



SCHOOLHOUSE TOUR  
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STATE BOUND  
HILLCREST BOYS GOLF  
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# The News

KALONA, WELLMAN, RIVERSIDE, LONE TREE & HILLS

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## THE COMEBACK KIDS

*For years, Lone Tree Elementary ranked at the bottom when it came to student test scores; now it's back on top*



Lone Tree Elementary teachers during a data team meeting, analyzing information to make instructional decisions that will maximize student learning. CHERYL ALLEN/THE NEWS

BY CHERYL ALLEN  
The News

**LONE TREE**  
The pandemic years did a number on education. Students nationwide experienced learning disruptions that negatively affected test scores, especially in math, and the Nation's Report Card published in January showed Iowa students are still scoring lower than those tested before the pandemic, although recovery is evident.

What's interesting about Lone Tree Elementary is that students were earning low scores in math and English-Language Arts even before COVID crashed the system. In 2019, the school was given Priority status on its state report card – the lowest ranking possible – for math proficiency levels at 56.52% and ELA at 58.7%, among other factors. But the school is making a comeback. Preliminary numbers

released from the Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP) administered this spring show 91.8% of elementary students proficient in math and 84% proficient in English-Language Arts. That's an incredible improvement over 2019, and one you could perhaps see coming. Although the school languished with low test scores through 2022, in 2023 scores rose: Lone Tree Elementary received an Acceptable rating with proficiency

rates of 82.11% in math and 71.58% in ELA. Last year, in 2024, the school was rated High Performing – the second-highest rating – with 85.11% math proficiency and 79.79% ELA proficiency. What changed? "We adopted a new math program three years ago," Elementary Principal Amber Jacque says, and "we're very rigid on the process and instruc-

SEE COMEBACK | PAGE 9A

## Sharon Center mother of WASP recognized as Gold Star thanks to veteran's efforts

BY CHERYL ALLEN  
The News

**SHARON CENTER**  
To be recognized as a Gold Star Family is an honor no one desires. To receive such recognition, one must be an immediate family member of a fallen service member who died while serving in a time of conflict. The honor dates back to 1918, when President Woodrow Wilson authorized mothers who had lost a child serving in WWI to wear a black armband with gold gilt star, thus coining the term, "Gold Star Mother." The mothers of Women Airforce Service Pilots – WASP – received no such recognition if their daughters were lost ferrying planes, towing targets, or training other pilots during WWII, because the WASP were civil servants, not formally considered part of the military. But in 1977, Congress granted the WASP veteran status, and in 2009, they received the Congressional Gold Medal for their valor and courage. Vietnam veteran Larry Ritland, of Cedar Rapids, wondered if their mothers now might be considered Gold Star. They are, he discovered, and on May 5, he installed Gold Star Mother grave markers next to the headstones of Iowa's two

WASP Gold Star Mothers – Elizabeth Roberts, in Welsh Church Cemetery, Sharon Center, and Sylvia Moses, in Oakwood Cemetery, Pleasant Hill. "I could be wrong, but I'm pretty sure these two Gold Star Mothers are probably the first mothers of a fallen WASP to be so honored, anywhere in the country, with an official Gold Star Mother grave marker," Ritland said in an email. How Ritland became a champion of WASP and their families is a story that goes back almost five years, when he received a piece of promotional mail from the National WASP World War II Museum in Sweetwater, Texas. It captured his interest, and he since has visited the museum and learned everything he could about these 1,100 women pilots, 38 of whom died while serving their country, two of which were from Iowa – Gleanna Roberts of Sharon Center, and Beverly Jean Moses of Pleasant Hill. "After visiting the museum, that's when I asked, 'What can I do to share their story and continue their legacy?' Turns out a lot: I can share their story with friends and family, donate money to the museum, get the Governor of Iowa to sign a procla-



Larry Ritland at the graveside of Elizabeth Roberts at Welsh Church Cemetery in Sharon Center, where he installed the Gold Star Mother grave marker she deserved on May 5, 81 years after daughter Gleanna Roberts perished while serving as a Women Airforce Service Pilot in 1944. SUBMITTED

mation, promote TV and newspaper coverage, put together a PowerPoint presentation, design a custom bicycling jersey, and hey, I could also ride a bicycle from Iowa to Texas while sharing the WASP story. And I did," he said. In September 2024, Ritland joined friends and community members at

the Welsh Church Cemetery in Sharon Center, where Gleanna Roberts, a WASP who died serving her country in 1944, is buried. After a service commemorating Roberts, he departed on his bicycle for the WASP museum in Texas, a destination it

SEE MOTHER OF WASP | PAGE 9A

## Dwight Gingerich headed to Goshen College as AD and coach

*Longtime coach and principal at Hillcrest Academy won 759 basketball games in Hall of Fame high school career*



Hillcrest Academy's Dwight Gingerich and his wife, Mo, during Hall of Fame night in 2024 at Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines. PAUL D. BOWKER/THE NEWS

BY PAUL D. BOWKER  
The News

**KALONA**  
More than one year ago, Dwight Gingerich, the longtime boys basketball coach and school principal at Hillcrest Academy, and Mo, his wife, proudly stood on the basketball court at Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines. It was Hall of Fame night in the middle of the state basketball tournament finals. One of the arena's seating sections was filled with Gingerich family members and friends. Hillcrest (formerly Iowa Mennonite School) was the only high school Gingerich had ever coached at and Goshen College in Indiana was the only college he had coached at. In July, Gingerich will return to Goshen as director of athletics and head men's basketball coach, going back to the college where Mo graduated and their three children graduated. The announcement was made last week. "It has been the honor of my life to serve at IMS, now Hillcrest Academy," Gingerich said in a statement. "I have been blessed with great teammates on our staff and amazing support from our school community. And now I'm truly excited for this new opportunity, and I look forward to how I can serve the Goshen College student-athletes and community as a leader and coach." Gingerich leaves behind a legacy of 43 years of coaching at Hillcrest and IMS and a win total of 759 that ranks fourth in Iowa high school history. It was in that moment last year at Wells Fargo Arena that he was inducted into the Iowa High School Basketball Hall of Fame. "This honor is a reflection of all who have given so much over the last 40 years plus," Gingerich told The News during his induction into the Hall of Fame. "I am grateful for each player that has come through our program, including those who laid the foundation early on. I have learned so much from them." Gingerich's 1992 team at IMS won a state championship. IMS also was state runner-up in 1991, 1998, 2005 and 2007. His 2024-25 team won 21 games and reached a Class 1A substate final. When the news of Gingerich's job change hit social media last week, congratulatory messages popped up from all corners of the state.

SEE DWIGHT GINGERICH | PAGE 6A

## MEMORIAL DAY AROUND TOWN

### Community of Flags

The Optimists of Kalona's Community of Flags will be flying in residential yards and along Kalona City Park from Friday, May 23 to Tuesday, May 27.

### Lone Tree

#### Historical Museum

The Lone Tree Historical Society Museum will be open for tours on Saturday, May 24 from 2-4 p.m. and Mon-

day, May 26 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., 203 S. Devoe St., Lone Tree. The Lone Tree Historical Society will also serve a hot dog meal at the museum following the American Legion Post 457's Memorial Day service; food will be available from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. with free will donation.

### Lone Tree

#### American Legion

The Lone Tree American Legion Color

Guard will present on Monday, May 26 at Swank Cemetery at 7:30 a.m., River Junction Cemetery at 8 a.m., Iowa River Bridge at Hills, 8:30 a.m., Nichols Cemetery at 9:15 a.m., and St. Mary's Cemetery in Nichols at 9:45 a.m. Indoor services at the Lone Tree American Legion will follow at 10:30 a.m. Flags will be put up on Saturday, May 24 at 7 a.m. and taken down on Monday, May 26 at 4 p.m.; help with either is greatly appreciated.

### Goodwin Dining Breakfast

Goodwin Dining Center will host a Memorial Day Breakfast on Monday, May 26 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m., 223 8th Ave., Wellman. Biscuit & Sausage gravy, scrambled eggs, fruit salad, and muffins; free will donation; dine in, carry out, or drive thru.

### Riverside VFW Post #6414

Riverside VFW Post #6414 and VFW Women's Auxiliary will hold a service in Riverside Cemetery at 10 a.m. For complete schedule, see page 6A.

### Richmond AmVets Post 107

Richmond AmVets Post 107 will conduct Memorial Day ceremonies at the Sharon Hill Cemetery in Kalona at 10:15 a.m. and Richmond Catholic Cemetery at 11 a.m.



# Gambles Hardware begins new chapter as Providence Co.

BY CHERYL ALLEN  
The News

**KALONA**  
When you next visit Gambles Hardware looking for a hammer or a paintbrush, you'll find things are just a little bit different, starting with the name: as of May 1, the downtown staple will continue as Providence Co., a reflection of new owner Anthony Bower's mission "to be a store of provision, having exactly what you need."

The local entrepreneur purchased the store, which has operated at the same Kalona location for over 60 years, from Craig and Ryan Gingerich.

Ryan will continue to work at the store as a service tech through the end of 2025 to ensure a smooth transition.

"Craig and Ryan Gingerich carried on a tradition with the Gambles name, a hardware chain which has been acquired by Do It Best, one of the largest home improvement suppliers in the U.S.," Bower said. "Though the name will change, I'm proud to carry on that tradition and excited to bring renewed energy and expanded service to our community."

Bower brings over a decade of business experience and a fresh vision for the future to the hardware store. Providence Co. will continue to focus



Anthony Bower, center, new owner of Providence Co., formerly Gambles Hardware. Bower purchased the business from Craig Gingerich (left) and Ryan Gingerich (right).

on serving local homeowners, farmers, and businesses and will continue to carry the reliable products they have come to trust: top-quality paint, hardware, Stihl outdoor equipment, Milwaukee power tools, and more. The shop provides professional, certified small engine

repair and a rent-it center as well.

Bower plans for new offerings and improvements in the months ahead.

"This isn't just a name change," he said. "It's a commitment to serve with excellence, modernize where it helps

our customers, and ensure we're always stocked with the tools, parts, and supplies you need, when you need them."

He encourages all to stop in, say hello to the new team, and keep an eye out for exciting changes coming to Providence Co. in the coming months.

## 4-H SENIORS



MADISON CONWAY

Madison Conway attends Washington High School and is a member of the Franklin Cubs 4-H Club. "4-H has taught me about volunteering and being involved. I have so much respect for our Franklin Cubs Leaders and admire their hard work and dedication to not only our club, but to our community and our Washington County Fair family," she said. Conway plans to attend Indian Hills Community College to study Occupational Therapy.



MAYA MURPHY

Maya Murphy attends Washington High School and is a member of the Washington Go Getters 4-H Club. "Through my years in 4-H I learned so many valuable skills that will carry forward throughout my lifetime," she said. "Those that held the most importance for me were Leadership in the eyes of the youth that I mentored; Responsibility for the commitments I made to myself, my animals, and to others; Communication as a means of fearlessly educating others; and Teamwork in accomplishing mutual goals. As a member of 4-H, my confidence grew in ways I never expected, and I was able to create bonds with others, establish lifelong connections, and was presented with a world full of new opportunities that I might never have known existed." Murphy plans to attend the University of Missouri to study Biological Sciences.

## Mid-Prairie FFA attends World Food Prize Youth Institute



MID-PRAIRIE FFA

Mid-Prairie FFA members who attended the 2025 Iowa Youth Institute were Allie Whetstine, Averi Janecek, Rylee Cady, Peighton Ford, Brylee Gearhart and Adelyn Huston.

BY PEIGHTON FORD  
Mid-Prairie FFA

On April 30, six members of the Mid-Prairie FFA attended the 14th annual World Food Prize Foundation Iowa Youth Institute hosted at Iowa State University. Members attending were Rylee Cady, Peighton Ford, Brylee Gearhart, Adelyn Huston, Averi Janecek and Allie Whetstine. Mid-Prairie FFA Advisor Elsa Schmidt attended also.

The morning began by listening to speakers, including Tom Vilsack, Paul Schickler, Wendy Wintersteen, and Tyson Fleschner. They presented on a variety of different topics pertaining to agriculture and food insecurity. Students spent the remainder of the morning participating in roundtable discussions, where they shared insights from their research papers, explored critical global challenges, and presented the innovative solutions they had

developed to address these complex issues.

To be eligible to attend this event, students selected a country and researched local issues of food insecurity. Students developed their own solutions to these problems and wrote a research paper outlining the problem and solutions. They turned these papers in to be read and critiqued by industry experts.

The following is a list of the participants with the country and issue they presented about: Rylee Cady, Peru and Malnutrition; Peighton Ford, Dominican Republic and water and sanitation; Brylee Gearhart, Haiti and Poverty; Adelyn Huston, Ukraine and Conflict; Averi Janecek, Australia and Infrastructure; and Allie Whetstine, Peru and Malnutrition.

During the afternoon, students were able to learn the global impact Iowa State Uni-

versity has through information presented by the Center for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods (CSRL).

Students engaged in hands-on workshops and interactive activities that explored different focus areas. They gained insight into how CSRL collaborates directly with local communities to enhance agronomic practices and improve postharvest handling. The session also highlighted initiatives in livestock management, community nutrition, youth entrepreneurship, and strategies for advancing water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) standards.

The students who participated were awarded certificates recognizing them as being Borlaug Scholars. If these students attend Iowa State University and enter the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, they will receive a \$1000 scholarship.

## Kalona Rotary Senior Women's Luncheon

Sixth grade choir members from Mid-Prairie Middle School, directed by vocal music teacher Luetta Ropp, performed for senior women at the luncheon hosted by the Kalona Rotary May 13 at Kalona Methodist Fellowship Hall. The entertainment, arranged by Meg Nagel, included performances by Mid-Prairie High School choir students, directed by Colette McClellan.



RON SLECHTA/THE NEWS

Tap into the equity in your home.

# Home Equity Financing

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**HILLS BANK**

New applications as of 04/09/2025 eligible for no origination fee special. Existing Hills Bank lines/loans must have a 25% increase in line/loan amount at time of refinancing to be eligible for special. In addition, if an appraisal is required, appraisals range between \$400 and \$650. Rate is based on a 740+ credit score and an 80% Loan to Value (LTV) and 0.25% rate reduction with automatic funds transfer from a Hills Bank Checking account. Rate effective as of 03/17/2025. Promotion and rate subject to change at the discretion of the bank.

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- Free hepatitis C testing
- Free testing for sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including gonorrhea, chlamydia and syphilis
- Referrals for hepatitis A and B vaccination
- Staff can even help you find out what vaccines you've received and discuss which ones you might need!

All services are completely confidential and provided in a safe, judgement free space.

Walk-in hours available:  
Mondays, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Wednesdays, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Fridays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Additional times:  
Appointments are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please schedule ahead!

For questions or to schedule an appointment:  
(319) 356-6040

To learn more about services at Johnson County Public Health, visit <https://johnsoncountyiowa.gov/ITS>



Forecasts for North Washington County

Thursday  
May 22

61° 44°  
RealFeel® 61°

Breezy in the a.m.; clouds and sun

Friday  
May 23

68° 48°  
RealFeel® 69°

Mostly cloudy and warmer

Saturday  
May 24

67° 48°  
RealFeel® 69°

More clouds than sunshine

Sunday  
May 25

67° 49°  
RealFeel® 69°

Mostly cloudy

Monday  
May 26

69° 48°  
RealFeel® 76°

Partly sunny

Tuesday  
May 27

70° 49°  
RealFeel® 77°

Mostly sunny

Wednesday  
May 28

75° 51°  
RealFeel® 81°

Partly sunny

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SUN/MOON

	Sunrise	Sunset
Thursday	5:41 a.m.	8:26 p.m.
Friday	5:41 a.m.	8:27 p.m.
Saturday	5:40 a.m.	8:28 p.m.
Sunday	5:39 a.m.	8:29 p.m.
Monday	5:39 a.m.	8:29 p.m.
Tuesday	5:38 a.m.	8:30 p.m.
Wednesday	5:37 a.m.	8:31 p.m.

Last  
May 20

New  
May 26

Moonrise Moonset

	Moonrise	Moonset
Thursday	2:55 a.m.	3:16 p.m.
Friday	3:18 a.m.	4:32 p.m.
Saturday	3:43 a.m.	5:52 p.m.
Sunday	4:12 a.m.	7:15 p.m.
Monday	4:49 a.m.	8:38 p.m.
Tuesday	5:35 a.m.	9:55 p.m.
Wednesday	6:33 a.m.	11:01 p.m.

First  
Jun 2

Full  
Jun 11

DAILY ACTIVITY CONDITIONS

Thu.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.
5	5	5	5	10	10	10

AccuWeather.com UV Index™

Pollen Level Forecast

1	0	0	0	0	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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

Fishing forecast

9	10	10	10	10	10	10
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Soil Moisture forecast

N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
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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.
1	0	0	0	0	0	0

Arthritis forecast

2	1	3	3	3	2	2
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Asthma forecast

1	0	1	1	0	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Migraine forecast

4	2	3	3	2	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Sinus forecast

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

## RIVERSIDE DOG BREEDER LANDS ON ‘HORRIBLE HUNDRED’ LIST AGAIN

Terry Yoder of BR’s Dobermans in Riverside has once again landed on the Humane World for Animals’ Horrible Hundred report. The non-profit formerly known as the Humane Society of the United States recently published its 2025 installment of the report, which catalogs the most egregious regulatory violations as cited by state and federal inspectors of puppy mills.

In March 2025, it was re-

ported that 17 dead dogs were found on the property of BR’s Dobermans. Forty-nine dogs were seized, many of them in poor health, after an individual reported acquiring two sickly dogs from the kennel. The kennel had been inspected two months earlier and was deemed then to be in compliance with all regulations.

Washington County has taken Yoder to court over the matter; however, a hearing

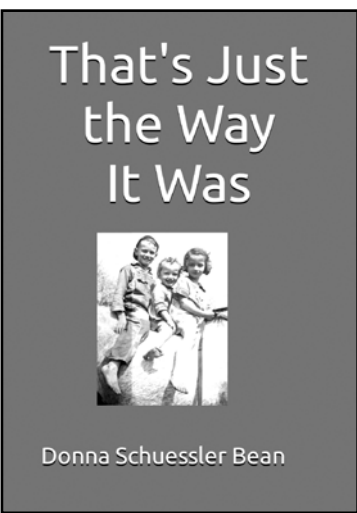
scheduled for May 8 has been delayed and no new hearing date has been set at press time.

Twelve Iowa dog breeders and brokers were included on the Horrible Hundred report, ranking Iowa third in the nation when it comes to citations by regulators; Missouri and Ohio took the first and second spots with 26 and 16 operators listed respectively.

## Lone Tree authors share stories June 4

“That’s Just the Way It Was,” by Donna Schuessler Bean in collaboration with sister Joyce Schuessler Werden, is an autobiographical account of Bean’s life, beginning with her childhood growing up on a farm near Lone Tree during the Great Depression. It was a different world, where men had jobs and women stayed home with the children to cook and clean, but Donna set out to become an elementary school teacher, which she successfully combined with motherhood – an undertaking not without its challenges. She retired in 1995.

Donna and Joyce will share stories from the book sponsored by Lone Tree Historical Society on Wednesday, June 4 from 1-2:30 p.m. at United Presbyterian Church, 110 W. Elm Street,



Lone Tree. All are welcome to attend the free event; desserts and beverages will be served, and donations are welcome.

## Wellman Garden Club enjoys Spring Luncheon

The Wellman Garden Club held its Spring Luncheon at Tuscan Moon restaurant in Kalona on Thursday, May 15. Club members were glad to have air conditioned, indoor seating, with a table of eight and a table of three, because the 88° heat was nearly record-breaking (90° is the record).

While waiting for their food, club members had lively dis-

cussions about rhubarb, bug invasions, the abundant maple seeds, and of course, flowers. Several gals enjoyed delectable sandwiches and some had tasty salads.

When they were all finished eating, club members joined together around one table to hear a reminder about the next meeting. On Thursday, June 19, the 2 p.m. meeting will be a

Gazebo Tour with Regina Snyder, north of Riverside. Snyder has several different types of gazebos. Club members will carpool from Asbury UMC at 1:30 p.m.

President Marilyn Powell closed with a reminder that the June 19 meeting will be the last Garden Club function until fall.

EARLY

ADS NEED TO BE IN BY 10 AM THIS FRIDAY

DEADLINE

90th Birthday  
Celebration  
for Dale Britton!

When: Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup> at 12:00 pm  
Where: 2804 520th St. Sw, Kalona, IA  
Sharon Center United Methodist Church  
Luncheon and desserts will be served at noon.  
We look forward to seeing you!

Tenderloin Supper

FRIDAY, MAY 23 2025

Serving from 4-8 p.m.

No reservation required

Breaded & Grilled Tenderloin, baked beans, potato salad, homemade bread, pie and ice cream

DINE IN OR CARRY OUT  
ALL YOU CAN EAT  
Warren & Ila Miller residence  
319-461-2193  
5708 Sharon Center Rd SW, Kalona  
Church Fundraiser:  
Free will donations appreciated

## Enter your pet in PAWS & More’s calendar photo contest

Do you have the cutest pet around? Show them off in PAWS & More’s 2026 Pet Calendar Photo Contest.

From June 1 to June 30, submit a photo of your furry (or scaly!) friend for \$10 per entry. Then rally your friends and

family to vote – each vote is \$1, and every vote counts.

The top 35 photos with the most votes will be featured in the 2026 calendar. It’s a fun way to support PAWS & More animal shelter of Washington and could earn you bragging

rights.

For more information and to enter and vote, visit [gogophotocontest.com/pawsandmore](http://gogophotocontest.com/pawsandmore).

Let your pet shine and be part of something pawsome!

## College Honors and Graduates

Goshen College recently recognized Meredith Blossom of Wellman for excellence in academics on the 2024-25 spring semester Dean’s List.

It is with great pleasure that **Southern New Hampshire University** congratu-

lates Sara Rose of Lone Tree and Taylor Heald of Kalona on being named to the Spring 2025 Dean’s List.

Elisabeth Helfrich of Kalona has been named to Southern New Hampshire University’s Spring 2025 President’s List.

## AROUND TOWN

**Country Schoolhouse Tours**  
Country Schoolhouse Tours offered by the Kalona Chamber will be available on Tuesdays and Saturdays in May. Saturday tours on May 24 and 31 are from 10 a.m. to noon; Tuesday tour on May 27 is from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Tour stops include Middleburg, Meadow Lane, and Sharon Bethel Schools; tickets are \$30 adults, \$15 youth, 6 and under free. For reservations, call 319-656-2660.

