



By Jackson Potter  
Good afternoon to everyone—family, friends,

North Iowa Commencement Address

teachers, and, most importantly, my fellow graduates. Right now, it's hard to find the perfect words to capture everything we're feeling. There's excitement—of course. Relief. Pride. Maybe even a little bit of fear. And under all of that, a quiet sadness that something important is coming to an end. Graduation is strange like that. It's the kind of moment that holds so many

emotions at once that you don't know whether to laugh, cry, cheer, or just sit in silence for a second and take it all in. And maybe that's okay. We've worked so hard to get here. We've faced challenges—some academic, some deeply personal—and still, we showed up. We grew up. We found our people. And we figured out a little more about who we are.

But this isn't just an ending. It's also a beginning. And with that comes uncertainty. Some of us know exactly what's next. Others don't have a clue. And the truth is, that's normal. Life isn't a straight path. It's more like a series of confusing, beautiful, unexpected turns. And we're just stepping into it. So if you're feeling overwhelmed, hopeful, terrified, or all of the above—you're

not alone. That's what makes this moment real. Let's hold onto that. Let's remember how it feels to be standing here together, at the edge of something new, full of every emotion imaginable—and ready for whatever comes next. Thank you, and congratulations to the Class of 2025.



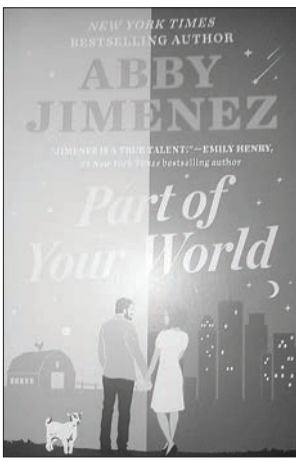
Summer is officially here as of last Saturday and the blessed heat. Here with long days, blue skies, fairs, and starry nights. While we all enjoy ballgames and fair projects (ugg), take time to enjoy the small things, a good book, air conditioning, and lounging on the hammock or

couch. Kathleen likes to read floating on her chair with her Kindle. Maybe you should try it. I read an interesting book, "The Poppy Fields," by Nikki Erlick. It is about an experimental treatment center in a remote part of California that allows those

suffering from grief to sleep through their pain. There are side effects from the treatment that are different for each client, as they travel their voyage of overcoming the heartache that brought them to the center. This is a very newly published book. I also read Abby Jimenez's "Part of Your World." It is a feel good modern fairy tale. A good read for summer, the cover is also refreshing. Not only is it about small town characters, it is about real situations. This one kept me reading through

the night. That hasn't happened in a long while. If you haven't read her books, you should. She also has a bakery in Maple Grove, Minn. that is a fun visit. Don't forget the Buffalo Center, Thompson and Rake Public Library summer reading programs. All sound fun. Lakota's are over and sounded like a great time. Also, the Buffalo Center Book Club is reading the classic "Huckleberry Finn" by Mark Twain. Next month, we will read "James" by Percival Everett. Join our fun group.

Stay cool, try reading in a place you haven't read before, and enjoy the summer.



WELCOME TO YOUR OUTDOORS  
By Lisa Ralls, Winnebago County Naturalist



The ebony jewelwing is among the species of damselflies that can be found in Iowa.

**Dragonflies and damselflies**  
As summer heats up, we begin seeing more insects flying around. Some are pesky, such as mosquitoes and flies. And, some are beautiful and beneficial, such as butterflies. Among the beautiful

and beneficial insects are the often-overlooked dragonflies and damselflies. These insects are some of the oldest known insects and also some of the most amazing! Dragonflies have been around for over 300 million years, so seeing them is

like catching a glimpse into an ancient world. But, back then, many dragonflies had wingspans of over two feet, unlike today's dragonflies whose wingspans max out at five inches or so. Over the years, though, over 5,000 species of dragonflies and damselflies have evolved throughout the world. Despite their relatively small size, dragonflies are some of the most efficient predators known. They have excellent eyesight, thanks to huge eyes that encompass almost their whole head. They also have four wings that can each move independently, allowing them to fly forward or backward and maneuver very quickly. In addition, their legs are set towards the front of their body so that they can more easily grab prey (such as mosquitoes, gnats, and other flying insects) out of the air. Thanks to these adaptations, a large dragonfly can eat hundreds of flying insects each

