

Outdoor Encounters

Submitted by Nathan Bolls

Let's hope that most wild organisms survived the human-based wonder and chaos of December. What must they have thought when all manner of lighted globes and twinkling lights were strung here and there, when conifers became technicolor. Surely the creatures noticed that large groups of humans gathered in certain buildings, and large colorful windows glowed from lights within. Surely they noticed that instead of calling back and forth to each other, those inside made various strung-out group sounds. And surely the creatures lacked any sense of the warmth and hope that filled the minds and hearts of humans gathered within. Surely the wild ones had to adjust while trying to live in a habitat much brighter than usual?

What must they have thought during **that one particular night** when it was more dicey than usual to cross one of those hard-surfaced trails that humans seem to prefer, when having to deal with an increased number of drivers whose eyes and reflexes were dimmed by alcohol. That time was even more dangerous than the five-times-each-week when after-work humans rat race toward home, gym, bar, or wherever.

And, during that one particular night, in the middle of that night—always the same night, always the same time—THAT

song rolls out across prairie hills and valleys from the dens of assembled humans. THAT song always is accompanied by much glass clinking, by what seems to be a kind of clumsy nose rubbing, and sometimes with noisy fireworks.

The rollicking party noises, and later, noises from racing and colliding cars, served both to awaken animals trying to rest and to frighten prey away from hungry night hunters. Although relatively few birds hunt or feed in the dark, many mammals are active at night.

Let's hope that wise wild mothers warned their young that the absolute worst time to be caught crossing one of those hard-surfaced trails is after the madness dies down, the den doors open, and cars begin to weave, wobble, and careen from parking lots.

Although strong arguments have been put forth that many animals know the sense of joy, I doubt that many, if any, grasp the concept of "collective celebration." But perhaps they did wonder what those nights were all about. After all, for most living organisms, every tomorrow is just another day in the never-ending search for adequate food, water, and shelter—and just another time for vigilance against becoming someone's next meal. Who has time to party?



Cowboys & Quartet

Date set for Winter Ball 2018

Submitted by Monte Spiller

It's that time again for Meadowlark's annual Winter Ball! The 2018 event is set for Friday, Jan. 26, from 6 to 9 p.m. in the Community Center, including the Community Room, Game Room and Prairie Star Restaurant.

This year's theme is *Cowboys and Quartet*. You're invited to dress the part in your best formal attire or dance the night away in your boots and jeans! The Community Room will be transformed into a elegant ballroom, while Prairie Star welcomes you to the *Ranch in the Hills*. All residents and staff are invited to attend.

The evening will include music provided by the Wakim Jazz Quartet in the Community Room and Dillon Ray & Lucas in Prairie Star Restaurant beginning at 6 p.m. in both locations. You have the opportunity to mingle between both areas throughout the night and enjoy heavy appetizers catered by Prairie Star Restaurant. No registration is required for this free event. You may come and go as you please.

Get ready for a elegant yee-haw of a time at the 2018 Winter Ball! Please contact Monte at 323-3801 with questions.

January Birthdays

Healthcare

1/3 Anna Imel
 1/9 Lois Jensen
 1/12 Joe Grantham
 1/13 Liz Carter
 1/20 Elsie Brazelton
1/23 Mary Schroeder
1/23 Barbara Mhyre
 1/27 Ila Pultz

Independent Living

1/1 Norma Larson
 1/3 Jo Call
 1/4 Joe Anne Moore
 1/5 Ruth Wells
 1/5 Edie Jorns
 1/5 Eldon Hageman
 1/6 Edith Chaput
1/9 Ivan Tompkins
 1/12 Don Marks
 1/13 Rae Stamey
 1/13 Anna Walsh
 1/14 Robert Reeves
 1/20 Pat Niernberger
 1/20 Scharm Schrock
 1/21 Ed Skidmore
 1/26 Bob Smith
 1/29 John Schlender
 1/30 Betty Campbell
 1/30 Theda Loehr

***Bold denotes
 milestone birthday of
 80, 90, 100 or 100+***

Sound system install

The sound system in the Community Room is set to be updated and improved next week.

