



# Storm Lake Times Pilot

STORM LAKE, IOWA — The City Beautiful ■ Local News Since 1870 ■ FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2024 ■ \$1.00

## TV Times IN THIS ISSUE

Complete listings of local cable channels

## IN THE NEWS



### IN SPORTS: SIOUX CENTRAL, NEWELL-FONDA GIRLS PUNCH STATE TICKETS

Sioux Central clinches first-ever trip to state after 51-32 win over Pocahontas Area.

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### HOME TIMES

Designing a dream home with Ross Parcel. BV Glass is bigger and better in new building.

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### OPINION: THE TAP OPENS

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### ONLINE:

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### TODAY

Mostly cloudy  
high 43, low 23

### SATURDAY

Sunny  
high 55, low 33

### SUNDAY

Sunny  
high 58, low 37



7 28028 18770 0

# SUSPECT FLEES CUSTODY AT HOSPITAL

## Found in Schaller after stolen car runs out of gas

BY AMBER MOHMAND

A Storm Lake man was found in Schaller, 18 hours after he escaped custody from the Storm Lake Police Department while at Buena Vista Regional Medical Center.

Luis Rodriguez Garcia, 26, was found Tuesday afternoon by Sac County Sheriff deputies in

Schaller. Rodriguez Garcia escaped from police custody Monday night, handcuffed without shoes, running southbound from the hospital, according to an announcement from the SLPD's Facebook page.

Rodriguez Garcia was originally arrested for trespassing, criminal mischief, theft and in-

terference with official acts.

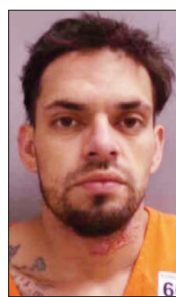
Police transported Rodriguez Garcia to BVRMC's emergency room for a pre-incarceration screening. Police allege that as the officer was returning to their patrol vehicle escorting Rodriguez Garcia at approximately 9:15 p.m., he was able to break free of custody and fled from the

officer on foot to the area of the 1500 block of Shoreway Road where he was last seen.

Rodriguez Garcia allegedly entered an unlocked car around 3 a.m. at the 1000 block of Seneca Street in Storm Lake, and drove the car to Schaller where it ran out of gas. Rodriguez remained in Schaller until being reported by citizens in the area.

"The Sac County Sheriff's Of-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2A



Luis Rodriguez Garcia



Director Corbet Butler hefts the big trophy. Photo by Storm Lake Music Boosters  
Saxophonist Miriam Tejada received an outstanding soloist award. TIMES PILOT photo by DOLORES CULLEN



## SL BAND MAKES JAZZ CHAMPIONSHIPS

# Up against the big schools in April state finals

Congratulations to the Storm Lake High School Jazz Band on their first place performance at the NWIBA Jazz Band Festival Monday, Feb. 19 in Le Mars.

The win qualifies the band to compete at the Iowa High School State Jazz Championships at Iowa State University April 2. Storm Lake took first in Class 4A in the

LeMars event, followed by Sioux City North, Sioux City East and Sioux City West.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2A

## Derochie takes on GM role at Holzauer Ford

BY KATE KEALEY

As the new general manager of Holzauer Ford of Storm Lake, Kevin Derochie is putting customers first.

After working over 20 years in the automotive industry, Derochie said he knows how to show patrons respect and help them find what they need. He hopes to bring those values to the Storm Lake Ford dealership in his new role.

"You have to keep the customers happy, but also employees as well," Derochie said.

Derochie found his interest in cars through his father, who also had a career in the auto industry. He was always around cars, so naturally Derochie went into the business. Starting out in sales, Derochie climbed his way up through finance becoming a manager.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3A



## World's first drive-in drugstore closes

Bedel's Hy-Vee Clinic Pharmacy, at 409 W. Fifth St. in Storm Lake, will close March 19, and merge with Storm Lake Hy-Vee Pharmacy beginning Wednesday, March 20. "All patient information will be automatically transferred to our Storm Lake Hy-Vee Pharmacy and we will continue to meet our patients' pharmaceutical and health care needs without any interruption in service," according to Nola Aigner Davis, Senior Communications Manager for Hy-Vee. The move is an effort to "streamline our operations and best serve our patients'



needs," she explained. Pharmacy staff have been offered positions at the Storm Lake Hy-Vee Pharmacy location.

