



MAY 2024 ISSUE 185

Newsletter for the Odell and Diller Communities



Nineteen Seniors to Graduate From Diller-Odell High School

nineteen seniors have been waiting for-high school graduation. "Alone

we can do so little, together we can do so much" (Helen Keller) is the Class of 2024 motto and speaks well to our small community. The classes' colors are lvory, Gold, and Navy and their flower is an lvory Rose. Class officers

Saturday, May 11, 2024 marks the day are: Zachary Warren; President, Callan McKinney; Vice President, Emma Rupprecht; Secretary, and Cole Ebeling; Treasurer. The class has been supported by their sponsor, Mrs. Michelle Goeking throughout their Junior and Senior High School years. Help congratulate these nineteen students and support them as they go on to the next step of their lives.



"The good thing about music, when it hits you, you feel no pain." — Bob Marley



"Where words fail, music speaks."—Hans Christian Andersen



"Music can change the world, because it can change people."—Bono



Callan Patrick McKinney Patrick & Amanda McKinney



Timothy Joseph Vitosh Stuart & Laurie Vitosh



Keira Leigh Hennerberg Jamie & Kristen Hennerberg

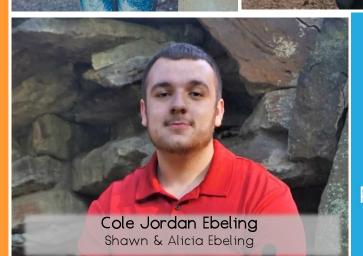




Kellan James Schlichtman Chris & Stacy Schlichtman



Ellie Grace Weers Mark & Rachelle Weers





TO 1 GIG AVAILABLE! UPGRADE TODAY! 402.793.5330

"Music is the soundtrack of your life."—Dick Clark



"Music is the best means we have of digesting time."-WH Auden

Why the Red Poppy?

After WWI, the poppy flourished in Europe. Scientists attributed the growth to soil in France and Belgium becoming enriched with lime from the rubble left by the war. From the dirt and mud grew a beautiful red poppy. The red poppy came to symbolize the blood shed during battle following the publication of the wartime poem "In Flanders Fields" The poem was written by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, MD, while serving on the front



lines. On

American Legion Auxiliary Nebraska "cornhusker"

GIR

Saturday, May 2 (in the morning)

The Odell Cookies 4H Club will be helping the Legion Auxiliary to distribute poppies around town and to businesses.



September 27, 1920, the poppy became the official flower of The American Legion family to memorialize the soldiers who fought and died during the war. In 1924, the distribution of poppies became a national program of The American Legion. Led by the American Legion Auxiliary, each year poppies are distributed with a request that the person receiving the flower make a donation to support the future of veterans, activeduty military personnel and their families with medical and financial needs. Poppy Day is celebrated in countries around the world. The American Legion brought National Poppy Day to the US by asking Congress to designate a day. This is why we wear the poppy around Memorial Day.

Hajek Will Represent at Girls State

The Odell Legion Auxiliary is proud to announce Jaedyn Hajek as our delegate to Cornhusker Girls State this summer. It will held in June on the UNL campus. Junior girls from across Nebraska come to Lincoln to learn about citizenship, leadership, and government. Jaedyn is a junior at Diller-Odell High School. She is involved in volleyball, basketball, FFA, NHS, and One Act. Outside interests include youth group and 4-H. Her future plan is to do something Ag related. Jaedyn is the daughter of Ed and Ann Hajek.





Please support Lynn & Lea Anne Bogart In applying for a permit to reclaim the cemetery. Approximately two years will be needed to reclaim and resume burials. Anyone interested in becoming a cemetery association member or trustee call Lea Anne @ 402-806-3112 There needs to be Trustees and Members to help make this

Association viable. Please consider!

Earl Adam Honored with Quilt of Valor

On Saturday, April 13, Earl Adam was presented with a Quilt of Valor by the Freedom Quilters of Nebraska at the Odell Legion. Earl was honored with his brotherin-law, Terry Ogden, who also received a Quilt of Valor. The Freedom Quilters of Nebraska are responsible for the Quilts of Valor Foundation in our area, and are organized by Ann Freese-Riechers. All quilts are made by volunteers. The quilts are presented to veterans to honor their military efforts and sacrifices while defending freedom for all of us.