Redi Systems will be on the Meadowlark campus Tuesday, Jan. 9, through Wednesday, Jan. 10, to install the new system. This will affect all activities scheduled in the Community Room.

Exercise classes are canceled for Tuesday and Wednesday. Coffee Corner will meet in the Kansas Room & Pub and Game Room at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 9.

Please contact Monte Spiller, Resident Services Leader, at 323-3801 with questions.

Employees

1/5 Madison Cunningham
 1/5 Lenita Glanzer
 1/6 Wanda Allen
 1/8 Kelsey Grindstaff
 1/9 Michelle Brown
 1/9 Tamara Corral
 1/12 Jessica Breland
 1/12 Gabrielle Huerta
 1/13 Tamera Garibay
 1/14 Chris Wataha
 1/15 Hannah Upshaw
 1/15 Camille Whiteside
 1/17 Ayana Hall
 1/19 Thatcher Dammon
 1/19 Janee Kassanavoid
 1/19 Nguyen Pham
 1/19 Tesha Washington
 1/20 Mackenzie Penny
 1/23 Haley Carr
 1/23 Chantzi Unruh
 1/27 Trent Arnold
 1/27 Julie Crabb
 1/27 Chris Jensen
 1/27 Nyssa McElfresh
 1/28 Lori DeMint
 1/30 Megan Chase
 1/30 Janell Huffaker
 1/31 Erika DuVall
 1/31 Ashley Moore
 1/31 Janelle Sparkman

Line Dancing

Thursday, Jan. 4, at 7 p.m.

Line Dancing meets at 7 p.m. today, Jan. 4, in the Community Room and will feature a line dance lesson to Copperhead Road. No prior sign up is necessary. The final session of Line Dancing will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9.

Music with Chelsea Coon

Friday, Jan. 5, at 7 p.m.

On Friday, Jan. 5, at 7 p.m., Meadowlark welcomes singer/pianist Chelsea Coon to the Community Room!

Chelsea started playing piano at the age of seven and continued her passion for music taking lessons and singing at church as often as possible. Come out and enjoy a fun evening of good music!

Vespers Services

Sunday, Jan. 7, at 7 p.m.

The Vespers services will be led by the First Presbyterian Church. Vespers service will begin at 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 7, in the Community Room. All are welcome.

Associated Audiologists

Wednesday, Jan. 10, at 1:30 p.m.

Sarah Schotte, Au.D., FAAA, audiologist with Associated Audiologists, will see patients in the West Conference Room from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 10.

Appointments are required. To schedule an appointment with Dr. Schotte, please call (785) 539-7361.

Artist Discussion with the Beach

Wednesday, Jan. 10, at 6:30 p.m.

You're invited to join Kim Richards from the Beach Museum of Art for a discussion on Anna Ancher. The group will meet at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 10, in the KSU Classroom. All who are interested are welcome to attend.

Resident Focus Group

Thursday, Jan. 11, at 10 a.m.

The Resident Focus Group will meet at 10 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 11, in the KSU Classroom. This session will be hosted by Brook Marcotte, Dining Services Leader. Brook is responsible for oversight of

Verna Belle's Café, the Kansas Room & Pub, the front of house operations in Prairie Star Restaurant and special events. All who are interested in learning more about Brook and the Dining Services team are invited to attend. No prior sign up is required.

Meadowlark Ladies Luncheon

Thursday, Jan. 11, at noon

The January 11 meeting of the Meadowlark Ladies Luncheon will be hosted by Karen Trail and Yvonne Crawford at noon (please note the time change!) in the Manhattan Room at Meadowlark Hills.

For the January luncheon, we are planning a group discussion about your favorite holiday family tradition. This will include any holiday in the year.

Our menu will be a cup of tomato soup, grilled cheese and bacon sandwich on whole wheat bread, potato chips and a pickle. Dessert will be a scoop of swiss chocolate almond ice cream. If you are able to attend, be sure to sign up in the Blue Book at the Hospitality Desk.