**Kalona Farmers Market**  
The next Kalona Farmers Market will be held on Saturday, May 24. Market hours are 9 a.m. to noon; downtown Kalona. Music by Mark Zalaznik.

**Hillcrest Academy Graduation Activities**  
Hillcrest Academy’s Baccalaureate service will be held on Saturday, May 24 at 6 p.m. at Celebration Hall; English teacher and senior parent Bryan Neuschwander will give the address. The Commencement service will be held Sunday, May 25 at 6 p.m. at Celebration

Hall; alumna and senior great-aunt Rose Bender Cook will deliver the address.

**Lone Tree Author/Book Talk**  
The Lone Tree Historical Society Museum will host guest speakers Donna Schuessler Bean and Joyce Schuessler Werden on Wednesday, June 4 from 1-2:30 p.m. at Lone Tree United Presbyterian Church. The sisters will share stories from their book, “That’s Just the Way It Was,” about an Iowa farm girl born during the Great Depression as she travels into the high-tech world of the 21st century. Desserts and bev-

erages served; no admission fee; donations appreciated.

**Short Peterseim Golf Tournament**  
The 17<sup>th</sup> annual Short Peterseim Golf Tournament benefitting Hospice of Washington County will be held on Tuesday, June 24 starting at 8 a.m. at the Kalona Golf Club. \$280/team of four; includes 18 holes, golf carts, and lunch. Call 319-653-7321 or email [tiffany@hospicewc.com](mailto:tiffany@hospicewc.com) to book your spot.

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HILLCREST ACADEMY

ACADEMICS that INSPIRE. FAITH that LEADS.

The HILLCREST ACADEMY senior parents would like to thank these area businesses who helped make our Banquet After Party a success!

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Beatty & Peterseim Funeral Homes  
& Monument Services  
Best of Iowa  
Bontrager's Tax & Accounting Service  
Brynn Swartzendruber  
Council of Mid-Prairie Churches, Linda Kemp  
Cox Sanitation  
Dr. Suzanne Stock, DDS  
Edward Jones Investments, David C. Bruns  
Farmers Electric Cooperative  
Federation Bank  
Foundations Unlimited  
Hart-Frederick Consultants  
Helmuth Ford  
Hills Bank & Trust Co.  
Home Gas, Inc.  
Imagine Therapy Solutions  
Iowa Collision & Paint LLC  
Jeremy & Sheila Ours  
Kalona Auto Used Cars & Trucks  
Kalona Coffee House  
Kalona Family Dental  
Kalona Graphics

Kalona Realty  
Kalona Sale Barn  
Larry Brenneman  
LJ Roth Restoration  
M & M Auto Body  
Miller Electric Co.  
Powell Funeral Homes  
Precision Structures, Inc. (PSI)  
Pro Grower Solutions  
Ramonaz  
Ramsey Creek Woodworks  
Rempel Construction (Remp Co.)  
River Products Co., Inc.  
Ron & Lorene Bender  
Sharon Telephone Co.  
Southeast Iowa Insurance Services  
Statler Construction  
Stuff Etc.  
The Appliance Barn  
Washington State Bank  
Wellman Produce Co.  
Wellman Telephone Co.  
Yotty's

THANKS FOR BEING A  
PART OF OUR COMMUNITY!



# A strange sense of humor is better than no sense at all

Do you remember the first time you told a joke and no one laughed?

I don't. It's happened to me so many times I can't remember the first.

I grew up in a home with lots of jokes, teasing and laughter. Our mother's family was full of jokesters and Mom kept us laughing, too. Our family's sense of humor was earthy. Dirty jokes were strictly forbidden (when Mom and Dad were home) but we siblings joked about most anything else

a baby sister sneezing milk through her nose, accidental flatulence, even a father who stalked an annoying box elder bug on the kitchen floor to bring a quick and certain end to its miserable life. Dad, however, saw no humor in our laughter. When you have grown up this way you assume everyone else has, too. We learned that is not the case.

It is interesting when two people with different senses of humor marry. My first wife's sense of humor was more refined than mine. (I married up!) My being the louder and more jocular of the two of us, it was my sense of humor that our children adopted as their own.

As the kids were growing up I often engaged them in tomfoolery while their mother simply smiled and shook her head. My son and daughter both love words and language and we share a fondness for puns, considered by some (but not us) the lowest form of humor. Their mother tolerated our pun fun but didn't find the delight in it that we do.

(By the way, I was reading that new book, The History of Glue, earlier today. I couldn't put it down.)

An early sign that our kids' sense of humor came from their father occurred at Brookfield Zoo in Chicago when they were children. One of the cow elephants we were watching delicately relieved herself, creating a large and loud splash. Fortunately, we were standing far enough away to avoid the spray.

Like most kids witnessing nature at its most fundamental level, our kids giggled. Two older women were standing nearby and one of them sternly exclaimed, "How rude!"

Our kids lost it! Their mother and I hoped the woman was thinking they were laughing at the elephant. They were really laughing at someone who was



Arvid Huisman  
Country Roads

offended by an elephant simply doing what elephants have to do. The woman obviously did not grow up on a farm... or in our family.

We laugh at each other, too heartily and unapologetically. While on a South Dakota vacation some 40-years ago a family member pointed out a large butte but pronounced it "butt" instead of "byoot." That was long remembered.

My current wife, Julie, and I have different senses of humor, as well. She frequently rolls her eyes but we laugh at each other's jokes. Most of the time. Well, usually.

Many years ago a family member told us that when her 2-year-old daughter noisily broke wind during a church service the toddler immediately and loudly blamed her mother. The poor embarrassed mother said everyone in the pews around them snickered.

Now that's funny! I shared that story with a group of friends. All of them, except one woman, laughed. She gravely declared, "Oh my, that little girl must have a dietary problem."

Dietary problem? Heck no! Healthy kids do these things. I recognized that our friend did not find a toddler tooting in church humorous and dropped the matter.

I try to be sensitive to the fact that my earthy and unsophisticated sense of humor is not universally appreciated. If you are offended by my ramblings today, I apologize. I pledge to not write about tooting toddlers again for at least a month.

As I have grown older I realize that the gift of humor our mother passed down to us is an invaluable way of coping with life. As a family we faced some difficult times but we never stopped laughing. It was our laughter - frequent and hearty - that got us through those tough times. As an adult, laughter has helped me through some rough spots.

One of my favorite journalists, the late Hugh Sidey, wrote, "Laughter on one's lips is a sign that the person down deep has a pretty good grasp on life."

# Recognizing All Americans

## BLINDSIDE

Ever since I was a child I can remember going to Odebolt, Iowa, to Aunt Clair and Uncle Richard Conrady's home for Memorial Day observance. At first I didn't understand the reason for the holiday, but in later years I can remember their regret that Uncle Wilford was buried in the Sicily-Rome American Cemetery near Rome, Italy, because his wife chose not to have his body returned to America after he was killed in a battle in Italy.

Fortunately, Uncle Lloyd Peterson also served on the European front in World War II. I recall him telling stories of how well Americans were received in France and Italy and North Africa, where he had served. Uncle George Leutjens successfully served in the Army on the Pacific front, but little was said about his service. More was said about his injury after he was discharged. He was walking on the street in Omaha, Nebraska, when a pigeon cage fell from the roof and struck him. George survived but suffered severe headaches for the rest of his life.

Stepbrother Carl Riley served on the USS Nemitz, an aircraft carrier. He was on his way home with some friends, driving across Georgia, when they came upon a semi tractor trailer turning around in the middle of the road at night.

Carl was lying down in the back seat. Three of his friends were not as fortunate, as they were killed. Because of his injuries, Carl was not able to continue his military service.

Brother Dennis served nearly 20 years aboard a Navy destroyer before he retired from the military and went to work for General Electric in Albany, New York.

Brothers Darrell and Mike joined the military but were later medically discharged for health reasons. I tried to join the Navy, but the recruiter was aware of my vision issue and would not accept me.

On Monday, May 26, I will again be on hand at the Sharon Hill Cemetery to observe the Richmond AmVets recognize everyone who has served in the military and those who were killed. The Ladies Auxiliary will lay a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

The cemetery will be lined with American flags recognizing those who were killed. The flags will be erected by Mid-Prairie students and other volunteers.

Over 350 flags will be placed by the Optimists of Kalona in the yards of people who subscribe to the Optimists' Community of Flags. You can subscribe to have flags put in your yard six times a year or in the special flag display at Kalona



Ron Slechta  
Observations

City Park by contacting an Optimist or filling out a form and leaving your donation at The News office, 419 B Avenue.

America does a great job recognizing those who have given their time to serve in the military. Recently Kalona resident Larry Geno was accompanied by his son and 97 other former military personnel and their chaperones on an Honor Flight to Washington, D.C. They received a hero's welcome when they returned to the Cedar Rapids Airport.

Because of my family history of military service, I have the highest respect for our military personnel.

We should also recognize and thank those who served in an alternative capacity. Or those who kept America running by making airplanes, other military vehicles, ammunition, clothing, and food to supply our military.

Thank you to everyone, civilians as well as military, working to keep America strong.



# NEWS

## Amana Heritage Society announces full season of Communal Dinners

The Amana Heritage Society is excited to announce its schedule of authentic Communal Dining Experiences at the Communal Kitchen Museum in Middle Amana.

We are offering our regularly scheduled Communal Dining Experiences on June 6 & 20, July 11 & 25, August 15 & 29, September 19, October 17, and December 5. These themed dinners will highlight various aspects of communal Amana life. This year themes will include A Kitchen Girl's Birthday, Communal-Era Printing & Bookbinding, Middle Amana Walking Tours, and the wedding of Dr. Christian and Johanna Jeck Herrmann, a presentation about Dr. Hermann's life in the Amana Colonies, medical school training, his WWI experience, his love of photography, and his career as a "Colony" doctor. The December 5 communal dinner will be a traditional Christmas dinner with a special dessert.

Traditional communal-era menus are exclusively offered to share the culinary legacy of the Amana Colonies that transformed into a leading Iowa visitor attraction known for family-style dining.

All communal dining experiences take place at the Communal Kitchen Museum, 1003 26th Ave, Middle Amana, IA. Limited seating of 24. Advanced tickets required and can be purchased at [www.amanaheritage.org](http://www.amanaheritage.org). The price is only \$35 per person with no tax or gratuity required. Proceeds benefit the Amana Heritage Society's efforts to share Amana's rich 300-year heritage.

For more information about communal dinners please call 319-622-3567 or email [heritage-programs@southslope.net](mailto:heritage-programs@southslope.net).

For a complete list of upcoming activities and events visit [www.amanacolnies.com](http://www.amanacolnies.com).

# WaCo board OKs appointments, budget amendment

BY MARY ZIELINSKI  
The News

## WASHINGTON

In less than 15 minutes Tuesday, the Washington County Board of Supervisors approved four process servers, three raises for ambulance service personnel, a routine budget amendment and a June tractorcade.

The process servers, whose three-year terms run through December 31, 2028, are Jill Duwa, Victory Rico, Darren Denler and Tyler Cleese. The raises are for ambulance ser-

vices paramedics from \$29.52 to \$32.30, effective May 20, and involve Hogan Miller, Curt Olson and Ian Gannon.

The Secondary Road Use permit, for NRG Media, is for the 2025 Tractorcade parade June 5, which includes Highway 78 and Highway 1 and a lunch stop at the Washington County fairgrounds. The parade will go through Mt. Pleasant, Washington, and Wayland, returning to Mt. Pleasant at the conclusion, starting at 9 a.m., ending at 4 p.m.

The secondary road budget amendment, to the DOT bud-

get, is simply to cover a formatting change.

The board also learned that some adjustments and realignments will be made to the courthouse remodeling and at the Orchard Hill complex where the county Health Department will relocate, all expected to be done by mid-July. An initial delay at the courthouse involved the removal of some asbestos tiles. The basement level of the courthouse will house juvenile justice, the county attorney offices and related legal services.

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**THE NEWS STAFF**

Ron Slechta - Publisher@TheNews-IA.com  
Cheryl Allen - News@TheNews-IA.com  
Giovanni Coronel - Sports@TheNews-IA.com  
Paul Bowker - BowkerPaul12@gmail.com  
Morgan Dakarian - Design@TheNews-IA.com  
Nancy Swartzendruber - Advertising@TheNews-IA.com  
Colette Yoder - Classifieds/Legals/Circulation - Admin@TheNews-IA.com

**WEBSITE: THENEWS-IA.COM | FACEBOOK: THE NEWS**

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

We reserve the right to edit.

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

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

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IOWA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

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# Lovin’a Diary for Monday, May 12

4:15 A.M.  
Alarm rings, I pack son Benjamin’s lunch. Benjamin had a long weekend. He went up to Cadillac, Michigan camping with his friend and family Friday morning to Sunday night. They went mushroom hunting but it was too early for the mushrooms in that area yet. We have a meal of mushrooms here that son-in-law Tim found. What a nice expensive gift with the price of mushrooms.

4:30 A.M.  
Benjamin leaves for work and daughter Verena gets up and leaves to go stay with daughter Loretta while Dustin goes to work.

5:15 A.M.  
My husband Joe leaves for work. He didn’t want breakfast as he is battling a cough again. I have his lunch packed. I decide to take a nap on my recliner until I need to help son Kevin get up and into his mobility scooter for the day.

7:30 A.M.  
I get up and make some coffee.

8:00 A.M.  
Joe is back home from work. He didn’t feel good when he left and should’ve probably not attempted to go. I fill out more wedding invitations to put in the mail. We are behind with getting those out. It takes a lot of head work to assign jobs for all the cooks and which days to come help.

9:00 A.M.  
I help Kevin get into his scooter and make him and I breakfast. It’s grilled cheese and bacon. I gather laundry as I want to wash clothes today. It’s a lovely day outside. I wish I’d had more energy to get started earlier and have my laundry on the line already. It was a long weekend and it felt good to sleep in a little. On Saturday Joe and I put some garden out. We planted two hundred plants: sweet onions, green peppers, hot peppers, lettuce, radishes, red beets, green

## LOVINA EICHER’S AMISH KITCHEN

beans, etc.

Yesterday was Mother’s Day and I attended church at our neighbors. Joe wasn’t able to go due to his chest congestion. Us mothers were all given a small plant and the men washed dishes after lunch.

Our children treated us to a delicious supper in honor of Mother’s Day. How precious a mother feels when her children think of doing something in her honor on a day like this. Those of you who are mothers know the many sleepless nights and all the sacrifices a mother faces. Getting a special thanks from her children makes it all worth the effort. As a mother I know I have often failed but we are only human. We do our best and it takes many prayers. Daughter Elizabeth has often told me that after being a mother herself she appreciates her mother even more and sees what being a mother is all about.

10:30 A.M.  
Verena is back home already. She washes dishes, etc. while I head to the basement to finally get started on laundry.

1:30 P.M.  
After a few interruptions I finally have the lines all filled with clothes. The weather is sunny with enough wind to blow the laundry dry pretty quick.

2:30 P.M.  
Joe and I leave for town for his doctor appointment. The doctor wasn’t too pleased with Joe’s condition and made an appointment for him again in the morning. I pray we will get answers soon on what causes his pain when he walks.

4:30 P.M.  
We are back home. Son Benjamin is home and Daniel Ray comes over to help for a while. He helped Verena bring in the clothes from the lines. I start frying chicken for supper.

6:30 P.M.  
Chicken is ready plus steamed potatoes, cheese, lettuce, and homemade sour cream dressing. Daniel Ray leaves for home after we eat.

9:15 P.M.  
Everyone is settled down and ready to call it a day. May 10th grandson Isaiah had his seventh birthday. I didn’t see him yet to give him his card and gift. Wishing you all a good night and God’s many blessings!

**Fresh Fried Morel Mushrooms**  
1-pound wild morel mushrooms  
½ cup oil for frying  
2 large eggs  
¾ cup milk  
1 (4 ounce) packet saltine crackers, finely crushed  
Salt and pepper to taste  
Cut any large morels in half and place in a large bowl. Cover with cold lightly salted water. Refrigerate mushrooms for 5 minutes to loosen any dirt. Then pour off salted water, rinse, and repeat twice more. Crevices of the mushrooms can have little stones or insects. Thoroughly rinse mushrooms a final time and allow to drain on paper towels.  
Heat oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Beat eggs and milk together and coat morels in egg mixture. Then toss morels in cracker crumbs. (Some use flour instead) Cook in oil until they are golden brown on each side. The mushrooms will cook quickly. Season with salt and pepper and enjoy!

Lovina’s Amish Kitchen is written by Lovina Eicher, Old Order Amish writer, cook, wife, and mother of eight. Her three cookbooks, The Cherished Table, 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 questionsforlovina@gmail.com and your message will be passed on to her to read. She does not personally respond to emails.

## OBITUARIES

### Jeremy Jonas Beachy 2003 - 2025



Jeremy Jonas Beachy of St. Ansgar, Iowa was born May 20, 2003, to Norman and Marilyn Beachy at Kalona, Iowa. He passed away May 13, 2025, at the University Hospital in Iowa City at the age of 21 years after a 4 year battle with Hodgkin’s Lymphoma.

Jeremy accepted Christ as his Savior and was a part of the Cornerstone Christian Church.

He is survived by his parents: Norman and Marilyn Beachy; six brothers and two sisters: Rodney Beachy of St. Ansgar, Mervin (Cherlyn) Beachy and family of Zumbrota, Minn.; Rhonda (Denny) Lehman and family of Rozet, Wyoming, Loran (Mary Ann) Beachy and family of Antigo, Wisconsin, Jenette (Joel) Bear and family of Hopewell, Ohio, Roger Beachy of St. Ansgar; Sanford Beachy and Gareth Beachy at home; maternal grandfather: Earl Amstutz; five nieces and four nephews.

He was preceded in death by a stillborn brother: Gabriel; his paternal grandparents: Jonas and Magdalena Beachy; and his maternal grandmother: Rosina (Earl) Amstutz.

The Beachy family gives heartfelt thanks to everyone for their kindness on this journey with Jeremy’s health. Thank-you for the prayers, mail, help, flowers, food, calls, and other thoughtfulness. It was much appreciated. God bless each of you!

Hauser Weishaar Funeral Home, Charles City, Iowa, is in charge of local arrangements. Online condolences may be left on the Tribute Wall for the family at [www.hauserfh.com](http://www.hauserfh.com).

### Sarah Jane Gingerich 1937 - 2025



Sarah Jane Gingerich, 87, died Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at her home in rural Riverside.

Jane was born Sept. 19, 1937, in Washington County, Iowa, the daughter of Emmanuel and Magdalena (Miller) Swartzendruber. She graduated from IMS in 1956, and attended courses to become a C.N.A.

On Aug. 17, 1959, Sarah was united in marriage to Mahlon Joseph Gingerich at Sharon Evangelical Church. The couple made their home in the rural Riverside area, raising two daughters together.

Sarah worked in housekeeping at Mercy Hospital and was a C.N.A. at Pleasantview Home for many years. She enjoyed puzzles, reading, bird-watching, and was an avid St. Louis Cardinal baseball fan. Jane was a wonderful mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She loved spending time with family.

Jane is survived by two daughters: Anita (Robert) Kanagy and Carmen (Johnny) Schwartz both of Wellman; seven grandchildren: Cory Kanagy, Fairlight (Scott) McGuire, Albert (Laura) Schwartz, Sar-

ah (Hayden) Duty, Anne (Kermit) Maggert, Madeline (David) Ebersole, and Kathryn (Jay) Feller; 11 great-grandchildren and one on the way; two brothers: Robert (Doris) Swartzendruber of Iowa City and Dale (Vicky) Swartzendruber of Bettendorf; and sister: Carol Campion of West Branch.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband: Mahlon; three sisters and three brothers.

Funeral services were held Monday, May 19, 2025, at Yoder-Powell Funeral Home in Kalona. Pastor Larry Rediger officiated. Burial was in the Sharon Hill Cemetery. A general memorial fund has been established.

The Yoder-Powell Funeral Home is caring for Jane and her family. [www.powellfuneralhomes.com](http://www.powellfuneralhomes.com)

### Jerry A. Fankouser 1952 - 2025



Jerry A. Fankhauser, 73, longtime resident of Lone Tree, died in his man cave at his home surrounded by his family and his stuff on Sunday, Feb. 9, 2025.

Services celebrating Jerry’s life will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, June 7, 2025, beginning at the Lone Tree Cemetery followed by refreshments and fellowship in the city park across from the cemetery.

To share a thought, memory or condolence with his family please visit Gay & Ciha Funeral and Cremation Service website at [www.gayandciha.com](http://www.gayandciha.com).

### Dorothy (Dottie) Fern Yutzy 1944 - 2025



Dorothy (Dottie) Fern Yutzy, 80, of Coralville, passed away Friday, May 16, 2025, at Lantern Park Care Facility. Her body has been cremated, and a private family celebration of life is planned. The Beatty Peterseim Funeral Home is assisting the family.

Dorothy Yutzy was born Nov. 20, 1944, in Rapid City, South Dakota, the daughter of Roman and Frances (Gerig) Yutzy. She graduated from Iowa Mennonite School.

Dottie worked for Continental/United Airlines and thoroughly enjoyed her job. She was proud that airplanes always left her gate on time! Her final assignment with the airlines moved her to Alaska where she retired. She liked living in Alaska and attended the Iditarod every year.

During her life she enjoyed

traveling around the world and treasured time with her family.

Survivors include her son: David (Toni) Hof; three grandsons: Nick, Josh and Colton Hof; great-grandson: Wesley Hof; three sisters: Mary Dachtler of Iowa City, Linda Stodulski of Hopewell, Virginia, and Charity Schlabaugh of Tiffin; and many nieces and nephews.

Preceding Dorothy in death were her parents; two sisters: Bert DeHerrera and Lois Bava; and one brother: Nicholas Yutzy; brothers-in-law: John Dachtler and Robert Stodulski.

## IDRIS CLUB

Idris Club met May 13 for their last meeting of the year and enjoyed lunch provided by Kalona Rotary . Mid-Prairie students provided singing and playing their instruments.

Those attending were Doris Greiner, Ruth Hershberger,

Anna Hochstetler, Jeannie Jones, Pam Kral, Brenda Miller, Karen Plank, Joyce Ropp, Vicky Ropp, Marlene Yoder, and Jan Dotson.

The next meeting will be in September at Marlene Yoder’s home for a brunch.

Send us: Birthday, Engagement, Wedding, New Arrival, and Retirement announcements.  
**ADMIN@THENEWS-IA.COM**

## WELLMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Summer Reading registration is open! We are excited to offer programming for all ages this summer. Head over to our website at [www.wellmanlibrary.org](http://www.wellmanlibrary.org) to learn more.

