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PAGES 1B



The News

KALONA, WELLMAN, RIVERSIDE & LONE TREE

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KALONA, WASHINGTON COUNTY, IOWA 52247 • THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2023

\$1.25

Lone Tree mulls switch to 4-day school week

BY TJ RHODES
The News

LONE TREE

Dropping Mondays or Fridays from the school week in the next academic year is a proposal under consideration at Lone Tree.

The Lone Tree school board met on Wednesday, Dec. 6, for a flurry of different actions. Before examining how the calendar might be changed, the board honored Joel Yedlik for his 18 years of service on the school board. Yedlik officially retired after the annual meeting concluded.

New board member Jennifer Eden and re-elected Alex Ogren were inaugurated; the board then voted for board positions, re-electing Robert Sladek as President and electing Ogren as Vice President.

The board elected to keep their meeting times the same heading into a new year.

School calendar

Superintendent Tyler Hotz used this meeting to present the board with a proposed four-day school week. Hotz presented two different versions

SEE LONE TREE | PAGE 10A

ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST



GIOVANNI CORONEL/THE NEWS

The success of the City of Kalona’s Student-Built house projects in 2022 and 2023 have made a third one possible in 2024. The City purchased the property at 502 A Avenue for this purpose earlier this year; on Thursday, Dec. 7, the existing house was demolished to make way for a duplex to be constructed by local students in Summer 2024. (The house, built in 1900, was not a candidate for rehabilitation.) The student-built homes provide low-to-moderate income homeownership in addition to providing students with paid, hands-on experience in the trades.

Mom brings first play café to Kalona



CHERYL ALLEN/THE NEWS

The Hardmans inside the new Lambs & Ivy Play Café: Miya, Megan, Zach, and Ian.

BY CHERYL ALLEN
The News

KALONA

Over the last 15 years or so, a new business concept has been developing: that of the play café. Neither coffee shop nor playground only, it manages to merge both ideas, bringing parents and children together into one stimulating space for both parties.

The idea was inspired by children’s museums, which offer children unique and educational play experiences. At the same time, parents admit they want more adult connections and conversation. With an indoor play café, children and parents both get what they need: kids play under parental supervision, and parents meet and socialize with each other

at the same time. When Lambs & Ivy Play Café opens in Kalona this January, local families will be able to experience this for themselves. The idea for a local play café started to take shape for proprietor Megan Hardman earlier this year. “I thought about it this summer, just wanting a place to go with the kids that’s out and about, but they still learn stuff,” Hardman says. “But also someplace to go with mom friends, [where] we can hang out and talk and the kids will just play.” The Iowa Children’s Museum in Coralville hit those marks, but Hardman preferred someplace smaller and less chaotic. When she visited The Play Café in Cedar Rapids,

it was more what she had in mind. She began investigating the concept as a business idea for herself.

She and husband Zach, who owns Hardman Painting Company in Kalona, started looking for a space where they could start their own play café. In late October, a storefront in the Bulltowne Plaza opened up, and the Hardmans took possession the following month, beginning to paint and build out the space into their own custom play area, drink station, and conversation nooks.

The objective, Hardman says, is to create a “Montessori-vibe” when it comes to interior design. “Instead of going with the typical colors for kids, we’re trying to make everything more aesthetically pleasing for moms,” she says, avoiding an atmosphere that is “overwhelming and loud.”

A soothing maple toy kitchen has already found its way into the space; plywood sheets marked with pencil lines await attention from Zach, who is next building a silo.

Hardman is well-equipped to run her own business. Having been office manager at The Appliance Barn for almost five years and having helped manage the Kalona Coffeehouse for a while, she concedes, “I’ve got some practice running businesses.”

The name of the play café comes from the 1943 novelty song, “Mairzy Doats,” that Hardman’s grandpa, whom the grandkids called “Fafa,” sang to them when they were young. The line, “Mares eat oats and does eat oats and little lambs eat ivy,” struck Hardman as inspirational.

SEE PLAY CAFE | PAGE 11A

Santa in Riverside



TJ RHODES/THE NEWS



Top: Rilyn and Madilyn share a space with good ole Saint Nick. Bottom: Brooks and Parker take a photo with Santa Claus.

SEE MORE ‘SANTA VISITS RIVERSIDE’ PHOTOS ON PAGE 12A

AROUND TOWN

Hillcrest Academy Alumni Night

Hillcrest Academy’s annual Alumni Night event will be held Friday, Dec. 15 with JV boys starting at 4:30 p.m. Prizes will be given away throughout the varsity games, and alumni and student

activities will take place during halftime of the varsity games.

Hillcrest Midnight Madness
Hillcrest Academy will host Midnight Madness pickup basketball games on Christmas night, Monday, Dec. 25 at 10 p.m. at the Hillcrest

Union. Drop in for exercise or to catch up with former basketball teammates.

Christmas with the Great Bluegrass Herons

Celebrate Christmas with the Great Bluegrass

Hérons on Sunday, Dec. 17 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Ainsworth Opera House, 284 N. Railroad St., Ainsworth. Also performing will be Straight Back Chair, Marc Janssen with Annie Savage, and Mary Rathje. Refreshments served; freewill donations accepted.

Champion Hill Church Christmas Eve

Historic Champion Hill Church will hold its annual Christmas Eve service on Sunday, Dec. 24 at 4 p.m. Special music includes steel drums, flute, and viola. Refreshments and socializing follow the service. 3132 TT Avenue, rural North English.

Holidays at the Kalona Historical Village



CHERYL ALLEN/THE NEWS
Blue and white quilts primarily from the 1800's fill the English Quilt Gallery at the Kalona Historical Village, creating a peaceful new exhibit for the holiday season. Reindeer, seal pups, and squirrels animate the magical, forested display installed by Scott Allen of Fresh! Award Winning Floral Design in Kalona.

First Baptist Church fills over 150 Christmas boxes for Samaritan's Purse



SUBMITTED
The First Baptist Church group, at work in the Aurora warehouse of Samaritan's Purse.

Every year churches around our nation become a part of Samaritan's Purse "Operation Christmas Child". We take a shoebox and fill it with all kinds of gifts that might bless the life of a child stateside or global. We look for small yet "wow" gifts. Soccer balls and pumps, dolls, clothes, hair ties, toiletries, games, flashlights, the list is endless. Then we put in a small personal letter and a picture of ourselves or family.

At First Baptist Church in Wellman, we have been filling these shoeboxes knowing that they will bring joy to the children receiving them. This year we chose Operation Christmas Child as our Mission Project. We used our VBS offerings to begin filling boxes. The children filled 24 during VBS and we were able to fill 40 more after VBS. Then our church family filled many more and we finished the project with a total of 153 boxes. The postage was \$1,530 which we raised by collecting "pocket change" during church for 12 weeks total.



SUBMITTED
Front row, L-R: Hailey Chalupa, Dayleigh Blum, Delani Blum, Jill Millikin. Second row: Hunter Capps, Austin Capps, Tami Miller, Pastor Andrew Lundstrom, Marinda Ebersole, Deb Yoder. Back row: Craig Capps, Josh Brady, Nate Young, Rob Young, Adam Millikin.

On Thursday, Nov. 30, a van load of 15 took off for Aurora, Illinois to spend time working in a Samaritan's Purse warehouse where over 15,000 boxes were inspected and approved for shipping. That site had already processed over 150,000 boxes up to that date.

The shoeboxes are only part of the gift the children will receive. They will be invited to a 10-week study to learn about God and His love for them and about Jesus coming into the world as a baby at Christmas. They will hear how Jesus died on the cross to be our Savior. The impact of a shoebox gift cannot be measured -- it has the potential to change lives and effect generations. That is the power of the Gospel message of Jesus Christ.



Mid-Prairie FFA welcomes state officer

The Mid-Prairie FFA chapter welcomed Iowa FFA State Officer Emma Humphreys and District Officer Chloe Zittergruen to a chapter visit on Nov. 15. While at the high school, the officers discussed opportunities in FFA and the students participated in leadership-building activities.

During a year of service to the organization, Iowa FFA officers serve as ambassadors for agriculture and the FFA. They travel to FFA chapters throughout the state to connect with members and talk about the many opportunities available to students enrolled in agricultural education.

Agricultural education incorporates three aspects of learning. The classroom provides basic knowledge. FFA de-

velops leadership and personal skills. A Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) provides hands-on learning while working or in an agricultural business.

The Iowa FFA Association comprises 285 local chapters preparing over 19,200 students for future career opportunities. FFA activities and award programs complement instruction in agricultural education by giving students practical experience in applying agricultural skills and knowledge gained in classes. Through agricultural education, FFA makes a positive difference in students' lives by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success.



SUBMITTED
Gabi Robertson tries to give instructions to Charlotte Sieren to get through the cup maze.

Clinical Pharmacy Specialist Now Available at WCHC



Sarah FitzPatrick, PharmD, BCACP

Community Health and Wellness

Washington County Hospital and Clinics is excited to introduce our new Clinical Pharmacy Specialist, Sarah FitzPatrick, PharmD, BCACP. Sarah will work with our team of medical providers to provide collaborative management of medications used for chronic disease states such as anticoagulation therapy and others. She is now seeing patients in the WCHC Community Health and Wellness department, located adjacent to the Ken and Rosemary Hanson Specialty Clinic.

Call us at 319-863-3936 to schedule an appointment with Sarah FitzPatrick today!

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Forecasts for North Washington County

Thursday
Dec. 14

49° 31°

RealFeel® 48°

Mild with plenty of sunshine

Friday
Dec. 15

48° 34°

RealFeel® 45°

Cloudy and mild

Saturday
Dec. 16

44° 33°

RealFeel® 40°

Clouds and sun, a shower possible

Sunday
Dec. 17

47° 24°

RealFeel® 42°

Times of clouds and sun

Monday
Dec. 18

43° 24°

RealFeel® 45°

Mostly cloudy

Tuesday
Dec. 19

45° 28°

RealFeel® 42°

Sun through high clouds

Wednesday
Dec. 20

48° 27°

RealFeel® 44°

Clouds giving way to some sun

SUN/MOON

Sunrise

Sunset

Thursday 7:25 a.m. 4:37 p.m.

Friday 7:26 a.m. 4:38 p.m.

Saturday 7:27 a.m. 4:38 p.m.

Sunday 7:27 a.m. 4:38 p.m.

Monday 7:28 a.m. 4:39 p.m.

Tuesday 7:28 a.m. 4:39 p.m.

Wednesday 7:29 a.m. 4:39 p.m.

Moonrise

Moonset

Thursday 9:30 a.m. 6:12 p.m.

Friday 10:19 a.m. 7:28 p.m.

Saturday 10:58 a.m. 8:47 p.m.

Sunday 11:30 a.m. 10:04 p.m.

Monday 11:56 a.m. 11:19 p.m.

Tuesday 12:20 p.m. none

Wednesday 12:42 p.m. 12:32 a.m.

New
Dec 12

First
Dec 19

Full
Dec 26

Last
Jan 3

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70° 62° 73°

Today's Details

DAILY ACTIVITY CONDITIONS

Thu. Fri. Sat. Sun. Mon. Tue. Wed.

AccuWeather.com UV Index™

2 1 1 1 2 1 2

Dust & Dander Forecast

6 5 4 4 6 7 7

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

Outdoor activities forecast

4 4 5 4 4 3 5

Healthy Heart forecast

6 6 6 6 6 9 10

Rating: 0-2: Poor, 3-4: Fair, 5-6: Good, 7-8: Very Good, 9-10: Excellent.

DAILY HEALTH CONDITIONS

Thu. Fri. Sat. Sun. Mon. Tue. Wed.

Arthritis forecast

0 0 0 2 0 0 1

Flu forecast

0 0 0 0 0 0 0

Migraine forecast

3 2 2 2 1 1 1

Sinus forecast

4 4 4 4 4 1 2

Rating: 0-2: Beneficial, 3-4: Neutral, 5-6: at Risk, 7-8: at High Risk, 9-10: at Extreme Risk.

Sold-out Madrigal Dinner delights with traditional favorites, new twists

BY EMILY MARNER
The News

WELLMAN

The Mid-Prairie Choir Department held its 30th annual Madrigal Dinner the weekend of December 8-10. After the success of previous Madrigal Dinners, there was no surprise when all three nights sold out early.

Guests stepped into the school and were taken to a different time. The halls were decorated with lights and greenery, the students were all dressed in Medieval gowns and attire, and fanfare music played on as noble lords and ladies were taken to their seats.

The night began with the Jester, played by senior Jacob Carillo, welcoming everyone and setting the tone for the dinner. The audience was then introduced to the Royal Court, King Jack Greiner and Queen Phoebe Shetler. As the court sang “Masters in This Hall,” the rest of the students gathered into the room.

Guests who have attended a Madrigal Dinner before certainly remember one of the

most iconic parts of the night: the beggars. While every student was in-character, these stepped it up a notch, doing anything they could to get pennies, which would include diving for change.

Despite every year following the same formula-- welcome guests, have salad and soup, sing a little, main course, sing a little more, dessert and a play, then some more singing -- choir director Collette McClellan manages to keep each years’ music selection and entertainment fresh and exciting. Classics heard every year like “Wassail”, “Boar’s Head”, and “Farewell” never get old, but each year students show off their hard work with new pieces of impressive music.

Along with the music, a short play is performed by some of the students. This year, two Jesters, Carillo and Lincoln Wulf, fought for the love of a maiden. The maiden required items from the Christmas song, “The Twelve Days of Christmas”: twelve drummers drumming, eleven pipers piping, ten lords a-leaping, nine ladies dancing, eight maids a-

milking, seven swans a-swimming, six geese a-laying, five golden rings, four calling birds, three French hens, two turtle doves, and a “chicken in an oak tree”. The audience got to play a part in the show, cheering or boo-ing for the Jester on their side of the room.

The Royal Court, consisting of students Phoebe Shetler, Avery Slaughbaugh, River Gheling, Harlie Gheling, Jillian Clark, Madison Davidson, Isadora Goode, Grace Puttmann, Toby Olson, Jeremiah Rempel, Diego Sanchez, Madison Witthoft, Haydon Bailey, Logan McClellan, Jarrett TeBockhorst, and Jack Greiner, performed a selection of songs before guests parted for the night.

A lot of hard work goes into these shows, from months of practice, hours setting up, to finding music for the performances. Director McClellan and each new year of choir students have a knack for putting on a brilliant performance every year.

The show ends with a final goodbye and the reminder to “go in peace, go in joy, grow in love”.

Kalona Optimists’ annual student essay contest open for entries

The Optimist Club of Kalona encourages area students to contemplate the phrase, “Optimism: How it Connects Us,” as part of the Optimist International Essay Contest for the 2024 school year.

The Optimist Club will judge local students’ essays based on the theme of “Optimism: How it Connects Us” and determine the top winners. The first-place local winner will receive a \$500 college scholarship and will be sent to the district level, where a \$2,500 college scholarship is the top prize.

Students wishing to participate in the essay contest can find out more about it through their English/Language Arts teachers or by contacting Mary

Jo Kraus, the local Optimist Club contact person, at 641-216-3891.

Optimist International is one of the world’s largest service club organizations, with over 80,000 adult and youth members in almost 3,000 clubs in the United States, Canada, the Caribbean, Mexico, and throughout the world. Carrying the motto, “Bringing out the best in youth, our communities, and in ourselves,” Optimists conduct positive projects that reach more than six million young people each year.

To learn more about Optimist International, please call 314-371-6000 or visit the organization’s website at optimist.org.

Merger unites longstanding Riverside, Lone Tree banks

BY CHERYL ALLEN
The News

IOWA CITY

On Dec. 11, two nearly centenarian banks merged, giving Riverside and Lone Tree residents one more branch at which to handle their financial transactions. Peoples Trust and Savings Bank merged with Farmers and Merchants Savings Bank; the two will now carry forward under the Farmers and Merchants Savings Bank name.

Farmers and Merchants Savings Bank was established in Lone Tree in 1901 and is the oldest bank in Johnson County. It opened a second office in Nichols in 1934, and a third office in Iowa City in 2000.

Peoples Trust and Savings Bank was founded in 1928 in Riverside, with a single office on Railroad Street. It will now function as Farmers and Merchant’s fourth location.

Both banks are family owned by the same parent company, Country Bancorporation, which also owns and operates additional banks in South English, Cedar Rapids, and Hiawatha. As such, they have operated under the same philosophy of providing excellent customer service with experienced bankers.

The merger, which came together quickly after the de-

cision was made this summer, presented “an ideal opportunity to expand, blending our individual strengths to provide even greater value to our customers, communities, and shareholders alike,” Farmers and Merchants President/CEO Steven Crane said. “The Riverside location fits well in our footprint and offers customers who might live in Riverside and work in Iowa City the ability to visit either location to handle their banking needs.”

Those accustomed to banking in Riverside will see no immediate changes, Crane said. The bank will operate with the same friendly, experienced staff, and loan and deposit products will remain the same. A new sign is slated to be installed in Riverside in mid-December, and new branding will also be rolled out in coming weeks. Eventually customers will need to order new checks and will receive new debit cards, but those in possession can continue to be used over the next six months or so.

Crane says the merger brings with it “a lot of positives” for customers. In addition to more bank locations, which may be especially convenient for those who commute between Muscatine, Lone Tree, Riverside, and Iowa City, additional experienced staff will be available to advise customers as needed. The bank services mortgages, commercial loans, agriculture loans, and offers online banking services.

As the bank is locally owned and staffed by people who live in the communities they serve, community involvement will continue to remain important to Farmers and Merchants Savings Bank, as demonstrated through serving on boards, making financial commitments, and volunteering.

It’s possible you might even see their parade float at an upcoming Trek Fest.

For those with questions about the merger, contact Farmers and Merchants Savings Bank at 319-648-2221.

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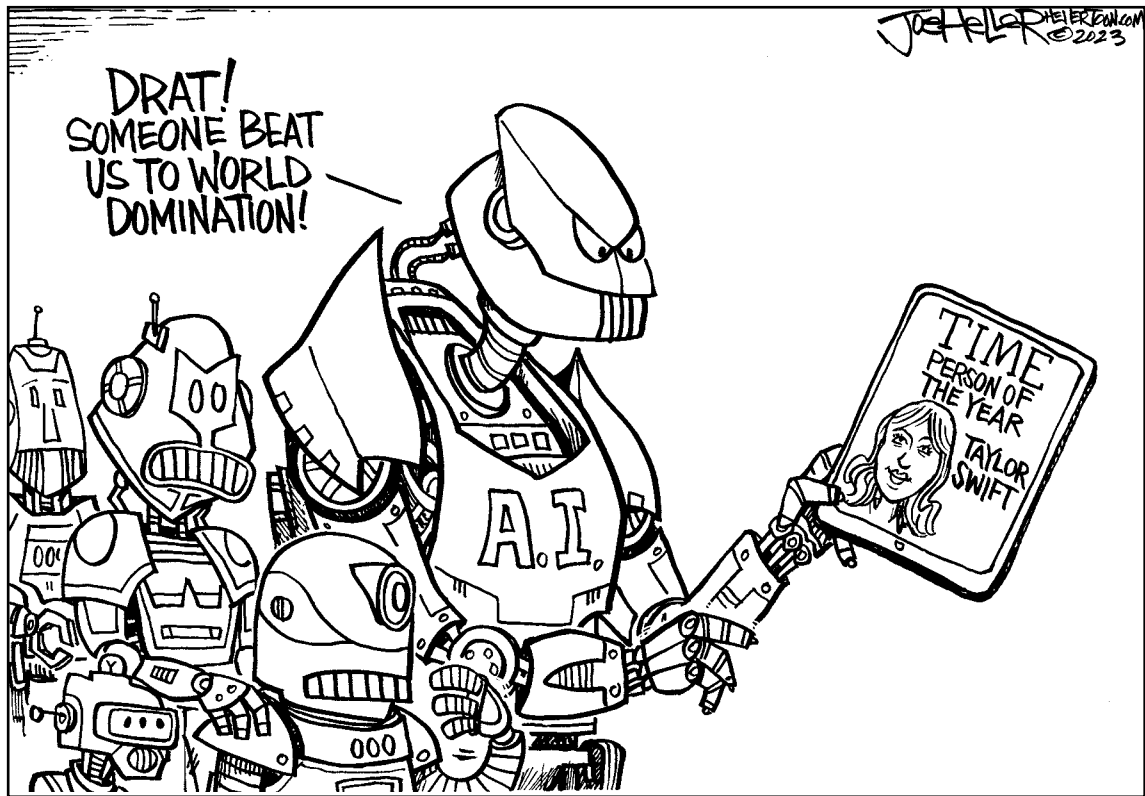
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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The hell-on-earth unleashed by the Hamas massacre in Israel on Oct. 7 is a cautionary tale for us all

Israeli police and military, once regarded as the gold-standard in security, failed utterly to protect their citizens. The attack started at 06:30 and went on for 8 hours before the Israeli forces mobilized. The government had become paralyzed by partisanship, and Netanyahu repeatedly had prioritized the demands of the ultraconservatives who supported him rather than do the right thing. They were asleep at the wheel. When politicians become more loyal to their political parties and not to the country this is what can happen.

To wit: The battle for democracy in Ukraine is no less hellish than Gaza. Russia has committed vile atrocities on par with Hamas. When Republicans like Grassley play politics over aid to Ukraine, it ultimately puts our national security at risk. But hey, the House Democrats proved Trump tried to shake down the Ukrainian president. Basically, Trump told Zelenskyy to find him dirt on Joe Biden even if he had to make it up. When Zelenskyy refused, Trump wanted to withhold the money.

Grassley, Ernst, Hinson, and Miller-Meeks apparently thought this was no big deal, voting to neither impeach nor remove. When Republican embarrassment Senator Tuberville held up appointments in the U.S. military for months in an attempt to cram his religious beliefs about abortion down our throats, it put us at risk and represents such a lack of respect for the people who keep us safe, and do dangerous things, and even die defending us.

It was recently reported that a young man hid under a pile of bodies and witnessed a beautiful young Israeli woman raped repeatedly by Hamas thugs and then shot in the head. National security should be as important as our political demands.

Tom Jacobson
Riverside

Safety Patrol duty and a traffic violator



Arvid Huisman
Country Roads

While far short of qualifying for Mensa, I was gifted with a good memory. So it is that I can distinctly remember something that happened nearly 64 years ago.

My father took a job with the grain elevator in Sibley, Iowa, and we moved there in February 1960. As it turned out, Dad's job didn't work out and six weeks later we moved back to Hamilton County in north central Iowa.

Sibley is a nice county seat town of nearly 3,000 in far northwest Iowa. The community is located just seven miles south of the Minnesota state line.

I remember Sibley positively for several reasons: I had a

wonderful sixth-grade teacher, I liked my classmates in my new school and there was a place downtown where you could buy a bottle of Coca Cola for five cents. Imagine that; a bottle of pop for just a nickel.

All of that said, the one negative I remember from Sibley (almost in Minnesota) was the winter temperature. Listening to the radio news in the morning, Sibley was often the coldest spot in northwest Iowa.

The cold factor, however, did not stop me from my first extra-curricular activity in my new school. Sibley was sufficiently populated to have a School Safety Patrol program for sixth graders and when given the opportunity to sign-up I did so immediately.

Back when I was 12 I was thinking I would like to be a cop someday. In Jewell, one of our neighbors was an Iowa Highway Patrolman and I deeply admired his sleek, black Plymouth cruiser with big fins and a single cherry on top.

Being a school Safety Patrol guy would be as close to being a cop as a 12-year-old kid could get. I signed-up, read the provided brochure, and was assigned a corner to guard.

It was cold out there in February but I took pride in helping ensure the safety of my schoolmates. I proudly wore the across-the-chest safety belt on which had been pinned a genuine American Automobile Association badge.

The morning detail was the coldest, of course, but I was happy to be of service and I felt like a bigshot. The noon shift was a little warmer and on sunny days it could even be pleasant.

Then it happened. A carload of what appeared to be high school boys drove right through the stop sign at my corner. Fortunately, no one was attempting to cross the street at the time, but the incident presented a danger to my schoolmates.

