

DAILY GRIND



NEWS FROM THE MILL

Shaun Sayres

Summer is over and Fall is officially here as we roll right into October. Much has happened at the Mill since our last news update and there is plenty to be excited for in the coming months. First and foremost, thank you to those who have already donated to help support the *Daily Grind*. We sincerely appreciate the support and hope more may join in so that we can keep this going.

Our container shipment from Denmark is officially on its way, and we're hopeful that there won't be further delays as our goods cross the ocean. World-wide shipping delays have really put a wrench in things this year and we have had to resort to scheduling a follow-up shipment by air in just a couple of weeks to ensure we can get everything in. There is plenty of new stuff one the way as well as some vital restocks that we have been waiting on. We have a new supplier for our high-quality Danish dinner candles (now made in Denmark!) which means our red candles will be back soon. We also have the wooden rullepølse press coming back and will have both wood and stainless steel options this year. Other items of note include LED pillar and advent candles, new glass-blown ornaments, and lots of new and returning Danish trinkets and souvenirs.

The one casualty this year is our Danish hard candies made by Almuegaarden, which we will no longer carry due to complications specific to importing food. On the plus side, though, we are excited to announce two other Danish brands we will be carrying. The first, Lakrids by Bülow, we picked up this Summer. This is premium Danish licorice available in a number of flavors in licorice form and chocolate blends. Our Winter selection has recently arrived including Raspberry, Double Chocolate, and Mint, and we are expecting their beautiful advent calendar box very soon. We're sampling these in the store, so stop down sometime to try them. The second is something completely new and you won't be able to get it anywhere else in the country, Østerlandsk Tea! These teas, produced by a company that has been in business in Copenhagen since 1889, come in beautiful, ornate tins that are as unique as the flavors themselves. We anticipate these coming soon and supply will be limited until we can make a bulk order next year, so keep an eye out for that announcement when they arrive.

PRAIRIE ROOTS RUN DEEP, PART 1

Warren Watson

Quote from Christian Johnson, first Dane to settle in Clay Township, Shelby County, Iowa, found in a family history written by Ruby Lee Nelson. "Names, dates and places do not constitute a family (or a settlement's) history. One's heritage stems from the struggles and joys along the pioneer trail---the acceptance of life, the events of the times, the pleasures and hardships of those who went before. These things shape people's lives and make them what they are."

Clay Township is in the southeast corner of Shelby County, Iowa. There are thirty-six one-mile square sections. The top tier of sections, 1-6, are somewhat larger due to a surveying correction. It was one of the last townships in Shelby County to be settled. Early settlers were drawn to the northeast corner of Shelby County first in the 1850s. Mormons that did not follow Brother Brigham Young to Zion traveled up Mosquito Creek to Galland's Grove. Once a Dane got a foothold in Clay Township in the 1860s, the area populated quickly. It was to be settled by the largest contingent of Danes in America.

The landscape of Clay Township has a unique quality that many present-day visitors from Denmark find much akin to the fatherland. In an early 1889 history account of Shelby County, a revealing description of the countryside is presented. "Imagine for a moment that at one time in its formation the whole county was in a liquid state, calm with nary a ripple. Then a violent wind

We have also recently picked up a new brand of Havarti cheeses from a small dairy farm in Massachusetts. These are available in 8oz blocks and come in five flavors including: plain, dill, garden vegetable, habanero, and smoked. The smoked Havarti is especially good and we might already have sold out by the time this news update airs. But don't worry, this farm specializes in Havarti and regularly has new batches made, so getting more in is quick and easy. Best of all, this is raw milk cheese that is lab-tested. What that means is that these cheeses are made using traditional methods that rely on bacteria in the cheese to produce a more complex and richer flavor. This bacteria is normally removed during pasteurization, but don't worry, each batch of cheese is lab tested to ensure it's both safe to consume and extra delicious compared to pasteurized Havarti blends.

Looking ahead, we have a few very busy weeks coming up. We anticipate this year's holiday catalog to be sent out in a couple weeks. And on October 11, workers from MøllebyggerPetersen will arrive to work on the windmill. The crew plans to begin repairs right away, starting with re-adjusting the cap frame gliders to make the windmill more secure. Please allow us to extend sincere thanks to those who have donated to help us undertake this project so far. It is no easy feat, but we are doing what we can to make this work. We realize this is very sudden work, but we can assure everyone this was the best path forward for the mill and our organization's preservation. No one here is a stranger to how difficult our windmill is to look after, and we appreciate the support we've received to keep it in its best possible condition.

