

Webster City

L i n g

february 2012

50595

magazine

Treasure troves

**WEBSTER CITY RESIDENTS
SHARE THEIR CHERISHED FINDS**

**FRENCH SILK PIE
RECIPE**

**MEET MICHELE VELDHIJZEN
EDUCATION**

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No more Santas, please

With the success of cable television shows like “American Pickers” and “Pawn Stars,” collecting has become an even bigger hobby — and business — for a growing number of Americans. The same can be said right here at home, as it seems more and more people have started collecting things, sometimes without even truly realizing it.

If we are honest with ourselves, we realize that most all of us collect things, whether we want to or not. This becomes quite obvious when exploring most people’s homes or garages, as it is easy to find a theme with objects that they tend to compile. And once you start collecting, it becomes addictive. Others seem to like to add to your collections, too, and your stock continues to grow.



Years ago, my wife started collecting Santa Claus figurines. A friend of hers collected angel figurines. Through holidays and birthdays, they purchased these items for each other until there simply wasn’t room to

display them all in either of our homes. Fortunately, that trend ended, but the Santas continue to provide the memories of that friendship and have become one of our collections that we bring out each holiday season.

We also once purchased an antique Coca-Cola cooler at a rummage sale. We didn’t have a need for it, but simply thought it was unique. We added a few more Coca-Cola items, and—voila! — we suddenly became Coke collectors to the point where we had a room full of the stuff. The odd part was that we didn’t drink Coke products, and we never intended to start collecting the stuff. Somehow my wife’s family thought we did, and the collection grew each year until we finally sold off the pieces at a garage sale, providing materials to yet another collector.

In this month’s cover story, we share the stories of a handful of Webster City residents and their collections, explaining their passion for the “stuff” and how they became involved in gathering it. It’s a fun story for those of us who admit we collect and for those of us who don’t.

Thanks for reading. ■

Shane Goodman
Publisher



Darren Tromblay
Editor
515-953-4822 ext. 304
darren@dmcityview.com

Pete Gardner
Advertising
641-430-1688
pete@iowalivingmagazines.com



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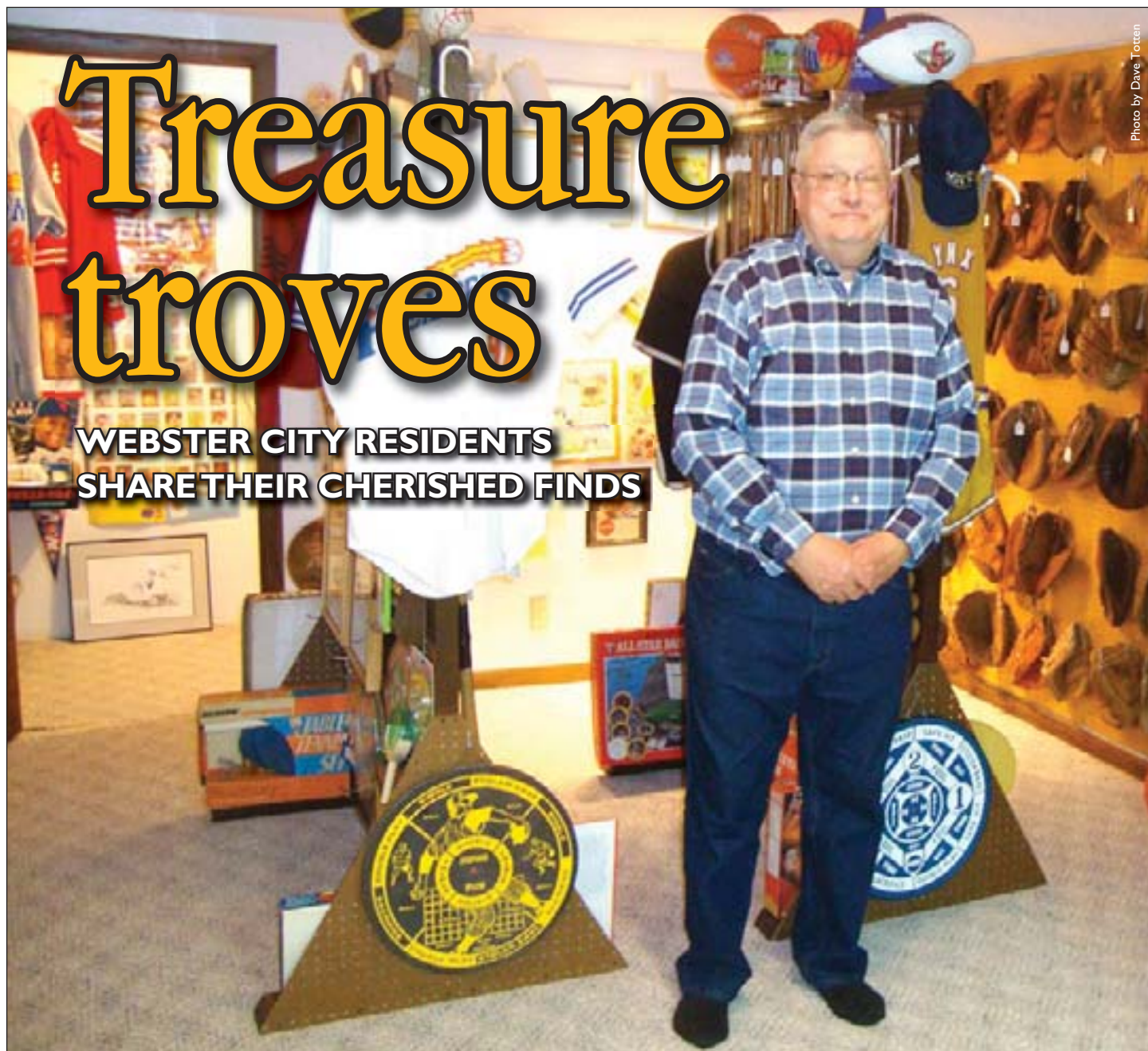


Photo by Dave Torren

Treasure troves

WEBSTER CITY RESIDENTS
SHARE THEIR CHERISHED FINDS

Mike Hames is surrounded by his collection of baseball memorabilia.

