



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

TODAY

• **Mills County H.O.P.E. Helping Oncology Patients Excel Support Group** — 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Glenwood Public Library Annex, 109 N. Vine, Glenwood. Patients and caregivers welcome. Share and hear information about cancer issues. Call 712-527-9699.

• **Pregnancy Loss and Newborn Loss Support Group** — 7 to 8:30 p.m., Methodist Hospital Cancer Center Library, 8303 Dodge St., Omaha. Call 712-354-4016 or Health Touch One at 712-331-1111 or 800-273-3737.

• **Share & Care** — 7:30 p.m., CHI Health Missouri Valley Community Memorial Hospital, 631 N. Eighth St., Missouri Valley. Support group for cancer survivors. Call 712-642-2784.

• **Vietnam Veterans of America** — 7:30 p.m., American Legion Hall, 716 S. Fourth St.

• **Poetry Club** — 6 to 7 p.m., Council Bluffs Public Library, 400 Wil-low Ave., Meeting Room 2D. Discuss poetry; inquire at the reference desk for books. Call 712-323-7553.

• **Optimist Club of Council Bluffs** — 7 a.m., Madison Avenue Hy-Vee.

• **Al-Anon Family Group** — 10 a.m., The 500 Club, 410 S. 16th St.
 • **Council Bluffs**

Rotary — Noon, The Center, 714 S. Main St.
 • **Tops Iowa 1263** — 5 to 6 p.m., Harmony Court. Use east door. Call Shirley at 712-642-3530 or Donna at 712-325-1783.

• **Council Bluffs MAD DADS** — 7 p.m., 133 W. Broadway. Call 712-328-0302.

• **Gamblers 12-Step Program** — 7 p.m., Pacific Hills Lutheran Church, 90th and Pacific Streets, Omaha. For 24-hour hotline, call 402-978-7899.

• **All Acoustic Music Jam** — 1 to 4 p.m., Western Historic Trails Center.

• **White Elephant Bingo** — 12:30 p.m., The Center.

• **Teen Gaming** — 3:30 to 7:30 p.m., Council Bluffs Public Library's Teen Central. Mix of board and video games for students in sixth through 12th grade. Call 712-323-7553.

FRIDAY

• **National Active and Retired Federal Employees Chapter No. 449** — Noon, Madison Avenue Hy-Vee. Open to the public.

• **Elks Lodge TGIF Dinner** — 6 to 8 p.m. Call 712-323-2589 for weekly menu.

• **Southwest Iowa Narcotics Anonymous** — Noon, Let It Be, New

Lighthouse, 200 16th Ave.; 6:30 p.m., Just for Today, Faith Community Church, 2701 N. Eighth St., Red Oak; 7 p.m., Clean & Free Group, first floor McDermott building, 800 Mercy Drive; 8 p.m., Straight and Grateful, 309 Elm St., Atlantic; 8:30 p.m., Discovery Group Church of Christ, 714 Benson St., Omaha; 8:30 p.m., Rebellions, New Lighthouse, 200 16th Ave.

• **Bingo** — 12:15 p.m., The Center, 714 S. Main St. Two to four cards for 25 cents each, plus white elephant gift.

• **Freedom Seekers Al-Anon** — 7:30 p.m., Broadway Christian Church, 2658 Ave. A.

• **Pickin' and Grinnin' Country Music Jam** — 6:30 to 9 p.m., Corn Crib restaurant, 12 East St., Shelby. Musicians and music lovers invited to a weekly jam session. Call the Corn Crib at 712-207-2676.

• **Roller Skating** — UMBA Hall, Underwood. 7 to 8:30 p.m., open skating for fourth grade and below (parents may skate with children); 8:30 to 10 p.m., open skating for fifth grade and above. Cost \$4, skates included. No outside skates allowed. Cancelled if Underwood schools closed for weather or a holiday weekend. For more, call 712-566-2222 or 712-310-0935 or email

lindajeanscott07@gmail.com.

SATURDAY

• **Harvest Festival featuring Jocelyn and the Dirty River Ramblers** — 5 to 8 p.m., The Big Garden, 5602 Read St., Omaha. This family-friendly event will include food and drink, an apple cider press, games, face painting, a costume contest, pony rides, a haunted greenhouse and live music from Jocelyn and the Dirty River Ramblers. Free. For more, find The Big Garden on Facebook.

• **40th Annual Witches' Tea** — 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Mangelsen's, 3457 S. 84th St., Omaha. Family-friendly fun will include carnival games, a bounce house, trick-or-treating, Star Wars characters in costume, face painting, cookie decorating, BBQ and prizes. Costume contest begins at 1 p.m.; no pre-registration required.

• **Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Light the Night Walk** — 5:30 p.m., Stinson Park, 2285 S. 67th St., Omaha. This family-friendly event will feature music from Fever and The Funkhouse, food vendors, children's activities and more. Register teams online at

lightthenight.org/ne.

• **Crescent Optimist**

Club — 7 a.m., Henry's Diner, 836 Old Lincoln Highway.

• **Families Understanding Needs** — 6 p.m., Rue Elementary School, 3326 Sixth Ave. Support group for families with children with special needs.

