

“BEST TOWN(S) BY A DAM SITE”

Alden, Buckeye & Popejoy

Alden Newsletter Association
Compiled by the Alden Public Library

December/January 2021
Volume 85

Alden Food Pantry News

The Alden Food Pantry is able to keep helping the community with your kind donations.

Thank you to the following for your donations since the last newsletter:

Individuals: Janet Grandgeorge, Marsh B, Barb Jass, Darlene Hulbert, Jo French, Paula Smiley, Raymond Moore, Joy Lettow, Sandy Hoversten, Ivan and Velma Butt, Rev Bob Miller, Steve Jass, Duane Harding, Trish Ackerman, Julie Hook, Bruce Nehring, Ron Bates, Lavonne Hoversten and Betty Thomas.

Businesses: Smithfield meats, Walmart, Hy-Vee, and Centrum Farms.

Churches/church related organizations: Alden United Methodist Church and Church Women United.

We have two new volunteers. The first new volunteer is Steve Cook who works in the old bank building with Iowa River Insurance. He has the muscle to help unload the truck from the Iowa Food Bank. The second is Ameer Miller who brings a lot of energy to the group.

We also want to send a big shout out to volunteers Sue Essing and Barb Jass. They have gone through all the freezers and have organized everything. They have unloaded the vegetable rack and restocked it after a new window was installed.

We have had to take over extra shifts due to the COVID virus, accidents and surgeries. Betty and Pat have replaced five windows in the building. The men who did the bids said that one of the windows was from the original building. We hope the windows help with the electric bill. The pantry is running smoothly for now thanks to everyone!

Thanks again to all of you!



Pro-Ag Outlook Series to Examine Trade Impacts, Financial Status, and Market Outlook of Iowa Agriculture

Registration is open for this virtual live series.

AMES, Iowa – The annual Pro Ag Outlook and Management meetings will be held virtually this year due to COVID-19 concerns. With a virtual format, participants will be able to hear from five Iowa State University Extension and Outreach economists. There will be one speaker each day from 1:00 pm until 2:00 pm, December 7 – 11.

This webinar series will take an in-depth look into the outlook for agriculture in 2021 as producers, ag lenders, and suppliers start planning for next year. The webinar series is designed to provide participants with a concise evaluation of current market conditions, expected trends in crop and livestock income potential, and management implications. Time for participant questions will be included at the end of each day's presentation.

Dates and speakers include:

- Dec. 7, **Wendong Zhang**, assistant professor of economics and extension economist at Iowa State University will be presenting on farmland values and issues of trade with China.
- Dec. 8, **Alejandro Plastina**, associate professor of economics and extension economist at ISU will be presenting on farm finances and the impact of government support programs.
- Dec. 9, **Lee Schulz**, associate professor of economics and extension livestock economist at ISU will be presenting the livestock outlook and profit potential for the beef, pork and dairy industries.
- Dec. 10, **Keri Jacobs**, associate professor of economics, extension economist at ISU and Iowa Institute for Cooperatives Endowed Economics Professor will be presenting the financial and physical impacts of the 2020 derecho on cooperatives in Iowa.
- Dec. 11, **Chad Hart**, professor of economics, extension economist and crop markets specialist at ISU will be presenting the current grain market situation, including global demand and key factors going into 2021.

The registration fee for access to all five live presentations is \$20.

Register online at <http://bit.ly/proagvirtual>

For more information, contact Ryan Drollette at 319-853-8624 or drollett@iastate.edu or visit <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/info/meetings.html>

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Extension and Outreach

The current period of job loss and reduced income has affected people in different ways. The result? Different households face different financial challenges at this point.

Whatever your situation, now is a good time to assess your financial situation, evaluate your priorities, and take steps to improve your situation as necessary. Your local ISU Extension financial educator is available to work with you – at the end of this article I'll share how to contact me and my colleagues.

Some of you have been living with seriously reduced income – and still are.

Your task has been to find every possible way to reduce your expenses and/or find new income and make use of new resources, including public assistance if you qualify. You must communicate with all of your creditors, but avoid making promises you cannot keep. If returning to something like normal looks unlikely, you may need to consider major lifestyle changes.

Some of you lost income for a while, but are now back to an income you can live on.

It is likely that you got behind on bills, built up credit card debt, and/or depleted your savings during your crisis. Strong focus on repaying those debts and building up emergency savings will get you ready in case of an unexpected expense or another loss of income. Careful examination of your spending choices will help you regain equilibrium and then build a strong cushion.

Others of you have maintained stable income, but have realized that if you *did* lose income, you would be in a very difficult spot.

Facing the reality that you lack basic financial security can motivate you to build up savings and pay down debt. Start by cutting your living expenses so that your regular monthly expenses are 10-25% less than your income. Putting the extra funds toward savings and expedited debt payment will build you a cushion that will bring peace of mind *and* make your life easier if/when hardship strikes.

Still others have stable income, & have felt secure that even if you did have a cutback, you would be okay.

In your case there is no obvious need for change, but it's wise to maintain control of your finances through good planning. You may wish to build an even stronger savings cushion, after seeing others struggle with lost income for six months or longer. As you build savings, seek out accounts that pay slightly higher interest while still providing ready access to your funds.