By Susan Lemam

Most people collect something — recipes, coins, figurines, dishes, Christmas ornaments, antiques, tools, pottery; the list is as varied as each collector.

The reasons for establishing each collection are numerous. Sometimes collected items remind us of special times and places visited, perhaps an era or pursuit we'd like to learn more about. Some articles may be gathered

simply for the thrill of the hunt. Whatever the reason, collecting is an interesting pastime for several Webster City residents.

Sentimental value

Mike Hames' collection of baseball memorabilia actually started in the early 1980s as a project for son Brad who was 9 years old at the time.

"My son started collecting baseball cards; we'd pick them up

at garage sales and flea markets. Then I'd run into things and buy them for him, and about a year later, I got interested in collecting," Hames explains.

He started picking up interesting pieces here and there, and soon ended up with several articles. The collector points out that he is interested in items simply because he likes them, not necessarily for their monetary worth.

"I don't collect anything that's

valuable. What I like are things that are odd or unusual," he says. "Things that have more sentimental value."

Some of those things range from a plastic baseball jewelry box that plays, "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" when opened, a kids' cork stick bat used in the late 1930s/early 1940s, a store model Babe Ruth bat, a Louisville Slugger replica bat, balls, books, games and toys, Hartland plastic statues, a

framed baseball puzzle, and a wall full of baseball gloves.

The oldest glove is a kid's mitt from the 1900s. Hames decided he needed a place to display his collection, and wife Rosalie came up with the idea of hanging the gloves on a peg board.

"Then I started dragging out stuff," Hames says. "... and stuff, and stuff and stuff!" Rosalie adds.

Hames built some free-standing pegboard displays as well, and now has his collection organized and displayed in the basement of their home.

"At one time, I probably had 150,000 baseball cards, but I sold some of them to a collector and started over. What I have now is not as valuable," Hames says.

He has begun passing along some of the cards and other items to their five grandchildren.

Displayed on a bookshelf with the collection, Hames also has several autographed baseballs with famous names like Mickey Mantle and Bob Feller. However, Hames says he doesn't do a lot of collecting of autographed balls.

"It's too easy to fake 'em," he says.

He appreciates the opportunity to get player photos autographed in person so he knows they're authentic. Several framed autographed shots line the walls and feature Brooks Robinson, Nolan Ryan and Ernie Banks.

"Ernie Banks was very gracious," Hames remembers. He got his autograph at an event in Des Moines.

In addition to collecting baseball memorabilia, the sport is of interest to the Hames family for personal reasons as well.

Mike remembers serving as Brad's Little League coach, and Brad, who played at Webster City High school and at UNI, also played pitcher for the semi-pro Huron Heaters for one year, and a partial year with the Chaska Valley Buccaneers until he sustained a rotator cuff injury.

Souvenirs from other sports are also on display in Hames' collection.

"Baseball's the main thing, but I've got other stuff," he says.



Sue Erickson shows the life mask display in her salon.

Included are some Iowa Cubs and UNI items, a Kurt Warner autographed football, some antique wooden golf clubs, old sports games, an old Lynx basketball uniform and even Brad's first pair of Nike Air Jordans from the mid-1980s.

Hames still stops into an antique store of flea market looking for baseball collectibles, but says, "I don't buy much anymore, maybe one or two things a year, and I get some things as gifts."

He and Rosalie are enjoying retirement and attending their grandchildren's sporting events.

Amongst the stars

Going to an appointment at the

Mane Attraction salon in downtown Webster City is like traveling back in time to old Hollywood.

Owner Sue Erickson began decorating the shop with her varied collections of Hollywood memorabilia when she moved in nine years ago.

"I just thought it was unique and fun. I wanted a salon like no one else has — where it's fun to go to work, and you're surrounded by things you love," Erickson says.

Surroundings she loves include posters, figurines, pictures, dolls, playing cards, plates and framed pictures of stars including Shirley Temple, W.C. Fields, Mae West, Elizabeth Taylor, Elvis Presley, Lucille Ball, Fred Astaire and

Ginger Rogers, the Three Stooges, the Beatles, and Marilyn Monroe.

She started by collecting Shirley Temple memorabilia and branched out to include other stars. Her Marilyn Monroe collection, she says, happened by accident. She had received a Marilyn-inspired gift from a friend, and soon others were giving her similar type gifts.

"It's not that I really sought it out, but the next thing I knew I had all these collections," she says.

A passion for classic films is at the root of her interest.

"I like old movies," Erickson says, "I watch a lot on Turner Classic Movies on cable."

Along the wall of the south entrance of her shop is a mounted collection of gold-painted life masks of Hollywood stars. A life mask is a cast taken from the face of a living person. They are used in motion picture and television industries to create special effects make-up for the actor.

Erickson's collection ranges from film legends James Cagney, Katherine Hepburn and Grace Kelly, to comedians Bob Hope, Jerry Lewis and Robin Williams; to current film stars such as Tom Cruise, Johnny Depp, John Travolta and George Clooney. She even has one of the King of Pop, Michael Jackson.

