



The News

KALONA, WELLMAN, RIVERSIDE & LONE TREE

Volume 129 • No. 50

KALONA, WASHINGTON COUNTY, IOWA 52247 • THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2022

\$1.25

WELLMAN LIGHTS WINNER



CHERYL ALLEN/THE NEWS

A community group surveyed the neighborhoods of Wellman and gave Matt Schaeffer's house on Golf View Drive the win for the city's 2022 Home Decorating Contest. Turn to page 10A for more photos.

Public outcry leads to delay in Windham Village plan

BY PAUL D. BOWKER
The News

IOWA CITY

Windham Village remains the last Johnson County village without an official development plan.

At least, for now. Following a long discussion and public hearing at its formal session Dec. 8 during which charges of distrust were tossed across the room, the Board of Supervisors chose to defer voting on the village plan for three months.

Jon Green, a former Lone Tree Mayor and member of the board since 2021, moved for the delay and was backed up by a 3-1 vote (Supervisor Lisa Green-Douglass voted against the delay and board chair Royceann Porter was not present

for the vote).

More than 10 Windham residents and other area residents spoke against a "yes" vote with many hoping for a delay while a newly formed committee in Windham takes time to examine the issue even more closely. Among those speaking in favor of a delay were Dawn Driscoll, a Republican state senator from Williamsburg, and Phil Hemingway, a resident of rural Johnson County who was a Republican candidate for Supervisor in the November election.

One resident was in tears as she spoke.

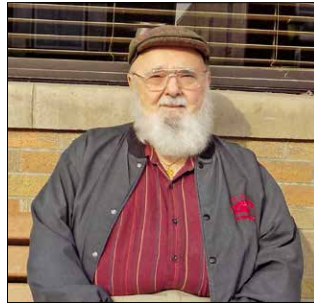
"My family chose to live in the country," said Brenda

SEE WINDHAM | PAGE 9A

The joy and melancholy of the real Santa Claus



Santa's (Carl Miller's) professional credentials.



Santa incognito: Carl Miller sits outside on B Avenue, Kalona on an early December day.



CHERYL ALLEN/THE NEWS

Kids loved Carl Miller as Santa at Christmas in Kalona on Dec. 3.

BY CHERYL ALLEN
The News
KALONA

Our legend of Santa Claus has its roots in a monk named Nicholas who lived about 1750 years ago in what is now Turkey. He was pious and kind; he gave away his inherited wealth and traveled the countryside helping the poor and sick. His actions and temperament earned him sainthood, and he became known as a protector of children and sailors. Even after the Protestant Reformation in Europe, when honoring saints became frowned upon, the Dutch continued to think highly of "Sint Nikolaas." They brought this

"It's amazing, some of the things that happen, and sometimes it's really heartbreaking."

adoration with them into the New World; in 1773, a New York newspaper reported Dutch families gathering to commemorate his death.

Here things took a decidedly American turn.

By 1804, artwork depicted St. Nicholas leaving fruit in children's drying socks over the fireplace. In 1822, an Episcopal minister wrote a long Christmas poem for his daughters, in which St. Nick fattens up and rides home-to-home in

a reindeer-driven sleigh filled with toys.

Shortly after, businesses started soliciting sales by using Santa in their newspaper ads. A copywriter invented Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer to get people into department stores. Santa became the tool of consumerism, a mechanism to arouse children's desire for things and seduce the rest of us into buy, buy, buying.

The god-fearing Saint was transformed into the god-less

Santa.

Let's stop a minute. That's not exactly right.

Meet Carl Miller, professional Santa.

"I had a little girl come up on my lap one day, and she sat there, and we talked, and she told me what all they're going to do for Christmas, and the cookies they're going to make, and where everything would be when I come. And then she turned to me and said, 'Santa, do you know the real reason for

Christmas?' I said, 'I sure do, and I worship Him also.' [She said], 'Oh, that's so good,' and she laughed. Her mother was off to the side. I could see her. And it wasn't two hours later, the mother came back and handed me a \$100 gift card for Starbucks."

Carl Miller worked as a mall Santa for 13 years in Salem, Oregon, although his story begins and ends in Kalona. And while this is an American story, filled with malls and money, Miller also has the heart of a saint.

"Starbucks was in the mall, so every week I treated the

SEE SANTA CLAUS | PAGE 6A

AROUND TOWN

Christmas Dinner for Seniors

All senior citizens of Riverside are warmly welcomed to a free Christmas dinner hosted by River City Church at the Highland Elementary School, on Saturday, Dec. 17, from 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Kalona Optimist Meeting Cancelled

The Kalona Optimist meeting scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 15 has been cancelled due to scheduling conflicts. Next meeting is Jan. 5 at the LOFT/Kalona YMCA at 6 p.m. Program by Mid-Prarie Superintendent Brian Stone.

Wellman Garden Club

Wellman Garden Club will enjoy their catered Christmas Luncheon on Friday, Dec. 16 at 12 p.m. in UMC Fellowship Hall. Please bring a Food Pantry donation.

CHRISTMAS CHURCH SERVICES

Wellman Mennonite Church
Wellman Mennonite Church will hold a

Christmas Eve service on Dec. 24 at 7 p.m. 1215 8th Avenue, Wellman.

Champion Hill United Methodist Church

Champion Hill United Methodist Church will hold a Christmas Eve service on Dec. 24 at 4 p.m. Steel drums, flute, and viola music; refreshments following, 3132 TT Avenue, Rural North English.

Hillcrest Academy

Alumni Night

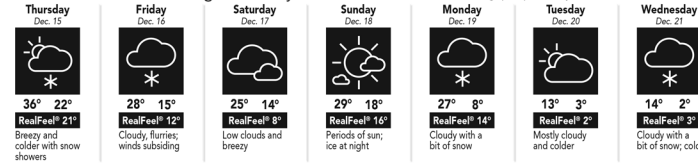
Hillcrest Academy will hold its annual Alumni Night event on Tuesday, Dec. 20, with JV boys starting at 4:30 p.m.

Prizes will be given away throughout the varsity games; alumni and student activities will take place during halftime.

SUBMIT NEWS ITEMS: NEWS@THENEWS-IA.COM

GET STOCKED UP FOR THE HOLIDAYS! Prices are good Dec. 13 - 26													
Freeman Foods, Inc. 268 EIGHTH AVE., WELLMAN WWW.FREEMANFOODS.NET		50¢ OFF 1 GALLON MILK	2/\$5 16 OZ SOUR CREAM	2/\$7 10 OZ OLD DUTCH POTATO CHIPS	99¢ 8 OZ BEST CHOICE WHIPPED TOPPING	\$9.99/LB RIBEYE STEAK	\$9.99/LB WHOLE BEEF TENDERLOINS	2/\$6 1 GALLON MILO'S TEA OR LEMONADE	\$17.99 ABSOLUTE VODKA 750ML				

Forecasts for North Washington County



SUN/MOON

	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
Thursday	7:26 a.m.	4:38 p.m.	11:44 p.m.	12:20 p.m.
Friday	7:27 a.m.	4:38 p.m.	none	12:40 p.m.
Saturday	7:27 a.m.	4:38 p.m.	12:48 a.m.	1:01 p.m.
Sunday	7:28 a.m.	4:39 p.m.	1:53 a.m.	1:23 p.m.
Monday	7:29 a.m.	4:39 p.m.	3:02 a.m.	1:48 p.m.
Tuesday	7:29 a.m.	4:40 p.m.	4:16 a.m.	2:18 p.m.
Wednesday	7:30 a.m.	4:40 p.m.	5:33 a.m.	2:56 p.m.

Last Dec 16	New Dec 23	First Dec 29	Full Jan 6

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2022



DAILY ACTIVITY CONDITIONS

Thu.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.
1	0	1	1	0	1	1
1	0	1	1	0	1	1
5	6	7	7	7	10	10

Rating: 0-2: Low, 3-5: Moderate, 6-7: High, 8-10: Very high, 11+: Extreme

DAILY HEALTH CONDITIONS

Thu.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.
6	4	3	1	0	0	0
3	2	1	2	1	1	3
1	3	1	2	3	4	0
4	5	4	5	4	3	2

Rating: 0-2: Benign, 3-4: Neutral, 5-6: At Risk, 7-8: At High Risk, 9-10: At Extreme Risk

KCTC fiber internet speeds increase at no cost to members

Kalona Cooperative Technology Company announced that it has refined and increased internet speeds provided to residential and business cooperative members. Similar to previous years where increases were put in place, these improvements are being made at no additional cost to customers.

"We have witnessed an impressive increase in internet usage each year," said Casey Peck, KCTC General Manager. "When the rates we pay are adjusted for purchasing more bandwidth for KCTC internet users, we pass that additional value on to our customers through a speed increase. Our catalog of internet speeds has also seen improvements this year with: symmetrical uploads; a simplified choice of speeds being offered; a reduction in rate for 1 Gig; and we'll be offering 2 Gig service to

business customers in the coming months."

The Power package (75Mbps/75Mbps) will become KCTC Fiber 100 (100Mbps/100Mbps). The Family package (250Mbps/150Mbps) will become KCTC Fiber 250 (250Mbps/250Mbps).

The Platinum package (400Mbps/250Mbps) will become KCTC Fiber 500 (500Mbps/500Mbps). The Gig package (1000Mbps/500Mbps) will become KCTC Fiber GIG (1000Mbps/500Mbps), the price of which will be reduced from \$169.99 to \$159.99 per month with a 3-year agreement.

The speed increases and rate changes will go into effect on January 1st, 2023. For additional information call 319-656-3668, go to KCTC.net, or visit either location in: Kalona - 510 B Ave, or Washington - 112 South Ave B.

FAMILY MINDFUL MONDAY PROGRAM OPEN FOR REGISTRATION

Families of Washington County with youth 4th grade-5th grade are invited to participate in the "Family Mindful Mondays" program starting in January.

Washington County Extension and Outreach in partnership with YMCA of Washington County and Washington Public Library will be offering this program for free to families of Washington County. The course is free with free meal with free childcare for children 1 year old - 3rd grade and free transportation if needed. The program will be held at Stewart Elementary from 6pm-7:30pm on January 30, February 6, 13, 20.

Families who attend all four sessions will also receive a free family gift.

Designed by Iowa 4H, this healthy living program is an engaging four-session series that includes practical mindfulness strategies for the adults and youth to work together to manage stress and difficult emotions. Lessons help to improve overall well-being, relationships, and performance in daily activities. This program is for parents and youth to work together to learn about mindfulness and how to incorporate it into routine home activities.

According to MindfulSchools.org, research

finds that mindfulness practice can help decrease stress and anxiety and strengthen resilience and emotional regulation for both adults and youth.

Registration is open while space is available or until the January 15 deadline. First come, first served with online registration at <https://tinyurl.com/WashCoMindfulMonday>. Contact the Washington County Extension Office with any questions or for assistance in getting registered online.

WCHC Granted AAUW Education Award

Washington County Hospital and Clinics (WCHC) would like to thank the American Association of University Women (AAUW) for granting WCHC the 2022 Education Award.

WCHC values education and provides educational opportunities through multiple initiatives. Through partnerships with various colleges, universities and high schools, WCHC works to train the next generation

of health care providers and leaders. Additionally, WCHC provides staff and providers as well as patients, and their families with a broad array of education opportunities.

"At WCHC we are committed to our educational mission and to giving back to the next generation of health care professionals. We do this through partnering with external groups including high schools and col-

leges as well as various community groups," stated WCHC CEO, Todd Patterson. Additionally, we are committed to advancing the fund of knowledge for our current staff to ensure that we can provide the highest quality care available to our patients."

Thank you, AAUW, for recognizing WCHC's longstanding commitment to education and education excellence!

Iowa Finance Authority awards more than \$11 million to local housing trust funds

The Iowa Finance Authority Board of Directors today announced the award of a total of more than \$11 million in grants to 26 Local Housing Trust Funds to support local housing initiatives. The grant awards are made available through the Local Housing Trust Fund program and are expected to assist 2,390 families.

"The 2023 Local Housing Trust Fund awards represent the largest amount allocated through the program for local housing initiatives since the program's inception," said Iowa Finance Authority Executive Director Debi Durham. "Thanks to the funding increase supported by Governor Reynolds and the Iowa Legislature, the program is able to serve as an invaluable and flexible resource for meeting the important and unique housing needs of each region of the state."

"The State Housing Trust Fund is a critical financing tool that helps us to advance local housing priorities," said Scott County Housing Council Executive Director Leslie Kilgannon. "These funds allow us to provide safe, adequate housing opportunities for our workforce and members of our communities."

The grant funds will be used for initiatives such as preserving aging housing stock, subsidizing local rental and down payment assistance programs, providing low-interest loans or grants to assist Iowans with home rehabilitation, financing construction of new single-family housing for low-income Iowans and supporting housing for persons with disabilities and homeless assistance programs.

The East Central Housing Trust Fund, which serves Benton, Iowa, Jones, and Washington counties was awarded \$410,325. The Housing Trust Fund of Johnson County was awarded \$441,887.

The State Housing Trust Fund was created by the Iowa Legislature in 2003. The awards announced today will leverage an additional \$3.2 million in other financing or \$28 for every dollar of Local Housing Trust Fund

program funding. Since its inception, the State Housing Trust Fund has provided \$112.2 million in affordable housing assistance to benefit more than 35,200 Iowa families, leveraging more than \$175 million in other funding resources.

The State Housing Trust Fund helps ensure decent, safe and affordable housing for Iowans through two programs. The Local Housing Trust Fund Program receives at least 60 percent of the SHTF allocation to provide grants for organizations certified by the Iowa Finance Authority as a Local Housing Trust Fund.

The remaining funding goes to the Project-Based Housing Program, which aids in the development of affordable single-family and multifamily housing. The Iowa Finance Authority administers both programs and provides technical assistance to housing-related organizations.

LeAnn Rimes concert at casino rescheduled

The LeAnn Rimes concert scheduled for Friday, December 9 has been rescheduled for Friday, September 29, 2023. LeAnn Rimes was forced to cancel her Riverside Casino & Golf Resort concert due to a vocal cord injury.

"To my friends in Riverside, IA, I was preparing for my show on Friday, but unfortunately, under doctors' orders, this needs to be postponed to ensure the bleed on my vocal cord is completely healed before I sing. But rest assured, I am on the road to recovery and looking forward to getting to sing and dance with you all on September 29, 2023," LeAnn Rimes stated.

Current LeAnn Rimes tickets may be used to gain admittance to the rescheduled show.

Ticket holders unable to attend the rescheduled performance can obtain a refund by request in any of the following ways:

Visit the Gift Shop and present the tickets along with the receipt of purchase.

Online purchasers who have not picked up their will call tickets may email their name and order confirmation number to tickets@riversidecasinoandresort.com.

Mail the tickets along with the receipt of purchase to the following address for a refund: Riverside Casino & Golf Resort, Attn: Marketing, 3184 Highway 22, Riverside, IA 52327.

For additional information, please call 319-648-1234 or email tickets@riversidecasinoandresort.com.

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"I couldn't have asked for a better office": meet Kalona's new Postmaster

BY GIOVANNI CORONEL
The News
KALONA

The world of mail is a busy one. The number of letters and packages sent by way of the post office is only amplified by the holidays. It is a postmaster's job to make sure the mail goes out correctly and on time. David De Los Santos, the new Postmaster of Kalona, was hired this September. Even though Kalona is a small town, he was caught off guard just how busy a small town can be.

"Oh my gosh, I'm surprised how busy Kalona is considering how small we are," De Los Santos said. "I was shocked how much business comes into the office, but it's great for the community, it's great for us."

There really isn't a slow day here. With Christmas time being here right now it has been insane. There's always something to do and I'm always trying to help my employees."

De Los Santos has been the postmaster for about three months, and he believes Kalona is a wonderful place so far. His interactions with people have been nothing but friendly and he is getting to know some of the local leaders. The Kalona Coffeehouse, a place he visits frequently, already treats him like a regular. They know what his order will be before he even says anything, and it is those small moments that make him glad to be here.

"It's been fantastic. I mean, everyone's so friendly, and

I am starting to get to know the local businesses. I really couldn't have asked for a better office to come to," De Los Santos said.

Before coming to Kalona, De Los Santos worked as a supervisor at the Burlington post office for five years. He appreciates the smaller office of Kalona compared to Burlington because he can spend more time communicating with his employees, forming stronger connections that would have been difficult to form in a larger workspace.

"I was trying to get into a less stressful office," De Los Santos said about his decision to come to Kalona. "I live in Washington. I actually grew up in Washington, so it was nice

getting an office that was close to home."

The title of Postmaster sounds lofty and exciting but working with mail is something most kids don't think of when they think of a future occupation. De Los Santos was the same. He didn't know his future would be a bustling world of papers, stamps, and packages, but he takes pride in the work he does.

"I was in the Marines before this. I was in for about four years before I got hurt. So, I medically retired," De Los Santos said. "Honestly, I was sitting at home bored. I don't think I made it a whole month before I just decided I needed to do something. So, I applied for the Washington Post Office as a clerk, and it was fun. It was something for me to do and it just took off from there. That's how I got into the post office; I never thought I would be a postmaster ten years ago."

While De Los Santos does not go out and hand deliver mail himself, he still gets to interact with customers when working at the front window of the post office, something he does for about three hours a day. His main responsibilities are the finances, scheduling, and making sure his employees have everything they need.

"I'm responsible for my employees and being a leader



GIOVANNI CORONEL, THE NEWS
Kalona's newest Postmaster, David De Los Santos, inside his office at the post office.

for the community, making sure that we're providing the services our customers expect from the post office," De Los Santos said. "We have a great crew of workers here, they're all fantastic."

Life as a postmaster may be a busy one, even in small towns like Kalona, but De Los Santos has the right attitude and above-average know-how when it comes to mail to get the job done well. He may have only been Kalona's postmaster for three short months so far, but he hopes there are many more months to come.

"I could see myself being here for quite a long time," De Los Santos said. "The community is great, and I'm just really excited to be here."

4-H CLUB SERVES KEOTA SENIOR RESIDENTS



SUBMITTED

The 76 Progressives 4-H Club played Bingo with the Keota Health Center residents for their December meeting. Club members enjoyed a gift exchange and finished the day playing Bingo and eating popcorn with the residents. The 4-H club donated a gift basket of needed items and goodies for the residents. There were many smiles, laughs and lots of Bingos! This club is a part of the Washington County 4-H program and led by 4-H volunteers Carrie Garman, Angie Greiner and Jayme Sieren. Keota seniors enjoyed a day of Bingo and gifts with the 4-H club.

SENIORS TRAVEL TO FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS



SUBMITTED

On Dec 6, Daniel Nisly, a tour guide for Kalona Chamber's Byways Tours, took Goodwin Senior Dining friends to Mt. Pleasant to see the Festival of Lights. The group stopped for dinner in Washington on the way home. Wellman's City Administrator, Kelly Litwiler and Goodwin Dining's Anita Kanagy helped organize this outing for seniors.

Outsmart

Your Deductible!

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HIGHLAND STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Jessica Kraus
Senior

Josh Ramirez
8th Grade

CONGRATULATIONS to Jessica & Josh

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

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Mr. McDonald goes above and beyond, for students, staff, and Highland. Whether we need someone to cover a class, a help with an activity he is always here to help without complaint.

Holidays: an opportunity to help others in need

Thankfully we are five weeks past the 2022 midterm election. I can hear many voters exuding a sigh of relief and shouting, after \$17 billion was spent on disinformation, misinformation and the occasional truthful political ad, "Yes, finally, the election is over."

Normal life – I think – is back and we've jumped right into the holiday season. Let's ponder how the 2022 holiday season might become better than we've experienced heretofore.

First, let's recognize the word "holiday" means Holy Day. Next, let's value that holidays are celebrated from both a religious and cultural perspective. Then, we need to acknowledge the holy day is celebrated throughout the world.

If we can agree on these three premises, the might just might – cause us to develop a better appreciation of others and approach the 2022 holiday season from a more holistic and inclusive perspective.

For centuries the holidays celebrated include Bodhi Day (Buddhist), Christmas (Christian), Diwali (Hindu), Eid al-Fitr (Muslim), Hanukkah (Jewish), Kwanzaa (African-American), Lunar New Year (East Asia) and Winter Solstice (Indigenous), to name a few.