To cap things off, we will be hosting a banquet at the Elk Horn Town Hall on Friday, October 25th to send off our Danish millwrights, there will be Danish food and folk music just for the occasion, so save the date and be ready for a night to celebrate this year's accomplishments and send off our visitors in the best way possible. More information will be out very soon, so keep a watch out for that announcement as well.

Finally, we have received numerous requests for food trucks this year. We have had a hard time finding vendors willing to come, but Zemog's has made a request to come back. We'll have them on Friday, October 4th for lunch from 11 - 2. They make some excellent Mexican food and are definitely well-worth trying.

caused angry ocean-like waves to churn high in the air. Suddenly they are frozen in time. Here then is your new God-created land surface." The best example of these 'waves' of land can be found traveling due north of Kimballton towards Manning.

These formations and rich soil were the result of glacier action. Around the county reminders of the retreating glaciers can be observed. Six miles southeast of Clay Township a massive boulder remains marooned in a field just north of the interstate. Various legends surround the monolith. One story relates how a group of Danish farmers wanted to remove the stone from the field. When continuous digging revealed that it may be resting on the underbelly of China, they gave up. However, a couple of more stubborn Danes thought they could move it regardless. They eventually were forced to forget about it and wished for their names to be withheld.

Further clues that a great sheet of ice moved over the area are the various deposits of glacier till. Even today area farmers find smaller rocks 'rising' to the surface as field work progresses. Just this spring I observed an old Danish American farmer gathering rocks in his freshly plowed field. Some very limited plowing is still done along the edges of fields. He was not throwing the rocks into a triple box Bain farm wagon, but into his latest ATV. A four-wheeler with cab, A/C, and self-guided GPS. A couple of days later he was still at it. But to my utter amazement he had recruited help...HIS WIFE! I'd like to know how to master that trick. Proof that some ancient, time-tested, old-world Danish customs die hard.

To be continued...

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Friday, Oct. 4 - Ambassador Visit
- Friday, Oct. 12 - Mill Repairs Begin
- Friday, Oct. 25 - Danish Banquet at Elk Horn Town Hall
- Thursday, Oct. 31 - Halloween
- November 29 - 30 - Julefest
- December 5 - 8 - Christkindlmarket Des Moines (Principal Park)

THIS ISSUE'S SPONSOR



KAFFE *og* KRINGLER

in honor of Jesper Møller Sørensen, Ambassador of Denmark to the United States, on Friday, the 4th of October at three o'clock at the Museum of Danish America. R.S.V.P. by October 2. To register, scan the QR code, call the museum at 712.764.7001, or email henry.olson@danishmuseum.org.



museum of
danish america



Help us keep this going by making a donation to the Danish Windmill. Give online at danishwindmill.org or send by mail to:

Danish Windmill
PO Box 245
Elk Horn, Iowa 51531

Thank you for your support.

Printed issues available for **FREE** at select locations in Elk Horn and Kimballton including:
Danish Windmill
Elk Horn Post Office
Elk Horn Public Library
Kimballton Post Office
Several local businesses

For all inquiries, contact Shaun Sayres at 712-764-7472 or via email at mgr@danishwindmill.com

All issues available online at **danishwindmill.org**

View this issue online:



ELK HORN LIBRARY LANTERN

Shining the light on what is going on at your library!



The Elk Horn PublicLibrary has a tradition of amazing decorating for Halloween. Please plan on stopping in to see our decorations starting October 7th!

Julia has been busy getting the Children’s Area transformed into an ‘Enchanted Forest’.Stop in to see the new mural that will take you on a magical path. More is coming.

