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baby fair

9AM - 12PM
Saturday, April 15th, 2023

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**THANK YOU
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Thank you to all who voted in the
2023 Oskaloosa Herald Readers Choice Awards.

The Oskaloosa Herald

**The Winners will be
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21 Oskaloosa Herald and
March 22 Shopper, and will
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- High School Family Consumer Science
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- Substitute Nurse
- Substitute Teacher
- Bus Driver (Multiple Positions)
- Substitute Custodians



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Easter Bake Sale 2023
April 5th, 6th, 7th, & 8th**

**All Proceeds Will Be Donated
to Santa John**

John and Jodi have appeared as Santa and Mrs. Claus for many many years. Mahaska Drug and this community has been very blessed by all the joy they bring to all! December 2022, John suffered a massive stroke. We would like to give back to them after all they have done for this community.

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March 25th 10am - 4pm



Mahaska Drug

Easter Bake Sale 2023

April 5th, 6th, 7th, & 8th

All Proceeds Will Be Donated
to Santa John

John and Jodi have appeared as Santa and Mrs. Claus for many many years. Mahaska Drug and this community has been very blessed by all the joy they bring to all! December 2022, John suffered a massive stroke. We would like to give back to them after all they have done for this community.



Garage Sale

UNIVERSITY PARK COMMUNITY CENTER 1204 Center Street Friday March 17th 10am-6pm. Girl Clothes 7-16 Toys, Books. Lots of Misc.

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Thurs., Mar. 16th

Meal Includes:
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March 16 - March 22

Thurs., 3/16/23

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Cornbread
Seasonal Fruit

Fri., 3/17/23

Happy St. Patrick's Day!
Corned Beef
Buttered Cabbage
Garlic Red Roasted Potatoes
Lime Mist Salad
Grasshopper Pie
Whole Grain Roll

Mon., 3/20/23

BBQ Pulled Chicken on Bun
Broccoli
Red Roasted Potatoes
Cinnamon Baked Pears

Tues., 3/21/23

Panko Crusted Fish
Rice Pilaf
Green Beans
Chopped Green Salad
Cobbler

Wed., 3/22/23

Cook's Choice With Dessert
Nutritionals not available

You are Welcome to Join Us!

Please make your meal reservations by calling the Oskaloosa Senior Center one day in advance. For people 60 years of age and over and their spouse of any age, there is a suggested contribution based on income range. Individuals younger than 60 must pay the full meal charge as posted at the Center. Responsibility for compliance with any dietary restrictions rests with the participants.