"I found and ordered the masks online, and it became kind of an obsession," Erickson admits. "My husband told me I was running out of room on the walls and better stop."

The same thing happened with her collection of movie posters. She ran out of wall space to display them all. Lining the corridor of the shop are posters from Erickson's favorite movies: "It's a Wonderful Life," "Gone with the Wind," "Casablanca," "Rebel Without a Cause," "Breakfast at Tiffany's," "Shawshank Redemption," "Life is Beautiful," "Titanic," "Forrest Gump" and others.

The posters and pictures are displayed on gray walls with sparkly stars painted here and there. Hours were spent renovating and painting the silver tin ceiling, and seating in the front of the shop is provided by old restored theater

seats acquired from Belle Plaine.

There are also lighted pictures of the Rat Pack, movie reels on the walls, an old hair dryer and a collection of manicure items, women's gloves and marcel curling irons — named after Marcel Grateau, a pioneer of hair styling with irons.

A "rockin' " collection

To say Norman and Irene Gordon have rocks all over their house is no understatement. For years, Norman has been collecting rocks and minerals, cutting and polishing them, and creating unique and original butterflies, chimes, sun catchers, pictures, and cut rock works. "I thought it would be neat to do something different," he says.

Everywhere you look in the Gordon home, there are examples of these natural treasures — hanging in the windows, on the bookshelves and end tables, and — confesses Irene — even under the living room couch. "I haven't got any other place to put 'em!" Norman says.

Norman has always been fascinated with rocks and began picking up interesting ones when they farmed west of Webster City. Later, he purchased many of them from a dealer in Ames. After retiring and moving into town, he busied himself cutting the rocks with



Photo by Dave Totten

Norman Gordon and his collection of agate art.

a saw he purchased, and began making creations from what he found inside. "Every man who retires needs a hobby," Irene says. "Just about every day he comes up with something." Most of the rocks he uses are Brazilian

agates. Each rock has unique colors, crystals and banding patterns. "You wonder what's inside of a rock and how it was made," Norman says. "You think about the years that it took to make that rock and how it came out like that is

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really something.”

Brazilian agate is found as sizable geodes of layered nodules. They are associated with volcanic rocks. The nodules occur in brownish tones interlayered with white and gray. Quartz forms within these nodules, creating a striking appearance when cut. After cutting and seeing the pattern inside, Norman takes them to the dealer in Ames for polishing with polyurethane.

The Gordons used to travel to craft shows with their collection, but have recently stopped. “I’ve slowed down a little,” Norman says. “It got to be too much with travel.”

It’s all in the cards

Dr. Mark and Marcia Andrew are collectors of many things: Red Wing stoneware, White Ironstone china, butter stamps and molds, various antiques, and Victorian trade cards.

Trade cards, according to Dr. Andrew, were put out by companies to advertise American goods and services in the late 1800s. The small, colorfully illustrated trade cards, usually made out of cardboard or thick paper, are an early form of collectible advertising.

“The images might or might not reflect the product; they might just catch your eye with an image on the outside, and talk about the product on the reverse or inside,” he explains.

Trade cards were provided by companies and distributed by merchants to customers to promote their products. Some were also dispensed at special events, like the World’s Fair Expos.

Within the Andrew’s collection of Victorian trade cards are a number of “patent medicine” cards.

“They promoted various medical concoctions with the trade cards typically making fantastic claims about the benefits of those medicines, many of which were later outlawed largely because they were found to contain alcohol and proven to be of no benefit,” Dr. Andrew says.

Some examples are Dr. Kilmer’s Standard Herbal Remedies, Dr. Morse’s Indian Root Pills, Carter’s Little Liver Pills, Dr. Thomas’ Eclectric Oil and Ayer’s Sarsaparilla.

The patent medicine cards were one of the first things they started collecting because of Dr. Andrew’s professional interest in them, and because they’re representative of the history and products that were used at the time.

“Our first exposure to them was at antique shows,” he says. “Because of the great images, so many of these cards attracted our eye.”

In the late 1980s/early 1990s, when the Andrews started collecting them, there was a trade card organization that hosted shows.

“We saw a fantastic collection of common and rare — or more expensive — cards,” Dr. Andrew recalls.