Dr. Mike Ronisvalle, a Florida-based psychologist, claims in faith-based traditions the holidays were a time when people were to purposely



Steve Corbin
Professor Emeritus,
UNI

change their behavior and as such, modify their holiday experience. For some, however, the holiday season will be static and self-centered, only thinking of and giving to those within their own family.

How might we intentionally change our behavior this holiday season to its fullness?

Reverting back to Americans spending nearly \$17 billion on political candidates, which amounts to \$162.84 per voter, a challenge is offered. For every dollar you contributed to a candidate for public office, intentionally give that same amount to a not-for-profit charity, who may be in greater need of financial assistance than a politician's in perpetuity reelection coffers.

Didn't give to a politician or party? If so, purposely contact your local food bank and ask if you could spend 1-2 hours volunteering at their agency and/or contribute money (\$1 helps provide 10 meals). Don't forget most post-secondary institutions of higher learning also have food pantries to assist students in need.

Inquire if there are any residents at a long-term care facility or hospital who might



like a fruit basket, personal care items, phone call or a 10 minute in-person visit. Your outreach endeavor may assist those who are lonely and isolated during a time period that should be joyful.

There are about 600,000 homeless Americans; 33,146 are veterans (www.hud.gov). The seven best charities for helping homeless people can be found at www.impactful.ninja with the National Alliance to End Homelessness touted as setting the gold standard with a Charity Watch grade of A+.

If you are seeking to help make a positive impact upon

kids-in-need, there are 117,470 children waiting to be adopted in America. The 10 best charities to support foster care are identified at www.impactful.ninja. The top three – in terms of overall impact – include Foster Care to Success, Together We Rise and Children's Defense Fund.

My favorite global, non-profit organization that provides medical services to those affected by war, disaster or disease is International Medical Corps (www.international-medicalcorps.org).

Consider contacting your local Kiwanis, Rotary or Lions

Club – all non-sectarian – to seek membership. Their multitude of service projects would give you around-the-year opportunities to assist people and organizations in your community who need assistance.

While spending time with your family this holiday season is important, consider thinking outside the box and intentionally change your behavior by helping others. It may be the start of a new holiday tradition of pursuing the festive season in a more robust, long-term and meaningful perspective. Happy Holy Days!

I don't want to increase your property taxes 23%, but some Supervisors do

A fellow supervisor recently admonished me: I need to learn to count to three. That's the number of votes necessary for Board action.

I can count, but I'm afraid a few supervisors can't wrestle with big numbers, like a 20% tax increase.

We've been given a proposal to renovate two of our buildings, the administration building where you get your license plates, and the Health and Human Services shop across the skywalk. The price tag is near \$30 million, likely higher as we dig into things. To pay for it, we will need to increase your property taxes 23.1% next year, 7.9% the year after that and 2% in 2027.

Oh, and even with those tax increases, we'd still have to blow a \$14m hole in the cash reserves we've spent over a decade building, so we can respond to dereches, floods, fires and whatever other brimstone



Jon Green
Johnson County
Supervisor

is on offer. Our current reserve is just south of \$26m, so we're talking more than half our emergency fund.

This is insanity. Johnson County is growing and we need additional capacity. But this is the wrong project, with the wrong scope, surely with the wrong cost and certainly at the wrong time. I will do whatever I can to ensure we go no further.

Someday I might ask you to pay a little more in property taxes, to support the vital work the county undertakes. But I will not - cannot - ask you to pay for a misguided renovation so I can get my name on a dedication plaque.

\$600 now buys you a new tax form

When was the last time you spent \$600? Maybe it was paying your rent through Venmo or buying a couch from a neighbor using PayPal. Well, the Biden Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is now planning to monitor these minor transactions.

This is just the latest effort from the IRS to snoop on law-abiding Americans. Just months ago, the Biden administration decided to supersize the IRS by adding 87,000 new agents, under the guise of only going after billionaires. But now, the White House is making life more burdensome for innocent, hardworking Iowans once again breaking the president's promise that his new tax plan wouldn't hurt every day families.

Even more ridiculous, the very agency who will soon have more new employees than



Joni Ernst
U.S. Senator

the total number of seats at Jack Trice Stadium, is looking the other way when holding their own employees accountable. A 2019 report revealed that hundreds of IRS employees had failed to pay their own tax bills in full or on time – and that the tax collecting agency had done little to discipline these tax cheats on its own payroll. That's why earlier this year I pushed for an audit of the IRS. And, on behalf of American taxpayers, I am happy to report the IRS agreed to the review.

But the hypocrisy doesn't stop at the IRS. The federal

government can't even balance their checkbooks or provide transparency on their transactions. Last year alone, the federal government spent \$279 billion on improper payments! And that doesn't include the unnecessary projects the government funds each year with your hard-earned money, like studies about turtles on treadmills. Unlike American taxpayers, the federal government is under no obligation for transparency or accountability when it comes to their own spending, which always totals well over \$600.

Iowans are sick of the double standards and egregious overreach. Before Biden builds an army of auditors to snoop on innocent families and small businesses, let's make sure the tax collectors have paid their own taxes and ensure Washington is working for YOU – not the other way around.

FLYSOUP BY MICHAEL D. DAVIS

Donny could never keep hair off the soap.

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2022 Award Winning Newspaper

The News encourages its readers to submit photos, news items and letters to the editor for possible publication in our newspaper. We reserve the right to edit.

News Items - Please include all pertinent data - names, city of residence, dates, etc., and a description of the event. Photos may be picked up at The News office unless you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope for their return.

Letters to the editor - Your name and city or community will be published with your letter to the editor. For verification purposes, please include your address and phone number. Letters to the editor will be accepted via email subject to verification.

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Preparations for Ervin and Susan's wedding

The menfolk have left for work, and I need to pen this column before getting started for the day. On my agenda today is to cut out my dress, cape, apron, and also daughter Lovina's for the wedding. Ervin and Susan's wedding is in three weeks, and it seems I keep pushing the sewing off.

Last week, I canned 34 quarts of chicken broth for daughter Susan. They need some for the dressing at the wedding. I also canned some soup for us. I put chicken chunks, potatoes, onions, carrots, and celery in a quart jar. Then I filled it up with chicken broth. This will make an easy meal. I can also add a quart of this to some noodles.

Yesterday daughter Loretta and I canned 34 quarts of chicken broth for them. I also canned some chicken broth for us too, but I will wait until after the wedding and the holidays.

Tomorrow I will go help Ervin and Susan shop for any groceries needed for the wedding meal. It is much easier since they will only have one meal, but there is still a lot to get.

Last week sisters Verena and Emma, nieces Elizabeth, Emma (and her three children), and Crystal, daughters Elizabeth (and children), Verena, Susan (and children), and I all gathered at Ervin's house. We put our brains together and figured out how much of everything would be needed for each recipe.

For a few examples, this list includes 40 eight-ounce boxes of cream cheese, 25 pounds of butter, 15 gallons of milk, 19 dozen eggs, and the list goes on and on.

Niece Elizabeth brought a casserole for our lunch, and ev-

LOVINA EICHER'S AMISH KITCHEN

everyone else brought something too, so our lunch was easy. Susan has a lot of her things moved over already.

On Sunday, son Joseph and daughter Lovina went to church with their special friends Grace and Daniel. The rest of our family all came for lunch here. The menu included grilled chicken, mashed potatoes, noodles, corn, cheese, hot peppers, ice cream, sherbet, cookies, and cupcakes. We spent the afternoon playing games. Before everyone left, we set out snacks such as venison sausage, popcorn, chips and salsa, cheese dip, cookies, apples, clementines, etc.

I had bought some writing tablets on clearance at Walmart for 50 cents, so I gave each of the children one. They were quite entertained writing and drawing in their tablets. Kaitlyn, Abigail, and Jennifer wanted Grandma to see how they could write their names. They are learning so much in school. They grow up so fast.

May God always be their guide as they continue to grow older. Such sweet innocence, and oh, how precious each one is. They all have something unique, and I love listening to their stories.

We have been busy butchering deer. Tonight, son-in-law Dustin, my husband Joe, and sons Benjamin and Joseph have plans to dress one of the pigs Dustin raised. We will grind it into sausage so we can

add some to our venison summer sausage. It isn't quite as dry with sausage added.

Daughter Verena will have her 25th birthday on December 10. She still lives with Susan and the children. Her life will also change after Susan's wedding. She has grown so attached to Jennifer and Ryan after two years of being with them daily. May God bless her for being there for them when they needed someone.

December 9 will always bring us a reminder of that morning of the accident which took the life of Susan's husband Mose and turned our lives upside down. As time goes on and we let God lead the way, we can see that life must go on. Not in the ways we expected, but we know He has a plan. I am glad to see Susan happy again.

It's not that she loves her dear Mose any less but has found that love again. My continued prayer is that they will have a long, happy life together. They would appreciate your prayers.

God bless!

Taco Chicken

8 boneless chicken breasts
1/2 cup Miracle Whip
1/4 cup lemon juice
1 package taco seasoning
Heat oven to 350 degrees. Mix salad dressing, juice, and taco seasoning. Brush each breast with mixture. Place in baking pan and bake 60 minutes or until tender.

Lovina's Amish Kitchen is written by Lovina Eicher, Old Order Amish writer, cook, wife, and mother of eight. Her newest cookbook, *Amish Family Recipes*, is available wherever books are sold. Readers can write to Eicher at Lovina's Amish Kitchen, PO Box 234, Sturgis, MI 49091 (please include a self-addressed stamped envelope for a reply) or email Lovina@AmishKitchen@Me.com and your message will be passed on to her to read. She does not personally respond to emails.

State Auditor issues advisory on potential phone scam

State Auditor Rob Sand issued an advisory alerting Iowans to a potential phone scam in which the caller identifies themselves as a representative of the Iowa Auditor of State Office (AOS) on Dec. 5.

A concerned citizen notified the AOS Office on Wednesday, November 30, 2022, that they had received a phone call from a person inquiring about their mortgage. The caller also stated that they knew the concerned citizen's name, address, and height.

"The Auditor of State Office will never call you to inquire about your mortgage or personal finances," said State

Auditor Rob Sand. "We have alerted the Iowa Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division."

The Federal Trade Commission offers the following advice to identify and avoid phone scams:

Scammers might pretend to be from a well-known organization or agency like the Internal Revenue Service, the Social Security Administration, or Medicare. These agencies will never call you to request financial information.

Scammers often claim you've won a prize. Remember, if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Scammers may pressure you to act immediately or pay in a specific way.

Never give your personal or financial information to a random caller.

Talk to someone you trust before acting on a caller's request for money or information.

To learn more about protecting yourself from scams or to report a scam, contact the Iowa Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division at 515-281-5926 or consumer.consumer@ag.iowa.gov.

Questions for the AOS Office should be directed to 515-281-5834 or info@aos.iowa.gov.

Extension Horticulture Specialist provides tips for Christmas tree selection, care and disposal

For many Iowans, decorating their homes with a live Christmas tree serves as an important holiday tradition. While artificial trees can be a time saving alternative, the charm of a cut tree cannot be replicated for some. However, as Aaron Steil, consumer horticulture specialist with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach explains, it is important to follow a few simple guidelines for Christmas tree selection, care and disposal to ensure an enjoyable and safe holiday season.

As Steil explains in an article for Iowa State University Extension and Outreach's Horticulture and Home Pest News, Christmas trees are available from both cut-your-own tree farms and commercial lots. Pre-cut trees purchased from commercial lots may be local or may be shipped from out of state. For those looking to purchase a local tree, the Iowa Christmas Tree Association website provides a list of Christmas tree farms across the state.

Scotch pine cut Christmas trees. Many species of Christmas trees are available in both local farms and in commercial lots. "Tree species commonly available at tree farms and commercial lots in Iowa include Scotch pine, white pine, red pine, Fraser fir, balsam fir, Canaan fir, Douglas fir, white spruce and Colorado spruce," adds Steil. "The species you select will depend on attributes like color, shape, needle retention, aroma and branch stiffness (to hold up heavy ornaments)." Visit Horticultural and Home Pest News for more

information on the attributes of these species.

Before selecting a tree, it is important to consider where the tree will be placed within the home. "Be sure to choose a location away from heat sources, such as a fireplace or radiator. Also, decide on the size (height and width) of the tree you want," explains Steil. "Remember, a tree in a field or outdoor lot will look as tall or wide as it will in your home. Bring a tape measure with you to ensure it will fit."

While trees from cut-your-own farms are obviously fresh, trees from commercial lots may be cut, shipped and then stored for weeks before arriving in the lot, so it is important to check these trees for freshness. Needles on a fresh tree should be pliable, while those on a dry tree will be brittle. While it is normal for a tree to drop a few needles, heavy needle drop also can be an indication of a dry tree.

After purchasing a tree, it is important to get the tree into water as quickly as possible. Before bringing the tree into the house, remove an inch or more from the bottom of the trunk, to facilitate water uptake. "Avoid shaving the sides of the trunk down to fit in the stand as the outer layer of the trunk just under the bark is where most of the water is taken up," adds Steil.

The most important factor in caring for a cut tree is providing enough water. To ensure a cut tree lives for as long as possible, use a tree stand with a large water reservoir and check water levels frequently, at least once or twice



a day. As Steil explains, it is best to use clear, plain water, as additives such as sugar or molasses provide no benefit to the tree.

After the holidays, Christmas trees can be disposed of or recycled in many ways. It is important not to burn Christmas trees. "Dry, evergreen branches literally explode when burned and could cause a house fire. Also, burning the tree may contribute to the buildup of creosote and lead to a fire," warns Steil.

One creative way to recycle a Christmas tree is to place it in the yard or garden for use by birds and other wildlife. Trees also can be chipped for mulch and pruned boughs can be placed over perennials for winter protection. Otherwise, local government offices typically offer Christmas tree disposal programs either at central collection points or curbside. In Ames, Christmas trees can be dropped off following the holidays for free and will be recycled into chips for city parks.

For more information, visit Christmas Tree FAQs.

OBITUARY

Richard "Dick" Dean Griffith 1935 - 2022



Richard "Dick" Dean Griffith was born Jan. 12, 1935, in Wellman, Iowa, the son of Floyd and Gertrude (Berger) Griffith. He graduated from Wellman High School. Dick served four years for the United States Air Force.

Dick was united in marriage to Marjorie Polton on Aug. 12, 1955, in Biloxi, Miss. To this union they were blessed with four boys. Marjorie died Nov. 19, 1995. Dick later married Gilberta Walker.

He was a lifelong farmer. He enjoyed golfing, being on the farm, watching the San Antonio Spurs and the Iowa Hawkeyes. Dick died Saturday, Dec. 10, 2022, at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City at the age of 87 years.

He is survived by his wife: Gilberta of Coralville; two

sons: Philip Griffith of Wellman and Joel (Kaitlynn) Griffith of Rochester, Vermont; seven grandchildren: Jessica, Jeri, Jared, Sarah, Tyler, Emily and Erica; 17 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife: Marjorie; two sons: John and Kendall; and a sister: Lois Topping.

A private family burial will take place at the Wellman Cemetery. A memorial fund has been established for the Wellman Ambulance. Messages and tributes may be directed to www.powellfuneralhomes.com

KALONA PUBLIC LIBRARY

The library will be screening Home Alone 2 during the early out hangout on Dec. 14 at 2 p.m. and providing hot cocoa and popcorn for all participants. Cocoa and snacks will also be available on Dec. 16 at 3:30 p.m., during the Young Adult Sharpie Mugs event, where anyone 13+ can come decorate their mugs in preparation for the holiday season.

New Adult Fiction: "The Girl in the Castle" by James Patterson; "Rabbit Hutch" by Tess Gunty; "Stella Maris" by

Cormac McCarthy; "Where We Go When All We Were Is Gone" by Sequia Nagamatsu; "Daughters of War" by Dinah Jefferies

New Adult Non-Fiction: "So Help Me God" by Mike Pence; "Punks: New & Selected Poems" by John Keene

Check us out on our website at www.kalonalibrary.org or our Facebook page - Kalona Public Library. You can also download ebooks, audiobooks, and magazines by using the Libby app.

GOODWIN SENIOR DINING MENU

Dec. 15 - 22

Thursday - Sweet & sour meatballs, baked rice, hot vegetable, Jell-O cake

Friday - Scalloped potatoes and ham, hot vegetable, Jell-O with fruit

Monday - Bratwurst/sauerkraut, mashed potatoes and gravy, hot vegetable, fresh fruit

Tuesday - Chili soup, crack-

ers, corn bread/honey, vegetable Jell-O, pudding cup

Wednesday - Roast beef, mashed potatoes & gravy, hot vegetable, cranberry fluff, Santa Clause cookie

Thursday - Fish patty, sweet potato puffs, cabbage & pepper salad, fruit

Call before 9 a.m., 319-646-2711. Cost for meal is \$7.



Happy
90th
Birthday
Dolores!

Cards may be sent to:
2474 Hwy 22, Kalona IA 52247

THANK YOU

Thank you to the First Responders and everyone that prayed for me while I was in the hospital and since returning home.

Also thanks for the cards and food and other acts of kindness shown to me and my family.

The Palliative Doctor called it a "miraculous recovery!"

**Thanks again,
Julie Yoder**

Thank you to Troop 235 of the Boy Scouts of America for finishing the addition to the Brad Walker Memorial in Riverside. We also thank every one who worked to see this project completed.

We will always remember Brad. This is a way for others in Riverside to remember him too.

Corrine and Dennis Walker
Derek, Nicole, and Jordan Kent and Rhonda Yoder

Eileen Yoder
Diane Yoder
Leah Yoder
Mary and Dennis Grimm

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SANTA CLAUS/Continued from Page 1A

whole crew to Starbucks," Miller says. "They knew that Santa was making good money, and you've got to have charity. You've just got to."

"That's why you do Santa Claus for the Sunday school classes and stuff like that," he continues. "We attended a large church, and every Wednesday night they had a meal and then Bible classes afterwards. We went to dinner one Wednesday night, and kids and families were in the hall as we were walking out. One of the girls who took care of the kids during Bible study came to me, and she said, 'You know so-and-so?' And I said, 'Yeah.' She says, 'She came to me, and said, 'Santa's here incognito!' And she says, 'He is. He comes to church here.'"

Miller grew up in our community, launching a career in automotive repair at the age of 12 by working for his uncle in Frytown. In 1989, he moved to Oregon, where he started his own independent auto repair shop. In 1972, he started growing a beard, though back then it was black.

"I've always done things that are kind of different," he says. "We moved to Oregon in '69 and started a business. And I went to Europe for six months and taught auto mechanics, came back, and did a radio show for six years every Saturday morning on cars. That's the kind of crazy guy I am."

In 2003, he and his wife returned to Iowa to be near family, settling about 30 miles south of Kalona in Olds. The couple would move back to Oregon in 2006, but not before Miller took a turn at being Kalona's Santa, riding in a carriage in a used Santa suit. It was his first public appearance as Santa, but it sparked something in him.

"I had so much fun with it that I went down to the local mall [when we moved back to Oregon]," Miller says. "I said, 'What do you do for Santa?'"

Shooting Star Photo needed a second Santa to sit for photos in the mall that season, and thus, Miller's new career was born. He joined the Amalgamated Order of Red Bearded Santas, a professional fraternity for American men who perform as Santa Claus, joined a local Santa group, and spent the next 13 years watching the children of Salem grow up before his eyes.

The business of being Santa

The business of being Santa is surprisingly complex. First, you need a Sleigh-Driving License.

"I don't know that you need it," Miller laughs, showing the card that indicates his nine-reindeer certification and glasses restriction.

Next, you need complete Santa suits. Two of them.

"Sometimes the kids leak. You get that warm-leg syndrome," he says.

The right boots are important.

"I bought a pair of Santa boots and wore them a couple of times. I didn't like them," he explains. "I finally ended up with boots made of pigskin. They're leather, and they're a little higher, and they're more professional, I think."

You need familiarity with trending toys.

"Every year I get the toy catalog and I go through it. So, I try to keep up with what's going on," Miller says. "It's impossible to know everything, but I tried to do some research so that I was current when the kids came in."

You must be comfortable with all ages.

"The youngest I ever held was, a lady came in, and she says, 'I wanted to make sure you were here. I want you to hold my baby,'" Miller recounts. "I said, 'When was the baby born?' She said, 'Two days ago.'"