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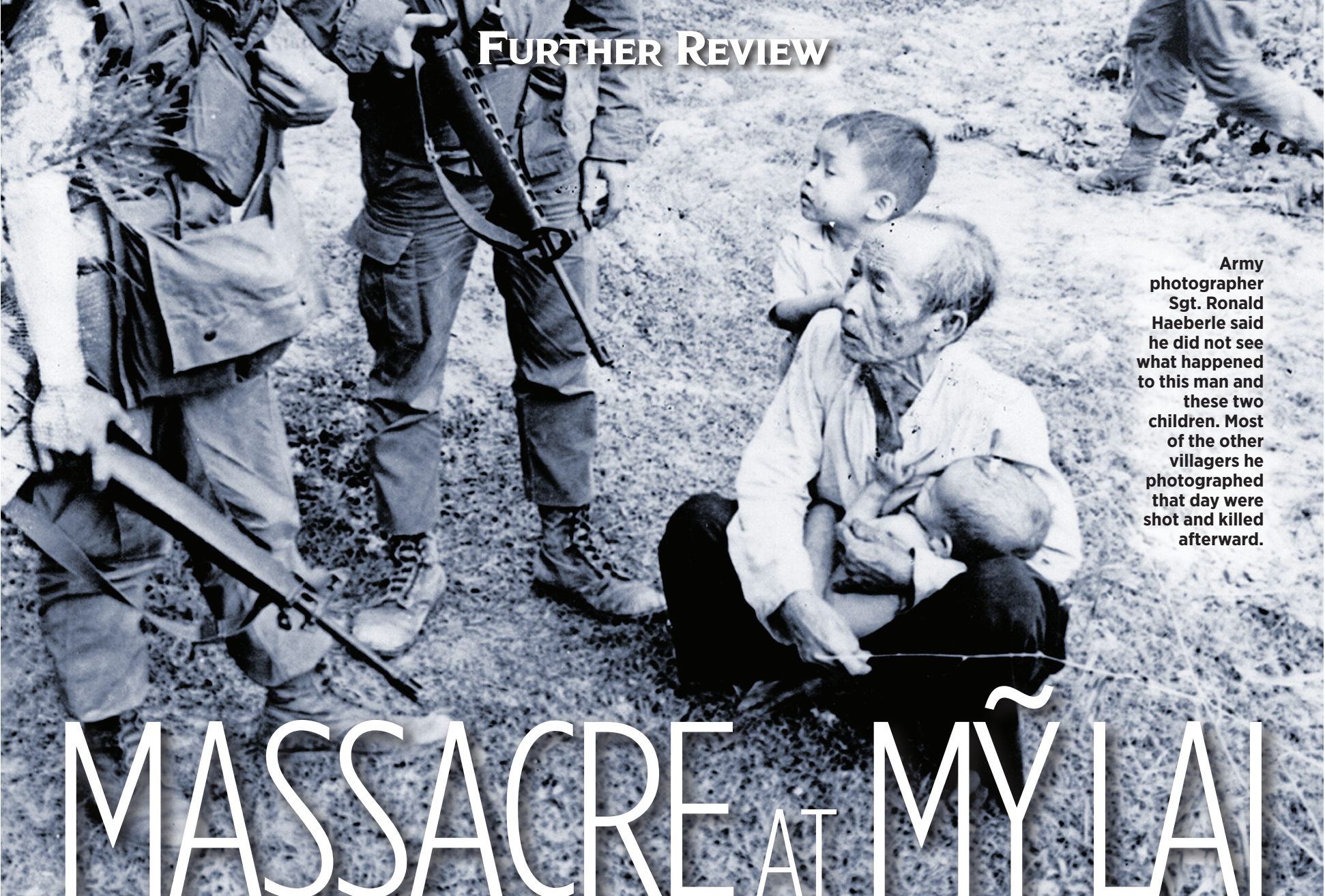
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Army photographer Sgt. Ronald Haeberle said he did not see what happened to this man and these two children. Most of the other villagers he photographed that day were shot and killed afterward.

MASSACRE AT MY LAI

By Charles Apple | THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

Fifty-five years ago, U.S. soldiers entered a series of tiny villages in coastal Vietnam searching for enemy Viet Cong and under orders to destroy everything they found. They found civilians: old men, women, children and infants — all unarmed and no evidence that any of them were involved in the war.

By the end of the day, between 347 and 504 of those civilians were dead.

A ‘SEARCH AND DESTROY’ MISSION

The mission for March 16, 1968, seemed straightforward: Charlie Company of the First Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment was to make a sweep through the tiny hamlets they called Pinkville. The area was reportedly the home to Viet Cong activity, but most of the residents were expected to be at an area market.

Charlie Company was to destroy everything and kill anyone who resisted. The company had taken heavy casualties over the previous weeks. Troops would say later their leaders had told them this would be their chance to avenge their fallen friends.

After an artillery barrage on the hamlets, Lt. William Calley's platoon and two others were flown in by a wave of helicopters. But instead of heavy resistance, Charlie Company came under no enemy fire. They found no booby traps or mines. All they found were civilians huddling for safety from the artillery.

Calley ordered his men to “take care of that group” of civilians. A few minutes later, he asked one of his soldiers why they hadn’t taken care of them. The troops are watching them carefully, the soldier replied.



Lt. William Calley

“No,” Calley said. “I mean kill them.” All of them: Old men, women and children. All unarmed.