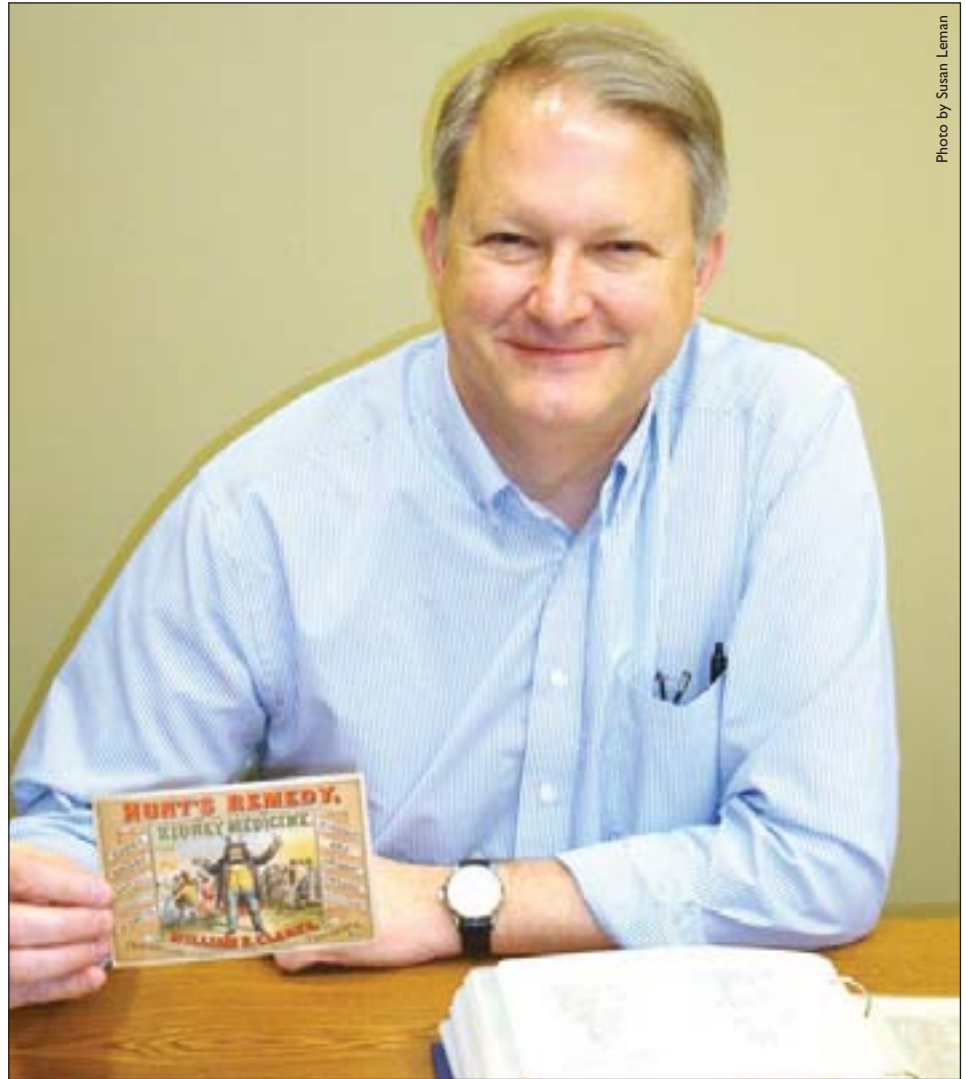


Photo by Susan Leman

Dr. Mark Andrew displays one of his Victorian trade cards featuring Hunt’s Remedy Kidney Medicine.

Interest has now dropped off a bit, he says, and the organization no longer hosts shows.

“You might find them now in shops or at antique shows, but if you want to find a concentration of them, you have to go to some of the larger paper shows in the Eastern U.S.”

Paper shows might feature old trade and postcards, books, manuscripts, maps and sheet music.

Like any paper product one would hope to save, the Andrews store their cards in appropriate preservation books. To date, they have nearly 1,000 cards. Most of their cards were well-preserved when they purchased them.

“People would collect them like postcards or valentines, but a lot of times, we find them with some adhesive residue on them because they’ve been mounted in albums, and that’s just something you have to put up with,” he says.

Some of the cards came in sets; for example, Hunt’s Remedy, or the Heinz Pickle

embossed die cut cards. These companies printed a limited number of cards that were similarly themed. They are somewhat hard to find, and therefore, more rare and expensive.

Websites such as eBay and The Trade Card Place at <http://tradecards.com/> are good places to find trade cards.

“Paper products like trade cards are fairly easy to buy on eBay,” Dr. Andrew says. “It’s easier to judge the quality of a two-dimensional item online because you can picture them in their entirety through the photos on the website.”

Dr. Andrew shares some advice for collectors. He says to always be on the lookout for the best quality items you can find and afford, and to collect what you enjoy, not pieces merely for their monetary value.

“We buy things that pure and simply appeal to us,” he says, “The important thing is to collect stuff you like,” he says. ■



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Tax filing tips save time, money

Start early and avoid the stress and hurry

By Kyle Swon, senior vice president,
Webster City Federal Savings Bank

Tax season has arrived. Although April 17*, this year's tax return filing deadline, may seem like a way off, it's not too early to get started.

You can easily cut down the number of hours you spend preparing your taxes by starting early and tackling your taxes in bite-size chunks. Here are some simple tips to save time, money and hassle down the road.

- **Create a system for organizing tax documents as they arrive.** There is nothing worse than sitting down to finally do your taxes and realizing that you can't find an important document. A little organization from the get-go is all you need to avoid that situation. Your system can be as simple as a large envelope or an accordion file. Just designate a specific spot, and make sure that everyone in the house knows about it.

- **Learn about changes that could impact your taxes.** Every year sees new tax changes. This year, for example, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) announced personal exemptions and standard deductions will rise, and tax brackets will widen due to inflation. Visit www.irs.gov to familiarize yourself with tax law changes so you can take advantage of every tax credit and deduction possible. On the website, you'll also find forms, publications, tips and answers to frequently asked questions.

- **Remember the number 17.** Check out IRS Publication 17, "Your Federal Income Tax," on the IRS website. It's a comprehensive collection of information for



taxpayers highlighting everything you'll need to know when filing your return.

- **Consider using Free File.** Using the IRS Free File, you can prepare and e-file your federal return for free. Participating software companies make their products available through the IRS. Some also support state tax returns. Visit www.irs.gov/freefile to review your options.

- **Review, review, review.** Don't rush. We all make mistakes when we rush. Mistakes will slow down the processing of your return. Be sure to double check all the Social Security numbers and math calculations on your return, as these are the most common errors made by taxpayers.

- **Don't panic.** If you run into a problem, remember the IRS is available to help. Visit www.irs.gov or call toll-free (800) 829-1040.

