



M.A.Y. NEWSLETTER



We All Need Mentors When We Hurt

Death is a part of life. We will all die. But when someone we care about passes away, it leaves a void and it hurts. We miss them and we want them here with us. Our school and community recently lost a beloved student, friend, classmate, co-worker, swim instructor, lifeguard, niece, sister, granddaughter, daughter. We hurt and we are sad. While everyone grieves in their own way, we need each other. We need to lean on each other, our friends, our parents, our mentors in life—those we look up to. It is not because they have any answers. It is because it is what gets us through—sharing our grief, our memories, and sharing the honor of knowing someone like Grace Johnson. A young lady who lit up the room with her smile. One who made us laugh with her open honesty and hilarious and quirky expressions. We smile at the contradictions between her words and her actions. She might say she “hated” something, but her actions showed only love. She was ornery, but her orneriness had boundaries. She loved to have fun, and do things her way, but in the end, she always did the right thing. Grace was a senior in high school. I knew her from being a Mustang Mentor and a Lifeguard and a Friend. There are no real words that can ease our loss right away but I would like to dedicate one of my favorite (long) poems for her:

What Will Matter

By Michael Josephson

“Ready or not, some day it will all come to an end.

There will be no more sunrises, no minutes, hours or days.

All the things you collected, whether treasured or forgotten, will pass to someone else.

Your wealth, fame and temporal power will shrivel to irrelevance.

It will not matter what you owned or what you were owed.

Your grudges, resentments, frustrations and jealousies will finally disappear.

So too, your hopes, ambitions, plans and to-do lists will expire.

The wins and losses that once seemed so important will fade away.

It won't matter what side of the tracks you lived on at the end.

It won't matter whether you were beautiful or brilliant.

Even your gender and skin color will be irrelevant. So what will matter?

How will the value of your days be measured?

What will matter is not what you bought but what you built, not what you got but what you gave.

What will matter is not your success but your significance.

What will matter is not what you learned but what you taught.

What will matter is every act of integrity, compassion, courage or sacrifice that enriched, empowered, or encouraged others to emulate your example.

What will matter is not your competence but your character.

What will matter is not how many people you knew,

But how many people will feel a lasting loss when you are gone.

What will matter is not your memories, but the memories of those who loved you.

What will matter is how long you will be remembered, by whom and for what.

Living a life that matters doesn't happen by accident.

It's not a matter of circumstance, it's a matter of choice.

Choose to live a life that matters.”

Grace lived a life that matters. I think she would want you and me to too. #dogoodlikegrace

M.A.Y. Annual Kick-Off Picnic at Sports Plex August 15



Thank you to **Pat Athen and SAPP BROTHERS PETROLEUM** for use of their grill.

Thank you to **Hy-Vee** for helping us with supplies and food!

BUGG'S FARM EVENT COMING UP—SEPTEMBER 26th

**Our Annual Bugg's Farm Event
for
M.A.Y. Mentoring
is
Sunday, September 26
From
2:00-4:00 p.m.
At
The field behind the home of
Darwin and Sandy Bugg
(3672 260th St.; Farragut IA)**

We will:

- ♦ **Decorate and carve pumpkins**
 - ♦ **Ride 4-wheelers**
 - ♦ **Ride Horses**
 - ♦ **Roast Hot Dogs**
 - ♦ **Make S'Mores**
- ♦ **Enjoy the outdoors**



MENTORING AFFECTS YOUTH
M.A.Y. MENTORING
LINKS TO LNX E-MENTORING
MUSTANG MENTORS
MC² CLUB



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Sept 3; M.A.Y. Advisory Board Meeting; 11:30-1:00 p.m.; Depot
- Sept 7: Excellence in Mentoring Award Ceremony in Des Moines (MARGARET BURNS!)
- Sept 8; Links to LNX Advisory Meeting: 4:15 p.m. High School
- Sept 24; MC2 meeting and speaker; 7:15 a.m.; May Center
- Sept or early Oct; Links to Links Face to Face; TBD

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on Facebook!**

For More Information on Mentoring, Contact::

Kim Leininger, Mentoring Coordinator

601 Dr. Creighton Circle; Shenandoah, IA 51601

712-246-2520

leiningerk@shenandoah.k12.ia.us

Strategic Planning 2021

Our M.A.Y. Mentoring Advisory Board worked hard this summer on strategic planning for our mentoring programs.

Many positive changes and visionary ideas were discussed.

*A huge **thank you** to these board members who help guide our program and support our youth through mentoring!!*

Current Board Members:

Lori Knight, President

Edi Norris, Secretary

Taylor Goetz, Finance Chair

Margaret Burns

Rick McIntyre

Holly Scherff

Chelsie Greene

Zeb Burkhiser

Shane McHenry

Ryan Baker

Tyler Maher

Dr. Kerri Nelson

Ed May

Jennifer Housman

Sonia Leece

Kerra Ratliff

Andrew Lynes

Kim Leininger