In my pre-pubescent voice,

I shouted at the carload of law breakers, but they just kept on speeding down the street.

I quickly pulled a pen from my shirt pocket (I was fully nerd-compliant) and wrote the license plate number on my hand. I noted the color of the car and was sure my teacher would want to know about this flagrant contempt for the law.

Alas, when I returned to the classroom and excitedly shared my news of unlawful behavior, my teacher was not as livid with the scofflaws as I was (or as I expected him to be.)

Soon enough class resumed and the matter moved to the back of my mind. Be assured, however, that nearly 64 years later I remember the law breakers.

I continued to serve on the Safety Patrol until we moved back to Hamilton County.

My parents had already sold our house in Jewell, so we moved to a farm place north of

Jewell that was a half-mile into the Kamrar school district. Schools the size of Kamrar (there were only about 14 in my sixth-grade class) did not have anything like a Safety Patrol nor did the community need one.

All these years later, however, I still remember my six weeks of service to my school as a member of the Central School Safety Patrol in Sibley.

My recollections of the AAA School Safety Patrol prompted a Google Search and, sure enough, the program remains active. The AAA website indicates that the program is now 103 years old and active throughout the United States and 30 other countries.

Best of all, the website reports that, "...The program (has) contributed to the steady decline of student pedestrian (ages 5-14) U.S. deaths a 24% decrease since 2010."

I wonder whatever happened to the hotrodders who ran the stop sign.

Update on our publisher

Last week we let you know that our publisher, Ron Slechta, suffered a heart attack on Nov. 28. So many of you have reached out with well wishes for him, his family, and our staff, and for that we are grateful.

Although Ron is still hospitalized, he is making progress. Doctors determined that he

had a stroke as well as a heart attack, and thus he is in intensive rehabilitation to address some of the effects. He is back to reading the newspaper and calling the office, and we take that as a good sign.

Your cards and prayers for Ron continue to be appreciated.

Deck the agency halls with federal workers



Joni Ernst
U.S. Senator

Folks, it's not the night before Christmas just yet, but through the halls of Washington, not a creature is stirring – not even a mouse.

That's because federal employees have dashed away and disappeared into the night.

It's been nearly four years since COVID-19 "temporarily" closed federal buildings, yet today, not a single government agency is occupying even half of their office space.

The Biden administration doesn't want the public to see the naughty list of no-shows, but in the spirit of the holiday season and holding bureaucrats accountable, I'll share! Topping the list are the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Social Security Administration (SSA), both of which are using just seven percent of their space.

HUD's abandoned building is a sad symbol of the failure of the Biden administration. Under Bidenflation, buying and renting is a whole lot more expensive, and instead of getting the homeless off the streets, no one is even home at HUD.

SSA is another tragic story. Despite being largely empty, the building is undergoing a \$150 million renovation to accommodate 33 percent more people. Meanwhile, more than a million Americans are waiting for their disability claims to be processed by the agency! The wait time to actually talk

to someone on the phone has increased from 10 minutes a decade ago to 36 minutes today.

While this might read like a Christmas carol, I've been singing this song all year long!

In August, I called for investigations into 24 federal departments and agencies to determine how telework has affected the delivery and response times of their services. Following my continuous advocacy, the General Services Administration (GSA) announced it would downsize 3.5 million square feet of federal buildings, which will save taxpayers over \$1 billion.

Then, in October, my amendment to hold the Biden administration accountable for the consequences of continued remote work by Washington bureaucrats was unanimously approved by the Senate. This effort will give Americans access to information about the financial and environmental costs of maintaining empty offices as well as the impact remote work is having on the response times of government services.

Although these were steps in the right direction, Iowa taxpayers simply shouldn't be forced to foot the bill for any empty federal buildings. Forgive me for sounding like the Grinch, but this Christmas, I'm calling on Biden's bureaucrats to deck all the agency halls with federal workers or sell off unused space. Until they do, I'll continue working to right-size federal real estate and increase accountability for telework abuse.

It's clear nobody is home at Biden's federal agencies. If bureaucrats don't want to show up to work, let's sell their fancy offices and 'keep the change, ya filthy animal!'

Visit www.thenews-ia.com

The News

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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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THE NEWS STAFF

Ron Slechta - Publisher@TheNews-IA.com

Cheryl Allen - News@TheNews-IA.com

Giovanni Coronei - Sports@TheNews-IA.com

Paul Bowker - BowkerPaul1@gmail.com

Morgan Dakarian - Design@TheNews-IA.com

Colette Yoder - Classifieds/Legals/Circulation - Admin@TheNews-IA.com

TJ Rhodes - Reporter@TheNews-IA.com

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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Online only edition - \$40

OBITUARIES

Sarah-Lee D. Gaudreau

1938 - 2023

Sarah-Lee D. Gaudreau, 85, died Thursday, Nov. 30, 2023, at her residence in North Liberty, following a lengthy battle with illness.

She was born May 24, 1938, in Barre, Vermont, to Alden and Florence (Rogers) Davis. She graduated from Williamstown High School in 1956. She then studied at the University of Vermont. She graduated from UVM in 1960 with a BS in education. She began teaching math in Woodstock, Vermont soon after.

She married Donald J. Gaudreau on June 15, 1963, in Claremont, New Hampshire. They had three daughters and lived in Claremont until moving to Kalona, Iowa in 1990.

During her life, she taught math in multiple settings and was then employed at ACT in Iowa City once moving to the area.

Upon retiring in 2000, she dedicated much of her time volunteering in the accounting department of her church. She was a woman of faith and immense strength, loved by many.

Survivors include her husband: Donald Gaudreau of



North Liberty; three daughters and sons-in-law: Robin (Bristol) Harris of Wellman, Heather (Woody) Lum of Honolulu, Hawaii and Julie (Anthony) Issa of Marion; four brothers: John Davis of Williston, Vermont, Thomas (Linda) Davis of Randolph, Vermont, Ray Davis of Burlington, Vermont and Roy (Gail) Davis of Groton, Vermont; one sister: Priscilla Tassie of Graniteville, Vermont; six grandchildren: Ryan (Katie), Bailie and Samuel Harris, Johnathan, Thomas, and Gabriel Issa; and one great-granddaughter: Norah Harris.

She was predeceased by a brother: Jerry Davis; and her parents: Alden and Florence Davis.

At her request there is no service. Memorial contributions may be made to the Mercy Foundation, 701 10th St., SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52407. Please mark in the memo that the contribution is for Hospice.

Frances Musser

1933 - 2023

Frances Musser, 90, passed away Friday, Dec. 8, 2023, at Windmill Manor in Coralville. Funeral services were held Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2023, at the funeral home. Burial was in Lone Tree Cemetery. Memorials may be directed to the Lone Tree Fire and Rescue in memory of Frances. Online condolences for the family may be sent to www.sandhfuneralservice.com.

Frances Dianna Musser was born March 23, 1933, in Lone Tree, the daughter of Shafter and Mary (Mincer) Walker. She was united in marriage to Kenneth Musser on April 18, 1956 in Lone Tree.

Frances was a homemaker. She enjoyed sewing, quilting, baking and crocheting. Most of all, she loved being with her family and spending time with



her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Frances is survived by her children: Theresa (Ron) Sexton of Riverside, Janet (Doug) Yoder of Kalona, Kenneth (Tammy) Musser of Iowa City, Steve (Marcy) Musser of Riverside and Diana (Jeff) Huff of Riverside; 14 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and her sister: Mildred Hora.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; daughter: Donna Collier; grandson: Anthony Sexton; brother: Mearle Walker; and sister: Rubye Walker.

LaDora Elizabeth Patterson

1927 - 2023

LaDora Elizabeth Patterson was born Oct. 17, 1927, in Keota, Iowa, the daughter of Bernard and Lulla (Baker) Redlinger. She graduated from Wellman High School. After graduation she worked as a page in Washington D. C. during WWII.

LaDora was united in marriage to Willard (Pat) Patterson April 6, 1947, at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Kinross. She worked as a bookkeeper for Jaydon, the Coloring Book and Reggie's Tire. LaDora was an avid golfer. She enjoyed cooking for her family, watching sports, and being a caretaker. She was an active member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Wellman and the Altar and Rosary Society. She enjoyed attending Mass and seeing her church family. LaDora died Friday, Dec. 8, 2023, at the Washington County Hospital in Washington at the age of 96.

She is survived by four children: Randy (Mary) Patterson of Fayetteville, Tennessee, Rusty Patterson of Mason City, Regina (Zaid) Frangul of Chandler, Arizona and Reg Patterson of Wellman; six grandchildren: Nicole Patterson, Tina (Jeremy) Peck, An-



gie (Adam) Prince, Whitney (Tyler) Bish, Abbi Patterson and Lucas Frangul; nine great-grandchildren: Paige (Kevin) Cortum, Rex, Stone and Ace Peck, Wyatt, Walker, Weston and Anna Prince, and Noah Patterson; a great-great-granddaughter: Brielle Cortum; and a brother: Lindy Redlinger of Wellman.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; two brothers: Bernard Jr and Ival Redlinger; a sister: Margaret (Dolly) Miller; and a grandson: Andrew Patterson.

Funeral Mass was held Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2023, at the St. Joseph Catholic Church in Wellman. Burial was in the Wellman Cemetery. A memorial fund has been established for the Wellman Golf Course or St. Joseph Catholic Church. Messages and tributes may be directed to www.powellfuneralhomes.com.

Ronald E. Rife

1936 - 2023

Ronald E. Rife, 87, of Lone Tree, passed away Thursday, Nov. 30, 2023, at the Lone Tree Health Care Center. Services will be held at a later date. Online condolences for the family may be sent to www.sandhfuneralservice.com. The Snyder & Hollenbaugh Funeral & Cremation Services of Lone Tree is caring for Ron's family and arrangements.

Ronald Eugene Rife was born Oct. 18, 1936, in Iowa City, the son of Charles Raymond and Helen Image (Tone) Rife. On Oct. 3, 1959, Ron was united in marriage to Dolores Fay in Lone Tree. Ron was a

teacher and also worked for the Lone Tree Reporter. He was a member of the Lone Tree Lions Club, Lone Tree Masons, KAABA Shriners, Lone Tree Chamber of Commerce, Lone Tree Historical Society and when younger was a Boy Scout Leader.

Ron is survived by his son: Knute (Meredith) Rife of Salt Lake City, Utah; daughter: Kris (Victoria Glatthar) Rife of Coralville; and four grandchildren: Brecia, Sarah, Emma, and Kjell.

Ron was preceded in death by his parents and wife, Dolores.

Joe Jr. Miller was born Nov. 1, 1931, son of Ezra and Edna (Miller) Miller in Kalona, Iowa. He accepted Christ as his savior and remained faithful until his death. He was united in marriage to Erma Amanda Yoder on Oct. 23, 1952. He passed away peacefully at home on Dec. 11, 2023.

Surviving are his six children: Edith Miller of Kalona, daughter-in-law Celesta Miller of Crofton, Kentucky, Lloyd (Arlene) Miller of Riverside, Minerva Jane Miller at home,

Lovina and her family announce the name of Midnight's colt

Daughter Verena will be 26 on Dec.10. Grandson Timothy (T.J.) will be 5 on Dec.17, granddaughter Allison will be 4 on Dec. 27, and my husband Joe will be 55 on Dec. 22. Happy birthday to all of them!

Church services will be held here in three weeks on Dec. 24. There is so much to do yet. As the children leave home and have their own work to do, it seems like it gets busier and harder for this "Grandma" to keep up. It doesn't help that it is also the holiday season with many gatherings.

Church services will be held here with a potluck meal to follow, Lord willing. Then on Christmas Day, our family all plans to be here for our family Christmas. So, with cleaning and shopping, we will be kept busy.

Let us not forget the reason for the season. Let us take time to reflect and be thankful for all our blessings.

Friday was the Christmas dinner for the metal shop where my husband Joe has worked these past three years.

A co-worker and his wife picked Joe and me up around 11:45 a.m. When we arrived, they started the ping pong tournaments for the workers. After that, they had cornhole tournaments as well. Tables of good food were there to snack on all afternoon. There were barbecued wings, jalapeño poppers, clementines, summer sausage, cheese, crackers, a variety of homemade candy, Rice Krispie treats, lots of other candy, and other options. And to drink, there was coffee, pop, water, tea, juice.

At around 4 p.m., we saw a show by Jasen Magic. He was quite a good entertainer, and it was probably different for him

Mildred (Enos) Yoder of Guthrie, Kentucky, Clara (Jesse) Yoder of Dannebrog, NB, Eldora (Philip) Yoder of Kalona; 45 grandchildren; 34 great-grandchildren; one brother: Mark (Dora) Miller; one sister: Ida Miller; and one sister-in-law: Susie Miller passed away shortly after Joe on Monday evening.

He was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers: Mahlon, Edward, Chester and Herman; two sisters: Catherine and Barbara; son: Harold;

son-in-law: Marlin; grandson: Kevin; two great-grandchildren: Angela Miller and Matthew Mullett.

A funeral service will be held 9:30 a.m., Thursday, Dec. 14, 2023, at the Philip H. Yoder residence. Visitation will be held Tuesday, Dec. 12 beginning at 2 p.m., and Wednesday, Dec. 13, beginning at 8 a.m., continuing all day. Yoder-Powell Funeral Home is caring for Joe Jr. and his family.



to entertain in an Amish home for mostly Amish people. He had us all laughing at his many tricks; he is a great comedian as well.

After the show, we were served a very delicious supper consisting of mashed potatoes, gravy, dressing, mixed vegetables, meatballs, ham, homemade bread and butter, and a variety of pies and ice cream. It was all very good!

The owner Daniel presented all the workers with gifts and a speech. We appreciated the hospitality we received.

After supper, the cornhole games continued among other games.

Joe and I arrived home after 9:30 p.m.

To all you readers that sent names for our colt, we finally decided on a name. We picked the name Jett. Thank you for all your suggestions. It was a hard decision between Sarge, Major, and Thunder. We hope we will have Jett here on the farm many years. He will be six months old in a few weeks and will be weaned from his mother Midnight.

Son Benjamin is driving his two-year-old in the buggy for short rides now. He named her Star. She has done really well so far. His buggy is ready now at the repair shop from his accident. He has another check-up Wednesday.

Baby Ervin is three weeks old and over eight pounds. He is doing well. Before he was

born, Kaitlyn and Jennifer were saying they wanted a girl because they already have three boys. I knew it was going to be a boy, so I asked them if I could have it if it was a boy. They said, "Oh no, we still want him, but we would rather have a girl." I think now they don't even mind what it is. They just enjoy him so much already. They're such good little helpers.

Our hearts are sad as we received word that my cousin Joey, age 67, passed away. Also, what a shock to hear of the death of Susan, an old friend from years ago. She was only 54. Our sympathy to both families as they mourn their loved ones. May God comfort them. God's blessings to all!

Butterfingers

1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup white syrup
3/4 cup crunchy peanut butter
4 cups slightly crushed cornflakes
1/2 cup miniature marshmallows
1/2 cup chocolate chips

Heat oven to 250 degrees. In a heavy saucepan combine sugar and syrup. Place over heat; stir constantly until mixture comes to a rolling boil. Turn off heat; stir in peanut butter. Add cornflakes; blend thoroughly. Press mixture into a 9 x 13-inch pan. Top with marshmallows and chocolate chips. Bake until marshmallows and chocolate chips soften. Remove from oven; swirl marshmallows and chocolate chips; let cool. Cut into 3/4 by 2-inch strips.

Lovina's Amish Kitchen is written by Lovina Eicher, Old Order Amish writer, cook, wife, and mother of eight. Her two cookbooks, The Essential Amish Cookbook and Amish Family Recipes, are 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 LovinasAmishKitchen@MennMedia.org and your message will be passed on to her to read. She does not personally respond to emails.

KALONA PUBLIC LIBRARY

A reminder that the library has begun our new winter hours:

Monday through Thursday 9:30am-7:00pm

Friday 9:30am-5:00pm

Saturdays 9:30am-1:00pm.

The library will be closed on Friday, Dec. 22 through Dec. 25. We will be open again on Tuesday, the 26!

New Adult Fiction: "The Proof of the Pudding" (Royal Spyness #17) by Rhys Bowen; "The Roaring Days of Zora Lily" by Noelle Salazar; "The Girl Who Disappeared" by

SENIOR DINING MENU

Dec. 14 - 21
Goodwin Senior Dining

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

Friday – Cheeseburger/bun, macaroni salad, potato chips, scotcharoo

Monday – Bratwurst/sauerkraut, mashed potatoes and gravy, butter crunch pudding

Tuesday – Chicken fajita wrap, pasta salad, tapioca

Wednesday – Roast beef, mashed potatoes & gravy, hot vegetable, cranberry fluff, Christmas cookie

Thursday – Fish patty/bun, tartar sauce, sweet potato puffs, cherry do-dads

Lone Tree Senior Dining

Thursday – Smothered chicken, mac & cheese, peaches

Friday – Pork ribs, Hawaiian bans, pineapple, ice cream

Monday – Chili, corn bread, blushing pears, Jell-O

Tuesday – Kielbasa & Kraut, seasoned potatoes, apricots

Wednesday – Ham creamy garlic potatoes, corn casserole, Jell-O salad, dessert

Thursday – Tater tot casserole, stewed tomatoes, tropical fruit

Clair Douglas; "Roman Stories" by Jhumpa Lahiri

New Adult Non-Fiction: "Gator Country: Deception, Danger, and Alligators in the Everglades" by Rebecca Renner; "Natural Horse Care" by Pat Coleby

New Easy Readers: "Fox Has a Problem" by Corey R. Tabor; "Pete the Cat's Not So Groovy Day" by James Dean

New Junior Fiction: "Frizzy" A graphic novel by Claribel A. Ortega; "The Bad Guys in Look Who's Talking" (Bad Guys #18) by Aaron Bla-

bey

New Easy Books: "Weather Together" by Jessie Sima; "It's Not Easy Being Santa Claus" by Marilyn Sadler; "The Big Cheese" by Jory John; "Uni the Unicorn: Reindeer Helper" by Amy Rosenthal Krouse

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.



Happy 97th Birthday

The family of

Jack Larew

is happy to announce our dad's

97th birthday,

December 27!

Please join us in wishing our dad a Happy Birthday.

Cards may be mailed to: Jack Larew

Lone Tree Care Center

415 E. Pioneer Rd

Lone Tree, IA 52755

come join us for an

Open House

Celebrating a 40th Wedding Anniversary of..

Paul & Emma Hochstedler

Dec. 23 | 1-5 pm

Celebration is at Andrew Yoders

2291 Johnson Washington Rd., Kalona

Send us: Birthday, Engagement, Wedding, New Arrival, and Retirement announcements.

ADMIN@THENEWS-IA.COM

WELLMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

The library is looking for teens to join our Teen Advisory Council. If you are interested or would like to find out more, reach out to info@wellmanlibrary.org.

This week, we are adding the following books to our shelves:

Children's: "Mazie's Amazing Machines" by Sheryl Haft; "What if You Had Animal Teeth" by Sandra Markle; "The King Penguin" by Vanessa Roeder

Juniors & Young Adult: "The Last Firehawk: The Shadow Returns" by Katrina Charman; "Dory Fantasmagory Can't Live Without You" by Abby Hanlon; "CatStronauts Slapdash Science" by Drew Brockington; "Diary of a Wimpy Kid: No Brainer" by Jeff Kinney; "One of Us is Next" by Karen M. McManus

Adult: "Dirty Thirty" by Janet Evanovich; "Alex Cross Must Die" by James Patterson; "Starter Villain" by John Scalzi; "The Ball at Versailles" by Danielle Steel; "The Pioneer Woman Cooks" by Ree Drummond

Stay up to date by visiting our website: wellmanlibrary.org, or following us on Facebook.

Register for \$5,290 College Savings Iowa giveaways

State Treasurer Roby Smith is reminding Iowans to register for the College Savings Iowa Year-End Giveaway before it ends December 31, 2023.

"If you know a child and want to start their education savings or give their existing savings a boost, register to win one of two \$5,290 College Savings Iowa account contributions at Iowa529Contest.com," Smith said. "Whether you're a parent, grandparent, other family member or friend, give the gift of education this holiday season and register today."

The College Savings Iowa 529 plan is a tax-advantaged way to save for tuition; room and board; computers; textbooks and other qualified education expenses at any eligible

higher-education institution in the U.S. or abroad. This includes colleges, universities, trade schools and apprenticeship programs. Additionally, up to \$10,000 per year per student can be withdrawn to pay for tuition expenses in connection with enrollment at a K-12 institution. "It's the perfect gift for any child, with any dream," concluded Smith.

To learn more about the Plan, visit CollegeSavingsIowa.com or call (888) 672-9116. Connect with College Savings Iowa on Facebook, Instagram and X, formerly known as Twitter, to stay informed on current events and updates. For additional details about the Plan, read the Program Description.

Sarah FitzPatrick joins WCHC Community Health and Wellness

Washington County Hospital and Clinics is pleased to announce Sarah FitzPatrick, PharmD, BCACP has officially begun seeing patients in her role as Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in the WCHC Community Health and Wellness Department as of November 2023.

"We are very excited to welcome Sarah FitzPatrick to her new role as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist at WCHC. Sarah's work with patients and providers will help ensure that prescribed medications are optimally meeting patients' needs and goals of care," stated Todd Patterson, Chief Executive Officer at WCHC.

Sarah received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy in Iowa City in 2021. She then completed two years of post-graduate residency training specializing in Ambulatory Care Pharmacy at the University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics. Ambulatory care pharmacists practice in outpatient care settings to provide education and collaborative management of chronic disease states together with patients and their providers. Formerly Sarah Greiner, she was an employee of WCHC Beans Pharmacy for 10 years prior to her transition to this new role.

Sarah is board-certified in ambulatory care pharmacy through the Board of Pharmacy Specialties and is a member of the Rho Chi Pharmacy

Honor Society and the Phi Lambda Sigma Pharmacy Leadership Society. She also teaches on a volunteer basis as an Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science at the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy.

As a lifelong resident of Washington, Sarah is proud to serve her local community and bring clinical pharmacy services to our rural health system.

Sarah will work with our team of medical providers to provide collaborative management of medications used for chronic disease states such as anticoagulation therapy and others. Patients may also self-refer to Sarah for assistance with complex medication regimens. She will practice in the WCHC Community Health and Wellness department, located adjacent to the Ken and Rosemary Hanson Specialty Clinic at 400 East Polk Street, Entrance 8 in Washington. Patients can call



SUBMITTED

(319) 863-3936 to schedule an appointment.

Washington County Hospital and Clinics strives to deliver on the promise to provide quality healthcare that puts people first. The addition of Sarah FitzPatrick, PharmD, BCACP emphasizes WCHC's commitment to develop and sustain a strong primary care base for residents of Washington County.

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319.656.2273

mail check or stop by 419 B Ave., Kalona

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LOCAL CHURCH SERVICES

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

HILLS
St. Joseph Catholic Church: Hills, Pastor: Father Hai Dinh, 319-679-2271; Carol Kaalberg, 319-330-5324. www.StsMaryandJoseph.com. Mass schedule: Sunday 10 a.m.

IOWA CITY
Crosspoint Baptist Church: Pastor Mike Barr. Meeting at the Clarion 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 Yutzy, 319-430-9574; cornerstonekalona@gmail.com; Sunday, 10 a.m. Nursery & kids's classes available

East Union Mennonite Church: 5615 Gable Ave. SW, 319-656-2590; Joel Beachy, Pastor, Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School: 10:45 a.m.

English River Chapel: 1370 Hwy 1, Sunday 10 a.m. Worship, Wednesday 7 p.m. prayer and worship, Saturday 9:30 a.m. Torah study/discussion 10 a.m.; newseenglishriverchapel.org.

Fairview Mennonite Church: 2605 540th St. SW; Pastors: Conrad Hertzler, 319-512-6186; Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. & 7 p.m. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Full Gospel Revival Center: 1103 J Ave. 319-656-2298; Pastor: Jeremy Gugel; Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.; Wednesday Mid-Week Service: 7 p.m.; fgrc@kctc.net

Gospel Light Fellowship: 401 E Ave (Hwy 22) Pastor: Dwight Schrock, 319-530-4783; Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.; Message: 10:45 a.m.