Bedel's Pharmacy opened in 1956 under owner G.V. "Doc" Bedel, a young pharmacist from Early. The business had the distinction of being the world's first drive-in pharmacy. Doc Bedel's son Tony carried on the business, and when Tony retired in 2008, he sold the business to Hy-Vee. Bedel's Pharmacy was the last independent pharmacy in Storm Lake. Tony still owns the building.

What we don't know about resort hopefuls:

# How much will it cost?

## Council leaves that part out

BY TOM CULLEN

The Storm Lake City Council is considering two hotel management firms of Sioux Falls, S.D., and Verona, Wis., to manage King's Pointe Resort.

The council held two special meetings this week to hear Regency Hotel Management and S&L Hospitality give their pitch to run the 100-room hotel, associated water-parks, golf course and cottages. Each firm was offered a private resort tour with the city council and a public question and answer session in city hall.

City Manager Keri Navratil said the council will reach a decision between the two firms in the coming weeks. Navratil noted the council will determine which firm has the best qualifications to operate

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3A

## Engineer gets 3-year contract, 8% pay raise

BY KATE KEALEY

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors approved a three-year contract and an 8% raise for County Engineer Bret Wilkinson.

The supervisors settled on a \$140,000 pay for Wilkinson in 2025, increasing his salary to \$152,600 by 2026. Wilkinson is going on his ninth year working for the county.

Wilkinson is about to undergo the busiest year in his tenure. His department is taking on resurfacing N14 and Business 71 and repaving four miles of gravel road around Platinum

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2A



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# Storm Lake Times Pilot

Buena Vista County's Hometown Newspaper

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GENERAL MANAGER.....Jon Robinson

The Storm Lake Times is employee-owned and the only independent newspaper in Buena Vista County.

**NEWS**

If you have a suggestion or a question about a news story, contact **Art Cullen** or **Tom Cullen**. The Storm Lake Times Pilot strives for accuracy. When we receive a complaint about an inaccuracy, we will explain to the reporting party that we will investigate the matter and, if there is an inaccuracy, we will correct it as soon as possible, and we will remove any inaccuracy from our website.

**PHOTOS**

Reprints of photos taken by our staff are available. To place a wedding, engagement or birthday picture, send us a note with a photo or email to family@stormlake.com. There is no charge. To arrange for a photograph, contact **Dolores Cullen** (dcullen@stormlake.com).

**FAMILY & FRIENDS**

Contact **Jon Robinson** (family@stormlake.com). We welcome stories and photos about birthdays, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, deaths, club news, church, social and family events. There is no charge to place stories or photos. The deadline is Monday noon for Wednesday's paper and Wednesday noon for Friday's paper. (family@stormlake.com) To suggest a subject for "My Favorite Recipes," contact **Mary Cullen** (mjcullen@stormlake.com).

**SPORTS**

Contact **Jamie Knapp**. We encourage coaches of all sports to call or email (sports@stormlake.com).

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**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

Your comments and opinions are welcome. Send your letters to Editor, The Storm Lake Times, PO Box 487, Storm Lake, IA 50588-0487. All letters must be signed and contain an address and phone for verification. Deadlines are Monday noon for Wednesday's paper and Wednesday noon for Friday's paper. (news@stormlake.com)

**BACK ISSUES**

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Contact **Jenna Bernhoff** (accounting@stormlake.com).

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Contact **Lily Gust** (lily@stormlake.com). A one-year subscription in Buena Vista and adjoining counties is \$96.00; elsewhere in Iowa, \$99.00; outside Iowa, \$109.00. Online subscriptions are available at www.stormlake.com for \$85.00 per year. Monthly payment plans are also available for \$7.99.

**ONLINE**

Contact **Amber Mohmand** (amber@stormlake.com) for information about our website, www.stormlake.com.

The Storm Lake Times is printed on recycled newsprint with all-soy ink.