The Riverboat Room was filled Tuesday evening with laughter and chaos as participants hurried their way through our first Panic with the Pros painting event. Interested in painting at the library? We will be enjoying a much calmer painting experience at our next Painting with the Pros in July.

Be sure to join us for a fun evening of games at our upcoming Game Night on Tuesday, May 27 at 6:30 in the Riverboat Room.

Newtoourshelvesthisweek:

**Children’s Books:** Miss MacDonald Has a Farm by Kalee Gwarjanski; When We Gather: A Cherokee Tribal Fest by Andrea L. Roger; The Juneteenth Cookbook by Agostini & Elrod; Don’t Trust Fish by Neil Sharpson

**Juniors & Young Adult Books:** Survival of the Fittest: Who Will Come Out on Top? by Rebecca Donnelly; It Watches in the Dark by Jeff Strand; El Escape de la Robot Salvage by Peter Brown; 10 Things I Hate About Prom by Elle Gonzalez Rose; Bear and Bird: The Stars and Other Stories by Jarvis; Greenwild: The City Beyond the Sea by Pari Thompson; I Survived: True Stories of Five Epic Disasters by Lauren Tarshis; Ghost Roast by

Shawnelle Gibbs; Queen Bee by Amalie Howard

**Adult Books:** The Summer of You and Me by Denise Hunter; Fortune Harbor by Davis Bunn; Great Big Beautiful Life by Emily Henry; This Spells Love by Kate Robb; The Book Will Bury Me by Ashley Winstead; Strangers in Time by David Baldacci; Summer in the City by Alex Aster; 2 Sisters Murder Investigation by James Patterson; The Maid’s Secret by Nita Prose; The Next Conversation by Jefferson Fisher

**Large Print:** Still See You Everywhere by Lisa Gardner

Be sure to follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and our website to stay up to date on events happening at the library!

complete with fun side-quests, and participate in activities like our Mario Kart Tournament, Cat Cafe, a tie dye day, and other crafts.

Our adult logs are filled with fun reading challenges and activities. We invite them to participate in our summer Tuesday evening events that will include a Tea Party, craft nights, Cook Around the World, and more!

Registration for all ages is open online at [wellmanlibrary.org](http://wellmanlibrary.org)!

Summer is quickly approaching, leaving us all looking forward to trips to the pool, warm days, and sunshine. We at the Wellman Public Library are excited for our favorite part of summer, our annual Summer Reading Program. Join us at the library for a summer filled with reading, fun activities, and more!

This year, we’re changing things up and expanding our programming to include all ages. New this year is our Tots Summer Reading. Chil-

dren ages 0-5 will be able to fill out their own reading logs and participate in our weekly story time activities.

Our children’s program will kick things off with us at the Wellman Skating Rink on June 6. The summer will be filled with fun events such as the Coldblooded Redhead and her reptiles, creating rhythms with Fonziba African Drums, and immersing yourself in bubbles at Foam Zone!

Teens are invited to join us to complete their reading log,

order to provide easier access to programming.

Through their series of Tuesday evening events, the community has been able to taste the flavors of countries such as Pakistan, Vietnam, Spain, Ethiopia, and more through their Cook Around the World series. They have explored the creative arts of painting, string art, paint pouring, and more. They have learned about gardening, gluten free baking, and traveling Italy. From Tea Parties to Murder on the Menu, the commu-

nity has enjoyed gathering.

For the Puzzle Competition Fundraiser, teams will have 90 minutes to complete a 500-piece puzzle. The first round will feature teams of two, beginning at 5:00. The second round will feature teams of four, beginning at 7:00. Participants are welcome to register their teams for one or both rounds. Each round is \$10/person.

Registration can be found on the library’s website at [www.wellmanlibrary.org](http://www.wellmanlibrary.org). Spaces are filling quickly, so be sure to secure your spot soon.

## SENIOR DINING MENUS MAY 22 - 29

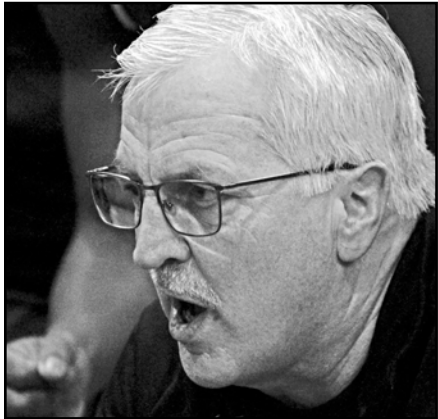
**Goodwin Senior Dining**  
Friday – Chicken salad on croissant, pasta salad, apple pie bars  
Monday – Memorial Day breakfast fundraiser  
Wednesday – Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes & gravy, green bean casserole, brickle bars  
Call before 9 a.m., 319-646-2711. Cost for meal is \$8. Begin-

ning May 1, Goodwin Senior Dining will only serve Monday, Wednesday and Friday.  
**Lone Tree Senior Dining**  
Thursday – Mozzarella chicken, cheesy hashbrowns, carrots, mixed fruit  
Friday – Pork-rites, coleslaw, applesauce, ice cream  
Monday – No meals  
Tuesday – Baked fish, baked potato, carrots, mandarin or-

anges  
Wednesday - \*\*Hot turkey sandwich, mashed potatoes & gravy, corn, rosey applesauce, dessert  
Thursday – Pulled pork sandwich, baked beans, mixed fruit  
Make reservations by 10 a.m. Call 319-629-5144  
\*\*Call for reservations AT LEAST 2 days in Advance



DWIGHT GINGERICH  
Continued from Page 1A



PAUL D. BOWKER/THE NEWS

Hillcrest now faces the task of not only replacing its legendary basketball coach, but also its school principal. Gingerich’s last official day is June 30.

A school official said the board intended to make a statement later this week.

The legacy of Gingerich includes the gym floor at Hillcrest Union being named in his honor. It was there that he won his 700th career game in 2021. He is known by other coaches and basketball referees statewide. There are few Hillcrest athletic events and activities held that don’t include Gingerich watching as

he chats with Raven parents and supporters.

More than 20 years have passed since Gingerich was an interim head coach at Goshen. In that one season, 2000-01, he was named conference co-coach of the year. He returned to IMS for the 2001-02 school year.

Goshen, an NAIA school that competes in the Crosslands League, won just five games this past season, but that was a three-year high.

“I am thrilled that Dwight will join the Goshen College community in these important leadership roles,” Goshen President Rebecca

Stoltzfus said. “Dwight is exceptionally qualified for this dual role with a long and distinguished career that has demonstrated educational leadership and exceptionally competitive basketball coaching. He is fully committed to the student-athlete experience, creating a faith-based culture of excellence, and brings a combination of passion, composure and discipline.”

Gingerich earned his bachelor’s degree in health and physical education at Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg, Virginia, and a master’s degree in counselor

education at the University of Iowa. He has served on the Board of Directors at Hesston College, but his connection to Goshen includes his wife and his children going there.

“Our family loved our time at Goshen,” Gingerich said, “and I am very grateful to President Stoltzfus and the search committee for this opportunity to return. I am excited to lean into the college’s core values of Christ centeredness, passionate learning, servant leadership, compassionate peacemaking and global citizenship as we work together to grow Maple Leafs athletics.”

Last minute legislation threatens public safety, 911 professionals warn

The Iowa Chapters of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) and the National Emergency Number Association (NENA) are sounding the alarm over a quietly passed provision in the final hour of the 2025 legislative session that threatens to destabilize 911 operations across the state and compromise public safety for all Iowans.

Division XII, Section 42 of the standings appropriations bill – now enacted as Iowa Code Section 34A.12 – grants the Iowa 911 Program the authority to charge local 911 service boards for undefined “reasonable costs” associated with delivering 911 traffic to Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs). These costs must be paid within 30 days of billing, with no clarity on the amounts, timing, or billing process.

“These bills could have drastic implications on our local 911 budgets,” Cara Sorrells, 911 Supervisor for Washington County, said.

“Not only was this provision passed in the middle of the night without stakeholder input, but the legislature had also previously failed to advance it out of a full committee in the House,” said Chris Jasper, President of Iowa NENA. “There are serious unintended consequences for every Iowan if this law takes effect. Local 911 boards and dispatch centers already operate on razor-thin budgets. Surprise bills from the state could lead to staffing

cuts, delayed equipment upgrades, and slower emergency response – especially in rural communities.”

Iowa APCO and NENA, representing the front-line professionals who ensure emergency calls are answered, routed, and supported by life-saving technology, are urging Governor Kim Reynolds to veto this legislation and work collaboratively with local stakeholders to ensure a fair, sustainable path forward for Iowa’s emergency communication system.

“We fully support statewide 911 system improvements – but not at the expense of local readiness,” Jasper added. “This law is an unfunded mandate that threatens to undermine Iowa’s emergency communications network when Iowans need it most.”

Throughout the 2025 session, APCO and NENA engaged with lawmakers in a transparent, solutions-focused manner, seeking clarity and fairness in any statewide policy changes to 911 operations. This last-minute provision – Division XII: Emergency Communication Services in Senate File 659 – circumvents that process and undermines that collaboration.

APCO and NENA remain committed to partnering with the state to modernize Iowa’s 911 infrastructure but will continue to advocate fiercely for the local dispatch centers that serve as Iowa’s first, first responders.

Riverside Memorial Day services

On Wednesday, May 21, members of the VFW Post #6414 Riverside will place flags and crosses at the graves of veterans who are laid to rest at St Vincent and St. Stanislaus cemeteries beginning at 9:30 a.m.

On Thursday, May 22, poles for the flags will be placed at Mt. Olivet Cemetery and the Riverside Public Cemetery at 10 a.m.

On Friday, May 23, flags and crosses will be placed at Mt. Olivet Cemetery and the Riverside Public Cemetery beginning at 6 p.m. Volunteers from the community are welcome to help with the placement of the flags and crosses.

On Sunday, May 25, the Avenue of Flags will be raised at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, the Riverside Public Cemetery, and the Riverside Veteran’s Memorial Park at 7 a.m. Volunteers from

the community are welcome to help.

On Monday, May 26, Memorial Day Services will be held at 10 a.m. at the Riverside Public Cemetery. The order of the program will be:

- America the Beautiful sung by Cindy Michel
  - Opening prayer recited by Bev Schneider
  - Placing of the bouquets acknowledging all wars – Riverside Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, and Girl Scouts.
  - Memorial Day Address by Rob Quinn
  - Star Spangled Banner sung by Cindy Michel
  - Veterans of Foreign Wars Presentation of Arms
  - Taps
- Memorial Day Services will continue with the VFW Post #6414 Honor Guard and VFW Auxiliary Color Bearers traveling on to St. Vincent’s Cemetery at approximately 10:30 am and St. Stanislaus Cemetery at approximately 11 a.m. with the Presentation of Arms. The last stop will be at the English River Bridge south of Riverside at approximately 11:30 a.m. to honor those Lost at Sea.
- The VFW Honor Guard and VFW Auxiliary Color Bearers will retire to the VFW Post #6414 where a luncheon will be served by the VFW Auxiliary to honor all veterans at noon. All veterans and their guests are invited to attend.
- On Monday, May 26, the flags and crosses will be taken down at 5 p.m. Volunteers from the community are welcome to help.
- In case of rain the Memorial Day services will be held at the VFW Post #6414, 1259 Riverside Road, Riverside.

National Pilgrimage to stop in Riverside Thursday

A historic cross-country pilgrimage is coming to eastern Iowa, offering a rare and moving opportunity to reflect on faith, community, and the presence of Christ. The 2025 National Eucharistic Pilgrimage will pass through the Diocese of Davenport from May 21 to 23, with events planned in Burlington, Mount Pleasant, Washington, Riverside, Iowa City, and Davenport.

The pilgrimage, part of a national initiative from the U.S. Catholic Church, is making its way from Indianapolis to Los Angeles. Along the way, participants are walking and praying through cities and towns, stopping for public events that invite people from all walks of life to encounter the heart of the Catholic faith.

In Riverside, the procession will begin at St. Mary Catholic Church, 51 St. Mary’s Street, with exposition at noon, and then proceed through Riverside to the Old Railway Walking Trail, ending at St. Francis Veterinary Clinic, 3030 IA-22.

The 1.7-mile procession will include several stops for times of prayer; bus transportation will be provided from the clinic back to St. Mary Catholic Church at 2 p.m. In case of inclement weather, there will be a prolonged time of Eucharistic Adoration at St. Mary Catholic Church.

“It’s a wonderful honor for us to welcome this pilgrimage into our diocese,” said Bishop Dennis Walsh, Bishop of the Diocese of Davenport. “Whether you’re Catholic or not, we hope people across eastern Iowa will come out to experience this moment—one that brings people together in hope, prayer, and joy. We encourage everyone to be part of it and share it with their neighbors.” Events will take place across several communities each day. On Wednesday, May 21, the pilgrimage will stop in Burlington, West Burlington, and Mount Pleasant. On Thursday, May 22, gatherings will be held in Washington, Riverside, Iowa City, and Davenport. On

Friday, May 23, the final day of the local visit, events will be centered at

St. Anthony Catholic Church in Davenport.

The pilgrimage is an opportunity to reconnect with something deeper, especially in a world that often feels noisy and divided. Organizers say it is a reminder that we all hunger for meaning, for connection, and for love that lasts.

Bishop Walsh emphasized the potential to bring people together in a time when unity is often hard to find.

“This pilgrimage reminds us that faith isn’t just something private — it’s something we’re called to live out in the world,” he said. “Walking together, praying together, being present to one another, that’s how we show the world what hope looks like.”

All events are open to the public. For more information and to register for specific events, please visit the official event page at [www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org](http://www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org).

EARLY

DEADLINE WILL BE 10 A.M. ON FRIDAY

DEADLINE

LOCAL CHURCH SERVICES

<p><b>AINSWORTH</b> <b>Ainsworth Community Church:</b> Ainsworth, Worship Sunday 10:30 a.m.; Kids Club Wed 6:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>HILLS</b> <b>Atrium Village:</b> 117 3rd St, Hills. <a href="http://www.atriumvillagehills.com/events-happenings">www.atriumvillagehills.com/events-happenings</a>. Mass &amp; Rosary schedule: Tuesday - Friday 8 a.m. in Chapel located inside facility.</p> <p><b>St. Joseph Catholic Church:</b> Hills, Pastor: Father David Paintsil, 319-679-2271; Carol Kaalberg, 319-330-5324. <a href="http://www.StsMaryandJoseph.com">www.StsMaryandJoseph.com</a>. Mass schedule: Sunday 10 a.m.</p>	<p>Swartzentruber, 319-683-2372; Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>Kalona Mennonite Church:</b> 6th Street &amp; J Ave., 656-2736, <a href="http://kalonamennonitechurch.com">kalonamennonitechurch.com</a>; Pastor: Don Patterson; Sunday Worship service at 9:30 a.m.; Live-streamed on Facebook. Sunday School at 10:30 a.m. All ages.</p> <p><b>Kalona United Methodist Church:</b> 4th St. &amp; C Ave. 319-656-2642, <a href="http://www.kalonaumc.org">www.kalonaumc.org</a>; Pastor: Lisa Crow; Sunday Worship: 9 a.m. Fellowship following. Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>Lower Deer Creek Mennonite Church:</b> 1408 540th St. SW 319-656-2076, <a href="http://ldcmc.org">http://ldcmc.org</a>, Email: <a href="mailto:donna@ldcmc.org">donna@ldcmc.org</a>; Pastor: Steve Nelson; Sunday Worship: 10 a.m. Sunday School: 9 a.m.</p> <p><b>Sharon Bethel Mennonite Church:</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Sharon Center United Methodist Church:</b> Rural Johnson County at corner of James Ave &amp; 520th St. 319-683-2564; <a href="http://Sharoncenterumc.wordpress.com">Sharoncenterumc.wordpress.com</a>; Pastor Olympia Marcos Muller; 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.</p> <p><b>Sunnyside Conservative Mennonite Church:</b> 501 14th St. 319-656-2688; Pastors: Marv Bender and Floyd Helmut; Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m. &amp; 6:30 p.m. Sunday School: 10:45 a.m.</p>	<p>319-330-5324. <a href="http://www.StsMaryandJoseph.com">www.StsMaryandJoseph.com</a>. Saturday Mass: 4 p.m.</p> <p><b>United Presbyterian Church of Lone Tree:</b> 110 W Elm St; 629-4900 <a href="http://www.lonetreeowachurch.com">www.lonetreeowachurch.com</a>; Sunday: Worship: 10 a.m. Sunday School 10:15</p> <p><b>NICHOLS</b> <b>Nichols Christian Church:</b> 607 Grant Ave; 319-723-4346; Sunday Services: Worship 9 a.m.; Sunday school: 10:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>Nichols United Methodist Church:</b> 315 Main; 319-723-4585; Pastors: Mary &amp; Don Timmermann; Sunday Services 9 a.m. Family Worship Service with Children’s Message</p> <p><b>St. Mary’s Catholic Church:</b> Short St &amp; Grand Ave; Pastor: Father David Paintsil, 319-679-2271; Carol Kaalberg, 319-330-5324. <a href="http://www.StsMaryandJoseph.com">www.StsMaryandJoseph.com</a>. Sunday Mass: 8 a.m.</p>	<p><b>SOUTH ENGLISH</b> <b>English River Church of the Brethren:</b> 29252 137th St. (Hwy 22 between South English &amp; Kinross) 319-667-5235; Sunday Worship: 10 a.m. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>TIFFIN</b> <b>First Global Methodist Church at Tiffin:</b> 1100 Tall Grass Ave; 319-545-2065; Pastor: Rev. Ruby T. Bongan; Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.</p> <p><b>WELLMAN</b> <b>Asbury United Methodist Church:</b> 601 8th Ave. 319-646-2417; Pastor: Lisa Crow; Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>First Baptist Church:</b> 600 4th St., 319-646-2254; Pastor: Pastor Mark Larson; 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.</p> <p><b>Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd:</b> Pastor: Gary Sears. Missouri Synod; 5th St. &amp; 4th Ave. Saturday Worship: 5 p.m.</p> <p><b>New Life Community Church:</b> meets at Parkside Activities Center, office located at 214 8th Ave, 319-674-9057, Office hours: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Mon-Fri. <a href="http://www.newlifewellman.org">www.newlifewellman.org</a>; Pastor: Aaron Fleming, 646-2390; Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.</p> <p><b>Salem Mennonite Fellowship:</b> 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.</p>	<p><b>West Union Mennonite Church:</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Zion Christian Fellowship:</b> 1308 Madison Ave. Pastor: Elvin Martin. Worship: 9:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>WEST CHESTER</b> <b>West Chester Community Church:</b> 403 Franklin Street, 319-698-4665; Richard Grimm, interim pastor; Sunday 10:45 a.m.</p> <p><b>WASHINGTON</b> <b>New Hope Mennonite Church,</b> 1506 N. 5th Ave.; Pastors: Gabriel Beachy, Elwyn Stutzman, Matthew Petersheim; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday school 9:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>Immanuel Lutheran Church (ELCA):</b> 1226 E Washington St. 319-653-3950; Pastor: Susan Debrner; Sunday Worship &amp; Communion Service: 9 a.m., website: <a href="http://luthwash.org">luthwash.org</a>. Current info on church phone recording, 319-653-3950</p> <p><b>Prairie Flower Baptist Church:</b> 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, <a href="http://prairieflowerbaptistchurch.org">prairieflowerbaptistchurch.org</a></p> <p><b>St. James Parish:</b> 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. <a href="http://stjameswashington.org">stjameswashington.org</a></p> <p><b>United Methodist Church:</b> 206 W 2nd St. 319-653-5446; Pastor: Anthony M. Devaughn; Traditional Worship 10 a.m.; Sunday School (during school year only) 9 a.m.; <a href="http://Washingtonumc.com">Washingtonumc.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Washington Reformed Presbyterian,</b> Washington; Sabbath School 9:45 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.</p>
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Lone Tree Future Pathways Parade

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, LONE TREE | PHOTOS BY CHERYL ALLEN

Where do Lone Tree’s 2025 graduates see themselves in the future? Some are headed into the workforce, others to college. They aim to become welders and estheticians, social workers and large animal veterinarians. They’ll attend a range of colleges, including DMACC, Simpson College, William Penn, University of Kansas, University of Iowa, and University of Northern Iowa. On Wednesday afternoon, they tossed candy to younger students screaming with excitement during the Future Pathways Parade, where they revealed their plans through shirts and signage.



Return to the one-room schoolhouse

Byways specialty tour provides thought-provoking look into Amish schools

BY CHERYL ALLEN  
The News

KALONA

When we step inside Middleburg School, I’m hit with a powerful sense of nostalgia. Those desks filling the one-room schoolhouse – I had one of those, my parents procuring it from a school sale when I was small. The printed and cursive alphabet strung across the front of the classroom, sandwiched between two lines with a dotted one through the center to guide shape and proportion – I learned to write looking at something similar. The shelf of Laura Ingalls Wilder books – I read all of those when I was young.

What feels like the past to me is an Old Order Amish school located in rural Kalona where 11 students are finishing their year. On the surface it may seem I have little in common with those students, given I grew up in a modern metro of 1 million, but perhaps there is something

timeless about the process of learning that connects us.

That’s the thing about the Country School Houses tour, a specialty tour offered in May by the Kalona Chamber of Commerce – it evokes memories for everyone involved in it, from driver Daniel Nisly and fellow tourists to our hosts at the schools. No matter our own pasts, as country school students or not, we all end up telling each other stories over the course of the two-hour expedition.

The Middleburg School is our first stop, and it’s here that Perry Hershberger shares with us the history of the oldest school on the tour, originally built in 1865. It became an Amish school in 1972, and the fourth generation of Hershberger’s family attends here.

Our second stop is Meadow Lane School, a New Order Amish school originally built in the 1980s. Although its clear the building is more than 100 years

younger than Middleburg’s, the classroom space bears a family resemblance; however, this building contains something Middleburg does not: a Sunday School. We step inside and admire what looks like a condensed sanctuary, with rows of pews laden with hymnals; peeking inside them, we find they are in German.

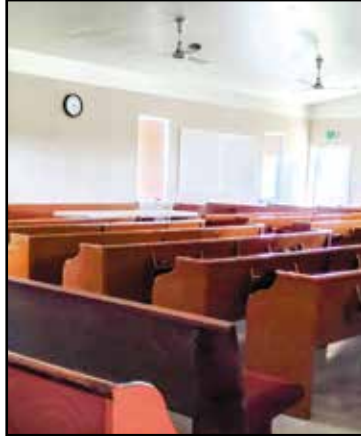
Sunday Schools are not typical for Amish communities, we learn; however, the Kalona area has three of them. It is here that Amish will attend on alternating weeks for a more educational type of Sunday worship.