As the company moved through the area, they gathered 70 or 80 villagers into a drainage ditch. Calley asked the man who seemed to be the leader — a Buddhist monk — where the Viet Cong had gone. When he monk didn’t know, Calley pushed him into the ditch and shot him. He then had his troops open fire on the villagers.

Things got worse. Old men were bayoneted. Women and children who knelt to pray were shot in the back of the head. Young women were raped and killed. Most of the straw huts in the villages were set afire.

WHISTLEBLOWER NO. 1

High overhead, flying a scout helicopter over the villages, Warrant Officer Hugh Thompson saw soldiers mowing down unarmed civilians and grew angry. He landed his helicopter and told his door gunner to fire on Charlie Company if he saw them kill any more.

Thompson confronted Calley, who told Thompson he was “just following orders” and ordered Thompson to



These photos by Haeberle show Charlie Company moving through a rice paddy and into My Lai early in the morning of March 16, 1968.



The black-and-white photographs Haeberle took that day on assignment for the U.S. Army were used in Army publications and, later, in the official investigation of the massacre. Rights to those photos are in the public domain.

The photos he took with his personal camera, he later sold to various news agencies. Haeberle still claims the copyright to those photographs.



The Army asked the Cleveland Plain Dealer to not publish the photos. The paper declined, running several on Nov. 20, 1969, including a large one across the top of page one showing dead villagers.

“get back in that chopper and mind your own business.”

Thompson returned to his aircraft and talked other helicopter pilots into aiding him as he made several trips to evacuate as many civilians as he could.

At some point, a Lieutenant Colonel heard Thompson's radio calls and issued an order for Charlie Company to stop the killing.

THE COVERUP

Thompson returned to base livid at what he had seen from the air. He reported the incident but was repeatedly told he didn’t know what he had seen and wasn’t qualified to



Warrant Officer Hugh Thompson

make a judgment. Leadership would file a report, claiming that only 25 civilians had died that day — and those who had died had been caught in a crossfire. The report also denied reports of civilians gathered together and shot by soldiers.

WHISTLEBLOWER NO. 2

More than a year after the events at My Lai, Army veteran Ronald Ridenhour heard about the massacre from members of Charlie Company. Appalled, he passed along reports to Congress and the Pentagon.

Only then was an investigation opened. That investigation would find widespread poor leadership, discipline and morale among fighting units in Vietnam. One reason for his investigation was the “dumbing down” of officer recruits. As career officers had been killed or rotated out of Vietnam, draftees who were poorly suited for

leadership positions took their place.

In September 1969, the Army charged Calley and 13 officers and enlisted men with war crimes and crimes against humanity and charged another 12 officers with having covered up the incident.

NEWS REPORTS

That same Army veteran then tipped off freelance journalist Seymour Hersh. Hersh wrote a story but was unable to sell it to major news outlets. On Nov. 13, 1969, the story finally appeared in 35 small newspapers that subscribed to the Dispatch News Service.

One week later, the Plain Dealer of Cleveland, Ohio, published photographs of dead bodies during the massacre at My Lai, including a particularly shocking one of bodies piled on a road that ran across the top of the front page.

Army photographer Sgt. Ronald Haeberle had shot the events of that day as his final assignment for the military. He was discharged shortly afterward and sent home. He had given his photos to Army investigators and then, once the news broke, to his hometown newspaper.

Haeberle took two cameras with him that day. With his official Army camera, he made black-and-white photos. But he also had his personal camera, which he said he had loaded with color film.

By the end of the month, the story — and Haeberle's photos — were on the cover of Time, Life and Newsweek, and CBS News aired an interview with one of Calley's men who had participated in the attack.

THE AFTERMATH

Charges against most of the soldiers and officers were dropped for lack of evidence. In four cases, charges were dropped even without an investigation.

Only four officers and two enlisted men were brought up on charges. Of those, only Calley was convicted — on March 29, 1971 — of the premeditated murder of 22 civilians.

The country became polarized over what had happened at My Lai. Some felt Calley had been made a scapegoat by military leaders. Others wondered what other atrocities U.S. soldiers might have committed in Vietnam.

