



Oskaloosa  
1<sup>st</sup> CRC  
Newsletter

July – August 2024

*God Bless Our Native Land*

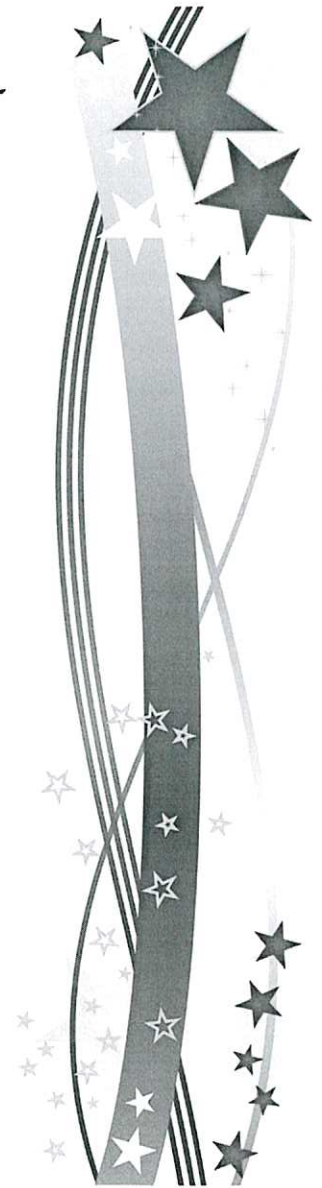
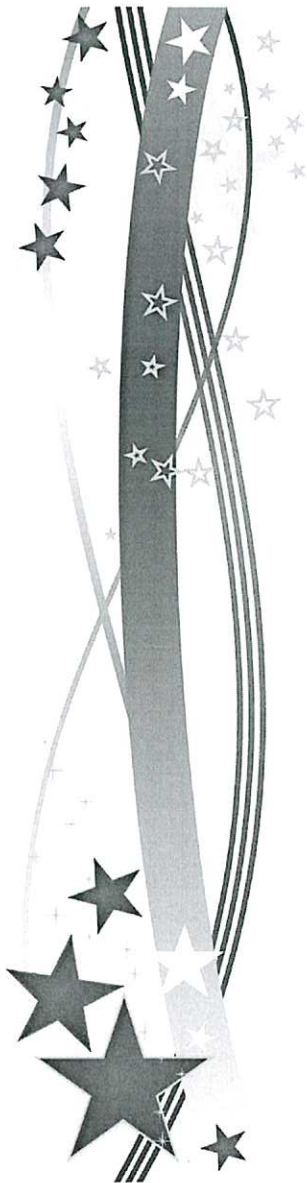
*God bless our native land,  
Land of the newly free,  
Oh may she ever stand  
For truth and liberty.*

*God bless our native land,  
Where sleep our kindred dead,  
Let peace at thy command  
Above their graves be shed.*

*God help our native land,  
Bring surcease to her strife,  
And shower from thy hand  
A more abundant life.*

*God bless our native land,  
Her homes and children bless,  
Oh may she ever stand  
For truth and righteousness.*

*-- Frances E. W. Harper --*



## *From Pastor Kamp's Desk*

### A NEW FOUNDATION



The book of Ezra is one that takes place at a time in Israel's history which is rarely studied. The book recounts some of the challenges the Jewish people faced as they return from Babylonian exile to restore and refill the Promised Land. Ezra chapter three speaks about the people's reaction when the foundation for the new Temple was laid since Solomon's was destroyed by Babylonians:

*"And all the people gave a great shout of praise to the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid. But many of the older priests and Levites and family heads, who had seen the former temple, wept aloud when they saw the foundation of this temple being laid, while many others shouted for joy."*

(Ezra 3:11-12)

While reading through this story I could not help but think of the denominational challenges the CRCNA has been facing these past years. The challenges also, could largely be summarized with the question, "What is our foundation?". What is the foundation of the CRCNA in the year 2024?