"I had a lady come in with her mother. Her mother was frail, about 100, I would say. She came in and she said, 'Do you mind if Mom sits on your knee?'" Miller says. "I gave her a hug. She was 102. So, Santa's good for everybody from 2 days [old] to 102."

Sometimes, you have to know when to call security.

"One of the problems we had with one guy was that he would come in, and he would bring a camera and set up and want me to hold his kids a certain way. He'd take a picture. He'd never buy a picture. Well, this is a business," he says. "We had a little problem, and I finally called security and asked them to remove him."

And finally, you may need some help with wealth management.

"Being a mall Santa pays fairly well," Miller says. "\$40 an hour in the mall, and you're working 8-hour days." For corporate parties, "\$400 for an hour." And tips: "Over the 13 years that I spent in the mall, I probably had \$3000 in tips."

The joy and melancholy of Santa Claus

As you might imagine, Miller knows a lot about what people want for Christmas. We humans retain our youthful innocence as long as we can, but eventually we face the harder truths of life. Our requests for dump trucks and play makeup sets give way to deeper desires, but I tried to do some research so that I was current when the kids came in.

"A little boy one day came

Santa's Prayer

*The sleigh was all packed, the reindeer were fed.
But Santa still knelt by the side of his bed.
Dear Father, he prayed, be with me tonight.
There's much work to do and my schedule is tight.
My sack will hold toys to grant all kids' wishes.
The supply will be endless like loaves and fishes.
I can do all these things, Lord, only through You.
I just need Your blessing, then it's easy to do.
I do this only to honor the birth of the One
That was sent to redeem us, Your most Holy Son.
So to all my friends, lest Your glory I rob,
Please, Lord, remind them who gave me this job.*

in, and he was with his dad, and he'd come in and we took a picture. We talked, and finally I said, 'What do you want for Christmas?' Well, he gave me a list of stuff, and he says, 'I'd like something for my dad.'" Miller narrates. "He runs over to the gal behind the camera. She's kind of a looker. He says, 'Would you marry my dad, so I've got a mommy?'"

"And then one day I had a young guy. . . and he walked over to say, 'Would you do me a favor?'. . . He hands me this little box," Miller says. When the young man's girlfriend sat on Santa's lap. "I said to the young lady, 'What would you like to have for Christmas?' And she says, 'Well, I don't know.' And I said, 'Do you suppose this would do?' And he's on his knees."

"It's amazing some of the things that happen, and sometimes it's really heartbreaking," Miller says. "We had a lady come in one day, one of the last years I worked. We had a reputation, (people would like to come and they would talk to me. And she says, 'I just lost my son to suicide.' I said, 'Oh

my.' And I prayed with her, because that's the only thing you can do. I hugged her, and she said, 'Thank you so much,' as she left. So that was some of the stuff that I've done."

Epilogue

Miller's days as a mall Santa may be behind him, but he's happy to take on local Santa work now that he lives in Kalona, provided it doesn't require an overnight stay. He and his wife live in a cottage at Pleasantview, where Miller has responsibilities as a caregiver and cook, so he doesn't like to spend too much time away.

In fact, you may have already met him: he posed for photos and listened to gift requests at Christmas in Kalona on Dec. 3.

"I started in Kalona, and I'm ending in Kalona," he says.

"I've had a good run, I really have," Miller concludes. "And it's been a lot of fun. I've met a lot of wonderful, wonderful people."

If you're looking for a Santa for personal, corporate, or public events, contact Carl Miller at 503-428-2417.

UI Hospitals & Clinics ranked among Best Hospitals for Maternity Care

Only two hospitals in Iowa met the bar for recognition.

University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics has been named one of the nation's top hospitals for maternity care by U.S. News & World Report.

U.S. News evaluated nearly 650 hospitals across the country that provide labor and delivery services and submitted detailed data to the publication for analysis. Only 297 hospitals received a High Performing designation, which is the highest award a hospital can earn in maternity care.

"We are proud to be one of the best hospitals for maternity care—not only in Iowa but in the nation. We truly believe our patients are in the best hands when they choose to give birth at the University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics," says Kelly Ward, medical director of labor and delivery. "This designation is also a testament to how hard our team works to provide the best care for newborns and new parents."

UI Hospitals & Clinics is one of just two hospitals in Iowa to receive this designation.

"When expectant parents are considering their options for welcoming a baby into the world, the Best Hospitals for Maternity Care is designed to help them identify hospitals that excel in delivering babies for uncomplicated pregnancies," says Min Hee Seo, senior health data scientist at U.S. News.

"This year's methodology includes four measures not previously factored into Best Hospitals for Maternity Care, including episiotomy rates, vaginal birth after cesarean

(VBAC) rates, and whether each hospital met new federal criteria for "birthing-friendly" practices. Also new this year, the U.S. News methodology rewards hospitals that track and reported their outcomes for patients of different races and ethnicities.

"Identifying racial disparities in maternity care is a vital step toward achieving health equity," says Seo. "The new measures provide expectant parents with many important data points, such as whether hospitals implemented patient

safety practices, to assist them in making a decision about where to receive maternity care."

The U.S. News Best Hospitals for Maternity Care methodology is based entirely on objective measures of quality, such as C-section rates in lower-risk pregnancies, newborn complication rates, exclusive breast milk feeding rates, and early elective delivery rates, among others.

LOCAL CHURCH SERVICES

AINSWORTH
Ainsworth Community Church: Ainsworth, Washburn
Sunday 10:30 a.m.; Kids Club Wed. 6:30 p.m.

HILLS
St. Joseph Catholic Church: Hills, Pastor: Father Hal Din, 319-679-2271; Carol Kaalberg, 319-330-5324. www.StJosephHills.org. Mass schedule: Sunday 10 a.m.

IOWA CITY
Crosspoint Baptist Church: Pastor Mike Barr. Meeting at the Clanton Hotel 2525 N. Dodge Street, Iowa City: Sunday Worship 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Supper and Bible Study (offsite).

KALONA
Cornerstone Community Church: 229 South 14th St., Floyd Yates, 319-430-9574; cornerstonekalona@gmail.com; Sunday, 10 a.m. Nursery & kids' classes available.

East Union Mennonite Church: 5615 Golie Ave. SW, 319-656-2590; Joel Bechtel, Pastor; Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday School: 10:45 a.m.

English River Chapel: 1370 Hwy 1, Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.; newenglishriverchapel.org.

Fairview Mennonite Church: 2605 540th St. SW, Pastors: Conrad Hertel, 319-512-6180; Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. & 7 p.m. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Full Gospel Revival Center: 1103 J Ave., 319-656-2296; Pastor: Jeremy Gagli, Sunday Worship: 10 a.m., Wednesday Mid-Week Service: 7 p.m.; fgcnc.net.

Haven Conservative Mennonite Church: 5203 Congress Rd. SW, 1 mile west of Hwy 1; Ministry: Nelson Bechtel, 319-683-2377; James Swartzendruber, 319-683-2372; Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m., Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Kalona Mennonite Church: 6th Street & Ave. 656-

2736, kalonamennonitechurch.com; Pastor: Josh Lundberg; Sunday Worship: Worship service at 9:30 a.m.; Live-streamed on Facebook; Sunday School at 10:30 a.m. All ages.

Kalona United Methodist Church: 4th St. & C Ave., 319-656-2642, www.kalonaumc.org; Pastor: Lisa Crow; Sunday Worship: 9 a.m. Fellowship following; Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.

Lower Deer Creek Mennonite Church: 1408 540th St. SW, 319-656-3076; <http://lmc.org>; Email: lccn@lmc.net; Pastor: Steve Nelson; Sunday Worship: 10 a.m. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Sharon Bethel Mennonite Church: 5 miles north on Highway 1, 1/4 mile east, 319-683-2672; Pastor: Delmar Springer; Leighton Yoder; Larone Springer; Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m., Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Sharon Center United Methodist Church: Rural Johnson County at corner of James Ave. & 520th St., 319-683-2564. sharoncenterumc.org; Pastor: Anita Johnson; COVID-19 protocol. On the first Sunday of each month, there will be a combined worship at 9 a.m., the remaining Sunday's will have casual worship at 8:30 a.m. and traditional at 10:30 a.m.

Sunrise Conservative Mennonite Church: 501 14th St., 319-56-2688; Pastors: Floyd Helmuth and Mary Bender; Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m. & 7 p.m. Sunday School: 10:45 a.m.

KINROSS
Kinross Christian Church: Pastor: Luke Caster; Sunday Worship: 9:30-10:30 a.m.

LONE TREE
St. Mary's Catholic Church: 216 W. Jayne St.; Pastor: Father Hal Din, 319-679-2271; Carol Kaalberg, 319-330-5324. www.StMarysKalona.org; Sunday Mass: 4 p.m.

United Presbyterian Church of Lone Tree: 110 W Elm St.; 629-4900 www.unitedpresbyterian.org; Sunday: 10:30 a.m.; Thursday 11 a.m.

NICHOLS

Nichols Christian Church: 607 Grant Ave., 319-723-4346; Sunday Services: Worship 9:30 a.m.; Sunday school: 10:30 a.m.

Nichols United Methodist Church: 315 Main; 319-723-4585; Pastors: Mary & Don Timmerman; Sunday Services: 9 a.m. Family Worship Service with Children's Message

St. Mary's Catholic Church: Short St. & Grand Ave.; Pastor: Father Hal Din, 319-679-2271; Carol Kaalberg, 319-330-5324. www.StMarysKalona.org; Sunday Mass: 8 a.m.

NORTH ENGLISH
Champion Hill United Methodist Church: 2132 TT Ave., rural North English, 319-664-3829; Sunday worship: 9 a.m.

North English Christian Church: Pastor: Luke Caster; Sunday worship: 10:11 a.m.

OXFORD
Wideman Community Church: 1424 Black Diamond Rd. SW, 2 miles north of Frytown. Pastor: Randy Huxler, 319-430-1912; Sunday Worship 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

RICHMOND
Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church: 319-648-2331, clutterparishes.org; Fr. Bill Roush; Mass: Sunday 8:30 a.m.

RIVERSIDE
The Church in Riverside: 41 E 1st St., 319-698-2185, lutheranriverside@lutheran.org; Pastor: Leanne Evangelist; Service Times: Sunday 10 a.m.; Wednesday 7 p.m.

River City Church: Meet at Highland Elementary School, 220 Schnebelen St.; www.rivercityia.org; Pastor Rodney Gehring; Sunday at 10 a.m.

St. Mary's Catholic Church: 51 St. Mary's St., 319-648-2331, clutterparishes.org; Fr. Bill Roush; Mass: Sunday, 10 a.m.; Thursday 11 a.m. at Pleasantview Home.

Trinity United Methodist Church in Riverside: 11 E

2nd St., 319-648-3092; Pastor: Marsha Gerol; Sunday Service: 9 a.m. Sunday School: 10 a.m. (Preschool -6th).

SOUTH ENGLISH
English River Church of the Brethren: 29252 137th St. (Hwy 22 between South English & Kinross) 319-667-5235; Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

WELLMAN
Asbury United Methodist Church: 601 8th Ave., 319-646-2417; Pastor: Lisa Crow; Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.

First Baptist Church: 600 4th St., 319-646-2254; Pastor: Pastor Andrew Lundstrom; Sunday School for all ages 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m. Communion is held the first Sunday of each month.

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd (Missouri Synod): 5th St. & 4th Ave., 605-651-0699; Pastor: Rev. Zachary Voss; Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.

New Life Community Church: meets at Parkside Activities Center, office located at 214 8th Ave., 319-674-9257. Office hours: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. www.newlifewellman.org; Pastor: Aaron Fleming, 646-2390; Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

Salem Mennonite Fellowship: 1306 Keokuk Washington Rd., 7 miles west of Wellman; Ministry: Willard Bechtel, 319-656-3753; Freeman Miller, 319-325-2013. Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

St. Joseph Catholic Church: 11th St. & Maplewood, 319-648-2331, clutterparishes.org; Fr. Bill Roush; Sunday Mass: 9 a.m.

Upper Deer Creek Mennonite Church: 6 1/2 miles west of Chaska Farm, 319-656-3843; Pastor: Elmer Miller; Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.

Wellman Mennonite Church: 1215 8th Ave., 319-646-2532; Pastor: David Heunikeland; Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages following the service.

West Union Mennonite Church: 3253 305th St. Pammel, 319-646-6004; Pastor: John David Kenney; Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School: 10:45 a.m.; Mennonite Women: First Wed. of every month 8:30 a.m.-3p.m.

John Christian Fellowship: 1308 Madison Ave., Pastor: Elvin Martin; Worship: 9:30 a.m.

WEST CHESTER
West Chester United Methodist Church: 403 Franklin Street, 319-698-4665; Pastor: Don Patterson; Sunday 10:45 a.m.

WASHINGTON
New Hope Mennonite Church, 1506 N. 5th Ave.; Pastors: Gabriel Bechtel, Elmer Stutzman, Matthew Petersheim; Sunday worship 10:15 a.m. Sunday school 9:30 a.m.

Immanuel Lutheran Church (ELCA): 1226 E Washington St., 319-653-3950; Pastor: Susan Deber; Sunday Worship & Communion Service: 9 a.m., website: luthwash.org. Current info on church phone recording: 319-653-3950.

Prairie Flower Baptist Church: 1909 Larch Ave. at the corner of 190th St., rural Washington; Pastor: David Corbett; Sunday Worship: 10:15 a.m. Sunday School: 9 a.m. Prairie Time: 9:45 a.m. Wednesday: Various activities posted on our web site, prairieflowerbaptistchurch.org.

St. James Parish: 602 West 2nd St., 319-653-4504, 319-658-0412; cell: Father Benne Weir; Sat. 5:30 p.m.; Sun. 9 a.m.; Spanish 11:30 a.m. stjameswashington.org.

United Methodist Church: 206 W 2nd St., 319-653-5446; Pastor: Anthony M. Dewaugh; traditional Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9 a.m.; Washingtonumc.com.

Washington Reformed Presbyterian: Washington; Sabbath School 9:45 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

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Supervisors deal with architect, road issues, liability agreement, Y pool support

BY MARY ZIELINSKI
The News

WASHINGTON

Offered a 16,000 square foot building for half of the original \$1.6 M asking price as a facility for relocating county administrative offices, Washington County Supervisors December 6 acknowledged the offer, but could not address a non-agenda item.

Later, during discussion about the long-considered proposed renovation/remodeling for administrative offices at the county-owned Orchard Hill Complex and at the county courthouse they noted interviews with three possible architects for the project were set for December 7. By Friday, agenda for the December 13 meeting listed selection of an architect for the remodeling

project, as well as a lease agreement with HACAP involving its use of Building 2 at Orchard Hill. HACAP owns the Old Main building on Lexington Blvd. just north of Orchard Hill complex.

Following a public hearing on a request to vacate a portion of 140th Street in the unincorporated town of Nira in Lime Creek Township, the board approved a resolution vacating and closing part of 140th Street in Section 19 and 20 of the Township in Block 4 of the original plat of Nira.

County Engineer Jacob Thorius, referring to the section, told the board "There is no reason to keep it." A resident, who owns the adjoining hunting land on both sides of the roadway, said closure of the roadway would alleviate

the trespassing and trash problem that has arisen there.

In other business, the board: •Discussed the possible creation of a road assessment district to provide improvements (specifically paving to 135th and 140th streets) south of Riverside, primarily involving residents in the Timberline subdivision and some of Deer Run. During an October work session Attorney John Danos of Des Moines, consultant for bond issues, told the board that while it appears to have met the 50 percent minimum state requirement of homeowners seeking the assessment district, it would be far better to have at least 60 to 80 percent in favor, submitting the required petition to create the district and their payment method. Tho-

rius told the board he would prepare a letter to the homeowners summarizing what was discussed in such a district. However, Thorius noted that the developer, who still owns the most land, would have the highest assessment. And, once the road lists, it becomes a county one, maintained by the county. The board approved his drafting and review by the county attorney of the letter, for consideration at the December 13 meeting. •Received a funding request from Workplace Learning connection for \$2,250.50, unchanged from last year's allocation. The board also received a detailed report about the Kirkwood-based program that aids students with work/career choices with job shadowing opportunities and some

hand-on experiences.

•Were asked to approve the updated shared liability agreement and local grant recipient designation with the East Central Iowa Workforce Development Board from the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Management. The agreement was reviewed and approved by attorneys for the seven counties involved.

•Approved a letter of support and pledged a \$10,000 donation to the YMCA of Washington County's indoor pool (aquatics center) project, to aid in leverage for a \$845,000 grant from Enhance Iowa (formerly Vision Iowa) program. The allocation will be made in two payments. The City of Washington has also allocated \$10,000.

Mid-Prairie Board dresses festive, enjoys school highlights

BY CHERYL ALLEN
The News

WELLMAN

The last meeting of the year saw Mid-Prairie Board of Education members dressed festively in holiday sweaters, one lit up with multi-colored bulbs, and another flashing with green glitter.

The meeting room itself was crowded at the edges with shopping bags, wrapping paper, and gifts, evidence of the district's work to make sure students in need receive gifts from the community. ALC Principal Amy Shalla said 160 students will receive gifts this year, almost double the number from last year.

"I think it's huge," board member Jake Snider said of the project.

FFA National Convention highlights

The Dec. 12 work session began with a presentation by students Marissa Cline and Gabi Robertson, Mid-Prairie FFA chapter president and chapter reporter, respectively, about their trip to the 95th National FFA Convention in Indianapolis in October.

After showing slides and reviewing the highlights of their trip, board president Jeremy Pickard asked what the FFA members brought back to their chapter from their experience at the national convention.

"I think we just brought back the aspect of loving FFA,"

Cline said. "I've done two years now, and every year I come back with more passion for FFA, more passion for agriculture."

Administrator highlights

With time left on the clock before the 7 p.m. meeting, administrators had time to share some of the notable things happening in their schools.

Middle School principal Rob Hirby acknowledged that on this year's Iowa school report card, "The middle school was at commendable, which is great, but we were identified in terms of our special ed students."

He said that the school is assessing their work, "looking at social, emotional, behavioral health pieces and developing an action plan for how we're going to help those students improve on that. It's a long process, it's a three-year thing. . . That's something we're looking forward to taking on and that is really heavy lifting."

East Elementary principal Greg Jergens said that for both elementary schools, "It's a curricular review year for mathematics. We've had staff members from K-5 who are piloting a couple of the new programs we're considering, which has been pretty cool."

"The last couple weeks have been a lot of fun," he added. "We're doing a lot of things holiday related. The halls are pretty much decorated, and

the kids are enjoying some fun days, and the staff is enjoying some fun days."

Frank Slabaugh, team lead for the Virtual Academy, reported that "We are serving 25 students currently" and that "Every month since the start of the school year, I've had a family or somebody either moving into the district or somebody from outside of the district who has inquired about our virtual academy and wanting to enroll."

"You guys just approved at the last board meeting a family from Pella, so that's the farthest away that we've had. . . I think they saw our scores or something and said that that stood out to them above other virtual academies out there. I'm very pleased with that. The company that we use is wanting to highlight us because of the success that we are seeing with our virtual academy," he added.

Superintendent Brian Stone said that he was elected representative for Southeast Iowa on the Executive Council for the Iowa High School Athletic Association. "We get nominated for this, which I certainly did not nominate myself, but I think it is a great opportunity," he commented.

Board action

During the business meeting portion of the evening, the board took the following action:

They approved second readings of Board Policy 802.4 Fixed Assets and Board Policy 708 Care, Maintenance and Disposal of School District Records.

By a unanimous roll call vote, the board passed a Budget Guarantee Resolution for fiscal year 2023-2024.

"We're doing this budget resolution now because our October 1, 2022, count for resident students was down 30.6 students. It's offset by the fact that we have 29 open-enrolled in students coming, so our net is about one," board secretary Jeff Swartzentruber explained. "We'll build for those open-enrolled in students, but what we're going to do for our resident students, there is a high possibility that our revenue won't reach last year's revenue. So, we're allowed to do a 101% budget guarantee, and that's what we're moving to do now rather than wait until we see what the State Legislature has to say. So, let's just build for this now, get it on the books, and then if we don't need it, we won't use it," he said.

The board approved first reading of Board Policy 507.9 Cardiac Emergency Response Plan/Automatic External Defibrillator (AED). Stone said the update comes at the request of the nurses.

"We're just getting things up to speed a little bit, and we have all the equipment and the facilities that are necessary.