day, and that makes them very beneficial! Even dragonfly larvae are predaceous. Adult dragonflies lay their eggs in the water, and then the larvae spend two to six years underwater, breathing through gills just like a fish. There, they feed upon other aquatic insects, small tadpoles, and even small fish. When it is time to become an adult, the larvae crawl out of the water and grab onto something. Then, their skin splits open, and the adult dragonfly emerges, skipping the pupal (chrysalis) stage that transforms butterflies. From then on, they are the amazing flying machines that we are familiar with. But, despite their predaceous nature, and their somewhat menacing appearance, you don't need to be afraid of them...they don't bite people. Damselflies are closely-related to dragonflies, but the two are different in some ways. Their life cycles

are similar, but damselflies are usually smaller than dragonflies, and their bodies tend to be much skinnier. Perhaps the most obvious difference, though, is that damselflies rest with their wings held together, up over their body. Dragonflies don't have the ability to do that, so they rest with their wings held out flat. And, since damselflies are smaller and more delicate, they tend to spend more time flying around vegetation, closer to the ground, where they are more protected from the wind. By contrast, the larger and stronger dragonflies are often found flying out in the open. So, as summer heats up, be sure to watch for any of the dozens of species of dragonflies and damselflies that call Iowa home. They are ancient insects that are very beneficial, beautiful, and amazing to watch! And, they are truly one of the joys of summer!

Way back when

**10 Years Ago  
Tribune Files of  
June 24, 2015**  
The new "Gowns and Glamour" exhibit at the Heritage Museum will feature wedding attire dating back as early as the 19th century. Alison Osterman, bride-to-be of Ben Huber will be the guest of honor at an Open House Bridal Shower on June 27. The North Iowa Lady Bison now have a winning record for the softball season, after winning five games in one week.

**June 23, 2005**  
Nathan and Jane Nelson are the proud parents of twin girls born May 30. They have been named Lilian Jane and Alexis Joan. It took nine years and one month, plus 10 days, for Paul Steffensen to match the hole-in-one fired by his son, Tony. A retirement party is planned for Pastor Lois at UMC on June 26. She plans to travel and spend time with grandchildren after retirement.

Mark Krull tucked his third championship of the Gruis Men's Golf Association club tournament into his pocket with the comment that he was looking forward to playing again in the Tournament of Champions at the Atlantic Country Club in August. Postmaster Lynn Greimann was presented her Welcome Basket of coupons at the Post Office. Welcome to Buffalo Center. Travis and Patty Hassebrook are the parents of a daughter, Paige Elizabeth born June 13. She has a

brother, Nicolas to welcome her home.  
**40 Years Ago  
Tribune Files of  
June 27, 1985**  
Teresa Roth has been named the 1985-86 Winnebago County Beef Queen. Colette Kopecek and Miriam Fox, both of Britt, were named Beef Princesses. Andrea Garrison and Lorene Meyering are contestants for Miss Kossuth-Winnebago to be held in Swea City. Jeff and Tracy Johnson are the parents of their first child, a son, born June 18. They have named him Tyler Jeffrey.  
**50 Years Ago  
Tribune Files of  
June 26, 1975**

Miss Mary Edson has been announced as the new girls basketball coach. Swimming pool staff for the Buffalo Center Pool are: Dale Feldick, Pam Winter, Laurel Hofbauer, Kathi Heyer and Jackie Peterson.  
**60 Years Ago  
Tribune Files of  
June 24, 1965**  
Shelley Larson is the new dental assistant in the office of Dr. Donald G. Johnson. Miss Linda Hoeppner, a Lakota 4-H'er, was elected as secretary of the State 4-H Girls at the annual 4-H convention held in Ames. C. Loren Larson is one of 50 English teachers engaged in graduate study at the Summer Institute in English at the University of Iowa at Iowa City.