Haven Conservative Mennonite Church: 5203 Cosgrove Rd. SW, 1 mile west of Hwy.1; Ministry: James Swartzentruber, 319-683-2372; Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
- Kalona Mennonite Church:** 6th Street & J Ave., 656-2736, kalonamennonitechurch.com; Pastor: Josh Lundberg; Sunday 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.kalonamc.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 319-656-2076, <http://ldmc.org>, Email: donna@ldmc.org; Pastor: Steve Nelson; Discipleship Pastor: Chris Nachtigall; Sunday Worship: 10 a.m. Sunday School: 9 a.m.

Sharon Bethel Mennonite Church: 5 miles north on Highway 1, ¼ mile east, 319-683-2672; Pastors: Delmar Bontrager, Leighton Yoder, Lavon Bontrager; 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.wordpress.com; 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.

Sunnyside Conservative Mennonite Church: 501 14th St. 319-656-2688; Pastors: Marv Bender and Floyd Helmut; Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Sunday School: 10:45 a.m.
- JOETOWN**
Pleasant Hill: Sunday worship: 9 a.m. June-Sept, Contact Fred Wagler, 319-936-7778

KINROSS
Kinross Christian Church: Pastor: Luke Caster Sunday worship: 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

LONE TREE
St. Mary's Catholic Church: 216 W. Jayne St; Pastor: Father Hai Dinh, 319-679-2271; Carol Kaalberg, 319-330-5324. www.StsMaryandJoseph.com. Saturday Mass: 4 p.m.
- United Presbyterian Church of Lone Tree:** 110 W Elm St; 629-4900 www.lonetreeiowachurch.com; Sunday: Worship: 10 a.m. Sunday School 10:15

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 Timmermann; Sunday Services: 9 a.m. Family Worship Service with Children's Message

St. Mary's Catholic Church: Short St & Grand Ave; Pastor: Father Hai Dinh, 319-679-2271; Carol Kaalberg, 319-330-5324. www.StsMaryandJoseph.com. Sunday Mass: 8 a.m.

North English Christian Church: Pastor: Luke Caster Sunday worship: 10-11 a.m.
- OXFORD**
Windham Community Church: 1424 Black Diamond Rd. SW, 2 miles north of Frytown. Pastor: Randy Harker, 319-430-1912; Sunday Worship 10 a.m. windhamchurch.com

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

RIVERSIDE
The Church In Riverside: 41 E 1st St., 319-698-2185, thechurchatriverside@hotmail.com; Patrick Leonard, Evangelist; Service Times: Sunday 10 a.m.; Wednesday 7 p.m.

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

St. Mary's Catholic Church: 51 St. Mary's St., 319-648-2331, clusterparishes.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 Gerot, 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: 10 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 Lunstrom; Sunday School for all ages 9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m. Communion is held the first Sunday of each month.

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd: Vacancy Pastor: Gary Sears. Missouri Synod; 5th St. & 4th Ave. Saturday Mass: 5 p.m.

New Life Community Church: meets at Parkside Activities Center, office located at 214 8th Ave, 319-674-9057, Office hours: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Mon-Fri. 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: Wilford Beachy 319-656-3733; 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, clusterparishes.org; Fr. Bill Roush; Saturday Mass: 5 p.m.

Upper Deer Creek Mennonite Church: 6 ½ miles west of Cheese Factory, 319-656-3843; Pastor: Elmer Miller; Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School: 11 a.m.

Wellman Mennonite Church: 1215 8th Ave. 319-646-2532; Pastor: David Heusinkveld; Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages following the service.
- West Union Mennonite Church:** 3253 305th St. Parnell, 319-646-6004; Pastor: John David Kenney; Sunday Worship: 9:30a.m. Sunday School: 10:45a.m.; Mennonite Women: First Wed. of every month 8:30a.m.-3p.m.

Zion Christian Fellowship: 1308 Madison Ave. Pastor: Elvin Martin. Worship: 9:30 a.m.

WEST CHESTER
West Chester Mennonite 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 Beachy, Elwyn Stutzman, Matthew Petersheim; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday school 9:30 a.m.

Immanuel Lutheran Church (ELCA): 1226 E Washington St. 319-653-3950; Pastor: Susan Debner; Sunday Worship & Communion Service: 9 a.m., website: lu-thwash.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 Cotner. 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, 319-458-0412 cell; Father Bernie 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. Devaughn; Traditional Worship 10 a.m.; Sunday School 9 a.m.; Washingtonmnc.com.

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

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Income initiative to help those in need presented to JoCo Board

BY PAUL D. BOWKER
The News

IOWA CITY

More than 100 parents living in Johnson County would benefit financially from a pilot income initiative brought to the Johnson County Board of Supervisors at its work session Dec. 6. Proposed to the Board by Lynette Jacoby, Social Services Director, and Danielle Pettit-Majewski, Public Health Director, the Basic Income initiative would provide \$500 per month for two years for 110 Johnson County families that would be selected from a pool of eligible residents.

A similar program, the UpLift Central Iowa Basic Income Program, is being run in Polk, Warren and Dallas coun-

ties.

Eligibility would include those 18 and over who were under 50% of area median incomes. The program would be part of a research project being run by the University of Pennsylvania and University of Iowa.

Jacoby said the program's financial requests are \$1.5 million from Johnson County, \$793,000 in private donors and \$500,000 in corporate or municipal donors.

Johnson County funds would likely come from interest money earned on American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Supervisor Jon Green of Lone Tree was in favor of the initiative, while Supervisors Rod Sullivan and Lisa Green-Douglass raised questions about the

finances.

"I think this sort of initiative is especially important because from a public policy poverty viewpoint, two of the biggest lessons from the pandemic were the old ways were not working and we didn't have to do things the old way," Green said. "I really hope we can find a way to do this."

The proposal, even if approved, may end after the 24-month pilot stage.

"It's better for people to have this stuff for two years than to never have it," Sullivan said.

Green-Douglass, the board's chair, was concerned how the financing would affect decisions down the road "if the goal is for this to be a forever thing."

"I heard from the day I got on this board, we can't obligate a future board's funding decision," Green-Douglass said. "And that would be a funding decision for a future board."

ARPA Deadlines

A new interim final rule issued by the U.S. Treasury is amending some of the requirements associated with planned Johnson County projects being funded by American Rescue Plan Act funds.

The county's ARPA team updated the Board with those changes at its work session.

Obligations for all projects must be submitted by Dec. 31, 2024, per federal rules. The Johnson County ARPA team is moving that date up to June 2024 so that enough time is

in place for changes and approvals. The projects will be a part of the budgeting process, which begins this month and goes through March 2024.

Per federal rules, all ARPA money must be spent by the end of 2026.

Board Action

The Board approved an amendment with the University of Iowa for the Direct Assistance Impact Project.

The Board approved an amendment to the Johnson County Social Services Block Grant for Shelter House.

Next meeting: The Board's next formal session is at 5:30 p.m. Dec. 14. The monthly evening session will include a number of rezoning and platting requests.

Sheriff visits Hills for discussion on wages

BY TJ RHODES
The News

HILLS

The Hills City Council met on Monday, Dec. 11, for their regularly scheduled council meeting.

They were visited by Johnson County Sheriff Brad Kunkel to negotiate the contracted sheriff's office presence in Hills.

Currently, Hills pays for 15 sheriff hours a week – or 728 hours a year – at a rate of \$49 an hour. According to Kunkel,

Hills receives more presence than they pay for as Hills is an ideal central ground between different Johnson County towns such as Tiffin and Lone Tree. This is why Kunkel recommended that Hills not increase their hours unless they feel they need more presence.

No council member expressed that need.

Kunkel's goal is to get towns who contract hours from the sheriff's office to pay 100% of the cost to patrol the area. It is projected that by 2029, a sheriff deputy's hourly wage will be

\$69.57 an hour. Thus, Kunkel has a five-year plan of raising contracted hourly wages \$4 an hour each year to get Hills to 100% by 2029.

Currently, Hills covers 83% of total costs.

The council did not make a motion on Kunkel's proposal but has some time to decide. Kunkel's budget is due in January.

The speed limit's limit

The Johnson County Board of Supervisors recently set the speed limit outside of Hills

to 55 MPH at Oak Crest Road SE. Guy Sommers, a Hills city council member, raised concern that because Hills is growing, the limit should slow down to 45 MPH before entering town.

"We've had people in this county who have complained about the speed out here," Sommers said. "We're looking out for the safety of our community."

Within the city, the limit is set at 35 MPH.

Park update

The council wants to let residents know that park workers are dealing with a mole issue at Hills City Park and have traps set. To date, they've caught four moles.

Next meeting: The City of Hills will next meet on Wednesday, Dec. 13, for a council workshop.

Their next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 27, accommodating the fact that Christmas falls on a Monday, their regular meeting time.

Grammy nominee SaulPaul to bring 'Be The Change' to Highland Elementary

BY PAUL D. BOWKER
The News

RIVERSIDE

SaulPaul, a Grammy-nominated musician and rapper who has performed at five Super Bowls and America's Got Talent, has agreed to appear at Highland Elementary School as a part of his Be The Change Challenge initiative.

Jane O'Leary, Highland Elementary Principal, told the Highland School Board at its meeting Monday night that SaulPaul will appear in an in-school program in late winter or spring.

His appearance will be free of charge to the school district. "Super excited to have Saul-

Paul come and work with kids," O'Leary told The News. O'Leary said she spoke with SaulPaul during a recent Zoom call about the Be The Change Challenge and his upcoming appearance. SaulPaul's Be The Change Challenge calls for students to be involved in volunteer projects.

"He's a pretty interesting character to talk to," O'Leary said. "I think it will be great."

SaulPaul appeared at the Iowa School Counselors Association meeting in Des Moines to pitch the program. He also appeared at the National School Counselors Association conference in Austin, Texas.

"Be The Change" is one of the albums he has released.

In addition to Highland, SaulPaul is tentatively scheduled to also appear at schools in North English, Cedar Rapids and Davenport.

Sonya Stanerson, a counselor at Highland Elementary, attended the Iowa School Counselors Association meeting and gave a presentation to the Board.

Since growing up on the streets of Houston, Texas, and doing prison time, SaulPaul, whose original name was Adam Neal, has become a musician, filmmaker, author and motivational speaker of faith focusing on kids and volunteerism.

Supplemental Funding

The Board approved multiple modified supplementary fund requests, totaling more than \$198,000, with the Iowa School Budget Review Committee.

The SBRC is comprised of five members who review certified budgets for all school districts in Iowa.

Formulas for eligibility for modified funds include the use of enrollments from year to year.

Sports Numbers

The number of student-athletes has increased in three of four winter sports at the high school, including boys basketball (26, up from 20 a year ago).

Girls basketball is down, but just by one student (14, down from 15).

Participation numbers at the junior high level are up in both basketball and wrestling.

Board Action

The Board approved a designation of UMB Bank of Kansas City, Missouri, as the financial institution for the school district.

The Board approved early graduation for student Taylor Forbes.

The Board approved a number of updated school policies.

Next board meeting: The board will hold its next monthly meeting at 5 p.m. January 8.



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\$1,000 scholarships available for students in Wisconsin and Iowa

Alliant Energy seeks applications for its 2024 Innovation Scholarships. Across Iowa and Wisconsin, up to 25 students will receive \$1,000 scholarships to further their academic goals.

"I was extremely honored to be a recipient of this award to continue my dedication to academic excellence in college," said Abigail Bence, 2023 Innovation Scholarship recipient and Central College (Pella, IA) student. "I can further my education and give back to my community once I begin my career in physical therapy. I am thankful to Alliant Energy for your confidence and willingness to help me achieve my goals."

Applicants will write an es-

say that identifies a problem in their community and presents their own innovative solution using science, technology, engineering and/or math.

Scholarship recipients will be selected based on essay content, participation in leadership roles, volunteer work, community service, activities and grade-point average.

Applicants must be enrolled in their first full-time program at an undergraduate school. They also must be less than 25 years old and either a dependent of a current Alliant Energy customer or a customer themselves.

Students can submit applications to the Alliant Energy Innovation Scholarship Program online at learnmore.

scholarsapply.org/alliantenergyinnovation. The deadline is Feb. 15, 2024.

In addition to Innovation Scholarships, several scholarship opportunities are available through Alliant Energy's partner schools that aim to empower students to pursue careers in the energy industry. Find more information on the Innovation Scholarships, as well as a full list of scholarships Alliant Energy offers at alliantenergy.com.

In 2023, over 100 students received scholarships from Alliant Energy. These contributions totaled more than \$136,500 to offset tuition costs and student loans.

Iowa 4-H scholarship applications open

The Iowa 4-H Foundation is proud to share that the application for 2024 Iowa 4-H Scholarships is now open. Deadline for application is March 1, 2024.

This year, 129 scholarships will be available worth a total of \$132,000. Scholarships range from \$500-\$4,000. Scholarships are funded by donors with a variety of criteria and are open to current high school juniors and seniors through current undergraduates.

"We are grateful to the donors who make these scholarships possible to recognize and reward the hard work of 4-H'ers in Iowa," said Emily Saveraid, Executive Director of the Iowa 4-H Foundation. "We know that financing a college education can be a challenge and hope that these scholarships can help ease that burden a bit."

Iowa 4-H Scholarship ap-

plications open on December 1st and are submitted online. The deadline for application is 11:59 P.M. on March 1, 2024. 4-H Scholarship information and online applications are available on the Iowa 4-H Foundation web page, www.iowa4hfoundation.org/scholarships.

The Foundation is pleased to offer these NEW scholarships for 2024, thanks to the donors who have made these scholarships possible.

Shaver Family Memorial Scholarships

Provided by the endowment established in memory of Chuck & Kathy Shaver, three \$2,500 scholarships are offered for students attending any accredited post-secondary institute—one for a 4-H alum from anywhere in Iowa, one for 4-H alum from Story County and one for a 4-H alum who has

completed at least one year of study.

Lisa Schwalbe Memorial Scholarship

Two \$1,500 scholarships were created in memory of Lisa Schwalbe for an incoming college freshman who are 4-H'ers from Clarke, Decatur or Ringgold Counties and with a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Applicants need to attend Iowa State University and major in agriculture or education.

Sandra Bland 4-H Scholarship

Provided by the endowment established in memory of Sandy Bland, this \$1,000 scholarship is for a 4-H alum who participated in 4-H in Cedar, Muscatine or Scott counties and who will be an undergraduate student at any two- or four- year accredited college or university.

A new day dawns for Mid-Prairie board

BY CHERYL ALLEN
The News

WELLMAN

There's a new board in town, and they're shaking things up.

Mid-Prairie's new school board was present in full for the first time at their regular meeting on Dec. 11, and new board president Jake Snider started proceedings with a new formality. Rather than reading the district's mission statement, as had previously been the custom, he had the room stand and cite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sparse board action took place after a presentation by the school's FFA members and a proposal made during public forum for a new club that has some money behind it.

FFA students told the board about their October trip to the 96th Annual National FFA Convention in Indianapolis. While showing slides, the five students talked through the highlights of their trip, which included meeting other FFA students from around the country, learning more about career paths open to them, and listening to speakers. They also visited swine and dairy farms, the zoo, and did a dol-

phin meet and greet.

"What do you now know about dolphins that you didn't know before?" FFA advisor Elsa Schmidt prompted the group.

"They're not squishy," Charlotte Sieren, FFA reporter, said, eliciting chuckles. Mid-Prairie's FFA chapter has about 65 in-school members.

Public Forum

Jeremy Statler, owner of Statler Construction in Kalona, was the sole member of the public to speak during public forum this week. A 1990 Mid-Prairie graduate, "I love this community and I want to help wherever I can," he told the board. He then explained that he contacted Industrial Technology teacher Lucas Troyer and asked him if there are tools he could help provide, and Troyer provided him a list.

It was "a little more than I was thinking," Statler said, "But it is something that I believe in, and I want to help out on that."

The list included "basic stuff" like tape measures, files, and a bandsaw.

Statler said he proceeded to ask around, trying to raise funds to purchase the tools. By Monday night, he had col-

lected \$8,350, which is "coming straight to Mid-Prairie and earmarked for the Industrial Tech program."

This is the start, he hopes, of the Golden Hawk Future Builders Club, the aim of which would be to introduce students to "how many possibilities there are in the trades" and encourage them to pursue them as careers.

"If we can impact a kid or two, if we can keep them in our community to help out rather than go out to who knows where, that's only going to benefit us all," Statler said.

At the end of the business meeting, board members expressed interest in what Statler was proposing, although they could not take any action as it was not an agenda item.

"I think it would be hugely beneficial," board member Ryan Schlabaugh said.

"There's a lot of good ideas in the community and at the table," Snider said. "The problem that we run into is, how do we get that into [our] education? Get it into the building, get it implemented? How do we bridge that gap, make that happen? . . . It's going to take a real team-approach between the community and staff."

Follow Up

During the Public Forum at the board's last meeting on Nov. 27, parents raised concerns about issues in special education. In her written report to the board, Special Education Director Amy Shalla wrote that Special Education teachers are "working on a survey to gain their perspective and ideas" related to these issues.

Board Action

The board discussed incentives for licensed staff to provide notice of resignation early in the year so that the district has sufficient time to find staff to replace them by the following school year. The board approved financial incentives the same as last year: \$2,000 for resignation notices received by the third Friday in February and \$1,000 for those received by the third Friday in March.

As more schools are recruiting earlier in the year, the board agreed to consider moving the incentive dates up two weeks at a future meeting.

Tad Morrow from Carl A Neslon and Vicki Hyland from OPN Architects reviewed a letter of intent from OPN, which outlined the scope, plan, and costs for upcoming construc-

tion projects in the district. While it is not a formal contract, it "covers everything that we've talked about," and its acceptance would allow the builders to "get some work started" early in the year, Morrow said.

The board approved the letter.

Moving Forward

Before closing the meeting, the board discussed possibilities for board development. Superintendent Brian Stone said that there is an interest in restructuring board meetings so that there is room for more productive conversation and relationship building.

"The way that our agenda is set up now, it's just challenging," he said.

"We're all looking for a reason, we all have different points of view. When you can smash those together on a table and strain out everything, what comes out of that is going to be fantastic," Snider agreed. "But we have to facilitate those opportunities."

The Mid-Prairie Board of Education will next meet on Jan. 8 at 6:15 p.m. at the Central Office.

Board asked for funding, defers action on wages for officials

BY MARY ZIELINSKI
The News

WASHINGTON

The Washington County Supervisors Tuesday were asked to continue funding for the East Central Iowa Council of Governments' East Central Iowa Housing Trust Fund (ECIHTF) and the Washington Economic Development Group (WEDG) at the 2022 level of \$4,764 for the former and \$23,000 for the latter.

Since 2011, ECIHTF has provided more than \$1.8 million to help expand affordable housing opportunities in four counties, Benton, Iowa, Jones and Washington, aiding with everything from supplementary funds for the owner-occupied rehabilita-

tion program and HACF renovations at Old Main to Habitat for Humanity in Ainsworth and the student building program in Kalona.

The counties allocations amount to \$18,000, which is the local match needed to secure grants from the state's Local Housing Trust Fund (LHTF). The ECIHF is the only entity in the county that can apply for the state funds and since 2011 received more than \$4 million from LHFT. In simple terms, it means a return of \$4 for every \$1 from local match sources. In Washington County last year's \$4,764 "bought" \$403,034 in successful grant applications.

WEDG's list for 2023 is more extensive, providing aid

to Debi Durham, IEDA, for the YMCA Pool Project Capital Campaign, and earning a \$500,000 CAT award through support for rural broadband expansion with \$1,842,400 for Sharon Telephone, \$3,120,782 for KCCTC and \$2,698,561 for Wellman Co-op. It also facilitated the sale of four lots in the Washington Business Park; got \$50,000 for the student-built home in Kalona; and aided with childcare programs and community support efforts of every kind. In the process, its efforts added some \$13,000 to the county tax revenue.

Decisions about all requests will be made before the annual budget deadline in March.

Among those decisions will be the salary increases for all

county officials. Tuesday, the board reviewed the recommendation from the county compensation board for a 4 percent increase for elected officials that would be attorney, \$160,397 to \$166,823; sheriff, \$150,450 to \$156,468; auditor, \$101,433 to \$105,490; treasurer, \$97,745 to \$101,655; recorder, \$96,351 to \$100,205; supervisor, \$49,001 to \$50,961, with the supervisor chairman stipend unchanged at \$3,500. Indications are the board could be considering an increase to match the 3.2 percent federal cost of living adjustment.

The board deferred action to next week to allow the auditor to obtain similar information from some 15 to 20 comparable counties.

Auditor Dan Widmer said that at present the county is four to five weeks ahead in its considerations, noting some counties have not yet received recommendations from their compensation boards.

During the board comments at the meetings' conclusion, supervisor Marcus Fedler, in reference to the plan for moving and/or remodeling administrative offices and remodeling of the courthouse and Orchard Hill, noted the need for two work sessions, including discussion about a facility for the engineering department. A work session is tentatively planned to follow the regular meeting on Dec. 19.

Mid-Prairie, Highland to participate in Iowa Youth Straw Poll Jan. 9

Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate announced Dec. 7 that the Iowa Youth Straw Poll will take place across the state on Tuesday, January 9. Less than one week before Iowans participate in the Iowa presidential caucuses, thousands of Iowa students will make their voices heard in the Iowa Youth Straw Poll and vote for their preferred candidates for U.S. President.

The Iowa Youth Straw Poll is a hands-on educational experience designed to inspire

civic engagement. Every public school, private school, homeschool student, and youth group in the state is invited to participate.

"We've seen Iowa's young people become more and more civically engaged and excited about the elections process," said Secretary Pate. "Programs like the Iowa Youth Straw Poll not only give these students an opportunity to make their voices heard, but they get a firsthand understanding of how elections work, so they are

better prepared to vote in elections once they are eligible."

Students, teachers, and organizations can register for the Iowa Youth Straw Poll at sos.iowa.gov/youth/poll/registration.aspx. Mid-Prairie Community Schools and Highland High School have already registered. Teachers and students are encouraged to post photos of their Youth Straw Poll activities on social media, utilizing the #BeAVoter hashtag.

The Youth Straw Poll is one component of Secretary Pate's

Elections 101 curriculum that is available for any school or civic organization to utilize. It is written by Iowa teachers for Iowa teachers. Two additional components of the curriculum include lesson plans on the history of women's suffrage and women in politics. The curriculum is available for free at Elections101.Iowa.gov.

The Iowa Youth Straw Poll has the support of the Iowa Department of Education and the Iowa Council for the Social Studies and has received

national recognition for outstanding leadership in voter education.

"We'll be live streaming results on January 9, and I encourage everyone to tune in, because historically, the results from these polls have been good predictors of official election and caucus results," said Secretary Pate.

The last Iowa Youth Straw Poll took place in the fall of 2022 and saw nearly 200 schools sign up to participate.

Iowa author's new book features support cat, adventure

Cristina Nolan, who has specialized in working with children with a variety of special needs for many years, has completed her new book, "Support Cat Adventures: The Great Escape": a gripping story that follows an emotional support cat named Gracie, who wants to experience a new life outside of helping her human, Brenden, with his anxiety attacks and other medical needs, and plans a grand escape in order to do so.

Originally from Denver, Iowa, where she is currently an active member of her family church, author Christina Nolan has used her twenty years of experience in the education field to homeschool her children. Over the course of her career, Nolan has worked in various positions, including as a nanny to a child with autism, as a preschool director and teacher, as a paraeducator to middle school and high school

students, and most importantly as a mother to two boys with special needs.

"Gracie's job is not common for being a cat," writes Nolan. "When her human, Brenden, goes into psychological nonepileptic seizures and anxiety attacks, it's her responsibility to help him come out of them. The job is rewarding, but Gracie wants something new. The time has come to create an escape plan. Will she make it? Where will she go? Who will she meet? What will happen to Brenden if she is gone?"