* The 2012 tax return due date is April 17, instead of April 15, because April 15 is a Sunday and April 16 is the Emancipation Day holiday in the District of Columbia. ■

Information provided by Kyle Swon, senior vice president, Webster City Federal Savings Bank, 820 Des Moines St., www.webcityfed.com.

Winter activities



By Angie Martin-Schwarze, director

What better time than winter to curl up with a stack of books? Kendall Young Library has programs for readers of all ages to enter prize drawings in February. Stop in the library and see how your reading can be extra rewarding.

Family Game Night

Friday, Feb. 17, 5:30 - 8 p.m.
Video games and board games for all ages. Taco bags and cookies will be served.

Kendall Young Library

1201 Willson Ave. • 832-9100

Hours:

Mon. - Thur.: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Friday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

eBooks Made Easy

Monday, Feb. 20, 2 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 23, 6:30 p.m.

Adult movie

Tuesday, Feb. 21, 6 p.m.
"One Day," starring Anne Hathaway, Jim Sturgess and Patricia Clarkson.

Ice Cream Day

Tuesday, Feb. 21, 3:30 - 5 p.m.
Children's department
Children from 3 years - fifth grade can enjoy an ice cream treat.

Book Discussion

Tuesday, Feb. 28, noon
We will discuss "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lack" by Rebecca Skloot.

Coupon Exchange

Monday, March 5, 6:30 p.m.

Teen Board meeting

Tuesday, March 6, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
This group for grades 6 - 12 helps to choose young adult books for the library and to plan fun activities for teens/preteens.

Children's programs

Storytimes will take a short break for the last two weeks of February. Our spring session of preschool storytimes (ages 3 - 6) and Science Club (grades 2 - 5) will be on Tuesdays from March 6 to April 10. Crafty Readers will meet on Thursdays from March 15 - April 5.

Children's movies are shown every Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to noon for ages kindergarten to fifth grade. "Gnomeo and Juliet" will be shown on Feb. 18, and "Rio" will be shown on Feb. 25. Siblings and families are always welcome. There is a prize drawing every Saturday with a big prize drawing on the last Saturday of the month.

Copier changes

We have two new copiers at the library. The copier near the reference desk has many features, including the ability to make color copies and to scan documents to a flash drive.

New prices for copying and printing: Letter (8.5x11) - 10 cents per side B&W, 40 cents per side color; legal (8.5x14) - 10 cents per side B&W, 40 cents per side color; tabloid (11x17) - 20 cents per side B&W, 80 cents per side color

Staff training

The library will be closed for staff training on Wednesday, Feb. 29 and open as usual on March 1. ■

French silk pie

Luscious dessert is easy to make

By Beth McDonald

One of my favorite pies is French silk pie, a creamy, chocolate creation.

It is perfect when it is served really cold, topped with real whipped cream. This simple and delicious pie is a great way to satisfy my chocolate cravings. It has that chocolate mousse texture, and when you add that to the crunch of a crust and the smoothness of the whipped cream, it is the perfect combination.

Once you look at this recipe, you will see that there is no need to go order this pie from your local pie shop. With that said, this recipe does come with a warning; it contains raw eggs. It is recommended that pregnant women, young children and elderly should not consume raw eggs. You can use pasteurized eggs such as Egg Beaters, and they are quite easy to find in the store. If you are concerned about the raw eggs, you can find variations to this recipe that don't have eggs. However, I just don't think the pie is the same.

You can also make variations with this pie by adding some instant coffee to get the mocha flavor, or you could also try adding peanut butter. However, this is one pie that I stick to the traditional version, so I don't typically make any variations. ■



French silk pie

Ingredients

1 cup sugar
¾ cup of butter (has to be real butter)
3 squares (3 oz.) of unsweetened chocolate, melted and cooled
1 ½ teaspoons of vanilla
3 eggs
1 9-inch pie crust
(Bake the pie crust first and let it cool)
Whipped cream

Directions

1. In a small bowl, cream sugar and butter until fluffy. (About 4 minutes). Stir in cooled chocolate and vanilla.
2. Add the eggs one at a time and beat until mixture is stiff. After each addition scrape the sides of the bowl and continue to mix. Turn into the pie crust and let set for several hours or overnight.
3. Top with whipped cream.

Beth McDonald is a wife, mother and works full time in Des Moines.

Friday, Feb. 17

- Family Game Night, Kendall Young Library, 5:30 - 8 p.m.
- "The Dining Room," Readers Theater, Webster City Community Theatre, \$10, 7:30 p.m.
- Varsity state WR tournament at Wells Fargo Arena, Des Moines

- All State Festival Large Group Speech
- Varsity state WR tournament at Wells Fargo Arena, Des Moines



Library, 3:30 - 5 p.m.

- Auditions for "Harvey," Webster City Community Theatre, 1001 Willson Ave., roles for six men and six women, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 22

- Ash Wednesday
- Blood Drive, Webster City HS, 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
- Auditions for "Harvey," Webster City Community Theatre, 1001 Willson Ave., roles for six men and six women, 7 p.m.

- District Individual Speech
- Webster City HS Spring Play, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 27

- Webster City Schools no classes



Sunday, Feb. 19

- "The Dining Room," Readers Theater, Webster City Community Theatre, \$10, 2 p.m.