So, nothing drastic here, obviously, but just a good update as to what we've got going on in our building," he commented. Facility task force/architect search process

Perhaps the most significant task in front of the board Monday night was taking the next step toward their next bonding opportunity. Stone said he was working with Snider to put together a facilities task force that will look into the projects vetted during the last bond process.

The task force will work collaboratively with an architectural firm to ensure the projects are feasible; Pickard said it is just due diligence that the board review proposals and qualifications from several firms before choosing one. The district is working with Shive-Hattery, Inc. on their current construction projects.

The board carried a motion to approve the Request for Qualifications from several architectural firms. The board or a subset of such expects to meet in closed session on Jan. 9 to narrow the firms down to 3 or 4 finalists, and then again on Jan. 18 to interview the finalist firms.

The board then entered closed session to discuss the purchase or sale of a particular real estate parcel.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, Jan. 9 at 6:15 p.m. at the Central Office Community Room.

Board sets hearings, OKs lease, letter about road assessment district

BY MARY ZIELINSKI
The News

WASHINGTON

The Washington County Supervisors meeting Tuesday opened and ended with correcting oversights, one to officially hire an interim ambulance department director and a second to clean up a mess" dating to the 1980s.

The first, hiring Katrina Altenhofen as temporary interim ambulance department director, was easily resolved with an agenda amendment (that was originally on the first draft) and okaying employment terms of \$55 per hour for a 20-hour work week, plus allocations for travel expenses. She was named as director December 6.

The second "oversight" brought County Attorney John Gish, who said, "I come to you with a mess to clean up" regarding an abandoned railroad segment between East Harrison and East Polk streets in Washington, dating to the 1980s. The county later bought the land for \$144, recording the

deed in August 1992. However, it also went back on the tax rolls for the adjoining property owners. Last year, after a developer bought the rights to it, the county ownership was discovered and, as Gish noted, "the dispute now is over who owns it," adding that the county collected taxes on it for several years. He explained that the way to "clear up" the situation is for the county to dispose of the property, which involves 13 adjacent landowners; the first step in which is a public hearing, having been first set for December 20, but moved to 9 a.m. December 27. The change is to meet the required time for public notice. Gish explained the usual procedure when railroads abandon land is that it reverts to the adjoining landowners. Gish stressed that the county disposition is preferable to litigation, especially considering the purchase price and the long-time collection of taxes.

A further land issue moved along but with approval of letters to residents of Stonebridge

Estates and Timberline Estates Homeowners Association regarding a possible road assessment district in which the property owners could partner with the county to cover paving costs.

As stressed in the letter, creating such a district requires a minimum of 50 percent approval from the landowners, something that has been done several times in the county. However, earlier this fall, it was noted that 60 to 80 percent in the petition would be preferable. All the other partnerships involved a single owner. In the letter, county engineer Jacob Thorius wrote, "Because of this project and numerous landowners that would potentially be involved, I and the Washington County Board of Supervisors have determined the best way to move forward with this type of project would be to follow the Second Road Assessment Disgrace process spelled out in Iowa Code Chapter 311." A copy of the code was enclosed.

The roads, currently gravel,

are 135th and 140th Streets.

As for costs, there are an estimated 200 properties involved of which Stonebridge has four empty lots; Timberline has 60 with 50 individually owned and one large one set for development as Timberline III, owned by the developer.

Thorius made it clear that the county could not take on individual negotiations and board members, who did discuss petition signature numbers, approved sending the letter to the two groups. The issue has been the subject of meetings and two work sessions since late summer.

In other business, the board:

•Approved the lighting im-

provement project for the clingy recycling center at a cost of less than \$600 for all material, with work done by WEMIGA, the contracted operator. The lighting is to provide greater safety for those using it in the early morning hours, a move that came after a report of some "close calls" at the entrance. As noted by owner Lynn Whaley, it is the morning that is a concern "since we close by 4:30 p.m."

•Set a public hearing for the sale of the county lot at 302 W. Main Street for 9 a.m. January 10 and a public hearing for the demolition of the former county jail for 9 a.m. January 13.

County officials meet with director

BY MARY ZIELINSKI
The News

WASHINGTON

County Attorney John Gish, Assistant County Attorney Jennifer Lerher and Washington County Supervisor Chairman Richard Young met in the Washington County courthouse December 2 with Kelly Garcia, director of the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services. Garcia initiated the meeting after Gish had publicly criticized the department's child protection services.

Gish provided a summary of the session and of issues discussed in the afternoon meeting:

•Too often DHHS rejects legitimate reports of abuse. •DHHS should be going inside parents' homes to visit children instead of seeing children at court and considering that a good enough visit.

•If there is an allegation of criminal, physical or sexual abuse, DHHS needs to involve law enforcement. Sometime, a social worker will "investigate allegations and only report to law enforcement after

DHHS concluded their own review." This has resulted in suspects of sexual or child abuse being interviewed by a social worker before a trained investigator ever has a chance to get involved.

•DHHS should do a better job of notifying county attorneys of reported abuse.

•DHHS has a defensive culture and employees are rarely receptive to suggestions or input from the outside, including county attorneys and medical professionals.

•There needs to be an office that is like an inspector general, and the office's responsibility is to listen to concerns about DHHS and the investigator has the chance to get involved.

•While I believe Director Garcia is interested in protecting children, some of these changes are better coming from legislation instead of DHHS policy," Gish said. "I call on the newly installed legislature to provide oversight of DHHS and enact necessary improvements to protect our children."

Highland looks at literacy instruction, wrestling

BY EMILY MARNER
The News

RIVERSIDE

The Highland School Board held their regular meeting on Monday, Dec. 12 at 5 p.m. The board primarily discussed elementary core literacy instruction, progress and goals.

Janelle Sulhoff, the Elementary Instructional Coach, presented some statistics in relation to the elementary's core literacy instruction. It was found that they need to focus on a few aspects; most importantly, making sure students can become independent with their learning. Sulhoff is able to analyze the elementary's progress through fidelity

checks and self-assessments like SAMMI.

According to Sulhoff, the majority of Highland Elementary's teachers scored between three and four on the fidelity check, meaning they are meeting the core elements of teaching, and only a couple other teachers need improvement.

"We are feeling really good about the structure of this all, where we have been using the data to focus on areas of improvement, and we can identify where teachers need more support. It's great to know what our building needs and how we can move forward," commented Sulhoff.

The board briefly discussed

winter activities numbers, which were all within the same range as previous years. There is a growing interest in girls' wrestling, especially junior high, but the team needs a coach.

Finally, Superintendent Ken Crawford went over some of the general powers in the Reconsideration Committee. When a parent or other wants something reconsidered, such as removing a book from the school's library, the school board has ultimate power to decide.

The Highland School Board will reconvene on Monday, January 9 at 5 p.m.



Jean Lenz (left) and Cindy Michel (right) from Hills Bank present Highland Board President Nate Robinson (center) with a Classroom Cash check for \$1,439.34.



Kris Burns (left) and Tyler Coblenz (center) from Hills Bank present Hillcrest Principal Dwight Gingerich (center) with a Classroom Cash check for \$742.80.



Kris Burns (left) and Jo Edgington (right) from Hills Bank present Mid-Prairie Superintendent Brian Stone (center) with a Classroom Cash check for \$4,264.00.

SUBMITTED

Hills Bank donates more than \$7,000 to area schools

Hills Bank, as part of its Classroom Cash® program, recently donated \$1,439.34 to the Highland Community School District, \$742.80 to Hillcrest Academy, \$688.82 to the Lone Tree Community School District, and \$4,264.00 to the Mid-Prairie Community School District. These funds will be used to support programs and

services that enhance student educational experiences.

Since 2004, \$37,534.62 has been donated to the Highland Community School District, \$27,105.21 to Hillcrest Academy, \$20,820.97 to the Lone Tree Community School District, and \$123,200.17 to the Mid-Prairie Community School District. Classroom Cash card holders

have earned a total of over \$1.55 million for participating area schools. With every swipe of their Hills Bank debit card, over 11,100 customers generate donations from Hills Bank to their designated public school district or private school in our local communities. There is no charge to the school or to our customers; it's just a great way

to make a difference for area students.

"A vital part of Hills Bank's mission is to give back to our community," said Dwight O. Seegmiller, CEO, Hills Bank. "This program allows our customers to help simply by swiping their Hills Bank debit card. The more they use their card, the more our community

schools benefit."

For more information about participating in Classroom Cash, simply visit www.Hills-Bank.com/ClassroomCash or any Hills Bank location. Together, we are investing in our community schools.

NATIONAL COMPUTER EDUCATION WEEK AT LONE TREE



SUBMITTED

It's National Computer Education Week and Ms. Howard's Intro to Computer Science class could think of no better way to celebrate than teaching our elementary students about inputs and outputs in coding. Great things are happening at Lone Tree! Go Lions!



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Riverside who? Johnson County drops city from liaison assignments

BY PAUL D. BOWKER
The News

RIVERSIDE

Johnson County is dropping Riverside from its liaison list for 2023.

But the Riverside City Council likely won't miss their neighbors to the north because a Johnson County Supervisor hasn't attended a City Council session for an extended time, if ever.

In a way, it's like that distant aunt who not only didn't show up for Thanksgiving dinner, but it's an aunt nobody really knew about.

"Honestly, I wasn't aware we had a liaison assigned,"

Riverside Mayor Allen Schneider told The News.

In fact, Johnson County Supervisor Lisa Green-Douglass, the 2022 liaison to Riverside and a North Liberty-area resident, says she has never been to a Riverside meeting.

"Riverside and Riverside City Council is in a different county, so I have never gone to those," Green-Douglass said at the Board of Supervisors work session Dec. 7. "I kind of think, why do we even have it on there?"

So now, they don't.

The Johnson County Board of Supervisors decided at its work session last week to remove Riverside from its list of

liaison assignments for 2023 and replace it with a liaison working with township clerks and trustees in rural Johnson County.

The Johnson County Supervisors, who will spend the rest of this month considering assignments for 2023, typically serve as liaisons to other communities in the county, including Hills and Lone Tree. Riverside is unique because the county line is a little more than a mile away from the central part of the city and many of its residents work in Iowa City or other places in Johnson County.

"I've never gone and I've never gotten a call from any-

one there," Green-Douglass said.

Schneider, who works in Iowa City himself, stands ready to work with Johnson County if a situation surfaces.

"It sounds like this decision won't have much impact," he said. "That being said, we're always open to working with Johnson County if the need arises."

Special Meeting

The City Council held a special meeting Dec. 8, mostly to discuss lining up temporary help for snow removal, if needed, this winter and also to go into closed session to interview a candidate for a main-

tenance position. The Council also went into closed session on Dec. 5 for the same reason.

The Council voted to offer a starting hourly rate of \$22 an hour to the new maintenance worker and is expected to make an appointment at its next meeting Dec. 19.

The Council also agreed on an hourly rate of \$15 an hour for a temporary worker in the winter who would move snow after large storms.

Next board meeting: The City Council will hold its next regularly scheduled meeting at 6 p.m. Dec. 19.

Meisheid case continued

BY MARY ZIELINSKI
The News

The case of Matthew James Meisheid, 40, charged with two counts of Assault on Persons in Certain Occupations by Using or Displaying a Firearm, each a Class D Felony, is set for trial March 21, 2023.

His attorney had filed a written arraignment August 8, entering a not guilty plea on both counts. Trial was then set for November 15 and later moved to December 6.

Charges are the result of county deputies responding to a call July 9 about Meisheid shooting off fireworks near his 3rd Street home in Kalona and, according to the police report, to inform him of the city ordinance against it.

Deputies reported that Meisheid appeared "aggressive, swearing and upset" with them, and when a deputy attempted to explain they were there only to inform him of the ordinance and for him to stop shooting fireworks, he report-

edly threatened them, pulled a black semi-automatic pistol with holster out of his right waistline, pointed it into the air, and simulated shooting the gun.

At this point, the deputies reported they felt threatened, feared for their lives, and drove from the scene to seek a warrant for Meisheid's arrest. The warrant was executed at 9 a.m. Tuesday, July 12, with five more officers responding.

Bond originally had been set at \$10,000 cash only but was increased to \$25,000 after officers found "dozens of firearms and a large quantity of ammunition" in Meisheid's house. According to the county sheriff's office, the items were seized in the interest of public safety. A later report said there were more than a hundred guns.

Meisheid was charged and taken to the county jail and released July 13 after posting the cash bail. Arraignment in Washington District Court was set for August 5 following the preliminary hearing July 22.

CROP ADVANTAGE SERIES BRINGS INFORMATION TO CORALVILLE

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach specialists will travel to the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center in Coralville for the 2023 Crop Advantage Series to provide farmers, crop consultants and agribusinesses with current research from Iowa State University and updated management information and recommendations based on current and future crop production issues.

In addition, the meeting will also offer continuing education credits for Certified Crop Advisors (CCA) and pesticide safety recertification for private pesticide applicators. ISU Extension and Outreach will travel to 14 locations across

Iowa for the 2023 Crop Advantage Series from Jan. 3-26.

There is no other program in our crop production education year where we are able to bring this many extension specialists together to sites across the state," said Rebecca Vittetoe, field agronomist with ISU Extension and Outreach. "We're excited to provide the quality, in-person education farmers have come to expect."

Topics at the Coralville Crop Advantage Series meeting will include: tar spot in corn, crop market outlook for 2023, changes to P and K guidelines, climate outlook, risk and rewards of ag carbon credits, weed management issues, and more.

Early registration is \$75 and must be received by Jan. 18. Late registration made less than seven days prior to the meeting or on-site is \$100. Registration includes lunch, printed proceedings, private pesticide applicator recertification and CCA credits.

Online registration and additional information is available at www.cropadvantage.org or from your county extension office.

For questions, contact ANR Program Services at 515-294-6429 or anr@iastate.edu, or Rebecca Vittetoe at 319-653-4811 or rka@iastate.edu.



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IOWA FARM BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

BY GIOVANNI CORONEL
The News

LONE TREE

During its regular scheduled meeting the Lone Tree School Board elected Robert Sladek to be the school board president. Sladek's term will end in 2025. The school board also elected Joel Yedlik to be the school board vice president. Yedlik's term will end in 2023.

Personnel Changes

There were four new hires to report. Kale Render was assigned to be the Varsity Boy's Track coach. Chadwick Crawford is penciled in to be a High School English Teacher. Jacob Hoyle will be the JV/JH Wrestling coach. Avery Knock will assume the position of Varsity Baseball coach. There was one resignation to report. Render can't be both the JH girls track

coach and the Varsity Boy's track, so he is resigning as the girls track coach. There were no transfers to report.

Esports
The Lone Tree Esports team gave an educational presentation to the school board. Jessica Howard, the coach of the Esports team, along with members of the team were in attendance to talk to the board about their progress. Esports - short for electronic sports - are video games played in a highly organized, competitive environment.

"This year we played Siege, we ended up making the state playoff bracket. We made the very first level of playoffs and lost in a very hard match to a team that was in the top four last year," Howard said. "We've had a couple different colleges come in and talk and recruit. They're recruiting pretty hard for Rocket League

WINDHAM/Continued from Page 1A

Mougin. "Now you seem to want to take that right away from me by putting development in our backyard."

The move to create an official county plan for Windham, which is located a couple of miles north of Frytown and southwest of Iowa City, began in July with the first of two public meetings held at Renee's Roadhouse in the middle of the village on Black Diamond Road SW.

Windham Village is the last of nine small towns, or villages, in Johnson County that were targeted by the Board of Supervisors to develop official growth and vision plans in a process that has taken years to complete. Other villages with adopted plans include River Junction (2019), Joetown (2014), Sharon Center (2014) and Frytown (2008).

The proposed Windham Village plan, which was approved 4-1 by the county's Planning & Zoning Commission in November on a revised boundary zone presented by Windham resident Pat Mougin, is focused on protecting the rural area property and preventing large subdivisions, county staff members say.

"Let us live in rural Johnson County the way we were raised and continue what our fathers and our forefathers' legacy was that they created for this community," said Pat Mougin, who requested a vote delay of three to six months.

One resident of River Junction said the board did not listen to residents when River Junction's plan was finalized three years ago.

Supervisor Pat Heiden, who attended both summer meetings in Windham, said she also

attended meetings leading up to the River Junction agreement and voted against the proposal. "I've heard you," Heiden said. "I heard what you said. Your concern about the growth area."

Trust came up during an emotional discussion in both public comment and supervisor comment.

"The problem is, you don't trust us," Heiden said. "You don't trust county government."

"You guys don't trust us," said longtime Supervisor Rod Sullivan. "Let's be honest, there's nothing we're going to do here that's going to change that. I can vote with you, I can vote against you, it doesn't matter. You guys just don't trust what we're going to do here."

The plan currently includes two boundary zones: one, proposed by county staff, covers 196 acres; another, proposed by Pat Mougin, covers about 155 acres. Windham's proposed boundary would be the second-smallest village zone in Johnson County. River Junction's is about 136 acres. About 200 signed a petition requesting the Supervisors not approve any kind of a plan.

Josh Busard, Director of Johnson County Planning, Development and Sustainability, was in favor of moving ahead with the vote last Thursday.

I feel that my staff has done an excellent job at trying to pull together all the public comments while still coming up with a plan that is just going to be supportive of our comprehensive plan and the other board policies," Busard said.

But at the end of the discus-

sion, three of the four supervisors present opted to defer a vote for 90 days so that Busard and other members of the county staff can work with the Windham residents committee.

"I really think that this (the proposed plan) is the best way to protect the things that you think are important," Green said, addressing the residents. "However, I also acknowledge that while we may have fulfilled our legal obligations, it's quite clear we are not there yet in terms of there being buy-in from area residents."

To view the proposed Windham Village plan, go to: johnsoncountyiowa.gov/windham-villageplan.

Board Action

The board approved Peterson Contractors of Reinbeck to do a bridge-replacement project on James Avenue SW over a branch of the Picaque Creek, north of 54th Street SW. Peterson had the low bid of \$319,627 for the project. Work is expected to be done in the spring.

Another bridge-replacement project will come before the board at its Dec. 15 meeting. Jim Schroeder Construction of Bellevue is the low bidder for a bridge project on Utah Avenue SE near Lone Tree. Schroeder's bid is \$760,145 for work that would begin around May 1, 2023.

The board approved a number of fundings for social services emergency assistance, including the Shelter House for \$53,880.

Next board meeting: The board will hold its next formal meeting at 9 a.m. Dec. 15.

LANTERN PUPPET-MAKING OPPORTUNITY IN WEST LIBERTY

Join us at Owl Glass Puppetry Center for a weekend workshop creating lanterns and puppets lit from within! Brant Bollman of Uplifting Puppets in Oskaloosa, Iowa, will lead the

workshop. Times are Friday, December 16, 4 - 8 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, December 17 and 18, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Bollman specializes in creating and performing with giant parade

puppets. He learned the craft of creating lantern puppets from internationally known puppet artist Andrew Kim.

Owl Glass Puppetry Center is located at 319 N. Calhoun, West Liberty.

The workshops are free and open to the public. You may attend any or all three days and make your own creation or help with the group project. We will construct a giant sun and other celestial bodies (moon, stars, planets).

Wednesday, December 21, at 5:00 p.m., when the sun has set, we will light our lantern puppets and stroll them through the streets of beautiful West Liberty, Iowa to celebrate the Solstice. The short parade will end at Ron DeVoo Park or Owl Glass Puppetry Center (depending on the weather), where we will invite the community to join us for hot cocoa, treats, and music.

Please let us know if you plan to attend the workshops so we can be sure to have enough supplies. For further information or reservations call 319-627-2487 or e-mail <monica@puppetspuppets.com> or <ceptrac@puppetspuppets.com>.

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A high-five seals the deal: Santa is going to come through for this little guy.



GIOVANNI CORONEL/THE NEWS

A hug from Santa makes for a memorable first Christmas.

Santa comes to Riverside

BY GIOVANNI CORONEL
The News

RIVERSIDE

Old Saint Nick made his way to Riverside on December 10, and there was a slew of parents who brought their children to meet with him at the local fire station.

Santa arrived at the Riverside Fire Station not in a sled powered by reindeer but, more appropriately, in a fire truck. Coming to Riverside to ask eager kids what they want for Christmas is something Santa has been doing for a long time. "The [Riverside Area Community Club] started doing Santa

in 1984, before that it was the chamber of commerce," Riverside city clerk Becky Laroche said. "The RAC club evolved from the chamber of commerce."

