

Moorhead Cultural Center prepares for 125th Celebration

The Cultural Center board met Wednesday, March 26 to prepare for the upcoming exhibit season. First on the agenda was the preparation for Moorhead's upcoming 125th anniversary celebration, which is June 27-29. This exhibit runs from May 2-June 29, 2025.

It was decided to have citizens bring into the Cultural Center items that have helped the town and community thrive since its establishment in 1900. Whether it be the single seed hand corn planter, clothing items, photographs, wrenches, schoolbooks, scythes, bean hooks, kitchen items, jewelry, stories and so on. All personal and organization memorabilia as well "give-a-ways" from the stores downtown, truckers, rural businesses etc. will be welcome. Friends, family and faith have prevailed over the years, so don't forget to keep that in mind, also.

The Center will be open Friday, June 27 from 1-4 p.m. and Saturday, June 28 from 9-4 p.m. If you would like to volunteer to host, sign up early for the short hosting periods of your choice. Your help is greatly needed. You will see old friends and acquaintances, so it will be fun.

Items for this exhibit can be brought in at any time, starting now. Call any board member: Diann Iversen 1-712-880-1185, Ruth Pickle 1-712-644-7692, Sharon Hinrichsen 1-712-420-2530, Christina Haug 1-402-612-7552, Toni Engelhardt 1-712-420-3026 for an appointment.

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Meseck senior art exhibit on display at Buena Vista

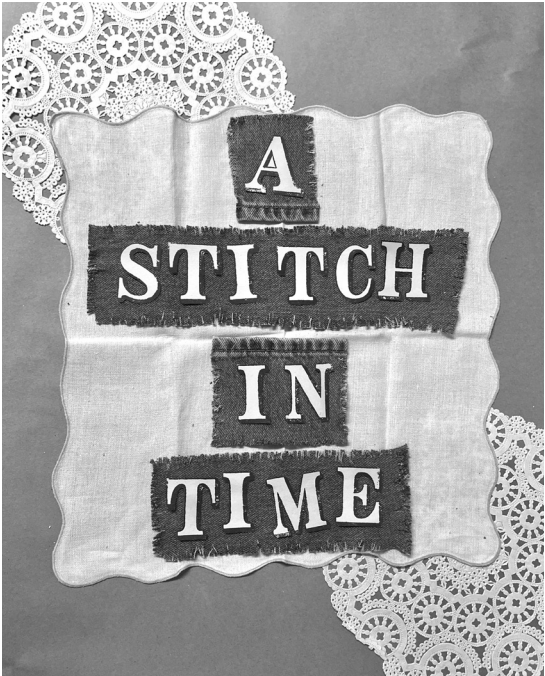
Hailey Meseck, a Buena Vista junior from Charter Oak, is preparing to complete her final semester on campus before student teaching this fall. She is on track to graduate in December, finishing her degree in art education with a minor in coaching.

As part of her senior year, Meseck has dedicated countless hours to preparing her senior art exhibit, A Stitch In Time. The installation explores the history of sewing, particularly its impact during the Great Depression, and serves as a tribute to generations of sewers. The interactive display will transport visitors to the past, inviting them to share their own family sewing stories and contribute to a collaborative quilt block project.

Hailey's exhibit will be featured alongside other senior art showcases at Buena Vista's Social Science and Art Gallery. The exhibition opens on April 8 and runs through May 1. A community reception will be held on April 12 from 2-4 p.m. Visitors will have a chance to engage with student artists and enjoy light refreshments.



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PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Maple Valley-Anthon Oto School Board Meeting is April 14

- 2nd Budget Hearing for 2025-2026 School Year

Date: Monday, April 14, 2025

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Library, Anthon Building

AGENDA:

Opening of Meeting

A. Call to Order

B. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

C. SECOND BUDGET HEARING of Proposed Budget for FY 2026

II. Adjourn

April 2025 Regular Board Meeting

Date: Monday, April 14th, 2025

Time: 10 minutes after the conclusion of 2nd Budget Hearing (2nd Budget Hearing Begins at 7:00 PM)

Place: Middle School Library, Anthon Iowa

AGENDA:

Opening of Meeting

A. Call to Order

B. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

C. Presentation of 2025-2026 School Year Calendar

II. Communications

A. Public Forum

B. Correspondence

III. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Agenda

B. Minutes

C. Financial Summary

D. General and Schoolhouse Bills
- E. Activity Account

F. School Meal Program

IV. Action Items

A. Employee Resignations/Contract Modifications/Hiring

B. Approval of FY 2026 Budget

C. 2025-2026 Master Contract Agreement

D. Certified Staff Handbook 2025-2026

E. Approval of 2025-2026 School Year Calendar

F. Board Policy Review

G. New lawnmower purchase for Mapleton Campus

H. Shared Social Worker agreement for 2025-2026 school year

I. Western Iowa Tech 28 agreements for 2025-2026 school year
- J. Facility Assessment Contract

K. Greenhouse purchase

V. Reports

A. Principal Reports

Superintendent's Report

VI. Future Agenda Item Requests

A. Classified and Staff Handbooks and Student Handbooks

B. Classified and Administrative Staff Contracts

VII. Announcements

A. Next Regular Meeting- Monday, May 12th, 7:00 PM- in Mapleton

IX. Adjourn The board may continue to meet in an exempt session regarding: employee salaries/benefits/working conditions.