Monday, Feb. 20

- President's Day
- National FFA Week

Tuesday, Feb. 21

- Kids on the Move After School program, Fuller Hall, boys and girls grades 3 - 6, 3:45 - 5 p.m.
- Ice Cream Day, Kendall Young

Thursday, Feb. 23

- eBooks Made Easy, Kendall Young Library, 6:30 p.m.
- Kids on the Move After School program, Fuller Hall, boys and girls grades 3 - 6, 3:45 - 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 28

- Southfield Dunk-a-Donut Day, Hy-Vee, 7:30 - 9 a.m.
- Book Discussion, "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks," Kendall Young Library, noon
- Kids on the Move After School program, Fuller Hall, boys and girls grades 3 - 6, 3:45 - 5 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 29

- Leap Day
- Kendall Young Library closed

Friday, Feb. 24

- Webster City HS Spring Play, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 25

- Movie for grades K - 4, Kendall Young Library, 10:30 a.m.
- Hamilton Heritage Hunters, Kendall Young Library, 1:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 1

- Kids on the Move After School program, Fuller Hall, boys and girls grades 3 - 6, 3:45 - 5 p.m.
- Webster City Vocal Boosters meeting, 6 p.m.

Friday, March 2

- Read Across America Day

Saturday, Feb. 18

- Movie for grades K - 4, Kendall Young Library, 10:30 a.m.
- Ski and Snowshoe Clinic, Briggs Woods Conservation Office, 2 - 4:30 p.m., potluck 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
- "The Dining Room," Readers Theater, Webster City Community Theatre, \$10, 7:30 p.m.
- VITA Tax Preparation Clinic, Hamilton Co. Extension, 311 Bank St., free to those who qualify, call 297-1543 for appointment, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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Saturday, March 3

- Movie for grades K - 4, Kendall Young Library, 10:30 a.m.



Kendall Young Library, 4 - 5 p.m.

- Teen Board, Kendall Young Library, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
- Grade 6 - 12 Jazz Band Festival, MS Commons, 7 - 8:30 p.m.
- Jazz Concert, WCHS, 7 p.m.



Sunday, March 11

- Daylight-saving time begins

Monday, March 12

- Webster City Clover Kids, grades K - 1, Pleasant View School, 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.
- Webster City Band Boosters meeting, 7 p.m.



Second St., free, 11:30 a.m. - noon

- Blood Pressure Checks, Hamilton Co. Public Health, 821 Seneca St., free, 1 - 3 p.m.



Sunday, March 4

- Midwest Rampage Third Annual Dart Tournament, Grid Iron Grill & Sports Lounge, 4 p.m.
- Webster City HS NHS Induction, 3 p.m.

Friday, March 9

- MS Spring Musical, Prem Sahai Auditorium, 6 - 8 p.m.

Monday, March 5

- FFA meeting, Ag Room, 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 10

- Movie for grades K - 4, Kendall Young Library, 10:30 a.m.
- Charles City Jazz Festival
- State Individual Speech

Tuesday, March 6

- Preschool Storytime, Kendall Young Library, 10:05 - 10:35 a.m.
- Science Club, grades 2 - 5,

Tuesday, March 13

- Grade 5 - 8 POPS Band Concert, MS Multi-purpose room, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 14

- Blood Pressure Checks, Webster City Senior Citizens Center, 749

Thursday, March 15

- Crafty Readers, grades pre-K - 1, Kendall Young Library, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Friday, March 16

- Webster City HS Variety Show, 7 p.m.

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Meet Michele Veldhuizen

Online journalism comes to classroom

By Susan J. Leman

Teaching students various methods of writing and relating school news is Michele Veldhuizen's passion.

In her 14th year of teaching at Webster City High School, the English/journalism instructor guides students in using written and electronic formats to share current events and record them for future reference.

Veldhuizen teaches English 10 and 11, creative writing, introduction to mass media and publications — the "Paw Print" newspaper and "The Torch" yearbook.

The "Paw Print" is a color news magazine that comes out eight times a year. The instructor and her student staff systematically plan the annual story and photo schedule so coverage isn't duplicated from year to year.

"We try to rotate the cover and feature stories to spread the coverage out a little bit more," Veldhuizen explains.

Work on the "The Torch" begins with planning sessions each summer. In August, Veldhuizen and the editors attend a yearbook planning workshop. This year it was in Des Moines with the yearbook publishing company. At the workshops, they choose the book's theme and begin work on layout and design.

"The really cool part is that there are graphic designers there that work with us to create our cover," she explains. The yearbook theme, she says, is kept confidential until the book is distributed the following summer.

Veldhuizen says her students take pride in creating publications for the school.

"It's an assignment you do for the whole school. You put your blood, sweat and tears into it for the whole school to see," she says.

The planning, interviewing, writing, photography, layout



English/journalism instructor Michele Veldhuizen and student Rachel Kauffman look over the web photo gallery.

and design and computer skills required for publications are talents students will put to use in the future, not just in high school, she says. Students in all the grades work together in yearbook and newspaper and take pride in what they create. Veldhuizen enjoys watching the older students guide the younger ones. "They learn from each other," she says.

The instructor and her students become close working on their projects.

"We're like a family," she says. "I get to know the kids personally, because we're working side by side on projects." There are rewards for their hard work, and celebrations following completed deadlines are common in Veldhuizen's classes.

What makes a successful instructor-student relationship, Veldhuizen says, is mutual respect.

"If I truly respect the kids, I don't have discipline problems." Another key to success, she says, is flexibility with the daily routine. "Sometimes plans change, and that's OK. Sometimes I have to change the lesson plan to meet the needs of the kids." A philosophy she keeps in mind is that she is teaching students first, subjects second. "I teach kids, I don't just teach a subject like English or journalism."

