



Youth line up for the Osceola Fire Department's 'touch a truck' event at the 30th annual Osceola Fire Fair on Oct. 3.

OST photo Candra Brooks

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contributed photo

Six veterans received Quilts of Valor on Oct. 2. In front are recipients Ray Halda, Harley Pippen, Rita DeLong, Darrell Wogan and Peggy McDole. Back row are American Legion Post #69 members John Sharp, Lester Smith, Les VanHeeswyk, Greg Silvers, and recipient Al Morter. Not pictured: Post #69 members Stephanie Rhoads and Sandy Eddy.



OST photo Roe Wittenauer

Maddie Sweeney and Nash Bishop were crowned the 2024 Homecoming Queen and King at Thursday night's coronation, and were presented at Friday's Homecoming game against Clarinda. Claire Jacobsen and Conner Williams were crowned Princess and Prince. More photos from Homecoming parade and Boom Night appear on page 12.

## Six awarded Quilts of Valor

Six residents of Southern Hills Specialty Care were awarded with quilts of valor at an award ceremony on Oct. 2. This six awarded were Rita DeLong, Ray Halda, Peggy McDole, Al Morter, Harley Pippen and Darrell Wogan. The quilts were sewn by Mary Ann Smith and Kathy Sharp, and presented by the Osceola American Legion Pence-Davis Post #69.

### DeLong

Rita DeLong was inducted into the United States Air Force in 1980 in Des Moines. She attended basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, and was stationed at Offutt Air Force Base in Omaha, Nebraska. There, she received training in telecommunications, and had top-secret clearance.

DeLong's enlistment period ended in 1983, and she was discharged

with the rank of E1. She moved back to Osceola and worked at Miller Products.

### Halda

Ray Halda served in the United States Army from 1954 to 1957. He attended basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and was then sent to Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas, for mechanics training.

He served overseas in Vanbry, Germany for a year and a half as a wheel vehicle mechanic. Halda then transferred to Fort Riley, Kansas, where he performed maintenance on helicopters.

Halda was a Private First Class when he was discharged in 1957 at Fort Riley. He went on to work as a truck driver, which he did until retirement.

### McDole

Peggy McDole joined the United States Air Force on March 3, 1972, in Two Falls, South Da-

kota; she attended basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. McDole went to technical school training at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida, where she trained as a medical assistant. There, McDole remembers helping patients who had malaria, and those who had been exposed to Agent Orange.

McDole received a medical discharge in 1976 in Topeka, Kansas. Her rank was that of Airman First Class.

In 1988, McDole moved to Clarke County where she worked as a medical assistant and dietary assistant at the nursing home.

### Morter

Al Morter served in the United States Air Force from Sept. 18, 1956, to Sept. 17, 1962. He was inducted at Fremont, Nebraska, and attended basic training in San An-

tonio, Texas at Lackland Air Force Base; training school was also completed at Lackland. Morter was assigned to the Greenland Air Force Base, working on Production Repair.

Upon his discharge, Morter was an Airman Second Class with the rank of E3. His civilian career was that of working in the appliance repair business.

### Pippen

Harley Pippen joined the United States Army in 1958, and completed basic training at Fort Carson, Colorado. There, he continued his training as a medical corpsman, and often drove an ambulance.

After two years at Fort

Carson, Pippen was dis-

charged with a rank of E5. Pippen returned home to Woodburn where he farmed with his father. He had two older brothers

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