Print your favorite memories

The Buffalo Center Tribune  
116 West K Street,  
Forest City, IA  
641.585.0545  
M-F 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Letter to the Editor Policy**  
The *Buffalo Center Tribune* welcomes the opinions of our readers in the form of letters to the editor, as long as the submissions are not in bad taste and refrain from attacking individuals without supporting documentation or a rational and legally defensible justification. In any event the newspaper reserves the sole discretion to decide whether or not a reader submission will be published. If your letter is selected it will be run on a single occasion and you agree to give us the right to publish it in print and digital form. The *Tribune* will not accept letters that are duplicated, reprinted, copied, or otherwise reproduced. Letters should be original, type-written or neatly handwritten. Letters should not exceed 300 words. Letters exceeding this length could be subject to editing and may not be published in their entirety. The *Buffalo Center Tribune* does not as a general rule print form letters or letters which are also submitted to other newspapers. We are most interested in sincere personal views as opposed to canned publicity releases or talking points for an individual or a cause, therefore if a writer cannot assure us that their submission is individual and personal, it may be rejected. Your Letter to the Editor must include:  
• Your full name with signature  
• Your complete address  
• Your telephone number  
Your address and telephone number will not be printed in the newspaper, but will be used for verification by newspaper editorial staff. Unsigned letters and letters containing personal attacks the newspaper deems to be of a libelous nature will not be published. The *Buffalo Center Tribune* reserves the right to end debate on a topic after both sides have had ample chance to express their views. The *Buffalo Center Tribune* reserves the right to edit or refuse all letters. All columns and letters on the opinion page are the views of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the *Tribune*.

**Correction and Retraction Policy**  
The *Buffalo Center Tribune* strives for accurate and complete news reporting but occasionally we get it wrong. In cases where an error has been made we will run a correction, clarification, retraction or editor's note in the next edition. Our goal in any event is to inform readers of corrections clearly and quickly, citing the incorrect information and updating with the correct information. All corrections will be printed on page 2 in the next issue published. The correction will denote the issue, article and incorrect information along with the correction. Digital corrections will also be made and an editor's note will be added to the bottom of the article in question noting what was inaccurate and noting when the article was amended. If the article was posted on Facebook, Twitter or any other online medium controlled by the *Buffalo Center Tribune*, a post will be made linking to the corrected article, noting the correction.

Buffalo Center Tribune

**2023**  
Award Winning Newspaper

**Location:**  
116 W K St., Forest City

**Mailing Address:**  
PO Box 367,  
Buffalo Center, IA 50424

**Telephone:**  
641-585-0545

**Email:**  
info@buffalocentertribune.com

**Website:**  
buffalocentertribune.com

**Office Hours:**  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Monday through Friday

**Weekly Coverage in  
Buffalo Center and  
Surrounding  
Communities**  
Founded 1892

We reserve the right to edit any and all copy presented to our news department. We reserve the right to reject any advertising, request pre-payment and cancel at any time. Contract rates available on request. Quantity discounts available.

**Newsroom**  
News Editor: news@buffalocentertribune.com, use this contact to offer story tips or send letters to the editor. People/Social News: Call 641-585-0545 or email info@buffalocentertribune.com. Use this contact for engagements, anniversaries, weddings, new arrivals, achievers and other such items. Obituaries: Inquiries and billing information to info@buffalocentertribune.com.

**Classified Advertising:**  
Call 641-585-0545 or email info@buffalocentertribune.com

**Paper or Internet Advertising**  
Email: info@buffalocentertribune.com

**Administration**  
Call 641-585-0545 or email info@buffalocentertribune.com.

**News Tips**  
The Buffalo Center Tribune welcomes any and all news tips. At the office, call 641-585-0545 or email news@buffalocentertribune.com. To request a photographer, please give at least a day's notice.

**Deadlines**  
Legal Notices ..... noon Friday  
Classified Ads ..... noon Friday  
Display Ads ..... noon Friday  
Submitted News... noon Friday  
Obituaries ..... 10 a.m. Monday  
Breaking News ..... 9 a.m. Monday\*  
Event coverage requests ..... 24 hours  
\*This news may not be published in the current issue.

**Didn't Get Your Paper?**  
If you do not receive your paper in Wednesday's mail, call the Buffalo Center Post Office 641-251-6152 or Buffalo Center Tribune at 641-585-0545.

**Mid-America Publishing**  
1-800-558-1244 133 Ext  
Human Resources 132 Ext  
Billing Department 122 Ext  
Circulation Department 111 Ext  
Custom Print Department

**Official newspaper for**  
Winnebago County,  
City of Buffalo Center,  
City of Rake,  
City of Thompson,  
City of Lakota,  
North Iowa School District

**Member of**  
Iowa Newspaper Assn.  
National Newspaper Assn. A  
**Division of Mid-America Publishing Corp.**  
P.O. Box 29  
Hampton IA 50441  
Published weekly at 116 W K St., Forest City, IA and Periodicals Postage paid at Buffalo Center, IA 50424.  
Postmaster: Send address changes to: Buffalo Center Tribune, PO Box 367, Buffalo Center, Iowa 50424  
USPS #069-400