In addition to traditional classes and print media publications, Veldhuizen's students are creating weekly "Paw Print" podcasts that can be uploaded to iTunes.

"The world's changed to online journalism, so we're trying to meet those technological advances," Veldhuizen explains. ■



Marilyn Middleton and Rob Richardson put on the Ritz for the Chamber annual meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas on Jan. 30.



Terri Boman and Theo Boman put on the Ritz for the Chamber annual meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas on Jan. 30.



Karla Wetzler and Ken Wetzler put on the Ritz for the Chamber annual meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas on Jan. 30.



Kayla Kepler and Nicole Wolf put on the Ritz for the Chamber annual meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas on Jan. 30.



Linda Olsmead and Sara Kopriva at the Chamber annual meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas on Jan. 30.



Lisa Wiemann and Mike Wiemann put on the Ritz for the Chamber annual meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas on Jan. 30.



Justin Jones and Ed Sadler at the Chamber annual meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas on Jan. 30.



Sandy Vanhauer and Chris Dingman at the Chamber annual meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas on Jan. 30.



Breane Kastler, Susie Weillman and Shery Adams at the Chamber annual meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas on Jan. 30.



Cathy Olson and Steve Struchen dressed for the occasion at the Chamber annual meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas on Jan. 30.



Mary Ann Erickson and Bob Erickson put on the Ritz for the Chamber annual meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas on Jan. 30.



Michelle Lovelace and Todd Lovelace put on the Ritz for the Chamber annual meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas on Jan. 30.

Lamar

Brick veneer gives a look of solid permanence to the Lamar, a compact home with a spacious great room at its heart. An arched window filled with glass blocks adds a unique dash of grace and charm to the front façade.

This low-maintenance home is ideal for young families, empty nesters and singles. Its one-level layout also makes it easily adaptable for wheelchair accessibility.

Entering, you step into a vaulted entry with a coat closet to the right, kitchen/dining room access on the left. A pocket door slides closed to conceal the cooking and dining area.

The great room, too, is vaulted, and open to the kitchen. At waist level, a peninsular counter marks the boundary. Overhead, a high plant or display shelf spans the juncture, where the vaulted ceiling transitions to an eight-foot-high kitchen ceiling.

Sliding glass doors at the rear open into a wide screened porch, ideal for outdoor dining. Potted plants thrive in this sunny space, and it's a great place to sleep on summer nights when the air inside is too hot.

The Lamar's kitchen/dining room is surprisingly spacious. Plenty of room here for family and friends to hang around and chat with the cooks or clean-up crew. Utilities are handy, but out of sight, tucked in a pass-through space that connects with the garage. Groceries can be unloaded safely and conveniently, moving



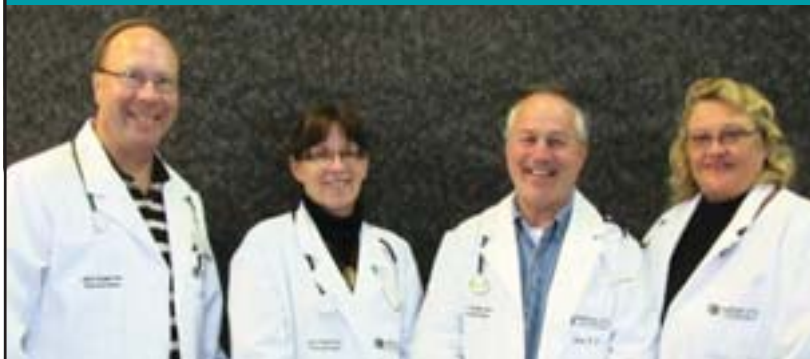
directly from garage to kitchen.

Owners' suite amenities include twin linen closets and a large walk-in closet. Soft light filters into the bathroom through glass blocks. Secondary bedrooms, or a bedroom and a study, share a bathroom on the opposite side of the house.

Visit AssociatedDesigns.com for more information or to search our home plans. A review plan of the Lamar 11-106, including floor plans, elevations, section and artist's conception, can be purchased for \$25. Our home plan catalog, featuring more than 550 home plans, costs \$15. Both are available online, by mail or phone. Add \$5 s/h. Associated Designs, 1100 Jacobs Dr., Eugene, OR 97402, (800) 634-0123.



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Asbury United Methodist Church, 921 Des Moines St., is starting a new fine arts group. Learn more at www.asburywc.org.

Pilgrimage

Asbury's Modern Prophets will explore arts

By Lucas McMillan

A new group is being developed at **Asbury United Methodist Church**, 921 Des Moines St., called Modern Prophets for all those who enjoy the performing and fine arts in worship.

Modern Prophets is a group for people of all ages who would like to explore their creative side and use the arts to strengthen their connection with God. Anyone who would like to be a part of Modern Prophets, or who has ideas as to projects the group could do to enhance the worship service, should contact director of discipleship, Kaylee Koster, at 832-5369.

Asbury UMC will hold Ash Wednesday Worship services on Wednesday, Feb. 22 at 6 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

Spread the Word

Have an upcoming event or church news you would like to announce? Send information to darren@dmcityview.com.

The Asbury Preschool is now accepting registrations for 3- and 4-year-old preschool for the 2012-2013 school year. Applications may be picked up in the Asbury Church office during office hours (Mon. - Thur., 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m. - noon). If you have questions please call the church during office hours and ask to speak with preschool director Patty Bjerke.