Earl was born on Dec. 28, 1950 and was inducted into the US Army on June 25, 1970. He was honorably discharged on Dec. 28, 1971, having the rank of Specialist E4.

Earl states in this narrative: (warning:

graphic) "I was #2 on the draft list in Washington County Kansas and was inducted into the army and hoped to get into the motor-pool since I was working for Beardmore Chevrolet in Beatrice. I was sent to Fort Leaonardwood, Missouri for Basic Training then received my orders for infantry AIT in Ford Ord, California, so I knew I was going to Vietnam. We flew into Chu Lai, Vietnam. My first shock came when I went to the medical building to get an extra pair of glasses and saw three, what I thought were African Americans, being carried on stretchers, but then realized they were Caucasian men burned and were missing their legs. After a couple days of in-country training I was assigned to reconnaissance in the 25th infantry division. I was in a five man team that went out on twelve day missions and we carried food and water for that amount of time. We couldn't be resupplied for fear of giving our position away. We took turns pulling two hour guard duty which was scary because there were always wild pigs and lizards moving and you didn't know if it was Viet Cong or what.... My first night of guard duty, a Vietnamese lady was carrying supplies to the enemy and stepped on a booby trap just outside our camp that blew her legs off. The US was spraying tons of agent orange on foliage that we walked through daily and we drank out of the streams that were contaminated. We scraped little sand ticks off our skin with a knife blade and woke up with leeches on our eyes and mouth that we had to pull off. After three months I went to the American 23rd Division and went on patrols as a machine gunner. Between me and my assistant gunner, we carried 1500 rounds of machine gun ammo plus one hundred round back-packs. Then the last two months I drove a Jeep for the commander and extended a month for an early out and Christmas drop so I could get out earlier.

My MOS was an 11B Light weapons Infantry. My awards include Combat Infantry Badge, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnamese Service Medal, the Vietnamese Campaign Medal with (1960) device, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Expert Marksmanship Badge for the 16 Rifle.



I served my country and was proud to do so, but unfortunately, in 2018, I was diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma Cancer as the result of Agent Orange exposure and will do weekly infusion Chemotherapy for the rest of my life. Both of my children had bone issues that I believe were related to agent orange. I have no regrets, patriotism is not cheap, it was an honor to serve my country and I feel fortunate that I was able to come home, there were many who did not. God Bless America!"—Earl Adam



School and Youth News

Student of the Month

The Diller-Odell Elementary April Student of the Month is Austin Kostal. Austin has continued to work hard in the classroom and has made some big improvements in school. This has shown itself in his grades and his testing scores. Austin also does things the Griffin way, which is being respectful, responsible, and safe and his teachers and classmates enjoy being around him. He is the 6th grade son of Brent & Abby Kostal. Congratulations Austin!



diller-odeu Kingergarten May 9, 2024 8:45-11:15 am

Calling all Future Diller Odell Kindergriffins who will be 5 years old on or before July 31, 2024. Kindergarten Roundup will be held Thursday, May 9, 2024 from 8:45 - 11:15 a.m. at the elementary school located in Diller. Current Griffin pre-schoolers will come to school and leave as usual that day. There will be no regular kindergarten class on that day. If you or someone you know is planning on attending kindergarten this coming year, please contact the school or email pheble@dillerodell.org.



Diller-Odell FFA members and volunteers donated time to spread woodchips in the Diller Park . Pictured in photo I to r: Mr. Tanner Nun, Jeff Barnts, Brett Landenberger, Cale Clifford, Braeden Humphreys, Peyton Humphreys, Jacob Novotny & Bob Wellsandt I—Senior Sneak 2—Elementary Fine Arts Night @ 7 pm 3—5th Grade Field Trip & Last Day for Seniors 6—Elementary Awards @ 2:30 pm; HS Awards @ 7 pm 7—K-2 Field Day 9—Kindergarten Round Up; 8th Grade Promotion & JH Awards I0—Field Day 3rd-6th grades II—Graduation I5—Preschool Graduation—2 pm I7—Last Day of School—Early Dismissal

May Events @ School

VOLLEYBALL SATELLITE CAMP

Diller Odell is bringing in VCN assistant director Nicklin Hames!! Please come and learn from the best!







RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, AND AGRICULTURAL ELECTRICAL JOBS

> give marcus a call 402-587-1071

Diller-Odell Board of Education Elementary School Media Center-Diller April 8, 2024

Regular Board Meeting—7:00 pm Present: Paul Kostal, Adam Engelman, Dusty Duis & Kasey

Murphy. Absences of Angie Clifford & Kolin Kotas excused. The School District mourns the loss of Kolin Kotas. The Diller-Odell School Board and Administration acknowledge Kolin's selfless service and offers condolences to Kolin's family. Kolin Kotas was a well respected School board member that will be missed. Although his contributions to the Diller-Odell school community are irreplaceable, the Board will appoint someone to fill the vacancy and fulfill the term in the near future.

Motion to approve minutes of last meeting made by Adam

Engelman seconded by Kasey Murphy. Passed with 4 yea, 0 nay. Preston Engelman gave a student report on recent activities including Speech, FFA, Quiz Bowl, Track, Music Contests, and Prom. The Board appreciates the efforts of students and staff during a very busy time of the year. The Board also congratulates all students participating and receiving recognition at the State level in FFA and Speech.

Tammy Weers presented survey results from a survey by the Diller Foundation. The results were very positive for the most part, revealing that many students feel positive about the Diller-Odell area. Many would like to live and work in the area after completing their education. There are always indicators for growth and improvement, which are good to know.

Principal Mezger reported on spring enrollment numbers, recent activities, a required multicultural report, and a textbook replacement schedule.

Motion to approve baseball coop with Beatrice High School made by Adam Engelman and seconded by Kasey Murphy. Motion passed with 4 yea, 0 nay. The Board looks forward to the opportunity with BPS, and thanks Southern Public Schools for their willingness to let Diller-Odell students participate in boys golf the past several years. Upcoming students have more of an interest in baseball, thus the change. Superintendent Meyerle and Dr. Prososki of Southern HS will both submit a letter to the NSAA Board to simply dissolve the golf cooperative at the end of this school year. Diller-Odell students will join the Beatrice Orangeman baseball team. No new team name, mascot, or uniforms. No transportation will be provided by Diller-Odell Schools to get participants to practice or games. Transportation will be the responsibility of parents. The cost of involvement in baseball will be determined by the number of participants Diller-Odell provides. More players from Diller-Odell will equal more of a share in costs.

Motion to re-elect Certified Staff made by Kasey Murphy and seconded by Dusty Duis. Motion passed with 4 yea, 0 nay.

Principal Mezger reported on new sports records boards that

will be installed in the link to the new gym this summer. Superintendent Meyerle had gotten information and estimates on adding additional trophy cases at the high school The project has been put on hold because estimates were higher than he had hoped.

Superintendent Meyerle gave an update to the Board on filling the seat of the Board vacated with the death of Kolin Kotas. He has been in contact with KSB School Law on the matter and will follow the advice of legal counsel on filling the vacant seat for the remainder of the term.

Motion to approve bills as presented made by Kasey Murphy

and seconded by Dusty Duis. Motion passed with 4 yea and 0 nay. Board members attending the recent NRSCA Conference

noted it was educational and rewarding.

Motion to adjourn made by Adam Engelman and seconded by Dusty Duis. Passed with 4 yea, 0 nay.

President Kostal adjourned the meeting at 7:46 pm. The next regular meeting is scheduled for May 13, 2024, 7 pm, at HS.



