** 5-1-7 Pick 4-Midday: 3-3-4-2

**Lucky Day Lotto-Midday:** 2-30-37-41-45

SATURDAY EVENING

Pick 3-Evening: 7-7-1 **Pick 4-Evening:** 1-5-5-9 **Lucky Day Lotto-Evening:** 7-25-28-31-35 Lotto: 2-8-21-32-33-48 Extra shot: 23

### **WISCONSIN**

Jackpot: \$2.45 million

SUNDAY EARLY All or Nothing-Midday: 1-4-5-6-8-9-10-16-19-21-22 **Pick 3-Midday:** 6-9-0 Pick 4-Midday: 7-9-6-3

SATURDAY EVENING

All or Nothing-Evening: 3-4-5-6-8-11-12-14-17-18-21 **Daily Pick 3:** 1-2-7 **Daily Pick 4:** 4-1-6-8 Badger 5: 3-9-16-20-29 Supercash: 1-11-25-30-33-34 Doubler: N Megabucks: 17-26-34-43-44-47 Jackpot: 11.4 million

POWERBALL

19-25-48-55-60

Powerball: 18 Powerplay: 2 Jackpot: \$610 million

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