## No cuts for Alta council

BY KATE KEALEY

The Alta City Council is eyeing a fiscal year with no budget cuts and a stagnant levy, a rarity for municipalities this year due to new state legislation constraining municipalities' taxing authority.

City Clerk Megan Peterson told the Times Pilot after a special budget meeting that Alta didn't leverage many of the general fund taxing levies that were consolidated under House File 718.

"It didn't affect us too much," Peterson said in an email to the Times Pilot Tuesday. "The increased property taxes that we will receive due to increased valuations will more than cover the downfall of HF718 for Alta. Our overall tax levy will remain the same."

While the budget isn't finalized yet, there were no cuts considered during the budget meeting Tuesday. The council did not receive a contract to allocate funds for Ready, Set, Grow Learning Center. The city discussed granting funds for RSG, which is looking for a new alternative location due to water damage at the Alta-Aurelia Administration Building. Due to the uncertainty of the daycare's status, no contract has been considered.

The council did agree to increase the fire department truck savings account by \$15,000 in hopes to build the fund to purchase a new truck or for loan payments. Purchasing a truck hasn't been approved, but Fire Chief Kirk Reetz doesn't expect a new truck to be available for at least another two years.

One of the council's highest line items is replacing the lights, light fixtures and possibly the poles at the youth ball complex for field three. It will cost \$55,000. The city wanted to replace the lights for a couple years, but because the bulbs are old, they were out of inventory. The council is still deciding if the entire complex lighting which is over 25 years old, should be replaced to support cheaper and more efficient LED bulbs. Peterson said the budgeted \$55,000 should cover replacing the structure, the bulbs, poles and labor.

"Just a reminder, this was just for a budget," Peterson said. "That does not guarantee these things will actually be accomplished, but they may. But the money will be there if the council decides to move forward with these things."



The Storm Lake High School jazz band with their first place trophy. Front row from left: Miriam Tejada, Shawn Lee, Helen Wobbema, Annelly Rojo, Lisette Luna, Silvia Kampbell and Ben Langner Yarosevich. Middle: Alan Bermudez, Eh Nay Tha Sher, Ary Contreras, Madison Stull, Marlyne Magaña, Brisayde Lopez, Maddisen Mal-outaphong, Valeria Mejia-Terry, Morgan Zanfes, Matthew Funk, Brian Chea and Mr. Corbet Butler. Back: Seanna Lincoln, Jacob Mills, Miranda Mills, Madelyn Hogrefe and Ms. Ashley Stueven. Not Pictured: Landon DeMoss.

## JAZZ BAND: Up against the biggest schools

Continued from page one

The Tornados were up against biggest schools in the state at the championships,

including Northwest in Waukee, Des Moines Valley, Sioux City North and Fort Dodge.

"I'm really proud of the kids and their hard work," says director Corbet Butler.

Both Landon DeMoss and Miriam Tejada received out-

standing soloist awards.

This year will be the first time SLHS competes at the championships since becoming a 4A school. Storm Lake earned a Class 4A Wild Card invitation in 2020 a week before the COVID shutdown. "So

while we never got a chance to perform we were formally recognized as an invited band," states Butler. "I'm hopeful that we will get to make this year happen for us!"

## Alta and Linn Grove receive \$11M for water treatment, infrastructure

BY AMBER MOHMAND

The United States Department of Agriculture loaned \$11 million to two cities in Buena Vista County for water treatment and infrastructure repairs.

USDA Rural Development State Director Theresa Greenfield announced the agency provided \$21.5 million in loans and \$4.7 million in grants to rural communities across Iowa, including the cities of Alta and Linn Grove.

Both cities are part of the USDA's incentive program to provide clean, safe water and promote economic growth in rural Iowa.

"USDA invests in rural America because we know strong communities are rooted in their people," Greenfield said in a news release Wednesday. "The investments we're announcing today demonstrate the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to ensuring that people who live and work in rural areas have every opportunity to succeed – and that they can find those opportunities right at home."

The City of Linn Grove received a

\$994,000 loan and \$1.7 million grant to connect with Iowa Lakes Regional Water's bulk-treated water supply. The project will update the water distribution piping, services and meters to increase the system's reliability and pressure.

