

DAILY GRIND



NEWS FROM THE MILL

Shaun Sayres

There is a troll in Elk Horn now, and the effects can be felt just about everywhere, Norse Horse, Kringleman, and the windmill are all seeing an early uptick in tourism traffic. We’ve been joking with the Museum of Danish America from the beginning that everyone is going to stop at the windmill looking for the troll, and so far that seems to have been the case. Day after day, we have people stopping in or calling us for more information about where to find it. We saw a 23% increase in visitor traffic for the month of April, and we anticipate this trend continuing in the coming months. We also wish to thank all of those who contributed to the project, both volunteers and financiers. The troll has been a welcome addition to the fabric of our community and we hope it may paddle in a new wave of prosperity for years to come.

We’ve had several ongoing projects at the windmill. Our YouTube livestream is finally stable and is live. This shouldn’t be confused with METC’s Millcam which also has changed locations recently. We’ve also added some cameras inside the windmill now, and may have some of them broadcasted in the future to show the gears.

Work on the Education & Preservation Center is also progressing. The front room is nearly finished, except for furnishing, and we are hoping to have the electrical finished this week. We wish thank Deborah King, Mike Howard, and Tim Palmer for volunteering this past month to help things move along. We are aiming to have the building ready for Tivoli Fest, but it is getting down to the wire.

Speaking of Tivoli Fest, we have some new stuff coming this year. For the regular festival, there will be horseback riding south of the

windmill and a bags tournament at the fire station on Saturday. Hansen House (Harlan) will be offering shuttle services around town and will have their electric train available on the west side of town for rides. The new Kulturhus will also be open and will be featuring Warren Watson presentations on Saturday, May 23.

We’ve also spearheaded an attempt to expand Tivoli Fest to Sunday again this year. The Tour de Tivoli Bike Ride is being revived, this year as a fundraiser towards our *Back on the Grind* capital campaign for new millstones. Riders can pay \$25 to ride the 26-mile course to Prairie Rose and Kimballton, or \$50 for a ticket that includes a free t-shirt and breakfast voucher at the hotel. Registration is open at danishwindmill.com.

To ensure everyone has a place to eat, we’ve also partnered with SCSB and METC to host a breakfast at Hygge Inn, featuring a buffet catered by Master Grillers which will be open from 8 to 11. This breakfast is open to the public for free will donation and we encourage anyone and everyone to join us. Proceeds will be going towards the windmill’s fundraiser. We wish to thank SCSB and METC for their support of this event.

Afterwards, Elk Horn Lutheran Church will have an outdoor service at Morning Star Chapel next to the windmill. If you regularly miss the viking demonstrations during Tivoli Fest, there will be an encore performance on Sunday as well. Finally, the windmill will remain open with free admission the entire day from 8AM to 5PM. We hope these new (and returning) generate some interest and help us raise the funds we need to take the windmill up another level.

Finally, our authentic Danish *postkasse* has been installed inside the gift shop. We wish to thank Brenda Nelson and Tony Hough for helping us purchase it as well as all of those who donated in support. A text panel recognizing supporters will be installed soon.



Elk Horn’s own Thomas Dambo Troll, named Fjord Færgemand, now stands complete on the grounds of the Museum of Danish America.



Dane Country, a new beer by Steve Rold, is on its way to Elk Horn and will be widely available during this year’s Tivoli Fest at both the festival Beer Garden (Elk Horn Fire Station), the Danish Windmill, and Norse Horse Tavern.

SPARTAN SPECIAL

Contributions from EEHK High School

Sports

With the Spring flying by, track season is in full effect. Both the girls’ and boys’ seasons are almost over, with a meet today in Guthrie Center (4/30), two meets next week in Woodbine and Panorama, the State qualifying meet in Audubon (5/14), and the Drake Relays (5/21-23). Some of the standouts this season have been Taryn Petersen for the 100, 200, and 400 meters, Michelle Wilson for the 1500 and 3000 meters, Zoey Rasmussen for shot put and discus, Jack Lassek for the 400 meters, Austin Rasmussen for the mile and two-mile, and Anthony Young for shot put and discus.

