

MAY 2026

The Northern Star

North Star Community Services



Hot Off the Press...from 3420

A Look Back: Visitors, outings, and everything in between—April was a great month! Brandon Libby and Nacir Meikle from KWWL visited us to talk about all things weather and Beck Orchards was also here for an apple presentation. Rydell also came by and showed us how to check the oil in a car! We visited the UNI Botanical Garden, John Deere Museum, Hurts Donuts to decorate a donut, and the UNI Science Lab where we got to pet an alligator! Pet Pals visited us and we always enjoy seeing Luka! Trips to the park and a visit to Hansen's Dairy and the Cedar City Creamery were also fun outings. We volunteered at the food pantry, enjoyed seeing our friends from Camp Courageous, and ended the month with a "Dancing With the North Stars" event with Allen OT students. SO much fun! We also started a 6 week program called "My WellBeing"...focusing on Social/Emotional Wellbeing, Financial Wellbeing, Physical Wellbeing, and taking part in a service project.

Looking Ahead: With swimming around the corner, the Sportsplex will visit us in May to talk about water safety. We will take a trip to the Evansdale Police/Fire Station for a tour, Heartland Acres in Independence, mini golfing at Palmers, and Livingston Aviation to see a small airplane! The Swartdogs Robotics Team will stop by and show us their latest robots which we are very excited for! Garden in Every Lot will help put some touches on our garden as well. Another day we will visit KWAY Radio Station and also do a "mock trial" at the BlackHawk County Courthouse. The Cedar Falls Public Library will also host us for some stories read by the librarian. We always have a great time there! Looking forward to warm weather, being outdoors, and lots of fun!



THE SCOOP...from Newel Post

A Look Back: In April, we had our client council meeting, watched funny animal videos, played Yahtzee and Kings Corner, and did a clothespin planter craft. They turned out really neat! We learned about the Titanic, Civil War, Michael J. Fox, the Field of Dreams, and Famous Brothers. Talking about baseball was also on the agenda as well as learning facts about Autism. We talked about Babe Ruth, played “Would You Rather” , and learned about the history of cotton candy. Lots learned and lots of fun!

Looking Ahead: Our May calendar is already full! We will play Family Feud, tie dye shirts, have a spelling bee, bake cookies, and make a trip to Hickory Hills for a picnic. Sara, our North Star Nurse, will stop by for Nurses’ Day too! We also plan to play ping pong, talk about inventions, visit an Amish Bakery, sing karaoke, and stop by the record store in Cedar Falls. Cinco De Mayo Day is also on the schedule. Another day, we will make Mother’s Day cards, have an ice cream social, play corn hole, learn about the Golden Gate Bridge, and go bowling! Discovering “strange things” in Iowa is also on the calendar as well as learning about Glen Cambell. And something we have been waiting for—our first cookout of the year! The warm months are off to a great start!



This Just In...from Canterbury

A Look Back: We enjoyed April! We had duck races with our UNI friends, enjoyed music with Christy, learned about Shirley Temple, and played marbles, reminiscing about children's games. Camp Courageous stopped by with a rabbit and guinea pig which was a lot of fun! We also went on a virtual tour of Chile. Our My Wellbeing Program kicked off and we are already enjoying that! Rhythm sticks was also something we tried and will definitely do again! Another day we learned about beavers and enjoyed root beer floats and different flavored pretzels.

Looking Ahead: The May calendar looks to keep us busy! The Anway's will entertain us with some Rock 'n Roll music and a visitor will stop by with her saxophone. Our UNI friends will make May Day baskets with us and we will also make greeting cards. With the Kentucky Derby, we will have our very own horse races which should be a good time! We will talk about Star Wars, have a little show 'n tell, learn about Astronomy, and take a travelogue to Guatemala. ISU will be back to continue our My Wellbeing class as well. Happy May!

CONSUMER COLUMN

I went to Cedar City Creamery. We ate some ice cream and looked at the lakes. It was pretty cool. I got raspberry flavor burst. We had a party at North Star. We got to dance and sing!

I liked putting together the 3D Pokemon puzzle. We learned about Disney. I learned about Puerto Rico. I learned that Pedro Pascal is from there. I did not know that. He played Din Djarin in the Mandalorian.

I went to the Food Bank to volunteer this month. I went to the UNI Science place and my favorite part was seeing the alligators. We had a party with the Allen students. We danced and did crafts. We had drinks and popcorn. This month I learned about self advocacy. This is how you advocate for yourself in situations.

This month, we went to two parks. One park was in Cedar Falls, the Place to Play Park. We baked No Bake Cookies and they were good. We had a party and made crown hats. We danced!

***Photography and Column
by Consumers***

