

# Lake Mills Graphic



VOL. 153, No. 19

LAKE MILLS, IOWA 50450

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2025

\$1.25



Area briefs

### LMCS Character Education Night

Lake Mills Elementary will hold Character Education Night, Thursday, May 1, from 5-7 p.m. in the foyer and high school gym. This event will focus on mental health, and building resilience and well-being. There will be interactive booths and a resource fair. John Derryberry will speak from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Families are encouraged to attend.

### Upcoming events at LMCS

The LMHS Spring Concert and Awards Night will be held Tuesday, May 6, at 7:30 p.m. in the high school gymnasium. Senior Awards Night will be held Wednesday, May 7, at 7 p.m. in the auditorium. The LMCS fifth-eighth grade band concert will be held Thursday, May 8, in the high school gymnasium. The public is welcome to attend any of these programs.

Weather

THURSDAY			
Cloudy	64°	43°	
FRIDAY			
Partly Cloudy	61°	37°	
SATURDAY			
Mostly Sunny	67°	44°	
SUNDAY			
Sunny	73°	49°	
MONDAY			
Mostly Sunny	75°	52°	
TUESDAY			
Partly Cloudy	79°	55°	
WEDNESDAY			
Partly Cloudy	77°	51°	

Official temperatures and precipitation as recorded by the Lake Mills Power Plant are as follows:

Date	Hi	Low	Prec.
April 22	68°	43°	.53"
April 23	72°	43°	—
April 24	59°	46°	—
April 25	54°	36°	.43"
April 26	59°	32°	.05"
April 27	63°	45°	.04"
April 28	79°	43°	—

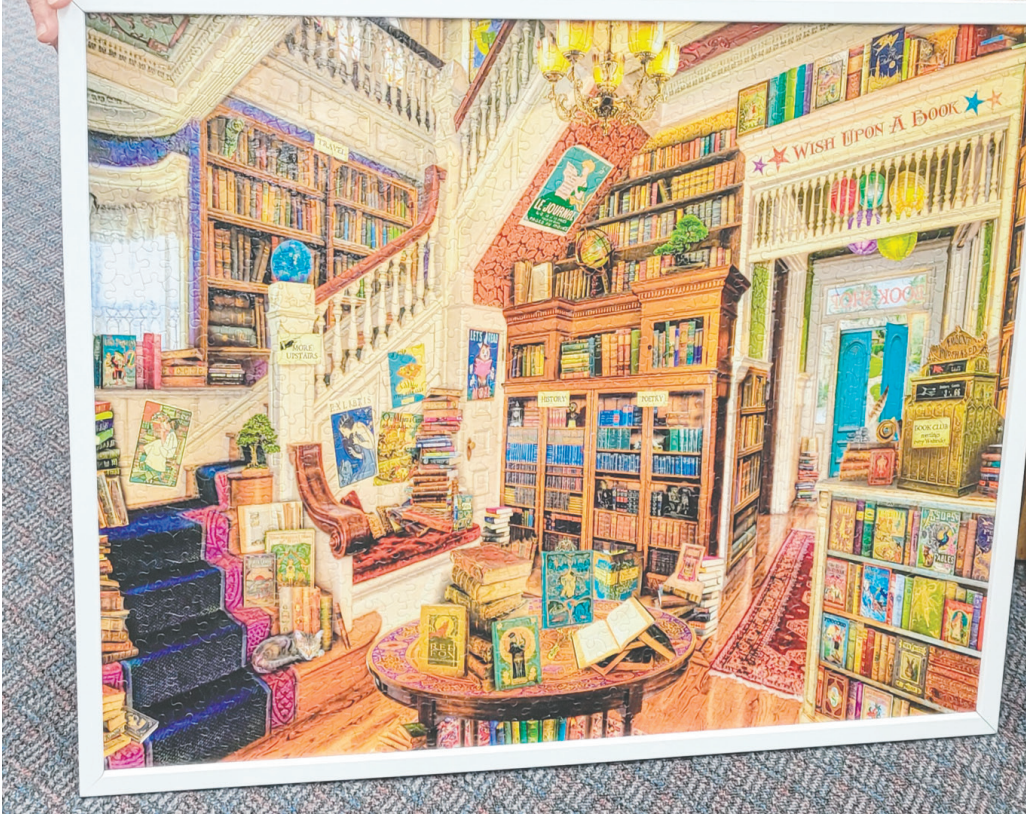
Markets

Prices reported as of Tuesday. Prices subject to change.