Dambo Troll

Throughout April, the Elk Horn community helped to build a giant troll at the Museum of Danish America. This project was spearheaded by Thomas Dambo and his team, who are renowned for building trolls throughout the world. This specific troll was over 20 feet tall and is rowing its way across the Great Plains. It was named “Fjord Ferryman,” The meaning behind this troll portrays the immersion of cultures intertwined through art and culture. Fjord has a special connection to this town because it reminds us of the Danish roots that built the Elkhorn town. On April 23, Thomas Dambo gave a presentation at the high school that was made possible through Spartan Media. Roughly 500 people from all over the country attended this event, truly testing the capabilities of our audiovisual processes. This provided a great opportunity for students to learn about the immense requirements to put on a presentation of this magnitude. Additional assets were provided by the City of Elk Horn and the Elk Horn Public Library. The building of the troll took the whole community to make it happen; the community was able to become more connected through this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Graduation Info

Graduation is quickly approaching on Sunday, May 17th. Commencement will begin at 1 pm at the Elk Horn High School gym. Community members are encouraged to support the graduating class of 2026; Annabelle Baggett, Benjamin Baggett, Mara Christensen, Parker Fister, Augustus Greving, Cadence Henricksen, Graic Hill-Borger, Bradyn Holiday, Owen Juhl, Josten Kilworth, Sophie Kitelinger, Paige Konecne, Jakob LaCanne, Johanne Lyager, Keegan Menter, Kaelyn Parker, Jaelynn Petersen, Austin Rasmussen, Emma Reinhardt, Preston White, Carter Wiemann, and Brooklyn Young. Congratulations, seniors, best of wishes to future endeavors.

Awards Night

On May 12th the school will be holding an awards ceremony for the graduation seniors of Exira EHK. This is a time for celebration, the awarding of scholarships, and other special recognitions. The school welcomes the community to join them in recognizing the amazing accomplishments that the senior class of 2026 have made.

Prom

This year’s prom was a memorable evening centered around a Great Gatsby theme that brought the elegance of the 1920s to life. The venue was decorated in gold and black with sparkling lights, creating a sophisticated and festive atmosphere. Students arrived in formal attire, including suits and elegant dresses, many inspired by the Gatsby era. Throughout the night, the dance floor remained lively as students enjoyed music, dancing, and time with friends. A highlight of the evening was following prom, students attended an after-prom event at Topgolf, where they continued the celebration in a relaxed and enjoyable environment. The combination of a beautifully designed theme and a well-organized after-prom activity made the night a meaningful and lasting experience for everyone involved.

Inspired by the windmill’s 50th anniversary, the artwork by Jessica Rold features the windmill and its unique Danish-American history.



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Printed issues available for **FREE** at select locations in Elk Horn and Kimballton

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All issues available online at danishwindmill.org

View this issue online:



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ELK HORN LIBRARY LANTERN

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



The Friends of the Library meal and Presentation on Mary 18th will be Tyler Sullivan with Iowa Scenic Views by Foot. Our meal will be Walking Tacos. Plan to join us!

Local History Junkies have meetings to discuss our local history every third Thursday from 3 – 4 pm. Bring newspaper clippings, photos, books, ideas and share them with the group! Warren is looking for Rorbeck information if you have it. We will be meeting in our new room, plan to join us!

Please join us for our Kimballton and Elk Horn Coffees-open to EVERYONE!!! Enjoy the fellowship!

We are planning on a Quilt Show during Tivoli this year. Consider getting out a family or personal quilt to have on display. Bring your quilt to the library, we will have them on display at the new Clerk’s Office Saturday afternoon from 12 – 3 pm.

