

Submit community event announcements, news items and photographs to editor@OelweinDailyRegister.com • Phone: 319-284-9258

EVENTS CALENDAR

FRIDAY, APRIL 3

NA meeting in Sumner, 612 W. Third St. 7-8 p.m.
No Oelwein Senior Meal Site service.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

Buchanan County Animal Shelter Easter bake sale, 8:30 a.m. to noon, at Dollar Fresh.
Fontana Park/Buchanan County Conservation Board Geocaching Egg Hunt, 9 a.m. Family size is unlimited, but one GPS per family group. Families 8+ may wish to register as two groups. \$7 charge per child from the age of 3-14. Register by April 1.

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

NA meeting in Oelwein, 517 First St. NE, 7-8 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 6

Oelwein P.E.O. Chapter CL will meet at 7 p.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church. The program will be sharing our Genealogy Stories. A memorial service will also be conducted for Frankie King, a beloved long-time sister who died last year. Hosts will be Shari Miller and Nancy Thomas.

Oelwein Senior Meal Site service by The Kitchen of Decorah, 11:30 a.m., V.F.W. Post 1725, 120 N. Frederick Ave. Meals by Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging (NEI3A), open Monday, Wednesday, Friday. Older adults can reserve a meal two days ahead by calling the Oelwein Senior Center, 319-239-8019. Diners under age 60 must pay the cost of the meal. Scalloped potatoes and ham, peas.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

NA meeting in West Union, 103 Franklin St., 7-8 p.m.
Oelwein Senior Meal Site service by The Kitchen of Decorah, 11:30 a.m., V.F.W. Post 1725, 120 N. Frederick Ave. Meals by Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging (NEI3A), open Monday, Wednesday, Friday. Older adults can reserve a meal two days ahead by calling the Oelwein Senior Center, 319-239-8019. Diners under age 60 must pay the cost of the meal. Chicken alfredo, peas and garlic bread.

THURSDAY, APRIL 9

Healing Hearts (formerly Grief Support Group) meets at 1:30 p.m. at Grace United Methodist Church. Contact Linda Jensen 563-380-7758

NA meeting in Oelwein, 517 First St. NE, 7-8 p.m.
Fontana Herb Society meeting, 6:30 p.m., in the lower level of the Fontana Nature Center, 1833 125th Street, Hazleton. Kerrey Purvis, Summer Meadow Dahlia Farm, Waverly, will be the featured speaker. Meeting is open to the public. Kerrey offers history, knowledge and passion for growing and offering a vast selection of beautiful dahlias in bouquets, fresh-cut flowers or tubers for growing your own.

FRIDAY, APRIL 10

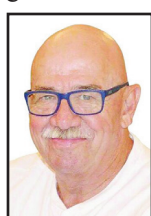
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SUNDAY, APRIL 12

Lima Church & Cemetery spring meeting will be 6 p.m. All are welcome.
NA meeting in Oelwein, 517 First St. NE, 7-8 p.m.

Around Town

By JAKE BLITSCH
Columnist



A couple weeks ago I saw a bevy of robins on the ground in front of the west entrance to MercyOne between the old entrance to the hospital and the clinic. Probably 30 of them pecking through the freshly fallen snow. I was amazed, as I don't think I had EVER seen that many robins together in my life. I mentioned it at the bus barn and my bus boss, Nathan, said he saw it too but upped what I saw by another 70 to an even 100. Perhaps he counts faster than I do.

Well, that sent me to the Google machine where I typed in "flock of robins suddenly appear." I learned that it is not as big of a phenomenon as I thought. The area at the hospital proved great for them as there are two flowering crabapple trees there and although the ground was covered with a small amount of fresh snow, it was the juicy treat they were looking for. I don't know why I never saw it before. (Insert humped shoulder emoji).

Perhaps I wasted my time on the Google machine. I should have called Randy Myott with MercyOne's maintenance department first. He is the knower of many things, telling me the robins are here most years, already fat but hungry.

Destiny DeHaven from Corner Market sent me pictures of some very beautiful patriotic items they have for sale this spring. I would have liked to use one of the pictures for my column, but my weekly picture is black and white. What you need to see is the full color display.