Five Star	2024	2025
Corn	\$ 4.47	\$ 4.58
Soybeans	\$11.18	\$10.04
Viterra	2024	2025
Corn	\$ 4.44	\$4.58
Soybeans	\$11.09	\$9.95

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## April Reader of the Month

BY KIM BRACKEY, DIRECTOR  
LAKE MILLS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Two of the most important and influential men in my life were born in April. In fact, although there were some years separating them, their birthdays are just one day apart. My dad was born April 14. When that page is turned on the calendar now, the day is spent grieving his loss. He’s been gone for 15 years already. It seems like both yesterday and forever ago, all at the same time. While he may not have shared his love for reading, he taught me more than I could have ever learned from any book. For that, I am forever grateful.

The next birthday on the April calendar belongs to our April “Reader of the Month.” Mr. Iverson was my fourth grade teacher. He was my inspiration. He was my role model. He was my mentor. He is my friend. The influence he had on me over the course of my lifetime simply cannot be expressed in words, no matter how skillfully they are written.

I’m sure if you were to ask any of the multitude of former students of “Mr. I,” most all would express the same sentiment. He understood the concept of experiential learning before it was even a buzz word. Social Emotional Learning was at the forefront of his teaching, even if no one, including the so-called experts, knew what it was at the time.

I remember calling his home phone once, regarding my own child’s behavior in school, only to get his answering machine. I was struck by the message on the machine. It was the Theodore Roosevelt quote in Mr. Iverson’s reassuring voice, “Nobody cares how much you know, until they know how much you care.” And that he did. I knew then, as he knew when he made the initial contact, that everything would be alright. Because, plain and simple, he cared.

“Free To Be . . . You and Me.” “All About Me” books. Square-dancing during indoor recess out in the portable buildings. Playing “Name That Tune” while he played notes on his trumpet. Joining in on a rousing game of “War Ball” during P.E. Acknowledgment of a job well done. Pride shown when we succeeded. Forgiveness when we didn’t.

Mr. Iverson is the very reason I went into education. I knew that if I could make half the impact on kids that he made on me, my life would be full. It was one of the greatest honors of my life, to be able to teach at Lake

Mills Community School, in the very same building—just down the hall and around the corner—as the man who forged that path for me.

Mr. Iverson fondly remembers coming in from recess as a child and having his teacher read to the class from the Ralph Moody books. I remember coming in from recess and having Mr. Iverson read to us: Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls, Bristle Face by Zachary Ball, Me and Caleb, by Franklyn E. Mayer, Old Yeller by Fred Gipson . . . just to name a few. Not even he had dry eyes during the reading of “Old Dan” and “Little Ann.” This is where we learned empathy. This is where we learned compassion. This is where we grew into the people we are today.

Mr. Iverson is still an avid reader. His reading choices have become a bit more eclectic, however. From earlier days enjoying the humorous outdoorsman stories by Patrick F. McManus, to John Madson’s landmark book, Where the Sky Began, to Stephen Gammel children’s books, all things Patricia Polacco, Barbara Kingsolver, David Rosenfelt, Ivan Doig, and of course, Ralph Moody.

Mr. Iverson recommends the following books as some of his all-time favorites: A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles, The Color of Water by James McBride, This House of Sky by Ivan Doig, and from his early teaching days, Bristle Face by Zachary Ball and Me & Caleb by Franklyn E. Mayer.