Now I am a lifelong member of the CRC, I grew up in a Dutch Christian home, and I attended a private Christian school. I spent 5 years in Cadets building pinewood derby cars and camping. I grew up playing Biddy Basketball and church league sports. I spent a week in UCLA with kids across the continent at the Youth Unlimited Conference for high schoolers. Every Wednesday night I had limited homework because it was a church night filled with meals, movies, songs, and games. My church life, family life, and school life were so closely intertwined that I didn't know where one ended and the other began. It was a very encapsulating and exclusive community.

This was the foundation of the CRC and I am greatly appreciative of having had the opportunity to grow up walking upon it. I understand those who have witnessed the changes taking place within the denomination and mourn that the old foundation of the Dutch community seems to be slipping away.

A new foundation is being built for a new church community. A church that includes many people without a Dutch heritage who know nothing of the life I described; a church with diverse cultures such as Korean, Hispanic, and Native American. The old foundation is gone, and rightly so, for today's church. Now it is time to build a new one. What will that foundation be? What will the next generation reflect back on when they're in their forties trying to write a Pastor's Page?

That is why this past years Synod was so important as many faithful pastors and parishioners throughout the U.S. and Canada worked to establish our Creeds and Confessions as the CRCNA's foundation. This year's Synod was the culmination of many years of prayer and effort to re-establish us once more upon the biblical truths expressed through our Creeds and Confessions; to re-build our church once more upon this foundation.

And as we did so, many celebrated and praised God for His faithfulness unto His church; while at the same time those who remembered the former CRCNA mourned. *"No one could distinguish the sound of shouts of joy from the sound of weeping, because the people made so much noise."* (Ezra 3:13) The book of Ezra does not reprimand those who wept at the laying of a new foundation, it acknowledges their presence and perspective as legitimate noise as the new Temple is being built.

And so let allow those who mourn their voice and presence amongst us as we continue the project of re-building this denomination which we all love upon that which first defined it – our Creeds and Confessions.

And let us ask, how can we at First CRC be faithful to our denomination's direction in the building upon our Creeds and Confessions?

# Church Family News



Oakley Mae Boender – 6/17/24  
~ daughter of Gideon & Emily



Dutton Eli Fynaardt – 6/25/24  
~ son of Alex & Amy

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## **Children**

*Fathers, provoke not your children to anger,  
lest they be discouraged.*

**Colossians 3:21**

Children are a precious gift in which we have invested;  
Giving us a welcome lift in what they have digested.

Sons and daughters imitate the ones who go before them;  
But they should not overrate the parentage who bore them.

Children are a legacy we leave to generations;  
In them we identify our vested aspirations.

Nonetheless, if there is lack of skill or understanding,  
Teaching will not hold them back from what life is demanding.

Children should be always taught to love the Lord who gave them;  
Parents of a godly sort should pray for God to save them.

Children are a ready field to lead to their Creator;  
When the Word has been revealed the fruit will follow later.

By Maurice Dyson

## **First CRC Council 2024**

Pastor Jon Spronk	Pastor		641-295-5155 673-5693	(Cell) (Study)
Pastor Erik Kamp	Pastor		641-417-9433	
Keith Brink	Elder	2026	641-660-4031	Youth Elder
Joel De Bruin	Elder	2025	641-295-6364	Evangelism Committee
Rich De Bruin	Elder	2025	641-660-9820	Building & Grounds & Tech. Committee
Lucas De Groot	Elder	2027	641-777-4970	Worship Committee
Brent De Ronde	Elder	2026	641-660-9472	Communion, Care Groups & Bulletin Comm.
Tim Jabaay	Elder	2027	319-899-8343	Council Clerk, Elder's VP, & Pulpit Supply
Steve Plate	Elder	2025	641-660-8133	Elder's Clerk & Council VP
Doug Richards	Elder	2027	641-660-6455	Education Comm. & Library
Luke Roozeboom	Elder	2026	641-660-4150	Communion, Care Groups & Records Clerk
Jeff Van Donselaar	Elder	2027	641-295-3286	Fellowship
Paul Van Donselaar	Elder	2025	641-660-4507	President, Pulpit Supply
Mike Boender	Deacon	2027	641-660-3957	Deacon Chairman & Disaster Relief Coordinator
Adam De Bruin	Deacon	2027	641-295-2111	Benevolence & Enduring Gifts
Kyle De Ronde	Deacon	2025	641-660-2907	Deacon Secretary & Disability Concerns
Trent Meyer	Deacon	2026	319-231-6054	Special Offerings Treasurer
Chris Pierson	Deacon	2027	641-670-0081	Ass't General Fund Treasurer
Brennan Plate	Deacon	2026	641-660-6949	Building Fund Treasurer
Josh Van Donselaar	Deacon	2025	641-295-1942	General Fund Treasurer
Mitchel Veenstra	Deacon	2026	641-660-3653	Vicar & C.E.F. Treasurer

