



SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF TRAEER, DYSART AND CLUTIER

NORTH TAMA TELEGRAPH

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PHOTO BY RUBY F. MCALLISTER

The faded Great Dysart Gorge pictured on Friday, May 19, ahead of its repainting which was set to begin this past Monday.

The Great Dysart Gorge seeks a refresh

RUBY F. MCALLISTER | rbodeker@northtamatelegraph.com

DYSART — The Great Dysart Gorge is in need of a makeover — and the funds to do so.

Beginning this week, Anthony Gasco with Accent Painting and Refinishing of La Porte City will be working to repaint the giant anamorphic illusion on Dysart's downtown Main Street.

The Great Dysart Gorge was first painted onto the street back in May of 2018 by hundreds of volunteers in an effort to court more tourists to the picturesque downtown and its small businesses.

With Dysart's Sesquicentennial celebrations set for July 2-3 fast approaching, a repaint of The Great Dysart Gorge — which has faded and wore off due to traffic and the weather — was deemed necessary by members of Vision Dysart.

GORGE | P7

'On Behalf of a Grateful Nation' Memorial Day cemetery walks planned for Traer

KENNAN SEDA | SPECIAL TO THE TELEGRAPH

In 1923, Traer celebrated the 50th anniversary of its founding. One focal point of the town celebration was the dedication of the "Legion Arch" which was built at Taylor Park as a memorial to the seven men from Traer that died during the Great War (1914-1918).

The seven men include Edward Kubik, Clair Finch, George Wieben, Fred Pippert, William McTurk, Roy Pearce and Edgar McCord and they are listed on an honor roll located by the Arch.

In 2023, Traer is now celebrating its sesquicentennial. A cemetery walk entitled "On Behalf of a Grateful Nation" is set for Monday, Memorial Day, May 29. The program will begin with an open house of the updated military display at the Traer Historical Museum. Doors open at 7:30 a.m.

MEMORIAL | P2

WEEKEND FORECAST:

Saturday: **SUNNY**
High: 83 / Low: 49



Sunday: **CHANCE OF SHOWERS**
High: 85 / Low: 51

INSIDE:

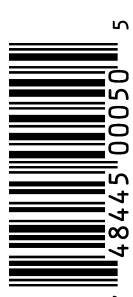
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Read and Recycle

Traer's Big Birthday Bash slated for next Saturday

TRAER'S BIG BIRTHDAY BASH

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF PRIDE & PROGRESS IN TRAEER, IA

SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2023 11:15AM-10:00PM IN TAYLOR PARK

FOOD & BEVERAGE VENDORS
FOOD TRUCKS & BEER GARDEN FEATURING 150TH COMMEMORATIVE BEERS

'POLISH UP TAYLOR PARK'
TO GET INVOLVED LOOK FOR POSTERS & INFO THROUGHOUT THE PARK

SESQUICENTENNIAL SWAG
FOR SALE AT THE MERCHANDISE TENT NEAR THE SHELTER HOUSE

SELF-GUIDED SCAVENGER HUNT
SWINDIG FOR TODDLERS & SCHOOL-AGED KIDS INFO AT BIRTHDAY BASH TENT

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CATHOLIC CHURCH BINGO
IN SHELTER HOUSE

BIRTHDAY BASH PHOTO OPS
SEARCH SIDEWALKS AROUND THE PARK FOR SELFIE CHALK DRAWINGS

DO-IT-YOURSELF GIANT JENGA POTATO SACK RACES
HULA HOOPS & SEE THE NEW PARK PLAY EQUIPMENT

BOUNCY HOUSE
FOR AGES 1-4 NEAR THE SHELTER HOUSE

11:15am Neon Fun Run - \$25 entry fee - Pre-register/details here: Register 10am-11:15am at Blue Birthday Bash Tent. Proceeds to NT Spanish Club

12:00pm Legion Flag Opening Ceremony and Birthday Bash Kick-Off - FREE BIRTHDAY CAKE and Commemorative Candle Blow Out - Gazebo

12:00 - 1:00pm Pool Dives for Prizes/Money - Swimming Pool - Sponsored by Farmers Savings Bank
12:00pm - College Age dive for \$125
12:10pm - High School dive for \$125
12:20pm - Middle School dive for \$100
12:30pm - 5-6 Graders swim for \$75
12:40pm - 3-4 Graders swim for \$50
12:50pm - 1-2 Graders swim for \$25 + 100 floating party piglets
1:00pm - Pre-K splash for 100 floating party piglets

12:00 - 2:00pm Kids Waterball Fights - east end of Park Row Street - Sponsored by Traer Fire Department

12:00pm FREE Squirr Guns for kids, while they last - Blue Birthday Bash Tent

12:00 - 8:00pm Homemade Pie & Ice Cream Social + Handmade Quilts on display at the Ripley United Church of Christ at 400 S. Main Street

12:30pm NT Pep Band and Alumni Performance - Gazebo
Interested in participating? Contact Channing Halstead at chhalstead@tama.k12.ia.us to get copies of music or show up for practice at 11:45-12:15pm in the NT Band Room enter south side Activity Entrance Door 12

12:30pm Watermelon Crawl (ages 12 and up) - FREE to groups of 4, push a watermelon with your head while swimming - Swimming Pool - Sponsored by NT BASIC

1:00pm Pie Baking Competition - Drop off pies at Shelter House by 1:00pm - winner announced at 3:00pm at Gazebo - Sponsored by Members 1st Community Credit Union

1:00 - 2:30pm FREE Birthday Bubble Wands and Bubble-Making Class - near the Shelter House

1:00 - 3:00pm Jim Kucera Polka Band - Gazebo

1:00 - 3:00pm FREE Birthday Bash Face Painting - near Blue Birthday Bash Tent

1:50pm BIG 150TH BIRTHDAY BASH SURPRISE.....look to the sky.....

