

Bill addresses social media use by minors

By Garrett Pearlman

Adolescents under 18 will have to have parental permission to open a social media account under a proposed bill making its way through the Iowa Legislature.

When I told my friends about this proposed bill, House File 2523, they weren't too happy as many are on the verge of adulthood. However, after interviewing the legislator who is guiding the bill through the Iowa House, I at least understand both sides of the issue.

Currently, federal law has set that age limit at 13, but Iowa Representative Charley Thomson of Charles City said a series of states have been raising this mandatory age higher.

"The federal law says 13 and below, you have to have parental permission," said Rep. Thomson. "And so we're, through the state of Iowa, just amping that up to 17 for our teenagers alone."

Rep. Thomson is the floor manager for HF 2523 and believes there is "widespread support" for the bill.

HF 2523 would require social media companies to receive parental consent before giving children under 18 a social me-

Parade From page 1



The fans flock to a parade to celebrate the Super Bowl win for the Kansas City Chiefs a guy ended up showing his gun.

"He didn't fire it, didn't do anything, but he was trying to threaten the other gentleman he was arguing with, so he showed his weapon," Mrs. Tappendorf said.

When the Tappendorfs left the rally, they saw police cars rushing to the scene, and that's when they found out about the

Photo contributed by Tracy Tappendorf in a panoramic photo on February 14.

shooting. Mrs. Tappendorf, not wanting to scare her kids, told them two to three people had guns at the rally.

"But there were a lot of good people [policemen] that had guns there that we didn't know about," she told her children.

After this experience, it left Mrs. Tappendorf thinking about stopping the tradition of going to the parade because the threat of violence was "too close for comfort."

"But just knowing that someone was there, that close to us, my husband was like, 'Kaleb, if anything happens, you take Kamrie and cover her up,'" Mrs. Tappendorf said.

edged the safety of our teenagers should be our first priority.

"When you're a minor, things are a little different, and the line has to be drawn somewhere," he said.

Rep. Thomson expects that most parents would feel okay about letting their children on social media. However, some teenagers "need some additional guidance and maybe some supervision," he said.

"This establishes a regime for doing that. The idea is not to take away rights, but to protect people who, under the law, traditionally have required a little extra protection until those few years or months until they reach the age of majority."

As a 17-year-old, I can see the importance of this proposal to help combat exploitation and other serious situations that happen online, but I am so close to being an adult and enjoying the rights that go with it, that this proposed bill makes me feel like legislators have moved the finish line even further away.

Maybe if students were better informed on how to deal with these dangers lurking online, such proposals might not be needed.

Shop From page 1

to build things in shop. So far, she has taken Intro to ACE and Construction Technology.

"I also love that we get to learn a lot of different things and do stuff that we might not get to whenever we feel like it on a normal day outside of school," said Utter, who also believes that shop has become more popular among Durant girls in the past few years.

"He [Mr. Rouse] does a great job at making people feel like they belong," said Utter. "I have felt very appreciated in all of the classes I have taken with him."

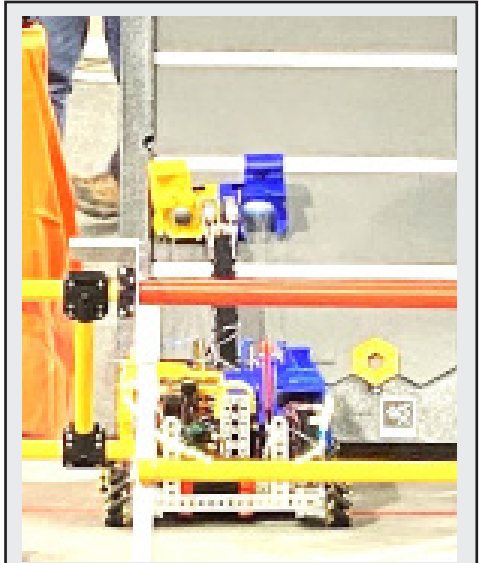


Photo by Gavin Broussard

The Durant Mechanics' robot places a pixel on the board during a match in the state robotics tournament at the Xstream Arena in Coralville on March 4.



Photo by Gavin Broussard

Senior Ian Heick and senior Blake Thoma modify the robot after a match. The Mechanics placed 69th out of 72 teams at the state tournament, winning one of six matches.

Barks & Bubbles Dog of the Month



Jen Orr

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Today's Dentistry coach of the month

Coach Doug Frett is coaching the high schools girls' track team. In total, he's been coaching track for 28 years, with 16 of those at Durant. What made him want to coach was that he was a four-year track participant during high school. He also wanted to pass down his knowledge and joy of the sport to his athletes. One of his goals this year is for the younger athletes to gain experience in the sport.



Frett



PAPER'S LUMBER & SUPPLY

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Liberty Trust & Savings Bank's club member of the month



Member FDIC

Senior Kennedy Jehle has been part of the yearbook staff for two years. Jehle joined yearbook because her friends said it was fun, so she decided to try it. Her favorite part about yearbook is being able to design the cover, and her favorite memory is selling ads to businesses.



Jehle