"This rural community experiences high manganese levels in the existing well supply which has a do-not-drink restriction in place," reads the news release. "The project will provide residents with clean drinking water and bring the city into compliance with water-quality standards."

The investments in Iowa are part of a larger national announcement made today by Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, totaling \$772.6 million for 216 projects.

This program provides funding for clean and reliable drinking water systems, sanitary sewage disposal, sanitary solid waste disposal and storm water drainage to households and businesses in eligible rural areas.

The City of Alta also received a \$10.4 million loan and a \$2.9 million grant from

the USDA to provide clean drinking water for the community. The combined \$13 million will fund the construction of a reverse osmosis treatment facility and replace its asbestos cement pipes that will modernize its water distribution system.

It's intended to mitigate health risks for water maintenance and construction workers, as well as enable the city to meet water quality goals, according to the news release.

Earlier this year, the City of Alta negotiated a water treatment contract with Platinum Crush that could generate the city an estimated \$19,000 a month. The money is expected to fund improvements to the plant.

Street Supt. Brad Pedersen informed the city council of project costs for the soybean crush plant to test and treat its wastewater through Alta Municipal Utilities. The city expects a maximum of 43,000 gallons of wastewater per day. During the plant's start up, the tests will be every ten days to two weeks.

## RODRIGUEZ GARCIA: Escaped police custody

Continued from page one

Police was called to Schaller for a report of a sighting of a male individual matching the description of Luis Rodriguez (Garcia)," according to a news release.

Members of the Sac and Buena Vista Counties' Sheriff's

Office and the Storm Lake Police Department found Rodriguez Garcia in the area of Cory Avenue and 210th Street in Schaller.

Rodriguez was transported to Buena Vista County Jail where he was charged with the following as a result of the incident:

- First-degree theft, a class C felony
- Escape from custody, a

serious misdemeanor

- Fourth-degree criminal mischief, a serious misdemeanor
- Interference with official acts, a simple misdemeanor

• Fifth-degree theft, a simple misdemeanor

- Trespass second offense, a simple misdemeanor
- Rodriguez is back in jail on a \$13,200 bond.

## ENGINEER: Three-year contract approved

Continued from page one

Crush.

"We are constantly trying to do more or better with the limited amount of taxpayer dollars that we have," Wilkinson said. "We always try to make roads safer to carry people and goods all over BV County."

Responsibilities for Wilkinson include heading the secondary road department for the county. He oversees 30 full-time employees tasked with maintaining approximately 1,007 miles of gravel road, 10 dirt roads and 134 bridges. New efficiencies are implemented every year, Wilkinson said.

"I enjoy the variety and the challenges," Wilkinson said to the Times Pilot over email. "There are always improvements to be made, from replacing a 455-foot-long bridge to paving 10 miles of roadway to maintain our gravel roads better on a limited budget."

He graduated from Iowa State University in 2006 with a bachelor's degree in agricultural engineering. By 2011 he became a licensed professional in civil engineering. Before his employment with Buena Vista, Wilkinson worked in the road department

of Fayette, Winneshiek and Dubuque counties.

Now Wilkinson designs plans and completes paperwork for county construction projects. He also budgets annual reports, five-year construction plans and coordinates with the Iowa DOT. Overall, the secondary road department operates on a fleet of equipment worth \$15 million, including 15 motor graders and 11 snow plow trucks. Wilkinson also searches for grants to fund county projects. For the veteran's bridge that was completed in September, the county received over \$2 million of outside money to help pay for it.

"Every day is different," Wilkinson said.

Regardless of the day, Wilkinson hopes the residents of Buena Vista County know he and his department are working to improve roadways with its allotted budget.

"I understand that everyone that travels our roadways has something that frustrates them," Wilkinson said. "Maybe it's a pothole or a rough stretch of a road or the paint markings wearing off or a faded sign. Just know that we are trying to keep BV County road in the best condition we can with the funding that is available."

## The Nokomis Township Trustees

are soliciting bids for the mowing, trimming and spraying of two cemeteries, Scandinavian and Woodlawn, located in Nokomis Township.

Both cemeteries are located near Alta, IA.