Hymn Sing-a-long

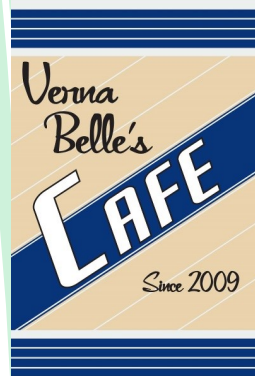
Friday, Jan. 12, at 7 p.m.

Join IL resident Karen Trail and friends for an all-campus sing-a-long at 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 12, in the Community Room. Join the group for an opportunity to hear and sing a variety of familiar Sunday songs. We will sing songs from older song books and will ask the audience to call out some titles that you especially like. All are welcome!

Schedule change, Ambassadors

Tuesday, Jan. 16, at 3 p.m.

The next Meadowlark Ambassadors' meeting has been rescheduled to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 16, in the West Conference Room. We would love to grow our group, so all interested individuals are encouraged to attend the meeting and learn more about the Ambassador group. If you have questions, please contact Jana at 323-3890.



LUNCH SPECIALS

Monday to Friday, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday, 7 to 11 a.m.

Monday, Jan. 8

Turkey Cranberry Panini with Choice of Side turkey, swiss cheese & cranberry sauce on butter-toasted white or wheat bread
\$3.99 / \$5.99

Tuesday, Jan. 9

Bratwurst with Baked Beans & Chips
grilled bratwurst on a hotdog bun served with baked beans & chips
\$3.99 / \$5.99

Wednesday, Jan. 10

Napa Valley Chicken Salad Sandwich with Side shredded chicken, grapes, pecans & celery in a creamy dressing on toasted wheatberry bread
\$3.99 / \$5.99

Thursday, Jan. 11

BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich with Cheesy Potatoes shredded pork and bbq sauce on a toasted hamburger bun with cheesy potatoes
\$5.99

Friday, Jan. 12

Bierock with Choice of Side ground beef, onions & cabbage baked inside a flaky biscuit crust
\$5.99

PRAIRIE★STAR RESTAURANT

Restaurant Hours
Monday to Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Sunday, 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

All specials include beverage, starter and dessert.
 An extra vegetable can be substituted for the starch at no additional charge.
 The restaurant can accept up to four reservation per time, depending on party size.
 Reservations can be made in person or by calling 323-3820.

SUNDAY	Jan. 7 ~ Lunch \$12	Dinner \$11
	Baked Cornflake Ranch Chicken Swiss & Green Onion Scalloped Potatoes Vegetable du Jour	Ham & Beans Cornbread Vegetable du Jour
MONDAY	Jan. 8 ~ Lunch \$10	Dinner \$11
	Steamed Brats French Fries Choice of Vegetable	Chicken Tetrazzini Garlic Toast Vegetable du Jour
TUESDAY	Jan. 9 ~ Lunch \$8	Dinner \$12
	Fajita Bar <i>(does not include drink, starter, or dessert)</i>	Parmesan-Crusted Pork Chop Ranch Roasted Red Potatoes Vegetable du Jour
WED.	Jan. 10 ~ Lunch \$10	Dinner \$12
	BBQ Brisket Sandwich Coleslaw Baked Beans	Meatloaf Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Vegetable du Jour
THURS.	Jan. 11 ~ Lunch \$8	Dinner \$12
	Baked Potato & Sweet Potato Bar <i>(does not include drink, starter, or dessert)</i>	Beef Stew Garlic Toast Vegetable du Jour
FRIDAY	Jan. 12 ~ Lunch \$10	Dinner \$12
	Gumbo Cornbread Choice of Vegetable	Stewed Chicken Balsamic Wild Rice Vegetable du Jour
SAT.	Jan. 13 ~ Lunch \$10	Dinner \$14
	Ham & Cheese Quiche Rice Pilaf Choice of Vegetable	Shrimp Scampi Rice Vegetable du Jour

DRINK SPECIAL | Tom Collins
 1 oz. Lemon Juice, 1.5 oz. Beefeater Gin & 2 oz. Tonic Water
 \$3.75

Grosh Cinema Movies

Sunday, Jan. 7, to Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018

Show Times: 1, 4 and 7 p.m., Monday – Saturday / 2 and 6 p.m., Sunday

Sunday, Jan. 7 — Boss Baby (2017)

A kid finds himself at the center of a sinister corporate plot when his parents bring him home a baby who only talks business when they're not around.