\*\*\*\*\*

Sue De Bruin	Church Secretary		673-4272 673-7303	(Office) (Home)
Katelyn Van Donselaar	Custodian		1-641-226-1495	

# Nursery Schedule

## July - August 2024

### A.M.

July 7 Rachel (B) A, Madi H  
Aubrey K

July 14 Luke B, Arianna J  
(Communion) Caroline J, Daxton R

July 21 Jill DB, Dean DR  
Trinity R

July 28 Ki B, Kristina G  
Dawson R

August 4 Stacy B, Luke VD  
Kohen DB

August 11 Kyah C, Kate DB  
Peyton V

August 18 Georgina DR, Dylan R  
Nora DG

August 25 Kelly P, Taylor H  
Kwynn DB



# Grip, Grit, and the GOSPEL

Be careful. Hold firmly  
to your faith. Have  
courage and be strong.  
I Corinthians 16:13 ERV

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2024  
CENTRAL IOWA RETREAT — FOR MEN AND WOMEN



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:  
CRAIG AND MOLLY SANBORN

[craigandmolly.com](http://craigandmolly.com)

    @cheeseballchick

Craig and Molly Sanborn's love for laughter, each other, and Jesus is contagious! Connecting well with audiences of all ages, their common theme is the necessity to be joined with Christ and committed to His Word.

Craig serves as a youth pastor and a director for Converge North Central. Molly holds a masters in Marriage and Family Therapy and teaches with Craig at FamilyLife conferences. Molly is known as the Cheese Ball Chick and has been on several TV shows.

*Order My Steps In Your Word: Music and worship with Pianist Debbie Nelson and Cornerstone Praise Team.*  
**and ministry updates from Santosh Chandran**  
Bible League's South Asia and Pacific regional director.

HOSTED BY BIBLE LEAGUE VOLUNTEER AMBASSADORS  
at CALVARY CHURCH | 408 MAPLE ST | PELLA

Register using the QR code or at: [bibleleague.org/tickets](http://bibleleague.org/tickets)

*(If you do not have internet access, please call Bible League at 708.367.8921 between 8:30am-4:00pm CT / M-F for credit card registration assistance.)*





*People across Nepal and throughout the world are grateful for you and your support!*

## YOU ARE MAKING A WORLDWIDE DIFFERENCE



People are engaged in  
God's Word



Christians are trained  
to share God's Word



Churches are planted  
around the world

## Share the Gospel with a World in Need

Right now, people around the world are finding hope in Jesus because of your generosity. Thank you. You're helping people in more than 50 countries to have the Bibles they so desperately crave. Whether it's war, poverty, or persecution, people everywhere are experiencing heartbreak. Yet, believers are persevering. They are spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ in their communities. And you're part of it.

Amid such hardships, people are hungry for the hope of Jesus. The Lord is growing His Church. Even in some of the most unexpected places, you are equipping Bible study leaders, church planters, and Bible-based Literacy teachers. Thank you for making an eternal difference around the world!

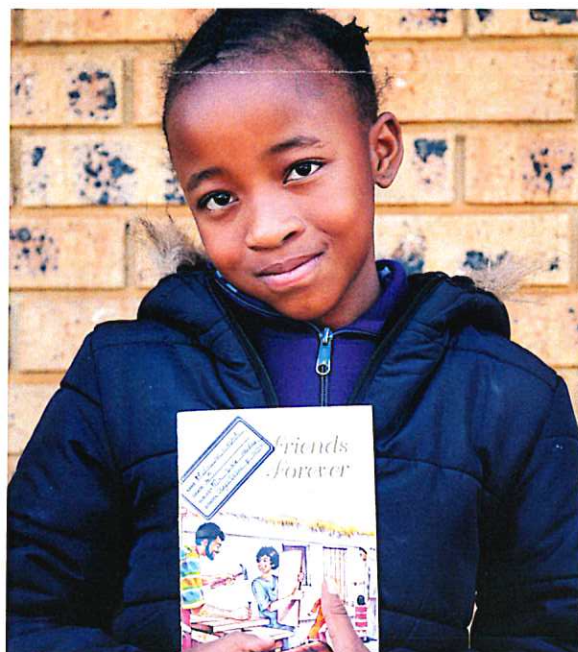
## God's Word Transforms Lives and Communities