Inside the fire station the holiday atmosphere was unmistakable as the Christmas décor of trees, lights, treats, and Santa-style stocking caps caught the eye no matter where someone looked. Cookies and milk were provided to all who wished to partake. After getting to meet Santa, kids were gifted a bag of goodies.

"Lately our funds come from Betty Kaalberg's estate.

She was on the city council for several years, and her estate does a donation to the RAC club every year to help pay for the candy and the sacks. Whatever we have left here we take down to the senior village, and if there is still some [left], then they go back to the preschool until we get rid of them all," Laroche said.

Candies, cookies, and getting to tell Santa exactly what they want for Christmas was more than enough to satisfy the little ones who attended this event.



A trio of young ladies dressed festively for their photo with Mr. Claus.

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EMILY MARNER/THE NEWS

Kids enjoyed meeting Santa inside a shelter provided by Premier Portable Buildings, and every kid received a book from the Wellman-Scofield Public Library. The library's Carrie Geno also took photos that families can download free on the library's website.

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CARRIE GENO/THE NEWS

Nate Nisly's singing group filled the air with caroling while attendees enjoyed cookies and hot chocolate provided by DJ's Casual Café.



EMILY MARNER/THE NEWS

A cookie in hand and attention from Santa – a perfect Saturday afternoon.

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CARRIE GENO/THE NEWS

Santa Claus arrived in Wellman on a fire truck on Saturday, Dec. 10, courtesy of the Wellman-Scofield Public Library.



CHERYL ALLEN/THE NEWS

The News SPORTS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2022



Mid-Prairie senior Camron Pickard brings the ball up the court during a River Valley Conference game at West Branch on Friday. **JEFF YODER/THE NEWS**

Small team, endless effort

BY DOUGLAS MILES
Correspondent

MARION

What the Highland girls' wrestling team lacks in numbers, it compensates with quality.

With a roster that lists just four wrestlers, the burgeoning Huskies' program routinely tussles with schools that boast several times that number.

Many would view this disparity as a detriment. Not the Huskies.

"We're not a big school, we're not a big team but we have got good athletes and we have got great listeners," Highland coach Dylan Stewart said after the Huskies won two silver medals and two bronze Saturday at the Marion Girls' Wrestling Tournament at Marion High School. "They are really good in the room. They listen, they try to apply the knowledge that we give them, so you can't really ask for much more. Everybody would say, 'Oh, we would like to have a full lineup.' But at the end of the day, I want to have kids that want to work hard and want to get better. And I think that is exactly what we have got with this group of girls."

The Marion tournament consisted of 20 schools with wrestlers divided into 44 brackets in a scramble-type of format, meaning pairings were based on weight and experience level. Of the nine schools with less than eight wrestlers at the tournament, only English Valleys (46 points) scored more team points than Highland's 44.

SEE HUSKIES | PAGE 4B

STEPPING UP

Camron Pickard emerges as scorer, leader for Golden Hawk basketball

BY JEFF YODER
The News

WEST BRANCH

The casual basketball fan might be surprised by Camron Pickard's stellar offensive performance over Mid-Prairie's first four games this year. But it has certainly come as no shock to Golden Hawk head coach Daren Lambert.

"It's expected of him, I'm not surprised," said Lambert after Pickard set a new career high with 23 points on Friday night.

"Other people may be surprised at his success, but we see the work that he puts in and we see the devotion. The

guys lean on him, and he did a tremendous job tonight of pulling us through some tough spots for sure."

Pickard scored 17 of Mid-Prairie's 27 second-half points in the 64-56 loss at West Branch. The senior point guard, who had a season high of 13 last year, has scored at least 10 in every game of the Golden Hawks' 3-1 start. And with 18 assists already, Pickard is just two away from matching his season total from a year ago.

"I think he knows he's got to be the one to lead," Lambert said. "He's the captain. He's the leader. And he takes that role very seriously. I'm really proud of him, and he's going to continue to have

nights like this throughout the year."

Trailing 33-31, Pickard would score Mid-Prairie's next 11 points in the third quarter. His running floater dropped through the net to break a 35-35 tie. On the next trip, he caught the ball in the corner and didn't hesitate, burying a triple to extend the lead to five.

"My teammates and my coaches were definitely encouraging me to play my game," Pickard said. "And that's the biggest confidence you can get — from your teammates and from your coaches."

SEE GOLDEN HAWK BOYS | PAGE 6B



Highland's Abbie Grout works towards a takedown during a tournament. **JEFF YODER/THE NEWS**

Hillcrest downs Lone Tree with third-quarter blitz

BY JEFF YODER
The News

KALONA

After a competitive first half, the Hillcrest Academy boys put on a clinic in the third quarter of a 78-46 win over Lone Tree on Tuesday.

The Ravens came out of the halftime locker room with a 26-23 lead. Less than three minutes of the second half had elapsed by the time Luke Schrock's 3-pointer extended the Hillcrest lead to 43-25.

"There were times where that was just a thing of beauty to watch," Hillcrest coach Dwight Gingerich said. "We were doing things right. We were moving without the ball better, we were getting the ball inside. We were finishing with strength

inside, we weren't sloppy in our footwork as much."

Jace Rempel hit a 3-pointer to begin the offensive barrage. A steal led to a quick bucket for Josiah Beachy. The Hillcrest pressure forced another turnover and the ball popped quickly from Schrock to Beachy to Seth Ours for a layup. Grant Bender scored 13 points during 17-2 and 16-0 third-quarter runs. He finished with a game-high 27 points.

"Afterwards, we just talked about how when we just execute across the board — offensively defensively — on the same page, it makes such a difference, and it's good for the guys to see that," Gingerich said. "The joy that they experienced when they see it coming together like that — that's what

makes it fun."

Rempel also sparked the 16-0 run with a 3-pointer. He assisted on the next basket with a steal and long pass to freshman Rowan Miller, who beat the Lone Tree defense down the court for a layup.

"Jace Rempel hit some big shots for us," Gingerich said. "Jace wasn't feeling the best, wasn't in school yesterday and bounced back today to play his best game of the year."

"It was a good team effort by everybody. Grant Bender played outstanding. In that second half, Luke Schrock, Seth Ours came up really big, hit some big threes and guided the team out there."

SEE RAVENS AND LIONS | PAGE 2B



Hillcrest's Seth Ours is guarded by Lone Tree freshman Emmett Burke. **JEFF YODER/THE NEWS**

ATHLETE of the WEEK

GRANT BENDER

HILLCREST SENIOR

Bender scored 41 points in an 81-67 win at Louisa-Muscatine on Saturday and had 25 in a 78-48 win over Lone Tree on Tuesday. He made 28 shots and missed just seven over the two-game stretch.

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JEFF YODER/THE NEWS

Left, Hillcrest freshman Claire Withrow looks for an open teammate on Tuesday. Right, Lone Tree sophomore Riley Shield takes a shot in the paint.

Lone Tree defense shuts down Hillcrest 41-24

BY JEFF YODER
The News

KALONA

While the outside shooting was inconsistent for Lone Tree on Tuesday, the Lady Lions were steady on the defensive end and boards in a 41-24 win at Hillcrest.

Lone Tree pressured the Raven ball handlers and disrupted the passing lanes, forcing 30 turnovers in the victory. "That's what I like best about this team," Lone Tree coach Ryan Shelman said. "We're scrappy, we move, we have long arms. We actually teach to get tips and that's what leads to our steals."

Trailing 9-7 early in the second quarter, Lone Tree scored 15 of its next 16 points from the 3-point line.

Vivan Zaruba hit back-to-back 3-point shots, which gave Lone Tree the lead for good at 13-12. Finely Jacque, Avery Lisk and Riley Krueger each connected from beyond the arc as Lone Tree built a 27-16 half-

time lead.

Lone Tree trailed 6-2 with a minute left in the first quarter before exploding for 25 points over the next nine minutes.

"We were moving the ball pretty well against their zone," Shelman said. "I thought our girls did a good job of swinging the ball against their defense, getting interior touches when we could. We had open jump shots. We just weren't hitting them quite the first quarter. But then in that second quarter, we just really started to go off."

Zaruba and Jacque each scored eight points, while Lisk finished with seven.

Freshman Alyson Ford came off of the bench to lead Lone Tree with nine. She ended a three and a half minute scoring drought in the first quarter and scored twice on putbacks. "She's played some big minutes for us," Shelman said. "She's done a really nice job defensively and offensively."

Malia Yoder made back-to-back shots to pull the Ravens

within a point at 17-16 in the second quarter. But the Lady Lions allowed just eight points on three field goals the rest of the way.

"I thought Vivian Zaruba really did a good job of getting her fingers on the ball and that led to some steals," Shelman said. "I thought Riley Krueger, Avery Lisk, Finley Jacque were just in really good positions. And then our post players did a nice job to kind of keep the ball out of the interior."

Riley Shield scored as the second quarter wound down and scored again in the closing seconds of the third to stretch the lead to 35-20.

The first 28 points of the game were scored by freshmen and sophomores before Lone Tree senior Riley Krueger scored four straight points in the second quarter.

All of the Ravens' points came from freshmen and sophomores, led by Yoder's 13 points.

Freshman Claire Withrow hit a 3-pointer to put the Ra-

vens on top 9-4 in the first and her second from long range gave Hillcrest a 12-10 lead. She finished with eight points and Lydia Beachy added three.

"We were doing a good job of taking care of the ball," Hillcrest coach Mitchell Drey said about the first quarter. "We've got shooters, and throughout the season we've seen it. But when we don't take care of the ball, we don't get the opportunity to shoot and we can't really show that."

"In the first half, we did a great job. Good passes, strong with the ball, making movements with intention. We kind of lost that towards the end of the game. I think we got a little tired, but credit Lone Tree, they forced us into playing their style of game in that second half."

English Valleys 51, L-T 43

Finley Jacque scored 21 points in a loss at English Valleys on Saturday.

The Lions fell behind 12-5 after the first quarter and trailed

37-23 before scoring 20 points in the fourth quarter.

Jacque was 3-of-9 from the 3-point line and had three assists in the loss. Vivan Zaruba had six points and nine rebounds. Avery Lisk had five points, four assists and three steals. Riley Krueger scored five points and Alyson Ford made both of her shot attempts

L-M 50, Hillcrest 23

Claire Withrow made five 3-point shots in a loss at Louisa-Muscataine on Friday. Delaney Shaw had a team-high six rebounds and two assists. Malia Yoder had five points, two blocks and two assists.

Falcon senior McKenzie Kissell led all scorers with 16 points.

Winfield-Mt. U 55, Hillcrest 13

The Ravens played a 9-9 third quarter with No. 14 WMU (8-0) after falling behind 37-1 at halftime on Saturday.

Ravens fall to WMU in overtime

BY JEFF YODER
The News

KALONA

Winfield-Mt. Union 3-point specialist Andrew Brown doesn't take many shots, but the Wolves' senior guard was still ready for his opportunities on Saturday.

Trailing Hillcrest Academy 42-32, Brown hit three shots from outside during a fourth-quarter run that sent the game to overtime, where WMU came away with a 59-56 win.

"It was a crazy game, both teams played really hard," Hillcrest coach Dwight Gingerich said. "It felt like we were in a good spot there, going into the fourth quarter. Our kids are disappointed. I think that they really felt like we had a great opportunity at that point, and let it slip away."

"Credit to Winfield, they made some huge plays in the fourth quarter and did enough to get the W."

The shot clock was winding down with about 1:40 left in the game when Seth Ours pulled up and drained his fifth 3-pointer of the game to put the Ravens up 51-47.

But Abram Edwards scored on two of the next three WMU possessions and Hillcrest was unable to convert the game-winning layup with five seconds left. Edwards led the Wolves with 22 points on 11-of-20 shooting.

Luke Schrock hit a 3-pointer to give Hillcrest a 56-55 lead midway through the overtime, but those would be the final points for the Ravens.

Cam Buffington, who sat in the second quarter due to foul trouble, scored six of his 17 points in overtime to take the three-point lead. And the Ravens' tying 3-pointer missed the mark in the closing seconds.

The Ravens kept the 6-foot-4 Buffington and 6-foot-6 Edwards from dominating the offensive glass for most of the night, but the Wolves scored six of their eight points in overtime following offensive rebounds. Buffington finished with five offensive boards and 15 total rebounds.

In the third quarter, neither team had led by more than four



JEFF YODER/THE NEWS

Hillcrest senior Grant Bender uses the glass to score on a reverse layup between WMU defenders on Saturday.

points when Ours hit back-to-back 3-pointers to put the Ravens up 36-30. Schrock would score the next four points to extend the run to 10-0.

Ours ended a 10-0 WMU run with a 3-pointer to make it 45-42. Brown hit the tying shot for the Wolves. Grant Bender answered from outside. Buffington pulled the Ravens within a point, and then Ours hit again from the 3-point line. He finished with 23 points in the loss.

"I'm really proud of the effort of our guys," Gingerich said. "Seth made some big plays late when he was battling to be able to even get up and walk. Our trainer, Chuck Miller, kind of took care of him during timeout and he said he's ready to go. So you've got to be proud of that kind of effort on Seth's part just to play through that."

Schrock scored 11 of his 16 points in the second half and overtime. Bender scored 10 points in the paint in the first half and drew a couple of big fouls from Buffington. Bender finished with 13.

"I thought (Bender) played a ton of minutes tonight, and I know that he's not feeling the best," Gingerich said. "He put a lot out there, proud of his effort. We got some good minutes off the bench. Jace Rempel gave us a lot of good minutes tonight. Bryce Bailey came in,

Rowan Miller, Mason (Bender), our three young guys came in and just gave us some important minutes."

Bailey and Miller each scored a bucket during a 13-5 run in that put the Ravens up 26-22 in the second quarter.

"What a great game for our conference and for the two teams here," Gingerich said. "And at this point, it's still early in the year and there's a lot we can take from this game and improve. But again, I like the effort of our guys, and it's something to build on."

Hillcrest 81, L-M 67

Grant Bender scored a career-high 41 points in the Ravens' road victory on Friday. At the time, his 41 points on 17-of-20 shooting was tied for the state lead for most points in a single game this season. He also had six steals.

The Ravens led 27-14 after one quarter, but the Falcons scored 21 in the second quarter to cut the lead to eight. But there was no slowing the Hillcrest offense on Friday. Seth Ours finished with 16 points and six assists on 3-of-7 shooting from the 3-point line. Jace Rempel had nine points, eight assists, and six steals, while Luke Schrock added eight points and eight assists.

Ty Northup led the Falcons with 27.

RAVENS AND LIONS/Continued from Page 1B

Early in the game, Lone Tree took care of the basketball and matched the Ravens' offensive execution. Drew Gauley hit a pair of threes and tied the game 12-12 late in the first quarter.

Ethan Willoz also had six points in the first half as Lone Tree built a 21-17 lead.

"In the first half, I thought we really did a good job of handling that pressure and we took better shots," Lone Tree coach Tom Squiers said. "In the second half, they made us panic and they sped us up a little bit."

Lone Tree freshman Emmett Burke answered the Ravens' first 3-pointer of the game with one of his own to pull the Lions within two. On the next trip, he took the ball right to the basket and tied the game.

He scored seven points in the second quarter and hit another three to end the Ravens' 17-2 run.

He can shoot the ball and he's a good defender," Squiers said. "He's really hard on himself when he makes a mistake and he's got to get past that. But he's only a freshman and freshmen are going to make mistakes."

Gauley finished with nine points, all coming from behind the arc. Tyce Alt scored twice off of offensive rebounds and finished with 10.

Having (Ethan) Bockelman in foul trouble hurt us, because he's one of our major scorers," Squiers said. "But he's kind of a streak shooter. When he sits on the bench half the game, he just can't get in that flow. But credit to Hillcrest, they did a great job defensively in the second half

and took us out of our offense, and I think that was the difference."

Lone Tree 92, CVC 17

Two years ago, a 2-win Lone Tree team faced a 1-win Cedar Valley Christian squad in the first round of the postseason. The two teams were in a similar position when the Huskies defeated the Lions 53-45 in overtime to move on to the next round.

The Lions aren't in that position anymore.

Lone Tree outrebounded Cedar Valley Christian 45-16 and won the turnover battle 35-6 in a blowout victory on Thursday.

Twelve players scored at least four points in the win. Senior Jack Buser had a double-double with 13 points and 10 rebounds. Ethan Bockelman was 5-for-5 from the floor for 12 points, while Mitchell Koedam scored 10.

Jack Patterson, Sebastian Jacque, and William Rockafellow each scored eight. Emmett Burke added seven points and three steals, while Tyce Alt and Taj Williams each finished with six. Drew Gauley scored five points and led the Lions with eight assists and three steals. Braden Viers scored five points and had three steals as well.

L-T 50, English Valleys 30

After scoring just five points in the first half, Lone Tree came back from a 22-18 halftime deficit with a 26-3 run in the third quarter at English Valleys.

The Lions allowed just eight points in the second half, moving to 3-4 for the season.



JEFF YODER/THE NEWS

Lone Tree senior Jack Buser looks for a teammate in the post as Hillcrest sophomore Micah Gerber defends during Tuesday's game.

Area teams compete in State Dance Championships



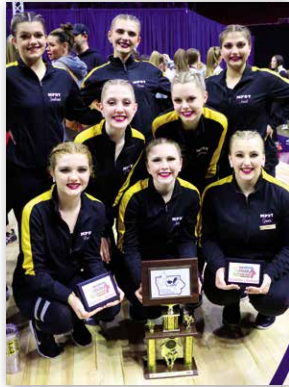
HANNAH ZADOW

The Lone Tree dance team, pictured during a pop performance at Wells Fargo Arena, placed seventh in Class I Pom, third in Class I Jazz and fourth in Class I Lyrical, which marked Lone Tree's first lyrical trophy in school history.



HANNAH ZADOW

Maddie Floyd was one of five Lone Tree soloists to compete at the ISDTA State Dance Team Championships, held Nov. 30 - Dec. 2 at Wells Fargo Arena/HyVee Hall in Des Moines. All three team routines and the five soloists (captain Maddie Kleckner, captain Hayden Yoder, Bailee Gottschalk, Maddi Floyd, and Haiden Gauley) earned Division I ratings. Sophomore Bailee Gottschalk placed 8th for Lone Tree, extending a streak of five years with a top-10 soloist. Lone Tree also brought home a Distinguished Academic Achievement award for an average team GPA of 3.5-4.0.



JILL POOCK

The Mid-Prairie Dance Team. Front row, from left: Paityn Jennings, Alivia Poock, and Grace Allred. Middle: Emma Hendricks and Meadow Flynn. Back: Ireland McCain, Arel McCain and Ariel Kaufman.



JILL POOCK

The Mid-Prairie Dance Team earned Division I ratings for all three of its dances: Pom, Hip Hop, and Jazz, where they placed fourth overall.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Highland dance team received a Division I rating for its group dance. As a group, the Huskies also earned an award for outstanding academics.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Kate Hartzler and Adeline Krotz earned Division I ratings for their solos at the ISDTA State Dance Team Championships in Des Moines.

Golden Hawks get it done on the defensive end

BY JEFF YODER
The News

WEST BRANCH

Mid-Prairie traveled to West Branch on Friday looking to bounce back from a pair of close losses to ranked teams. But the Bears were also in desperate need of a victory after losing the only two games of their young season to tough opponents.

That hunger was evident on the defensive end for Mid-Prairie, as the Golden Hawks allowed just two points in the first quarter of a 37-29 win over West Branch.

"I thought our movement was really good," Mid-Prairie coach Danny Hershberger said. "We did a great job of making them take time to get up to court, giving them less time to run their offense. And then we did a great job of rotating and moving when the ball was in the air and the girls did a great job of getting deflections and making it really difficult on them."

The Bears cut the Mid-Prairie lead to three points at the half after trailing by as many as eight.

But the Golden Hawk defense picked up its intensity again after halftime, holding



JEFF YODER/THE NEWS

Mid-Prairie's Maya Nonnenmann and West Branch's Olivia Naber work for position during a free throw.

West Branch to just two field goals in the third quarter.

"We have a lot of really tough girls out there," Hershberger said. "It's their third game this week, and we're playing on back-to-back nights

tonight. We're a little bit sore. We're nursing a few injuries, and to be able to play with that toughness is just huge for our team."