Sharon Bethel School is our third stop; about 30 students currently attend here, similar to the number attending Meadow Lane. However, this Beachy Amish School offers additional grade levels; while the other two schools go through 8th grade, Sharon Bethel extends to 12th grade. Students store their belongings in lockers, and a computer is set up in the high

MIDDLEBURG SCHOOL



MEADOW LANE SCHOOL



SHARON BETHEL SCHOOL



school grades classroom. All of the students eat together in the lunchroom alongside their three teachers; multiple microwaves are available for them to heat the food they bring.

There is a lot to learn on the Country School Tour, about the history of education in this area, both Amish and English, and it offers not only a visual feast, but food for thought. The specialty tour is offered on three more dates this May; if you have an interest in history or education, or simply would like to see and understand a different aspect of rural Kalona, consider signing up.

Country School Tours are offered on Saturday, May 24 from 10 a.m. to noon; Tuesday, May 27 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.; and Saturday, May 31 from 10 a.m. to noon. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$15 youth, 6 and under free. For reservations, contact the Kalona Chamber at 319-656-2660.

PHOTOS BY  
CHERYL ALLEN  
THE NEWS



COMEBACK/Continued from Page 1A

tion that our teachers do on a daily basis. We have it laid out very specifically, what they teach, how many minutes, the feedback they give to students, what they grade, what they put in the grade book, how we re-teach and assess.”

Teachers stay on top of the data they gather from tests, scrutinizing what students are missing and going back to cover material not grasped the first time around.

“In the area of math, we feel it’s a little more clear as to why the gains are so significant, and we do attribute that to our math curriculum that we adopted, and we hope that stays consistent,” Jacque says.

Things are murkier in ELA, she explains, as literacy testing includes both reading comprehension and writing. At present, the school’s writing program is its strength.

“One of the things that we do consistently across all grade levels, starting in kindergarten, is we teach the same writing program, the same strategies for writing,” Jacque says. “We use the same three color highlighters in every single grade level, the same T-charts, the same way we brainstorm. And then each year what it does is just builds up to a higher expectation by the time you get to fifth grade.”

In the classroom, teachers use the same rubric to evaluate student writing as the ISASP does, so students are familiar with what is expected on state test day.

Reading comprehension is an area the school is working to strengthen. The ISASP measures this by looking at how much students can read in one minute, and “not everybody’s a fast reader.” But teachers have found that if students don’t master phonics by the end of second grade, they continue to struggle with reading comprehension going forward.

“So this year we adopted a phonics program,” Jacque says. “Grades kindergarten, first and second all do the same program, teaching the sounds, putting letters together to make words, breaking words apart. It’s very systematic and builds on each other. So we’re hoping that will be a nice piece to add, so that our kids, by the



Point of pride: Lone Tree Elementary has a new sign over the main entrance, reminding students and staff that they belong to a High Performing school, according to their 2024 state report card.

time they get to second grade, they’re fluent readers and we can just focus on comprehension.”

Curricula are one of the changes Lone Tree Elementary has made to improve student learning, but there are others that, although broader, are also important. One is attendance. “Obviously, if you’re not at school, you can’t learn. So we have really focused on that,” Jacque says. In 2024, 13% of students were chronically absent – that is, they missed more than 10% of school days. This year, that number is closer to 1%, Jacque says.

Another is small class sizes for kindergarten, first, and second grades. “We asked the board to allow us to have two sections in grades K-2, no matter what, within reason . . . so that we can maximize all of the foundational learning that we need to.”

Using the earliest hours of the day, when students are most fresh and focused, for instruction in primary subjects like math and ELA is another change the elementary school has made.

“We sort of analyzed our barriers,” Jacque says, and having art and music classes first thing may have been one of them. Now, “we maximize the entire morning for literacy and math.”

And finally, the school doesn’t get distracted.

“They don’t really refer to me as a fun-hater as much anymore,” Jacque says, but she’s serious about sticking to the daily

schedule and not allowing interruptions. “School can still be fun and you can do fun things, but you really have to capture and secure that learning time. I mean, we only have 163 days this year.”

Of course, success is only possible if students and teachers also buy in, and at Lone Tree, they have. Jacque says her teachers are “phenomenal,” “dedicated,” and “really focused. They don’t get offended by looking at data. They change their instruction.”

Jacque herself talks with “every single third, fourth, and fifth grader about their individual test scores from last year. [We] talk about where they were, what it means, what we think they can do,” she says. This, along with things like assemblies to prepare them for state assessments, gets the students focused and excited.

Today when those students walk through the main entrance each morning, a prominent new sign reminds them that they are entering a High Performing school. And although that sign looks permanent and perhaps not inexpensive, one imagines the school won’t mind replacing it with another when the time comes. Because the top performance rating category for a school is absolutely within reach. Exceptional.

Having come back from where they once were, with the majority of 188 students proficient in math and ELA this year, isn’t Lone Tree Elementary already that?

MOTHER OF WASP  
Continued from Page 1A

it would take him 26 days to reach, all the while bringing attention to the WASP.

Through the course of his travels, Ritland was able to visit the gravesites of four of the 38 fallen WASP. All of them are buried near their parents, but none of the mothers had Gold Star Mother grave markers, he realized.

“Since the WASP were not actually members of the military during World War II, I thought maybe the mothers of the 38 fallen are not eligible for the Gold Star Mother recognition,” he said. “I sent a couple of emails asking different groups, like veterans’ organizations, an Iowa senator, a couple of military museums, if the 38 mothers of the 38 fallen WASP were eligible to be recognized as Gold Star Mothers. Surprisingly, nobody could supply an answer. However, it was suggested I contact America’s Gold Star Families.

“The reply from America’s Gold Star Families was swift, brief, and it left no doubt: ‘We have concluded they are indeed Gold Star. Thank you for following up to ensure they are rightfully honored,’” he continued. Ritland obtained the Gold Star Mother grave markers, and now Iowa’s two WASP mothers have them installed by their headstones.

“It is my hope that the word will spread, and other mothers of fallen WASP will be recognized with a Gold Star Mother grave marker,” he said.

HIGHLAND HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2025  
GRADUATION CEREMONIES WERE HELD SUNDAY, MAY 18 | PHOTOS BY ROGER WEBER



HILLCREST ACADEMY’S SPRING MUSIC CONCERT  
BANDS AND CHOIRS PERFORMED ON SUNDAY, MAY 18 AT CELEBRATION HALL | PHOTOS BY JEFF YODER





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CLAIR J. AND HAZEL J. BAILEY	W. C. (RED) YODER BY HIS CHILDREN	CHARLES (BUD) JIRSA BY ELMA JIRSA & FAMILY	H. E. (SHORT) PETERSEIM BY THE FAMILY	HOWARD SPREACKER BY HIS FAMILY	WAYNE M. YODER BY STEVE KELLY
REYER VAN AKEN BY DR. CHARLES AND MARTHA BECKMAN	KEVIN J. ROWLAND & ROYAL S. FLEISHMAN BY FERN MCNEAL	ARLIS & JAMES STUMPF BY SARAH STUMPF	ORA BOONE BY DAN & MARY BOONE	JENS & ORPHA KRAMER	ALFRED DEAN GRADY BY HIS SISTERS
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CLIFFORD & ELIZABETH BRAUNER	ROLAND MAXWELL	ARLLIS NIFFENEGGER BY THE NIFFENEGGER FAMILY	REECE TRUSLER BY LOVELLE TRUSLER	SAM & MAUDE YODER BY PAUL & EDITH YODER	DONALD STAGNER BY HIS FAMILY
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VERNON G. STAGNER	EDWARD F. & ELSIE HAVEL BY EILEEN HAVEL	ARDEN SAFOREK BY HIS FAMILY	KERMIT EHRENFELT	VIC RITZ BY ADELAIDE RITZ	GAIL AND VIRGINIA SWARTZENDRUBER BY THEIR FAMILY
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# The News SPORTS

THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2025

## Mid-Prairie girls light up the night with district victory

BY PAUL D. BOWKER  
The News

MONTICELLO

They turned the lights out on the Golden Hawks one night last week.

While a group of Mid-Prairie track athletes, including three-time winner Jeorgia Evans, tried to take one last selfie last Thursday night at Monticello High School's stadium, the lights went out. All of them.

No matter. The Golden Hawks just laughed. Late into the night, they just didn't want to leave.

The night had become so historic in a number of ways. Evans set school records in all three individual events she competed in: long jump, and 100- and 200-meter runs. She joined sister Jovi Evans, best friend Tessa Bombei and Myli Hershberger for a win in the 4x100 relay.

Rachel Hostetler, another freshman, qualified for this week's state track and field championships in three individual events: 800, 1500 and 3000.

With just one senior on the starting sheets, the Golden Hawks won a 2A district title and headed to Des Moines with five relay teams and qualifiers in eight individual events.

The Golden Hawks scored 169 points and defeated runner-up Tipton by 69.

"We had a great meet," head

## HAWKS SOAR ONWARD TO STATE



PAUL D. BOWKER/THE NEWS

Mid-Prairie's girls track team celebrates its 2A district championship last Thursday at Monticello.



Mid-Prairie's boys track team celebrates its title at a 2A district meet in Monticello last Thursday.

## Mid-Prairie boys flex muscle, speed, and distance for district crown

BY PAUL D. BOWKER  
The News

MONTICELLO

Mid-Prairie's boys track and field team has the muscle, the distance and the speed.

The Golden Hawks combined all three to win last Thursday's 2A district meet in Monticello and head to this week's state track championships in Des Moines with eight individual qualifiers and three relay teams.

Additionally, wheelchair racer Jayden Stafford, a senior, heads to Drake as the defending state champion in four events: 100, 200, 400 and 800.

Emmett Swartzentruber, a senior who won an individual cross country state championship in 2023, won the 1600- and 3200-meter runs in Monticello. He is the No. 9 and No. 19 seeds in those races.

Burke Berry, a senior, won the shot put with a throw of 56 feet, 4.75 inches, and is the top seed at Drake.

"Certainly, winning never gets old," head coach Dain Jeppson said. "The amount of points that we were able to score shows what a quality team we have. To a coach, it's very satisfying that we've been able to keep the kids out and

## These Golden Hawk sisters can really run



Paul Bowker  
Columnist

When it was time to head for the car in the driveway at the Evans home in Kalona, the race was on.

Jovi Evans would stare down her younger sister, Jeorgia.

Don't get in the way. Here I go.

Who did win?

That's where the memory gets a bit foggy.

When Jovi claims victory, Jeorgia quickly disagrees, her eyes filling quickly with the determination of a competitive sibling rivalry.

"I always won," Jovi said.

"You did not!" Jeorgia shouted.

And there's a laugh. Perhaps it was Jovi knowing that maybe sometimes she won and sometimes Jeorgia won.

Those spirited races point right

## Hillcrest golf returns to state after strong district showing

BY GIOVANNI CORONEL  
The News

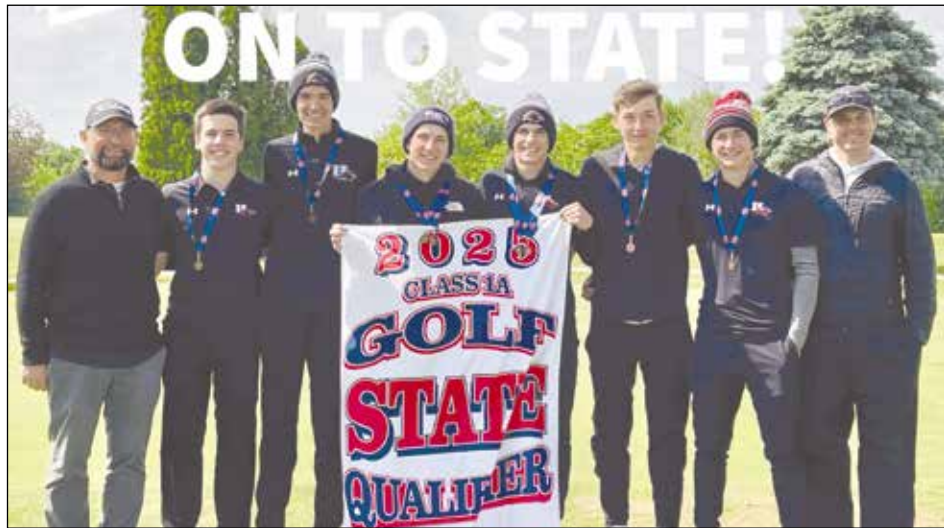
WAPELLO

After falling short of securing back-to-back trips to state last season, Hillcrest boys golf made sure their one year hiatus from the state scene did not become a trend.

Earning the right to continue their season at state, the Ravens traveled to the Heritage Oaks Golf Course in Wapello and earned a top three finish in a 1A boys district meet last Monday.

Winning districts with a low score of 335 was North Linn and Easton Valley was the runner-up with 344. Hillcrest finished with 346 to claim third place.

Liam Schrock has put together a stellar senior year for Hillcrest and



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF HILLCREST ACADEMY SOCIAL MEDIA

(R to L): Co-Head coach Warren Yoder, Matthew Chalupa, Ethan Yoder, Liam Schrock, Rowan Miller, Rylan Good, Lawson Schrock, and Co-Head coach Adam Yoder.

## Highland rallies to defeat Hillcrest in conference tourney



GIOVANNI CORONEL/THE NEWS

Highland soccer celebrates winning a penalty kick shoot out against Hillcrest in the opening round of the SEISC tournament on May 13,

BY GIOVANNI CORONEL  
The News

MEDIAPOLIS

One week removed from battling each other to a draw, the Ravens and the Huskies once again found themselves deadlocked at the end of regulation, but this time a winner was decided.

Coming down to penalty kicks, Highland (7-5-2) earned a thrilling 3-2 victory over Hillcrest (7-4-2) in the opening round of the Southeast Iowa Super Conference Tournament at Mediapolis on May 13.

"We've kind of struggled these last few games finding our rhythm, but I think today just kind of shows what we're capable of if we just stay in the

SEE SEISC SOCCER TOURNEY | PAGE 6B

# ATHLETE of the WEEK

## OWEN SCOTT

HILLCREST JUNIOR

Scott placed first and broke a school record with a new personal best leap of 22-07.75 in the long jump event at 1A state qualifiers in WACO on May 15. This record was previously set in 1999. Scott qualified for the state meet in the long jump and the 400m.

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RIVERSIDE HORSESHOES  
RESULTS - WEEK THREE

	W	L
<b>1. Bud's Meats</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>- 1</b>
Louie Kron & Chris Ockenfels		
<b>2. Simon Repair</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>- 2</b>
Dee Simon & Matt Hora		
<b>3. Mr. Gutter</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>- 2</b>
Dave Edwards & Kerry Janecek		
<b>4. La Chiva Loka</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>- 3</b>
Jake Delay & Wendy Boyse		
<b>5. Edwards Painting</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>- 3</b>
Jenna Delay & Jody Whestine		
<b>6. VFW 6414</b>	<b>21/2</b>	<b>- 31/2</b>
Nate Robinson & Don Edwards		
<b>7. Standard Pest</b>	<b>1 1/2</b>	<b>- 4 1/2</b>
Tim Burda & Matt Rittenmeyer		
<b>8. Yoder Masonry</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>- 5</b>
Wally Walters & Trey Brenneman		

King Of The Hill

La Chiva Loka	vs.	Bud's Meats
21		20



Hillcrest sophomore Marie Yoder qualified for state in the 3000m.

Ravens flock to state with seven tickets punched at qualifier meet

BY GIOVANNI CORONEL  
The News

WAYLAND

This year’s state track and field meet will feature its fair share of Ravens as Hillcrest traveled to WACO last Thursday to compete in a 1A state qualifier meet and earned seven bids to state.

Leading the boys team (10th place with 33 team points) was Owen Scott as the standout junior broke the school record in the long jump with a first place leap of 22-07.75. The previous school record was set in 1999 by Zach Grimm.

Owen Scott automatically qualified to state in the long jump with his first berth to state. The junior ended up being a double qualifier as his runner-up personal best finish in the 400m (53.21) punched a second ticket to state.

This is the third straight year Owen Scott has qualified for state in the long jump, placing third last year with a jump of 21-07.75.

Joining Owen Scott at the Blue Oval is Kale Bailey, who earned his first berth to state. The Hillcrest sophomore will be headed to state to compete in the high jump after he placed fourth at WACO by clearing the bar at 6-00.00.

A triple state qualifier for Hillcrest was Rya Scott who led the girls team (7th place with 57 team points) with a pair of top five finishes in individual events.

Rya Scott, a junior, will travel to Des Moines to compete in the 100m and the 200m as she finished as the runner-up (13.06) and in fifth place (27.39) respectively. This is the second straight year she has earned the right to finish her season at state.

Another individual qualifier for Hillcrest was Marie Yoder as the sophomore was the runner-up in the 3000m (11:25.91) to punch her ticket to state for the second consecutive year. Yoder also placed second in the 1500m (5:23.47).

The 4x200m relay team of Rya Scott, Stavia Miller, Karina Bourha, and Niva Helmuth ran a season best time of 1:50.08 to place second.

This finish was an amazing accomplishment for this group as it was with-

in less than 0.1 seconds of the school record. The speedy quartet will also be heading to state as the seventh and final event Hillcrest qualified for.

Up next for Hillcrest is making the trip to Des Moines to compete in the Iowa High School State Track and Field Championships taking place from May 22-24.

Girls 1A results

1, Ava Gehrking, English Valleys, 12.81; 2, Rya Scott [STATE QUALIFIER], Hillcrest, 13.06; 7, Morgyn Nafziger, Hillcrest, 13.82

200m;

1, Ava Gehrking, English Valleys, 25.91; 5, Rya Scott [STATE QUALIFIER], Hillcrest, 27.39; 11, Niva Helmuth, Hillcrest, 29.43

400m;

1, Alaina Gourley, Danville, 58.87; 12, Natalie Meganathan, Hillcrest, 1:20.73

1500m;

1, Chloe Glosser, Pekin, 4:50.90; 2, Marie Yoder, Hillcrest, 5:23.47; 5, Siena Stanerson, Hillcrest, 5:34.21

3000m;

1, Chloe Glosser, Pekin, 10:45.72; 2, Marie Yoder [STATE QUALIFIER], Hillcrest, 11:25.91; 4, Siena Stanerson, Hillcrest, 12:02.95

Discus;

1, Anna Hadley, Pekin, 129-09; 20, Marryn Boshart, Hillcrest, 55-03

High jump;

1, Ema Roberts, HLV, 5-04; 6, Niva Helmuth, Hillcrest, 4-06

Long jump;

1, Kynlee Buffington, W-MU, 17-08; 8, Delaney Shaw, Hillcrest, 14-01.75; 13, Morgyn Nafziger, Hillcrest, 13-03.75

Shot put;

1, Anna Hadley, Pekin, 36-06.75; 5, Niva Helmuth, Hillcrest, 33-06.75; 20, Stavia Miller, Hillcrest, 25-08.75

4x200m relay;

1, Lone Tree, 1:48.89; 2, Hillcrest [STATE QUALIFIER] (Stavia Miller, Karina Bourha, Delaney Shaw, Rya Scott), 1:50.08

Sprint medley;

1, Danville, 1:52.02; 14, Hillcrest (Morgyn Nafziger, Tara Poole, Natalie Meganathan, Zainab Shawgi), 2:24.82

4x100m relay;

1, Lone Tree, 51.38; 10, Hillcrest (Morgyn Nafziger, Stavia Miller, Karina Bourha, Rya Scott), 55.80

4x400m relay;

1, HLV, 4:07.43; 7, Hillcrest (Marie Yoder, Delaney Shaw, Siena Stanerson, Karina Bourha), 4:53.13

Boys 1A results

100m;

1, London Franklin, New London, 11.32; 7, Kayden Estell, Hillcrest, 12.09; 12, Kale Bailey, Hillcrest, 12.54

110m hurdles;

1, Alexander Rees, Columbus, 14.72; 9, Gibson Scott, Hillcrest, 17.94

200m;

1, Alexander Rees, Columbus, 22.56; 7, Owen Scott, Hillcrest, 24.18; 8, Kayden Estell, Hillcrest, 24.55

400m;

1, Kohlby Newsom, W-MU, 50.27; 2, Owen Scott [STATE QUALIFIER], Hillcrest, 53.21; 16, Jeremiah Danker, Hillcrest, 1:04.40

400m hurdles;

1, Aiden Van Waus, HLV, 55.95; 14, Braden Hartsock, Hillcrest, 1:09.83

800m;

1, Kohlby Newsom, W-MU, 1:57.87; 17, Jeremiah Danker, Hillcrest, 2:27.88

3200m;

1, Gage Heyne, English Valleys, 10:07.26; 10, Braden Hartsock, Hillcrest, 12:35.37

High jump;

1, Sean McCulloch, HLV, 6-02; 4, Kale Bailey [STATE QUALIFIER], Hillcrest, 6-00

Long jump;

1, Owen Scott [STATE QUALIFIER], Hillcrest, 22-07.75

4x100m relay;

1, New London, 43.26; 7, Hillcrest (Kayden Estell, Kale Bailey, Gibson Scott, Owen Scott), 46.33

4x110m shuttle hurdle relay;

1, Columbus, 1:00.79; 6, Hillcrest (Braden Hartsock, Enoch Adza, Jack Turner, Gibson Scott), 1:20.32



Hillcrest junior Owen Scott qualified for the state meet in Des Moines in the long jump and the 400m.



GIOVANNI CORONEL/THE NEWS

Hillcrest junior Rya Scott qualified for the state meet in Des Moines in the 100m and the 200m along with being apart of a state qualifying 4x200m relay team.

State bid in sight for Mid-Prairie girls golf after Regional triumph

BY GIOVANNI CORONEL  
The News

KALONA

The Golden Hawk gals began their postseason run by hosting a first round regional tournament and the home team went lower than anyone else.

Conquering the seven-team field and advancing, No. 12 Mid-Prairie ended regionals with a first place score of 377, two strokes better than runner-up conference rival Tipton, last Friday.

“The girls showed once again that they have the capability to go up against anyone and knowing Tipton, who is coming off a River Valley Con-

ference championship, would be tough and were able to once again give them another loss,” Mid-Prairie coach Tracy McArtor.

“Kids had a great day on the course playing some really good golf in tough conditions. Blustery winds made for some tough shots and the girls really didn’t let it bother them too much.”

The Hawks and the Tigers were the only teams to end with sub 400 scores as West Branch took third with 428.