"Music is a performance and needs the audience."—Michael Tippet

Words that had Origins in the Military

DEAD LINE: During the American Civil War there was a military camp @ Andersonville, GA. This Confederate Prison Camp was notorious for holding the captured union soldiers in terrible conditions. Their commander was one of the few confederates executed for war crimes. At this camp, there was a line about 20' from inside wall. Any prisoner who was found outside this lined were assumed to be escaping and were shot without question—thus they called this line the Dead Line. These horrors were made public after it was closed.

HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE—

Telegraph lines became quite common in the 1850s in US. They were strung between poles and when people first saw them they said they looked like lines strung between posts to support grapevines. Our Civil war was first war that telegraphs were used. News of deaths, victories, losses were carried over them. Thus, people began saying "I heard it through the grapevine."

BLOCKBUSTER; During WWII, standard bombs were 500 lbs. A British bomb maker decided that wasn't enough and created a 4000 lb. bomb that would destroy a full block. Thus having the name "Blockbuster".

SLUSH FUND/SKIMMING OF THE TOP—On a ship most meals were prepared in a big pot. The fat would rise to the top of the meal and form a foam or scum. The cooks would "skim" this fat off and put it aside in collection of fat and they called it the SLUSH. They would keep it because fat was desired by soap makers back on the port. They would sell them this fat and then put the money into what they called their "slush fund", which they would use to buy rum or better food.

WITH FLYING COLORS—when a ship was victorious at seal, they would fly all of their flags as they came into port, thus people said they were coming in with flying colbut. The throttle of an aircraft had a ball or knob at the top of the throttle stick - when the pilot wanted a plane to accelerate it would push the throttle forward to the dash board—thus coining this term "balls to the wall"

BALLS OUT—This term is just another form of the above term and applied to the throttle on a plane. If you research this some sources say the origin came from locomotives—but this has been disproved.

CATCH A LOT OF FLAK—when allied bombers were flying over Germany in WWI, the German's antiaircraft would fire flak (clouds of metal) and this did a lot of damage—hence to "catch a log of flak". **BOUGHT THE FARM**—In the Navy and Air Force when a pilot died while flying their aircraft they often had life insurance policies that were so good they allowed their survivors to pay off their farms—"bought the farm".

GINORMOUS—This term has been around in the last decade and I thought it was a new "made-up" word—but it was used back in WWII to describe something gigantic and humungous.

UMPTEENTH—In WWI if they needed to refer to an unknown, large quantity, they used the word umpty. The word umpteenth is a form of this word that represents

something happening numerous times,

CLOBBER—British pilots and ground control would use the word clobber when referring to planes that took a lot of damage/

SNAFU—In WWII, American soldiers uses this acronym, which meant Situation Normal All Followed Up. However the word followed quickly morphed into "fouled up" or a harsher "F" word.

FUBAR—this term was used a lot in the 1970s, but originated in WWII. It was an acronym that meant Fouled Up Beyond Recognition. (again stronger language is often used)

ors and were victorious.

KNOW THE ROPES—sailors had to learn a lot of knots and riggings used on sails. Once they learned this basics, they were said to know the ropes.

KNOW THE INS AND OUTS

Similar to "know the ropes" this term also applied to ropes, riggings, and knot tying.

CHEW THE FAT—Salted beef was a staple on a ship. It was also dry, tough, and very fatty. - dry and tough—and very fatty. Because it took sailors so long to chew it they would sit around for long periods of time talking during these meals—thus "chewing the fat".

LOOSE CANNON—a loose on a ship could kill someone. Teddy Roosevelt first used this term when he said he didn't want to be the old cannon loose on the deck of a ship in the storm.

BALLS TO THE WALL—Most people now would assume and use this term in a risqué way. However it's origin is anything

The Odell United Methodist Church

(who shares ministry with the Ellis Methodist Church)

Would like to invite you to join us in our services in May 2024. We are a small, very welcoming congregation open to anyone who would care to join us.