Mid-Prairie snapped a 10-game losing streak to West

Branch on a night where the Golden Hawks shot just 28 percent from the floor and just 1-of-15 from the 3-point line.

Senior point guard Amara Jones scored a game-high 10 points and helped Mid-Prairie

win the turnover battle with 10 steals. She scored at least two points in each quarter, went 4-for-4 from the foul line, and led the Golden Hawks with four assists.

"She's all over the court for us," Hershberger said. "She's so smart and knows what the other team is trying to do. She does a great job of anticipating where they're going to go with the ball, and then is able to get her hands on it and turn it into offense for us."

Landry Pacha scored six of her eight points in the first half. She had three points during a 10-0 first quarter run. When a West Branch 3-pointer ended the run, she responded with a 3-point play at the other end to restore the eight-point lead. She had four steals and seven rebounds, including three on the offensive end.

"I thought we came out with some really good energy and were able to get the ball ahead in transition a little bit," Hershberger said. "I thought we did a great job of executing our offense. Landry was able to get to the basket and score a couple of times for us there early and then we're able to get some

Hawks host Colton Allen Memorial Tourn.

BY JEFF YODER

The News

WELLMAN

In just his first week as a varsity wrestler, Mid-Prairie sophomore Quinn Callahan won all five of his matches Saturday to join senior Mose Yoder on the top of the podium at the Colton Allen Memorial Tournament.

Callahan matched up with teammate Terry Bordenave in the first round of the six-team round robin tournament and trailed 2-1 late in the second period. He got a critical takedown with 12 seconds left in the period.

"I just knew I had to get after it and score points," Callahan said. "Coach (Jared) Duwa, before the match, said that I've got to get to my offense. So I wanted to get to my offense right away."

It went to overtime, where Callahan again trailed by one point in the closing seconds before scoring with a reversal to win the match.

"I just kept my head down, kept grinding," Callahan said about the overtime win over his practice partner. "It's a really competitive relationship between me and him — always battling it out."

Callahan finished the day with three pins in the first period.

"Quinn Callahan had a great day," Mid-Prairie coach Randy Billups said. "That was his first tournament as a varsity wrestler, and he defended his wrestle off that he had won the other day. So a super job out of Quinn. He was aggressive, and he was going after it."

Bordenave won his other four matches to finish second at 220 pounds. He has a record of 9-2 for the season.

Jaxsen Timmerman had a pair of victories in the 220-pound bracket as well.

"You know, not really being a varsity wrestler my entire life, coming out here getting two wins, getting fourth place



Left, Mid-Prairie sophomore Quinn Callahan controls CCA's Carson Bromwell in a match at 220 pounds in the Colton Allen Memorial Tournament on Saturday. Right, Golden Hawk senior Mose Yoder stands on top of the podium after his first-place finish at 120.



JEFF YODER/THE NEWS

is not too bad," said the Golden Hawk senior. "It feels awesome, actually."

He pinned Benton Community freshman Lane Wauters in 73 seconds to open the day. He earned a 9-2 decision over CCA's Carson Bromwell in the third round.

"He hit a shot on me and I snapped him down, hit the reverse, got him on his back and got some back points," Timmerman said.

Yoder won both of his matches by first-period fall to finish first at 120 pounds.

"I felt good wrestling in both my matches, felt confident in what I was doing and what I was putting out there on the mat," Yoder said.

After a quick takedown and pin in his first match, he faced

Benton Community freshman Weston Kaestner with an opportunity to take first.

"He's a little stronger, a little bigger guy," Yoder said. "I just had to stay on my offense."

Yoder built a 4-1 lead with a pair of takedowns and pinned his opponent with 18 seconds remaining in the first period to secure first place.

The plan is for Yoder to drop to 113 next week, according to Billups.

"We're getting ready to go down a weight," he said. There are quite a few of them that had it in the plan all along, and we were just kind of waiting.

Some of them couldn't because of body fat, so they were staying up to fill in some weights so we didn't have holes. But next week is the time. I think

they'll be able to compete better. It looks like we're a little small sometimes when we get out there, but hopefully that will help."

Owen Trimpe and Burke Berry each went 2-1 to finish second at 170 and 285 pounds. Mason Howe was 2-2 to take third at 126. Kaden Meader was also 2-2 to finish fourth at 182.

Dom Shively, Landry Gingrich, Peyton Fox, and Dalton Miller each picked up a win on Saturday as well.

Clear Creek Amana topped Benton Community for the team title by two points, finishing on top with 146.5. Mid-Prairie edged Mediapolis for third place by one point 87-86.

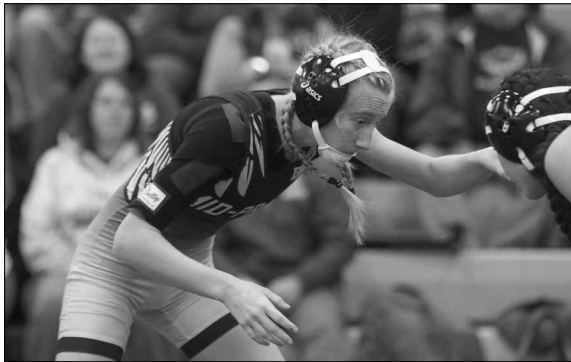
"Benton had some tough kids," Billups said. "Clear Creek Amana had some tough

wrestlers. So we've got work to do and we're going to keep going after it. Nobody has given up, they just keep coming back every day."

M-P 51, Regina 30
Monticello 58, M-P 18

The Golden Hawks won five matches by fall in a 51-30 win over triangular host Regina on Thursday.

Jesse Stultz, Mose Yoder, Noah Freeman, Dom Shively and Owen Trimpe each pinned their opponent for Mid-Prairie, while Mason Howe earned a 12-1 major decision and Tucker Miller won 17-2 by tech fall. Shively and Trimpe each picked up another pin in a loss to Monticello, while Kaden Meader took six points by forfeit.



JEFF YODER/THE NEWS

Gabi Robertson went 2-0 on Saturday to finish first in her bracket at the Vinton-Shellsburg Girls Invitational.

Robertson finishes first at V-S

BY JEFF YODER

The News

VINTON

The shorthanded Golden Hawk wrestling team had four top-three finishers at the Vinton-Shellsburg Girls Invitational on Saturday.

Gabi Robertson won both of her matches, clinching a first-place finish with a second-period pin of Fort Madison's Hailey Kemper.

"She wrestled solid with two pins," Mid-Prairie coach Dylan Walther said. "Kemper is new, but has a solid record."

Mia Garvey and Ashlee Farrier were both out sick on Saturday, while Grace Conway was taking the ACT that morning. The Golden Hawks still finished fourth out of 17 teams with 93 points.

"Overall, we performed pretty well without three that had a shot at being on the podium if they wrestled well," Walther said. "We also had two that were battling injury as the day moved on."

While many of the girls tournaments have A, B, and C brackets of four wrestlers at each weight class, Saturday's tournament featured just one bracket at each weight.

Vinton-Shellsburg sophomore Rayleigh Stander had three pins of 39 seconds or less in a third-place finish on Saturday, but lost by first-period pin to Golden Hawk junior Ellie Brenneman in the semifinals at 135. Brenneman went on to meet Union's Ava Mehliert in the final.

"(Brenneman) got the first takedown in her finals match, but got out of position locking a cradle, leading to her being pinned," Walther said.

Kenda Shair went 3-2 in a round robin bracket to finish third at 120 pounds. All three wins were pins with two coming in 64 seconds or less.

"Kenda performed well," Walther said. "There was a place winner from last year in her bracket and the Vinton girl has had a good season. When she is wrestling girls with similar experience, she is never out of a match, she has several pins while behind later in the match. It seems to fuel her."

Sam Stacey defeated fellow junior Macey Johnson of Burlington Notre Dame in the first round of a round robin at 235, but dropped the next two to finish third as well.

"Sam wrestled well, controlling her match against (John-

son)," Walther said. "Sam won that match earlier this year, but it could have gone either way."

Mardie Berry went 2-2 to finish fourth at 145, earning her 10th victory of the season. The Golden Hawk freshman had a first-round matchup with Washington junior Jenna Bose, who had pinned Berry at the West Liberty Tournament on November 21. On Saturday, Berry returned the favor.

"She took a good sized lead over Bose before pinning her, controlling the entire match," Walther said. "She is starting to buy into the mental toughness that we have talked about, out wrestling opponents when they get tired in the third period."

Ellie Callahan and Marissa Cline each had two wins as well, finishing fifth and sixth in their respective classes.

"Marissa was in a tough bracket with a handful of girls on the same tier as her," Walther said. She wasn't wrestling 100% as the day moved on, which probably cost her a couple of matches. Ellie Callahan was also battling injury, and has been gutting it out the past few weeks."

HUSKIES/Continued from Page 1B

"I would prefer having our four girls over a full lineup," Highland sophomore Lilly Barre said. "Us four girls, we are all like sisters together. We push each other to our limits and we just keep pushing and pushing. Our girls, we were in the lead for second place for the Tipton tournament (Dec. 5) and we only have four girls and you had teams coming in with 33. Even having low numbers, I would say we are a pretty good group of girls."

Barre — who won the 125-pound title Nov. 22 at West Liberty's tournament — won two of three matches and finished second in her bracket on Saturday. After losing by fall to West Liberty's Silvia Garcia-Vazquez in the opening match, Barre rebounded with a 5-2 decision against Brenna Williams of Clear Creek Amana and a pin of Bettendorf's Lauren Rogalla in 1:46.

After winning just two of nine matches last season, Barre's win-loss record this season is a sparkling 13-4.

"It has been a huge surprise," Barre said. "From last year, I won two matches the entire year. ... Just motivation and coming in during the off-season. I came in every Sunday during the summer. I lift every morning and I always come in. ... Really wanting to see an improvement helped me a lot."

Juniors Abbie Grout and Angelina Roling each won one match and finished third in their respective brackets. Senior Mackenzie McFarland joined Barre on the runner-up podium with a pair of pins over Solon's Kara Valdego (in 3:06) and Taylor Strief of Bettendorf (1:30).

"I need to start taking more shots because I usually don't do that," McFarland said. "I am a defensive wrestler. And the same with being on bottom, I can get out but I also need to work on that."

The first season of girls' wrestling as a sanctioned sport by the Iowa High School Athletic Union has inspired many an athlete to pursue the sport. For McFarland, that inspiration occurred two years ago when she began attending open mat training sessions on campus, coupled with home training with her father, a former wrestler.

"At first I thought it was go-

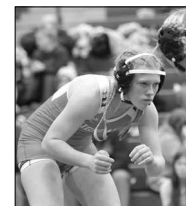
ing to be really tough," said McFarland, who won 110-pound tournament titles at West Liberty and Wapello earlier this season. "But it is not as tough as you think it is. You just have to have the right mind to be able to do it. A lot of people think, 'Oh, the conditioning and all sucks,' but once you get past that, then it is a really, really fun sport and I enjoy it a lot."

McFarland also competes in track and field at Highland, while Barre is a softball standout who also participates in volleyball and track and field. Barre believes the addition of wrestling to her athletic repertoire will only enhance her preparation and performance in the other sports.

"It really just builds strength for every sport you do," Barre said. "It is going to help with any sport, strength-wise, mentality-wise, because wrestling is a huge mental sport."

Before winter break begins, the Huskies will visit Pekin Friday for a triangular meet that will include Lone Tree. On Saturday, Highland is one of 20 schools that will compete at Cedar Rapids Prairie's tournament.

"The major thing is our mental," Stewart said. "Where our heads are at. Learning to stay tough. A lot of these girls really have not experienced these long Saturday tournaments. It is very new to them. So just kind of get them in the mindset of staying alive and just keep wrestling throughout the day, that always is a tough one. And just working hard. Trying to take that next step in the wrestling room."



JEFF YODER/THE NEWS

Highland's Lilly Barre has a record of 13-4 so far this season.

Guseman, Valenzuela finish on top at North Cedar

BY JEFF YODER

The News

CLARENCE

Highland took just four wrestlers to the North Cedar Invitational on Saturday, but left the 13-team tournament with two champions in Carlos Valenzuela and Luke Guseman.

"I thought that we had a very good day," Highland coach Nick Coles said. "The attitudes to compete were great and they had themselves ready to go each round. We only took four kids due to sickness and we were able to put two in the finals with two champs."

Guseman pinned his first two opponents to earn a match-up with New London sophomore Gage Burden in the final.

Earlier in the season, Guseman had trouble taking and finishing shots against tough opponents. He suffered a 1-0 loss to sixth-ranked Aaron Boone at Washington, and a 4-2 loss to Notre Dame's Kael Cook (12-2) on Thursday in Burlington.

On Saturday, finishing shots was not a problem in the 181-lb tech fall of Burden.

"He was able to get some things going offensively from his feet," Coles said. "We have struggled a little bit this season with getting to legs and putting opponents down. He had some really good offense... the New London kid was a state qualifier last year and we really controlled the match."

Guseman, ranked eighth at 120 by IA Wrestling, had two take-downs and a reversal and add-



Highland's Luke Guseman drives his opponent to the mat on the way to a pin on Thursday.

JEFF YODER/THE NEWS

ed back points in every period against Burden, ranked ninth at 126.

"The great thing is, that win will be big for seeding moving forward," Coles explained. "We'll definitely see him a few more times this season so it's good to make a statement right away."

Guseman is in his first season with the Huskies. He went 26-11, finishing third at 126 in the sectionals last year with West Branch.

"Luke and I are still figuring each other out and what is

expected of each other," Coles said. He's starting to buy in to what we are preaching and the system that we have in place. He's extremely talented and loves to be on the mat. We just have to make some adjustments that we know will allow him continued success."

Valenzuela improved to 9-1 on the season with a 6-0 decision over Cedar Rapids Jefferson senior Shukuru Budederi in the final. He pinned each of this first two opponents in less than one minute and did not al-

low an escape in the 138-pound final.

"(Budederi) was an explosive wrestler and would make us pay if we got out of position," Coles said. "Carlos controlled that match very well and stayed in position to take away his opponent's offense."

On Thursday, Valenzuela earned a hardfought victory over a very familiar opponent in Wapello's Zach Harbison.

"We've been wrestling during the offseason together," Valenzuela said. "The advantages

and disadvantages to that are that I know all of his moves, so he knows all my moves."

"It just makes me think about everything and he makes me work harder. It's all just all about the basics when you're going up against high-value wrestlers. You have to stick to your basics and you've got to be confident and strong."

It was all freshmen in the five-man round robin bracket at 126 pounds on Saturday. Brock Thomann went 3-1 on the day to finish second, with a solid 4-0 victory over Durant's Trey Ramey in round one.

"I was really happy with Brock's effort and his fight," Coles said. "When he decides to generate some offense on his feet, his results will continue to improve. He is having a great year for a freshman."

On Thursday, Isaac Kleese had a 45-second pin of Notre Dame's Jayden Kirby but surrendered late leads in two other matches in the quad. He opened Saturday's tournament with a loss to the 182-pound runner up, and was eliminated by the eventual fifth-place finisher by second-period fall.

"Isaac Kleese had a pretty positive day, considering it was only two matches," Coles said. "He is getting better each time out and just needs to continue to learn where he is at on the wrestling mat. He needs to believe that he belongs with these guys and that the only thing beating him is getting out of position. I believe in Ike a lot and we will continue to get him better."



GIOVANNI CORONEL/THE NEWS

Left, Highland forward Sarah Burton pushes the ball up the court in transition. Right, Highland's Kelsi Cerny stays in front of the Falcon ball handler at the top of the key.

Huskies unable to complete comeback in Friday's loss

BY GIOVANNI CORONEL

The News

RIVERSIDE

It was a battle in the second half, but Highland was unable to catch up in the fourth quarter of a 41-35 loss to Louisa-Muscatine on December 6.

The Huskies had a sluggish start in the first half, scoring only four points in the second quarter. They went into halftime down 35-24, and then were on the receiving end of a 10-0 run at the start of the third quarter.

"Huge slow start. We just weren't mentally in the game," Highland head coach Jody Fink said. "I think we still had a little

bit of a hangover from Friday night and that was still bothering us a little bit. We have to be able to move the ball, we were just slow tonight."

Even though they faced an eighteen-point deficit in the third quarter they were able to mount an impressive comeback and went on a 10-2 run to end the quarter.

The highlight of the third quarter came from sophomore Sarah Burton. Burton drove to the basket after stealing the ball and attempted a layup in transition. The initial shot failed, but she was able to grab her own rebound and shoot again, this time making the basket while being fouled. The home

crowd roared with delight as she proceeded to make her free throw with ease, completing the three-point play.

"The girls, they picked it up. They were able to cause turnovers and all that and be able to do some different things. But we got to do that all four quarters and not just the fourth. I was very proud of their fight. We got down eighteen and were able to fight back to get it to four. They did a great job on that."

Burton was the leading scorer for the Huskies, with 22 points. It was a near perfect night from the free-throw line for Burton, as she went 12-for-14 from the line. She was able to

secure fourteen rebounds and steal the ball six times.

The second leading scorer for the Huskies was a tie between junior Kylie Allen and senior Jessica Kraus, they both scored five points. Burton is a great scorer but if most of a team's scoring comes from one player then they risk becoming one dimensional. In order for the Huskies to take that next step then they will need other players to elevate their game in the scoring department.

The crowd got even louder in the fourth quarter as the intensity of the Huskies was at its highest at the end of the game. The defense played tough as the Huskies held the Falcons to

just six points in the last quarter, but ultimately time ran out and Highland was never able to overcome its first half deficit.

"We were careless with the ball, committing 26 turnovers. We dug ourselves a hole and struggled to get out of it. Our lack of experience is showing up and we are being hesitant and afraid," Fink said.

Highland will continue to battle within the conference as they stay home to take on WACO (3-2) on December 13, and then head on the road to face Wapello (2-3) on December 16.

Oriano leads Highland with 12 points in loss to Louisa-Muscatine

BY GIOVANNI CORONEL

The News

RIVERSIDE

In an early Southeast Iowa Super Conference matchup Louisa-Muscatine proved too much for Highland to handle as the Falcons defeated the Huskies on December 6, with a final score of 65-37.

Junior Nicolas Oriano starting off the scoring for the Huskies with a free throw in the first quarter. The free throw line would be almost a second home to the six-foot seven center, as Oriano ended up taking 10 free throws over the course of the game. He was the leading scorer for the Huskies, scoring 12 points and also grabbed seven rebounds, which also led the team.

To say the effort wasn't

there for the Huskies over the course of the game would be untrue, but there is some truth to the Falcons simply outworking them for multiple stretches of the game. Louisa-Muscatine finished the game with 21 offensive rebounds and a good amount of those rebounds were the result of the Falcons being more aggressive than the Huskies.

The second chance points the Falcons were able to score from those many offensive rebounds made it near impossible for the Huskies to get back into the game after facing a halftime deficit of 36-15.

The second leading scorer for the Huskies was a tie between sophomore Logan McFarland and freshman Bryce Hazelett, as they both scored nine points. McFarland made

one 3-pointer in the fourth quarter and led the team with two assists. Hazelett scored two 3-pointers, one in the second quarter and one in the fourth quarter.

The rout was on by the time the fourth quarter started. Leading by as many as 36 points in the final frame Louisa-Muscatine decided to pull its starters. Sometimes a team needs experience in order to improve and that takes time. It will take some time for Highland to find its groove offensively and defensively, but these players and coaches are more than willing to put in the work.

Highland (0-4) will stay home to face conference opponent WACO (4-0) on December 13. Then they will travel on the road to battle conference foe Wapello (0-4) on December 16.



GIOVANNI CORONEL/THE NEWS

Highland sophomore Logan McFarland drives the ball into the paint during the first half of Friday's game with Louisa-Muscatine.

LONE TREE HOSTS TRIANGULAR



JEFF YODER/THE NEWS

Lone Tree hosted a triangular for the first time in almost three years on Thursday. Brody Magruder, pictured preparing to wrestle a sectional match last year, pinned New London's Killian Kelly in 60 seconds for the only Lion victory of the evening.

GOLDEN HAWK BOYS/Continued from Page 1B

Pickard made both of Mid-Prairie's 3-pointers on Friday, hitting a third of his attempts on a night where the Golden Hawks shot just 2-of-11 from long range. He was 3-of-6 from outside on Tuesday, scoring 20 points in Mid-Prairie's 71-41 win over West Liberty.