As you consider your current financial situation, you may wonder what steps can move you in the direction you want to go. ISU Extension and Outreach financial educators are available for individual consultations to assist with identifying possible strategies and with trouble-shooting. My colleagues and I will *not* tell you what to do, but we do have research-based tools that may be useful. Contact me through your local office of ISU Extension and Outreach (Hardin County: 641-648-4850) or directly (515-832-9597 or bwol-lan@iastate.edu). For a statewide listing of financial specialists, go to <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/finance>.

Barb Wollan, Human Sciences Specialist in Family Finance 515-832-9597

Dr. Grace O. Doane



515-859-3820
director@aldenlibrary.org
www.aldenlibrary.org

Dates closed:
December 25, 26
January 1, 18



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Instagram

ALDEN Public Library LIBRARY HOURS

High-Risk Individuals/Seniors		General Public	
Monday	12:30pm- 2:30pm	Monday	2:30pm- 5pm
Tuesday	10am- 12pm	Tuesday	12pm- 6pm
Wednesday	12:30pm- 2:30pm	Wednesday	2:30pm- 5pm
Thursday	10am-12pm	Thursday	12pm-6pm
Friday	9am-11 am	Friday	11am-1pm
		Saturday	9am-12pm

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM IS CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

We will be happy to serve you in the library as long as you are wearing a mask. If you do NOT want to wear a mask, we will accomodate you with curbside service.

BE KIND
...and wear your mask!

We ask that everyone wears a mask in the library. We will serve you curbside if you are unable or unwilling to wear a mask in the library.

Hours and services may change due to COVID guidelines. Please call the library at 515-859-3820 or email the director@yahoo.com for any questions or updates. You can also check our Facebook page for updates.

1000 Books Before Kindergarten
Read it and Reap!

Read a book to your newborn, infant, and/or toddler. The goal is to read 1,000 books before your child starts kindergarten.

Sign up at aldenlibrary.org and look for the 1000 books logo.

Read to your child, track your books, collect your prizes after each 100 books completed.

OPEN TO CHILDREN IN ALDEN/BUCKEYE WHO HAVE NOT YET STARTED KINDERGARTEN

Share YOUR FAVORITE SOUP RECIPE

Email to director@aldenlibrary.org
Facebook message to the Alden Library
or drop off at the Alden Library

**We will combine and share!
Deadline is January 5, 2021**

WE APPRECIATE YOU!

Thank you Hardin County Community Endowment Foundation (HCCEF) for your support to the Alden Public Library and to the Friends of the Alden Public Library.

Thank you to the Schiller Fund for a grant to the Friends of the Library to sponsor Jonathan May, Aaron McClanahan, Martia Mathisen (3 shows), and the National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium.

What Is Dolly Parton's Imagination Library?

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is...FREE!

It sounds almost too simple to be true, but by reading regularly with your children during their preschool years, you are giving them the biggest boost toward a successful education they will ever get.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library will help you read with your child. There are many reasons parents do not read to their child, but we can eliminate one of them. Every child will have books of their very own, **at no cost to you**, thanks to **Friends of the Alden Public Library** and Dolly Parton.

Each month a new, carefully selected book will be mailed in your child's name directly to your home. He/she can look forward to new and exciting reading adventures from Dolly Parton's Imagination Library until he/she turns five years old as long as you remain a resident of **Alden or Buckeye, IA**. Should the child move outside **Alden or Buckeye, IA**, he/she automatically exits the program.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a FREE GIFT to our children! All you have to do is read to your children.

Who Is Eligible?

Preschool children (birth until their fifth birthday) of **Alden & Buckeye, IA**.

What Are My Responsibilities?

1. Be a resident of **Alden or Buckeye, IA**.
2. Submit an official registration form, completely filled out by parent or guardian (form must be approved and on file with **Friends of the Alden Public Library**).
3. Notify **Friends of the Alden Public Library** any time your address changes. Books are mailed to the address listed on the official registration form. **If the child's address changes, you must contact your friends at the address on this brochure in order to continue receiving books.**
4. Read with your child.

When Will I Receive Books?

Eight to ten weeks after your registration form has been received, books will begin arriving at your home and will continue until your child turns five or you move out of **Alden or Buckeye, IA**.

How Can I Help?

Do you know a preschool child in **Alden or Buckeye, IA** who is not receiving Dolly Parton's Imagination Library? Give their parents a brochure/ registration form and encourage them to fill it out and mail it to the address below. Telling them about this **FREE program** can make a huge difference in their future and the future of our community.

If you know of a business, organization or individual who would like to donate funds to support this gift to your children, donations can be sent to:

Friends of the Alden Public Library
P.O. Box 78
Alden, IA 50006
(515) 859-3820

 **YOUR LIBRARY**

Dear Friends and Neighbors...

Growing up in the Smoky Mountains was a real blessing. There were some tough times, but most of our life was full of the kind of riches money can never buy. One of my most precious memories is sitting in my mother's lap and listening to her read me stories from the Bible. It felt so warm and cozy. My imagination soared to places far beyond our little cabin.