• **Treynor Optimist Club** — 8 a.m., Treynor Community Center.

• **Underwood Optimist Club** — 7:30 a.m., UMBA Hall.

• **Overeaters Anonymous** — 8:30 a.m., Douglas County Hospital, town hall meeting room, first floor, 42nd and Woolworth Streets, Omaha. Call Tracy at 402-551-9711. 10:30 a.m., Unity Church, 3424 N. 90th St., Omaha. Wheelchair accessible and child care provided. Call Dala at 402-210-3755.

• **Southwest Iowa Narcotics Anonymous** — 5 p.m., Saturday Serenity, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 812 Farnum St., Harlan; 6 p.m., On the Right Track, 515 E. Broadway; 8 p.m., Living Clean, 303 Walnut St., Shenandoah; 8:30 p.m., Rebellions, New Lighthouse, 200 16th Ave.

• **Gamblers 12-Step Program** — 7 p.m., 354 N. 76th St., Omaha. For 24-hour hotline, call 402-978-7899.

• **Electric Music Jam** — Noon to 4 p.m., Western Historic Trails Center.



Dr. Edwards reviews Pioneer Academy at Rotary

Clifford Davis

cdavis@ncnewspress.com

At an Oct. 11 lunch meeting, Nebraska City Public Schools (NCPS) superintendent Dr. Jeffrey Edwards updated the Nebraska City Rotary Club on the Career Academy, property tax reform, and community outreach efforts undertaken by the school district's administration, teachers, and staff.

Edwards presented current enrollment figures for the Career Academy, now in its second year. The Health Academy has 16 students studying medical terminology.

The Information Technology Academy has three sections with three students in each section, for a total of nine students.

The Welding Academy has ten students, five in their first year of study and five in their second year.

The Construction Academy has three first-year and three second-year woodworking students. Last spring the class completed the creation of a 500-pound wooden door

made of walnut planks from a tree on the farm of Dave Lueth of Percival, Iowa.

The tree came down in the 2011 floods, and Lueth had it cut into rough planks to make a door. The woodworkers he approached for the job either weren't interested or wanted thousands of dollars.

Lueth contacted Clyde Schroder at the Career Academy, and the woodworking class took on the project. It took the students most of the spring to plan the design and do the woodworking. Student Nick Bohlen programmed the carving of a decorative tree for the front of the door and a corn stalk on the back. The class installed the finished door at Lueth's home at the end of the school year.

Edwards also discussed NCPS community outreach efforts to get Pioneer administration, staff and teachers out into the community to get to better know local businesses.

A recent in-service day involved the Pioneers mak-

ing 45-minute visits to 19 Nebraska City establishments, talking about what they do and learning about local enterprise. At each stop the school visitors were asked to take three pictures, one of the business, a selfie, and a group photo. At the end of the day they held a share-out session.

The Pioneers will visit one business in depth on the Oct. 20 in-service day, and continue the community outreach program on January and March in-service days.

Responding to an audience member's comment that some local businesses complain teachers and staff don't support them enough, Edwards replied that the community outreach program is meant to address the issue. Another Rotarian remarked that a local retailer reported to her that the Pioneer visits led to a spike in sales.

Edwards also spoke about Nebraska public education and property tax reform, focusing on the two operating principles of Nebraskans Untied for

Property Tax Reform and Education (NUPTRE): first, that adequate funding of education is imperative for the state's future, and second, that reducing reliance on property taxes is necessary for a system fair to all taxpayers.

The core issue, Edwards said, is whether difficulties in the current education system are a spending problem or a funding problem. NUPTRE asserts that low state funding rather than excessive school spending is at the heart of the property tax issue.

Furthermore, said Edwards, all Nebraska taxpayers need to share the burden of education funding, by means of not only

PHOTO SUBMITTED

property taxes but also through income and sales tax revenues.

"How do we adjust property taxes and get some tax relief?" asked Edwards. "We really don't have a spending problem (at NCPS).

"We do things very efficiently here. We do have a problem with the state."



Members of the Construction Academy with the door they designed and built from a walnut tree damaged in the 2011 flooding. Instructor Clyde Schroeder is at right; standing next to him is student Nick Bohlen, who programmed the designs for the front and back carvings of a tree and a corn stalk.



Bellem a guest at Shen Rotary

The Shenandoah Rotary Club met on Tuesday, Oct. 10. President Dr. Kerri Nelson opened the meeting In Club Business, Jeannine Liljedahl reported that the ShenFest Food Booth raised \$569 and thanked all volunteering that day.

She also updated that the Club would discontinue the Chicken Run fundraiser for this year, due to lack of club attendance.

Shenandoah High School students Zach Harms, Alexa McGinnis, and Devon Morelock shared about upcoming Shenandoah athletics volleyball, cross country, and football events, along with the upcoming MC2 dairy farm trip and Booster Club discount card fundraiser.

Rotarian Lance Cornelius challenged the Club to invite one new member to the Club, as that is how he got involved when he first came to Shenandoah.

Cornelius then introduced guest speaker Warda Bellem, an exchange student, from Mali, Africa.

Bellem, 15, is living with Dr. Kerri Nelson and her husband Don.