Our Schedule for May 2024

May 5 - Ellis/Odell - Joint Service at Ellis - Richard Fitzgerald -Youth Sunday, confirmation, recognition of seniors and fourth graders

May 12 - Art Moore at both churches, COMMUNION 9:00 Ellis, 10:30 Odell

May 19 - Dennis Holst at both churches 9:00 Ellis, 10:30 Odell

May 26 - Connie Carpenter at both churches 9:00 Ellis, 10:30 Odell "But when you get words and music together that can be a very powerful thing."—Bryan Ferry

The Obedience of Faith

To obey God is counter-cultural. For some, to obey him sounds weak; they say we need to trust in ourselves rather than God. To some, obedience to the truth seems to be impossible or even obsolete.

A Christian, however, views obedience differently. For us, to obey in faith means to hear the word of God and submit freely it. The truth of the word has been guaranteed by God, who is Truth itself. The truth of God is unchangeable and cannot be relativized, and so when we hear it, we are called to obey it.

The great hero of obedience of faith in the Old Testament is father Abraham. Over the years, I have come to love Abraham more and more. He listened to God and obeyed in a way that we all probably fall short of. Whatever God said to do, he did. When God called him to take his family and flocks and migrate to the Promised Land, he trustingly did so. In Hebrews chapter 11, it states that "by faith Abraham obeyed ... and went out, not knowing where he was to go." By faith, he believed that Sarah, despite her age, would conceive a son, and by faith, he offered that son in sacrifice.

The Blessed Virgin Mary is the most perfect Rev. Loras K. Grell embodiment of the obedience of faith. Think of



Luke 1:45, where her cousin Elizabeth cried out: "Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord." Mary listened to God's messenger Gabriel and consented to the Holy Spirit overshadowing her so that lesus, the Son of God, became incarnate in her womb.

Mary's faith was tested. She and Joseph had to flee with Baby Jesus to Egypt to escape the murderous Herod. She and Joseph could not locate Jesus when he was 12 years old because he was teaching in the Temple, his Father's house. As much as her faith was tested, Mary believed in the mission of her son even to the point of watching him die upon the Cross. Her faith was radiant when she joined with about 120 other disciples at Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit fell upon them all.

Truly, obeying in faith, to hear the word of God and act according to it, is necessary in the life of each Christian. As a community of believers, we must support each other as we obey God in faith.

Pastor of St. Mary Church, Odell

Music is a Life Skill

50 years ago I came here as the elementary music teacher. Little did I know then that 50 years later I would still be doing what I love. Even though I only did elementary music for 7 years, I got to start helping more with the high school music and even 1 year in junior high. I have had the privilege of working with some excellent teachers and some very talented students. Some even went on to college and participated in band, choir, and pep band. I have also taught over 100 piano students which is another joy. Music is a life skill, even if you just sing in the car or shower. Parents, encourage your

children to belong to choir and band. Students, step up to all music has to offer. I'm so glad to see the continued growth of the band. Let's keep this going. Then we can work on choir too. I thank all the music teachers who have included me in their programs. I have had so many wonderful opportunities in music that I never would have thought possible. I'd be glad to share my musical joys with anyone who asks. Musically yours, Sharon Gydesen

"People haven't always been there for me, but music has."—Taylor Swift

Area May Birthdays

2—Brian Vitosh

3—Ryan Breeden, Atley Schluter, & Stacey Stohs

4—John Garcia & Marvin Nelson

6—William Scheele

7—TJ Schroeder

9—Emma Ideus, Steph Meyerle, Juda Shibley, & Roran Wendland

10—Becky Behrends, Keith Craig, Travis Kostal, & Wyatt Scheele

11—Brandon Kostal, Kevin McIntyre, & William McLaughlin

12—Brandon Goering

13—Tom Carpenter & Shana Rickstrew

14—Addison Heidemann

15—Dave Anderson, Devin Garcia, Calvin Hennerberg, Beverly Leseberg, Dave Parde, & Aletta Thorp

16—Donnetta Hajek, Warren Knabe, Brent Kostal, & Lily Smith

17—Larry Chambers, Jaden Oberembt, Emma Rupprecht, & Judy Vitosh

19—Bria Day & Dennis Nippert

20—Sid Penner

21—Bonnie Kaller, Christian McCown, & Hadleigh Pryor

22—Cora Coufal, Vicki Penner, Hailey Rogers, & Michelle Weyer

23—Allen Colgrove, Jane Pretzer, & Ethan Weers

24—Radene Beran, Russ Hennerberg, Tanner Nun, Mackenzie Peitzmeier, Kris Riggert, & Beth Roelfs