Pastor Merrill, from page 1

vacancy, the transition was pretty smooth. The congregations are exploring ways of working together, including possibly hosting a joint supper for the community this fall.

The second big change is how technology has influenced the way we do worship.

"During the COVID pandemic of 2020 we were forced to think "outside the box" in order to have worship," he said. "Some of the things our elders came up with were actually kind of fun, like the outdoor services we held downtown with people worshipping in their cars and listening on their car radios."

The church started regularly posting their services online, and later through a grant from the church body

moved to live streaming almost every service.

"This has proved to be a blessing to those who can't get to church for health reasons or because of working on Sundays," he said.

He noted "It's a busier world than it was 20 years ago."

Other activities often take place at the same time as church services. Families in particular are forced to make choices.

While it's hard for Pastor Merrill to pick one favorite thing about serving the congregation, he thinks he'd have to say teaching the Bible is the one thing he enjoys doing most.

He also likes teaching confirmation class.

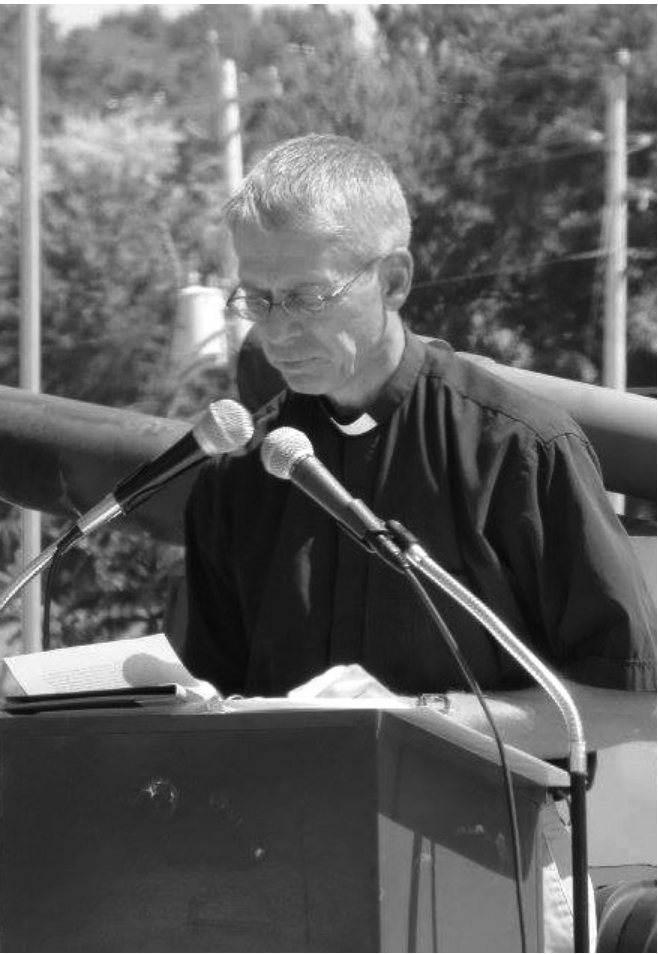
"I love the 6th, 7th and 8th grade age group—some pastors might think that is

strange—but I find that they are generally eager to learn about their faith, and they have some good questions," he said.

When Pastor Merrill isn't busy with church activities, he enjoys riding his bicycle.

"The last several years I have ridden over 2,000 miles a year, mostly on trails in Iowa but some in other states," he said.

He also tries to attend middle school and high school activities involving the students from his congregations. When on vacation, he enjoys traveling in different states and attending baseball games at the different major league parks. He watches sports on TV, particularly Green Bay Packers football, Chicago Cubs baseball, and Wisconsin Badgers basketball.



Pastor Merrill offered the invocation at the opening ceremonies at Charter Oak's 125th celebration in 2016.

Charter Oak

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

April 11:

Ties & Tiaras @ COU School, 6:15 p.m. Grand March

April 19:

Charter Oak Easter Egg Hunt at City Park

April 24:

Charter Oak Development Corporation at Charter Oak Community Club Bar, 6:30 p.m.

May 5:

Charter Oak Council Meeting

THE HOFFMAN AGENCY

Ph. 678-3336 | Charter Oak, IA

Ute

Community Calendar

April 11:

Ties & Tiaras @ COU School, 6:15 p.m. Grand March

April 14:

Ute City Council Meeting

April 19:

Ute VFW Easter Egg Hunt in the Park

April 23:

Ute Community Club

May 1:

Ute VFW Meeting

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