- In October we have the following programs:
- October 2: 1:15 Bee a Good Teammate and Making MuffinsGrades 3-6
 - October 2: 1 – 3 BrainFreeze Smoothies and Conversation – Teens
 - October 3: 6:30 Beyond the Book Club- ‘Secrets She Kept’
 - October 7: 3:45 Nature Nook – Types of Trees Grades K-3
 - October 9: 3:45 Reading Rainbow with Paulette Hansen – All ages
 - October 14: 3:45 Nature Nook – The Moon Grades K-3
 - October 16: 1:15 Bee Ready for Halloween - Crafts Grades 3-6
 - October 17: 6:00 Cookbook Club-Pumpkin Recipes
 - October 21: 3:45 Nature Nook – Pumpkins and Corn Grades K-3
 - October 21: 6:00 Outlook Study Club – Local History Panel with Warren Watson
 - October 23: 9 am Coffee Time at the Library
 - October 23: Reading Rainbow with Paulette Hansen – All ages
 - October 28: 3:45 Nature Nook – The Stars Grades K-3
 - October 31: ALL DAY – Halloween Celebration!!!!

Halloween Costume Contest Photos at the Library from 5-7 with hot chocolate. Categories include: Most Cuddly, Most Spooky, Most Scary, Most Creative, and Best Group of 3 or more Coordinated. All photos will be posted on our Facebook page in categories with the most likes by Friday at 4 pm being the winner.

IT’S ONLY SCIENCE

Bob Mortenson

Once again there is a hurricane battering the gulf coast area. This storm is not especially strong but is causing a lot of damage from rain and storm surge. Decades ago, there would not have been as much damage from a storm this strong. What is the difference you ask? Rising ocean levels from global warming is the answer to that question.

Water seeks its own level. When the level is higher to begin with each foot of storm surge reaches further inland. The rivers and streams that carry the water away now must reach a higher level before it can drain. This means that the flood water will take longer to subside than in the past. When flood waters remain for a longer period of time they will cause more problems. We saw this in the Missouri River valley just a few years ago.

If the forecasts for the future rise in ocean levels are correct the problems associated with this will effectively move farther inland. Perhaps not as extreme as in the case of New York City. The forecast predicts it will begin to resemble its original name. New Amsterdam with levees and pumps keeping the water at bay.

Even in the Heartland of America the fact that river levels must remain higher in order to flow will cause problems. Many communities will be faced with redesigning their sewage systems in order for them to function correctly. Their existing storm water systems may be unable to function in the lower elevation parts of their community. The finances of these communities may not be sufficient to cover the cost of dealing with these issues. But they must be dealt with in order for the community to survive.

Now you ask, what can we do? We need to be pro-active and start to solve these issues before the need becomes acute. We need to educate our elected officials, both federal, state, and local that this is beyond politics. Our actions and theirs must recognize this is not an easy fix, but an essential one.

Another action we can take is to embrace the options we currently have that can slow global warming. We may not have the ultimate solutions available right now, but what now exists might determine how we exist.

SCRATCHES FROM A RUSTY QUILL

Wava Petersen

As I write September is nearly over, harvest is in full swing and if you have been in a store lately it is obvious that Halloween is just around the corner. What a difference in today’s huge harvesting equipment than the primitive methods of harvest in the 1930s era of my early childhood.Tom, the black horse and his brown partner, Dick, were hitched to the wagon. A click of Dad’s tongue signaled them to start. Usually, they knew just how far to move the wagon forward, but a hearty “Whoa” always brought them to an abrupt stop. The wagon was equipped with a bangboard to deflect the ears of corn. As my parents hand-picked the corn ears and tossed them into the wagon, most hit the barricade with a bang and bounced off to the wagon bed. Not yet old enough to go to school, we kids were hoisted into a back corner of the wagon.It was a great ride except when a wayward ear hit our heads instead of the bangboard; not a pleasant experience.In later years, as we walked to Clay #5 school on frosty fall mornings, the telephone poles were humming with a rhythmic gaum, gaum, gaum and we could hear corn ears thumping against the bangboards from all directions.

A ride in Grandpa Lyle’s combine was a must-do every fall. Four-year-old Riis was enthralled as he watched the golden grain pour into the holding tank. Turning to Great-Grandpa he remarked, “The combine sure has a lot of corn in the back seat.”

YES, THERE IS GOOD NEWS!

Bill Rollins

So if you are still with me in these articles, you know that last time I asked a question concerning whether you knew God. I stated that our society does not seem to know or understand our God. What a shame! Especially because we have been amazingly blessed in this country. The reason I asked this question was to consider the idea that God is building a family. The reality of “family” is the reality of a sane society, a logical society and above all a godly society. Do you know God?