St. Thomas Aquinas, 1000

Des Moines St., will host a Ladies Lenten Lunch every Tuesday during Lent starting at noon on Feb. 28. Help is needed to coordinate, set up, clean up and prepare food for the luncheons. If you're interested in helping, please sign up in the church's foyer or contact the church office at 832-1190. The cost is \$5 per person. Ladies need to RSVP through their respective churches or by calling St. Thomas before noon on each Monday during the Lenten season.

Fr. Dale Lauderville, a teacher at St. John's School of Theology-Seminary, will give a lecture at American Martyrs Retreat House in Cedar Falls on March 8 from 6 - 9 p.m. The lecture, entitled "Hope: A Vital Christian Virtue for Our Time," discusses the history of how Christians have thought about how God acted in history and how promises God made in the Bible still influence decisions made today. The event is free, with a light meal. St. Thomas Aquinas congregation members are encouraged to attend. Register online at csbsju.edu/sot or by phone at 320-363-3570.

Lenten dramas will be a part of this year's mid-week Lenten services at **Trinity Lutheran Church**, 1229 Kathy Lane, and volunteers are needed. Please contact Pastor Mike or Pastor Tony at 832-2220 if you're interested. Also, there will be no classes for children at Trinity Lutheran now through March 14. ■



Ash Wednesday Service

~ February 22 ~
6:00pm

Asbury 3 and 4 year old Preschool is now taking registrations for the 2012-13 school year

WORSHIP Sunday 10am and Saturday 6pm
SUNDAY SCHOOL for all ages Sunday 9am

Asbury United Methodist Church

921 Des Moines Street ~ 832-5369 ~ www.asburywc.org



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senior living

By Ann Root

Medicare Part C

Plans may offer extra protection

By Ann Root, RN, C, Crestview Senior Living administrator

Medicare Part C, or Medicare Advantage Plans, are an alternative to original Medicare.

These are offered by private, Medicare-approved companies. Plans must follow the rules set by Medicare and cover the services that original Medicare covers except hospice care. Original Medicare still covers hospice.

These aren't supplemental coverage but may offer extra coverage such as dental, vision, hearing or wellness programs. If you have Medicare C, you don't need and cannot use a supplement plan. Most also include prescription drug coverage, and you're required to use it. If it doesn't, you can choose to join a drug plan.

The amounts the plan can charge for out-of-pocket costs, and the rules for how you get services can be different from original Medicare. Each year changes can be made to the rules, benefits, premiums, service areas and provider networks, and the plan can terminate their contract.

In 2012 the Medicare Part C plan premiums range from \$0 - \$165 monthly.

Enrollment periods include:

- When you become eligible for Medicare or when you turn 65.
- When you have just enrolled in Medicare Part B during the general enrollment period (Jan. 1- March 31), you may enroll in a Medicare Advantage Plan between April 1 - June 30.
- Between Oct. 15 - Dec. 7 each year.
- From Jan. 1 - Feb. 14 you can only switch from a Medicare Advantage Plan to Original Medicare and join a Part D plan.
- During special enrollment periods such as moving, qualifying



for extra help or changes concerning a nursing facility.

- Five-Star Special Enrollment Period allows switching to a five-star plan, once a year. Medicare posts ratings on their website.

There are six types of Medicare Advantage Plans in Iowa:

- HMO (Health Maintenance Organizations) must use doctors, specialists and hospitals on the plan's list except in emergencies. Most require referral from a primary care physician.
- POS (HMO with a Point of Service option). HMO that lets you choose doctors and hospitals outside the plan for an additional fee.
- PPO (Preferred Provider Organization). You pay less if you use the physicians and hospitals belonging to the network, but you can use those outside the network for an additional cost.
- PFFS (Private Fee For Service). You decide which doctors and hospitals you use, but the plan decides the amount you pay.
- SNP (Special Needs Plan). For special groups such as those with chronic medical conditions, living in a nursing facility, etc.
- MSA (Medical Savings Account). Combines a high deductible plan with a bank account. ■

Information provided by Ann Root, administrator of Crestview Senior Living, 2401 Des Moines St., Webster City. For more information, call 515-832-2727.



Steve Struchen dressed for the occasion at the Chamber annual meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas on Jan. 30.



Angie Martin-Schwarze and Ketta Lubbestadt-Arjes at the Chamber annual meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas on Jan. 30.



Carrie Fitzgerald and Ian Fitzgerald dressed for the occasion at the Chamber annual meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas on Jan. 30.



Missy Bailey and Kent Bailey put on the Ritz for the Chamber annual meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas on Jan. 30.



Alberta Voge and Phil Voge put on the Ritz for the Chamber annual meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas on Jan. 30.



Jenny Maharry and Greg Maharry put on the Ritz for the Chamber annual meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas on Jan. 30.



Eleanor Moriarty, Leo Moriarty and Juli Jaycox at the Chamber annual meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas on Jan. 30.



Tyler Abens, 2012 president of the Chamber, made announcements during the Chamber annual meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas on Jan. 30.



Sara Abens assists James Spirit with some balloon animals during the Chamber annual meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas on Jan. 30.



Michelle Lovelace is sawn in half by Larry Dunbar during the Chamber annual meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas on Jan. 30.



Donna Downs, Karla Neese, Theo Boman and Mike Wiemann were honored for their years of service to the Chamber Board of Directors at the annual meeting on Jan. 30.



Sixth grade students Jordan, Hayley, Sean, Maren, Hannah and Shalis served cinnamon rolls, coffee and juice during the Chamber coffee held at St. Thomas Aquinas School on Feb. 2.



Sixth grade students Alexis and Kaitlyn greeted Chamber members during the Chamber coffee held at St. Thomas Aquinas School on Feb. 2.

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