"He's a good player," said West Branch coach Jason Kern. "He's shifty, he can knock down the 3-point shot, so you've got to be out on him. He got some really good penetration down our lane and we had to help off. He stepped up for them tonight and was big for them."

Alex Bean finished with 14 points, nine rebounds and three assists in the loss. Shawn Dadds was 4-of-5 to finish with eight.

While the Golden Hawks were unable to match the Bears' 51 percent shooting on Friday, the team's offensive potential is evident from Mid-Prairie's 20-of-24 free throw shooting for the week.

"We have some great, great talent on offense," Pickard said. "Ace Peck is kind of

struggling right now, but he really has some good offense and Brady Weber. Dylan Henry and Shawn (Dadds), those guys have played pretty well in the off-season. They've worked on their game."

Pickard said that while the offense comes naturally, the Golden Hawks need to focus on improving their defense going forward.

West Branch had three players with at least 18 points on Friday. Leading scorer Holden Arnsman finished with 19. Senior Jack McCullough made four 3-pointers to score 18, and Reese Trepanier led the Bears with 23 points on 9-of-10 shooting.

"Their record is very deceiving," Lambert said. "You know, they were 0-3 coming into tonight, but they played three very good basketball teams that competed in all of them."

"Tonight we learned that we've got to be a little tougher on both ends of the floor, physically and mentally. Like I always tell the guys, you learn a lot more through adversity

than when things are easy. Tonight was one of those nights where you took one on the chin, but it's early and we know we get to see them again. So we've just got to go back to work and prepare because we know it's not going to get any easier in conference."

Mid-Prairie 71, West Liberty 41
The Golden Hawks got off to a great start in each half of a 30-point win over the Comets on Tuesday. Mid-Prairie took an 18-8 lead in the first quarter and outscored West Liberty 20-6 in the third.

Camron Pickard led the Golden Hawks with 20 points and five assists in the win. Collin Miller hit a pair of threes to finish with 11 points, while Ace Peck scored 10 points in the win.

Alex Bean had seven points, seven rebounds and three assists. Shawn Dadds had five points and three blocks, while Dylan Henry had four points and three steals. Brady Weber scored five points in the win and Beau Flynn added four.

GOLDEN HAWK GIRLS/Continued from Page 3B

turnovers and get that early lead."

Nora Pennington scored five points and Maya Nonnenmann added four. Josie Greiner hit Mid-Prairie's only 3-pointer of the game.

West Branch went on a 10-4 run in the fourth quarter to close the gap to six points. A Mid-Prairie turnover with one minute left gave the Bears a chance to cut the lead to one possession, but a West Branch 3-pointer was off the mark.

Jones dribbled some time off the clock before finding Kylie Reinier wide open under the rim to seal the victory with 30 seconds left. Reinier finished with four points, seven rebounds and three steals.

"Our composure was excellent tonight — staying poised, being strong with the basketball," Hersherberger said. "You know, those little fundamental things, when you're getting bumped and whatnot, were key for us tonight. Just taking care

of the little fundamentals to make sure we were strong with the basketball."

West Liberty 55, Mid-Prairie 50
The Golden Hawks took a 31-28 lead to halftime in Tuesday's game with the No. 13 Comets, but scored just eight points in the third quarter of the five-point loss.

Mid-Prairie held Comet senior Kelsey Joens, a 5A first-team all-state transfer from City High, to 13 points on 4-of-14 shooting. Finley Hall led the Comets with 21 points.

Amara Jones led a balanced offense with 11 points and 10 assists. Kylie Reinier had eight points and eight rebounds, while Landry Pacha had eight points and six rebounds. Josie Greiner and Jovi Evans each scored six points and three other players scored three.

The Golden Hawks scored 30 points from the 3-point line, but shot just 7-of-22 from inside the arc.



JEFF YODER/THE NEWS

Mid-Prairie senior point guard Amara Jones drives past a West Branch defender during the Golden Hawks 37-29 win on Friday.

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WASHINGTON COUNTY

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/911 COMMISSION/COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 10TH, 2022, 6:00 PM
WASHINGTON COUNTY EOC – EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS BUILDING
2183 LEXINGTON BLVD.,
WASHINGTON IA 52553

In attendance: Marissa Reisen, Cara Sorrells, Jack Seward Jr., Stan Stoops, Ryan Miller, Jared Schneider, Mark Robe, Jason Rosien (via Zoom), Melvin Rich, Jeremy Peck, and Allen Schneider.

At 6:01 PM, Chairman Ryan Miller called the Emergency Management Commission meeting to order, a roll call was conducted, and a quorum was determined. Present were representatives from Brighton, Katonia, Riverside, Washington, Wellman, the Sheriff's Office, and the Board of Supervisors. Absent were representatives from Ainsworth, Crawfordville, and West Chester. Approval of the agenda was requested. Mark Robe made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Allen Schneider seconded the motion, and the agenda was approved with no one opposed.

Chairman Miller then requested a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting, dated June 15th, 2022. Mark Robe made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Allen Schneider seconded the motion and with no one opposed, the motion passed.

Chairman Miller continued with the Emergency Management agenda, and the first item under old business was the red trailer. It still is not fixed. It suffered damage when it was taken to Greiner's for new tires. When the trailer was parked it was backed into the building and they can see where the gutter struck the trailer because it left an imprint. Marissa and Shawn Ellington investigated it, and Hork Insurance is involved in negotiating the claim with Greiner's. The quote from Hirschaw's in Richmond was \$6,500, including \$3,500, for all new doors. The doors will close but there is a gap, and it is not weatherproof. They may tilt it and it may be better just to purchase a new trailer. Greiner Tire was not happy with the quote and wanted a second one. ICAP has reached out and it they don't hear anything they will send an appraiser down and be done with it. At this point the insurance companies need to work it out.

Next up under old business was the drone project update. They held the training, and it was well attended. Five deputies, Rescue, GIS, County Conservation, DNR, and Buildings & Grounds all were involved in the hands-on training. The FAA has not approved the cer-

tificate of authority yet, and we have not received the actual drones yet (yet accessories). Sheriff Schneider advised he would like to see another class held, there is a lot of interest. Marissa mentioned the cost of the class is \$3,000 plus \$1,500 for an instructor. Johnson County does it yearly, and Henry County has one coming up. We still have not received a bill yet.

Marissa held an Economic Recovery Support Function Tabletop Exercise in the EOC and had a good turnout. Most of the attendees were from the EOC or involved in the response side before. The attendees from the City of Washington thought it was very helpful and are ready to build from it. One of the attendees assisted before in recovery after Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, and the staff from West Chester. Bank related that they had just done a tabletop there. Everyone was excited to play a role in this and give good feedback. She is very optimistic after the exercise.

Lastly under old business, Marissa reported on her takeaways from the ISU Swine Day. She shared the information with the attendees.

Agriculture at the End of the World Geopolitical strategist Peter Rohan https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wj_nFzCJGSI

State of the State and Preparedness/Prevention of an FAD in Iowa for State Vet Dr Jeff Kalsand <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z2sKwUdZic>

National Foreign Animal Disaster Update Dr Jack Shere, USDA (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5KfRmUctXU)

Next Step in FAD Preparedness w/ Dr Chris Rademacher (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0nDXf3qUo)

The first item under new business for the tabletop report was approval of ESF 6, 8, 10, and 11. Jack Seward made a motion to approve the ESFs as presented. Seward's motion was seconded by Mark Robe, and they were approved without opposition.

Also, under new business under "other" Marissa mentioned that she had been contacted for help by Keokuk in response to a \$150,000 land fill fire. They had been unable to reach EMA Larry Smith and were searching for tents and water for the responders. Marissa was willing to help and working on sending items, however eventually they did reach their own EMA.

Marissa continued with the purchases and presented a spreadsheet with totals.

- Light Tower (grant paperwork submitted)
- Wash Co Fair stuff (funded through

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/911 COMMISSION/COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 19TH, 2022, 6:00 PM
WASHINGTON COUNTY EOC – EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS BUILDING
2183 LEXINGTON BLVD.,
WASHINGTON IA 52553

In attendance: Marissa Reisen, Cara Sorrells, Jack Seward Jr., Stan Stoops, Ryan Miller, Jared Schneider (via Zoom), Mark Robe, Jason Rosien (via Zoom), Melvin Rich, Richard Young, and Allen Schneider.

At 6:00 PM, Chairman Ryan Miller called the Emergency Management Commission meeting to order, a roll call was conducted, and a quorum was determined. Present were representatives from Brighton, Katonia, Riverside, Washington, Wellman, the Sheriff's Office, and the Board of Supervisors. Absent were representatives from Ainsworth, Crawfordville, and West Chester. Approval of the agenda was requested. Mark Robe made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Richard Young seconded the motion, and the agenda was approved with no one opposed.

Chairman Miller then requested a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting, dated August 10th, 2022. Mark Robe made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Allen Schneider seconded the motion and with no one opposed, the motion passed.

Chairman Miller continued with the Emergency Management agenda, and the first item under old business was the red trailer. Marissa Reisen received a correspondence from ICAP in reference to the trailer settlement. If we do not want to trigger the damaged trailer, we can pay out \$6,875 and come to get the trailer. If we want to keep the trailer, they will deduct \$1,797 from the \$6,875 and send us a check. In looking to replace the trailer with a new one, Hirschaw's has no 18-foot enclosed trailers on the lot. An 8.5 x 20 was \$12,500 and a 7 x 16 was \$8,600. Another thought was to instead purchase a flatbed trailer to haul the Ranger. There was a brief discussion about if we kept the old, damaged trailer who would repair it (secondarily how and why would we repair it. If it could be repaired, we would not have to purchase another trailer. A couple of questions were identified as needing answered before proceeding with a decision. Can we insure it, and then can we fix it?

Next under old business was the drone project update. Marissa reported that they have everything for the project – the drone accessories and the training. They are still waiting for the paperwork from the FAA with the authority to fly. The Sheriff's Office has paid their portion. Emergency management has paid their portion, and it has been sent to WCFR grant. They are just waiting on that last piece.

The first item under new business was the coordinator report.

- ESFs 10, 11, 12, 14: Economic RSP, HazMat Plans (Practicum student)
- Other

Marissa is working on the above Emergency Support Functions with emphasis on the economic recovery side of things. She is working with Mary Audia from WCFR and will also reach out to Chambers and Main Street. The HazMat plans will not be accomplished this month. Through EICOG they will install build off of the existing plan with a practicum student beginning next March. She also heard back from the state emergency to the siren project. They have had a lot of requests and need more details concerning the locations and sirens. The information for Shiloh is accounted for but they need more for the other locations. It also appears that all the IEMP grant funds available they are only allowing 5% of the total funds for siren project.

Next under new business Marissa touched on a discussion concerning the disaster declaration process and questions that she has. It is stated that local elected officials can declare a disaster, but they need to have the language in the Iowa code that covers it. Jason Rosien mentioned that he has a bill that is for the library during the pandemic. Her questions mainly related to when it expires and how it correlates to funding.

Marissa continued with the purchases and presented a spreadsheet with totals.

- Pallet of water for the Ainsworth boat order \$257.28
- 10 x 10 pop up tent with sides for firefighter hauler \$239.95 (ICAP Safety Grant)

A request was made to approve the two purchases mentioned above and

Reisen also reported that the monthly utility bills continue to be high (\$4200-\$5000) per month. She was going to contact Tom Jones with JEC to see if our usage is comparable to theirs. Jason Rosien made a motion to approve the bills as presented with a request that Marissa follow up on the pallet of water and keep in mind that they have a water slide Hotline went live July 16th. They are still working on transfers to 911, as currently that functionality does not exist. Sorrells and Sheriff Schneider also relayed information on a recent tower issue at the Sharon Tower site. He also advised that BeON has not been put on their phones. There are also still some things to clarify with the maintenance

old business item concerning the removal of legacy equipment. There has also been no movement on the pending quote for \$18,200 from Elite Tower to remove the old radio tower. The quote from Mike Day's car to do when they demolish the old building. The electric meters at the Sharon Tower site are not outside the building. A separate cage has been installed to protect them. Sorrells also shared an update to the newly formed Governance School Safety Bureau and their plans to provide radios to the schools. Approximately 1,070 radio orders have been submitted to both vendors. A total of 1,200 were received but not all of them are correct. The cost to date for about 5 million dollars and the deadline for submission is 10/21/22.

The next meeting was set for December 14th, 2022, at 6:00 PM. Reisen presented information about applying for a Community-Specific Integrated Emergency Management Council (CS-EMC) in the future. A motion was made by Mark Robe to adjourn the Emergency Management Commission meeting and that motion was seconded by Allen Schneider. The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 PM.

Chairman Richard Young called the 911 Commission meeting to order at 6:32 PM. Present were representatives from Brighton, Katonia, Riverside, Washington, Wellman, the Board of Supervisors, the Sheriff's Office, and Emergency Management. Absent was representation from Ainsworth and Crawfordville. When a quorum was determined, Chairman Young made a request for an approval of the agenda. Mark Robe made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Allen Schneider seconded the motion, and the agenda was approved with no one opposed. A request was made for a motion to approve the minutes for the last meeting dated August 10th, 2022. Mark Robe made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting and the motion was seconded by Allen Schneider. No one was opposed and the motion passed.

The approval of the claims was next, and Cara Sorrells detailed the claims with the total of the claims being \$11,078.65. The total revenue was \$3,707.28. Mark Robe made a motion to pay the claims as presented. Robe's motion was seconded by Marissa Reisen. The motion carried with no one opposed.

Under new business, Cara Sorrells explained that they are seeing an uptick in the thefts of 911 and 911 equipment. She has been training for a F/T position. The second was the approval of Lydia House for a P/T position, effective 11/02/22. Lydia is a former employee

local donations \$250)

•Walker storage, So IT, Tort Liability

Jared Schneider made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Schneider's motion was seconded by Mark Robe. The claims were approved unanimously.

There was no public input, and the next meeting date was tentatively set for October 19th, 2022, at 6:00 PM. A motion was made by Mark Robe to adjourn the Emergency Management Commission meeting and that motion was seconded by Allen Schneider. The meeting was adjourned at 6:21 PM.

Vice-Chairman Allen Schneider called the 911 Commission meeting to order at 6:21 PM. Present were representatives from Brighton, Katonia, Riverside, Washington, Wellman, the Board of Supervisors, the Sheriff's Office, and Emergency Management. Absent was representation from Ainsworth and Crawfordville. A quorum was determined. Vice-Chairman Schneider made a request for an approval of the agenda. Mark Robe made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Marissa Reisen seconded the motion, and the agenda was approved with no one opposed.

Vice-Chairman Schneider made a request for an approval of the agenda. Mark Robe made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Marissa Reisen seconded the motion, and the agenda was approved with no one opposed.

The next meeting was set for October 19th, 2022, at 6:00 PM.

Met at 6:39 PM, Chairman Ryan Miller called the Communications Commission to order. Present were representatives Jack Seward, Stan Stoops, Ryan Miller, Mark Robe, Jason Rosien, and alternates Melvin Rich and Allen Schneider. A quorum was determined. Chairman Miller made a request for an approval of the agenda. Mark Robe made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Jack Seward Jr. seconded the motion, and the agenda was approved with no one opposed. A request was made for a motion to approve the minutes for the last meeting dated June 15th, 2022. Allen Schneider made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting and the motion was seconded by Mark Robe. No one was opposed and the motion passed.

The approval of claims was next, and Cara Sorrells detailed the claims. They included \$1,192. Allen Schneider made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting dated June 15th, 2022. Allen Schneider made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting and the motion was seconded by Mark Robe. No one was opposed and the motion passed.

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There has been nothing new on the

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 JOHNSON COUNTY REFUSE INC
 \$10,111.50, refuse contract
 LONE TREE TIRE & SERVICE \$180.24, battery

MADISON TRI-GAS INC \$34.03, rent
 WEST ONE BANK \$1,980.00, interest payment
 PERFORMANCE FOODSERVICE
 \$1,276.43, food supplies
 HAMMERING CORVIA CODIFICATION
 \$70.00, ordinance codification
 STANDARD BEST CONTROL \$28.00, spray can bldg & city hall
 STEPHANE DAUTREMENT \$226.68, mileage to budget meeting & IMFOA conf

STEVE COURTNEY \$75.00, deposit return
 THE NEWS \$429.68, legal
 US CELLULAR \$134.48, public works cell phones
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then inside our radio shelter. Sheriff Schneider contacted Sharon Telephone and they both responded to the site. The contractors were relocating electrical service for T-Mobile and had permission to dig up the street. The work is completed. A second time, Chief Deputy Elinson had to respond to the tower and give the access. The work is completed but now the electric meters sit outside of the compound. Sheriff Schneider is working to make sure that is rectified and not left as is.

Sorrells also shared some information concerning a newly formed Governance School Safety Bureau and their plans to provide radios to the schools. More details will be forthcoming, and there is also an RFP out for critical incident mapping at the schools. This data will need to be able to integrate with 911.

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contract and payment structure, and preventative maintenance timelines and how they are going to execute it. Sheriff Schneider also said in the future another talk group should be established for the panic button system that the county and city has. The emergency messages currently come across our LAW talk group.

Washington County Ambulance director Jeremy Peck was in attendance to express his concern with continuing to have "hot mics" with responders heading to calls and not being able to hear pages on their portable radios when they are at a hospital or Johnson County. He is extremely displeased with the system and thinks there is an underlying radio programming problem or tower issue. Sheriff Schneider asked that the dispatch center start to log the open mics with some details about what unit, what operator, and what circumstances it is happening. Then we can try to isolate the issue. The paging issue may entail asking Johnson County to allow them to force paging onto their system when they go north.

For the Communications documents Sorrells still needs copies of Ainsworth's and Crawfordville's. A quorum was not had nor responded, and she will send another email. Seward advised he will attempt to get West Chester council meeting soon.

Sorrells gave a brief update on the progress of the new hire and the request as well as a staffing update. Sheriff Schneider urged her to proceed with hiring another staff member to begin training soon.

Sorrells also received a bid for \$18,200 to take down and haul away the old radio tower from Elite Tower Solutions. She had forwarded a copy to Richard Young. None of the other legacy radio towers has been removed since RACOM has been so busy. The Supervisors are seeking bids to demolish the old building at 223 West 2nd Street and have instructed everyone to remove their belongings from it. Sorrells was finally able to get the water turned off in the old building with the City of Washington.

The date for the next meeting will be October 19th, 2022, at 6:00 PM. A motion was made to adjourn the Communications Commission by Allen Schneider and seconded by Jack Seward. The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 PM.

A motion was made to adjourn the 911 Commission meeting by Mark Robe and seconded by Jared Schneider. The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted by, Cara Sorrells

Published in The News, Thursday, December 15, 2022 1:34:44

that left in 2019. She is moving back to the area in the future. Mark Robe made a motion to approve the personnel changes as presented. Robe's motion was seconded by Allen Schneider. The motion passed without opposition; Jack Seward abstains.

Also under new business was the adoption of the resolution amending the bylaws of the Washington County Communications Commission. All the contract cities have signed off on the resolution and now the Communications Commission and the Board of Supervisors need to do so. A roll call vote for approval was conducted. Jack Seward – aye, Stan Stoops – aye, Ryan Miller – aye, Mark Robe – aye, and Jason Rosien – aye. The motion carries unanimously.

Under old business and the discussion of the RACOM radio project close-out, Jack Seward advised that after speaking with Mike Day, the small items remaining should not hold up the final payment to RACOM. Jared reported that the BeON issue has been taken care of. Cara has submitted the list that they have been keeping track of concerning open mics in the responder vehicles. The Board of Supervisors will submit the final payment.

Sorrells had already addressed the staffing update under personnel changes and in reference to the former building update they hope to have it torn down the first week of December.

The date for the next meeting will be December 14th, 2022, at 6:00 PM. A motion was made to adjourn the Communications Commission by Ryan Miller and seconded by Allen Schneider. The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted by, Cara Sorrells

Official Publication, minutes to be approved at the December 14th, 2022, meeting. Any amendment to the minutes will be reflected in the following meeting minutes.