With this being the 250th or Squintal (remember I made this word up a couple weeks ago) anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, patriotism will certainly flourish this year. There are aisles of Americana,



JAKE BLITSCH PHOTO | Oelwein Daily Register

The north hallway presents framed photographs of 30 years of production by the Oelwein High School students under the direction of drama instructor Julie Williams.

clustered with our flag at its most beautiful. Stop out this week and take a look.

This is not something happening soon but if you are doing spring cleaning you may want to keep in mind a couple of big garage sales coming up. The city-wide garage sale is May 8 and 9 but if you're going to put an ad in the Oelwein Register, that deadline is Tuesday, April 28. The annual Sacred Heart garage sale will be June 15-19, and they will be accepting donations May 26-30.

Those who frequent the Williams Center for the Arts, entering the east doors and traversing straight for the auditorium, may be missing some of Oelwein's glorious musical history.

By entering the west doors, you are treated to the nostalgic displays of Coliseum posters featuring Leo Greco, Andy Doll, the Blue Flames, Bobby Hankins, Tiny Hill and other Oelwein greats. I've heard some come through the north doors walking past the band room. If you are among those coming through the latter, you are walking down the hallway

giving their artistic sense of relevance to observers in both hallways. Julie Williams directed these young students for three months of their lives each year and Carolyn and Connie captured it in art for a lifetime.

Sometimes life is a cycle so it should not go unnoticed that three of the students, pictured in that gallery of on-stage notables, still enter our schools' doors each day. Chet Reagan, Fiddler on the Roof, is now teaching Science-Online. Darci Buhr Fuelling, Annie, is now Vocal Music Director-High School. Cortney Gilson Vandenhul, Sound of Music and Grease, is now At-Risk Coordinator-Middle School. We were lucky to have them then; we are lucky to have them now.

Here's a deal for you lucky parents of little ones. The Coralville Performing Arts Center is bringing their production of "Curious George" to the Williams Performing Arts Center on Sunday, April 12, starting at 2 p.m. You won't have to drive very far for the kids to see it, and the cost is ridiculously inexpensive — \$5 for an adult ticket and \$1 for a children's ticket. The show will last one hour and I'm sure the little ones will enjoy it. You can purchase tickets the day of the performance at the Williams Center's box office.

Shop small, support your local merchants.

There is nothing scarier than that split second when you lose your balance in the shower and you think, "They are going to find me naked."

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From the Byrd's Nest...

Jesus died for people from all nations and cultures! PERIOD!

By DAVE BYRD, Pastor

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16

With all of the things happening in the world today, we need to remember those Words from Jesus! He came for all people, from ALL walks of life! He preached that God has a different way for us to live. For those who attack and demean others, both past and present, that is so NOT what Jesus taught!

determined to make others miserable, like the religious rulers around Jesus, there is something major wrong with that picture! Jesus was lifted up on the Cross, to draw all people to His Father in Heaven. Easter is about the Life, Death, and Resurrection of God's Son! When war is being waged, with the intent to destroy, maim and destroy, recognize evil for what it is!

The religious rulers around Jesus who waged war against God's Son, because of hard and calloused hearts, showed their true colors! Jesus taught us how He felt about condemnation. "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him." John 3:17 Jesus came to seek and save the lost, which pertains to every person! If a person feels lost and alone, Jesus is the One Who can change a person's heart for the better!

Jesus knows that there are those who live to run over people who are downtrodden. Jesus lifts up those who are oppressed, and woe to those who are the oppressors! Believers are called to live in such a way, that others are drawn to want to know Jesus in their hearts! The significance of kneeling before God, is a sign of obedience. Kneeling is not a sign of weakness, but rather a show of strength!

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus indicates what it means to live for God. "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for Righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see

God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." Matthew 5:3-9

With that said, you have it within you to choose how you will live. That hinges on who you are following. Christ is the Prince of Peace, and His Way guarantees a rewarding, fulfilling life! With so much chaos at work in the world, look to the Risen Lord to help you deal with your concerns. He grants His Peace to all those who seek Him. Jesus says to all believers: "Lo, I am with you always." Matthew 28:20

Jesus went to the Cross for you! He loves you so much, that He died on the Cross to take away your sins. That means to the Savior of the world, that you matter to Him! Happy Easter everyone! God loves you through His Son!

From my heart to yours,
Pastor Dave, First Baptist Church