Calley was sentenced to life in prison at hard labor but President Richard Nixon announced he would personally review his case. Calley was instead placed under house arrest while his sentence was reduced to 20 years and then to 10.

Calley was released on parole in November 1974. He was given a dishonorable discharge and spent the next 30 years helping to run a jewelry store in Columbus, Georgia. He now lives in Gainesville, Florida.

Sources: “The Illustrated History of the Vietnam War” by Andrew Wiest and Chris McNab, “The Vietnam War: Day by Day” by Leo Daugherty, “The Forgotten Hero of My Lai: The Hugh Thompson Story” by Trent Angers, U.S. Army War College, the Army Historical Foundation, Military Officers Association of America, the New York Times, the Cleveland Plain Dealer, Smithsonian magazine, PBS’ “American Experience,” History.com

SOURCES: PHOTOS OF CALLEY AND THOMPSON ARE BY THE U.S. ARMY. ALL OTHERS ARE BY ARMY PHOTOGRAPHER RONALD HAEBERLE.

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Mahaska Chamber & Development Group Communicator



The ribbon was cut at Butler's Charcoal Ridge. This business is located at 404 South 17th St. in Oskaloosa, Iowa. Owner Brenda Butler (with scissors) was joined by staff from LtoR: Vicki Kelly, Jenny Kelly, Brenda Butler, Ashlee Bethrow, Liv Andrews and Lorraine Bjornson. Some are local staff, some work in the Albia location. This state licensed kennel offers dog training, boarding, daycare, grooming, and breeding. They specialize in Cavapoos and Mini Goldendoodles. They opened 15 years ago as a part-time groomer and have grown to two full-service kennels (Albia & Oskaloosa) and two mobile buses that travel from community to community and home to home. Find them on FB, the web, or call 641.777.0462.

NEW CHAMBER MEMBERS

Jean Saxton. Over the years Jean and her late husband (Dr. Norval Saxton) had been very supportive and active in the Oskaloosa main Street. Jean has published six books, remains a member of 1st Presbyterian Church and the local Questers group. She now lives in Ames.

Mama Maids Cleaning Services, Stephanie Dahm. They provide residential and commercial cleaning services in Marion, Mahaska, Jasper and Wapello counties with cleaning technicians in all the surrounding cities. Mama Maids is licensed, bonded, insured, and can clean as often as you would like, deep clean, or move-in/out. Text or call 641.651.0350 or find them on Facebook.

They are the first members to join during our Chamber Membership MADNESS drive. You may be the next. Join before April 3 and be entered into a drawing for \$100 Chamber Cash AND a FREE pair of running shoes (or walking) from Brown's Shoe Fit Oskaloosa.

Chamber Scholarship applications available

High school seniors living in Mahaska County and attending any high school are eligible to apply now for a Chamber Scholarship sponsored by the Mahaska Chamber & Development Group. Information is available from one's school counselor or the web at <https://www.mahaskachamber.org/resources/scholarships/> where you will find a link to the fillable form. Scholarships are sponsored by area businesses and industries. Last year \$25,000 was distributed to 23 students.

On-line applications and school transcripts are due no later than Saturday, April 1, 2023.

"Businesses and individuals are encouraged to contribute to the scholarship fund as well. It's important to support our youth and make it easier for them to attend college," Deb Bruxvoort stated. "Perhaps you can contribute financially to the fund, or perhaps participate in the annual Chamber Golf outing set for Friday, May 12. The golf outing raises additional funds for scholarships."

For further information to apply or to contribute to the fund contact the Mahaska Chamber at 641.672.2591 or email dbruxvoort@mahaskachamber.org.



Calling for Artists! Join Oskaloosa Main Street for Art on the Square, one of Iowa's oldest continuing art festivals. The 54th Annual Art on the Square event will take place Saturday, June 10, 2023, 9 AM - 3 PM.

Early bird deadline for artists, emerging artists, and high school artists is April 7. If you are interested in participating, please call Oskaloosa Main Street at 641.672.2591.

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