INDEPENDENCE – Roy Behrens, Emeritus Professor of Art at the University of Northern Iowa and Independence native, has released a new 60-minute online documentary film about Iowa expatriate artist William Edwards Cook, and his close long-term friendship with American writer Gertrude Stein.

"Cook was born and raised in Independence, and the city (including its famous trotting horse era) is mentioned and pictured repeatedly throughout the film," said Behrens.


"In writing the film narration, I must or less made a fresh start, and everything spilled out from that," said Behrens. "It took well over a month to make this film, usually putting in 10-hour days. But I am getting faster and better. A lot of the research for the film was based on information I had found back in 2005. At that time I discovered that there are 230 pages of letters between Cook and Stein in the Beinecke Library at Yale University, in which they often talk about Independence. But more recently, I found photographs of Cook, as well as his French wife, Jeanne Moallic, in online passport documents."

Behrens holds a BA from the University of Northern Iowa and an MA and PhD from the University of Wisconsin. He has taught graphic design, illustration and design history for more than 50 years. He is currently sem-retired, working locally in community outreach for the Women, Land, and Legacy (WLL) education and outreach program that has impacted thousands of Iowa women in agriculture. Working locally in communities throughout the state, WLL empowers women landowners and farmers to be agents of positive change in their communities through active participation, educational sessions, and networking opportunities.

WLL provides valuable opportunities for women to gain insights into what other women are and bridges partnerships between See SUCCULENT, page 12

INDEPENDENCE BULLETIN JOURNAL

Relay For Life will be live this year!

BY DONALD MUMM
Co-Chair Relay For Life of Buchanan County

INDISPENSABLE – Yes! The Relay For Life committee is how that this year we will again be able to have an annual event. On June 20th, we would love to see the track full of people who help us support cancer research. You, it will be held at the Independence High School track from 5 until 10 p.m.

So, how does a Relay For Life event become successful? Every team captain who has had a team in the past, we are suggesting that you put your team together again and start your fundraising activities! Is there anyone out there anyone who has not been touched by cancer. A family member, a friend, a neighbor. This is how we can help save lives. As a community we can do part support the Relay For Life events and fundraisers.

Did you know that cancer is the second highest cause of death in the United States? This year it is estimated that there will be 1.9 million new cancer cases and 609,360 deaths from cancer which is about 1,670 deaths a day.

The risk of dying from cancer in the United States has decreased over the past 25 years according to annual statistics reported by the American Cancer Society (ACS). The cancer death rate for men and women combined fell 32 percent from its peak in 1991 to 2019, the years than what would have been expected if the death rate had not fallen.

The 32 percent drop-in cancer death rate from 1991 to 2019, the death rate for men and women combined fell 3.5 million fewer cancer deaths during these years than what would have been expected if the death rate had not fallen.

In the hopes of us seeing someone, you put your team together again and start your fundraising activities! Is there anyone out there anyone who has not been touched by cancer. A family member, a friend, a neighbor. This is how we can help save lives. As a community we can do part support the Relay For Life events and fundraisers.

Buch Co. WLL Host Succulent Potting Workshop

SUBMITTED ARTICLE

The Buchanan County Woman, Land & Legacy (WLL) group hosted a fun and educational workshop on Wednesday, April 6 at the Country Garden and Gifts (2387 Quapaw Draper Blvd, Independence).

Owner Josh Speak shared the ins and outs of succulents, from planting beautiful creations to keeping succulents alive and thriving. Participants selected a container and plants they wished to use in their arrangement and then went to work potting with the help of the experts.

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JESUP ELEMENTARY SPRING FLING

SUBMITTED BY DORTHEA BOVY
Jesup Community School

JESUP – Families with children in Pre-school for 4th grade enjoyed an evening of fun activities at Jesup Elementary’s Spring Fling on Thursday, April 7th.

There was something for everyone. Students and their families were able to build a jellybean tower, copy a with a good book, decorate a bookmark, make a butterfly craft, play some Spring trivia, plant a flower, do some yoga, get your picture taken, and dance!

Each child was also able to take home a book at the “Grow into a New Book” station. This fun event would not have been possible without the volunteer efforts of our staff and teachers," commented Mr. Pottebaum, Jesup Elementary’s Principal. "We too had fun and enjoyed providing this event for our community."

It was clear that fun was had by all from the smiles and kind words of all that attended.