
The Informer

April 28, 2023

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Montie Redenius is the New MRA President-Elect

As the result of his offer and the Mayflower Residents Association Executive Committee's subsequent election, Montie Redenius is your new MRA President-Elect.

Montie and his wife Suzanne have lived in their Watertower Square apartment since October 2015 when they moved from their Grinnell home. They have lived in Grinnell 68 years.

After serving 32 years with Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company, Montie retired as Senior Vice-President. A Lake City, Iowa native, he holds an AA from Oklahoma State University and a BA from the University of Iowa.

Upon retirement, Montie served as Administrative Assistant at Grinnell's First Presbyterian Church. In the community, he has been a Bucket Course presenter and an active Kiwanian, and he has volunteered as a Mayflower Lester the Bus driver. Possibly, Montie's most important volunteer gift to Grinnell was his thoughtful service as a Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) counselor on behalf of the Iowa Insurance Department.

Best wishes to you, Montie.

Gerry Guenther, MRA President

The Mayflower apparel shop closes **today at 10am!** [Use this link to view options and to place your order.](#)



Dr. Leah Uthe Offers Audiology Services to Mayflower Residents

Dr. Leah Uthe, AU.D., CCC-A is a Des Moines based audiologist who sees residents of the Mayflower Community as patients in the Mayflower Integrated Health Clinic, located on the second floor of the Health Center, 600 Park Street, Grinnell.

An Iowa native, Dr. Uthe has merged her services with Kayser Hearing. Her passion for helping others in need led her to a B.A. in Communications Sciences and Disorders in 2009 and her Doctorate in Audiology in 2016 from the University of South Dakota, Vermillion.

Dr. Uthe has experience with diagnostic hearing testing, hearing aids and protection, tinnitus, and aural rehabilitation services. She designs individualized treatment plans, working with multiple hearing aid manufacturers.

Dr. Uthe will be on the Mayflower campus the second Tuesday afternoon of each month. She accepts most insurances. To schedule an appointment, please have your insurance information available when you call 515-264-8416.

-Kellie McGriff, Mayflower Associate Director/Administrator



ATM Scam

The scammers have to stay creative to make a living....a rich living! See the latest ploy, quoting from the *Rossen Reports Newsletter* and published online by *The Des Moines Register* April 21, 2023:

A new ATM scam targeting seniors is popping up across the country. The FBI is sending out this urgent warning to be careful when you're withdrawing money. How does this new scam work?

You go into the ATM vestibule, put in your bank card, and enter your

PIN. A stranger comes up behind you, watches you enter your code and drops a couple of dollars on the ground. They'll tap you on the shoulder and say you've dropped the cash.

When you lean down to pick it up, the scammer steals your card out of the machine and replaces it with a fake one. They'll then take off with your card and withdraw a ton of cash from another ATM.

How do you protect yourself? Police say, try to avoid using an ATM alone. If you can, bring someone with you. If that's not an option, look to see if anyone is lingering around and wait until they leave to go into the space.

Also, whenever using an ATM, use your body to shield the keypad so no one can get behind you to see your PIN. Always stay vigilant at the ATM, never get distracted by someone.

-Bob Mann, Mayflower Sales & Marketing Director

Lyceums



Lyceum Programs
Thursday Evenings, 7:00pm
Carman Center

May 4th: T.B.D.

May 11th: Calle Sur

May 18th: The Grasshoppers

May 25th: Too Many String Band

-Bob Butterfield, Events Committee Chair

Enjoyable Lyceum Entertainment at
Mayflower

Two recent Lyceum presentations in The Mayflower Community were fun and

engaging. Lyceum is the Thursday evening program sponsored by the Mayflower Residents Association that features entertainment for residents. The fare is usually music of some sort.



On April 13th, Kent Mick, a Grinnell High School history teacher, and Kevin Boehnke, an Iowa City songwriter and performer, presented a program of song and guitar. The repertoire consisted of familiar songs, original songs, poems, storytelling, and, according to Kevin, “poorly executed jokes.” The two established a great rapport with the audience whom they encouraged to join in the fun.