- Here are our May and June Schedules:
- May 2 – Adult Board and Game Night 6 – 9 pm
 - May 4 – Viking Mania with MODA 1 – 4 pm
 - May 9 – Teen Fun 6 – 8 pm
 - May 11 – Viking Costume Design 1 – 4 pm
 - May 13 – Kimballton Kaffee 9 – 11 am Kimballton Townhall
 - May 15 – Book Discussion and Movie ‘Wonder Boys’ by Michel Chabon, movie to start at 12:30 pm
 - May 16 – Let Off Some STEAM at the Library 10-12 am
 - May 16 – Young Adult Coffee and Silent Book Club 2 – 4 pm
 - May 18 – Viking Ship Building 1 – 4 pm
 - May 18 – Friends of the Library meal at 5 pm with 6 pm presentation by Tyler Sullivan on Iowa Scenic Views by Foot.
 - May 21 – Canvases and LEGO Contest Creations due to the Library by 4:30 pm
 - May 21- Local History Junkies 3 – 4 pm
 - May 22 and 23 Community Quilt Show in the Clerk’s New Office
 - May 22 – Viking Costume Contest for kids at the Museum of Danish America
 - May 23 – Tivoli Open 12 – 3 pm
 - May 25 – Library Closed
 - May 27 – Community Coffee and Craft 9 am
 - May 27 – Trustee Meeting 12 noon
 - May 29 – Summer Reading Kick-off 2 – 6 pm

The Lego area is VERY popular, It is every more popular now that the Museum of Danish America donated a trash can full of LEGOs!!!! We have a children’s pool out so they can sort through and find the pieces they need. THANK-YOU so very much MODA-what a perfect donation.

The family and friends of Jill Maureen Nelson Corsbie donated funds to pay for our new outdoor signs and landscaping. THANK-YOU so very much for thinking of us!

The Easter Egg Hunt was a wonderful success, again, this year. We would like to especially thank Shaun at the Danish Windmill for sponsoring and ordering the gifts, South Bornholm Firearms for the water and chips, Norse Horse for the hot dogs, Salem residents, coffee ladies and young library volunteers for packing the eggs, DVIO for funding, Elk Horn Optimists for their generous donation and the patrons of the library for getting to see the materials gather for the party.

We are missing some 80’s and earlier EH-K yearbooks, if you have any you would be willing to donate we would love to complete our collection.

We have most of our summer plans in place, stop in to get a brochure!

IT’S ONLY SCIENCE

Bob Mortenson

The general public normally thinks about science as being an important part of medicine, aerospace, data centers etc. Most do not realize just how much science has to do with farming. We have come a long way from relying on the “Farmer’s Almanac” and how dark was the wooly caterpillar last fall. Modern weather forecasting now determines many of our choices as to which hybrid we plant this year. Soil testing has moved beyond picking up a handful of soil and squeezing it to test for moisture. And gives us information about the nutrient level remaining in the soil. It also tells us if the soil needs any minerals replaced or if the acid balance needs adjusted. This information allows the farmers to only add that which is needed to reduce their costs of production. If weather conditions aren’t ideal or when crop prices are poor, this can help offset what otherwise would be a bad outcome.

And consider how many ways modern science has influenced even our methods of crop care. We now know exactly what rate of fertilizer needs to be applied for best yields. Knowing what the soil temperature is tells us when to apply chemicals and when it is safe to plant. GPS information guides our machinery in putting down soil amendments. It also guides our planters, saving seed costs by insuring nothing is double planted. And the same applies to crop spraying whether by ground or aircraft. GPS

YES, THERE IS GOOD NEWS!

Bill Rollins

In his first letter to the Thessalonians, chapter 5:16, Paul writes, “Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”Oh yes, this is the will of God for all of His children; and so we might say “case closed” and go on our way to study something else. But isn’t the study of “joy, prayer and thanksgiving” an immensely deep endeavor?

First off, how do we find joy in this world, this society of ours? Some might say that the ubiquitous presentation of news in its many forms really causes depression and blocks the way to joy. Actually, it blocks the way to happiness not joy. Happiness is stimulated or destroyed by external events in our lives. Joy, true joy, is created from within; it is one of the fruit of the Holy Spirit. If God’s Spirit dwells in us – then we have that joy in us and it is available to access. And perhaps that is the “hard part” we talked about in our previous article. How do I access that joy, that peace, that patience etc.?