At the top of the individual leaderboards were occupied by two Tipton golfers as the duo of Sydney Stutzel Paycee Sorgenfrey placed first and second respectively with scores of 81 and

91.

The next three spots belonged to Mid-Prairie. Olivia Swarzendruber led the charge with a score of 92 to place third. Not too far behind were teammates Addison English and Morgyn Bender who shot 93 and 94 respectively to place fourth and fifth.

“What I’m really excited about is that as good as we scored today, the girls I don’t believe have still played their best golf and I think all the kids would agree,” coach McArtor said. “Little mistakes here and there that are easy fixes would get the girls to even lower scores.”

Lilly Miller also earned a top ten

finish to contribute to the team score, shooting 98 to place ninth. Other Mid-Prairie golfers to post scores were Delani Blum and Paiton Chittick who finished with 106 and 114 respectively.

In the next round of regional play where state bids were on the line, Mid-Prairie competed at West Liberty on May 21.

“It’s been fun to watch them mature this year and have some great success,” coach McArtor said of his team. “We’ll gear up now for the second Regional at West Liberty on the 21st in hopes of another State Meet bid and on a course that plays a lot like Kalona. Hopefully it suits their game.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF MID-PRAIRIE SOCIAL MEDIA

The Mid-Prairie girls golf team at regionals on May 16. (L to R): Head coach Tracy Mcartor, Delani Blum, Lilly Miller, Addison English, Olivia Swartzendruber, and Paiton Chittick.



MP GIRLS TRACK/Continued from Page 1B

coach Mark Hostetler said.

At the end of the night, Mid-Prairie's girls team joined up with the boys, who also won a district title, for the photo session that eventually went past 11 p.m. in a darkened stadium.

Jeorgia Evans broke her own school record in the long jump with a leap of 18 feet, 5 inches, then added wins in the 100 and 200 that established her as the number one state seed in both events with times of 12.05 and 25.32 seconds, respectively.

"It's pretty unusual for anybody to break a school record," Hostetler said. "She broke three of them tonight."

Dessa Poll, the Golden Hawks' senior, won the discus with a hurl of 120 feet, 5 inches, and grabbed the No. 6 seed at state. Harper Pacha, a junior, won the shot put with a throw of 38-3.25.

Jovi Evans, a junior who was a state finalist in both the 100 and 200 last year, finished runner-up to Jeorgia in both races. She is seeded No. 2 in the 100 and No. 5 in the 200. She also advanced in the 4x100 and 4x200 relays.

Rachel Hostetler finished second in the 3000, just ahead of teammate Brooklyn Stutzman, with a time of 11:16.26. She also

finished third in the 1500. Kendal Landstrum and Hostetler finished third and fourth, respectively, in the 800.

Stutzman qualified in the 1500 and 3000.

The Golden Hawks finished second in the 4x200, 4x800 and 4x100 shuttle hurdle relays to qualify for the state championships.

Mid-Prairie also qualified in the distance medley relay.

BY THE NUMBERS  
MID-PRAIRIE STATE QUALIFIERS

100: 1, Jeorgia Evans, :12.05; 2, Jovi Evans, :12.35.

200: 1, Jeorgia Evans, :25.32; 5, Jovi Evans, :25.83.

800: 12, Kendal Landstrum, 2:25.20; 16, Rachel Hostetler, 2:26.72.

1500: 9, Hostetler, 5:02.52; 15, Brooklyn Stutzman, 5:06.51.

3000: 11, Hostetler, 11:16.26; 12, Stutzman, 11:16.64.

Long Jump: 2, Jeorgia Evans, 18-5.

Shot Put: 14, Harper Pacha, 38-3.25.

Discus: 6, Dessa Poll, 120-5; 3, Pacha, 115-2.

4x100 Relay: 16, Mid-Prairie (Jeorgia Evans-

Tessa Bombei-Myli Hershberger-Jovi Evans-Kyrie Poll-Hannah Rodgers-Ruby Miller-Sophie Miller), :50.76.

4x200 Relay: 24, Mid-Prairie (Myli Hershberger-Hannah Rodgers-Ruby Miller-Jovi Evans-Kyrie Poll-Tessa Bombei-Sophie Miller-Jeorgia Evans), 1:50.50.

4x800 Relay: 12, Mid-Prairie (Kendal Landstrum-Tessa Brokaw-Brooklyn Stutzman-Rachel Hostetler-Rebekah Wallington-Alaina Safly-Braelee Yoder-Ivy Reschly), 10:15.68.

Distance Medley Relay: 6, Mid-Prairie, 4:31.56.

4x100 Shuttle Hurdle Relay: 19, Mid-Prairie (Sophie Miller-Tessa Bombei-Olivia Schlabach-Ruby Miller-Claire Trimpe-Eva Marnin-Sierra Crowner), 1:10.55.



Mid-Prairie freshman Jeorgia Evans, right, and older sister Jovi blast ahead of the pack in the 100-meter run. They finished one-two in the race and in the state rankings for this week's state championships in Des Moines.



Rachel Hostetler and Kendal Landstrum line up among others in the 800-meter run in the state qualifier at Monticello. Hostetler, a freshman, qualified for the state championships in three individual events.

Lady Lion track and field earn six state bids at qualifiers hosted by WACO



GIOVANNI CORONEL/THE NEWS

Lone Tree's Vivian Zaruba (left) and Ava Christofferson (right) qualified for state in the 200m and the long jump respectively.



Lone Tree's Rylee Shield (left) receives the baton from teammate Addison McCullough (right) at WACO on May 15.

STATE TRACK & FIELD QUALIFIERS	
Mid-Prairie Boys	
100m: Ryan Henry	
800m: Jayse Yoder	
1600m: Emmett Swartzentruber	
3200m: Emmett Swartzentruber, Preston Yutzy	
4x100m relay: Kaden Kos, Kendrick Kos, Nolan Jergens, Ryan Henry	
4x200m relay: Nolan Jergens, Kendrick Kos, Cash Brown, Ryan Henry	
Wheelchair 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m: Jayden Stafford	
Distance medley: Kaden Kos, Ryan Henry, Cash Brown, Jayse Yoder	
Long jump: Thomas Lueck	
Discus: Kaden Kos	
Shot put: Burke Berry, Tommy Miller	
Lone Tree	
200m: Vivian Zaruba	
400m: Rylee Shield	
Long jump: Ava Christofferson	
4x100m, 4x200m, Sprint Medley relays: Addison McCullough, Ava Chistofferson, Vivian Zaruba, Rylee Shield	
Highland	
100m: Kamryn Fink	
4x100m, 4x200m relays: Mayia Singbeil, Kamryn Fink, Lilly Barre, Alexa Hahn	

Mid-Prairie Girls	
100m: Jeorgia Evans, Jovi Evans	
200m: Jeorgia Evans, Jovi Evans	
800m: Kendal Landstrum, Rachel Hostetler	
1500m: Rachel Hostetler, Brooklyn Stutzman	
3000m: Rachel Hostetler, Brooklyn Stutzman	
4x100m shuttle hurdle relay: Sophie Miller, Tessa Bombei, Olivia Schlabach, Ruby Miller	
4x100m relay: Jeorgia Evans, Tessa Bombei, Myli Hershberger, Jovi Evans	
4x200m relay: Myli Hershberger, Hannah Rodgers, Ruby Miller, Jovi Evans	
4x800m relay: Kendal Landstrum, Tessa Brokaw, Brooklyn Stutzman, Rachel Hostetler	
Long jump: Jeorgia Evans	
Discus: Dessa Poll	
Shot put: Harper Pacha	
Hillcrest Boys	
400m: Owen Scott	
Long jump: Owen Scott	
High jump: Kale Bailey	
Hillcrest Girls	
100m : Rya Scott	
200m: Rya Scott	
3000m: Marie Yoder	
4x200m relay: Stavia Miller, Karina Bourha, Delaney Shaw, Rya Scott	

BY GIOVANNI CORONEL  
The News

WAYLAND

Taking their talents to WACO for the third time in as many weeks, the Lady Lions battled it out with tickets for state on the line and they did not go home empty handed.

Earning the right to compete at the Blue Oval in Des Moines, the Lady Lions qualified for state in six events, and earned a top five finish at the 1A state qualifier meet hosted by WACO last Thursday.

"Our team performed excellently at WACO," Lone Tree coach Chad Shield said. "I am proud of the girls and the season they've had. It has been so much fun watching them compete."

As a team Lone Tree placed fourth with a score of 75. Taking the team title was HLV, Victor who ended with 102. Pekin was the runner-up with 98.

Lone Tree has excelled in relay races all season long and they continued this trend by placing first in the 4x100m (51.38) and in the 4x200 (1:48.89) with the same team of Addison McCullough, Vivian Zaruba, Ava Christofferson, and Rylee Shield to automatically qualify to state.

An already impressive achievement became even more notable as it was revealed the following day that the same quartet of McCullough, Zaruba, Christofferson, and Shield's runner-up finish in the sprint medley (1:52.78) earned them their third ticket to state in a relay event.

"I am really excited for our relay teams," coach Shield said. "We won two of them with automatic qualifiers and the Sprint Medley we fell just short of winning but ended up with the fourth best sprint medley time in the state."

When it came to individual events, Shield (re-breaking a Lone Tree school record she herself broke earlier this season) was the runner-up in the 400m in 59.48 (5th in 1A). Her new school record time also qualified her for the state meet.

"Rylee re-broke her own school record by going under a minute for the first time," coach Shield said. "It was a goal of hers and it was great to see her achieve it."

Christofferson was another Lady Lion to earn a state bid with a runner-up finish. The standout junior soared to second in the long jump with a leap of 16-06.75 (12th in 1A).

"Ava had a great first long jump that puts her in the top 12 overall in long jumpers," coach Shield said. " She has gotten better and more consistent all year long."

Zaruba gave Lone Tree its final state bid by placing fourth in the 200m with a time of 27.02 (13th in 1A). This was a new PR time for Zaruba.

Up next for the Lady Lions is heading to Des Moines to compete in the Iowa High School State Track and Field Championships taking place from May 22-24.

"The girls look forward to running in Des Moines," coach Shield said. "They will go there with the mindset of being the best they can be and bringing home some medals will be a great exclamation point for the season."

Lone Tree boys results

The Lions saw its season end at state qualifiers in WACO. Lone Tree finished the meet with a score of 18 to place 12th. First place was won by Columbus with 123 and runner-up went to Pekin with 100. Dom Garcia was the top performer for Lone Tree as the junior placed fourth in the 200m (23.56) and fifth in the 100m (11.78).

Brock Nebergall also earned a top ten finish for the Lions. The sophomore raced to eighth in the 800m with a time of 2:12.91.

The best relay finish for Lone Tree came in the 4x100m as the quartet of Gray Spilman, Emmett Burke, Cade Willoz, and Garcia placed fifth in 45.63.

Girls 1A results

100m;  
1, Ava Gehrking, English Valleys, 12.81; 22, Carlee Sexton, Lone Tree, 16.49

100m hurdles;  
1, Josie Nelson, W-MU, 16.25; 16, Cate Sexton, Lone Tree, 20.65

200m;  
1, Ava Gehrking, English Valleys, 25.91; 4, Vivian Zaruba [STATE QUALIFIER], Lone Tree, 27.02; 12, Lindsay Baltazar, Lone Tree, 29.77

400m;  
1, Alaina Gourley, Danville, 58.87; 2, Rylee Shield [STATE QUALIFIER], Lone Tree, 59.48; 6, Addyson Eiben, Lone Tree, 1:06.59

800m;  
1, Alaina Glourley, Danville, 2:24.31; 15, Dalanie Graap, Lone Tree, 2:57.94; 17, Carlee Sexton, Lone Tree, 3:02.79

1500m;  
1, Chloee Glosser, Pekin, 4:50.90; 12, Jazmine Nino, Lone Tree, 6:11.99; 17, Evelyn Mueller, Lone Tree, 6:54.82

Discus;  
1, Anna Hadley, Pekin, 129-09; 4, Hayden Yoder, Lone Tree, 101-10; 14, Sami Branson, Lone Tree, 70-08

Long jump;  
1, Kynlee Buffington, W-MU, 17-08; 2, Ava Christofferson [STATE QUALIFIER], Lone Tree, 16-06.75; 9, Cate Sexton, Lone Tree, 14-01.25

Shot put;  
1, Anna Hadley, Pekin, 36-06.75; 6, Hayden Yoder, Lone Tree, 33-03.50; 12, Sami Branson, Lone Tree, 29-06.50

4x100m relay;  
1, Lone Tree [STATE QUALIFIER] (Addison McCullough, Ava Christofferson, Vivian Zaruba, Rylee Shield), 51.38

4x200m relay;  
1, Lone Tree [STATE QUALIFIER] (Addison McCullough, Rylee Shield, Vivian Zaruba, Ava Christofferson), 1:48.89

Sprint medley;  
1, Danville, 1:52.02; 2, Lone Tree [STATE QUALIFIER] (Addison McCullough, Vivian Zaruba, Ava Christofferson, Rylee Shield), 1:52.78

4x400m relay;  
1, HLV, 4:07.43; 4, Lone Tree (Olivia Magruder, Addyson Eiben, Lindsay Baltazar, Abby Zaruba), 4:38.21

4x800m relay;  
1, HLV, 10:13.08; 4, Lone Tree (Addyson Eiben, Dalanie Graap, Abby Zaruba, Evelyn Mueller), 12:00.89

Distance medley;  
1, HLV, 4:17.41; 4, Lone Tree (Cate Sexton, Olivia Magruder, Lindsay Baltazar, Jazmine Nino), 4:54.26

Boys 1A results

100m;  
1, London Franklin, New London, 11.32; 5, Dom Garcia, Lone Tree, 11.78; 21, Tate Nelson, Lone Tree, 14.03

200m;  
1, Alexander Rees, Columbus, 22.56; 4, Dom Garcia, Lone Tree, 23.56; 21, Jackson Lyon, Lone Tree, 27.92

400m;  
1, Kohlby Newsom, W-MU, 50.27; 11, Jackson Lyon, Lone Tree, 1:01.93; 20, Trenton McKean, Lone Tree, 1:10.48

800m;  
1, Kohlby Newsom, W-MU, 1:57.87; 8, Brock Nebergall, Lone Tree, 2:12.91

1600m;  
1, Gage Heyne, English Valleys, 4:34.22; 17, Trenton McKean, Lone Tree, 6:16.12

Discus;  
1, Kolton Small, Wapello, 140-07; 19, Tate Nelson, Lone Tree, 83-06

Shot put;  
1, Kolton Small, Wapello, 49-05.75; 16, Tate Nelson, 28-08

Sprint medley;  
1, Pekin, 1:36.11; 8, Lone Tree (Gray Spilman, Cade Willoz, Emmett Burke, Brock Nebergall), 1:46.59

4x100m relay;  
1, New London, 43.26; 5, Lone Tree (Gray Spilman, Emmett Burke, Cade Willoz, Dom Garcia), 45.63

4x200m relay;  
1, New London, 1:30.01; 6, Lone Tree (Gray Spilman, Cade Willoz, Emmett Burke, Dom Garcia), 1:34.55



# Highland girls golf claim Regional title, Hillcrest's Withrow advances

BY GIOVANNI CORONEL  
The News

## SIGOURNEY

Carrying their regular season momentum into the post-season, Highland girls golf shot to the top of the team standings in the first round of regional play.

Ending with a new program best score of 346, the Huskies (41-1) convincingly placed first in a field of six to win the team title at the Sigourney Golf Club last Friday to continue their

playoff run.

BGM was the runner-up with an overall score of 378, earning the second place spot in a tiebreaker over Sigourney who also ended with 378. The top two teams advance to the next round.

Out of 36 golfers, earning medalist honors was Highland's Emersyn Schultz who placed first with an 81.

The junior made eight pars and one birdie. Finishing with an identical score of 81 was senior teammate Adeline Krotz

who earned runner-up medalist honors, making five pars and two birdies.

The next two Huskies to contribute to the first place team score was the duo of Joslyn and Adisyn Prottsman. Joslyn, a freshman, shot 91 to place sixth and Adisyn, a junior, tied for 8th with 93.

Cassidy Duster and Autumn Guseman also provided scores for Highland as Duster tied for 14th with 96 and Guseman placed 26th with 110.

With a bid for state on the

line, the Huskies competed in the regional finals at Prairie Knolls Country Club in New Sharon on May 21.

**Hillcrest results**

The trio of Claire Withrow, Ava Miller, and Izzy Frederick represented the Ravens at Sigourney for the opening round of the postseason.

While Hillcrest did not post a team score, the excellent individual play of Withrow has her moving on to the next round of regionals.

Withrow shot 44 on the front nine and 46 on the back nine to finish with 90, a season best score, to place fifth and earn the right to continue her season. The junior made three pars on the day.

Miller, a sophomore, ended with 113 to place 29th and Frederick, also a sophomore, was 36th with 144.

Competing in the next round, Withrow battled for a state berth at the regional finals at Prairie Knolls Country Club at New Sharon on May 21.



Hillcrest's Claire Withrow placed fifth in the first round of regional play at Sigourney to advance to the next round as an individual.



Highland junior Emersyn Schultz with a putt attempt during the first round of regionals at Sigourney on May 16. Schultz placed first with a score of 81.

GIOVANNI CORONEL/THE NEWS



Wheelchair racer Jayden Stafford, who will race in four distances this week at the state track meet in Des Moines, gets ready for the start of the 400-meter race in the Monticello qualifier.



PAUL D. BOWKER/THE NEWS

Emmett Swartzentruber of Mid-Prairie takes the baton during a relay race in last week's state track qualifier in Monticello. Swartzentruber qualified in two individual events, the 1600- and 3200-meter runs.

## MP BOYS TRACK/Continued from Page 1B

coach them up and then ultimately see them have the success that they did tonight."

The Golden Hawks have won River Valley Conference and district championships the last two weeks.

Among those joining the senior class push toward Des Moines is freshman sprinter Ryan Henry, who finished second to Cascade's Tate Hosch in the 100 with a time of 10.83 seconds and is the second seed in the state lineup.

Tommy Miller finished fourth in the shot put in the district meet, but still made the state meet with a throw of 51-7 to grab the No. 14 seed.

Swartzentruber is back at Drake in both the 1600 and 3200 for the second straight year. He won the 1600 with a time of 4:33.23 and grabbed the No. 9 seed. He finished 10th last year. Swartzentruber won the 3200 in 10:31.48 for the No. 19 seed. He was ninth last year at state.

Jayse Yoder, a senior, finished second in the 800 to reach Des Moines and Preston Yutzy, another senior, finished second to Swartzentruber in the 3200 to make the state field.

Thomas Lueck finished third in Monticello and made the long jump field at state and Kaden Kos made it in the discus.

Kaden and Kendrick Kos, Nolan Jergens and Henry combined to win the 4x100 relay in 43.57 seconds. The Golden Hawks also qualified in the

- 4x200 and distance medley relays.
- BY THE NUMBERS  
MID-PRAIRIE STATE QUALIFIERS
- 100: 2, Ryan Henry, :10.83.
- 800: 13, Jayse Yoder, 2:01.23.
- 1600: 9, Emmett Swartzentruber, 4:33.23.
- 3200: 19, Emmett Swartzentruber, 10:31.48; 22, Preston Yutzy, 10:34.33.
- 100 Wheelchair: 1, Jayden Stafford, :17.17.
- 200 Wheelchair: 1, Jayden Stafford, :33.35.
- 400 Wheelchair: 2, Jayden Stafford, 1:11.51.
- 800 Wheelchair: 2, Jayden Stafford, 2:47.34.
- Long Jump: 16, Thomas Lueck, 21-6.5.
- Shot Put: 1, Burke Berry, 56-4.75; 14, Tommy Miller, 51-7.
- Discus: 18, Kaden Kos, 150-3.
- 4x100 RELAY: 9, Mid-Prairie (Kaden Kos-Kendrick Kos-Nolan Jergens-Ryan Henry-Cash Brown-Keegan Bauwens-Thomas Lueck-Carson Humphrey), :43.57.
- 4x200 RELAY, 24, Mid-Prairie (Nolan Jergens-Kendrick Kos-Cash Brown-Ryan Henry-Kaden Kos-Carson Humphrey-Jayse Yoder-Keegan Bauwens), 1:32.92
- Distance Medley Relay: 22, Mid-Prairie (Kaden Kos-Ryan Henry-Cash Brown-Jayse Yoder-Nolan Jergens-Kendrick Kos-Carson Humphrey-Preston Yutzy), 3:44.17.

# Golden Hawks battle through postseason, duo reaches districts

BY GIOVANNI CORONEL  
The News

## MONROE

The playoff path to state opened up this past week as No. 20 Mid-Prairie boys golf battled against seven other teams in a Class 2A sectional tournament taking place at Prairie City Monroe.

With the top three teams advancing to districts, Mid-Prairie saw its season close at sectionals with a fifth place finish but districts will not be completely devoid of Golden Hawks as the superb individual play of Bryce Henry and Grayson Gingerich have them moving on to the next round.

"Our team played well but came up short of advancing in a loaded sectional. I am proud of the season, the improvement and the fight the golfers had all year. We just ran into some very good golf teams today," Mid-Prairie coach Kelby Bender said. "The top two individuals and ties that are not on qualifying teams advance as individuals. Both Bryce and Grayson advance and will play on."

Taking the top spot was Pella Christian who shot a

first place score of 295. PCM and West Branch scored 303 and 317 respectively to take the runner-up spot and third place.

The Hawks earned its top five finish with 327, their third best score of the season.

Henry and Gingerich led the way with identical scores of 78 to tie for 8th in the individual standings. Henry made nine pars, a birdie, and an eagle. Gingerich sank 11 pars, one birdie, and an eagle.

"Bryce Henry and Grayson Gingerich each had solid rounds," coach Bender said. "These two played well today and I am excited for them to have the opportunity to play at the District meet."

The third Hawk to make an eagle was Clayton Davidson as the junior also made five pars and one birdie to place 18th with a score of 85. Denver Nelson rounded out the team score with a 86 to tie for 20th. The sophomore made nine pars in total.

Mid-Prairie's Ace Peck ended with an 87 to place 22nd and teammate Hudson Ehrenfelt shot 91 to tie for 25th.

"Each of the six contributed to the success of the season," coach Bender said. "I felt we

had six golfers that could score for us and it showed throughout the season."

Mid-Prairie ends the season at 46-20, a nine-hole average of 165.47, and an 18-hole average of 330.67. In the offseason they will say goodbye to their lone senior, Ace Peck.