Co-Starring: Alec Baldwin, Lisa Kudrow, Jimmy Kimmel, Steve Buscemi & Miles Bakshi

Rated PG; 1 hr. 37 min.

Monday, Jan. 8 While You Were Sleeping (1995)

Sandra Bullock plays a transit worker who rescues a handsome commuter, then pretends to be the comatose man's fiancée while falling for his brother.

Co-Starring: Sandra Bullock, Bill Pullman, Peter Gallagher, Peter Boyle & Jack Warden

Rated PG; 1 hr. 43 min.

Tuesday, Jan. 9— Lassie Come Home (1943)

After falling on hard times, the parents of Joe Carraclough left with no choice but to put his adored dog, Lassie, up for sale. The dog is bought by the Duke of Rudling and looked after by his granddaughter Priscilla. Although his new owners are nice, Lassie keeps escaping in order to find his way back to Joe, helped along by farmer Dolly and handyman Rowlie.

Rated G; 1 hr. 29 min.

Wednesday, Jan. 10— Crossfire Trail (2001)

At his dying friend's side, Rafe Covington vows he'll take care of his buddy's wife, Ann, and protect her ranch. But Rafe's solemn promise angers cattle baron Bruce Barkow who's threatening Ann and other townsfolk in an effort to acquire their property. As the time for Rafe's clash with Barkow draws closer, Rafe also struggles with his feelings for Ann.

Co-Starring: Tom Selleck, Mark Harmon & Barry Corbin

Rated NR; 1 hr. 35 min.

Thursday, Jan. 11— The Internship (2013)

Two out-of-work salesmen, lacking the digital-savvy skills they need to find jobs, sign on as interns at a high-tech company. While their new assignment may give them the training they need, it also means staying one step ahead of their ignorance.

Co-Starring: Vince Vaughn, Owen Wilson & Rose Byrne

Rated PG-13; 1 hr. 59 min.

Friday, Jan. 12 — Bringing Down the House (2003)

When lonely, divorced lawyer Peter decides to spice up his life with a little online romance, he gets much more than he bargained for in the form of feisty prison inmate named Charlene.

Co-Starring: Steve Martin, Queen Latifah & Eugene Levy

Rated PG-13; 1 hr. 45 min.

Saturday, Jan. 13— The Money Pit (1986)

An up-and-coming entertainment lawyer and his yuppie girlfriend set out to renovate their dream house, only to be plagued by her ex-husband, an unscrupulous construction firm and the house's crumbling structure.

Co-Starring: Tom Hanks, Shelley Long & Alexander Godunov

Rated PG; 1 hr. 31 min.

Weekly Opportunities Calendar *Jan. 7- Jan. 13*

Sunday • January 7

Breakfast at Verna Belle's—Omelets with Fruit
 9:00 a.m. ~ Miller Worship Service, MFR
 10:00 a.m. ~ Worship Service, CR
 2:00 p.m. ~ Wroten Worship Service, WL
 7:00 p.m. ~ Vespers with the First Presbyterian Church, CR

Monday • January 8

Breakfast at Verna Belle's—Biscuits & Sausage Gravy
 8:30 a.m. ~ IL Resident Council, KSU CL
 9:30 a.m. ~ Town Hall Meeting, CR
 11:00 a.m. ~ Sit & Be Fit, CR
 11:00 a.m. ~ St. Luke's Communion, TR
 11:30 a.m. ~ Meadowlark Valley Luncheon, LR
 12:00 p.m. ~ Weights 101, CR
 12:00 p.m. ~ Yoga, KSU CL
 12:00 p.m. ~ 1st Pres. Men's Luncheon, MR
 1:00 p.m. ~ Parkinson's Exercise Class, CR
 1:00 p.m. ~ Blood Pressure & Responder Clinic, GR
 1:30 p.m. ~ Hearing Aid Doctor, WCR
 3:30 p.m. ~ MLH Singers Practice, CR
 5:30 p.m. ~ Tuttle Creek Supper, MR
 7:00 p.m. ~ Community Bingo, CR