That leads us to our second activity, pray continually. And just how are we to do that? In the book of Proverbs 3:6 we read, “In all your ways acknowledge Him.” Wow, that is not an easy task either. The words, “In all”, kind of stops us in our tracks don’t they? But remember, those things that are most valuable are most often the hardest things to accomplish. One does not just sit down at a piano and start playing a difficult

NEW SUMMER BUSINESS IN TOWN

A new creative space is taking shape in Elk Horn for the summer months. Ærø Arts, a curated artisan consignment shop dedicated to showcasing the work of local and regional artists, opens May 22nd and is located at 4105 Union Street inside the Back Alley Cuts building (formerly The Nest Egg). The shop will feature a collection of handmade goods, fine art, and unique pieces for shoppers who appreciate meaningful and thoughtfully made pieces.

Jody and Alissa LaCanne chose the name, Ærø Arts, after the island of Ærø in Denmark, which is known for its artisanal scene, colorful beach huts, and fairytale charm.

We’d love for you to stop in and discover a gift for yourself or a friend while supporting artists, dreamers, and small businesses alike. You can follow us on social media for sneak peeks of the artisans whose work will soon fill the shelves. Or reach out to us if you’re seeking a consignment space... we love meeting new artisans that would be a perfect fit for our little shop.

Find Aero Arts on Facebook for more.

insures proper coverage without overspray costing extra or causing problems with crops in adjacent fields. We can use drones to check on crop conditions saving the farmer the time it takes to make that check on foot. Science can guide our decisions on how much crop residue should be left in the field. For that can help prevent erosion of the topsoil or even help replenishing it. Or would it be more beneficial to plant a cover crop? It would not only help avoid erosion but help retain any used nutrients left over from the cash crop. And add vegetable matter to the soil.

If you are raising organic crops, science can be even more important to your success. It can propose what would be the best crop rotation to follow for maintaining soil health. Often organic farming is used for alternative cash crops such as fruits and vegetables. It can inform the farmer of crops that can be grown together like beans and sweet corn. Botanists know what species to raise in the fence rows. Because many native plants become hosts to beneficial insects. Some have bright flowers that attract bees and other species that pollenate the crops. Some attract parasitic wasps that feed on plant pest. Others are just so attractive to some pests that they serve as sacrificial lures drawing the pests away from crops . And some serve as to naturally repel unwanted insects. Scientific methods allow us to be best informed about the critical decisions that determine our success in this ever changing world.

sonata. One must practice (and fail) and practice (and fail) and then, practice some more.

When we are learning to pray continually (or even to pray more often) we must practice. The effort we expend on this endeavor will help us to walk closer to our Father and His Son. The more closely we walk with Him the more joy will be in our hearts. (Remember, true joy comes from within, from our innermost being and does not depend on outward events).

Once we begin to practice praying and then find that joy within our hearts, we can begin to give thanks to our Father in Heaven in all circumstances!

Simply stated, we must begin with prayer which will lead to the joy of intimacy with the Father, and that joy will result in giving thanks. Yes it is simple but it is not easy. We forget. We find our thoughts flying in every which direction. The adversary tries to steal our time and misdirect our efforts. But just like playing the piano or painting a picture or hitting a golf ball straight, it takes practice.

I once worked for a man who use to say, ”Practice does not make perfect; only perfect practice makes perfect,” and toward that perfection, our Heavenly Father will lead us if we come to Him again and again asking for His help, rejoicing in His help and being grateful for His help. God is for us and desires that we succeed in such a precious venture. We then shall be working inside His will for us and we shall be pleasing Him. Joy, prayer and thanksgiving; Paul has given to us a working model!



TIVOLI ENCORE

SUNDAY

MAY 24

BREAKFAST BUFFET AT HYGGE INN
8:00 - 11:00AM
Catered by Master Griller Catering

TOUR DE TIVOLI FUN(D) RIDE
26-mile bike ride to Prairie Rose & Kimballton
Proceeds benefitting Danish Windmill's
campaign for new millstones

EHLCH OUTDOOR SUNDAY SERVICE
Outdoor service held at Morning Star Chapel
outside the windmill
Service moved back to EHLCH if raining

LIVE VIKING BATTLE
Live viking performers at Danish Windmill

FREE WINDMILL TOURS ALL DAY

VIEW FULL FESTIVAL SCHEDULE AT

WWW.TIVOLIFEST.COM