Kent Mick comes from a musical family. He began performing music at a young age and then paused his performing until later in his life. Mick began a band with Kevin Boehnke 12 years ago and the two have been writing and playing music together ever since.

Kevin Boehnke (pronounced benk-y) is originally from Ventura, Iowa. He has been performing across the Midwest for over eight years and has collaborated with musicians worldwide. His music is influenced by folk, pop, rock, and blues. Kevin Boehnke primarily played guitar but mixed in some trumpet solos.



On April 20th, nine members of the Grinnell College Zimbabwean Mbira Ensemble presented a bit of African culture as they played their mbira inside the gourd sound boxes and accompanied it with singing. This type of instrument, sometimes called a “thumb piano,” is thousands of years old.

Ensemble director, Tony Perman, PhD, Grinnell College Associate Professor and Music Department Chair, presented the history and background about the music they played. It is ceremonial in nature, which Tony described as one part church, one part family reunion, and one part party. The music is “circular” and rhythmic and can go on for however long they want to play.

The residents who attended were so intrigued with the instruments

and the sounds that Tony invited them to come to the dais to more closely observe the playing and to ask questions. Talk about fun.

Leslie Jaworski, Community Life and Wellness Director

Mayflower Residents Enjoy Gospel Music

On April 14th, Larry Eugene Stevens performed for Mayflower residents in the Carman Center. He is a travelling gospel singer and guitarist. For the last 18 years he has devoted his life to sharing his gifts with residents in senior living facilities. That includes a number of Mayflower engagements prior to the pandemic. Larry's home is a "campervan," which is the fourth such vehicle in those 18 years. [His website here.](#)



-Tracy Woolfolk, Community Life and Wellness Coordinator



MET OPERA

Grinnell College offers the Metropolitan Opera Live in HD at the Harris Cinema, 1114 – 10th Avenue. Ticket holders are asked to be in their seats 10 minutes before opening time.

Saturday, April 29th
Champion by Terence Blanchard
12:55am
[Click here for details.](#)

Saturday, May 20th
Don Giovanni by Mozart
12:55pm

For more information about the [Met Opera series, go here.](#)

-Bob Mann, Mayflower Sales & Marketing Director

MRA Forum
“The New Grinnell History Museum”
Michael Guenther and Ann Igoe
Tuesday, May 9, 2023. 2:00-3:30pm. Kiesel
Theatre



The Grinnell Historical Museum is a non-profit organization with the mission to preserve and share the history of Grinnell through artifacts. The Board of Trustees are all volunteers. President Michael Guenther and member Ann Igoe, a Mayflower resident, will present the May Forum program about the Museum’s current initiatives.

In addition to Board members, volunteers provide tours, conduct research, assemble exhibits, host outreach programs, and share their impressive knowledge of Grinnell history with the community. The Museum is funded by community donations, occasional grants for special projects, and interest earned on an endowment at the Greater Poweshiek Community Foundation.

Besides Mike and Ann, other Board members include Frank Shults, Vice President; Jackie Stoakes, Secretary; Sherry Wallace, Treasurer; Bruck Blankenfeld; Doug Cameron (Mayflower resident); Scott Gruhn (Mayflower Director of Facilities and Operations); Allison Haack; Bill Hammen; Barb Lease (resident); Felicity Meads; Rita Mertens; Cheryl Neubert; and Debbie Pohlson.

-Bob Butterfield, MRA Events Committee Chair

RESIDENT NEWS

90th Birthday Open House for Marilyn Schuler

Sunday, May 7th. 2:00-4:00pm. Buckley Dining Room. All are invited. No gifts, please.

The next **Wine and Cheese** event will be **Friday, April 28 (today!), 2023. 4:30-5:30pm.** Buckley Dining Room. Come and enjoy Mayflower resident conversation...and refreshments!

The Racing Goose at Mayflower?



Mayflower Community resident, Patty Johnson, thought it was pretty unusual to see a goose ambling around in her Harwich Terrace patio home front yard. That was before the recent spate of rain, so we couldn't have looked like a welcoming marsh!