25-Norris Gold, Donald Henshaw, & David McCown

26—Jeremy Engelman

27—Melvin Beran & Steph Ellis

28—Sharon Rupprecht & Adam Troxel

29—Vicki Arnold, Alex Roelfs, Crystal Snyder, Doug Spilker, & Josie Vitosh

30—Howard Hill, Morgan Phillips, & Braydin Wendland Happy Birthday to Doug Bures on May 5th! Love, Mom & Dad

Happy Birthday to Madison Penner on May 8th! Love, Your Family & Friends

Happy Birthday to Anna Stuckwisch on May 10th! Love, Your Family & Friends

Happy Birthday to Hagan Heble on May 12th! Love, Your Family & Friends

Happy Birthday to Pastor Greg Stuckwisch on May 24! Love, Your Family & Friends

Happy Birthday to Sandy Kostal on May 25th! Love, Your Family & Friends

Happy Birthday to my husband, Marvin Bures on May 26th. Have a great day! Love, Marlene

Happy Birthday to Tony Penner on May 30! Love, Your Family & Friends

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO VERNITA RIPPE ON MAY 28TH!

If you would like to send Vernita a card -HANOVER LONG TERM, 205 S. HANOVER ST., HANOVER, KS 66945

Samantha Rae Clifford



Graduating from Northwest Missouri State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Parks and Recreational Management

Her plan after college is to stay in park City UT where she has been offered a full-time position as a Req Attendant. Sam works in the events and activities at Marriot Mountainside Resort.

Congratulations Sam! Love, Dad, Mom, & Cale

Original Odell History Books (From 1981) FOR SALE at the State Bank of Odell \$10 each "Life is one grand, sweet song, so start the music."—Ronald Reagan



M A Y STORE CLOSING

END OF MAY

Will still have some things offered online. Check us out on Facebook

204 Main Street, Odell, NE

FOR SALE! Back Roads Building Contact Heather or Zach Heble for additional information

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING LOUIS OLTMANS



90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION SATURDAY, JULY 6TH OPEN HOUSE 2:00 - 4:00 PM

> AMERICAN LEGION 701 Dorsey St, Beatrice, NE

Jraubel's Popcorn

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING ... 10 YEARS ON 5TH STREET!



The Cottonwood Creek Band, Food Trucks, Games/activities for the kids, Cornhole tournament,

Fun for all ages.

Tours available at the Gage County Historical Society to see the original stand.



THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2024 5:30 - 9:00 PM 5TH STREET FROM COURT TO ELLA





WANTED

- PART TIME
- FLEXIBLE HOURS
- HAVE TO BE 19 YEARS OLD
- Would work kitchen and front
- Contact Jill @ 402-806-9201



"Music has a healing power. It has the ability to take people out of themselves for a few hours."—Elton John

Swimming Lessons 2024



at the Wymore Swimming Pool

Morning Sessions

Session 1: June 17 – June 21 *Classes will be held Monday through Friday

Session 2: June 24 - June 28 *Classes will be held Monday through Friday Class Times for Morning Sessions 1 & 2

9:30 - 10:30 Levels 4-6 10:30 - 11:30 Levels 1-3

Please fill out your registration form and return it to: Michele Cresse, 1209 West I, Wymore, NE 68466

<u>Please</u> send money with your registration. The cost is \$35.00 per child. Please make checks payable to the City of Wymore.

Classes will be filled in the order that registrations are received. You will **only** be contacted if your first choice is not available.

*If you have any questions please call or text Michele at 402-806-0853

Cut off and return bottom portion to N	lichele	
Name of Child		Age
Parent/Guardian	Phone #	
Address		
Name & Phone # to text/call if lessons are canceled due to weather	°	
Swimming Level Needed Session	eded Session Preferred	