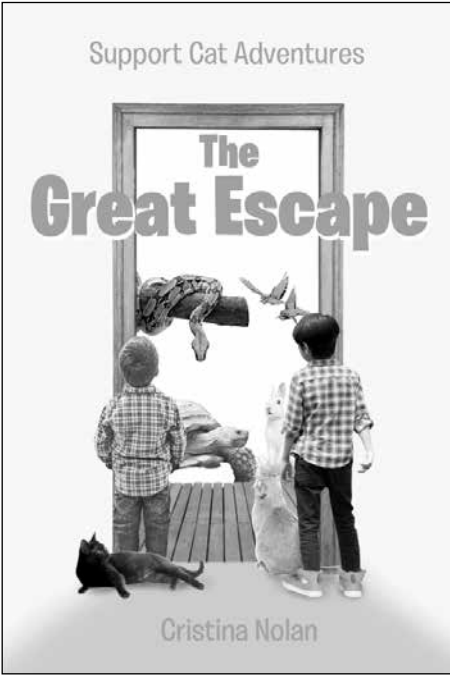
"Moonlight, Gracie's sister and Jesse's ADHD support cat, is full of rage and jealousy toward her sister. She will do anything to get Gracie out and keep her out. Will she succeed?"

Published by Page Publishing, Cristina Nolan's enlightening tale was inspired by the author's sons, whom she noticed would use their pet cats

to help calm themselves down during stressful activities throughout the day. After witnessing this, Nolan decided to write "Support Cat Adventures" to help educate readers all about how a cat's love and compassion can help them to become great support animals.

Through Gracie's adventures, the author also aims to teach readers about a variety of disabilities that a family lives with including non-epileptic seizures, anxiety, ADHD, living in a wheelchair, and walking with a cane, all while teaching important moral values such as compassion, empathy, kindness, and forgiveness.

Readers who wish to experience this inspiring work can purchase "Support Cat Adventures: The Great Escape" at bookstores everywhere, or online at the Apple iTunes Store, Amazon, Google Play, or Barnes and Noble.



\$10,000 of pork donated to Iowa food banks as need soars

The Iowa Pork Producers Association (IPPA) donated \$10,000 worth of pork Friday to help fight food insecurity in central Iowa. That translates to about 14,400 meals, divided between the Food Bank of Iowa and the Des Moines Area Religious Council (DMARC).

The Food Bank of Iowa and DMARC, both based in Des Moines, each received 1,800 pounds of ground pork. The donations stemmed from IPPA's BBQ & Brew at the Ball-

park event in July.

"The holiday season is upon us and addressing food insecurity is vital this time of year," said IPPA President-Elect Matt Gent, a pig farmer from Wellman. "Pork producers care about their communities, and this is one of the many ways we give back. Pork is a rich source of protein and it's very versatile. We hope these donations help a lot of folks who may not have regular access to hearty, nutritious meals."

IPPA and its county affiliates across the state have provided tens of thousands of meals for underprivileged Iowans this year.

"Right now, food insecurity is nothing short of an emergency in our community," said Matt Unger, CEO at DMARC, a nonprofit that operates a Food Pantry Network in the Des Moines metro. "The Food Pantry Network assisted 26,469 individuals in November — the most people ever assisted in

one month.

"Thank you to Iowa's pork producers for choosing to support DMARC during this especially busy holiday season," he added. "These donations are some of the most requested items at our pantries."

Caring for the community is one of the core principles for Iowa pig farmers. These donations will help children, families, and seniors who are struggling with hunger.

"I have raised hogs, so I un-

derstand the tremendous value of this generous donation," said Michelle Book, CEO of the Food Bank of Iowa. "Ground pork is tasty, versatile, and packed with protein — protein which is much needed right now by families struggling to make ends meet and folks living on fixed incomes. As the need for food assistance increases, we are grateful for our partnership with the Iowa Pork Producers Association."

We like to hear from you! Send us a letter to the editor



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Tree House Nutrition opens door in Lone Tree



TJ RHODES/THE NEWS
Quincy (left) and Karlee Moorers (right), owners of Tree House Nutrition at 111 Devoe St. in Lone Tree.

BY TJ RHODES
The News

LONE TREE

The holidays fill the air the moment calendars turn to December. For Lone Tree, the standard is the same. But there is an added bonus to Lone Tree this holiday season.

Tree House Nutrition opened its doors on Saturday, Dec. 9, with Owners Karlee and Quincy Moorers flashing wide smiles as customers came to visit.

“We’re excited to be here,” Karlee said. “We appreciate all the support from the community. We really like small towns. We get a lot of support in Columbus Junction, so it’s nice to just actually be here [in Lone Tree].”

Tree House Nutrition is a Herbalife-based nutritional shop offering different drinks like protein coffees and energy teas. They also offer meal-replacement shakes and personal coaching with 21-day challenges.

es.

“We’re not just a stop-by shop, we do personal coaching,” Karlee said. “We help people with their weight loss journey, their muscle gain journey, really any kind of transformation that they’re looking to do, we help.”

“[There’s] not really a number. We could change 20 to 25 people’s daily habits to make them a little bit healthier, then we did our job,” Quincy added.

The couple owns other health shops in Muscatine, West Liberty and Columbus Junction. They were looking to expand when they learned of an open space in Lone Tree.

Their products, which are packed with natural caffeine to help prevent an afternoon crash, according to Karlee, can be purchased in bulk from the Herbalife vendors and regularly purchased from the local shop now in the heart of downtown Lone Tree.

“We’re here to bring healthy

options to the community. [We] give people an option to get protein,” Karlee said. “Just being able to give people more options that they’re not able to get [is satisfying].”

The couple had a smooth transition to Lone Tree, and for Karlee, the genesis of Tree House Nutrition was a “personal journey.” She started working with the products when she lived in Florida. She then moved to Wisconsin and opened a shop in Dubuque.

Karlee worked during the COVID-19 pandemic, a time when people became more interested in strengthening their immune systems and improving their health. Nutrition shops have since seen more demand.

Tree House Nutrition is open M-F from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m.; 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. On Saturdays, they’re open 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

To keep up with changing specials, visit the Tree House Nutrition Facebook page.

KCTC adds experienced staff with acquisition of Farmtel

BY CHERYL ALLEN
The News

WASHINGTON

When Kalona Cooperative Technology Company’s acquisition of Farmtel Communications was completed on Nov. 20, the telecommunications services provider gained more than additional customers and another office: they gained 12 experienced staff members.

“Both companies come with significant employee longevity, so that is something to really be proud of, for both companies,” Casey Peck, CFO/General Manager at KCTC, said. At KCTC, the average length of employment is almost 11 years, and Farmtel’s employees also bring “quite a bit of longevity to the table,” she said. “That’s significant in this day and age.”

All 12 of Farmtel’s staff members have stayed onboard as the Wayland-based company joins the KCTC family. KCTC has retained all of their staff as well, and has also added a human resources manager as they anticipate continued growth.

“Without employees, we

wouldn’t have a business,” Peck says. “With longevity comes so much training that we’ve done and so much education that we’re pushing out into the community so that we can . . . serve in different ways, or different needs.”

KCTC recognizes their employees annually with service awards in five-year increments, and “that will definitely continue,” she says. “We need to honor those people who are doing good things for our customers. We’re super fortunate to be able to have people that can serve.”

The staff enjoys reminiscing about how much has happened over their years working for the company, Peck says. When they consider what they were like when they began their jobs, they notice their improvement over time. “It’s just amazing,” she says. “It’s like, look how much you’ve grown.” Peck experienced this phenomenon herself; she started out at KCTC as an accountant 22 years ago.

Farmtel’s Wayland office will remain open and staffed going forward, but it will be re-branded. Signage on the build-

ing and trucks will change, staff will sport KCTC-logoed clothing, and the letterhead will be updated.

Customers may see changes in their bills as Farmtel’s billing system merges into KCTC’s.

“Billing system changes are never fun,” Peck admits, “but hopefully [Farmtel customers] can do a lot more. They can report trouble online, they can sign up for services online, they can change services online, and that’s not something they’ve been used to. Good quality changes for them.”

As KCTC’s service area expands with the acquisition, they look forward to offering new features to all their customers. On their managed Wi-Fi, for example, they are rolling out new IQ tools that offer increased protection and security against cyber threats.

“We’re still in that discovery phase of what’s going really well and what things we need to improve on at each company,” Peck says, indicating that more improvements are yet to come.

It’s been an exciting year for KCTC. In addition to the



CHERYL ALLEN/THE NEWS
“This just seems like the [perfect] fit for both of us, for both companies to be able to help our employees grow and our customers grow and our services that we offer to customers really expand,” KCTC CFO/General Manager Casey Peck said of the acquisition of Farmtel Communications.

Farmtel acquisition, they have secured broadband grants that enabled them to provide internet access to parts of Riverside, Kalona, Washington, and Ainsworth that were previously unreachable.

“We’re super fortunate [to

have] the communities that we’re serving,” Peck says. “We’re excited about all those, to be able to serve the customer, and to serve new customers that haven’t had those opportunities. It’s really the best part of our job.”



Jennifer Eden, Lone Tree’s new school board member.

LONE TREE/Continued from Page 1A

of this proposed change, one making most Mondays a day off. The school year would begin on Friday, Aug. 23, 2024, and conclude Thursday, May 22, 2025. There would be three Mondays throughout the course of the year where students would have school.

The other option dedicated Friday as the day off. It held the same start and end dates but saw seven individual Fridays as school days. This is because many holidays are on Mondays. On a week with a Monday holiday, the students would come to school on Friday to conclude their four-day week.

The change would add 45 minutes to the school day while making Wednesday a full day regardless of which option is chosen.

Fridays have the most absences and that is why Hotz prefers this schedule. Making Fridays a universal day off could help attendance on other school days.

The normal calendar was also presented. It would be used if a four-day option is not.

Hotz presented these calendars in response to retention of staff and students being named as a top priority by both the board and administration.

Other nearby districts are toying with the idea of a four-day school week, and doing the same could help Lone Tree remain competitive. Lone Tree also plans on keeping their wages competitive to help bring in new staff and retain them.

The four-day week could save money, but it would not take from teachers’ pockets.

Of possible issues, daycare was a main topic of discussion. Hotz admitted that he did not have plans for a daycare ready to present but administration is looking into it to make sure everyone in the community could transition to a four-day school week easily. This means incorporating daycare in some way to give parents stability.

Another challenge is transportation for athletics on the non-school day. The board would need to iron out the details but still planned on providing transportation for the athletes who need it.

Lone Tree hopes to receive community feedback on this calendar. To see the calendars, go to Lone Tree’s school website. Then find school board under the district tab. From here, click on “Online agenda/minutes.”

Here, click on “Go to meet-



TJ RHODES/THE NEWS
L-R: Gordon Viers, Andrew Hotz, Joel Yedlik, Robert Sladek and Alex Ogren, posing with Yedlik’s retirement cake on Wednesday, Dec. 6.

ing.” The calendar is under the Wednesday, Dec. 6, 2023, meeting as item 26 H.

This change could come as early as next school year. However, it is more likely that the district will continue with another traditional year with more scheduled days off to prepare the community.

No final decisions were made at this workshop meeting.

WoodRiver Energy savings

One way Lone Tree could pay their teachers more while transitioning to a four-day school week is by working with WoodRiver Energy.

WoodRiver Energy offers a program that allows a school to pay a premium for a controlled price on their natural gas purchases. This controlled price could be paid out of the management fund, saving money in the general fund which could then be put in teachers’ pockets.

The premium is paid at the beginning of the year and is 125% of the schools’ average historical usage. Since it is a locked price, it would save money in the event of natural disasters.

WoodRiver Energy operates in Iowa and has 139 districts

participating with a 99% retention rate.

Although they did not take action at the work session, Sladek did raise some concerns.

“I can almost guarantee you we’re going to pull that money and give it to teachers, and we can’t go back. Then next year comes up and we can say, ‘we can undo it’ [if WoodRiver Energy increases their rate], but you’re going to have [angry] teachers or we’re going to deplete something else,” he said.

His fear is being trapped into payment with no real escape, hence the 99% retention rate.

The board will keep looking into WoodRiver Energy before making any final decisions.

Potential preschool changes

Lone Tree has a choice to make. The board was presented with three options for preschool. Two would change the program and one is the status quo.

The two new options rid the program of 3-year-old preschool. Specifically, one has school for kids four days a week with a prep for the teachers, and the other proposes a five-day week which would need specialized scheduling.

Lone Tree is one of the only districts in the area to offer 3-year-old preschool, which some of its 13 students travel to attend.

This topic should see a resolution sooner rather than later as the district needs to make a swift decision on maintaining the 3-year-old program.

Board workshop: HVAC update

The board was met by Shive-Hattery representatives to discuss the school’s HVAC trajectory for the gym system replacement and the boiler systems.

The gym system will cost the school \$45,000 and if all things go according to plan, the system will be ready before the start of next school year.

The boiler system is a different story.

Shive-Hattery presented multiple different options for the school to consider. The board hopes to have a plan for their boiler system sometime next year before voting in November to secure the necessary funds for the large project.

Next meeting: Lone Tree will next meet on Wednesday, Dec. 20, in the school library at 6:30 p.m. for an official board meeting.

MCC volunteers turn out to can chicken, provide relief

BY CHERYL ALLEN
The News

KALONA

Volunteers traveled from as far away as Kansas City to help can thousands of pounds of chicken when the Mennonite Central Committee's mobile canning trailer docked at the City of Kalona's Maintenance Building on Dec. 7 and 8.

Arlis Diener and his wife Marsha made the trek up from Missouri for the second year in a row, combining their canning shifts with a family visit. The experience has been "great," he says while packing cans into boxes at the end of the assembly line.

Up the line, Marsha applies green labels to the freshly washed cans.

Across the room, Becky Widmer makes sure the snack

tables are stocked for when volunteers are ready to take a break. She's helped with the canning enterprise in the past, but this is the first year she and her husband have served on the committee. Jon is nearby, helping with the operation that includes cutting the meat into chunks; weighing the meat into cans; sealing, pressure cooking, drying and labeling cans; and packing them into boxes.

"It's amazing," Widmer says of the MCC's relief mission, which provides people all over the world with important nutrients that they wouldn't otherwise get in their diets. "When we were first married, we lived in Brazil for two and a half years. We were with the Mennonite Central Committee, and we gave out meat at

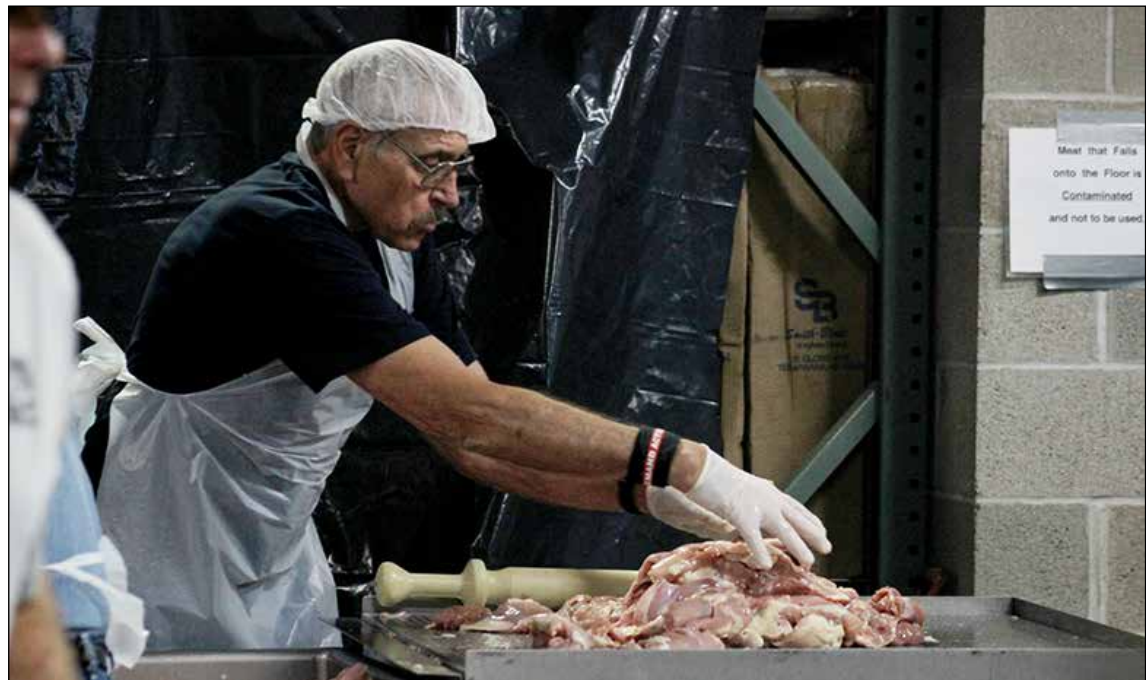
that time. So, I really believe in this, I really believe in this mission."

Even though that was decades ago, seeing firsthand the difference the canned meat made in people's lives had a lasting impact.

Last year, 383,040 cans of meat were shipped to countries in need; more than half of those went to Ethiopia (192,000) and a significant number to Ukraine (58,560).

Although the initial plan called for 17,000 pounds of turkey to be canned in Kalona, it ended up being swapped out for chicken, presumably due to its lower price. Beef and pork are the other meats the MCC cans at events around the country.

The MCC has been canning meat and providing relief since 1946.



Thousands of pounds of raw chicken are cut, canned, and pressure cooked as part of the process.



Volunteers apply labels to dry cans before they head down the line.



Weighing the meat, adding a pinch of salt to the cans, sealing, and pressure cooking happen inside the trailer.

PLAY CAFE/Continued from Page 1A

"It fits our overall goals of being a place for children (lambs) and a place where families can connect (like growing ivy)," she explains.

There are several ways families can enjoy Lambs & Ivy Play Café. Kids can enjoy play sessions, which begin at \$3 per child for two hours; "pay as you play" is an option, as are one- and three-month member-

ships, which include free open play, one free drink per month, and discounts on party packages and events.

The space can be reserved for birthday parties; parents can bring in their own food and desserts, and kids will have the play space to themselves. Eventually Hardman hopes to work with local vendors so that she can provide treats like cup-

cakes and pizza.

The play café will also host events; the first is coming up on Dec. 14 and 19, a Ladies' Night wrapping party, where bringing friends is encouraged and supplies are provided for an admission fee of \$15.

Hardman is already off to a solid start, having promoted the play café at Christmas in Kalona as well as on Facebook. Branded t-shirts are available in adult and kid sizes, and she has sold memberships and

birthday party packages.

The expectation is that Lambs & Ivy Play Café will fully open with the new year in January 2024.

Lambs & Ivy Play Café is located in the Bulltowne Plaza, 219 1st St., Kalona. Learn more and stay up to date on Facebook and Instagram.



At Christmas in Kalona, Hardman attended with an example of play cafe equipment with the excitement from local children.

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Santa visits Riverside

BY CHRISTINE KIRKWOOD
The News
RIVERSIDE

Santa rode into Riverside in style in a red fire truck on Saturday, Dec. 9, greeted at the fire station by a fidgety throng of over 100 kids and parents.

The Riverside Area Community Club sponsored the event with donations from “Betty’s Santa Fund.” Betty Kaalberg was a former Riverside council member whose family continues this fund in her memory.

RACC volunteers Travis and Carol Riggan, Renee Arp, and Becky LaRoche handed out gift bags as the kids exited after their individual visits to give Santa (Scott Riggan) their wish lists. Boxcar Treasures also handed out small toys for each child and leftover gift bags were shared with Senior Village after Santa headed back to the North Pole.



CHRISTINE KIRKWOOD/THE NEWS

Two little “elves” make sure everyone knows the way.



TJ RHODES/THE NEWS

Kirsten sits on Santa’s lap and gives a big smile for her picture to be taken on Saturday, Dec. 9.



CHRISTINE KIRKWOOD/THE NEWS

Santa gets a “high-five” from one of his admirers.



CHRISTINE KIRKWOOD/THE NEWS

Sometimes, there’s a crowd and sometimes a little one holds back, but Santa makes each one feel welcome and listens to every wish list.

Wellman Fire’s toy giveaway makes a difference



L-R: Jim Steward, John Kauffman, Tracy Owens, Tony Rios, Steve Ethridge, Rob Young, Nate Young, Bob Moberly.

BY CHERYL ALLEN
The News
WELLMAN

The Wellman Volunteer Fire Department gave away thousands of dollars’ worth of

toys on Saturday, Dec. 9 during their second annual Toy Give-away at the fire station. Parents came from seven towns – Wellman, Kalona, Washington, Wayland, Kinross, South English, and Vinton – to select

Christmas gifts for their children. Community members and employees of the Wellman Dollar General donated about \$1,500 worth of toys and \$1,630 in cash toward toy purchases.

The contributions were so generous, about \$1,500 has been earmarked for next year’s toy giveaway, Tracy Owens, the fire department’s secretary/treasurer, said.

Firefighters and communi-

ty members staffed the event, which included giftwrapping. Names were drawn for four large toys, which included bikes and a rideable dump truck.

“You have no idea what this means to our family,” one of the winners said when Owens called to notify them.

Thanks to the fire department and the community’s generosity, about 80 children will wake up to wonder and joy on Christmas morning.



TJ RHODES/THE NEWS

L-R: Nicole Slaubaugh, Deb Seward, Melissa Ethridge, Mary Allison, Jordan Mills, Peg Kuhns.

Toy Sale

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1:16 Vintage 7720 Combine Harvesting Set LP76596

1:64 5780 Combine with Semi and Lowboy Trailer LP68845

1:64 8R 340 Tractor LP80293

1:64 4850 Tractor with FFA Logo LP79671

1:32 R412 Sprayer LP8005

Build-A-Buddy Construction Backhoe Loader LP79702

1:64 7R 330 Tractor LP80910

1/16 730 with Grain Drill LP77395

Build it Blue Prints Tractor LP83626

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The News SPORTS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2023



Mid-Prairie senior captain Nora Pennington takes a fourth quarter shot during a road game against West Branch on Dec. 8.

Hawks heat up on the road

Mid-Prairie holds off West Branch for River Valley win

BY GIOVANNI CORONEL
The News

WEST BRANCH

Grabbing their second River Valley Conference victory of the week, Mid-Prairie weathered a potential fourth quarter comeback and defeated the West Branch Bears, 57-53, on Dec. 8.

This was the first time in the young season Mid-Prairie was able to string together back-to-back wins, giving themselves a 4-2 record on the year.

The Bears came into this Friday night conference showdown with no wins on the season, but proficient three-point shooting kept them neck and neck with the Golden Hawks all throughout this contest.

West Branch attempted 40 shots from three, making 14, and Mid-Prairie attempted 16 shots from three, making eight.

Thanks to a shot from three-point range West Branch broke an 18-18 tie to

go up by three near the end of the second quarter, but Mid-Prairie also proved to be quite competent from three. Making two threes to end the quarter, one by freshman Brooklyn Schneider and one by fellow freshman Morgyn Bender, put the Golden Hawks up by three at the half, but the three-point shots continued to fall in the second half.

Opening the pivotal third frame with a 13-6 run, the Bears took back the lead, but just like they have been doing all game, Mid-Prairie stayed poised and responded in kind.

A barrage of points from the Golden Hawks, ending the quarter on a 17-3 run, gave them a 10-point lead with one quarter left to play.

This double-digit deficit proved to be too steep for the Bears to climb out of. West Branch won the quarter, 16-10, but they were never able to retake the lead or even tie the game. The 53 points they scored in this loss is their season high.

Leading all scorers with 18 points was West Branch senior Kylie Pickett. Pickett made a team high six three-pointers and secured six rebounds.

For Mid-Prairie it was another game where they had a well-balanced scoring attack, four Golden Hawks ended the night with their point total in double figures.

Schneider, the top-scoring freshman in the River Valley South, went a perfect 3/3 from three-point range to lead the Golden Hawks with 17 points.

Recording a double double, junior Callie Huber put up 12 points to go along with a team high 13 rebounds. Through six games Huber is Mid-Prairie's leading scorer with 68 points.

Senior captain Nora Pennington was reliable on defense and offense, scoring 10 and tallying a team high five steals.