2:00 - 4:00pm Champions Horseshoe Pitching - Horseshoe Pits near Gazebo - Sponsored by The I.H.H.P.A.

2:00 - 4:00pm FREE Balloon Tying Artists, Balloon Baffoons - near the Shelter House

3:00pm Iowa State University Campanile/Carillon Performance plus more information, explore and try your hand at playing - Pool Parking Lot

3:30pm Cakewalk Mashups - \$1.00 entry fee - Gazebo

4:00pm Homegrown Musical Talent featuring Carri Holst & Amy Lidgett - Gazebo

4:00pm FREE Taffy Pull demonstration and hands-on activity for kids - near the Shelter House

4:30pm FREE Kolache Eating Contest - Gazebo - signs up at Blue Birthday Bash Tent - Sponsored by Chelsea Savings Bank

5:00pm Homegrown Musical Talent featuring Kevin Wood & Gayle Lundak - Gazebo

5:30pm Homegrown Musical Talent featuring Candy Thomas Glasco & Gayle Lundak - Gazebo

6:00pm Cakewalk Mashups - \$1.00 entry fee - Gazebo

6:15pm FREE Tug-of-War - East side of HWY 63 vs West side of HWY 63 - near the Shelter House

6:30 - 7:00pm Magician, Eric Michaels - Basketball Court

7:00pm The 7 at 7 Presentation by Kennan Seda - a 7-minute overview of the 7 Veterans whose names adorn the park entrance monument - stay longer for Q & A - West Park Entrance

7:00 - 9:00pm Joe Boyle Music - Gazebo

9:00pm Cakewalk Mashups - \$1.00 entry fee - Gazebo

9:15pm FREE Birthday Bash Movie Under the Moon - family-friendly flick - surprise reveal - Look for the Absolutely Enormous Movie Screen

10:30pm Bar Carnival featuring Traer Trivia at Junkyard Bar - 21+ Only

FREE ADMISSION • BRING LAWN CHAIRS • MORE INFO AT TRAEER.COM

SCHEDULE & EVENTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE • WEATHER PERMITTING

UPCOMING SESQUICENTENNIAL EVENTS: JULY 16 FLICK & A FEAST; AUG 5-13 SELF-GUIDED HISTORIC HOMES TOUR; AUG 11 NT SCHOOL STAFF REUNION; AUG 24-27 CIVIL WAR REENACTMENT; AUG 28 GOLF CLUB 100TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY; SEPT 23 SOUP/CHILI COOKOFF & FIREWORKS DISPLAY; NOV 24 BLACK FRIDAY HOLIDAY COOKIE EXCHANGE; DEC 1-2 HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

RUBY F. MCALLISTER
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TRAER — There should be no room for boredom next Saturday in Traer as the town officially celebrates its 150th birthday with a bash designed for the ages.

Traer's Big Birthday Bash — as organizers have dubbed the daylong celebration — is set for Satur-

day, June 3 from just before noon to 10 p.m. in Taylor Park. The lengthy list of activities planned for the public party is enough to make one's head spin — and too much for one article alone — but here's a sampling...

The celebrations are scheduled to begin at 11:15 a.m. with a family-friendly 1.5-mile, untimed Neon

Fun Run sponsored by the North Tama Spanish Club.

Participants may walk, jog, skip, or even roll their way through the course where at every half mile they will be doused with colored powder. Those who register by May 25 will receive a t-shirt, but participants are asked to wear all white and protective eyewear such as

sunglasses.

Proceeds from the run are earmarked for the Spanish Club's upcoming field trip abroad. The run begins on the southwest corner of Taylor Park. For more information including how to register: <https://neonfun-run2023.rsvpify.com>.

BASH | P3

Dengler's other domain

Local newspaper columnist drafts new chapter on the farm

RUBY F. MCALLISTER
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As much of Tama County's tapestry of fields begin to turn green this week with young shoots of recently planted corn and beans and oats, a few of those fields were planted by none other than Tama-Grundy Publishing's own newspaper columnist Sean Dengler who is drafting a new chapter this year as a beginning young farmer.

For the last several years, Dengler, 31, has written for the North Tama Telegraph's opinion page through his column Dengler's Domain which chronicles both the local lore of northern Tama County and issues that affect rural, small town Iowans from the perspective of someone who grew up



PHOTO BY SOREN M. PETERSON

Beginning farmer Sean Dengler of the Telegraph's Dengler Domain column operates a tractor earlier this month while planting a field of corn in Clark Township northeast of Clutier.

on a farm — specifically on a farm in rural Dysart although Dengler and his brother and sister all attended and graduated from North Tama.

After being laid off during

the pandemic, Dengler — a UNI graduate with degrees in finance and electronic media who now lives in Urbandale with his wife Kim — began to find his thoughts more and more turning to his par-

ents' farm. And as he began to help his dad out more, he realized farming might actually be where his next chapter begins.

DENGLER | P6