The bid will be for a two-year period.

The winning bidder will supply all mowers, sprayers, tools, labor and any additional equipment needed to complete the jobs. The Trustees will determine the timing of the mowing, trimming and spraying, with special emphasis around Memorial Day, the Fourth of July and Labor Day.

The bids will be on a sealed basis and should include resumes with the following information:



- General Liability and Workers Compensation Insurance providers. Certificates will be required.
- List of equipment that will be used.
- Minimum of two references from current and/or prior clients.
- Proof of commercial pesticide applicator license.

All bids must be submitted by March 30, 2024  
Please send bids to: Jim Black, 610 Johnson St., Alta, IA 51002

The Nokomis Township Trustees reserve the right to accept or reject any or all bids submitted. Incomplete submissions may not be reviewed. All bidders will be notified by April 10, 2024. Please call Jim Black at 712-229-9939.

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# Plenty of space for everything in the new auditor's office

The former Color-ize building at 317 East Fifth St. is now Home Sweet Home for the Buena Vista County Auditor's office. After months of discus-

sion about the need for more space, specifically for election purposes, the contents of the office were moved from the BV County Courthouse to the new

location Dec. 27. The office opened to the public Jan. 2.



The staff, here at the front counter, is pleased with the new office. Their work space is located in the back-ground. From left: Kristina Conrad, real estate and drainage clerk; Sharon Henkel, accounts payable/first deputy; Susan Lloyd, auditor and commissioner of elections; Yvonne Sandhoff, payroll clerk; Karla Ahrendsen, election deputy. The door directly behind them group opens into a large meeting room. The space in the foyer will be used for absentee voting. TIMES PILOT photos by DOLORES CULLEN



The spacious back room used to be filled with copiers and equipment when the building was used for the Color-ize graphic design business. In this panoramic photo, from left are the auditor's transfer books and plat books, files, election equipment and supplies.



Outside the building, Susan Lloyd admires the carved eagles, which have withstood the elements for many years. A new sign is due to arrive soon.



Karla Ahrendsen, election deputy for the past nine years, has arranged these "cages" — the lockable containers, one for each voting precinct — in a tidy garage at the west end of the building. The cages were stored in four different rooms in the courthouse and had to be rolled out "through the old jail and up the steep ramp behind the courthouse" every time there was an election.

## COUNCIL: Two firms being considered

Continued from page one

the resort. Management fees won't be a consideration in the selection.

"That's a matter of negotiation. We're not there yet," said Navratil of the percentage of top-line revenue the management firm would extract every year. The current operator, Weigand-Omega of Wichita, Kan., was selected by the city council in 2017 over Morrissey Hospitality Companies of St. Paul, Minn., because Morrissey's management fees and performance bonus were larger than the current operator.

The new firm will take the reins by March 31.

**BOTH FIRMS** highlighted a wealth of management experience across the Midwest.

They claim their flagship hotels resemble King's Pointe. Regency manages waterparks, golf courses, marinas and lodges and state park operations. S&L manages pools, convention centers and Three Bears Resort, a three-star resort with 28 private cabins, a pizzeria, waterparks, mini-golf and conference center in Warrens, Wis.

"We will treat and operate King's Pointe as if we own it," Regency's 15-page presentation reads. "We will in turn help you drive the business volumes you deserve."

S&L said it had "an impressive track record in designing, constructing and launching hospitality establishments" like King's Pointe.

Regency CEO Tom Biegler focused on driving up the city's bottom line. Biegler said the resort's profits have eroded over the last 10 years. The resort has suffered from wear in its rooms, breakdowns in the indoor waterpark and a raft of complaints at Regatta Restaurant, despite numerous overhauls. Biegler says Regency has an experience-driven formula to maximize room revenue and capture market share. He intends to build off of growing profits the resort has posted since the coronavirus pandemic; it was 58% in the most recent year.

"We want to get profitability to where it was," Biegler told the council during a 90-minute presentation on Monday. "Profitability is better for everyone, both the manager and the owner. It's essential."

The presentation noted Regency has a "demonstrated understanding of how to drive revenues and capture market share."

"Giving correct weight to every aspect of a property is vital to the general and long-term health of (King's Pointe)," the presentation reads.