I have another theory. It is possible that it was the same goose who crashed the 14th Annual Kansas City half-marathon on April 13th, and the goose was looking for a place up north to cool off after the race. See this YouTube video of the race-flapping goose participant: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BNqrF-tUOrY>.

-Bob Mann, Mayflower Sales & Marketing Director

Armchair Travels Mayflower's Kiesel Theatre 2:00pm on Thursdays

Below are the upcoming virtual "trips."

May 4th

U.S., Iowa, Guatemala to Algona
U.S., Florida, Goliath Grouper

May 11th

U.S., Kentucky, Coal Mining
U.S., Florida, Research Station

May 18th

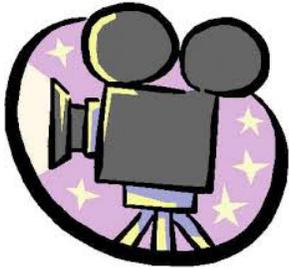
Australia, Queensland
U.S., Florida, Deep Coral

May 25th

U.S., Alaska, Jim Crow Laws
U.S., Alaska, the 49th State



-Shane Estes, Resident



April 29th: *Rebecca* (1940). After a whirlwind romance, mysterious widower Maxim de Winter (Laurence Olivier) brings his shy, young bride (Joan Fontaine) home to his imposing estate, Manderley. But she finds her married life dominated by the sinister influence of Maxim's late wife, the brilliant, beautiful Rebecca, who seems to still rule Manderley and Maxim from beyond the grave. Black & White. PG. 131 minutes. English subtitles.

May 6th: *The Dish* (2001). Based on a true story. A 1,000-ton satellite dish in tiny, sheep-farming Parkes, Australia will beam the historic first step on the moon. But, as giddy citizens prepare for the moment when the entire world will depend on them, the dish flatlines. And its unconventional Aussie crew and its by-the-book NASA supervisor from the U.S. have quite different ideas about how to fix it. Stars Sam Neill and Patrick Warburton. PG-13. 101 minutes. English subtitles.

May 13th: *High Society* (1956). Heir Tracy Lord (Grace Kelly) is engaged to one man (John Lund), attracted to another (Frank Sinatra) and, just maybe, in love again with her ex-husband (Bing Crosby) in this effervescent musical reinvention of Philip Barry's play, *The Philadelphia Story*. Cole Porter's delightful score is featured. Not Rated. 111 minutes. English subtitles.

May 20th: *Finding Your Feet* (2018). When Sandra Abbott (Imelda Staunton) discovers that her husband of forty years is having an affair with her best friend, she seeks refuge in London with her estranged, older sister Bif (Celia Imrie). The two could not be more different. Sandra is a fish out of water next to her outspoken, serial-dating, free-spirited sibling. But different is just what Sandra needs at the moment, and she reluctantly lets Bif drag her along to a community dance class, where she starts finding her feet. A "feel-good romantic comedy." PG-13. 111 minutes. English subtitles.

May 27th: *Elizabethtown* (2005). Orlando Bloom stars as Drew Baylor, a hot-shot designer whose life becomes completely unraveled when he loses his father and his job on one fateful day. En route to Elizabethtown to visit his family, Drew meets Claire (Kirsten Dunst). She's beautiful, irresistibly positive, and just the gal to guide

Drew on his journey back home and to teach him what it means to live and love along the way. Elizabethtown is “an amazing trip of love, loss and laughter.” PG-13. 123 minutes. English subtitles.

Booklist

The War Girls by V.S. Alexander
The Phantom Atlas by Edward Brooke-Hitching
Worse Than Nothings by Erwin Chemerinsky
I Will Find You by Harlan Coban
The Measure by Nikki Erlick
The Other Bennet Sister by Janice Hadlow
Saved by Benjamin Hall
Flying Solo by Linda Homes
Flight Behavior by Barbara Kingsolver
Empire of Ice and Stone by Buddy Levy
Devotions by Mary Oliver
The White Lady by Jacqueline Winspear

Book Reviews

Sea of Tranquility **by Emily St. John Mandel**

Sea of Tranquility is a novel of time travel and metaphysics by Emily St. John Mandel. Edwin St. Andrew is 18 years old when he crosses the Atlantic by steamship, exiled from polite English society following an ill-conceived diatribe at a dinner party. He enters the Canadian forest wilderness and hears the notes of a violin echoing in an airship terminal.