SEE HAWKS GBB | PAGE 2B

Herman rides the waves into Lions hoops



Paul Bowker
Columnist

Wearing a short-sleeved bright yellow shirt one game night last week, Lone Tree boys basketball coach and school counselor Joel Herman looked like he had just walked off a southern California beach.

Pretty close.

All that was missing was the surfboard, beach dude.

Before Herman showed up in Lone Tree as a counselor for the elementary school and before he was a paraeducator and basketball coach in Colorado, he was a surfer dude.

Every morning, he'd catch waves in the Pacific Ocean at places like Rincon Point and Ventura Beach up the coast from Los Angeles, or down the coast at the famous Huntington Beach area south of L.A.

Those days of surfing have turned into days of snowboarding (well, at least in Colorado) and mountain biking and golfing.

And now, basketball again.

Following the retirement of long-time Lone Tree athletic director and basketball coach Tom Squiers, who still helps run a youth basketball league in town, Herman stepped up for the Lions when the pickings for a new head boys hoops coach were straddling a thin line.

He had been asked for some drill and activity ideas by a Lone Tree administrator. That's when Herman literally raised his hand for Lone Tree High School Principal Andrew Koshatka and Athletics Director Joe Donovan to say:

"I have experience coaching basketball. I have head coach experience."

As a school counselor, he wanted to see the high school's basketball players get a fair shot with a guy who had been there before.

"That's why I took it on," he said.

"The boys deserve ... a coach that has a skill set, but also a coach that can hold them accountable and hold them responsible for their actions and their behaviors."

They are basketball players, but more than that.

"The bigger picture is teaching them the game," Herman said, "but my focus is teach these young men, these boys honestly, teenagers, to become young men and eventually become men. That's my goal."

SEE BOWKER | PAGE 5B

Ravens topple Lions, Falcons, fall to Wolves

BY GIOVANNI CORONEL
The News

WINFIELD

With a chance to take control of the conference on the line, Hillcrest went on the road and challenged the Winfield-Mt Union Wolves on Dec. 9.

The Ravens and the Wolves both entered this Saturday Southeast Iowa Super Conference showdown with unblemished conference records. Remaining perfect in the conference play, WMU prevailed on its home court, defeating Hillcrest, 63-35.

With this win WMU sits alone at the top of the SEISC North with a 5-0 conference record and a 5-1 record overall.

This was Hillcrest's first loss of the season, ending their five-game winning streak.

The first quarter ended with

the Ravens leading the Wolves by three, but WMU's second quarter defense held the Ravens to just four points.

"In the second quarter we kind of lost the flow," Hillcrest coach Dwight Gingerich,

"We had good offensive flow in the first quarter, but I think [WMU] stiffened up the D quite a bit and we turned the ball over, kind of didn't move like we needed to offensively."

In addition to limiting Hillcrest to four in the second frame, the Wolves scored 18 to erase their deficit and take an 11-point lead at the half. This was a deficit the Ravens were never able to climb out of.

Taking full control of the game and effectively distinguishing any potential comeback, WMU scored over 20 in the third quarter. The Ravens

entered the fourth trailing by 22.

"I thought we kind of bounced back and did some good things in the second half," coach Gingerich said. "But you know, obviously we're trailing by quite a bit, the game was well in hand for them."

Playing in his third game of the season, WMU senior Cam Buffington led all scorers with 22 points. Fellow senior Abram Edwards recorded a double double with 14 points and 12 rebounds.

"They have a lot of weapons, and they have terrific size," coach Gingerich said about WMU. "We just can't be turning the ball over and we got to make shots and we did that

SEE RAVENS BB | PAGE 4B



GIOVANNI CORONEL/THE NEWS

Hillcrest sophomore Rowan Miller aims to battle past the WMU defense during a road game on Dec. 9.

ATHLETE of the WEEK SARAH BURTON HIGHLAND SENIOR



Burton recorded a double double, season high 22 points and 18 rebounds, during the Huskies 31-21 road win over Louisa-Muscatine on Dec. 5. Through seven games Burton leads Highland with 120 points, 91 rebounds, 27 steals, and 21 blocks.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA UNIVERSITY
Jaedynn Evans of Kalona, and Central Oklahoma University, has led NCAA DII in digs per set the last two seasons.

Jaedynn Evans

Kalona's Jaedynn Evans, a fifth-year volleyball player at Central Oklahoma University and one of the nation's top liberos, was selected an All-American for the second consecutive year by the American Volleyball Coaches Association. Evans is the daughter of Mid-Prairie head volleyball coach Sherry Evans and an older sister of current Golden Hawk student-athletes Jovi and Jeorgia Evans. Jaedynn Evans, an Iowa City Regina Catholic alum, led NCAA DII with 6.40 digs per set, totaling 640 this past season. The Bronchos won 26 of their 31 matches. "It was very exciting to make it (the All-American Team) for a second time," Evans told The News, also crediting her teammates for a successful run toward a runner-up finish in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.

Mid-Prairie Cyclocross

Mid-Prairie sophomore Griffin Caskey placed first for category three at the State Cyclocross Championship Races on Dec. 2 in Des Moines. He placed fifth in the Pro Race. He competed against the top 80 riders in the country on Dec. 9 at the National Cyclocross Championship Races in Louisville. He participated in the UCI 17-18 race.

Lone Tree Girls Basketball

Through eight games the Lone Tree girls basketball team has a 7-1 record and has amassed 401 points, the fourth most points scored among all classes. Sophomore Finley Jacque leads the Lady Lions with 147 points.

Coming up:

Highland schedule

- Boys wrestling quadrangular @ Lone Tree (Dec. 14, 6pm)
- Boys/Girls basketball doubleheader vs Wapello (Dec. 15, 6pm)
- Boys wrestling invitational @ Fort Madison (Dec. 15, 5pm)
- Boys/Girls basketball doubleheader vs English Valleys (Dec. 16, 3pm)
- Girls wrestling tourney @ Prairie (Dec. 16, 9am)
- Boys/Girls basketball doubleheader @ WMU (Dec. 19, 6pm)

Hillcrest schedule

- Boys/Girls basketball doubleheader vs WACO (Dec. 15, 6pm)
- Boys/Girls basketball doubleheader @ Wapello (Dec. 19, 6pm)

Lone Tree schedule

- Boys wrestling home quadrangular (Dec. 14, 6pm)
- Boys/Girls basketball doubleheader vs Pekin (Dec. 15, 6pm)
- Boys wrestling tourney @ Regina (Dec. 16, 9am)
- Boys basketball @ Tri-County (Dec. 18, 7:30pm)
- Boys/Girls basketball doubleheader @ WACO (Dec. 19, 6pm)

Mid-Prairie schedule

- Boys basketball @ Pekin (Dec. 14, 7:30pm)
- Boys/Girls basketball doubleheader vs Durant (Dec. 15, 6pm)
- Boys wrestling invitational @ Central De-Witt (Dec. 16, 9am)
- Girls wrestling home meet (Dec. 18, 5:30pm)

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Dan Dickel inducted into IHSAA football
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BY GIOVANNI CORONEL
The News

WELLMAN

When Mid-Prairie alumni Dan Dickel was first informed, he was being inducted into the Iowa High School Athletic Association football Hall of Fame he was taken aback. "It was a surprise at this stage of my life," Dickel said about being selected for the IHSAA football Hall of Fame. "My first comment when the IHSAA called to tell me was, "That was over 50 years ago!" When the reality of the call hit me, I felt very honored and blessed." Being chosen for the IHSAA football HOF is a well-deserved honor for Dickel and this accomplishment only adds to his already distinguished legacy. Dickel graduated from Mid-Prairie in 1970. Playing football for Mid-Prairie, he was an all-state defensive end who also saw time playing as a receiver. He was part of the 1969 team that went undefeated. After high school, Dickel was awarded the last of 26 scholarships to play football for the University of Iowa. "I did think my career really took off in college at the University of Iowa," Dickel said. "Because in high school I just thought of myself as one of the guys. I'm not sure how they determine your college and professional careers play into this Hall of Fame award." At Iowa, Dickel played defensive end, becoming a starter in his sophomore year. His junior year is where he started to gain recognition for his play. He led the Big Ten in tackles for losses in 1972 and 1973, being named Iowa's team MVP in '72'. After college, Dickel was drafted in the seventh round by the Baltimore Colts as a linebacker. He played four and a half years for the Colts, playing all 56 games, and ended his fifth and final year of football with the Detroit Lions, playing in four games. Throughout his entire career he never missed a practice or game. Once Dickel retired from professional football, he became a teacher and started to coach high school football and track. He coached at numerous high schools in Iowa and Illinois. While he has accomplished much, Dickel hopes people realize at the end of the day he is just a regular person. "My hope is that the people of Kalona and Mid-Prairie would recognize I was just a normal kid who happened to be blessed with some athletic skills and size," Dickel said. "I had coaches who guided me how to work hard and develop my skill set. I had parents and family that loved me. Finally, God was overlooking me every step of the way." Now retired from teaching and coaching, Dickel enjoys gardening, watching the Hawkeyes, fishing, and spending time with his grandchildren.



SUBMITTED

kids. "There are so many people to thank, I fear leaving someone out. Obviously, I had great support from my family (Don and Barbara Dickel, my parents, my relatives, Uncles, Aunts, and cousins)," Dickel said. "My classmates and teammates who were my friends. My great coaches, starting with Jim Wheeler, Ole Warren Olson, Cal Hickman, John Orr, and especially Tim Grady our Head Football Coach. Mid-Prairie fans, and certainly the entire community for their support of the local school activities."

HAWKS GBB/Continued from Page 1B

On the year Pennington leads Mid-Prairie with 25 steals.

Mid-Prairie 61, West Liberty 33

In their first River Valley Conference contest of the season, the Golden Hawks went on the road and played an excellent defensive game, collecting a victory over the West Liberty Comets on Dec. 5. While Mid-Prairie's offense was proficient in this game,

scoring 20 in the first and second quarter, it was the defense that truly cemented the win. At the half the Comets were held to just 14 points. The third frame saw West Liberty score three points, their quarter low of the game. With Mid-Prairie playing so stout on defense they put the brakes on any potential West Liberty comeback. Junior Callie Huber led the Golden Hawks with 12 points, shooting 5/8 from the field and

grabbing eight rebounds. Also entering double figures was sophomore Jovi Evans. Evans scored 10 to go along with three steals. The Golden Hawks went on the road and battled Wilton (2-5) on Dec. 12. Up next for Mid-Prairie (4-2) is a home matchup against the Durant Wildcats (1-4) on Dec. 15. Mid-Prairie has won the last seven games against Durant.



GIOVANNI CORONEL/THE NEWS

Left: Mid-Prairie freshman Brooklyn Schneider (25) led Mid-Prairie against West Branch with a team high 17 points; Right: Brylee Gearhart (43) angles around a West Branch defender.

Mid-Prairie boys wrestling celebrate senior night



GIOVANNI CORONEL/THE NEWS

During home duals on Dec. 8 Mid-Prairie honored its seniors. From Left to Right: Noah Freeman, Dalton Miller, Tucker Miller, and Jarron Thomas.

Hawks celebrate senior night with conference duals

GIOVANNI CORONEL
The News

WELLMAN

Celebrating senior night in front of their home crowd, Mid-Prairie welcomed Monticello and Regina for a pair of conference duals on Dec. 8.

Getting outscored in both duals, the Golden Hawks lost to Monticello, 45-33, and Regina, 48-28. These two losses bring Mid-Prairie's dual record on the season to 1-4.

Before the Golden Hawks hit the mat to compete in their first dual of the night, Mid-Prairie honored five seniors: Jarron Thomas, Dalton Miller, Noah Freeman, Tucker Miller, and manager Libby Peiffer.

Mid-Prairie opened the dual against Monticello with a win courtesy of Quinn Callahan.

Callahan, a junior at 215, went the distance to pick up a victory by decision, 8-4. Callahan's victory plus Burke Berry, Trevyn Riley, and Parker English winning by forfeit in the next three matches gave the team a 21-0 lead.

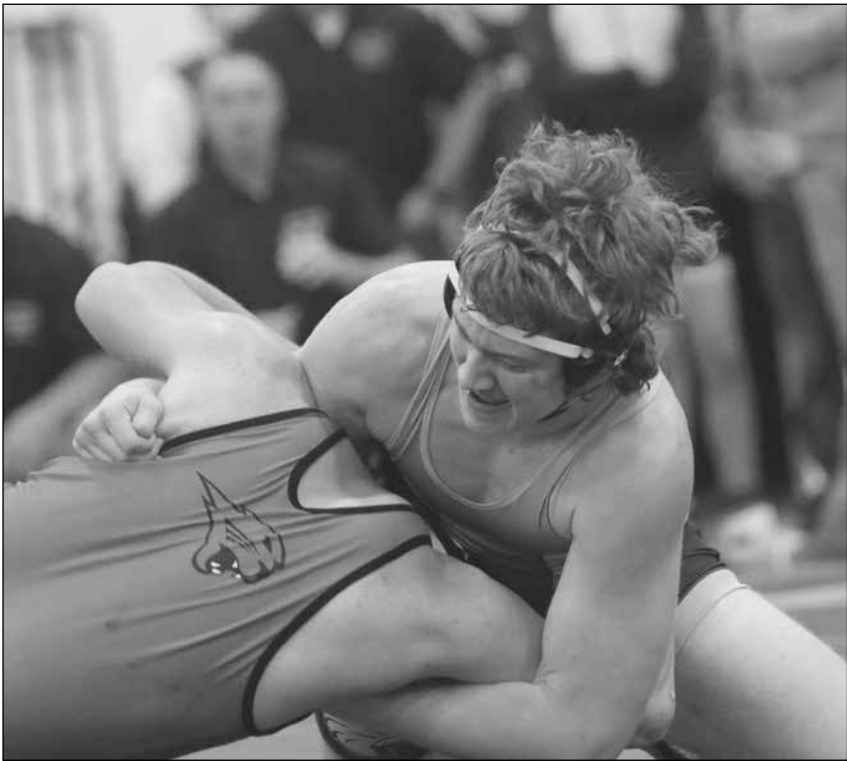
Monticello fought back by winning the next two matches by fall. Junior Max Howe (132) gave Mid-Prairie its second win that wasn't a forfeit. Howe won his match by fall in 1:39. Tucker Miller gave Mid-Prairie its last win of the dual by forfeit.

Earning enough points to overtake Mid-Prairie, Monticello won the next six matches: three by fall, two by decision, and one by forfeit.

Regina defeated Mid-Prairie by winning eight of the 14



Left: Dalton Miller takes down his opponent during duals with Monticello on Dec. 8; Right: Quinn Callahan put his opponent in a headlock.



GIOVANNI CORONEL/THE NEWS

matches, but Callahan, Berry, Riley, Dalton Miller, Howe, and Tucker Miller all earned points for the Golden Hawks.

Callahan won his match by fall in 1:24, giving him two victories on the night. Getting a chance to wrestle after winning by forfeit against Monticello, Berry (285) made quick work of his opponent, winning by fall in 14 seconds.

Tucker Miller (138) defeated his opponent by major decision, 16-7, and Dalton Miller (126) earned a victory by decision, 7-1. Howe won his second

match of the night by decision, 4-1. Colton Allen Memorial Tournament

Getting to stay home for the weekend, the Golden Hawks hosted the annual Colton Allen Memorial Tournament on Dec. 9.

In the past this event was a traditional eight-man bracket tournament, but it is a dual tourney this year. Mid-Prairie battled three teams in this tourney: Cedar Rapids Prairie, Iowa Valley, and Mediapolis.

The tourney ended with

Iowa Valley taking first place and Mediapolis placing second.

The first round saw Mid-Prairie defeat Mediapolis. 42-39. In the second round Iowa Valley defeated Mid-Prairie, 60-24. The third and final round ended with Mid-Prairie losing to CR Prairie, 54-30.

It was a solid night for Mid-Prairie's Max Howe in the 132 lbs. bracket. Howe won three matches in this tourney: winning against CR Prairie by fall in 59 seconds, against Iowa Valley by fall in 25 seconds, and against Mediapolis by fall in

2:21. Tucker Miller, at 138, lost against CR Prairie by fall but ended the tourney with two wins. Tucker defeated Iowa Valley by fall in 1:31 and he defeated Mediapolis by fall in 1:31.

Josh Turner and Jarron Thomas also won two matches for Mid-Prairie. Against Mediapolis Turner won by fall in 2:48 and Thomas won by fall in 1:11. Against CR Prairie Turner won by fall in 3:29 and Thomas won by fall in 1:29.

Huskies take aim at Falcons, Panthers

BY BRENDAN SCHNOEBELE
The News

LETT'S

The early season success for the Highland Girls Basketball team kept rolling last Tuesday night in Letts, Iowa, when the Huskies toppled the Louisa-Muscatine Falcons by a score of 31-21.

After a tight first half that saw the home Falcons ahead by just one point, Highland used a 13-point third quarter to give them the lead.

Clamping down on defense, the visiting Huskies added another eight points to their total in the fourth quarter while only giving up three to the Falcons, securing a road conference win.

"The story of our year right now, bend but don't break," Highland coach Jody Fink said. "Defensively we are playing fine but still have areas of improvement to make."

Sarah Burton continued her fast start to her senior season, contributing 22 points to her team's tally while also grabbing 18 rebounds. Fellow Senior Stella Slaymaker put up five points, while junior Katie Herrig had four assists.

After the success in the girls game, the Highland boys tried to nab their first win of the season against the Falcons. Unfortunately for the Huskies, they couldn't quite seem to stop the nosebleed that was Falcon Senior Ty Northup.

Accounting for more than half of his team's points, Northup was virtually unstoppable, scoring 36 points, collecting eight rebounds, and providing four assists.

The hot shooting of Northup was more than enough to give the Falcons a 67-41 home vic-

tory over the Huskies. Even with the loss, Highland put up the most points in a game this season to date. Senior Center Nicolas Oriano posted 16 points and 10 rebounds while Junior Logan McFarland offered eight points.

Pekin Recaps

After a win on the road earlier in the week against Louisa-Muscatine, the Highland Girls Basketball team returned home to welcome the Pekin Lady Panthers in a Southeast Iowa Super Conference showdown.

Much like three nights previous, Highland strung together two solid opening quarters on both offense and defense to take a 17-9 lead into halftime. Before his team took the floor in the second half, Head Coach Jody Fink could be heard telling his team, "16 more minutes!"

The team must have heard that message.

Powered by stiff defense and Sarah Burton's 12 points, the Huskies cruised to a 36-11 conference victory over the Lady Panthers.

Highland starters provided 17 points, but the breakout story of the night belonged to Freshman Katelyn Thomann and the rest of the Huskie bench. Thomann had 9 points, all from beyond the arc.

"Katelyn Thomann did a great job being a threat and hitting three perimeter shots for us," coach Fink said. "The more experience she can get to slow the game down the better she will be after Christmas and a huge part of the process she will be."

Fellow Freshman Hailey Brun splashed in two buckets, one from three, and Freshman Mackenzie Davis tacked

on three more points. Highland's five starters had the same number of points (17) as the freshman trio of Thomann, Brun, and Davis.

The future is bright for Highland Girls Basketball.

High off of watching their girls team notch a dominant victory, Highland fans applauded as their boys team took the court, hoping for their first taste of glory in this early season.

Little did they know, the mood would turn sour once the ball was tipped. Keeping things close within the first few minutes, Pekin quickly took firm control of the game as they led by 32 at halftime, just three points short of a running clock.

Shortly after the second half began, the running clock started when Highland fell behind by the needed 35-point margin. It would run until the end of regulation.

Turnovers, hot Panther shooting, and an inability to keep up on the scoreboard did the home Huskies in. When the clock hit all zeros, the final score displayed 75-14 in favor of Pekin. The Huskies were led by Junior Colton Sypherd with four points.

Coaches often say, "flush it," "forget it," or "move on" after games similar to the one that played out last Friday night in Riverside. Head Coach Bill Zywiec's team likely has to think exactly the same if they want to see success moving forward.

Both the Highland Girls (6-1) and Boys (0-4) travel to WACO High School on Tuesday, December 12th before two home contests on Friday, December 15th and Saturday, December 16th against Wapello and English Valleys respectively.



TJ RHODES/THE NEWS

Highland's Isaac Kleese wins by major decision on Dec. 7.

Huskies battle it out in the North Cedar Invitational

GIOVANNI CORONEL
The News

WELLMAN

Entering the foray of a 17-team tournament, the Highland boys wrestling team went on the road to compete in the North Cedar Invitational on Dec. 9.

Taking first place with 218.5 team points was Solon. Central Springs and Durant placed second and third with 161 and 128 team points respectively.

Highland ended the tourney with 47.5 points, placing 10th in the team standings.

Highland's top finish came from Tyler Pierson. Pierson won two of his three matches to place second in the 120 lbs bracket.

He won his first match by tech fall and his second match by decision, 6-2. In the first-place match Pierson lost by fall to Central Springs' Dawson Jacobsen in 29 seconds.

In the 175 lbs. bracket Isaac Kleese gave Highland a third-place finish. Kleese won his first two matches by fall, in 22 seconds and in 52 seconds, but he faced a setback in his semifinal match, losing by fall in 1:34.

With third place on the line Kleese wrestled his longest match on the tourney, defeating North Linn's Reilly Peyton by fall in 4:22.

Rounding out Highland's top finishers of the tourney, Brock Thomann won three matches to place fifth at 132.

After Thomann lost his opening contest by major decision, he rattled off three straight wins to take fifth place. He won by fall in 27 seconds, by fall in 2:50, and by fall again in 2:59.

Home Triangular

Hosting two schools for a varsity triangular, Highland battled Columbus/WMU and Burlington Notre Dame on Dec. 7.

Highland ended the triangular losing both duals, falling

to Burlington ND, 68-4, and Columbus/WMU, 69-12.

Burlington ND won 12 matches against Highland, five by forfeit, five by fall, one by decision, and one by tech fall.

Highland's lone win in this dual came from Isaac Kleese. Kleese, in the 175 lbs bracket, won by major decision, 8-0.

Columbus/WMU also won 12 matches against Highland, seven by forfeit, four by fall, and one by decision. Highland won two matches in this dual.

Tyler Pierson, at 120, won by fall in 4:38 and Remington Fields, at 150, won by fall in 2:45.

Home Quad

Hosting a varsity quadrangular, Highland ended the night with two dual wins and one loss on Dec. 5.

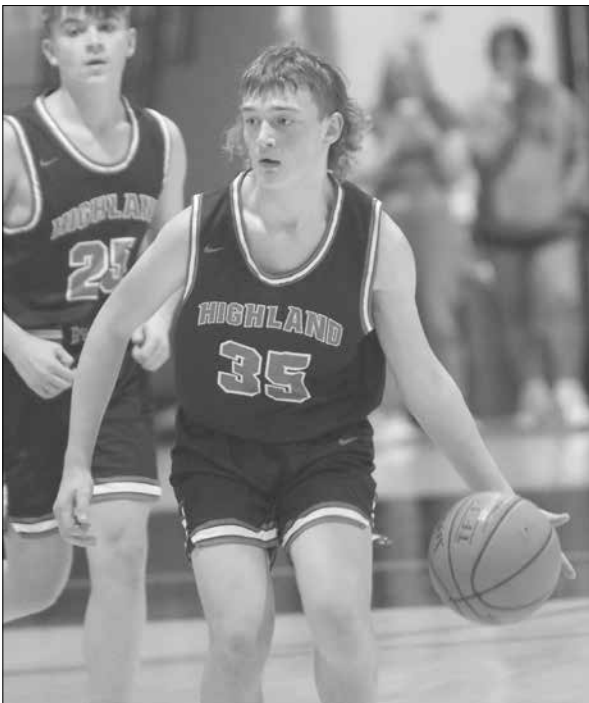
Highland's first win came against Cardinal, 40-36, and its second win came against Moravia, 42-30. Coming up just a bit short, Highland lost to English Valleys, 39-36.

Luke Guseman, a Highland senior at 126, won all three of his matches. Against Moravia he won by fall in 1:56, against English Valleys he won by fall in 1:44, and against Cardinal he won by major decision, 12-3.