Representatives with S&L likened the waterparks to a luxury cruise on land.

"This is a unique model, and you deserve credit for your foresight," S&L owner Eric Lund told the city council of its launch of Project Away-sis, a \$40 million campaign to build a waterpark and resort on Storm Lake in 2007. The resort has been open for 18 years. "We cherish working for owners like this."

Lund stressed the company's history with waterparks. The company was founded in 2005, just two years before King's Pointe opened. It has since gained a reputation as a special player in "indoor waterpark resorts" and a "variety of properties, ranging from limited service hotels to full-scale resorts across the United States." (Finance Manager Brian Oakleaf said the outdoor and indoor waterparks are the top selling points of the 100-room hotel, which posts profits ranging from \$200,000 to \$700,000 over the last 10 years.)

The resort's flagship properties, Three Bears Resort and Grand Harbor Resort in Dubuque, offer amenities that resemble King's Pointe, Lund noted.

"S&L Hospitality can easily and efficiently take over management at King's Pointe Resort at any time needed by the city, and/or the departure of the current management company," S&L's presentation reads. Lund noted the company has engineers and managers who specialize in waterpark resort operations.

"We offer expertise that would apply to this property," Lund said.

Representatives from both operators highlighted the unusual nature of King's Pointe, a municipal resort with a waterpark that's also a city pool. Previous operators and its current operator, Weigand-Omega, have encountered unique obstacles for that reason. The resort suffered heavy turnover at its general manager position, in part because of the public facing nature of the job. A city council is rarely a hotel manager's boss.

Both operators said the relationship with a government entity wouldn't be a problem. Biegler, Regency's CEO, noted the Sioux Falls-based company operates cabins for the State of Ohio. Lund said S&L would be eager to work with the city, even though it doesn't have a similar government entity in its portfolio.

## DEROCHIE: 'Always been a car guy'

Continued from page one

The rest is history, he said.

"He was always a car guy and I have always been a car guy," Derochie said. "So I kind of inherited that from him."

The most popular vehicle is the F150, but Derochie said he promises there is a vehicle for everybody regardless of their needs at Holzhauser.

"It's just the thrill of making a sale while making a customer happy," Derochie said of his favorite part of his job. "Just seeing the customer smile when they are getting a new vehicle, nothing beats that."

Starting out his job, Derochie is most excited about reminding people they can come to Holzhauser for the best customer service. The dealership offers regular specials and detailing for customers.

"We have a lot of goals to get the community in the door more," Derochie said. "We want to raise the volume of sales and service. I think this store had a rough rap for a while. We are just trying to get

back to people knowing they can come here and get taken care of well."

When Derochie isn't busy with work, he enjoys spending time with his family. Derochie lives in Le Mars with his wife Dawn. They enjoy golfing and boating with their four grandchildren. Derochie has eight children: MaKayla, 32, Jay, 28, Alexis, 28, Ashlyn, 27, Alivia, 24, Jaycee, 21, Jaymison, 15 and Kenadee, 11. All but two of Derochie's children live all over the state and some outside of Iowa, but he does his best to make time.

"I've been in the car business my whole life, they are used to seeing me when they see me," Derochie said jokingly.

Derochie isn't the only fresh face at Holzhauser. The Ford dealership also hired two new sales people, Mike Specketer and Beau Boeckman. There will be an open house to meet the new members of the Holzhauser staff from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, March 1.

"I am most eager to get people believing they are going to come here and we can take good care of them," Derochie said.

**21**  
The Professional Group  
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# FAMILY & FRIENDS



**Card shower**  
 Joan Johnson will celebrate her 90th birthday on March 4. Her family requests a card shower to celebrate this special day. Cards can be sent to her at 408 Barton St., Apt. 301, Storm Lake, IA 50588.