Those wonderful moments with my mother inspired me to create my Imagination Library. Thanks to **Friends of the Alden Public Library**, all of the preschoolers in your community can now have their own Imagination Library. Just think, a book mailed to your child each month until their 5th birthday!

I hope these books inspire you to read to your child. There is nothing quite like the sparkle in a child's eye when animals come alive and clowns dance on the page.

I hope you'll encourage your children to keep dreaming and to dream big. If my Imagination Library helps turn the dreams of a child into the promise of a bright future, then one of my biggest dreams will come true.

*And remember...
I will always love you,*



FRIENDS OF THE
ALDEN PUBLIC LIBRARY

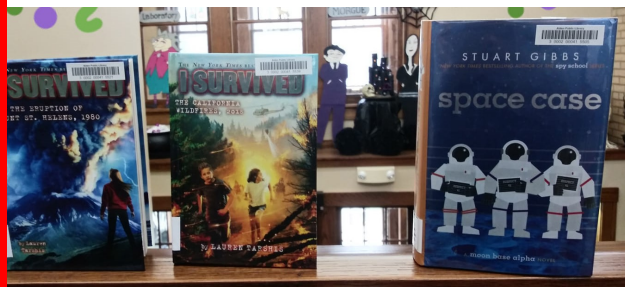


Sponsor a child for the holidays

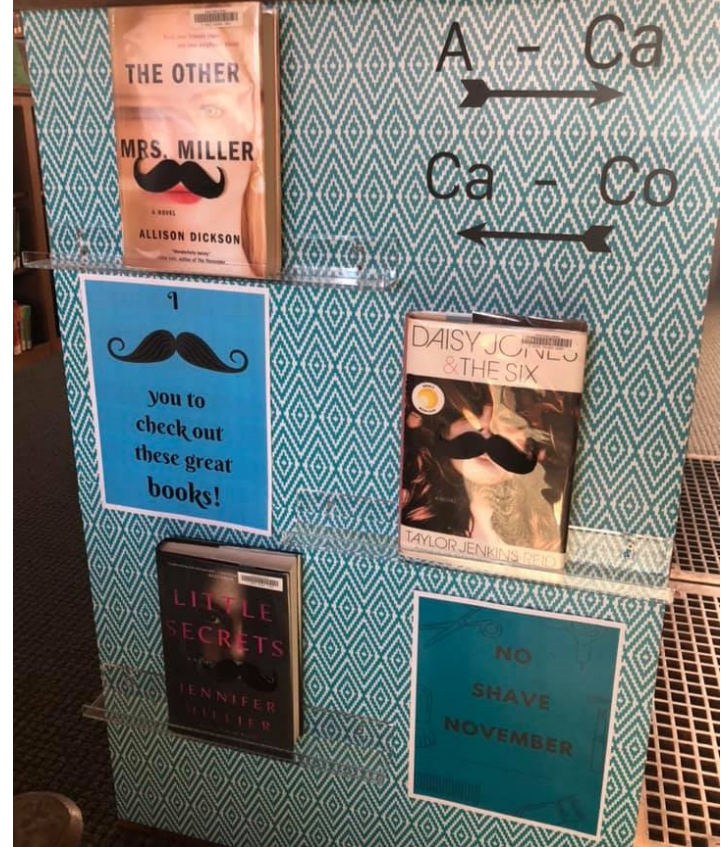
It costs the Friends approximately \$35 per year per child to provide the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library and our Library Literacy Program providing books at the Alden Elementary School. Your donation directly benefits our community.



NEW BOOKS



I "MUSTACHE" you to check out these books!



ALDEN

The Best Town by a Dam Site

NUMBERS TO KNOW

City Hall 515-859-3344
 Jeff Fiscus (Mayor) 641-751-0052
 Eric Eugenio 641-373-6423
 Andy Jass 641-373-6422

City Hall Hours
 M-Th 8-12, 1-5
 Fri 8-12

Council Members:

Janaan Harding
 Robert Hoversten
 Jerry Hartema
 Michael Oliver
 Mark Oliver

Laude Alden Memorial Pool

515-859-7535

Alden Food Pantry

Board Members

Linda Lisle 515-859-75121
 or 515-689-1164
 Betty Thomas 641-640-8087
 Pat Kielsmeier 515-859-7827
 Nancy McKinley 515-859-7396
 Charlene Wilke 515-859-7262
 Lavonne Hoversten 515-859-7564
 Barb Jass 641-425-6644
 Susan Essing 515-460-2454
 Janet Grandgeorge 515-859-3036

Churches

St. Paul Lutheran

515-859-3901

United Church of Christ

515-859-7259

United Methodist Church

515-859-7338

Alden Library

515-859-3820
 Aldenlibrary.org
 director@aldenlibrary.org

Hours

M & W 12:30pm—5pm
 T & Th 10:00 am—6pm
 F 9am -1pm
 S 9am-12pm
 Closed Sundays

**Hardin County Sheriff
 Emergency 911**

Non-Emergency
 641-939-8190