Also winning all three of his matches was Tyler Pierson at 120. Against Moravia he won by fall in 1:00, against English Valleys he won by fall in 41 seconds, and against Cardinal he won by fall in 46 seconds.

Brock Thomann, at 132, also went undefeated. He was awarded a win by forfeit against Moravia. Against English Valleys he won by fall in 46 seconds. Against Cardinal he won by fall in 5:16.

Also having a winning night was Isaac Kleese at 175. Kleese did not have a match that reached the two minute mark. Against Moravia he won by fall in 36 seconds, against English Valleys he won by fall in 1:55, and against Cardinal he won by fall in 12 seconds.



GIOVANNI CORONEL/THE NEWS

Left: Highland's Sarah Burton takes a shot during a fast break during a home game on Dec. 1; Right: Highland's Colten Sypherd takes the ball up the court during a road game.

Hawks conquer Comets, overpowered by Bears

BY GIOVANNI CORONEL
The News

WEST BRANCH

Aiming for their third consecutive win, the Golden Hawks hit the road to challenge fellow River Valley conference member West Branch, but unfortunately for the Hawks this Friday night battle belongs to the Bears.

Showing out in front of a home crowd, West Branch scored its season high and defeated Mid-Prairie, 83-46, on Dec. 8.

With this win West Branch sits atop of the RVC south with a 3-1 record and a 1-0 conference record. For Mid-Prairie this loss drops its record to 2-2 and its conference record now sits at 2-1.

From the jump the Bears set

the tone for the game with their stout defense. Mid-Prairie was shut out in the first quarter, and they went into the second frame facing a 15-point deficit.

Senior Beau Flynn was able to get Mid-Prairie on the board by scoring the opening points of the second frame. It ended up being a closely contested quarter but West Branch's strong start to the game still gave them a 35-15 lead at the half.

Scoring 20 plus in the third and fourth quarter, West Branch held a double-digit lead until the final buzzer sounded, winning the game by 37.

West Branch ended the game with four players scoring double figures.

Continuing his strong start to his senior campaign, West Branch's Holden Arnaman led

all scorers with a season high 31 points. He reached this impressive point total with the help of connecting on seven three-pointers.

Through four games Arnaman has scored 27 or more points in every game this season. On the year he leads West Branch with 115 points.

Continuing to show promise as a sophomore, Bryce Henry led Mid-Prairie with 10 points. Through four games Bryce leads the Golden Hawks in the scoring department with 42 points.

Seniors Landon Sullivan and Dylan Henry both scored eight. Sullivan, who went 2/2 from three-point range, recorded a team high five assists.

Mid-Prairie 69, West Liberty 51

Securing their second River Valley Conference win in a four-day span, the Golden Hawks went on the road and defeated the West Liberty Comets on Dec. 5.

The first half was highly contested with both teams nearly matching each other in points. After a knotted up second quarter, Mid-Prairie went into halftime with a one point lead.

Breaking through on offense after halftime, Mid-Prairie put up over 20 in the third and fourth quarter to outscore West Liberty in the second half, 46-29. Through three games, the 69 points the Golden Hawks scored in this win is their season high.

After not reaching double digits in the first two games of the season, junior Ace Peck

found his rhythm on offense and led Mid-Prairie with 21 points. Shooting 7/9 from the field, Peck scored a team high six three-pointers.

Senior Dylan Henry nabbed a team leading nine rebounds to go along with 15 points. Henry was a perfect 3/3 from three-point range.

It was a productive night in the assists department for junior Brady Weber. Weber provided a team high eight assists and scored 10, the first time this year he has reached double figures.

The Golden Hawks went on the road and challenged the Wilton Beavers (3-1) on Dec. 12. Up next for Mid-Prairie (2-2) is a road contest against the Pekin Panthers (3-2) and then a home matchup against the Durant Wildcats (0-5) on Dec. 15.



Left: Brady Weber (11) takes flight on an uncontested layup after a steal during a road game against West Branch on Dec. 8; Right: Mid-Prairie senior Landon Sullivan (12) prepares to shoot the ball after making contact with a West Branch defender.



GIOVANNI CORONEL/THE NEWS



GIOVANNI CORONEL/THE NEWS

Hillcrest junior Seth Ours looks for an open teammate to pass the ball to during the first quarter of a game against WMU on Dec. 9.

Highland's Roling places second at Marion tournament

GIOVANNI CORONEL
The News

MARION

Weekend tournament action awaited the Highland girls wrestling team, as the Huskies went on the road to compete in the Marion Tournament on Dec. 9

This tourney featured 23 schools. Taking first place with a team score of 366 was Prairie, Cedar Rapids. Mount Vernon and West Liberty placed second and third with teams scores of 327 and 277 respectively.

Just missing out on a top ten finish, Highland ended the tourney with 127 points to place 11th in the team rankings.

Continuing her strong start to the season, Angelina Roling was Highland's top finisher at

this tourney. Winning four of her five matches, Roling placed second in the 110 lbs. bracket.

Roling won her first match by fall in 2:21, her second match by fall in 1:34, and her third match by fall in 2:31. In her semifinal match, against Marion's Cadence Pastor, it took extra time to decide a winner, but Roling emerged victorious by virtue of an overtime decision, 8-5.

With first place on the line Mount Vernon's Kiersten Swart defeated Roling by fall in 1:02. Roling's three wins by fall gave Highland 42 team points and her record on the season is now at 18-3.

Highland's next top finish belonged to Lilly Barre. Barre won three matches en route to a fourth place finish in the 120 lbs bracket.

Starting the tournament with a series of consecutive pins, Barre won her first three matches by fall, the first in 50 seconds, the second in 1:08, and the third in 21 seconds. In her fourth match she was defeated by fall in 1:27 against Tipton's Saidee Hamilton.

In the third place match Cedar Rapids Jefferson's Amiyah Burdine defeated Barre by fall in 1:29. Barre's three wins by fall gave Highland 33 team points and her record on the season now sits at 20-6.

Ending the tourney with a fourth place finish in the 190 lbs bracket was freshman Chloe Sexton. Wrestling in four matches, Sexton won one match by fall in 4:37. In her third place match she was defeated by Clear Creek-Amana's Jordan Hunt by fall in 1:39.

RAVENS BB/Continued from Page 1B

early. But they're a good team, credit to them."

Hillcrest Junior Seth Ours ended the game with a team high 15 points. Mason Bender added nine to go along with eight rebounds and four assists.

"I felt like our guys competed. We didn't quit and that's what we were stressing as things kind of were getting away from us a little bit," coach Gingerich said. "And I thought even late we did some good things."

Hillcrest 75, Lone Tree 57

In their first road game of the season, the Ravens picked up a win against SEISC opponent Lone Tree, on Dec. 5.

The Lions were able to keep pace with the Ravens throughout this contest, only trailing by seven after three quarters of play, but the final frame is where Hillcrest was able to firmly distance themselves.

Scoring 26 points in the fourth quarter, Hillcrest managed to keep the Lions at bay and secure their second conference victory of the season.

Lone Tree ended the night with three players scoring double digits. Senior Ethan Bockelman led the Lions with 18 points. Emmett Burke scored 14 and following close behind was Pietro Setti with 13.

Feeling comfortable from three-point range, junior Seth Ours led the Ravens with a season high 29 points. Ours scored five three-pointers and tallied

six assists.

Hillcrest sophomore Rowan Miller led the team with nine assists and was the second highest scorer with 13 points.

Hillcrest 45, Louisa-Muscataine 43

Playing a close game in front of their home crowd, the Ravens withstood Louisa-Muscataine's second half surge and won their third conference game of the season on Dec. 8. This win made it five straight victories for the Ravens.

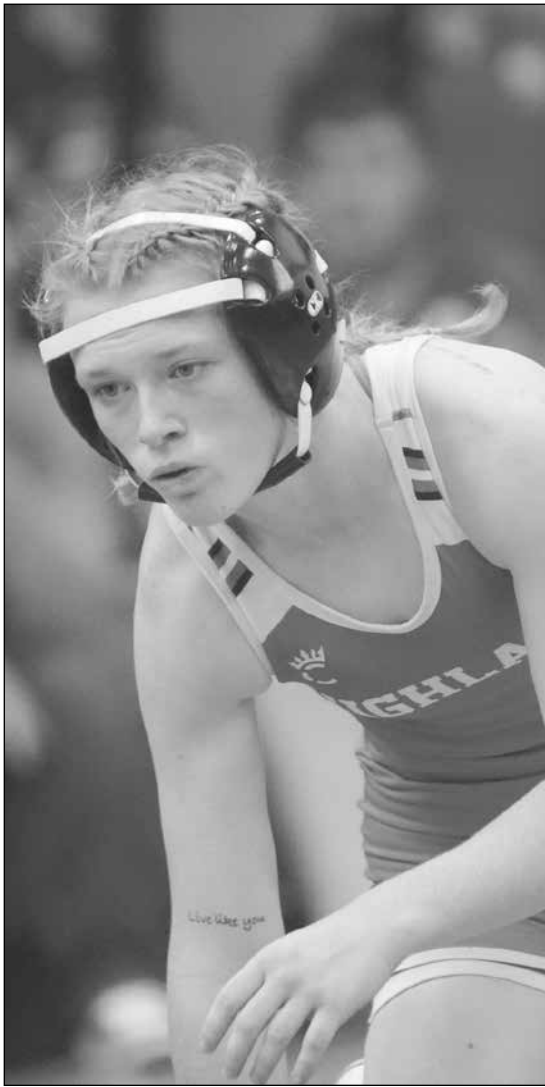
Leading all scorers in this contest was Louisa-Muscataine senior Ty Northup. Northup scored 22 to go along with 14 rebounds to end the night with a double double

For Hillcrest its top scorer and rebounder was junior Bryce Bailey. Bailey put up 15 points and pulled down seven boards. Mason Bender, also a junior, scored nine and led the team with five steals.

The Ravens went on the road and faced off against the Pekin Panthers (3-2) on Dec. 12. Up next for Hillcrest (5-1) is a home contest against the WACO Warriors (2-2) on Dec. 15.

Correction

The "Athlete of the Week" designation in the Dec. 7 edition of The News incorrectly stated Hillcrest junior Seth Ours point total was at 39 through three games. His correct point total through three games is 63. Through six games Ours is now at 114 points.



GIOVANNI CORONEL/THE NEWS

Left: Highland senior Angelina Roling grapples with her opponent during a varsity scramble at Columbus on Nov. 30. Right: Highland junior Lilly Barre placed fourth at the Marion Tournament, on the season she has a 20-6 record.

Stellar offense, stout defense leads Lady Lions to 7-1 record

BY PAUL D. BOWKER
The News

LONE TREE

Lone Tree answered quickly in its girls basketball battle against English Valleys last Saturday.

The Lions took a 10-point lead in the opening quarter, 18-8, with strong shooting and defensive pressure against a team that had won four straight games.

By the end of the afternoon, Lions sophomore guard Finley Jacque had scored 19 points and sophomore forward Alyson Ford scored a double-double with 13 points and 12 rebounds in a 55-42 victory.

“We started off shooting the ball really well,” Lone Tree head coach Ryan Shelman said. “Then our defense gave them a little bit of trouble.”

It’s a formula that led to three Lone Tree victories last week, extending the Lions win streak to four.

“We’re a really good defensive team,” Shelman said. “I think our pressure, we were able to get some turnovers, that also led to some opportunities for us.”

Lone Tree’s starters combined for 15 steals, including 4 each by senior Avery Lisk and junior Vivian Zaruba.

Jacque scored 63 points in three games last week, rising to No. 2 in the Southeast Iowa Super Conference North scoring rankings. Zaruba is the top defensive player in the league with 40 steals in eight games. Ford trails only Highland’s Sarah Burton in blocked shots.

Against English Valleys, Ford had a monster game. She made 6-of-10 shots, had 3 steals and a blocked shot.

“I thought Alyson did a really nice job on their bigs,” Shelman said.

Shelman was also pleased with the scoring balance and ball movement the Lions displayed.

“Our girls, they all do a good job,” he said. “They’re all unselfish. There’s a lot of opportunities today in transition where our girls shared the basketball and that’s really nice to see as a coach.”

Lone Tree 63, Cedar Valley Christian 7

The Lions scored the first 27 points of the game and rolled to a nonconference win in the Dec. 7 game played at Lone Tree.

Lone Tree’s Finley Jacque scored a game-high 24 points and had 5 steals.

Senior guard Avery Lisk had 10 steals as the Lions piled up 35 steals against the winless Huskies.

Vivian Zaruba had a game-high 8 rebounds.

Lone Tree 58, Hillcrest 14

The Lions started quickly in a Dec. 5 SEISC game against Hillcrest Academy. They scored 34 points in the first half while holding the Ravens to 8 points and then cruised to their eighth straight win against Hillcrest.

Lone Tree sophomore Finley Jacque scored a game-high 20 points.

Lions guard Vivian Zaruba had a game-high 7 steals as Lone Tree’s defense smothered the Ravens. Hillcrest had 31 turnovers.

Rylee Shield added 8 points and 5 rebounds for Lone Tree.

Claire Withrow and Malia Yoder each scored 6 points for Hillcrest.

GAME STATS												
LONE TREE 55, ENGLISH VALLEYS 42												
English Valleys	8	11	16	7	--	42						
Lone Tree	18	10	18	9	--	55						

Lone Tree scoring: Finley Jacque 16, Alyson Ford 13, Vivian Zaruba 12, Ava Christofferson 6, Avery Lisk 3, Rylee Shield 3, Cate Sexton 2.

LONE TREE 63, CEDAR VALLEY CHRISTIAN 7												
CV Christian	2	0	1	4	--	7						
Lone Tree	27	12	18	6	--	63						

Lone Tree scoring: Finley Jacque 24, Ava Christofferson 9, Vivian Zaruba 7, Avery Lisk 6, Rylee Shield 6, Alyson Ford 2, Cate Sexton 2, Abby Zaruba 2, Sami Branson 2, Maddi Floyd 2, Hayden Yoder 1.

LONE TREE 58, HILLCREST 14												
Hillcrest	5	3	2	4	--	14						
Lone Tree	14	20	16	8	--	58						

Hillcrest scoring: Claire Withrow 6, Malia Yoder 6, Delaney Shaw 2.

Lone Tree scoring: Finley Jacque 20, Rylee Shield 8, Cate Sexton 7, Vivian Zaruba 6, Alyson Ford 5, Delanie Graap 5, Ava Christofferson 4, Bailey McGrew 2, Haley Bockelman 1.

Hillcrest leading rebounders: Shaw 10, Yoder 5.

Lone Tree leading rebounders: Ford 6, Shield 5, Sexton 5, Zaruba 5.



PAUL D. BOWKER/THE NEWS

Alyson Ford (10) of Lone Tree jumps for the ball in the midst of a rebounding battle against English Valleys.

Lone Tree defeats English Valleys, Cedar Valley Christian

BY PAUL D. BOWKER
The News

LONE TREE

Lone Tree was already up six points early in its boys basketball game Saturday against English Valleys when Lions sophomore Emmett Burke stole the ball and waltzed in for an easy lay-up.

Make that 8-0, less than three minutes in.

A 3-pointer, followed by another steal and lay-in, made it 13-0.

That’s exactly how the coaches drew it up for a game that the Lions eventually won, 64-28.

“You have to walk on the court knowing that that’s what

you want to do,” Lions first-year head coach Joel Herman said. “That’s what I’m trying to get these boys to do.”

Burke scored a team-high 14 points as the Lions won by more than 30 for the second time this season.

For the first time in four seasons, Lone Tree has won four of its first six games to begin the season.

“It’s a learning process, a growth process,” Herman said. “I’m happy with them right now.”

After taking a 13-0 lead Saturday, the Lions scored 27 points in the opening quarter to grab a 17-point lead. Game over.

“Tonight’s defensive goal

was to put pressure on ball, force turnovers, trap, impose our will versus letting their team impose on us,” Herman said.

Senior center Pietro Setti, a foreign-exchange student, scored 11 points for the Lions, and sophomores Domonic Garcia and Reece Holbrook each scored 8.

Lone Tree 55, Cedar Valley Christian 39

The Lions also started quickly in its nonconference win over Cedar Valley Christian on Dec. 7.

Lone Tree scored the game’s first five points and went ahead 9-3 when senior center Pietro Setti scored on a thundering

slam dunk that produced a technical foul because he hung on the rim with both hands.

Setti scored 8 points. Emmett Burke led the Lions with a game-high 17 points and 5 steals, and Domonic Garcia scored 16 and had 4 steals.

Lone Tree led by six points, 18-12, in the first quarter, but pulled ahead 31-19 by halftime.

Max McDill, a freshman, led Cedar Valley (1-4) with 12 points.

Lone Tree senior Ethan Bockelman pulled down a game-high 10 rebounds and scored 8 points.

GAME STATS												
LONE TREE 64, ENGLISH VALLEYS 28												

English Valleys	10	5	8	5	--	28						
Lone Tree	27	5	17	15	--	64						

Lone Tree scoring: Emmett Burke 14, Cade Willoz 11, Reece Holbrook 8, Domonic Garcia 8, Jack Patterson 7, Ethan Bockelman 6, Owen Eden 5, Jader Sanchez 3, Pietro Setti 2.

LONE TREE 55, CEDAR VALLEY CHRISTIAN 39												
CV Christian	12	7	8	12	--	39						
Lone Tree	18	13	12	12	--	55						

Cedar Valley scoring: Max McDill 12, Chauncey Zhorne 9, Caleb Krueger 7, A.J. Pospisil 5, Jaden Amisi 4, Landon Conn 2.

Lone Tree scoring: Emmett Burke 17, Domonic Garcia 16, Ethan Bockelman 8, Pietro Setti 8, Jack Patterson 5, Cade Willoz 1.



Left: Pietro Setti of Lone Tree reaches in for the ball during a rebound battle against English Valleys last Saturday; Right: Lone Tree’s Emmett Burke watches his shot fly toward the hoop against English Valleys. He scored a team-high 14 points in the Lions’ 64-28 win.



PAUL D. BOWKER/THE NEWS

BOWKER/Continued from Page 1B

Already, there have been lessons.

An ejection and a suspension.

A technical foul for hanging on the rim.

And successes. The Lions are off to their best start in four seasons with four wins in their first six games, including a pair of 30-point victories.

The intensity of a game that lived inside Herman’s psyche while he was a head coach at Woodland Park in suburban Colorado Springs has returned at times. How could it not?

“When he needs to be, yes,” senior starter Ethan Bockelman said. “If he needs to get on us, he will be.”

And then there’s the humbling. Herman is sitting in a head coach’s chair that belonged to Squiers for 35 years. There are few people that walked the hallways of Lone Tree’s schools more than

Squiers did.

“I have a lot of respect for Tom,” Herman said. “He’s a great coach. He has stuff on the wall here that I don’t have. You have to give him some credit there.”

And there’s the fun.

Before a game, you’ll see Surfer Guy joking with his players, school officials, spectators. Life is indeed a beach.

“Whether we win or lose, at my age now, I have to have some fun,” Herman said. “When I coached early in my career, I thought it was all about wins and losses. Winning, winning, winning. I’ve changed my mindset, that it’s about, if I’m not enjoying it then I shouldn’t do it. So I have to make sure I’m enjoying it. Making sure that the kids are having some fun, as well, because they only get four years to do this. I don’t want them to look back and have any regrets.”

Herman tells a story about reuniting with a former player during an adult softball game. Eventually, an infielder on the other team looked at him and said: “C’m on, coach, don’t you remember me?”

Soon after, Herman was introduced to the former student’s wife and daughter.

That’s the life that this basketball coach and school counselor enjoys so much now. His wife, Shannon, is a clinical pharmacist at the University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics. His two sons are grown up. A walk to the beach has been replaced by a walk through the cornfields.

“I love the people here,” he says. “I love my school.”

News columnist Paul Bowker can be reached at bowkerpaul@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter: @bowkerpaul



PAUL D. BOWKER/THE NEWS

Lone Tree boys basketball coach Joel Herman instructs his team during a timeout.

JOHNSON COUNTY

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Fiscal year to date cost (as of 7/1/23): 7199.73
THE JOHNSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
FORMAL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 30, 2023

Resolutions adopted by the Board of Supervisors are only summarized in the published minutes; the full text may be inspected at the Office of the County Auditor, 913 S. Dubuque Street, Iowa City, Mon. thru Fri., between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. and at www.johnsoncounty-iowa.gov.

Chairperson Green-Douglass called the Johnson County Board of Supervisors to order in the Johnson County Health and Human Services Boardroom at 9:01 a.m. **Members present:** Jon Green, Lisa Green-Douglass, Royceann Porter, and Rod Sullivan. **Members absent:** V Fixmer-Oraiz.

Unless otherwise noted, all actions were taken unanimously.