In many ways, when you meet Moloisane (pictured) she seems quiet and meek. But as soon as she speaks, it's clear she is wise beyond her nine years of life. She says boldly, "When I'm older, I want to be president."

This future president of South Africa calls the Orange Farm Township home, an informal settlement about 26 miles from Johannesburg. There, she's been studying God's Word through a Bible League Bible study for children at her school. Moloisane loves growing in faith and learning more about Jesus through God's Word. And she can't contain her excitement when she talks about the materials you're providing.

She gushes, "God is also the only hope we have in this world. If God wasn't here, life would be so difficult. So I love this book because it teaches me about the Word of God." Through her Bible study, she has learned to be more confident in herself and to love others.

Moloisane is grateful for you. She knows the materials and training you're helping to provide have the power to transform the next



*Continued on next page*

# God's Word Transforms Lives *(continued)*

generation of South Africa and around the globe. She says confidently, "I think if we all had these Bible study booklets or a Bible, you know what kids would be like? They would behave well. This country would be a better place. I want the world to be a better place."

Though those living in Orange Farm face hopelessness like unemployment and poverty, this young girl has a much brighter future because of friends like you. Thank you for your faithful support. You're helping so many like Moloisane to know Jesus. You are a blessing!

## PRAYER REQUESTS

- Haiti is experiencing one of the worst crises in its history. Please pray for the people across this nation, especially those living in Port-au-Prince where nearly everything is paralyzed. Pray for Bible League's leaders who have had to flee their homes to save their lives.
- Praise God for the 200 prisoners in Ethiopia's Hossana Prison who recently completed Bible League's Bible study program. Pray for them to continue growing in faith.

## Join Others in Making an Eternal Impact for Christ



*More people in places like Ghana have a church in their community, thanks to you.*

When you join hands with the Bible League Volunteer Ambassadors to pray and provide Bibles and training, you bring the hope of Christ to communities worldwide. By God's grace and the power of His Word, each \$5 Bible you provide today has the power to transform a life. A family. A community. And as lives are transformed, God's Church will grow—on a global scale! You will help make disciples around the world, just as Jesus commands. Thank you!

Faithfully serving more  
than 50 countries worldwide



Serving the under-resourced Church with Bibles and  
training to transform lives worldwide through God's Word.



**THE WORD  
IN ACTION**  
BIBLE LEAGUE PODCAST

Listen to *The Word in Action*—a podcast about how God's Word is transforming lives around the globe. You'll hear from people who are spreading the hope of Jesus each day. Explore new stories each month of how God is moving in the lives of kids, persecuted believers, church planters, and so many others.

*Subscribe, listen to, and comment on your favorite podcast app,  
or tune in at: [bibleleague.org/action-podcast](http://bibleleague.org/action-podcast)*



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# MCCA Newsletter

MEXICAN CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S AID

And whoever welcomes a little child like this in My name welcomes Me. Matt. 18:5

*Serving the needy children of Baja since 1964*

**SUMMER  
2024**

## Well done good and faithful servant.

*In Loving Memory*



*Judy Tucker Arnett*

March 19, 1941 ~ March 4, 2024

**"... Assuredly I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it unto Me."**

Matthew 25:40

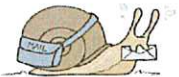
The MCCA, from its beginning 60 years ago, has been a ministry that God has richly blessed with many amazing people. People who got involved and served faithfully in the name of Jesus. People who have supported with faithful and generous donations, drivers with trucks, riders with strong backs to load and deliver the food. The planning, organization and execution of the monthly Mexico deliveries is impressive. An all volunteer army of genuine compassion.