Tuesday • January 9

Trash pick-up day
Breakfast at Verna Belle's—Breakfast Bierock with Fruit
 12:00 p.m. ~ Kimball Luncheon, MR
 12:00 p.m. ~ Seven Dolors Book Discussion, LR
 3:00 p.m. ~ Coffee Corner, KR
 4:00 p.m. ~ Newspaper & Bible, LR
 5:30 p.m. ~ 4th Floor Supper, MR

Wednesday • January 10

Breakfast at Verna Belle's—Breakfast Burrito with Fruit
 10:00 a.m. ~ Worship Service, LR
 10:00 a.m. ~ Memory Activities Class, KSU CL
 10:00 a.m. ~ Memory Café, WCR
 1:00 p.m. ~ Pitch, GR
 1:30 p.m. ~ Associated Audiologist—Dr. Schotte, WCR
 1:30 p.m. ~ Collins Worship Service, CH
 3:00 p.m. ~ Rock Steady Boxing, KSU CL
 3:00 p.m. ~ Call Hall Ice Cream, KR
 4:00 p.m. ~ Lutheran Video Worship Service, LR
 6:30 p.m. ~ Artist Discussion: Beach Museum, KSU CL

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Thursday • January 11

Breakfast at Verna Belle's—Biscuits & Sausage Gravy
 8:30 a.m. ~ Messenger Ladies, WCR
 10:00 a.m. ~ Meadowlark Bible Study, LR
 10:00 a.m. ~ Resident Focus Group, KSU CL
 12:00 p.m. ~ Meadowlark Ladies Luncheon, MR
 1:00 p.m. ~ Blood Pressure & Responder Clinic, GR
 2:00 p.m. ~ Stepping On, KSU CL
 3:00 p.m. ~ LEAP! Graduates Meeting, WCR
 4:00 p.m. ~ Great Decisions, LR
 7:00 p.m. ~ Line Dancing, CR

Friday • January 12

Breakfast at Verna Belle's—Waffle or Pancake
 9:30 a.m. ~ Seated Strength, CR
 10:20 a.m. ~ Weights 101, CR
 11:00 a.m. ~ Sit & Be Fit, CR
 1:00 p.m. ~ Parkinson's Exercise Class, CR
 1:00 p.m. ~ Parkinson's Care Partners Support Grp, LR
 1:00 p.m. ~ Hand & Foot Card Games, GR
 7:00 p.m. ~ Hymn Sing-a-long, CR

Saturday • January 13

Breakfast at Verna Belle's—Omelets with fruit
 9:00 a.m. ~ Rock Steady Boxing, CSC
 9:30 a.m. ~ Painting for Fun, KSU CL

Room Abbreviations

BP, Billiards Parlor	LB, Library
CH, Collins House	LR, Living Room
CR, Community Room	MFR, Miller Friendship Rm
CON, Conference Room	MR, Manhattan Room
GR, Game Room	PS, Prairie Star Restaurant
GC, Grosh Cinema	TR, Tranquility Room
KR, Kansas Room (Pub)	VE, Village Entrance
KSU CL, KSU Classroom	WL, Wroten Library
PSP, Prairie Star Patio	CSC, Combative Sports Center
HD, Hospitality Desk	MS, Miller Spa

*Meadowlark News Channel can be viewed on Channel 1960

Join the Messenger Team

The Messenger Committee is looking for some more helpers! Every Thursday morning from 8 to 9 a.m. they work as a team folding stacks of Messenger newsletters. Please contact Jana for more details at (785) 323-3890.