Motion by Porter, second by Green, to approve the claims on the Auditor's Claim Register for November 30, 2023. 2430 Muscatine Llc..... 700.00 4 Cs Community Coordi..... 1323.47 A Tech Inc Dba Freema..... 6266.60 Abbehealth Inc..... 46421.64 Abby Kore..... 318.76 Abc Disposal Systems I..... 583.00 Action Sewer & Septic..... 110.00 Advanced Business Syste..... 50.92 Aero Rental Inc..... 523.75 Airgas Usa Llc..... 473.86 Alliant Energy..... 296.42 Amazon.Com Capital Se..... 1172.48 Anderson-Bogert Engin..... 6691.00 Applied Ecological Se..... 8660.00 Applied Industrial Tec..... 215.28 Apts In Lc Llc..... 800.00 Arbsession Inc..... 113.55 Arc Of Southeast Iowa..... 3682.56 Arnold Motor Supply Ll..... 553.02 Autumn Park Apts..... 194.00 Bankers Ad Co..... 1949.45 Barker Partnership..... 750.00 Batteries Plus Of Ia &..... 181.29 Believable Partners..... 850.00 Beth Hora..... 318.76 Big 10 University Towl..... 300.00 Big Brothers Big Sist..... 5985.76 Big Country Seeds..... 205.50 Brightly Software Inc..... 5075.83 Canine Tactical Llc..... 250.00 Capital Sanitary Supp..... 1117.25 Cated by Charlotte..... 392.00 Celebration Farm Llc..... 250.00

Center For Worker Jus..... 9626.84 Certified Scales Llc..... 4100.00 Chadwick T Gerdes..... 70.96 City Laundering Co..... 161.08 City Of Iowa City - Lan..... 27.00 City Of Iowa City - U..... 2981.13 City Of North Liberty..... 85.00 City Of Tiffin..... 100.00 City Sewer Service In..... 2725.00 Cj Cooper & Associates..... 95.00 Cmw Properties Llc..... 1500.00 Community & Family Re..... 2500.00 Confluence Inc..... 12852.50 Consumers Cooperative..... 8030.33 Cove Equipment..... 18134.75 Cr Signs Inc..... 300.00 Custom Hose & Supplies..... 24.74 Cynthia J Grabow..... 850.00 D Three Llc..... 595.00 Danielle Schultes..... 100.00 Dans Overhead Doors..... 262.83 Deery Brothers Ford Lin..... 59.27 Delta Dental Of Iowa..... 7447.48 Doran A Williams..... 187.00 East Central Iowa Co..... 42367.33 Eastern Iowa Light & P..... 232.68 Economy Advertising C..... 1045.00 Eldon C Stutsman Inc..... 5280.47 Electric Motors Of low..... 189.02 Emily A Voss..... 66.62 Fastenal Company..... 53.53 Fin & Feather Sports Ce..... 79.28 Forrester Weaver Llc C..... 500.00 Freeman Locksmith Inc..... 260.00 Frog Hollow Kid Campus..... 600.00 Giselle Coreas..... 14.41 Golfview Apartments..... 700.00 Golfview Estates Llc..... 1562.00 Grainger..... 72.03 Greater Ic Housing Fel..... 700.00 Grinnell Regional Medi..... 647.30 Harbor Freight Tools..... 33.94 Harrys Custom Trophies..... 27.30 Hawkeye Electrical Co..... 1335.92 Hawkeye Ready Mix Inc..... 1191.68 Heartland Shredding In..... 140.00 Holiday Mobile Home Co..... 350.00 Hospers & Brother Prin..... 168.00 Hr-One Source..... 762.45 Hy Vee Food Stores..... 32.41 Hy-Vee #1080..... 35.00 Hy-Vee Inc..... 875.60 Imon Communications Ll..... 800.00 Ines Beltre..... 50.00 Inside Out Reentry In..... 1000.00 Insight Public Sector..... 27.55 Intoximeters Inc..... 2248.00 Iowa Assoc Of County..... 2600.00 Iowa City Press-Citize..... 477.81 Iowa County Attorneys..... 1850.00 Iowa Paper Inc..... 889.36

Iowa River Mobile Home..... 415.00 Irish Reporting Inc..... 144.30 J & J Real Estate..... 610.00 J & Kp Llc..... 850.00 James H Pobst..... 1400.00 James Ohllearn..... 268.65 Jason Allen..... 583.00 Jcg Land Services In..... 14842.57 Jennifer Miller..... 392.90 Jeremy Rieck..... 290.87 Jj Price Investments L..... 700.00 Joanne Downes..... 68.34 John Deere Financial Fs..... 80.55 Johnson County Auditor..... 336.00 Johnson County Public..... 3200.92 Johnson County Seats..... 17151.77 Joo Yeon Lee..... 146.00 Jpn Real Estate Group..... 2700.00 Kc Family Center..... 250.00 Kiecks Career Apparel..... 235.00 Kiesler Police Supply..... 6953.32 Koch Office Group..... 442.38 Ks Properties Llc..... 1525.00 Larry Jon Hingtgen..... 57.86 Legacy Biostudios Llc..... 3942.40 Lenovo (United States)..... 50.00 Lepic Rentals Llc..... 850.00 Leslie Schaefer..... 100.00 Linn County Access C..... 60093.70 Linn County Rec..... 2833.34 Linn County Sheriff..... 40.25 Lisa A Waul..... 106.11 Little Angels Learnin..... 1200.00 Lizbeth Salas Landa..... 100.00 Local Harvest Csa..... 6000.00 Lowe's..... 598.91 Lynch Dallas Pc..... 580.00 Lynn Snyder..... 1230.00 Mandy Rose Coates..... 161.13 Megan Erenberger..... 100.00 Menards - Iowa City..... 1887.15 Mercy Services Iowa Cit..... 74.00 Michele Henderson..... 500.00 Mid American Energy..... 5176.94 Midwest Janitorial Ser..... 360.50 Napa Auto Parts..... 10.98 Neighborhood Centers..... 37968.67 Nest Property Managem..... 2250.00 Neumann Monson Pc..... 10130.40 Office Express Office..... 259.56 Onmedia Cedar Rapids I..... 922.14 Pak Llc..... 650.00 Peer Support Foundatio..... 375.00 Petty Cash Fund..... 59.80 Pfizer Inc..... 22540.00 Pigott Inc..... 3847.50 Pitney Bowes Inc..... 132.79 Prairie Moon Nursery..... 22529.43 Press Citizen Media..... 709.16 Professional Muffler I..... 250.38 Psc Distribution..... 109.79 Public Space One Inc..... 1250.00 Purple Bloom School..... 12482.88 Push Pedal Pull..... 300.00 Pyramid Services Inc..... 241.61

Quadient Leasing Usa I..... 447.00 Rapids Reproductions In..... 59.50 Ray William Frank..... 1600.00 Rd McKinney Plbg &..... 135319.90 Ricoh Usa Inc..... 38.20 Robert L Evans..... 850.00 Routematch Software L..... 1344.00 Rundell Investments..... 700.00 Samantha Turnbull..... 64.00 Shane Mulligan..... 41.00 Sharon Telephone Compan..... 83.95 Shih-Yao B Hu..... 850.00 Shive Hattery Inc..... 25648.72 Slabach Construction..... 4553.50 South Slope Coop Commu..... 577.85 St Peter Church Of Cos..... 200.00 Standard Bearings..... 160.56 Stanley Consultants In..... 877.64 Star Equipment Ltd..... 130.36 Star Equipment Ltd..... 2375.00 State Hygienic Laborat..... 113.00 Stericycle..... 30.88 Stitch In Time Inc..... 110.24 Storey Kenworthy Corp..... 779.94 Streamline Architects..... 7638.25 Streichers..... 226.00 Successful Living..... 410.00 Sugar Creek Llc..... 1064.00 Sycamore Apartments Ll..... 750.00 Tailwater Marine Llc..... 1036.19 Tailwind Iowa City Llc..... 620.00 Taylor Glass Dba Mgsi L..... 34.10 The Willis Group Llc..... 850.00 Theisens Inc..... 854.33 Tony Gray Dba D & R Pes..... 45.00 Treasurer State Of Io..... 1218.75 Tree Guys Llc..... 10550.00 Uline Inc..... 1000.28 United Action For Yo..... 14651.69 University Of Iowa..... 36272.89 Us Cellular..... 2498.35 Usfirst Llc..... 655.00 Van Meter Industrial Inc..... 6.16 Verizon Wireless..... 334.01 Vermeer Sales & Servic..... 270.49 Visa..... 6260.83 Wade's Golf & Mow..... 31.39 Wellmark Blue Cross..... 175000.00 West Liberty Telephone..... 575.76 White Cap Constructio..... 1672.69 William J Blanchard..... 56.55 Windstream It-Comm.Llc..... 623.41 Xj-18 Llc..... 750.00

Motion by Sullivan, second by Porter, to approve the minutes of the Formal Meeting of November 21, 2023. **Motion** by Green, second by Sullivan, to approve the payroll authorizations submitted by department heads and elected officials, as approved by a majority of the Supervisors. **Motion** by Green, second by Porter, to approve the alcohol license applications from Peppercorn Food Company, Cedar Rapids, as submitted by Jude Villafana

and from Traveling Tapster LLC, Cedar Rapids, as submitted by Jayme Tegeler.

RESOLUTION NO. 11-30-23-01. RESOLUTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION 11-09-23-04 COMMITTING MATCHING FUNDS TO THE MIDDLE IOWA WATER-SHED MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY'S APPLICATION TO IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES COMPREHENSIVE WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLANNING GRANT FUNDED BY AN APPROPRIATION OF LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

Summary: The Board approved Resolution 11-09-23-04 obligating \$50,000 for the Middle Iowa WMA application for the Water Quality Management Planning Grant. In the interest of obligating ARPA funds in a timely manner and leveraging state funding, the Board obligates an additional \$41,000 to this project. **Board Action:** Resolved that Resolution 11-09-23-04 be amended to obligate up to \$91,000 of Local Fiscal Recovery Funds as local match for the Middle Iowa WMA application to the Water Quality Management Planning Grant; and these funds will continue to pass through the City of North Liberty, serving as the fiscal agent on behalf of the WMA for the administration of this grant; and a copy of this Resolution 11-30-23-01 and a copy of Resolution 11-09-23-04 be provided to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. **Motion** by Porter, second by Green, to approve Resolution 11-30-23-01.

Motion by Sullivan, second by Green, to approve the 2023 Weed Commissioner's Report and the 2024 County Weed Commissioner Certification Form, as submitted by County Weed Commissioner Chris Henze.

Motion by Green, second by Porter, to approve Contract Amendment No. 2 with the University of Iowa, Iowa City, for research data expansion as part of the Johnson County Direct Assistance Program evaluation.

Adjourned at 9:14 a.m. /s/ Lisa Green-Douglass, Chair, Board of Supervisors /s/ Attest: Travis Weipert, Auditor On the 7th day of December, 2023 Recorded by Auditor's Office: Erin Shane, Deputy Auditor These minutes were sent for formal approval and publication on December 7, 2023.

Published in The News, Thursday, December 14, 2023 L-312

CITY OF KALONA

KALONA, IOWA
CITY HALL
DECEMBER 4, 2023 7:00 PM

Regular meeting of the Kalona City Council with Mayor Robe presiding. Motion was made by Spitzer, and seconded by J Schmidt, to approve the agenda, with all voting yes.

Council members present: Bender, J Schmidt, G Schmidt, Spitzer, and Beisheim.

Motion was made by Spitzer and seconded by J Schmidt approving the minutes of the meeting on November 20, 2023. With all voting yes, the minutes were approved and published.

On a motion by Beisheim and seconded by G Schmidt, the following bills were allowed with all voting yes. (See below list of bills)

Alliant Energy, Monthly..... 13,024.71 Barco Municipal Products, Street Signs..... 653.51 Chem-Sult, Water Chemicals..... 3,111.20 City of Wellman, Budgeted Senior Dining Share/Senior Meals..... 4,988.00 CJ Moyna & Sons, Oak Hill Park Trail - Pay App #1/Final..... 269,296.02 Dakota Supply Group, Water Supplies..... 248.00 Garden & Associates, Engineering-Cemetery Sidewalk..... 3,007.50 Hardman Painting, Rec Center Painting..... 6,625.00 Hills Bank Kalona, Payback General - Sewer (Payroll Taxes)..... 998.97 Hills Bank Kalona, Payback General - Water (Budget)..... 11,036.37 Hills Bank Kalona, Payback General - Sewer (Budget)..... 6,994.17 Hills Bank Kalona, Payback General - Sewer (Payroll)..... 2,862.83 Iowa Association of Building Officials, Annual Membership Fee..... 75.00 Iowa Collision & Paint, Repair..... 2,291.00 Iowa Department of Revenue, State Withholding..... 1,680.00 Iowa Department of Revenue, Water Excise Tax..... 2,010.19 Iowa Department of Revenue, Sewer Sales Tax..... 380.28 Iowa One Call, Water/Sewer Locates..... 28.80 Iowa Prison Industries, Watershed Signs..... 4,454.70 Iowa Public Employment Retirement System, IPERS..... 3,019.60 Jackie Etheredge, Office Cleaning..... 200.00 Johnson County Refuse, Yard Waste Dumpsters/Contract-November 2023..... 17,491.34 JW's Food, Water Testing..... 13.18 Konica Minolta, Monthly..... 16.68 Kuenster Heating & Air, Rec-Men's Restroom Repair..... 167.07 L.L. Pelling, Street Repairs/D Avenue Re-Surfacing..... 67,310.46

Liberty Doors, Rec Doors..... 385.20 Mid-Iowa Solid Waste Equipment, Street Sweeper Parts..... 49.49 Mid-Prairie Community School, Repair..... 1,133.95 Reserve Account Pitney Bowes, Postage..... 400.00 Simmering-Cory, Annual Ordinance Web Hosting..... 450.00 Star Equipment, Student House..... 4,365.00 The Water Shop, Southtown-Annual Maintenance..... 116.50 Thorn Creek Construction, Street/Sidewalk Repairs..... 11,120.00 Tyler Technologies, Annual Utility/Financial Software..... 12,451.64 YMCA of Washington County, YMCA Agreement..... 4,500.00 WITHDRAWALS: Transfer funds..... \$ 21,892.34 General Fund..... 47,981.80 Library Board Fund..... 2,370.51 Garbage Fund..... 16,172.50 Local Option Sales Tax Fund..... 1,318.84 Road Use Fund..... 78,479.95 Trust & Agency Fund..... 4,023.39 Capitol Project Fund..... 269,296.02 Water Fund..... 13,046.56 Sewer Fund..... 7,374.45 DEPOSITS: Transfer Funds..... \$ 18,474.71 General Fund..... 157,869.27 Library Memorial Fund..... 100.00 Library Board Fund..... 24,714.26 Local Option Sales Tax Fund..... 42,079.20 Road Use Fund..... 58,223.46 Water Fund..... 16,759.87 Sewer Fund..... 6,285.59

Second reading with the option of the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2023-351, an ordinance to amend the current zoning ordinance map for Incline Grove Phase 2 and 3. Whereas, Moyna Holdings has requested to rezone 15.06 acres from A-1 (agricultural) to R-1 (single-family residential). Motion was made by G Schmidt, and seconded by Bender, to waive the seconded reading and move to the third and final reading. The mayor put the question on the motion, and the roll being called the following named council members voted: Bender, J Schmidt, G Schmidt, Spitzer, and Beisheim. Each voted yes, and the motion carried.

Whereas, the Mayor declared the motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Bender, and seconded by G Schmidt, to approve the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2023-351. The mayor put the question on the motion, and the roll being called the following named council members voted: Bender, J Schmidt, G Schmidt, Spitzer, and Beisheim. Each voted yes, and the motion carried.

Whereas, the Mayor declared the motion duly carried, and had passed its final reading.

Consideration of the first and final Pay App for CJ Moyna regarding the Oak Hill Park Trail, was held by council. The amount of the Pay App was \$269,296.02, with the retainage being held for 30 days at which time it will be paid. Motion was made by Bender, and seconded by J Schmidt, with all voting yes. The motion carried.

Resolution No. 2023-FF, a resolution opposing Alliant Energy's electric rate increase. Whereas, Interstate and Power and Light Company, (dba Alliant Energy) has asked the Iowa Utilities Board to approve a two-year-phase-in rate increase which could be an estimated increase of 13.4% for residents, 20% for small businesses and up to 20% for large general services.

Therefore, the City of Kalona Council opposes the magnitude of Alliant Energy's Proposal to the Iowa Utilities Board and will submit this resolution in objection to the Board. Motion was made by Spitzer, and seconded by J Schmidt, authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the same.

The council was then polled with Bender, J Schmidt, G Schmidt, Spitzer, and Beisheim all voting yes. The motion carried.

Mary Audia with Washington County Economic Development Groups (WEDG) was present to give the annual update. The meeting was adjourned.

SARAH CHMELAR, City Clerk
MARK ROBE, Mayor

Published in The News, Thursday, December 14, 2023 L-148

ORDINANCE NO. 2023 - 351

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE KALONA ZONING ORDINANCE MAP BY ACCEPTING THE REZONING APPLICATION FOR INCLINE GROVE PHASE 2 AND 3 SUBDIVISION IN SOUTHTOWN SUBMITTED BY MOYNA HOLDINGS, INC. TO REZONE ROUGHLY 15.06 ACRES FROM A-1 (AGRICULTURE) TO R-1 (SINGLE FAMILY)

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KALONA, IOWA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE. The purpose of this Ordinance is to amend the Kalona Zoning Ordinance and rezone Incline Grove Subdivision in Southtown, submitted by Moyna Holdings, Inc.

SECTION 2. CHANGE OF CLASSIFICATION. The zoning classification of the following tax described real estate, to wit:

The legal description of the proposed areas of change are:

LEGAL DESCRIPTION - 15.06 Acres from A-1 to R-1
BEING A PART OF THE SOUTHEAST ¼ (SE ¼) OF THE SOUTHEAST ¼ (SE 1.4) OF SECTION 19, TOWNSHIP 77 WEST, RANGE 07 NORTH OF THE 5TH P.M., WASHINGTON COUNTY, IOWA DESCRIBED AS:

BEING AT A POINT OF THE CENTER OF THE RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF NUTMEG AVENUE AND THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 9 OF INCLINE GROVE ESTATES, THENCE 89 29'44" W, 445.96 FEET; THENCE N 00 30' 16" W, 339.67 FEET TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT 8; THENCE 87 16' 26" W, 436.46 FEET; THENCE S 00 30' 16" E, 923.66 FEET; THENCE N 80 09 23" E, 825.31 FEET; THENCE N 05 34' 10" E, 245.77 FEET; THENCE N 04 30' 04" E, 352.99 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING

Dakota Supply Group, WTP Supplies.....\$198.34
Demo, Library Expansion Project.....\$5,605.00
Finish Line Technology, Library Cameras/Parkside Hard Drive.....\$1,330.00
Garden & Associates, Water System Improvements.....\$8,968.03
Hi-Line, Shop Supplies.....\$47.02
IAMU, Regulator Inspection/Elementary Valve.....\$1,706.23
Iowa One Call, October One Calls.....\$27.90
KCTC Monthly Fees.....\$525.48
Kevin's Concrete, Downtown Sidewalk-Cady Building.....\$18,201.16
Kohl Wholesale, Goodwin Center Food/Skate Merch. For Resale.....\$999.42
Leaf, City Hall Copier Lease.....\$108.19
Mahaska Bottling Co., Skate Pop for Resale.....\$335.75
Mercy Iowa City Payment Center, Random Drug Screenings.....\$114.00
Service Tech of Central Iowa, City Fire Hydrants.....\$874.78
Tyler Technologies, ERP Pro Utility Annual Fees.....\$1,560.04
USDN November Retainer Fees.....\$225.00
Viking Industries Painting, 2023 Maintenance Program.....\$11,297.00
Washington Community YMCA, November Alliant 22%.....\$651.01
Wellman Co-op Telephone, City Telephones.....\$1,223.71
Total.....\$113,299.16
October Financial:
Fund Revenues.....Expenses
001 General Fund.....\$150,293.38.....\$58,930.34
003 Aid to Public Library.....\$4,917.51.....\$100.00
004 Liability/Prop Ins.....\$20,205.78.....\$0.00
005 Flood Insurance-Fire Dept.....\$0.00.....\$0.00
006 Street Assessment.....\$789.98.....\$0.00
007 Tax Credit Reimbursement \$11,102.44.....\$62.98
008 Comm Beautification.....\$0.00.....\$2,983.62
050 Comm Dev Grant/Housing.....\$0.00.....\$0.00
054 Comm Dev Grant/Sewer.....\$0.00.....\$0.00
110 Road Use Tax.....\$17,110.06.....\$11,239.85
112 Employee Benefit.....\$22,615.62.....\$3,770.14
121 Local Option Sales Tax.....\$1,467.91.....\$0.00
125 Tax Increment Financing.....\$21,580.02.....\$0.00
127 Housing & Urban.....\$2.35.....\$0.00
131 Library County.....\$0.00.....\$0.00

133 Library Local.....\$1,844.92.....\$0.00
134 Library Sitter Trust.....\$0.00.....\$0.00
135 Library Fines & Fees.....\$0.00.....\$0.00
136 Library State.....\$0.00.....\$592.01
137 Library Savings.....\$0.00.....\$0.00
138 Library Capital.....\$0.00.....\$108,076.47
151 Skate Rink.....\$6,828.60.....\$5,436.30
152 Parkside.....\$3,125.37.....\$2,283.69
153 Parkside Maintenance.....\$1.48.....\$0.00
154 Parks Playground Project.....\$0.00.....\$0.00
156 Riverboat Municipal Grant.....\$34.91.....\$0.00
182 SR Dining Waiver.....\$0.00.....\$0.00
183 Sr Dining Donation.....\$3,510.95.....\$8,214.31
184 Sr Dining Project CD.....\$0.00.....\$0.00
185 Sr Dining CD.....\$0.00.....\$0.00
200 Debt Svc 2012 A.....\$3.27.....\$0.00
205 Debt Svc 2012 B.....\$0.00.....\$0.00
210 Debt Svc 2011 Inflra.....\$0.00.....\$0.00
220 Debt Svc Parkside.....\$0.00.....\$2,532.00
301 Cap Equip Reserve.....\$0.00.....\$0.00
303 Capital Project Bridge.....\$0.00.....\$17,673.40
304 Cap Proj Parkside.....\$0.00.....\$0.00
305 Cap Proj Parks & Trls.....\$0.00.....\$0.00
500 Perm Funds/Library.....\$0.00.....\$0.00
600 Water.....\$68,781.25.....\$49,575.16
601 Water Capital Projects.....\$0.05.....\$0.00
602 Water Sinking.....\$0.01.....\$0.00
603 Water CD/RO Filters.....\$0.00.....\$0.00
604 Water RO Project.....\$1.32.....\$0.00
610 Sewer.....\$36,191.92.....\$22,120.52
611 Sewer Capital Projects.....\$0.00.....\$0.00
612 Sewer Sinking.....\$0.88.....\$0.00
640 Gas.....\$20,888.76.....\$30,667.28
670 Landfill/Garbage.....\$6,180.73.....\$9,425.95
700 Cable TV.....\$0.05.....\$0.00
740 Storm Water.....\$3,255.22.....\$0.00
TOTAL.....\$416,714.74.....\$333,684.02
No one spoke in public forum.
Resolution No. 23-35 A resolution to

waive the right to review the plat of survey for Dennis Miller was introduced and caused to be read. Bontrager made a motion to approve resolution No. 23-35, McCain seconded and upon roll call the vote was unanimous ayes.

Resolution No. 23-36 A resolution to provide the notice of public hearing on project manual and estimated cost for the Wellman Community Park Splashpad Project was introduced and caused to be read. McCain made a motion to approve resolution No. 23-36, Stutzman seconded and upon roll call the vote was unanimous ayes.

Resolution No. 23-37 A resolution opposing Alliant Energy's Electric Rate Increase was introduced and caused to be read. Fleming made a motion to approve resolution No. 23-37, Bontrager seconded and upon roll call the vote was unanimous ayes. McCain moved to approve vote from Electric Pump (EP) – Trojan UV Display for \$4,095.00, Stutzman seconded and all voted ayes. With no further business McCain moved to adjournment at 5:45pm, Bontrager seconded and all voted ayes. The next regular City Council Meeting will be Monday, December 18, 2023, at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers of the Wellman Municipal Building.

Minutes transcribed by the City Clerk are subject to Council Approval.

Published in The News, Thursday, December 14, 2023 L- 184

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Lowell Frederick Wagner, Deceased CASE NO. ESPR008098

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Persons Interested in the

Estate of Lowell Frederick Wagner, Deceased, who died on or about November 20, 2023:

You are hereby notified that on November 28, 2023, the undersigned was appointed administrator of the estate.

Notice is hereby given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them

with the clerk of the above named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of the mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.
Dated on November 29, 2023.

Robert Wagner
Administrator of the Estate
725 Jessie Street

North Liberty, IA 52317

Michael J. Brenneman
ICIS#: AT0001095
Attorney for the Administrator
Honohan, Epley, Braddock & Brenneman, LLP
330 E. Court St.
Iowa City, IA 52240

Published in The News, Thursday, December 7, 2023 L-46
Date of second publication, Thursday, December 14, 2023



WASHINGTON COUNTY

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/911 COMMISSION/COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 18TH, 2023, 6:00 PM
WASHINGTON COUNTY EOC – EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS BUILDING
2183 LEXINGTON BLVD., WASHINGTON IA 52353

In attendance: Richard Young, Cara Sorrells, Stan Stoops, Ryan Miller, Mark Robe, Allen Schneider, Jack Seward, Jr., Shawn Ellingson, Marissa Reisen, Tara Polek, Glen Reynolds, Millie Youngquist, Jared Schneider, and Melvin Rich.

At 6:01 PM, Chairman Ryan Miller called the Emergency Management Commission meeting to order, a roll call was conducted, and a quorum was present. Present were representatives from Brighton, Kalona, Riverside, Washington, Wellman, the Sheriff's Office, and the Board of Supervisors. Absent were representatives from Ainsworth, Crawfordsville, 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 16th, 2023. Mark Robe made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Millie Youngquist seconded the motion and with no one opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

The first item on the agenda under old business was the siren system evaluation/report. Marissa Reisen advised she expected the final report by the end of the week. There have been some unforeseeable delays. She did provide a synopsis of the findings. Richmond and SouthTown would receive a new siren that would be shared. Washington would only need four, instead of the five they currently have. They would be placed accordingly. Lake Darling, Marr Park, and Highland High School were also identified as a new location needing a siren. The survey is based on sound pressure versus sound that we hear, and population density. The proposal will also include automated dispatch or activation of the sirens during designated severe weather conditions. There was a brief discussion on whether any of the existing sirens could be reused and applying for a WCRF grant in the future. The next steps after receiving the report would be to go to the cities for budget discussions. Millie Youngquist asked about any federal grant opportunities available. Reisen explained that there will be Haz-Mitigation funds next year but only 5% can be used for sirens and it is highly competitive. BRIC grants were also mentioned, but Marissa is not sure how the application process works for that program (individual cities vs countywide). Also discussed was the need for a conversation on ownership, maintenance, and consistent care of the sirens. Bulk pricing was also to be considered for a better price point.

The only item under new business was the coordinator report:

- Trainings, exercises, conference
- Trunk or Treat!
- Anything else I've forgotten

Reisen attended a training session in Knoxville concerning volunteer and donations management. It pertained to who can take donations and disperse them. She also attended an election security tabletop recently. She looks forward to meeting with people involved with that and going over the existing plan, which is owned by the Auditor's Office.