Having said that, Judy Arnett was nonetheless a very special and noteworthy person with regard to the MCCA organization. Her hard work and influence was a profound example to all of us who were blessed to know her and work alongside her. She served the Lord through the MCCA ministry for 20 years.

Judy was deeply focused on providing for the needs of orphaned and abandoned children in Baja Mexico. She was tireless. Most of her days each month were spent making sure the next Mexico run was well organized. Attending to the details of sending 16 heavy duty pickup trucks, full of thousands of pounds of bulk food, along with volunteers, with specific assignments of where to deliver the food, along with the specific quantities was, and is still, a monumental task.

Warren Arnett, Judy's husband, served along side her. He and Judy, often accompanied by their son's, drove their truck loaded with food on the trips for many years. Warren and Judy served on the Board of Directors. Warren served as the President of the Board for two years. Warren continues to serve as our Driver Coordinator, assigning the routes.

The Bible teaches us that our hearts of stone are transformed to hearts of flesh when we surrender our lives to Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Judy Arnett was an example of that. She never drew attention to herself. She quietly and humbly took care of what was needed. In Chapter 5 of Galatians the fruits of the Spirit are listed; Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith. In Christ, Judy was full of the fruits of the Spirit of God. May her life and memory be an enduring example to us all of how to live our lives.



### *Did you know, there is a great alternative to a Snail Mail Newsletter?*

By signing up to receive a digital newsletter, you help us keep our costs down. It also makes it easy for you to forward a copy to family and friends if you so desire. With your smartphone scan the QR code, on the right, to easily sign up for email delivery of the quarterly Newsletter. Or, go directly to: [www.bit.ly/MCCA\\_mailing\\_signup](http://www.bit.ly/MCCA_mailing_signup).



**Donations, which may be tax deductible can be made by visiting our website at <http://mccaredlands.org/>**

Founded in 1964 in Redlands, CA., Mexican Christian Children's Aid is a, 501(c)(3), Charitable Organization. It began when a group of Christian business people were moved to address the sharp contrast between the affluence in the U.S., and the abject poverty found just across our southern border in Mexico. We purchase and provide monthly bulk food deliveries and other assistance to local Christian organizations in the northern Baja region. We deliver the food donations primarily to organizations that sponsor Children's Homes and or operate periodic Feeding Programs to needy families. Along with the food, Spanish translation Bibles, Gospel Tracts, and other items are generally a part of our deliveries. Our monthly runs consist of all volunteer drivers and riders who donate their vehicles full of fuel and literally everything needed to complete the mission each time we go. The MCCA does not own or rent a building, nor are there any paid staff.

**The result is that 100% of all monetary donations goes directly to purchase food products.**

## Changes to the Officers of MCCA

Tom Rasmussen has stepped down as MCCA's Treasurer due to some personal reasons. Tom continues to be a member of the Board. Steve Diaz has stepped into the role of Treasurer. Stepping into the Vice President role left vacant by Steve is Don Dresner. Both will serve in that role for the remainder of the calendar year.

## We get to do this.

On January 29, 1964, a group of men met at Bethany Reformed Church in Redlands, CA for the first time with the sole mission to gather support for the Rose Park Orphanage. At this meeting were Don Van Wieren, Scott Coverdale, Jerry Hamill, and Mike Stoel. Alongside Ray Zimmer, they put together a fundraiser, a chicken BBQ dinner that took place on July 25, 1964. Between 700-1000 folks showed up and they raised over \$1000... they were thrilled.

MCCA, as an entity itself, officially turns 60 this year. Only God could have came up and planned and prepared the road ahead. Every single member, somehow somewhere heard God calling to them, and every single one of us accepted that call.

We each have a unique story to tell.

There's something that moves us to wake up on a Saturday morning, get in a truck and spend the next 12-16 hours traveling to and from Mexico. It is my prayer that we get to continue to do that for the next 60 years of MCCA. God first and in the name of Jesus I pray this. Amen.

Paul Vela, MCCA President.