Published in The News, Thursday, December 15, 2022 1:29:99

CITY OF LONE TREE

DECEMBER 05, 2022

Mayor Spilman called to order at 5:30 PM the regular meeting of the Lone Tree City Council at Lone Tree City Hall with Swinton, Ford, Zadow, Dixon and Ronan present. Ronan, Zadow motioned to approve the agenda as presented. CARRIED 5-0. Zadow, Ford motioned to approve the consent agenda (minutes, reports, bills, etc). CARRIED 5-0. Water samples were read from 122 S DeVoe and 302 N DeVoe, both reported safe and filed.

Ronan, Dixon motioned to obtain at least one more bid for electric sign. CARRIED 5-0.

Zadow, Swinton motioned to approve Resolution 2022-AA assigning The News as official newspaper for 2023. CARRIED 5-0.

Ford, Zadow motioned to approve Resolution 2022-BB appointing City Attorney Raiber and Robert Michael of Holland, Michael, Raiber & Stittig as city attorney for 2023 & 2024. CARRIED 5-0.

Zadow, Ford motioned to approve Hart-Fredrick Consultants as city engineer for 2023 & 2024. CARRIED 5-0.

Ronan, Swinton motioned to set public hearing for SF634 Max Levy for FY23-24 Budget at the beginning of regular council meeting on January 9, 2023. CARRIED 5-0.

Swinton, Dixon motioned to adjourn at 5:49 PM. CARRIED 5-0.

Work session was held for discussion on budget items for FY23-24. Coun-

cil agreed to keep tax levy the same as previous years. Some items discussed for FY23-24 budget included using ARPA funds for city hall and community building repairs, asphaltting a street, contracting with EICOG for them to do the city's code enforcement, solid loader for street department and water tower replacement. Ford, Swinton motioned to adjourn work session at 6:44pm. CARRIED 5-0.

FOLLOWING CLAIMS PAID IN NOVEMBER
 ADVANTAGE FS \$404.63, fuel
 BANYON DATA SYSTEMS \$1,680.00, payroll & fund annual support
 CHAD MULLENKAMP \$100.00, clothing reimbursement
 CITY OF IOWA CITY \$5,018.00, library agreement
 CITY SEWER SERVICE INC \$1,655.00, pumped lift station
 COBB OIL CO INC \$498.12, fuel & food supplies
 ELECTRIC PUMP \$1,679.00, lift station service call
 FAREWAY MEAT & GROCERY \$631.80, food supplies
 FERGUSON WATERWORKS \$1,740.93, meters
 HOLIDAY INN \$112.00, IMFOA conference hotel
 ION ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS \$6,600.00, water & wastewater management
 IOWA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION \$275.00, membership dues 2023

WINDSTREAM \$508.01, city hall/shop internet
 PERS \$2,041.17, PERS payment
 IRS \$2,557.00, FICA payment
 NOVEMBER PAYROLL \$11,637.58, all employees

RECEIPTS..... DISBURSEMENTS
 GENERAL FUND.....
 \$23,136.48..... \$25,385.56
 ROAD USE TAX.....
 \$14,759.39..... \$5,296.35
 LOST.....
 \$0..... \$0
 TF.....
 \$3,441.89..... \$0
 WATER FUND.....
 \$6,521.91..... \$1,381.26
 STEPHANE DAUTREMENT \$226.68, mileage to budget meeting & IMFOA conf

STEVE COURTNEY \$75.00, deposit return
 THE NEWS \$429.68, legal
 US CELLULAR \$134.48, public works cell phones
 VEENSTRA & KIMM, INC \$228.00, WWTF improvement engineering
 DOLLAR GENERAL \$69.61, food supplies

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30¢ each additional word

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Notices

Golden Delight will offer a 10% discount on all in-stock gift items. Closed for the season Sat. Dec. 31. Reopen Sat. March 4, 2023.

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For rent: Storage units, 108 6th St., Kalona. Also Riverside location. Call Livestock Equipment, 319-330-0949 or 319-648-2949.

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CBI Bank & Trust has an exceptional opportunity for you to join the area's leading financial institution as a Branch Manager at our Kalona Office. You will take a lead role in creating an outstanding customer experience, and proactively meet with customers to discover their financial needs and provide product and service recommendations.

The ideal candidate will possess a college education and at least 3+ years of proven customer relationship/services experience with defined goals; excellent client-service skills, including oral and written communication; ability to generate new business through outbound calls and reaching out into the local community; a strong work ethic and high integrity.

Prior management/supervisory experience is required. Banking experience is a plus, but not required. Pre-employment credit/background screenings are required. Applicants must be excited about attending community events and be involved with organizations to positively represent CBI Bank & Trust, and be able to work a flexible schedule.

We offer a competitive salary as well as an excellent benefits package.

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You may complete an on-line application at: www.cbibanks.com. Or, you may submit a cover letter, resume and salary history to: CBI Bank & Trust, ATTN: Human Resources, 301 Iowa Avenue, Muscatine, IA 52761

Equal Opportunity Employer: Minorities, Women, Veterans, Disabilities
All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. We are also an equal opportunity employer of individuals with disabilities and protected veterans.

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WASHINGTON COUNTY REAL ESTATE

Oct. 24-28, 2022
Paul D. Beachy, Rose Mary Beachy, grantor; Timothy G. Beachy, Kimbly Beachy, grantee; contract; E2 SE SW 06-77-7; Part NE SW 06-77-7; Kristin R. Shaffer, William K. Shaffer, grantor; Dennis M. Berg, grantee; quit claim deed; N 34 Acres of SW NW 05-77-9; \$44,500
Daniel M. Nisly, grantor; Alma Nisly, grantee; deed of surviving spouse; Richmond Dawsons 1st Add. Lot 1 & 8 Block 3
Evan Gingerich Executor, Velma F. Yoder Estate, grantor; Alta Yoder, grantee; court officer deed; Kalona Key Estate Add Lot 16
G&R Enterprises LLC, grantor; Aquilar Rony Godinez, Rony Aquilar Godinez, Zuli F. Roldan Vasquez, Zuli F. Vasquez, grantee; warranty deed; Part Washington McConaughys Add Lot 8; \$105,000
Moyna Holdings Inc., Adam Kos Attorney in Fact, grantor; Brian S. Stone, Carla S. Stone, grantee; warranty deed; Kalona North Ridge SDPT Lot 11; \$128,500
Washington County Sheriff, Quicken Loans Inc., Talcine Collings, Iowa Dept of Revenue, grantor; Rocket Mortgage LLC, grantee; sheriff deed; Washington Pennsylvania House Townhomes Subdivision Lot F2
Alvin Kemp, Alvin R. Kemp, Rachel Kemp, Rachel M. Kemp, Karma L. Mack Agent, Karma L. Mack Power of Attorney, grantor; Andrew L. Bahe, Annette J. Bahe, grantee; warranty deed; Wellman Holdings, Add Dayton Lot 1 & 4 Block 2-52 Wellman Holdings Add Dayton Lot 5 Block 2; E2 Vacated Alley; \$15,000
Patricia E. Roberts Estate, Amy Runge CoExecutor, Mike Roberts CoExecutor, grantor; Jessu Kremer, Amber Kremer, grantee; court officer deed; Aud Parc D NE SW 21-75-6; \$200,000
Jon D. Stottfuss, Kathryn D. Stottfuss, Kay Stottfuss, grantor; Calvin R. Stutzman, Keith L. Stutzman, grantee; deed; S2 NE SW 35-74-9; \$458,500
Sandra K. Miller, Michelle L. Gardner Attorney in Fact, grantor; Beverly J. Rutten Russell E. Rutten, grantee; warranty deed; Kalona Kneekside SD Lot 46A; \$285,000
Lena Sherman, Jason Sherman, grantor; Maxwell Meyer, grantee; warranty deed; Aud Parc D, Cont 25.03 Acres in Part S E SW 35-74-9; \$230,500
Stanley L. McCredy, Deborah L. McCredy, grantor; Kevin A. McCredy Trustee, Stanley McCredy Family Trust, Deborah McCredy Family Trust, grantee; quit claim deed; Part E2 NE 21-75-6; Comm at NE Corn NW NE 21-75-6 running Thence S 40 Rods
Manley's Construction Inc., grantor; Loren Helmutz, Lisa Helmutz, grantee;

warranty deed; Rural Subdivisions English Valley Estates Lot 2; \$42,000
Point Comfort Farms Inc., grantor; David P. Strobel, Kelly E. Strobel, grantee; warranty deed; Rural Subdivisions Terrace Lakes SD 2 Lot 31; \$42,000
F & J Clay Family Trust, F. Clay Family Trust, J. Clay Family Trust, Linda Brady Successor Trustee, Freddie Eugene Clay Jr., grantor; Troy Eugene Clay Jr., grantee; special warranty deed; Comm 77.30 FT W of NE Corn NW NE 13-77-9; Thence SW 328.55 FT Cont 5.81 Acres
Michael J. Durian, grantor; Patrick B. Durian, Golia M. Durian, Golia M. Durian, grantee; quit claim deed; Part SE NE 12-77-9
Michael J. Durian, Patrick B. Durian, Golia M. Durian, Golia M. Durian, grantee; quit claim deed; Beg at A Stake 62 Rods S of NW Corn NE 12-77-9 running thence N 62 Rods Part SE NE 12-77-9 Part E 2 Acres of S2 SW NE 12-77-9
Jerry D. McArdor, grantor; Jerry D. McArdor, Lalonya Twitichell, grantee; quit claim deed; Comm at SW Corn SE 12-77-9 running thence N 62 Rods Part SE NE 12-77-9 Part E 2 Acres of S2 SW NE 12-77-9
Jerry D. McArdor, grantor; Jerry D. McArdor, Lalonya Twitichell, grantee; quit claim deed; Part E 2 Acres in NW SW 34-74-6
Tom Patterson, Tom Sue Patterson, grantor; Joy Jay Patterson, grantee; quit claim deed; Comm at SW Corn SE 12-77-9 Thence N 230.00 FT, Thence E 1.5 & W, Cont. 1.48 Acres Comm 280.00 FT E of SW Corn SE SW 17-77-9 Thence N 310.00 FT, Thence E S & W, Cont. 1.00 Acre
Eric Brown, Sara Brown, grantor; Myron D. Miller, Gena S. Miller, grantee; warranty deed; Washington Shannon Heights Lot 46-48; \$135,000
Eric Brown, Sara Brown, grantor; Myron D. Miller, Gena S. Miller, grantee; quit claim deed; Beg at SW Corn Washington Shannon Heights Lot 48 Thence N 114.1 FT
Tamara Blodgett, grantor; Dennis E. Stout, grantee; deed of surviving spouse; Part NW SW 35-75-6; Part NW SW 35-75-6; Part N2 SE SW 35-75-6; S2 NE SW 35-75-6
Nov. 7-11, 2022
MCWIL Holdings Limited Partnership, grantor; David W. Walker, grantee; warranty deed; Aud Parc D in Part SW NW 25-74-6; \$250,000
Christopher M. Linnekanp, Kimberly D. Linnekanp, grantor; Abbigale Harma, Matthew McCredy, grantee; warranty deed; Washington OP Lot 7 Block 21; \$265,000
Dean D. Dunsay, grantor; Christopher A. Stransky, Jodee K. Stransky, grantee; warranty deed; Aud Parc F in Part NW NW 21-75-6 & In Part NE NE 20-76-6; \$350,000
City of Kalona, grantor; Dakota

Boys, Hannah Boys, grantee; warranty deed; N 130 FT Kalona Gingerich SD Lot 6 Block C
Maria Lagoti, Niko X. Labos, grantor; Home To Be Real Estate Properties LLC, grantee; quit claim deed; Beg 99 FT E of SW Corn Lot 6 in Washington add to Washington Lot 0, 4
Donald R. Vittetoe, Alicia J. Vittetoe, grantor; Robert J. Vittetoe, Brenda M. Vittetoe, grantee; warranty deed; Undivided 1/2 interest; Part Aud Parc A in SE SW 20-75-8; \$115,000
Zachary J. Sherman, Erin Miller, Victoria E. Hansen, grantor; Alicia Russ, grantee; deed; Washington Summerings SD Lot 3; \$145,000
Paul Rios, Shannon Rios, grantor; Craig A. Lovell, grantee; warranty deed; Washington Columbian Add Lot 8 Block 7; \$130,000
Washington County Sheriff, Federation Bank, Ren Weiss, Robert W. Ryan, Lone Care Health Center Inc., Pioneer Park, grantor; Nathan King, Janene King, sheriff deed; Riverside OP Lot 9 Block 20
Washington County Sheriff, Federation Bank, Ren Weiss, Robert W. Ryan, Lone Care Health Center Inc., Pioneer Park, grantor; Skid Steer Driveway, grantee; sheriff deed; W 20 FT Riverside OP Lot 24 Block 19
Barbara Sue Derocker, grantor; Gina S. Harshaw, grantee; quit claim deed; part Brighton OL NW Brighton Lot OL 16
John Gregory Wiley, J. Gregory Wiley, Lori Wiley, Lori A. Wiley, Lon Ann Bunnell Wiley, grantor; Wiley Subdivision Third Addition Owners Association, grantee; warranty deed; Washington Wiley SD 3rd Add Lot 0, A
Moyna Holdings Inc., Adam Kos Power of Attorney, grantor; Statler Construction Inc., grantee; warranty deed; Kalona North Ridge SD PT Lot 13; \$65,500
Washington County Sheriff, Federation Bank, Ren Weiss, Robert W. Ryan, Lone Care Health Center Inc., Pioneer Park, grantor; Steve Hall, Kerry Hall, grantee; sheriff deed; Riverside OP Lot 8 Block 20
ACE Signature Homes LLC, grantor; Maria Lagoti, Niko X. Labos, grantee; warranty deed; Aud Parc D 1-1, 1 in Washington NW SD Plat 1 Lot 1; \$260,000
Next Gen Properties Inc., grantor; Jarad J. Klein, Rachel J. Klein, grantee; warranty deed; Aud Parc C, 30.00 Acres in NWFR 07-76-9; \$333,000
Anna Parsa Estate, David Sosonowski Executor, grantor; David S. Sosonowski, grantee; court officer deed; E2 NE 10-75-6
Peter A. Bell, grantor; Carol J. Bell, grantee; deed of surviving spouse; SW

09-75-8; Aud Parc A, 1.074 Acres in part Lot 3 of Aud SD of NW 16-75-8; Part Lot 2 of Aud Parc B & C in 22-75-8; Part Lot 1 of Aud Parc C in 22-75-8; E2 NW 27-75-9; SW NE 27-75-9
Nov. 28 - Dec. 2, 2022
Rickey Dwayne Goodwin Estate, Virginia Lee Goodwin Executor, grantor; Christopher L. Reighard, grantee; court officer deed; Rural Subdivisions Fox Hollow SD Lot 5; \$15,000
Christopher L. Reighard, Sonia J. Reighard, grantor; Zachary J. Lombard, Samantha S. Lombard, grantee; warranty deed; Rural Subdivisions Fox Hollow SD Lot 5; \$9,000
Rickey Dwayne Goodwin Estate, Virginia Lee Goodwin, grantor; Christopher L. Reighard, grantee; court officer deed; Rural Subdivision Fox Hollow SD Lot 2; \$110,000
Christopher L. Reighard, Sonia J. Reighard, grantor; Kara S. Marr, Damon R. Marr, grantee; warranty deed; Rural Subdivisions Fox Hollow SD Lot 2; \$183,500
Norm Brady Rentals LLC, grantor; Tyler Evans, Kara Evans, grantee; warranty deed; Lot 1A of Aud Parc G in Washington 75-7-08 SE SE; \$80,000
Barbara C. Cutkomp, grantor; Kevin Ornduff, grantee; warranty deed; Part NW 15-75-6
Barbara C. Cutkomp, grantor; Allen Brown, Rebecca Brown, grantee; warranty deed; Washington Gray SD Lot 1 Block 1; Part NW 15-75-6; Part SW NW 15-75-6; \$420,000
MSJ LLC, grantor; Jacob G. Hall, grantee; warranty deed; Washington Country Club View SD Lot 31; \$45,000
Michael Roberts CoExecutor, Amy Runge CoExecutor, Patricia E. Roberts Estate, grantor; Whiteway Farm Inc., grantee; court officer deed; Part S 343 FT of NE SW 21-75-6
Jake S. Magdefrau, grantor; Traci L. Wenger, grantee; quit claim deed; Washington JH Youngs Add Lot 1-4 Block 2 & E 130 FT Washington JH Youngs Add Lot 0, 19
ACE Signature Homes LLC, grantor; Oscar Castro, grantee; warranty deed; Riverside Northern Heights SD Lot 9; \$288,500
George Statler Family Cabin LLC, grantor; Part N2 SW 18-74-7; \$440,000
Craig J. Shelter, Asenath Shelter, grantor; Spencer R. Schrock, grantee; deed of surviving spouse; N2 Crawfordville Crawford Add Lot 3; \$215,000
Klein Farms LTD, grantor; Jarad J. Klein, Rachel J. Klein, grantee; quit claim deed; Aud Parc C, 30.00 Acres in NWFR 07-76-9
Maria J. Meyer, William D. Meyer, Maria J. Meyer Attorney in Fact, Maria Meyer Attorney in Fact, grantor; Maria J. Meyer Trustee, Maria J. Meyer Revocable Trust,

grantee; warranty deed; Part SE NW 34-77-7; 2 Acre Tract in Part SW NW 34-77-7; NE NW 34-77-7; SW NW 34-77-7; Part WFR 2 NE 03-76-7; SE SW 35-77-7; Beg at NE Corn NW NE 03-76-7; SE SW 35-77-7; Beg at NE Corn NW NE 03-76-7; \$250 FT, Thence W, N & E Cont 3.34 Acres
Kelsey Smith Beason, Kelsey Beason, grantor; Craig Shelter, Asenath Shelter, grantee; warranty deed; Ainsworth West Side Add Lot 1-2 Block 2 E 12-17 FT Ainsworth West Side Add Lot 3 Block 2; \$168,500
Thomas A. Buckwalter Executor, Betty J. Buckwalter Estate, grantor; Thomas A. Buckwalter, Paula R. Buckwalter, grantee; court officer deed; Part Wellman OP Lot 4 Block 8; Wellman OP Lot 5 Block 8; Wellman OP Lot 6-8 Block 9; Part Wellman OP Lot 9 Block 9; Wellman OP Lot 6-7 Block 8
Cynthia C. Detweiler, Ronald E. Northup, grantor; Carolyn Irene King, Zachary Dean Jamison, grantee; warranty deed; Aud Parc D, Cont 1.38 Acres in SE 22-76-9; \$275,000
Robert A. Gaal, Krista R. Gaal, grantor; Jennifer L. Hartman, grantee; warranty deed; Washington AW Chliches Add Lot Q; \$110,000
Jennifer L. Miller, grantor; Sandra K. Dowell Estate, H. Dean Dowell, Sandra K. Dowell, grantee; deed of surviving spouse; Washington Gray SD Lot 1 Block 1; Part Washington Gray SD Lot 2 Block 1
William L. Sands Estate, Dorothy A. Sands Executor, grantor; Dorothy A. Sands, grantee; court officer deed; Undivided 1/2 interest; S2 Crawfordville Crawford Add Lot 3-4 Block 1; S2 W2 Crawfordville Crawford Add Lot 2 Block 1
Joseph Huffman Executor, Mary E. Huffman Estate, grantor; Nicholas R. Brennan, Jocelyn D. Brennan, grantee; court officer deed; Part NW NE 13-77-7; \$512,500
Michael C. S. Winters, Shawn Winters, Robert Winters, grantor; Timothy N. Madson, Angela M. Madson, grantee; warranty deed; Part Wellman Varnes SD Lot 8 Block 1; \$200,000
Rene Norbert Duhamel, Cheryl Ann Duhamel, grantor; Erick Guzman Arce Alvarado, Erick Guillermo Alvarado Arce, Cristian Arce, Guillermo Arce, grantee; warranty deed; Washington Washington Housing Initiative Add Lot 32; \$215,000
Barbara Deats, grantor; Frieda M. Finke, Merlin E. Finke, grantee; deed of surviving spouse; N2 Crawfordville Crawford Add Lot 7-8 Block 3
Barbara Deats Executor, Frieda M. Finke Estate, grantor; Glen A. Martin Iritrud, Mary Ann Finke, grantee; court officer deed; N2 Crawfordville Crawford Add Lot 7-8 Block 3