She has some upcoming meetings this next week in the EOC including an Active Shooter tabletop with the Healthcare Coalition. There will also be a visit from the Washington Middle School Family Consumer classes for a tour and discussion on emergency preparedness. Trunk or Treat is also Saturday October 28th at the YMCA, and she will be participating with Communications in that event.

Reisen had nothing to present for approval for purchases, but did mention that there had been a full meeting with her EMA association, and they voted to move forward on the 29C legislation. It is almost the same language as last year. However, there will be no school board membership, all the Board of Supervisors have a seat, and the Sheriff retains a seat on the Commission. It gives them taxing authority with a cap on the funds.

There was nothing for the Commission under public input. The next meeting was scheduled for November 15th, 2023, at 6:00 PM. Richard Young made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Young's motion was seconded by Mark Robe. The Emergency Management meeting was adjourned at 6:28 PM.

At 6:29 PM, Chairman Richard Young called the 911 Commission meeting to order. Present were representatives from Brighton, Kalona, Riverside, Washington, Wellman, the Sheriff's Office, the Board of Supervisors, and Emergency Management. Absent was representation from Ainsworth and Crawfordsville. A quorum was determined. Chairman Richard Young made a request for an approval of the agenda. Mark Robe made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Jared Schneider seconded the motion, and the agenda was approved with no one opposed. A request was then made for a motion to approve the minutes for the last meeting dated September 13th, 2023. Mark Robe made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting and the motion was seconded by Millie Youngquist. No one was opposed and the motion passed.

The approval of claims was next, and Cara Sorrells detailed the claims. The claims included two invoices for DPT Service to troubleshoot alarms with the CRAC units in the IT room totaling \$2,020, \$1,012.50 to Gopher Sign Company for 911 street signs, \$5,860 to White Posts for installation and repair of 911 rural residential signs and rural street signs, \$2,927.12 to Cummins for preventative maintenance and new batteries for the generators at the radio tower sites, and \$2,330.85 paid to CDW-G for new laptops for the dispatch consoles. Additionally, \$2,437.50 was paid to RACOM for labor associated with the damage at the Wellman tower and \$1,660.41 to the Washington County Engineer for removing the concrete pad and hauling at the Wellman tower site. These items were submitted to the coun-

ty's insurance and after discussion with Jack Seward and the Auditor's Office the 911 budget seemed the best place to account for these items. The total of the claims was \$22,336.62. The total of the revenue was \$7,345.69 and it included \$1,687.50 from Sedgwick Claims Management for the above-mentioned RACOM Wellman tower claim minus the \$750 deductible. Jared Schneider made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Schneider's motion was seconded by Ryan Miller. The motion to approve the claims was passed unanimously.

Under new business the only item was an update on the 2024 legislative agenda. The Boards & Commissions Review Committee did recommend the elimination of the State 911 Council. It will take a legislative action however this upcoming session due to it being in Chapter 34A. There is also a potential for legislative action concerning what some may view as an issue with growing 911 fund balances in some counties. Sorrells shared language from a recent political newsletter "With the E911 Service Boards ending balances having grown on a consistent basis over the past decade, some are questioning whether it is time to reassess the amount of the fee or how it can be used. That may be one of the subjects tackled by the General Assembly during its 2024 session." Sorrells explained that some counties do have funds saved up marked reserved or designated for projects. A radio system upgrade, computer or CAD upgrade can cost a 911 Center or PSAP a great deal of money. The APCO and NENA groups are preparing talking points aimed at educating the public if this issue is raised and 911 surcharge funds are in jeopardy.

At 6:44 PM, Chairman Ryan Miller called the Communications Commission to order. Present were representatives Stan Stoops, Ryan Miller, Mark Robe, Millie Youngquist, Jack Seward, and alternates Melvin Rich, Allen Schneider, and Richard Young. A quorum was determined. Chairman Miller then made a request for an approval of the agenda as published. 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 then made for a motion to approve the minutes for the last meeting dated September 13th, 2023. Millie Youngquist 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. Cara Sorrells detailed the claims, and the total of the claims was \$1,196.77 with no revenue reported. A motion was made by Millie Youngquist to approve the claims as presented. Youngquist's motion was seconded by Allen Schneider, and the claims were approved with no one opposed.

There was nothing for the Communications Commission under committee reports.

Under new business there was a personnel change request for Kathryn Crumly. She was hired full-time effective 10/20/23. She completed her mandatory work physical 10/11/23. Mark Robe made a motion to approve the personnel change for Kathryn Crumly and his motion was seconded by Millie Youngquist. The motion carried with

Jack Seward and Stan Stoops of the Board of Supervisors abstaining.

The other item under consideration under new business was a proposal for a handbook language update concerning holiday pay for Communications. Communications operators are only being paid for 8 hours on a holiday worked when they are working an 8 ½ hour shift. See language below:

Communications personnel – For Employees Working a Rotating Shift – Draft 10/18/23

"Pay For Holidays Worked" – If an employee is required to work on a holiday, the employee will receive holiday pay plus time and one half (1 ½) the employee's regular hourly rate of pay for all hours worked on the holiday.

If an off-duty employee is called in to work on a holiday, the employee will be paid their holiday pay hours plus a minimum of two (2) hours of pay at time and one half (1 ½) the employee's regular hourly rate. The callback hours will count towards worked hours for the purposes of computing overtime, but not the holiday pay hours.

~~"Pay For Holidays Not Worked" – If a paid holiday falls on the employee's day off, the employee will receive either eight (8) hours of time off in lieu of pay (holiday banked hours). An employee may only accrue up to twenty-four (24) hours of accrued holiday banked hours. Employees working a scheduled shift of eight and one-half (8 ½) hours will receive eight and one-half (8 ½) hours of regular pay or eight and one-half (8 ½) hours of time off in lieu of pay (holiday banked hours) as described above.~~ Holiday pay (when the employee is regularly scheduled off for that holiday) does **not** count towards worked hours for the purposes of computing overtime.

A motion was made by Jack Seward to approve the handbook amendment as presented. Seward's motion was seconded by Mark Robe, and the language change was approved with no one opposed. Sorrells, Sheriff Schneider, and Chief Deputy Ellingson all expressed that they would rather see this be added as standard language in the handbook instead of having amendments for all the different departments.

The next Communications meeting date was also set for November 15th, 2023, at 6:00 PM.

Under old business there was an update on the storm damage to the Wellman site. Glen Reynolds with RACOM gave an update on the equipment. When preparing the list of equipment needed, he discovered that some NEC transmit and receive equipment in the shelters was end of life and needed to be replaced. This would include 2 pieces of equipment at the Brighton site and 1 piece of equipment at the Kalona site that talks to the Wellman tower. There would be no need to change equipment at any of the other sites. It is not backwards compatible and anything within the next year is considered end of life. He also discovered that they cannot invoice the insurance company directly. He has also investigated the 9 x 16 shelter needed at the Wellman tower with Cellsite Solutions. It is the same size as the one that was damaged, and he took some pictures.

The update on the Wellman tower location is that Wellman is discussing replacing the tower at the existing location with the understanding that Wash-

ington County would purchase the tower or lease to own. There are several things to consider including the height of the tower that would replace the old one. It would not necessarily need to be 300 feet, but something a little taller than our radio equipment would allow for future placement of other equipment on the tower (240' was discussed). In this scenario we would not have to redo all of the regulatory requirements that would be required at a new location. Replacement of the damaged equipment is imperative and time sensitive. The consensus was to endorse pursuing working with Wellman Telephone to own the equipment at that location.

The only other item under old business was a staffing update. We are still looking to hire another full-time person and would take any part-time applicants if they would be able to complete the training schedule and fill in on the schedule regularly.

Mark Robe made a motion to adjourn the Communications Commission meeting. Millie Youngquist seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 PM.

A motion was made to adjourn the 911 Commission meeting by Ryan Miller and seconded by Marissa Reisen. The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,
Cara Sorrells
Signature:Emergency Management
Date:
Signature: 911 Commission
Date:
Signature: Communication Commission
Date:

Published in The News, Thursday, December 14, 2023 L-3479

PUBLIC NOTICE

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE DISSOLUTION OF MARILYN FARMS COMPANY

You are hereby notified that on the 1st day of December, 2023, Articles of Dissolution for **Marilyn Farms Company** were filed with the Iowa Secretary of State.

In the event you have a claim against this Corporation you must mail notice of your claim to:

Marilyn Farms Company
Attention: Phillip E. Forbes President
1402 Nutmeg Ave
Kalona, IA 52247

Your notice of claim must set forth your name, address, telephone number and the amount and description of your claim.

In accordance with Section 490.1407 of the Code of Iowa, all claims against the Corporation will be barred unless a proceeding to enforce the claim is commenced within three (3) years after the date of publication of this notice.

Marilyn Farms Company
/s/ Phillip E. Forbes, President

Published in The News, Thursday, December 14, 2023 L- 33

BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

ATTORNEY



KATIE MITCHELL ATTORNEY AT LAW
CHRISTINA KERR ENROLLED AGENT

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S LEVY AND SALE IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY

STATE OF IOWA, Washington County ss. Docket No. (Sale No.) 23-2055(1); Court Case #EQEQ007182. SPECIAL EXECUTION

Plaintiff: **HILLS BANK & TRSUT COMPANY; VS**

Defendants: **CHARLES KUNKLE, ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WITH AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF ROY G. CARNEY, UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ROY G. CARNEY, STATE OF IOWA AND UNKNOWN PARTIES INPOSSESSION**

As a result of the judgment rendered in the above referenced court case, an execution was issued by the court to the Sheriff of this county. The execution ordered the sale of defendant(s) rights, title, and interest in Real Estate Property to satisfy the judgment.

The property to be sold is:

THE NORTH HALF (N ½) OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE: THE WEST ONE FOURTH (W ¼) OF LOT FOUR (4) AND THE EAST ONE FOURTH (E ¼) OF LOT FIVE (5), ALL IN BLOCK ONE (1) IN F.M. SNIDER'S

ADDITION TO THE TOWN OF KALONA, IOWA.

Street Address: **118 C AVE. KALONA, IA 52247**

The described property will be offered for sale at public auction for cash only as follows:

Date of Sale: **01/16/2024** Time of Sale: **10:00 a.m.** Place of Sale: **2181 Lexington Blvd., Washington, Iowa**

This sale not subject to redemption. Property exemption: Certain money or property may be exempt. Contact your attorney promptly to review specific provisions of the law and file appropriate notice, if applicable.

Judgment Amount: **\$44,333.78**; Costs: **\$645.25**; Accruing Costs: **PLUS**; Interest **4.25% OF \$44,333.78 FROM 11/08/2023= \$361.35**

Date 11/17/2023 Sheriff Jared M. Schneider, Deputy William Fiordelise Attorney: **HILLS BANK & TRUST COMPANY** 319-679-5041

Published in The News, Thursday, December 7, 2023 L-55
Date of second publication in The News, Thursday, December 14, 2023

CITY OF RIVERSIDE

RIVERSIDE CITY COUNCIL MEETING: MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2023

5:00 pm City Council work session to interview Attorney firm.

Riverside City Council regular meeting opened at 6:00 pm at City Hall with Mayor Allen Schneider requesting roll call. Council members present: Tom Sexton, Edgar McGuire, Lois Schneider, Kevin Mills and Kevin Kiene.

Motion by Mills, second by McGuire to approve agenda. Passed 5-0.

Motion made by Kiene, second by Mills to approve consent agenda including minutes and expenditures. Passed 5-0.

Steve Robinette, Region manager with PeopleService, Inc., discussed staffing changes and repairs to generators.

McGuire moved, second by Schneider to table generator repairs until next meeting. Passed 5-0.

McGuire moved, second by Schneider to pass Resolution #2023-94, approving replacement of Membranes on Train #1 in the water plant by Rhino Industries in the amount of \$56,982. Passed 5-0.

Brian Boelk, Axion Consulting, gave updates on 3rd Street, Wastewater Treatment Plant, Water Plant, Boat Ramp, Capital Improvements Plan, and private development.

Motion by McGuire, second by Kiene to pass Resolution #2023-95, Approving final pay #13 and accepting 3rd

Street Project from Streb Construction Company in the amount of \$36,430.31. Passed 5-0.

Motion by Schneider, second by McGuire to pass Resolution #2023-96, Approving pay request #5 to Spectra Build for work completed through 11-25-23 at the wastewater treatment plant in the amount of \$6,680.72. Passed 5-0.

McGuire moved, second by Schneider to pass Resolution #2023-97, Approving installation of control valves and piping on Well #8 by Bowker Mechanical in the amount of \$24,990.00. Passed 5-0.

Admin Cole Smith informed City Council on fence repairs along the trail.

McGuire moved, second by Sexton to enter into Closed Session per Iowa Code 21.5 (1) (I) for 180 day Admin evaluation at 7:33 pm. Passed 5-0.

Council returned to open meeting at 7:55 pm.

Motion by Sexton, second by McGuire to adjourn at 7:59 pm. Passed 5-0. Full content of Council Meetings can be viewed on the City website; riverside-iowa.gov

City Council Meeting – Monday, December 18th, 2023 at 6:00 pm in City Hall.

ATTEST:
Becky LaRoche; City Clerk
Allen Schneider; Mayor

Published in The News, Thursday, December 14, 2023 L-73

EXPENDITURES DECEMBER 4, 2023 COUNCIL MEETING

BILLS	
ABOVE & BEYOND, SERVICE	\$4,530.75
ACCESS, COPIER	\$381.99
AIRGASS, FD	\$309.99
ALLIANT ENERGY, ELECTRIC	\$3,744.89
AXIOM CONSULTANTS, ENGINEERING	\$2,840.00
BARCO, STREET SIGNS	\$382.99
BECKY LAROCHE, CELL STIPEND	\$50.00
BRYAN LENZ, CELL STIPEND	\$50.00
COLE SMITH, CELL STIPEND	\$50.00
DINGES FIRE CO, HOSE REPAIR	\$408.00
DOUG MICHEL ELECTRIC, WTP LIGHT SHORT	\$80.00
FP MAILING, METER FEE	\$86.85
JAS PLUMBING, FD-TOILET REPAIR	\$275.80
KUM&GO, FD-FUEL	\$162.50
LOGAN MICHEL, CELL STIPEND	\$50.00
MAXWELL, 3 WATER LEAKS	\$63,742.90
MENARDS, SUPPLY	\$337.85

MID AMERICAN ENERGY, SERVICE	\$153.53
MIDWEST FRAME, PLOW REPAIR	\$351.36
OAKLAND CORP, LASERFICHE	\$4,810.00
PEOPLE SERVICES, SERVICE	\$25,246.00
THE NEWS, PUBLICATIONS	\$185.84
VEENSTRA & KIM, WTP ENGINEERING	\$550.00
VERIZON, GATEWAYS	\$88.56
TOTAL BILLS	\$108,869.80
DELTA DENTAL, BILLING-DEC	\$192.58
WELLMARK, BC/BS	\$2,118.59
US CELLULAR, FD	\$72.45
LINCOLN FINANCIAL, DEC BILLING	\$309.56
WATER REFUNDS	\$51.09
TOTAL PAID BILLS	\$2,744.27
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$111,614.07

Published in The News, Thursday, December 14, 2023 L-37

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY
IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF ALAN J. HORN AND KRISTEN L. HORN

UPON THE PETITION OF ALAN J. HORN, Petitioner, And Concerning KRISTEN L. HORN, Respondent.
Equity No. CDCV005159
ORIGINAL NOTICE

TO RESPONDENT KRISTEN L. HORN:

You are notified that a Petition has been filed in the office of the Clerk of this Court, naming you as the Respondent in this action and seeking a dissolution of marriage and sole legal and physical custody of the parties' minor children. The attorney for the Petitioner is Katie Mitchell of Mitchell Law Office, PLC, whose address is 519 Highway 1 South, Washington, Iowa 52353. Said attorney's phone number is (319) 653-2050; and her facsimile number is (844) 270-6616.

You must serve a motion or answer on or before the 17th day of January, 2024, and within a reasonable time thereafter, file your motion or answer with the Clerk of Court for Washington

HIGHLAND CSD

HIGHLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
NOVEMBER 2023 INVOICES

Activity Account	
Amazon Capital Services, Misc Expenses	\$944.17
BSN Sports, LLC, GBB-Supplies	\$424.48
Columbus Community Schools, JH/V-XC-Entry Fees	\$150.00
Elite Sports, NHS T-shirts	\$330.00
Fairfield High School, JH/V-XC-Entry Fees	\$90.00
Kim Hall, GBB-Official-Scrimmage	\$30.00
Hillcrest Academy, XC-Entry Fee	\$100.00
IGHSAU, GBB-Scoresheets	\$20.00
Iowa FFA Association, FFA-Chapter Dues	\$1,040.50
Max Matthias, GBB-Official-Scrimmage	\$60.00
Adam McLaughlin, GBB-Official-Scrimmage	\$60.00
Mediapolis CSD, XC-Entry Fee	\$75.00
Menards, NHS-Fundraiser Supplies	\$236.55
Midway USA Foundation Inc. Shooting Sports-Donation	\$1,000.00
Partners For Profit, Inc., HS SC-Fundraiser	\$1,747.60
Pekin CSD, XC-Entry Fee	\$50.00
Pepsi-Cola, HE-Concessions	\$171.16
Poured Soy Candle Co, Drill Team-Fundraiser	\$3,000.00
Brendan Schoebelen, Announcing-FB	\$175.00
Kelli Schwarz, Reimb.-Halloween Supplies	\$46.72
Skateline School Programs Inc, HE-PE Skating	\$2,832.00
Tim Sullivan, GBB-Official-Scrimmage	\$60.00
Alex Tuttle, JH GBB-Official-11/6	\$107.56
Hills Bank & Trust Co., Robotics-FTC Entry Fees	\$628.28
Washington Community Schools, JV/V-Tourney Fee	\$300.00
Total	\$13,679.02
General Account	
AAA Mechanical Contractors, INC., HS-Water Heater Repair	\$1,227.28
Access Systems, HS-Copier Repair	\$511.98
Ace-N-More, Transp.-Supplies	\$56.58
Megan or Blake Albright, Oct. Transportation	\$55.00
Amazon Capital Services, Misc Expenses	\$3,808.91
Arnold Motor Supply, Transp. Supplies	\$500.17
Awanna Home Health, SpEd-Lvl 3-Nursing Svcs	\$7,651.22
Fidelity Security Life, Vision Ins Prem	\$349.81
John or Amanda Blodgett, Oct. Transportation	\$126.00
Jenna or Ryan Boll, Oct. Transportation	\$71.50
City Sewer Service Inc, HS-Toilet Clog	\$169.50
Colbert Lawn Care, Mowing	\$1,937.50
Custom Impressions, INC., Rich-Notary Stamp	\$11.95
Decker, Inc. School Fix, HE-Bathroom door stops	\$59.35
Delta Dental of Iowa, Dental Ins Prem	\$3,472.14
Dept. Of Education, Bus Inspection Fees	\$800.00

County, at the Courthouse, 224 West Main Street, Washington, Iowa 52353. If you do not, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Petition.

This case has been filed in a county that uses electronic filing. For help in your case and for forms that you must use if you chose to represent yourself without an attorney, visit the Iowa Judicial Branch website at <http://www.iowacourts.state.ia.us/Efile> and obtain a login and password for filing and viewing documents in your case and for receiving service and notices from the court.

For general rules and information on electronic filing, refer to the Iowa Court Rules Chapter 16 Pertaining to the Use of the Electronic Document Management System, available on the Iowa Judicial Branch website.

For court rules on the Protection of Personal Privacy in court filings, refer to Division VI of the Iowa Court Rules Chapter 16.

If you are unable to proceed electronically, you must receive permission from the court to file in paper. Contact the clerk of court in the county where the petition was filed for more information.

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Discount School Supply, HE-PS-Supplies	\$53.89
Eastern Iowa Chiropractic Centre, Kirk-DOT Physical	\$135.00
Eastern Iowa Light & Power, HS-Electric	\$6,713.03
Follett Content Solutions LLC, HE-Library Books	\$674.40
Taylor or Zach Frank, Oct. Transportation	\$38.50
Danny or Brittney Gent, Oct. Transportation	\$52.50
Tyler & Nikki Gerot, Oct. Transportation	\$42.00
Grant Wood AEA, Highlights Design & Print	\$278.20
Highland Community Schools, Health Ins Prem	\$4,731.00
Highland Insurance Account, Unreimbursed Medical	\$1,695.84
North Central International, LLC, Bus Parts	\$351.52
The Home Depot Pro, Custodial Supplies	\$2,075.70
Hy-Yee, INC., Supt. Supplies	\$14.99
Ion Environmental Solutions, Water & Wastewater Svcs	\$800.00
Iowa Assoc. School Boards, School Board Recognition	\$52.00
Iowa Paper INC., Maint. Supplies	\$155.73
Rex's Refills & Supplies, HE-Office Toner	\$241.50
City of Riverside, HE-Water & Sewer	\$474.00
Abby or Tyler Schneider, Oct. Transportation	\$20.36
School Specialty LLC, HE-Office Supplies	\$343.49
Peggy Schwab, Reimb-School Counselor Conf Hotel	\$419.36
SEIBA, Reg Fee-Honor Band	\$10.00
Erica or Chad Sexton, Oct. Transportation	\$52.50
Standard Pest Control, Monthly Service-Oct.	\$100.00
Stewart & Sons Ltd, LP Gas	\$15,641.90
The News, Legal Publications	\$221.94
University of Iowa Health Care, Simmons-DOT Physical	\$135.00
Brendan or Brandelle Unkrich, Oct. Transportation	\$60.00

Henry or Amy Vazquez, Oct. Transportation	\$60.00
Andy Vercande, Reimb-Sound System Cart	\$478.73
Hills Bank & Trust Co., IASBO Conf Expenses-Rich	\$556.59
Voyager-Sopris Learning, HS-Instr. Supplies	\$124.30
Wellmark Blue Cross-Blue Shield, Health Ins Prem	\$62,854.35
West Music Co., Band-Instrument Repair	\$55.48
Windstream, Phone Expenses	\$1,402.14
Matt or Andi Yeggy, Oct. Transportation	\$59.50
Kyle or Celeste Yoder, Oct. Transportation	\$96.00
Total	\$215,639.64
Insurance	
Advantage Administrators, Flex Benefits	\$1,695.84
Eagle Ridge Corporate Services Inc, 4th Qtr 2023 Admin Fee	\$2,663.56
Wellmark Blue Cross-Blue Shield, Addtl Health Ins Prem	\$864.80
Total	\$5,224.20
Nutrition Account	
Highland Lunch Fund, Lunch P/R	\$13,475.73
Martin Brothers Distributing Co Inc, Food	\$13,870.67
Prairie Farms Dairy Inc, Milk	\$2,364.94
Washington Co. Env. Health Dept., Holden-ServSafe Class	\$160.00
Total	\$29,871.34
Payroll Account	
Empower Retirement, Tax Sheltered Annuity	\$3,050.00
Equitable, Tax Sheltered Annuity	\$100.00
Hartford, Tax Sheltered Annuity	\$167.00
Horace Mann, Tax Sheltered Annuity	\$600.00
Internal Revenue Service, FICA	\$76,696.06
IPERS, IPERS	\$55,149.14
Treasurer, St Of Ia, State Income Tax	\$10,142.00
VOYA, Tax Sheltered Annuity	\$700.00
Total	\$146,604.20
Preschool Account	
Preschool Fund, Preschool P/R	\$1,475.39
Total	\$1,475.39
Schoolhouse Account	
Access Systems, Highland Elem Office Copier	\$9,193.66
Bright Arrow Technologies Inc, Notification System	\$823.50
Grant Wood AEA, Managed IT Support Services	\$4,208.00
HR Green Inc, Wastewater Project Engineer	\$738.00
OPN Architects, INC., Facility Master Plan	\$3,018.75
Total	\$17,981.91
** DISTRICT TOTAL **	\$430,475.70

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