**Districts**

With tickets to state on the line, the Mid-Prairie duo of junior Bryce Henry and sophomore Grayson Gingerich traveled to the Bos Landen Golf Course in Pella to take part in a 2A District meet last Monday.

Battling fierce competition Gingerich and Henry had their seasons end at districts by placing 49th and 61st respectively with scores of 96 and 107.

Coming away with a first place finish in the team standings was Pella Christian (319), the runner-up spot was claimed by PCM (343), and third place was won by Central Lee (351).

The Pella Christian trio of Eliot Menninga (76), Cooper Spronk (77), and Deacon Branderhorst (80) dominated the top of the individual leaderboard by placing first, second, and third respectively.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MID-PRAIRIE SOCIAL MEDIA

Mid-Prairie sophomore Grayson Gingerich (left) and junior Bryce Henry (right).



# Highland girls track and field punch tickets to state in three events

BY GIOVANNI CORONEL  
*The News*

**WAYLAND**

The event where state tickets were up for grabs finally arrived last Thursday as the Highland girls track and field team headed to WACO to compete in a Class 1A state qualifier meet.

Earning the right to test their talents at the Blue Oval in Des Moines next week, Highland qualified for state in three events and ended the night with a score of 37 to tie for ninth place.

The quartet of Maiya Singbeil, Kamryn Fink, Lilly Barre, and Alexa Hahn doubled up when it came to state berths as they qualified for state in the 4x100m and the 4x200m relay races

“Maiya, Alexa, Kamryn, and Lilly were all very motivated to qualify for state,” Highland coach Angela Strobel said. “They’ve been working towards that goal all season and I couldn’t be happier about how things turned out for them.”

Rising to the moment at hand, these four Huskies ran

season best times in the 4x100 (runner-up in 52.34) and in the 4x200 (third in 1:52.36).

“I think my best moment was seeing all four girls huddled around each other after they realized they had run two amazing season best times,” coach Strobel said of Singbeil, Fink, Barre, and Hahn. “Seeing athletes pride themselves after a job well done is one of the best parts of being a coach. It was awesome!”

In the individual events, Fink qualified for state in the 100m with a third place finish in 13.24. Alongside the relay races, the freshman will compete in three events at state.

“Kamryn had a fantastic start in the 100 meter dash,” coach Strobel said. “She’s a fierce competitor so I knew she’d do all she could to compete to the very last step. She held her own in a very fast heat of girls.”

Up next for Highland is making the trip to Des Moines to compete in the Iowa High School State Track and Field Championships taking place from May 22-24.

**Highland boys results**

The Highland boys season drew to a close at the state qualifier meet, placing 14th with a final team score of four.

William Dunbar gave the Huskies its best individual finish by placing ninth in the 100m in 12.12. Their best relay finish came in the 4x100m as the team of Dunbar, Liam Roberts, Caleb Wheeler, and Bryce Hazelett placed sixth in 46.08.

In the offseason Highland will say goodbye to seniors Dunbar, Cayden Day, and Brixton Rust.

**Girls 1A results**

100m;  
1, Ava Gehrking, English Valleys, 12.81; 3, Kamryn Fink [STATE QUALIFIER], Highland, 13.24; 15, Brena Hazelett, Highland, 15.16

100m hurdles;  
1, Josie Nelson, W-MU. 16.25; 6, Mayia Singbeil, Highland, 17.92; 9, Brena Hazelett, Highland, 18.58

200m;  
1, Ava Gehrking, English Valleys, 25.91; 19, Ava Sexton, Highland, 31.82; 20, Larissa Murphy, Highland, 32.15

1500m;

1, Chloe Glosser, Pekin, 4:50.90; 8, Grace Bombei, Highland, 5:45.34

3000m;  
1, Chloe Glosser, Pekin, 10:45.72; 6, Grace Bombei, Highland, 12:20.78

Discus;  
1, Anna Hadley, Pekin, 129-09; 18, Ava Sexton, Highland, 62-11

High jump;  
1, Ema Roberts, HLV, 5-04; 4, Mayia Singbeil, Highland, 4-10

Long jump;  
1, Kynlee Buffington, W-MU, 17-08; 6, Alexa Hahn, Highland, 14-10.75

Shot put;  
1, Anna Hadley, Pekin, 36-06.75; 7, Chloe Sexton, Highland, 32-11.50

4x100m relay;  
1, Lone Tree, 51.38; 2, Highland [STATE QUALIFIER] (Mayia Singbeil, Kamryn Fink, Lilly Barre, Alexa Hahn), 52.34

4x200m relay;  
1, Lone Tree, 1:48.89; 3, Highland [STATE QUALIFIER] (Lilly Barre, Mayia Singbeil, Kamryn Fink, Alexa Hahn), 1:52.36

Sprint medley;  
1, Danville, 1:52.02; 11, Highland (Alexa Hahn, Kamryn Fink, Lilly Barre, Larissa Murphy),

2:13.96

**Boys 1A results**

100m;  
1, London Franklin, New London, 11.32; 9, William Dunbar, Highland, 12.12; 25, Chase Robinson, Highland, 15.69

200m;  
1, Alexander Rees, Columbus, 22.56; 15, Caleb Wheeler, Highland, 25.54

400m hurdles;  
1, Aiden Van Waus, HLV, 55.95; 16, Elvin Hernandez, Highland, 1:10.26

800m;  
1, Kohlby Newsom, W-MU, 1:57.87; 15, Brody Beinhart, Highland, 2:26.40; 21, Jackson Robinson, Highland, 2:54.78

Sprint medley;  
1, Pekin, 1:36.11; 10, Highland (Liam Roberts, Bryce Hazelett, Caleb Wheeler, Elvin Hernandez), 1:49.61

4x100m relay;  
1, New London, 43.26; 6, Highland (Liam Roberts, William Dunbar, Caleb Wheeler, Bryce Hazelett), 46.08

4x200m relay;  
1, New London, 1:30.01; 8, Highland (Liam Roberts, William Dunbar, Bryce Hazelett, Cayden Day), 1:38.20

## HILLCREST GOLF/Continued from Page 1B

he continues to impress by taking the top spot in an individual leaderboard which featured 81 golfers in total.

The senior surged to the top by shooting 41 in the back nine and 34 in the back nine to finish with a first place score of a three over par 75. He made eight pars and three birdies en route to becoming the individual district champion.

Also earning a top five finish for the Ravens was Rowan Miller. The standout junior shot 79 to place fourth, making 11 pars on the day.

Ethan Yoder and Lawson

Schrock rounded out Hillcrest’s team score with scores of 95 and 97 respectively to place 40th and 47th. Also competing at districts for the Ravens were Rylan Good and Matthew Chalupa who finished with twin scores of 100 to place 56th and 59th respectively.

Up next for the Ravens is traveling to Waterloo to compete in the IHSAA State Golf Meet taking place from May 27-28. Hillcrest’s last appearance at state was in 2023, where they capped off an undefeated season with a state championship.



GIOVANNI CORONEL/THE NEWS

Highland’s Alexa Hahn (left) receives the baton from teammate Kamryn Fink (right) during a relay race at WACO on May 15. The quartet of Hahn, Fink, Lilly Barre, and Maiya Singbeil qualified for state in the 4x100m and the 4x200m relay races.



Highland senior Lilly Barre.



Highland freshman Maiya Singbeil.

## BOWKER/Continued from Page 1B

to this week’s state track championships at Drake’s famed Blue Oval in Des Moines. Jeorgia and Jovi enter the 100-meter dash competition ranked as the number one and two sprinters in Class 2A. One team. One family.

Last Thursday in a district meet in Monticello, they lined up right next to each other in both the 100 and 200 in the final heats, the championship heats. They finished one-two in both races with Jeorgia setting school records both times to beat her sister by hundredths of a second.

The same scenario could happen in Des Moines.

“This is something we’ve been dreaming of for the last three to four years,” Jeorgia Evans said. “Of us just running together.”

They have already played on the same state tournament team, Mid-Prairie’s volleyball team that is coached by their mom and dad, Sherry and Zeb Evans. They set a school record for wins last fall and won the River Valley South Conference championship.

But this is so different.

It’s individual competition and a team, all at once.

Constantly pushing buttons on her cellphone Thursday night, Jovi ran up to Jeorgia after discovering that they had posted the two quickest times in the 100 in the state on a night when district championship teams were held across the state of Iowa at the same



PAUL D. BOWKER/THE NEWS

Jeorgia and Jovi Evans are the number one and two seeds in the girls 100-meter dash at the state track championships.

time.

Jeorgia won the 100 in 12.05 seconds, Jovi was second in :12.35. And that was on a high school track on a windy night. The times on the Blue Oval are usually faster. Jeorgia’s time was more than half a second faster than the time of 12.61 seconds that Pella Christian’s Rachel Kacmarynski won last year’s state title with. Kacmarynski is the fourth seed this year with a time of :12.52.

The 200 was almost the same. Jeorgia had the fastest time (25.32 seconds) for a number one ranking and Jovi, coming off a knee injury and surgery, was number five.

The top eight, after prelims, will reach Saturday’s final round at the Blue Oval.

“I know that we’re going to see each other again,” Jovi said. “We’re going to see everybody. We’re going to be in the State together and I get to experience that with my sister. There’s no one else I’d want to do that with.”

Has this ever happened

before? Have two sisters ever been the fastest sprinters in the state before? In the same year?

Remember, this is the school of state champions and sisters Anna, Marie and Danielle Hostetler with Rachel Hostetler, a freshman this year, already having won a team state title in cross country last fall. Rachel qualified for Des Moines in three individual races herself: 800, 1500, 3000.

Jeorgia Evans and Rachel

Hostetler are the highest-ranked freshmen in all of their state track events. Think about that.

Jeorgia is coming off a Drake Relays in which she was the only freshman in the girls high school 100 finals. She finished eighth with a time of 12.31 seconds, just one-tenth of a second behind Kacmarynski, a sophomore.

Jovi was there to help her sister.

“She was just there to warm up with me and support,” Jeorgia said. “Now I’m going to be running against her. So now, that sister rivalry is going to help a lot. It’s going to push us to beat the other people, too.”

“Finally, I’ve kind of gotten my groove back since everything that happened,” said Jovi, who injured her knee in a club volleyball tournament just one day after Jeorgia set meet records in every event she entered in the Iowa indoor championships in March. “I honestly wouldn’t be able to do it without her pushing me at practice, pushing me in the morning.”

It all goes back to those races to the family car. First one there gets the window seat!

*News columnist Paul Bowker can be reached at bowker-paul1@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter (X): @bowkerpaul*







JOHNSON COUNTY

**Cost of this publication: \$236.13**  
**Fiscal year to date cost**  
**(as of 7/1/24): \$16,824.93**  
**THE JOHNSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**FORMAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**MAY 8, 2025**

*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. through Fri., between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. and at [www.johnson-county-iowa.gov](http://www.johnson-county-iowa.gov).*

Vice Chairperson Fixmer-Oraiz called the Johnson County Board of Supervisors to order in the Johnson County Health and Human Services Building Boardroom at 5:30 p.m. **Members present:** V Fixmer-Oraiz, Lisa Green-Douglass, Mandi Remington, and Rod Sullivan. **Members absent:** Jon Green.

**Motion** by Green-Douglass, second by Remington, to approve the agenda as presented. Approved unanimously.

**Public Comment** - No one from the public spoke.

The Board acknowledged correspondence received from Heather Hix dated April 24, 2025, regarding the Modern Manor Mobile Home Park.

**Motion** by Sullivan, second by Remington, to approve the following consent agenda items:

- The claims on the Auditor's Claim Register for May 8, 2025, in the amount of \$2,321,952.56:  
4 Cs Community Coordi.....1982.88  
Abbe Center For Com.....139467.50  
Abbehealth Inc.....84282.55  
Advancement Services.....7460.00  
Ahlers & Cooney Pc.....1508.00  
Alexandria Manor Apts.....750.00  
Alissa Schuerer.....118.72  
Alliant Energy.....152.15  
Amazon.Com Capital Se.....2518.18  
Arc Of East Central I.....1669.66  
Arc Of Southeast Iowa.....8209.05  
Arnold Motor Supply LI.....340.06  
At&T Mobility.....3903.62  
B&H Photo Video Pro A.....1000.08  
Ben Campbell.....358.48  
Benco Dental.....131.37  
Benton County Sheriff.....175.01  
Bike Library.....7500.00  
Bijb Investments Llc.....700.00  
Blair & Fitzsimmons Pc.....399.00  
Bob Barker Company Inc.....434.00  
Bound Tree Medical LI.....2441.85  
Bremer County Sheriff.....84.90  
Buchanan County Sheriff.....88.95  
Caring Hands & More L.....2173.55  
Catholic Charities Of.....1810.00  
Cedar Valley Mental H.....1568.07  
Central Iowa Detentio.....5249.29  
City Laundering Co.....182.08  
City Of Iowa City.....14.09  
City Of Iowa City - Ut.....967.72  
Colleen R Oconnell.....539.00  
Combined Systems Inc.....895.00  
Community Based Servi.....5650.00  
Community Crisis Ser.....83016.13  
Consumers Cooperative.....2990.27  
Coral Ridge Llc.....700.00  
Coralville Community F.....420.00  
Custom Hose & Supplie.....1879.82  
D & R Pest Control.....100.00  
Dave Gryp Constructio.....8000.00  
David G Baumgartner.....398.60  
David Or Christine Etle.....80.00  
Deborah Seymour Guard.....536.80  
Delta Dental Of Iowa.....10142.98  
Discovery Living Inc.....25000.00  
Diventures Iowa Llc.....160.00  
Dlouhy Law Pc.....284.70  
Doran A Williams.....63.00  
Dylan Thomas Attorney.....131.40  
Ecobal Pest Eliminatio.....105.12  
Eliya Yohana.....900.08  
Emblem Enterprises Inc.....642.30  
Eo Johnson Business Te.....464.49  
Fidelity Security Lif.....4010.12  
First Judicial Distr.....22102.90  
First Resources Corp.....864.80  
Foundation 2.....258201.58  
Full Circle Services.....7155.51  
G&L Rentals.....700.00  
Galls Llc.....133.02  
Gatr Truck Center.....15.66  
Gazette Communications.....647.93  
George R Werner Jr.....33.00

Shauna Hatchitt .....	20000.00
Shelter House Communi.....	2370.00
Simon Bwayo .....	50.00
Sixth Judicial Distr.....	19735.04
Southgate Property Man.....	700.00
Stanard & Associates I .....	162.50
Staples Advantage .....	726.67
Stericycle.....	35.35
Steves Electric Inc.....	541.80
Storey Kenworthy Corp.....	102.91
Stryker Medical .....	3043.21
Successful Living.....	820.00
Symmetry Health Llc.....	2533.40
Systems Unlimited Inc .....	986.20
T-Mobile Usa Inc.....	10063.76
Tanager Place .....	7721.58
The Election Center.....	2754.00
The Lodge Apartments.....	2800.00
Tim Dunton .....	308.20
To The Rescue .....	66357.48
Towncrest Pharmacy .....	25.96
Treasurer State Of I.....	19070.25
Treasurer State Of Io.....	2437.50
Tripspark Technolog.....	55481.45
Truck Country Of Iowa .....	4607.24
Unlimited Services In.....	7920.00
Vantage Point Llc.....	3000.00
Verizon Wireless.....	528.57
Villa Garden Apartment .....	364.00
Wellmark Blue Cross.....	362000.00
Wendy Murray.....	15000.00
West Liberty Telephon .....	1316.96
Williamsburg Communit.....	4683.28
Windstream It-Comm.Llc .....	623.41
2. The minutes of the Formal Meeting for May 1, 2025.	
3. Payroll authorizations submitted by department heads and elected officials. Approved unanimously.	
Convened <b>Public Hearing</b> at 5:32 p.m. on proposed Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) County Budget Amendment. County Finance Director Dana Aschenbrenner noted the FY25 County Budget Amendment includes approximately \$447,363 of previously unbudgeted revenues and approximately \$1,412,177 of previously unbudgeted expenditures. No one from the public spoke. <b>Public Hearing</b> closed at 5:34 p.m.	
<b>RESOLUTION NO. 05-08-25-01</b> <b>RESOLUTION AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 JOHNSON COUNTY BUDGET</b>	
<b>Summary:</b> The Board of Supervisors hosted a public hearing in accordance with the Code of Iowa for a proposed budget amendment to the FY 25 County budget. <b>Board action:</b> Authorize the proposed budget amendments to the FY25 County budget as presented.	
Motion by Sullivan, second by Green-Douglass, to approve Resolution No. 05-08-25-01. Approved unanimously.	
<b>RESOLUTION NO. 05-08-25-02</b> <b>RESOLUTION CHANGING DEPARTMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE JOHNSON COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2025 BUDGET</b>	
<b>Summary:</b> The Board of Supervisors hosted a public hearing in accordance with the Code of Iowa for a proposed budget amendment to the FY 25 County budget and authorized the proposed amendment. <b>Board action:</b> Authorize the department appropriations per the FY25 County budget amendment as presented.	
<b>Motion</b> by Green-Douglass, second by Remington, to approve Resolution No. 05-08-25-02. Approved unanimously.	
Convened <b>Public Hearing</b> at 5:34 p.m. on the proposed ordinance amending the Johnson County Human Rights Ordinance to update certain definitions and to add certain protections regarding reproductive health care. Deputy Assistant County Attorney Ryan Maas spoke about the proposed ordinance amendment. No one from the public spoke. <b>Public Hearing</b> closed at 5:35 p.m.	
<b>ORDINANCE NO. 05-08-25-01</b> <b>AN ORDINANCE AMENDING JOHNSON COUNTY HUMAN RIGHTS ORDINANCE TO UPDATE CERTAIN DEFINITIONS AND TO ADD CERTAIN PROTECTIONS REGARDING REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE</b>	
Section I. Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to modernize and update certain definitions as well as to add protections regarding reproductive health care.	
Section II. Amendments. A. Article 4:5.3 is amended by add-	

ing the following definitions: Aggrieved person. Any person who claims to have been injured or continues to be injured by a discriminatory practice. In the case of real property, an aggrieved person can also be someone who "will be injured" by discriminatory housing practice (s). Discriminate or discrimination includes all unequal treatment of any person by reason of race, creed, religion, color, sex, sexual or affectional orientation, gender identity, national origin, ancestry, familial status, age, disability, marital status, or status with regard to public assistance. For purposes of discrimination based on sex, it includes sexual harassment. To rent includes to lease, to sublease, to let and otherwise to grant for consideration the right to occupy premises not owned by the occupant.

B. Article 4:5.3 is amended by modifying the following definitions: Gender Identity or Expression means a gender-related identity of a person, regardless of the person's assigned sex at birth. Sexual Orientation means a person's actual or perceived sexuality - having or being perceived as having an emotional or physical attachment or attraction to another adult person or having or being perceived as having a disposition for such attachment or attraction. This may include, but is not limited to, lesbian, gay, straight, bisexual, asexual, and queer.

C. Article 4:5.4(A)(4)(a) is amended by adding "or termination of pregnancy" after the word "pregnancy" so that it reads: A written or unwritten employment policy or practice which excludes employment to applicants or employees because of the employee's pregnancy or termination of pregnancy is a prima facie violation of this article.

D. Article 4:5.4(A)(4)(b) is amended by adding "abortion" after the word "miscarriage" so that it reads: Disabilities caused or contributed to by the employee's pregnancy, miscarriage, abortion, childbirth, and recovery there from are, for all job-related purposes, temporary disabilities and shall be treated as such under any health or temporary disability insurance or sick leave plan available in connection with employment or any written or unwritten employment policies and practices involving terms and conditions of employment as applied to other temporary disabilities.

E. Article 4:5.7(B)(4) is amended to change "family" to "familial status". As amended, it reads: On the basis of sex, the application of any rule concerning the actual or potential parental, familial status, or marital status of a person, or the exclusion of any person from any program or activity or employment because of pregnancy or related conditions dependent upon the physician's diagnosis and certification.

F. Article 4:5.9 is amended by adding the following as the first sentence: The following shall be an unfair or discriminatory practice:

Section III. Repealer. All other ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section IV. Savings Clause. If any section, provision, or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, illegal, or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any section, provision or part thereof not adjudged, invalid, illegal or unconstitutional.

Section V. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be in effect after its final passage and publication as part of the proceeding of the Board of Supervisors.

On May 1, 2025, **Motion** by Remington, second by Fixmer-Oraiz, to approve the proposed ordinance amending the Johnson County Human Rights Ordinance to update certain definitions and to add certain protections regarding reproductive health care on first and second con-

sideration. Approved unanimously.

**Motion** by Remington, second by Sullivan, to approve the proposed ordinance amending the Johnson County Human Rights Ordinance to update certain definitions and to add certain protections regarding reproductive health care on third and final consideration and approve Ordinance No. 05-08-25-01, amending the Johnson County Code of Ordinances. Roll call: Aye: Fixmer-Oraiz, Green-Douglass, Remington, Sullivan; absent: Green.

**Motion** by Sullivan, second by Green-Douglass, to approve the Standard Professional Services Agreement with Snyder & Associates, Inc., for Pipeline Inspection Services for proposed Natural Gas Pipeline in Johnson County, Iowa; Utilities Commission Docket No. P-0877, to be reimbursed by the pipeline company for associated costs. Approved unanimously.

**Motion** by Green-Douglass, second by Sullivan, to approve/authorize the Statement of Loss for the County Administration Building's Fire Suppression System Property Claim from an incident discovered on January 19, 2025, in the amount of \$46,127.59. Approved unanimously.

**Motion** by Sullivan, second by Remington, to authorize the Chair to sign the federal certification form certifying the Johnson County Cost Allocation Plan for Fiscal Year 2024. Approved unanimously.

**Motion** by Remington, second by Green-Douglass, Change Order No. 63 with McComas-Lacina Construction LC, Iowa City, for the Administration and Health and Human Services Buildings Remodeling Project for installation of heaters above the County Administration Building ceiling, in the amount of \$94,401.60. Approved unanimously.

**Motion** by Green-Douglass, second by Sullivan, to approve the Fiscal Year 2025 Quality of Life Grant Agreements between the Johnson County Board of Supervisors and Friends of Coralville Lake in an amount not to exceed \$5,000. Approved unanimously. Board Office Executive Director Erin Shane recalled County staff presented and recommended approval of eight Quality of Life Grant applications for Fiscal Year 2025 during May 29, 2024, Work Session. However, finalizing this specific agreement with Friends of Coralville Lake was delayed due to staffing changes. She confirmed no changes have been made to the agreement nor amounts during the time period.