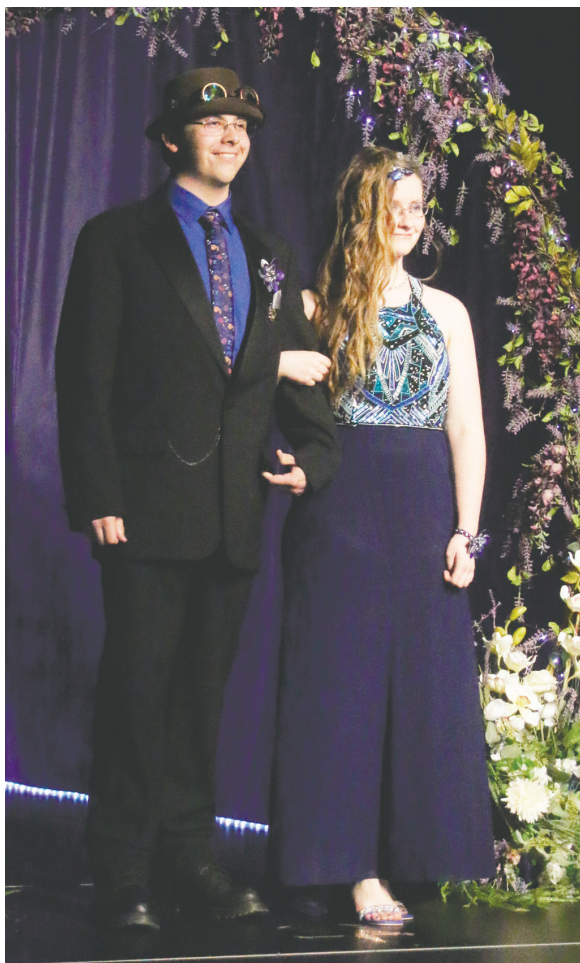
Mr. Iverson not only selects great books as a patron of the Lake Mills Public Library, but he also enjoys completing puzzles (when it is too cold to golf, of course). He is shown with a puzzle he put together and donated to the library for display. (Special credit goes to Kathy Iverson for donating the frame—that she cut by hand to fit the puzzle—for us to use to display it.) He can often be found adding to our “Puzzle Exchange” shelves as just another example of his giving heart.

April. One birthday to grieve. One birthday to celebrate. I am thankful, every day, for the impact both of these men have had on my life. One I called “Dad.” The other I still call “Mr. Iverson.” I can’t call him Steve. It’s a respect thing. And I respect him more than he will ever know. I celebrate you, Mr. Iverson. Not only in April, but every day. My teacher. My inspiration. My role model. My mentor. My friend.

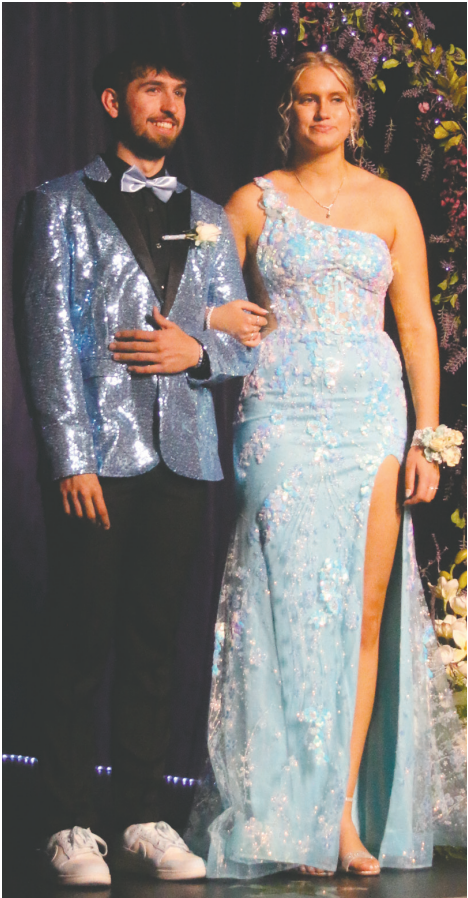
## An “Enchanted Evening” at LMHS Grand March



