

Graduate pursues dream 20-hour drive away

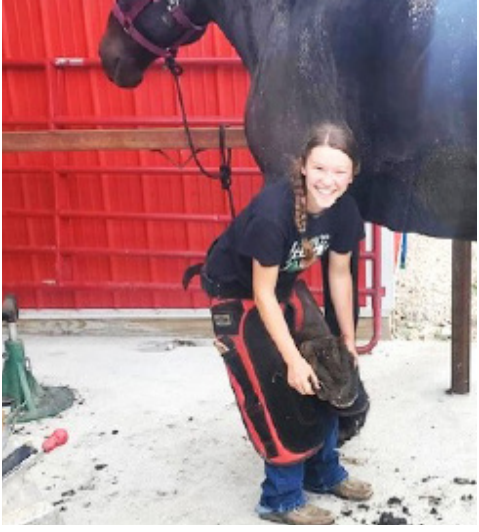


Photo contributed by Mary Dorris
Local graduate Eve Dorris shoes a horse.

By Allison Toft

A recent Durant graduate will head to Idaho in July to take an intensive 36-week farrier course.

Eve Dorris, who graduated early with the class of 2024, is making the 20-hour drive to attend Idaho Horseshoeing School.

"The course that I am taking is the most in-depth and difficult one that the Idaho school offers," Dorris said.

Farriers are very important because they help take care of a horse's hooves by trimming and shoeing them.

"They work to make horses comfortable and capable no matter what type of discipline they do," Dorris said. "A farrier often has the skills to make their own horse-shoes and modify them for special cases."

Dorris has been apprenticing for a few years and "loved every bit of it."

"The fact that I get to be on the road constantly and see new sights every day is what really inspired me to give this career path a try," Dorris said.

There is not one certain path to become a farrier, according to Dorris.

"Many people go different routes to become a farrier," Dorris said. "Some people learn by apprenticing and going to clinics and eventually take their certification tests without ever going to school."

Dorris said that the apprenticeship "is what really made me decide to follow through with my decisions to go to school and further my knowledge."

Eve is a barrel racer, and she has continued to race and train horses all while taking college classes at Muscatine Community College.

"Showing and competing is some-

thing that I see myself continuing to do even after I return from school," she said.

Eve's mom, Durant's school nurse Mary Dorris, was not surprised by her daughter's choice in her career.

"She has had a love for horses for as long as I can remember," she said. "She got her first pony when she was six years old and has had horses ever since"

Mrs. Dorris said she is excited for her daughter's opportunity to follow her passion.

"As a mom, of course I worry about her being so far away," said Mrs. Dorris. "She is ready though. She has always been independent and responsible beyond her years." Eve will finish with an associate degree in business from MCC. She wants to start her own business as a farrier when she returns from Idaho.

Band instructor's kids follow their own career path

By Garrett Pearlman

Durant band teacher Mr. Kevin Mundt said his love of music stems from his grandfather, who toured with the Lawrence Welk band in the 1920s and 1930s.

However, two of his children are now in the legal profession without music in sight.

"I think that if parents encourage their children to follow their passion—even if it's not the same as them—children will be successful," said Mr. Mundt.

Mr. Mundt's oldest daughter, Emily, 27, serves as a nonprofit attorney in North Carolina while Anthony, 24, is in his second year of law school at the University of Iowa.

Emily is practicing law for her second year as a consumer attorney in Greensboro for Legal Aid of North Carolina with a client base typically consisting of veterans, senior citizens, and low-income clients.

"I specialize in consumer law and represent consumers and debtors in cases dealing with debt collection or homeownership issues, like foreclosure," said Emily.

"Consumer law encompasses a wide range of legal areas, including contracts, securities transactions, property, estates, and bankruptcy."

Emily's favorite part of being an attorney is being able to help out people who may not have the resources, usually due to circumstances out of their own control.

"The system is not kind to poor people and people of color," she said.

"And, selfishly, it feels really good to be able to help people keep their homes and avoid becoming unhoused. Homeownership is one of the biggest factors in building generational wealth, and preserving home-

ownership is very important in supporting and stabilizing low-income families."