We are told, in Matthew 6:9, to address our prayers to “Our Father who art in heaven.” The God of all the universe has desired that we recognize Him as the head of the family. Going back a couple of chapters we see that the Father Himself placed upon the Savior the title of Son, “And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”(Matthew 3:16-17) Yes, another family title.

God does not stop there; In 2 Corinthians 6:16-18 we read “As God said, ‘I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and

NEWS FROM DVIO

Jodee Dixon

The Danish Villages Improvement Organization (DVIO) would like to announce two current openings on its board: one seat’s term ends June 30, 2025, and one seat’s term ends June 30, 2026. The DVIO board consists of nine board members, with three voted on at the general member meeting every June. We are looking for enthusiastic and motivated individuals who can “rally the troops” and bring valuable connections with different industries and skilled folks to get our projects done. Being a board member is not just about having ideas, but we are an active board that has to put in the work ourselves to get the job done.

If you are interested in becoming a board member (or know someone who would be great at it!) please reach out to us at our Facebook page or by email at dvio@metc.net. Or just show up to our next board meeting at 6:00 p.m. on October 30 at the Norse Horse Tavern in Elk Horn. The more help we have, the more we can get done!

Our newest board member is all too familiar with getting projects done—we want to welcome

One Saturday night when Lyle was combining corn, he called on the intercom to suggest that I join him and ride a few rounds. That combine had no buddy-seat so I made myself quite comfortable sitting on the tool box on the floor although something kept poking me in the back. I eventually got it pushed out of the way. As we neared the top of the first hill my hubby began looking back. The corn should have been visible in the hopper by then.He stopped and got out to see what was wrong, only to discover the thing poking me in the back was the lever that turned on the elevator to empty the hopper. To my horror there was a wide streak of shelled corn all the way up the hill.Oh, the wonderful memories of harvest time!

Halloween has also seen radical changes over the 2,000+ years since its origin as a Celtic pagan ceremony. Over the years Halloween has been reinvented as a fun time for kids with candy and maybe a few pranks included. I had never heard of trick-or-treating until I was in eighth grade.I did know that all of the outdoor country school toilets were overturned and maybe some machinery was rearranged or appeared on top of a building the next morning. During our girls’ growing years in Jacksonville, Halloween meant digging through the ragbag to cobble up something outlandish to wear or just putting an old sheet over the head to become a ghost. (There were few high-priced store-bought costumes in that era). Then coming home to dump the contents of their bulging bags on the kitchen table and decide which candy bar looked the best. Ah, for the good old days when times were simpler.

daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty.” We see here the true concept of a loving Father and His family consisting of sons and daughters.And yet these are not just everyday children, these are Holy children! The definition of the word ‘holy’ is “That which is set apart for a special purpose” and of course, that special purpose is one that involves God!The above scripture, from Paul, is an imperative admonition to ‘be separate’; to go out from the midst of the lawless and unbelievers and not be “yoked together” with them.

I think it behooves us to examine ourselves in lieu of our Heavenly Fathers holiness. We read in the letters of Peter “But as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, ‘You shall be holy, for I am holy.’” (1 Peter 1:15-16) And in chapter 2:9 “But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.”

But wait folks, there’s still more! In Peter’s second letter he writes, “Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, (2 Peter 3:11 English Standard Version).

If we have a love for this world, then these words of Peter and Paul may seem to be nonsense. But if we have a love for God these words are life for our hearts that long to dwell in the realm of godliness. Yes, “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD God almighty – heaven and earth are filled with His Glory. AMEN!

Paulette Madson, the Elk Horn city librarian to our board! She has hit the ground running with taking on the Halloween activities this year through the library, and DVIO is proud to help fiscally sponsor the fun list of events. Stay tuned to both the library and DVIO Facebook pages to see what Paulette and the library group have in store for Beggar’s night on October 31st.

The big project DVIO is currently working on is to update the signage in both Elk Horn and Kimballton to create one cohesive and distinctive brand. The group purchased the new Danish Villages banners that you see hanging on the main street in both towns. A huge thanks goes out to the city maintenance crew in both towns for getting them up before Tivoli fest this year—we thought they did a great job! We have also recently re-discovered the previous signage project document that was completed back in 2012 with the Iowa State University students. It has given us some great ideas for incorporating the new logo that ISU students helped design last year but using the work that has already been done. Watch for new billboards, kiosks, and directional signage to show up in town over the next year.