**Motion** by Remington, second by Green-Douglass, to approve the Juvenile Diversion 2025/26 Contract with the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services for the Juvenile Pre-Charge Diversion Expansion Project in the amount of \$125,000. Approved unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO. 05-08-25-03**  
**APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE TEMPORARY COUNTY REDISTRICTING COMMISSION**

**Summary:** Senate File 75 prescribes Johnson County must elect supervisors from districts that need to be created and recommended by a Temporary County Redistricting Commission. In accordance with the Code of Iowa, the Supervisors must appoint two members to the commission. **Board action:** Certify to the County Auditor that Susan Dvorsky, Coralville, and Nathan Mueller, Solon, are appointed to the Temporary County Redistricting Commission.

**Motion** by Sullivan, second by Remington, to approve Resolution No. 05-08-25-03. Approved unanimously. Adjourned at 5:49 p.m.

/s/Jon Green, Chair, Board of Supervisors

Attest: /s/Julie Persons, Auditor

On the 15th day of May, 2025

Recorded by Auditor's Office: Marly Melsh, Executive Clerk to the Board

These minutes were sent for formal approval and publication on May 15, 2025.

Published in The News, Thursday, May 22, 2025 L-515

WASHINGTON COUNTY

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**MEETING TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2025**

At 9:00 a.m., Chairperson Richard Young called to order in regular session a meeting of the Washington County Board of Supervisors which took place at Orchard Hill. Items on the agenda included the following: Pledge of Allegiance, approval of agenda, public comment related to agenda items, General Assistance policy change, quarterly report – Sheriff's Office, personnel change request – Communications, amendment to lease agreement between Washington County and Iowa Department of Corrections Eighth Judicial District, approval of Iowa DOT preconstruction agreement No. 2025-C-078 for paved approaches

mously unless noted otherwise.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to approve the agenda as amended to remove the General Assistance policy change. This will be part of the following week's agenda.

On motion by Fedler, seconded by Seward, the Board voted to acknowledge receipt of the Washington County Sheriff's Office Quarterly Cash Report for the 3rd quarter of FY25. The report, presented by Civil Deputy Bill Fiordelise, included a beginning balance of \$17,889.65, total receipts including unallocated funds in the amount of \$80,857.53, total disbursements of \$71,765.80, and an ending balance of \$26,981.58, which takes into account a computer error of \$0.20 in calculations. The complete report is available in the office of the Washington County Auditor.

On motion by Fedler, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign,

a personnel change request from Communications for a change in status for Hunter Erwin. Erwin is going to casual part-time from full-time status effective May 8, 2025.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Fedler, the Board approved and authorized the Chairperson to sign, the amended lease agreement with the Iowa Department of Corrections Eighth Judicial District for office spaces at 2715 Lexington Blvd. The lease agreement extends the existing end date to December 31, 2025.

On motion by Feder, seconded by Seward, the Board approved and authorized the Chairperson to sign, the Iowa Department of Transportation Preconstruction Agreement No. 2025-C-078 for paved approaches along U.S. 218 from IA 92 south to the Henry County line. The estimated cost for these improvements is \$104,574.80 which will be reimbursed to the Iowa Department

of Transportation by the county in three equal yearly installments.

Supervisor Seward presented minutes of the April 9, 2025, Mental Health Agency of Southeast Iowa Governing Board, regarding dissolution of the Mental Health Agency of Southeast Iowa. On motion by Fedler, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to adopt and authorize the Chairperson to sign Resolution 25-14, 28E Termination of the Mental Health Agency of Southeast Iowa Region.

There was no Department Head comment.

At 9:17 a.m. on motion by Yoder, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to adjourn.

ATTEST:s/ Tamera S. Stewart, Washington County Auditor

Published in The News, Thursday, May 22, 2025 L-109

AMENDMENT OF CURRENT BUDGET NOTICE, RECORD OF HEARING AND CERTIFICATE TO AMEND CURRENT BUDGET

**NOTICE: - The Public Safety Commission of Washington County, Iowa will meet at the EOC 2175 Lexington Blvd, Washington, Iowa, on June 9th, at 6:00p.m., for the purpose of amending the current Public Safety Commission budget adopted February 14th, 2024 and amended March 5th, 2025 by increasing expenditures as follows:**  
**Operation & Administration from \$1,218,050 to \$1,238,050.**

The increase in expenditures set out above will be met from increased receipts and cash balances not budgeted or considered in the current budget.

There will be no increase in taxes to be paid in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

Taxpayers will be heard for or against the proposed amendment at the time and place specified in this notice. A detailed statement of additional receipts other than taxes, cash balances on hand at the close of the preceding fiscal year, and proposed disbursements, both past and anticipated, will be available at the hearing.

Published in The News, Thursday, May 22, 2025 L-35

The News

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MID-PRAIRIE CSD

MID-PRAIRIE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
KALONA, WELLMAN, WEST CHESTER  
MID-PRAIRIE CENTRAL OFFICE COM-  
MUNITY ROOM, WELLMAN, IA 52356  
MAY 12, 2025 – 6:15 P.M.  
WWW.MID-PRAIRIE.K12.IA.US

Vice President Ryan Schlaubaugh called the meeting to order in the absence of President Jake Snider.

**Board members present:** Mary Allred, Denise Chittick, Gabrielle Frederick, Ryan Schlaubaugh, Jed Seward, and Jake Snider (arrived at 6:18 p.m.).

**Board members absent:** Randy Bil-lups and Jake Snider (arrived at 6:18 p.m.).

Also Present: Superintendent Brian Stone, Board Secretary/School Busi-ness Official Jeff Swartzentruber.

**Pledge of Allegiance**  
**Read the School Mission Statement by Vice-President**  
**Adopt the Agenda**

Changes included removal of the Closed Session from the Agenda due to the absence of a Board Member at the meeting, and Superintendent Stone announced the late resignation of Greg Jergens, East Elementary Principal, and noted the addition to the Consent Agen-da.

Mary Allred moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Seconded by Gab-rielle Frederick. Motion carried 6-0.

**Hawk Highlights** – Kristan Hunter, Dis-trict Curriculum Coordinator, presented the ISAP Districtwide Data from the 2024-2025 testing completed this Spring. It measures Mathematics and English Language Arts for 3rd Grade to 11th Grade students at Mid-Prairie. Science is measured for Grades 5, 8, and 10. This is the fifth year for this state-wide assessment. A table showing the results of the past 5 years by grade was presented to show the overall increas-ing scores by year through 8th Grade for English and Math. The Science data shows positive progression as well, al-though the time between testing is a factor. There is some drop off in Grades 9 to 11 on the charts. The Board asked questions for clarification. High School Principal Chuck Banks and Middle School Principal Tim Bartels discussed some changes in the application of the test and the results with some changes that were implemented through out the school year primarily setting the expecta-tion that this is important and com-petitive. The Board asked questions about the data to increase their under-standing within some of the details and standards of the test. Hunter noted that testing wrapped up in the state for this school year on Friday, May 9th within a 6 week window for testing. The Board thanked the group for the presentation and asked her to return when the state data is available and Mid-Prairie data can be compared to State data.

Kristan Hunter and Teresa Coleman, High School Business Teacher, also presented on the Credential to Careers Grant Application they are requesting approval to apply for the grant. The grant provides a way to gain access to PC laptop computers using Microsoft applications and certifications. It also allows the school to work with local businesses to allow for application of the skills learned and to promote life-long learning opportunities. Currently, the District offers 11 different creden-tials for students. There is a desire to expand this programming growth. The total almost \$30,000 cost will require matching funds that will come from the Mid-Prairie Foundation and not from the District. The grant is to be filed by May

30th with the hope of award and imple-mentation in the 2025-2026 School Year.

*Jake Snider arrived during this Agen-da Item at 6:18 p.m.*

Public Forum  
No one spoke.

BUSINESS MEETING

**Consent Items**  
Gabrielle Frederick moved to ap-prove the following consent items.

**Minutes of Previous Meetings**  
The minutes of April 14, 2025 and April 28 2025;

**Finance Report**  
The Finance Report for Year to Date through April 30, 2025;

**Payment of Bills**  
The bills as listed for May 12, 2025;

Prepaid Bills;

**Open Enrollment Requests**  
Open Enrollment In Requests total 2 students;  
Open Enrolled Out Requests total 0 students;

**Personnel Items**  
Contract issued to Jenny Hobbs, High School ALC/Credit Recovery Teach-er, \$62,500 per annum;

Resignation of Greg Jergens, East Elementary Principal, \$104,800 per annum; effective the end of the 2024-2025 School Year;

Resignation of Anita Miller-Beachy, HSAP Part-Time Spanish Teacher, \$31.44 per hour, effective end of the 2024-2025 School Year;

Resignation of Bethany Hanselman, High School Nurse/KCC Adjunct Instruc-tor, \$60,000 per annum, effective end of the 2024-2025 School Year;

Resignation of Kathryn Schneider, High School Special Education Teacher, \$54,756 per annum, effective end of the 2024-2025 School Year;

Resignation of Amanda Smith, Early Childhood Special Education Teacher, \$54,754 per annum, effective end of the 2024-2025 School Year;

Resignation of Maureen Gingerich, 4th Grade Teacher, \$63,585 per an-num, effective end of the 2024-2025 School Year;

Resignation of Makenzie Flynn, El-ementary Special Education Teacher, \$60,406 per annum, effective end of the 2024-2025 School Year;

Resignation of Julie Frieden, East El-ementary Paraprofessional, \$17.95 per hour, effective end of the 2024-2025 School Year;

Resignation of Gracie Baetsle, High School Paraprofessional, \$15.29 per hour, effective end of the 2024-2025 School Year;

Resignation of Mikaela Lunsford, High School Girls Soccer Assistant Coach, \$3,286 per annum, effective end of the 2024-2025 School Year;

TLC Assistant Coach Contracts for the 2025-2026 School Year (all \$2,000 except as noted)

East Elementary – Kara Troyer, Paula Buckwalter, Melissa Gerot, Katie Reuman, Renee Fisher

West Elementary – Sadie Barber \$3,000; Mackenzie Kos \$1,000; Sadie Barber, Kelsey Stumpf, Grace Andreas-sen, Hannah Gingerich

Middle School – Melanie Steinhart, Stephanie Schlaubaugh, Marissa Tuning, Liza Fontaine, Elsie Spilman, Re-becca Ryder, Rachel Foubert, Ashley Bartels

High School – Elsa Schmidt, Sara Puttmann, Sarah O'Rourke, Jessica Jones

Citizen Coach Contract for the 2025-2026 School Year

Kevin Cortum, High School Football Assistant

Dylan Wertz, High School Football

Assistant

Mark Hostetler, High School Cross Country Head

Lynette Poll, High School Cross Country Asst.

Sherry Evans, High School Volleyball Head

Rebecca Becker, High School Volley-ball Asst.

Christine Meader, High School Speech Head, Fall Play Director, Spring Musical Director

Lisa Helmuth, High School Speech Asst., Fall Play Asst. Director, Spring Mu-sical Asst. Director

Kevin Cortum, 7th Grade Boys Bas-ketball

Kevin Cortum, 7th Grade Girls Bas-ketball

Truman Shetler, High School Girls Basketball Asst.

Jared Duwa, High School Boys Wres-tling Asst.

Duncan McCain, High School Boys Wrestling Head

Brock Moore, High School Girls Wrestling Head

Darrick Eldridge, High School Girls Wrestling Asst.

David Murry, Middle School Boys Wrestling

Brock Moore, Middle School Girls Wrestling

Brenna Hutson, High School Dance Head

**Fundraising Requests**

Mid-Prairie Football requests ap-proval to raise funds through Summer Camp in August and Corporate Sponsor-ships for jerseys, volunteer coach pay-ments, player and coach apparel and equipment;

Mid-Prairie Boys Basketball re-quests approval to raise funds through Summer Youth Basketball Camp for jer-seys, volunteer coach payments, player and coach apparel, basketballs, and equipment;

**Dance Team Attending Nationals in Orlando, Florida February 5-10 of 2026** – Approved as a follow-up to the March 10, 2025 Board Meeting request and presentation.

2025 Graduates

Keagan James Bauwens, Madison Raelynn Bear, Burke Lee Berry, Chloe Jade Bouse, Taylor John Brenneman, Quinn John Callahan, Xandree Lee Campbell, Jesse Cenicerros, SiYi Du, Isa-belle Clover Duvall, Lainee Ann Duwa, Addison Marie English, Ashlee Jolie Far-rier, Anna Jacqueline FlynnJacob Daniel Flynn, Thomas Joseph Flynn, Peighton Ann Ford, Brylee Rose Gearhart, River Jo Gehling, Kate Brooklyn Gillam, Ava Lee Gingerich, Landry Duane Gingerich, Traevin Duane Gugel, Jason Andrew Heltman, Emma Rose Hendricks, Cobi Eugene Hersherberger, Masson Lee Howe, Maxwell Thomas Howe, Callie Ann Huber, Dylan Andrew Humphrey, Hannah Maree Jamieson, Brenna Lea Jehle, Parker Brad-yn Jennings, Elden Issac Kahler, Kyla Emma Karnes, Sydney Lynne Knebel, Landon Allen Kos, Niah Malachi Leat-on, Emma Ann Lyle, Jillian Reese Lyon, Logan Alexander McClellen, Johnathon Richard Miller, Kenzington Jo Miller, Lilly Marie Miller, Dakota Judith Mitchell, Aid-en Noah Montz, Shay Frederick Myers, Katelinn Mae Nicholson, Carly Fae Nick-ell, Colin James O'Rourke, Aliza Jewel Parks, Ace Michael Peck, Lilian Marie Purkeypile, Grace Savanna Puttmann, Jeremiah Lee Rempel, Ivy Ann Reschly, Hunter Scott Robertson, Diego Sanchez, Adrian Alejandro Sanches Reye, Caiden Michael Sellers, Dominik Cordell Shively, Charlotte Grace Sieren, Grace Elizabeth Skelton, Landon Alan Sparks, Jayden Kyle Stafford, Melissa Sara Stakland, Blake Christopher Swart, Emmett Phil-ip Swartzentruber, Ashton Lanier Tabor, Tatem Michael Telfer, Cobin Lee Thomp-son, Liana Joy Wade, Brady Christopher Weber, Conner Ardell Wiles, Annette Eve Witthoft, Lincoln Christopher Wulf, Cait-

lyn Marie Yoder, Jayse Dalton Yoder, Paul Daniel Young, Brynn Renee Young

Virtual Academy

Amarah Lael Bagley, Sean William Deeley, Alee Bridget Gent, Andrew Ed-ward Greiner, Reese Elizabeth McGriff, Louis Leigh O'Donnell,

Home School Assistance Program

Maeve Diller, Sarah Farrier, Isabella Friessen, Gabrielle Gingerich, Ezra Have-man, Gavin Hintermeister, Kyle Mar-tin, Lydia Martin, Tabitha Martin, Ema Miller, Hannah Park, Dessa Poll, Izac Tu, Margaret Woodward, Preston Yutz, Artie Albert-Wirth, Makai Arant, Gage Bender, Ethan Fawcett, Creed Harker, Justin Leichty, Tanner Meskimen, Hunter Miller, Keyaunna Minear, Taylor Schrock, Clara Tse

Ryan Schlaubaugh seconded the con-sent items. Motion carried 6-0.

Student Learning

**Building and Department Reports**  
The Board reviewed the Administra-tors' written reports to the Board. Time was allotted to ask questions and dis-cuss the reports. No questions were asked. Principal Bartels shared data about the Middle School for which he is quite pleased. Data presented included absences and ISASP data for each Mid-dle School Grade with positive gains in every grade with the whole school ap-proaching 80% proficiency in Language Arts, and Math. Science whole school scores are at 70%. The Board thanked Bartels for the great report and ap-proach to the testing process.

**Second Reading of Board Policy 503.9 Student Use of Personal Elec-tronic Devices**

Superintendent Stone and President Snider reviewed policy passed on First Reading at the April 14th meeting. The policy would be implemented at the be-ginning of the 2025-2026 School Year. Consistent application was emphasized by the Board.

Gabrielle Frederick moved to ap-prove Board Policy 503.9 Student Use of Personal Electronic Devices on Second Reading for the 2025-2026 School Year. Denise Chittick seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

**School Fees for 2025-2026**  
School Business Official Swartzen-truber shared the proposed changes to School Fees for the upcoming school year. It is proposed that the student lunch and breakfast prices increase by 10 cents lunches and 15 cents for breakfast. This takes into consideration rising food costs borne by the District. Prices were increased by 5 cents on both breakfast and lunch last year. While the Nutrition Fund remains healthy, there is evidence that some erosion of funds is occurring and steepening. The other fee changes are with Adult Lunches, 15 cents, Adult Breakfasts, 25 cents. The Band Uniform Cleaning Fees have a pro-posed increase of \$3.00 for the upcom-ing school year. Cleaning fees have also continued to increase. The Board asked questions to clarify the recommenda-tion.

Gabrielle Frederick moved to ap-prove the 2025-2026 School Fees with the increases as presented. Mary Allred seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

**Credential to Careers Grant**  
Superintendent Stone reviewed the proposal by the earlier Hawk Highlight presentation. While the District will not provide funds directly, the program will be implemented by the District for High School Students. As such, it is recom-mended to the Board to approve the ap-plication for the funds.

Ryan Schlaubaugh moved to approve the proposal to apply for and implement the Credential to Careers Grant as pre-sented. Jed Seward seconded the mo-tion. Motion carried 6-0.

**Finance-Long Range Planning**  
**Home School Assistance Program (HSAP) Compensation for 2025-2026**

ALL AYE: Motion Carried 5-0  
Vice President Ogren declared the work-shop adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

The Board of Directors of the Lone Tree Community School District special ses-sion was called to order by President Sladek at 7:12 p.m., May 7, 2025, in the Library.

**PRESENT:** Eden, Hotz, Ogren, Sladek, Viers  
**ABSENT:** None

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**  
Upon motion by Ogren, seconded by Viers, it was  
RESOLVED: to approve the May 7, 2025 special session agenda  
ALL AYE: Motion Carried 5-0

**BASEBALL & SOFTBALL**  
Discussion held on baseball and softball numbers, future of the programs, sce-narios, timelines, roster impacts, and schedules.  
Upon motion by Eden, seconded by Hotz, it was  
RESOLVED: to reconsider options on baseball and softball numbers and 8th and 6th graders moving up  
AYE: Eden, Hotz, Ogren, Sladek  
NAY: Viers  
Motion Carried 4-1

**PERSONNEL**  
Upon motion by Viers, seconded by Ogren, it was  
RESOLVED: to approve recommenda-tions of hire for Amber Jacque (Athletic Director), Ryan Shelman (Strength & Conditioning Coach), Tanya McCarty (Instructional Coach 0.5 FTE), Misty Soukup (Instructional Coach 0.5 FTE), Donda Nebergall (Mentor Teacher), Mi-chael Dickinson (Mentor Teacher), Kath-erine Leibold (Teacher Leader), Sierra Floura (Teacher Leader), Brittney Dvor-sky (Teacher Leader), Hanna McDowell

(Teacher Leader), Ryan Shelman (Teach-er Leader), Jessica Howard (Teacher Leader), Gabriele Kates (Teacher), Joel Herman (MS Assistant Coach - Sum-mer), and Jay Huff (Teacher); and res-ignations for Hannah Corner (Teacher) and Ashley Zaruba (Head Cross Country Coach & HS Assistant Track Coach)  
AYE: Viers, Ogren, Eden, Sladek  
Abstain: Hotz  
Motion Carried 4-0

**EPSON PROJECTORS**  
Upon motion by Viers, seconded by Eden, it was  
RESOLVED: to approve the purchase of Epson Projectors as presented  
ALL AYE: Motion Carried 5-0

**2025-2026 EXTRA CURRICULAR CON-TRACTS**  
Upon motion by Viers, seconded by Ogren, it was  
RESOLVED: to approve the 2025-2026 Extra Curricular Contracts as presented  
AYE: Viers, Ogren, Eden, Sladek  
NAY: Hotz  
Motion Carried 4-1

**2025-2026 CLASSIFIED CONTRACTS**  
Upon motion by Viers, seconded by Ogren, it was  
RESOLVED: to approve the 2025-2026 Classified Contracts as presented  
ALL AYE: Motion Carried 5-0

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Upon motion by Viers, seconded by Ogren, it was  
RESOLVED: to approve the 2025-2026 Admin/Director Contracts as presented  
ALL AYE: Motion Carried 5-0

**2025-2026 SUBSTITUTE/OTHER**  
Upon motion by Hotz, seconded by Viers, it was  
RESOLVED: to approve the 2025-2026 Substitute/Other rates as presented

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Upon motion by Hotz, seconded by Viers, it was  
RESOLVED: to approve the 2025-2026 Substitute/Other rates as presented

School Year

School Business Official Swartzen-truber shared the HSAP 2025-2026 Compensation Proposal. The total in-crease from 2025-2026 is 16.96%, or \$152,559. While this is more than the 4.0% total package given to certi-fied staff, it takes includes increasing 3 teachers to near full-time status as Supervising Teachers. It also includes 5 new 8 and 5 hour per week slots that have not yet been filled but are needed due to growth of the program. It also includes increasing the Media Secretary Position from 24 hours per week to 40 hours per week. The median wage in-crease for part time teachers is 3.23% in consideration that the part-time teach-ers receive a similar wage raise to other staff in the District.

Gabrielle Frederick moved to ap-prove the Home School Assistance Pro-gram 2025-2026 wages and packages as presented. Denise Chittick seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

**Principal Compensation for the 2025-2026 School Year**  
Superintendent Stone recommends a 4.0% package increase for Principals for the 2025-2026 School Year. This is consistent with the 4.0% package ap-proval for Teachers passed at the April 28, 2025, School Board Meeting. A comparison of similar sized districts was conducted to determine how Mid-Prairie falls within the rankings of these dis-tricts. Mid-Prairie falls in the middle to high middle in these rankings for prin-cipals. The Board asked questions about the packages of the administrators.

Gabrielle Frederick moved to ap-prove the District Administrators total package increase of 4.0% for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 as presented. Ryan Schla-baugh seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

**Signage on the Baseball Press Box**  
Superintendent Stone discussed the Baseball Program's request to re-cognize Dave Tornow by placing a sign on the Press Box above the clubhouse door on the Southwest Corner in his memory. The Board asked questions for clarifi-cation. He also noted a policy that he would like to bring to a future Work Ses-sion for consideration.