Two centuries later a famous writer is on a book tour. Within the text of her bestselling pandemic novel lies a strange passage: A man plays his violin in the echoing corridor of an airship terminal as the trees of a forest rise around him. When Gaspary Roberts, a hotel detective in the black-skied Night City, is hired to investigate an anomaly in the North American wilderness, he uncovers a series of lives upended. Gaspary has glimpsed the chance to do something extraordinary that will disrupt the timeline of the universe.

-Member of MRA Library Committee

The Other Bennet Sister **by Janice Hadlow**

The Other Bennet Sister joins a long list of books that imagine the further adventures of characters from Jane Austen's beloved *Pride and Prejudice*. The author of this 2020 entry to the genre, a British journalist, does an especially skillful job of reproducing the cadences of early Nineteenth Century prose and speech, so that readers might almost mistake it for something written by Jane herself, if it weren't for faint overtones of Twenty-First Century feminism.

The other Bennet sister in the title is Mary, the middle daughter of the five, the serious, bookish girl who wears spectacles, plays the piano competently but woodenly, and can be counted on to drop moralizing comments into any conversation. With her total lack of social graces, Mary is a perfect foil for the wit, charm, and sparkle of her older sister, Elizabeth.

The first section of the book revisits scenes familiar to readers of *Pride and Prejudice*, but from Mary's perspective, and we start to gain some sympathy for Mary and some insight into how she came to play her unenviable role the Bennet family dynamics. The second section of the book opens soon after the untimely death of her father, Mr. Bennet.

The other four sisters have all found husbands, and Mary resides uncomfortably as a guest of her married sisters, going from one house to another to escape the sharp tongue of her mother. Soon her clergyman cousin, Mr. Collins, makes his appearance, as does his wife, her former neighbor, Charlotte Lucas, who now presides over Longbourn, Mary's childhood home.

After an encounter with the formidable Lady Catherine de Bourgh, it seems that Mary may be doomed to become a governess and live out her days as an old maid. But never fear, gentle reader! Rescue comes in the form of an invitation to visit with her aunt and uncle Gardiner in London, and we can be sure that Mary will eventually reach the marriage altar, though not without her share of missteps and misadventures along the way.

-Member of MRA Library Committee

These two worship opportunities are offered by the Mayflower Residents Association Spiritual Life Committee:

Weekly Devotions. Tuesdays. 11:00 – 11:40am. Carman Center. Prayer; scripture; stories. Relax; reflect; renew. Leader: Rev. Bonnie Lipton. No registration required.

Weekly Bible Study. Thursdays. 11:00 – 12:00 noon. Health Center Fireside Room (2nd floor). Leader: Rev. Anne Sunday. If attending for the first time, please sign up with Anne at 319-290-9171 or revsunday1@yahoo.com.

-Pat Lipton, MRA Spiritual Life Committee Chair

Residents' Birthdays

Loren Kolpin on April 29th
Janet Ferguson on May 1st
Nancy Baumgartner on May 4th
Dot Anderson on May 5th
Sig Barber on May 5th
Susan Glenn on May 5th
Gayle Strickler, Jr. on May 7th
Wilma Graden on May 8th
Sandy Moffett on May 9th
Wayne Glenn on May 10th
Jean Carpenter on May 13th
Jim Ferguson on May 14th
Marilyn Schuler on May 15th

Informer Publication Schedule

Submission deadline: May 5th for publication May 12th
Submission deadline: May 19th for publication May 26th
Submission deadline: June 2nd for publication June 9th
Submission deadline: June 16th for publication June 23rd

Submission deadline: June 30th for publication July 7th

Find more of *The Informer* online [here!](#)



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