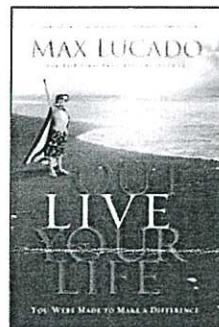
Here is Paul taking a selfie on one of our most recent trips

## Teamwork

A Devotion by Max Lucado  
April 15, 2024

What if the missing ingredient for changing the world is teamwork? "When two of you get together on anything at all on earth and make a prayer of it, my Father in heaven goes into action" (Matthew 18:19 MSG).

This is an astounding promise. The Jerusalem church found a way to work together. They found common ground in the death, the burial, and resurrection of Christ. Because they did, lives were changed.



And as you and I do, the same will happen. The congregation is a microcosm of God's plan. No one can do everything, but everyone can do something. And when we do, "God's great blessing was upon them all. There were no needy people among them" (Acts 4:33-34 NLT). You see, those who suffer belong to all of us. And if all of us respond, there is hope.

*The devotion above, from Max Lucado, is exactly what the MCCA organization is about. Your faithful financial support of this ministry is a critical part of the Teamwork necessary to bring food to the needy children of Baja Mexico. Sincere thanks for being a member of the Team! May God Bless you for it.*

\*\*\* DONATIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED IN LOVING MEMORY OF \*\*\*

- Clifford Robins - Gerry Ellis - Ralph and Wilma Porter - Judy Arnett -





### Mission Statement


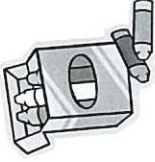
MCCA is a ministry obedient to God's call to care for children in need by supplying those in Baja California with food, Spanish translation Bibles and the opportunity to know the love of Jesus Christ.

### MCCA Executive Board Contacts

Paul Vela	President	<a href="mailto:psvela76@gmail.com">psvela76@gmail.com</a>
Don Dresner	Vice President	<a href="mailto:donandglady@msn.com">donandglady@msn.com</a>
Steve Diaz	Treasurer	<a href="mailto:stevediazwhosoever@gmail.com">stevediazwhosoever@gmail.com</a>
Rich DeWitt	Secretary	<a href="mailto:rldewitt@yahoo.com">rldewitt@yahoo.com</a>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MCCA1964>  
Web Site: <http://mccaredlands.org/>  
Mailing Address: PO Box 9931, Redlands, CA 92375

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Church Softball	2 Church Softball	3	4 	5 Council Agenda Items Due	6 Church Rented Out
7 Prayer Service (am) TEC Meeting – aft.	8 Council, Elder & Deacon Meetings	9	10 Games Day	11 Coffee Break Picnic Cadet Campout at Teens Encounter Church Softball – here and Leighton	12 Camp Wapello ----- Christ Weekend ----- Delmar Vos' Birthday	13 ----- -----
14 Prayer Service (am) Homestead ----- PM Service at Bethel due to TEC	15 Friendship Class	16 Ruth Groenenboom's Birthday	17	18	19	20 Grilling Seminar
21 Prayer Service (am) Worship Comm. Mtng.	22	23	24 Games Day	25 Church Softball	26 Don De Bruin's Birthday	27 Gene Van Gorp's Birthday
28 Prayer Service (am) TEC Reunion – aft.	29 Blood Drive  Church Softball Friendship Class	30	31 Church Softball	<div>  </div>		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>  <h1>August</h1>  </div>						
				1 Church Softball	2 Council Agenda Items Due	3
4 Prayer Service (am)	5 Council, Elder & Deacon Meetings	6 Church Softball in Leighton Brant Bruxvoort's Birthday	7 Games Day	8 Church Softball	9	10 Jim Drost's Birthday
11 Prayer Service (am) Homestead 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Sundaes	12 Friendship Class	13	14 Marvin De Bruin's Birthday	15	16	17
18 Prayer Service (am)	19	20	21 Games Day	22 Oskey Public (Freshman Orientation)  Love, INC Foundation Classes	23 Oskey Chr (all), Oskey Public (all), PCHS (new students), PCGS, North Mahaska & EBF all start	24
25 Prayer Service (am)  Parking Lot Praise	26 PCHS (all students) starts Friendship Class	27	28	29	30 Jeanette De Bruin's Birthday	31