Ryan Schlaubaugh moved to approve placing signage on the Baseball Press Box as presented. Denise Chittick se-conded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

**Board Development and Inservice Activities** – Nothing was discussed on this item.

**Announcements and Suggestions for Next Agenda**  
The next regular Board meeting will be on Monday, June 9, 2025, at 6:15 p.m. at the Central Office Community Room. Snider also talked about another Work Session or two in May and June and asked for Board input as to that and a closed special session for Superinten-dent Stone's evaluation.

Stone asked for Board members to provide a seat count for graduation. Agenda items to include: Superinten-dent Compensation for the Rolling Two-Year Contract;

**Superintendent Evaluation per Iowa Code 21.5 Subsection 1a.**  
Due to a Board Member not being able to be in attendance due to health issues and the Board's desire to have all members present and to participate, the Board has tabled this to a special ses-sion to be determined.

**Adjournment**  
The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

President, Jake Snider  
Secretary, Jeffrey C. Swartzentruber

Published in The News, Thursday, May 22, 2025 L-478

LONE TREE CSD

LONE TREE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD WORKSHOP & SPECIAL SES-SION  
MAY 7, 2025 @ 6:00 PM  
LIBRARY

The Board of Directors of the Lone Tree Community School District workshop was called to order by Vice President Ogren at 6:03 p.m., May 7, 2025, in the Library.

**PRESENT:** Eden, Hotz, Ogren, Viers, Sladek-remote  
**ABSENT:** None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon motion by Eden, seconded by Hotz, it was  
RESOLVED: to approve the May 7, 2025 workshop and special session agenda with moving public comment to first item of business

ALL AYE: Motion Carried 5-0

**PUBLIC COMMENT**  
Public comments received by Jamie Lo-rack, Michael Eden, Joe Williams, Mike Patterson, and Ryan Burke.

**FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS**  
Superintendent Hotz presented on the Comprehensive Financial Planning Model (CFPM) and answered questions from the Board. The District will use the CFPM as its primary budgetary projec-tion tool.

**SCHOOL FEES**  
Approval of 2025-2026 school fees will be on the May regular meeting agenda. Proposed fee changes for 3 year-old pre-school tuition, nutrition, and technology.

*Sladek physically entered the meeting*

at 6:35 p.m.

HVAC UPDATE

Discussion held on recommendations from Mike Klinskammer on mass re-placing some units due to room con-figurations and individual classrooms as needed. Discussion also held on cur-rent conditions and rate projections for 2025 or 2026 bond vote.

**SUMMER BOARD MEETINGS**  
Superintendent Hotz recommended having one board meeting for the months of June, July and potentially, August. Look at dates and vote at May regular meeting.

**SHARED TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR**  
Terminated previous shared Transpor-tation Director with Mid-Prairie. Es-tablishing new shared agreement with West Branch for Director and Mechanic. Hope to have agreement for approval at May regular meeting.

**FY2025 BUDGET AMENDMENT**  
Business Manager Tharp presented the FY2025 budget estimates, calculations, and public hearing notice.

**STUDENT HANDBOOKS**  
Principal Koshatka presented proposed changes to the MS/HS Student Hand-book in the areas of Post-Secondary En-rollment Options, Good Conduct Rule for Eligibility for Extracurricular Activities, Tardy Policy, and Hats/Hoods. Principal Jacque presented a proposed change to the Elementary Student Handbook for Food and Drinks.

**ADJOURNMENT**  
Upon motion by Viers, seconded by Eden, it was  
RESOLVED: to adjourn

**EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**  
Discussion held on baseball and softball programs including number of partici-pants, schedules, and communication. Discussion held on the



80 YEARS AGO - MAY 24, 1945

**Kalona**  
Iowa is slightly under the mark on E Bond sales for the second week in the drive.

We must back our fighting men in the Pacific. No one can read the stories of Okinawa and the bloody battles of the Philippines without realizing that we still have a tremendous fight ahead. A fight that will cost millions of dollars. Remember, the Infantry man or Marine goes into battle fully aware that it may cost his life. He goes in ready to make the supreme sacrifice. We folks here at home are asked to do so little in comparison that we should buy bonds to the very limit of our ability.

The 7th War Loan Drive is now on. The first reports from our workers have been very disappointing. Please remember we have a war to win in the Pacific. Huge amounts of men and materials must be used against Japan. This community has met its quota every time--don't let down now--buy your bonds now!

Decoration Day services and program will be held at the Richmond Park Sunday, May 27 at 2:30 p.m. The band, American Legion and the school children will meet at the Holy Trinity school in Richmond and be ready to march to the park promptly at 2 o'clock. Upon arrival at the park, there will be music by the band, songs, and recitations by the school children and an address by Rev. Fr. W.F. Boeckmann.

Following the program, all will march to the Richmond cemetery for decoration of the graves; service at the Unknown grave by the Legion Military Salute and taps.

Following this service, the Legion will go to the Catholic cemetery for Military Salute and taps.

It is announced at the Rationing Board Office that a reduction has been made in the quota for canning sugar, and no one will receive the maximum of 15 pounds.

Only applications for canning sugar have been made and none have so far been allowed. No coupons for the sugar have yet been issued.

None are to be given more than the average of 12 pounds per person and families of eight persons will not receive over 96 pounds, that being the limit per family.

The time limit for making application for canning sugar expires May 31.

There will be another period for filling applications in the fall, for persons who did not make them this spring.

Herman Edward Ramig was born in Germany March 29, 1860 and died at the Mercy Hospital in Iowa City, May 20, 1945 at the age of 85 years, 1 month and 21 days.

He came to America as a young man and the last 60 years or more were spent in Iowa. The greater part of this time he was living alone in a number of different places in the community, but the last nearly 40 years were spent in his little home on Deer Creek near the village of Joetown.

On July 19 of last year, he was taken to the hospital by P.M. Swartzendruber and Dan Gascho and since that time he has been at his home but a few short periods of time.

Herman had for a number of years been somewhat feeble and what assistance he needed during this time was freely given to him by the above named men who also made themselves responsible to give to him a respectable burial.

He is survived by one sister who resides at Chicago.

The State Conservation Commission receives numerous questions as to whether members of the armed forces need licenses to hunt and fish in Iowa. They do not need to secure licenses. The legislature in 1943 passed a law exempting all men and women members of the armed services from buying licenses during the time the United States is engaged in war. All other fishing laws, including seasons, catch limits, etc., however, must be observed.

The town of Kalona has found it necessary to enforce an ordinance on 'Parking or Standing Vehicles, Night Parking' and the 'Moving of a Building or Repairing of a Building.'

Infractions on the parking ordinance has been the cause of several near-accidents during the past few weeks and other infractions have been called to the attention of the Town Council who in turn have ordered published a reminder

that these ordinances will be enforced.

It will be unlawful to park or leaving standing any longer than sixty (60) minutes any truck of any kind on any of the streets or alleys, on any day of the week or Holiday. Night parking: It shall be unlawful to park or leave standing for a longer period of time than sixty (60) minutes on any street or alley in the residential section between sunset and sunrise, any vehicle of any kind including motor vehicles.

The building ordinance of the town prohibits the building, or moving into the town or moving within the town any building or part of building without first getting a permit from the Mayor.

Though war production will continue to dominate U.S. industry until the Japs quit, civilian output should increase in proportion to the volume of material and manpower freed from army cutbacks.

Washing machines, vacuum cleaners, radios and furniture should be available in limited quantities within a year and some automobiles should also come off the assembly lines, though not enough will be manufactured to meet demands until 1948. With textiles and leather continuing to remain scarce until the Pacific war ends, the government will push up production of low-cost clothing and non-rationed footwear.

With the nation's food stocks below requirements, rationing will be maintained, with meat, sugar and butter in the tightest supply.

Monday afternoon and evening a windstorm hit the Pilotburg community, breaking trees and damaging the fruit crop.

**Lone Tree**

The community's annual Memorial day service will be held as usual next Wednesday, May 30 in the school auditorium.

Members of John L. Mumm Post No. 457 will meet at the American Legion home prior to the service, to attend in a body, and following the memorial service will hold the American Legion ritual on the lawn in front of the auditorium. Due to the fact that ammunition is not available now, the firing squad will not visit the nearby cemeteries to hold the Legion ritual, as has been generally done until the last couple of years.

Sgt. Howard Stock has been wounded for the third time while serving in the South Pacific war area since last July. He was awarded the Purple Heart for injuries from shrapnel received Dec. 16 on the island of Leyte. Sometime during April, he received injuries in the battle of Okinawa. This week his wife, who with their little daughter Meredith Ann resides in Lone Tree, had a letter from him that he was in a hospital somewhere in the Philippine Islands with wounds from a bullet which broke his lower jaw, entered his shoulder and came out in his ribs, missing his lungs.

Sgt. Stock has been in the army since October 1942. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Will Stock.

Iowa generally was visited with some unusually high winds the first of this week, accompanied by more rather low temperatures and some precipitation.

Here the wind struck at about supertime Monday and continued all that night and the following day. It was reported that at the Iowa City airport, the wind reached a velocity of

50 miles per hour at times. No great damage was done in this community, although branches were stripped from some trees and some buildings lost part of their shingles.

Work of overhauling the streets of Lone Tree is getting underway this week by the Richards Construction Co. of Washington, who were the successful bidders for the job a couple of weeks ago.

A number of carloads of gravel have been unloaded and stock-piled just west of the depot, so that it will be ready when wanted, and Tuesday work of scarifying and shaping up the streets got underway. Following the shaping up of the streets, they will be allowed to settle and pack under traffic for a time, and then will be reshaped and rolled before the asphalt and gravel is applied.

Commencement has come once more to Lone Tree high school and with it the graduation of what is thought to be the school's largest class, nine boys and twenty-one girls.

Graduation exercises were held in the school auditorium Thursday evening, May 17, with a large crowd attending.

The fire department was called Monday evening at about 7:30 to the house occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lydy on west Commercial Street, where sparks had ignited some shingles on the roof. The Lydys and neighbors managed to get the blaze out before the fire truck got there, however, so no great damage was done. The high wind of that evening might have made the blaze a serious one had it not been discovered when it was. The house is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Chas. R. Doerres.

Mrs. Bessie Wolford is helping with the work and caring for Marie Swailes who underwent an appendectomy on Friday at the hospital in Iowa City and on Saturday morning woke up with the mumps, so was moved by ambulance to her home, but at present is getting along as well as can be expected.

Richard Swailes is entertaining the mumps. We hope for a speedy recovery for both him and his sister Marie.

The War Production Board this week relaxed restrictions on building repairs and remodeling, thus making a start toward normal building activity. WPB's ceilings on building projects which forbade spending more than \$200 on homes or \$5,000 on a civilian goods factory in any year were increased five times, to \$1,000 and \$26,000, respectively. Re-modeling and expansion jobs can now be undertaken without special WPB permission which formerly was required.

Despite this lifting of restriction, lumber dealers say that such construction will be held back by lumber control orders now in effect, prevent lumber dealers from selling more than 10 percent of the lumber that they sold on retail prices in 1944, unless the purchaser has a farm certificate or priority rating.

Even when lumber for new construction on homes was limited to \$200 per year, dealers say that there was scarcely enough "free" lumber to meet the demand.

**Wellman**

Commencement exercises for the Wellman High School class of 1945 were held last Thursday night May 17th, with seventeen senior students receiving diplomas in the presence of a large crowd.

Cleo Hall is the first local boy to be discharged under the point system recently set up by the army.

Mr. Hall left Cedar Rapids in January, 1941 with a national

guard company and since that time he has been working with the 136th Medical regiment of the 34th Division through the African and Italian campaigns. Fortunately Mr. Hall had been home on rotation furlough after his overseas experiences and after reporting at Jefferson Barracks, his release came through. Twelve hours later he was due to leave on another overseas assignment, but his plans now are to farm with his father near North English.

Due to the continued shortage of gasoline, our highway gasoline panel has been called upon, by the District Office, to check on all possible ways of black market of gasoline.

This panel is asking that gasoline users of Washington County conserve wherever possible, and never use more than the allotment issued for use in that particular car. Always remember a 'B' or 'C' book is issued on a specific car and the gasoline must be used in that car only and the purpose issued.

Those who exceed the mileage, will be subject to revocation of 'A' books and cars tied up for a definite period, decided by the panel.

Frank Greiner's youngest son fell 25 feet from a window Tuesday, but no bones were broken. His head was badly bruised, however.

To date, Wellman citizens have bought less than 23 percent of their quota of war bonds in the 7th War Loan Drive.

It had been hoped that this community would be over the top by June 1st, but if that is accomplished everyone will have to dig deep and do it now.

Can you imagine celebrating Memorial Day in any better way than buying a bond? That bond will mean one less boy for whom we'll hear taps next Memorial Day.

Truman W. Gingerich, Parnell, has just made a state champion record on his registered Guernsey cow, Whit-Meads Rose Queen. Her production of 11,728.9 pounds of milk and 602.4 pounds of butter fat is the highest record in the state made in class GHI, which means this cow made this record at the age of two years in the Herd Improvement Division. She was milked twice daily for one year.

Mr. and Mrs. E.J. Hamilton and Martha Thrasher were Sunday dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Squire north of Iowa City. At noon a cooperative dinner was much enjoyed, the afternoon visit being interrupted by the roll of thunder and gathering clouds, the homeward trip was hurriedly begun and continued through a heavy downpour for some twenty miles. The guests are looking forward to another visit at the Squire home when members of the "Old Gang" will meet for jolly get-together.

Here's hoping the weather man will smile in place of frown that day for these are most happy occasions at "Hillcrest." The home, located in the timber, is a place of beauty at this season of the year. Mr. Squire has suffered a siege of the flu but is better now. Mr. and Mrs. Squire and Mrs. Eva Rowe are planning to spend

Decoration Day in Wellman with friends.

Mrs. Elmer Swartzendruber has been very ill since Saturday with inflammatory rheumatism.

Sunday dinner guests in the Roy Polson home were Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Brenneman and two children, and Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Polson, Nancy and Bob from Washington. Lloyd is leaving to go to Omaha for his fourth ear operation Thursday. Nellie Dorrance who has spent the past several months in Vinton after breaking her ankle, returned to her home in Wellman this week.

Carmi Crossetts daughter fell last week and broke her collar bone. She is getting along all right now.

"Refresher" courses and post-graduate training will be greatly in demand by doctors after their discharge from the armed forces and American hospitals must be prepared to accommodate them, believes Dean E.M. MacEwen of the Iowa College of Medicine.

"From the many letters received from our alumni on active duty, we find that the majority favor informal reviews. This means a chance to return to hospitals for periods of a few weeks to observe work on the wards, in the operating room, the laboratory and the X-ray division." He believes that hospitals not associated with medical schools can furnish the clinical experience, while the school provides the review courses. Specialists who were not used in their special fields during the war will want to return to the hospital for one or more months to renew their technique.

The history of choosing a representative boy and girl from the senior class dates back to 1926. The senior class of 1926 left sufficient money to purchase a plaque on which the names of the representative boy and girl of each succeeding class were to be inscribed. It has thus been handed down as a tradition in W.H.S.

The representative boy and girl are chosen each year by the faculty. The receiving of this honor is based on the student school career. At first it was based upon athletics and scholarship. Later when girls basketball was eliminated, it was decided to base it upon scholarship, citizenship and extra-curricular activities.

The representative boy and girl following the tradition for 1945 is Joan Kraft and Raymond Flanders.

This year of '45 marks the last graduate in the A.C. Kraft family until three years.

It has never happened before in the history of Wellman High School that members of one family have been represented in each grade of high school at one time. This happened in 1941 when Joan Kraft was a freshman, Bill was a sophomore, Dean, a junior, and Kay a senior. Joan, then in this year's graduating class, received the last diploma in the chain of four of the family.

Another feature of interest is that this family has had the football number 21 for the past six years, that is until Bill graduated in 1944

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WASHINGTON COUNTY DISPATCH

**May 12**  
Caller in Riverside reports his garbage truck is on fire. Contained most in the front end of the truck. He used the fire extinguishers on it. Riverside Fire and deputy responded. IHP also responded to conduct a vehicle inspection. Truck towed.  
Agency in Moberly, Missouri reports locating a subject on a Washington County warrant. Arrested Jonathan Beckler, of Wellman. Washington County warrants: 1st for 3 counts dominion control of firearm offensive weapon by domestic abuse offender, 2 counts assault while participating in felony, 2 counts possession-controlled substance 2nd offense, 2 counts unlawful possession of prescription drug, child endangerment, domestic abuse assault 2nd offense, assault display weapon making firearms available to minor, possession of controlled substance marijuana 2nd offense. Second warrant for fraudulent registration, 3rd warrant for possession of drug paraphernalia, 4th warrant for theft 1st degree and criminal mischief 1st, 5th warrant for rabies vaccine violation. Total bond: \$65,900  
Caller request to speak with a deputy regarding items belonging to her dad that were taken from a property in Kalona and now are being sold. Civil issue.  
Caller in Wellman reports a CNA used verbal abuse towards a resident. Incident was handled within the facility.  
Caller in Riverside reports the smell of ammonia in the area. A valve was loose and shut off.

**May 13**  
Deputy reports speaking to Wellman crossing guard about a vehicle rolling through crosswalk and driving erratically. Subject was given a verbal warning.  
Caller in Wellman reports her juvenile son is receiving threatening text messages and emails. Report filed.  
Caller in the 200 block of A Ave., reports the neighbor's dog broke off his chain and tried to attack his brother. Responded. Caller did not want any criminal charge. Carol Wiles of Kalona was given a warning for dog at large.  
Report of a motorcycle southbound from the Cheese Factory at a high rate of speed and making bad passes. Unable to locate.  
Ongoing issue with male subject tries to stop caller when he is driving by and says vulgar things in the 600 block of 7th Ave., Wellman. This happened about 30 min. ago. Johnathan Lee Berry of Wellman was given a trespass warning and advised on the complaint of his driving.  
Caller in the 900 block of 5th St., Wellman, reports that a subject is not wanting to leave and slamming doors. Responded. Party was gone upon arrival. Verbal only.  
Caller at the casino reported an intoxicated subject is now leaving, walking towards the highway. Afraid she is going to get hit. Responded. Advised the subject got a ride home. Officer observed another party fall out of an Uber. Advised they also got another ride home.

**May 14**  
Caller in Kalona reports someone opened a cell phone account in their name.  
Caller at 1248 Willow Ave., Riverside, reports a large grass fire. Riverside, Kalona, Ainsworth, Lone Tree, Hills fire departments and Riverside chief responded. This was part of a controlled burn that got out of control and there were tires burning. DNR was contacted about the tires.  
Caller requests fire department for tires on fire at 3220 130th St., Riverside. Kalona Fire Riverside Fire and Riverside chief responded.  
Multiple callers reported a tire and bumper are in the right-hand south-bound lane. Deputy responded and removed the debris from the road.

**May 15**  
Caller in the 3200 block of 130th St., Riverside, reports an Alliant truck has been sitting in the middle of the road without moving for some time. Operator was on a conference call. He was asked to move the vehicle over to the side.  
Caller in the 700 block of 6th St., Kalona, reports a male subject has been walking back and forth from one side of the road to the other talking to a tree. Responded. Subject left the area.  
Caller in Riverside reports an oversized truck is driving on the road again. Deputy responded and monitored the area for 2 hours. Unable to locate any vehicles violating a weight restriction.  
Caller in the 1500 block of 6th Ave N, Wellman, reported someone hit her mailbox last night and it was replaced with a new one this morning. Deputy responded and spoke with the caller and a subject who admitted to striking and replacing the mailbox. Caller does not wish to press charges.

**May 16**  
Caller requests a deputy to Mid-Prairie Middle School. Juvenile was charged with 2 counts harassment 3rd degree and 1 count simple assault with a laser. Report filed.  
Caller reports a full-size pickup has been parked on Palm Ave. for about 3 weeks. Made contact with the owner and the vehicle is not parked in the right of way. They are working in the field.  
Caller reports a two-vehicle accident with unknown injuries at Enterprise Drive. Washington ambulance and Riverside EMS responded. No subject were transported. Juvenile of Riverside was issued a citation for failure to stop within a safe and assured distance.  
Caller in the 1700 block of 130th St., Wellman reports someone dumped hog manure on the road in front of his residence. Deputy responded to document the debris. Deputy attempted to make contact with a suspect.  
Request assistance for a tree fallen across the road at Angle Road north of Derby Ave.  
Caller in the 1200 block of Orange Ave., Kalona, reports a dog biting her child when he was out running. Deputy responded and spoke to the dog owner.

Dog was put in quarantine. Report to be filed.  
Caller requests a deputy in the 500 block of 5th St., Kalona for a subject that will not leave the apartment. Responded. Parties separated for the night.  
Caller reports intoxicated driver at 1st St., and E Ave., Kalona, stopped in the road, got out and walked around then proceeded to drive off into a parking lot. Responded. Arrested Trevor Leon Roberts, 36, of Richland for operating while intoxicated 3rd offense.

**May 17**  
Caller in the 300 block of D Ave., Kalona, reports a suspicious male showed up at the caller's residence last evening. Spoke with the caller.  
Report of a dog bite in Wellman.  
Caller in the 1900 block of Mill View Circle SW, Kalona, reported a black-mail attempt through snapchat. Deputy spoke with the subject and advised him of options.  
Deputy reports he was flagged down by a subject in Kalona in reference to extortion. Advised the subject the same was reported.  
Caller in the 500 block of 14th St., Wellman, reported a verbal argument and a subject that is refusing to leave the property. Responded. Parties separated.  
Caller reports a female at the casino is in a fight and screaming. Second call from casino security reports a large fight on the third floor of the hotel. Requesting multiple deputies responded and request medical. Washington County deputies and Johnson County responded. Arrested Kenneth Francis McCarthy, 31, of Florida for public intoxication and simple assault. Arrested Lee Frederick Hallett, 52, of Washington for assault causing bodily injury.  
Caller in the 3100 block of 143rd Lane, Riverside, reports intoxicated subject left her house driving. Responded to the area and located the vehicle parked at the residence.

**May 18**  
Caller in Riverside requested to speak with a deputy reference some issues with a tenant's grandkids. Spoke with the subject.  
Caller reports a commercial burglar alarm at 405 B Ave., Kalona. No key holder contact. False alarm. Building secure.

**May 19**  
Caller in the 2200 block of 133rd St., Kalona, reports fraudulent situation on his computer.  
Caller in Kalona requests a welfare check on a coworker. Responded and made contact with the subject who went back to work.  
Deputy advised executing a search warrant in the 300 block of G Ave., Kalona. Deputy requested a call for service advising charges pending DCI results.  
Caller in Wellman reports a tree limb hit a power line connected to a house and it fell across the road. No sparks, flames or power outage. Responded and contacted Alliant.

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