She graduated law school in May 2023 and felt that her parents' character might have helped lead her to the law.

"My parents both taught me to always respect other people no matter their background, identity, or life circumstances, and they've certainly influenced my viewpoints and perspective on life today," said Emily.

"I think they're probably the reason I have such a strong sense of justice and fairness."

Anthony works at the University of Iowa Legal Clinic while pursuing a law degree. He is excited to be able to provide help to those in need after graduating.

"I think that just being able to have the freedom to practice how I want to practice and be able to see my clients' smiles after a case that we won will completely make it worth it," said Anthony.

Anthony recognizes his sister's choice to become a lawyer might have influenced him to choose law.

"I was able to see her helping people on a personal level, and I think that kind of solidified the choice for me to attend law school," he said.

Anthony never really came around to considering his parents' occupations but recognized his parents' impacts on his life.

"I think both of them, working in the public sector, have really rubbed off on me and helped me value that people are the most valuable resource that we have as a society," said Anthony.

Although Emily doesn't take after her parents' jobs, her current job is similar to her mom's because they both work for nonprofit organizations. Elaine Mundt works at ImpactLife, a blood donor organization.

As a kid, Emily also did take notice of her dad's job.

"For a period of time, I did want to be a music teacher like my dad, but to be

honest, I am kind of lazy and didn't have the dedication to practice an instrument enough," said Emily.

"I never really considered something similar to what my mom does, but that's mainly because I didn't really know what her job was when I was a kid, and I wasn't a huge science person."

The Mundts' third child, Ella, 20, is considering a career as a veterinary technician or working with animals.

Emily believes that the likelihood of children doing the same job as their par-

ents has diminished due to college degrees becoming more necessary for jobs.

One study from Ancestry.co.uk found "that only 7 percent of children end up in the same job as their parents today, whereas it was nearly half of children (46 percent) in Victorian times," according to an article from the ScienceAlert website.

"Once you're in college, you're exposed to a huge variety of career paths and may find something you're more likely to enjoy than following in your parents' footsteps," said Emily.

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She has been a part of the FCCLA club and was a cheerleader for the football team. She even performed a traditional cheer done in her hometown. Nobel was also a very devoted girls' basketball manager. She was always one of the first people to cheer on the players and personally tell them what a great job they were doing.

"She always gave us hugs in the locker room and congratulated us on the

bench," said senior guard Adison Daufeldt.

When it comes time for Nobel to return home to Thailand, there is no doubt that she will have many stories to tell and memories to hold onto forever.

"I enjoyed learning and living in a different country," said Nobel. "Experiencing a new culture and meeting people with different perspectives is a valuable and memorable experience."



Photo by Kylee Hahn

Foreign exchange student Patcharanun Suwansakon (left) poses with the cheerleading squad during a football game last fall.

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until they graduated high school to do anything else. This is where we feel, as a community college, we come alongside the high school, and we partner with you."

Some of the academies even offer work-based learning and experience to help students get an idea of what jobs are available for the specific academy they are attending. For example, students in the Healthcare Academy will observe at medical clinics while students in the Teacher Preparation Academy will observe at schools.

The academies have been growing and now bring in 100 plus students every year, which is exciting for Mr. Pickard.

"It just warms my heart to know that after seven years, we have 118 students in it this year," said Mr. Pickard. "That fires me up that that's happening."

EICC offers the following academies: Advanced Agricultural, Agriculture, Automotive Technician, Business Transfer, CNC Machine Operator, Construction, Criminal Justice, Culinary, Diesel Technology, Digital Modeling, EMT, Engineering Technology, Game and Simulation Development, Healthcare, Horticulture, HVAC, Networking, Programming, Small Business Management, Teacher Preparation, and Welding.

Latta Harris' soccer player of the month

Junior Nolan Williams has been playing soccer for 10 years. Williams plays all positions besides goalie. His favorite part is fighting for the ball and pushing people around. He hopes to get two assists and become a better and stronger player overall this upcoming season.



Williams



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