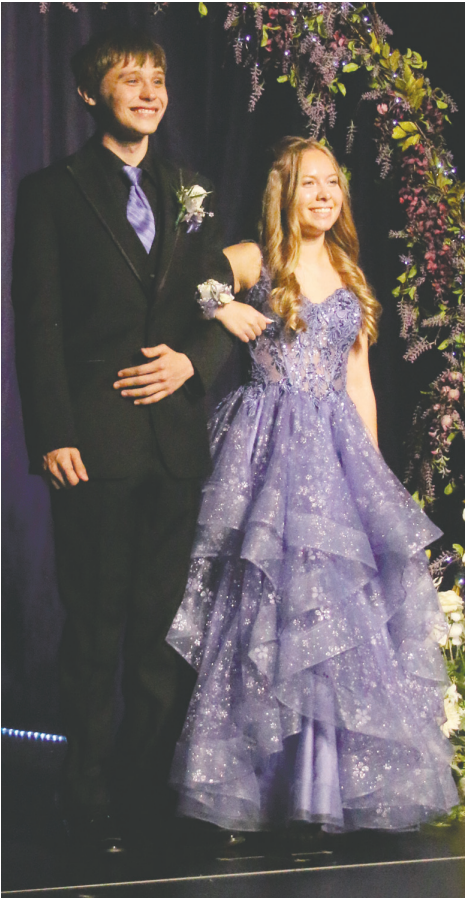
LMHS held their Grand March and Prom last Saturday evening, April 26, in the high school gymnasium. Sixty-two couples strolled through Grand March, posing for photos under the purple flowered arch. Aidan Benny and Annaston Stene (pictured left) were crowned prom king and queen.



NOLAN CAMPOS & TEYLA VANHEIDEN



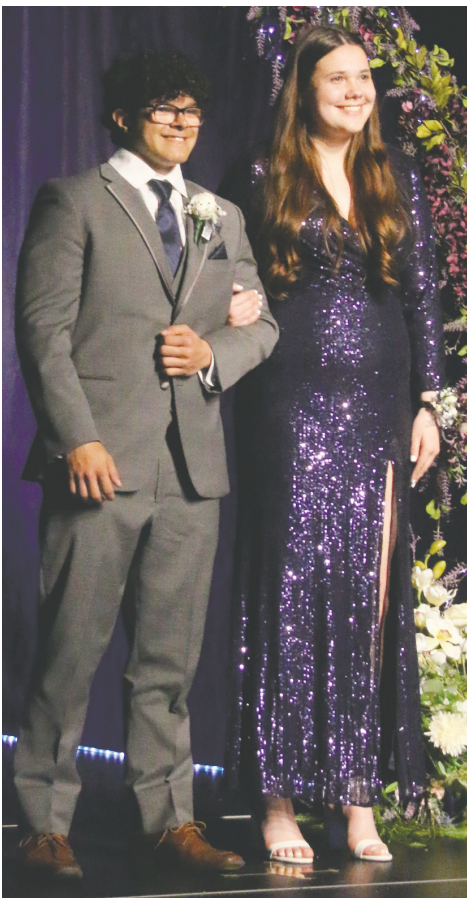
GAGE JACOBSEN & MADDIE MANNES



NOAH BRUNSVOLD & GRACIE PEDERSON



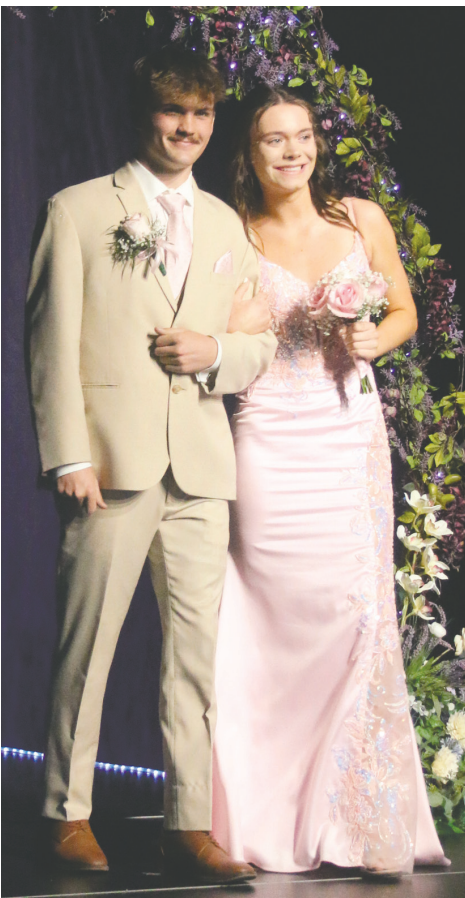
CADIE DUTCHER & HALEY ARIAS



JAERAN BENDICKSON & MADISON THOMPSON



ANDRES VILLEGAS & DAKOTA CHAVEZ



GAVIN GRUNHOVD & KEELY JOYNT