**JENNY BROUWER ALLEN**  
*Benefit for Jenny Brouwer Allen*

The youth groups of Storm Lake United Methodist Church are sponsoring a benefit for one of their counselors, Jenny Brouwer Allen, who is going through chemotherapy and stem cell treatment. They will host a spaghetti dinner on Sunday, Feb. 25, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the church Family Life Center. Please enter the church using the doors on the east side of the building under the canopy. A free-will offering will be received to help with Jenny's medical expenses. The Storm Lake Community is invited to attend. The menu will include meat and vegetarian pasta sauce, wheat and gluten free spaghetti, garlic bread, lettuce salad and cake for dessert.



Ryan and Logan McVinua are ready to scoop at Storm Lake Candy Co.

## St. Mary's Ball & Auction creates sweet collaboration

Embracing the spirit of creativity and community, Ben and Ralna McVinua, parents to St. Mary's sixth grader Ryan and fourth grader Logan, made a flavorful statement at the 2023 Ball & Auction. They successfully bid on the coveted "Create Your Own Ice Cream" package, a generous offering from Ruth Whitmore, owner of Storm Lake Candy Co.

In a collaborative effort with Ruth, the McVinua family crafted a unique and

mouthwatering masterpiece—"Smurfs." This limited-edition delight boasts a base of blue raspberry, complemented by a marshmallow variegate, and adorned with blue and white sprinkles. The first batch of "Smurfs" debuted on Feb. 22, featuring only five gallons for the lucky few. For those hungry for their own customized ice cream experience, a similar package is up for grabs at this year's Ball & Auction on March 9 at BVU Siebens Forum, promising an enchanting "Night Among Stars." Proceeds from the event will directly contribute to building enhancements and facilitating affordable tuition for those pursuing a Catholic education. Secure your tickets online at stormlakecatholic.com. For more information, reach out to Ellen Gruntorad at the Parish office at 712-732-3110. Join us for a night out and contribute to a meaningful cause at St. Mary's Ball & Auction!



Moments of collaboration between Ryan and Logan McVinua as they work alongside Ruth Whitmore, owner of Storm Lake Candy Co.



## Snowball of SAVINGS

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**Newell-Fonda Jazz Band**  
 Newell-Fonda Jazz Band placed fifth at the NWIBA Jazz Band Festival in Le Mars on Feb. 19. Front row from left: Vienna Wingert, Jesus Beltran-Gonzalez, Analise Tiffany, Alyssa Hutchinson, Naomi Smith and Emma Hurd. Back: Band director Andy Schertz, Ryan Arends, Allison Siebrecht, Kiana Brown, April Meyer, Calvin Lockrem and Colton Lindgren.

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Digital media majors and participants at Buena Vista University gathered following an awards ceremony in which certificates and plaques from the Iowa College Media Association were handed out. Front row from left: Emma Harrington, Lauren McCoy, Joceline Medina, Josiah Welch, Kosuke Fukuda, Joshua Woolcott, Carter Soyer, Joshua Tigges and Nathan Johnson. Back: Hunter Vasey, Dr. Andrea Frantz, Jadyne Welch, Isaac Stone, Professor Jerry Johnson and Emelia Jacobs.

## Buena Vista University digital media students earn 30 ICMA honors

### BVU again wins First Amendment Award

Buena Vista University students and faculty attended the Iowa College Media Association conference on Feb. 8 and brought home 30 statewide accolades, including one major award for First Amendment advocacy.

Iowa colleges and universities with student media outlets annually participate in the ICMA student journalism contest, which is judged by newspaper, radio and television professionals.

BVU students earned 10 first-place awards throughout the evening in categories such as video news programming, experimental video, long-form audio storytelling, multimedia storytelling and best air personality to name a few.

"We are grateful to actively participate in ICMA annually," said Dr. Andrea Frantz, professor of digital media. "Our students have the opportunity not only to have their work judged by professionals in the field, but also to see what other student media leaders across the state are producing. We're proud of the outstanding showing our BVU Digital Media students made this year."

Here's a look at the Iowa College Media Association award winners from the BVU digital media department:

#### VIDEO:

First place: Best Video News Programming: Joshua Tigges "AgriVista: Threshing Together"

First place: Best Experimental Video: Joshua Tigges "2023 BVU Volleyball Season Hype Video"

Second place: Best Variety-Music and Comedy Program: Joshua Tigges and Joel Sikora "Ron Strauss at the BVTV Diner"

Second place: Best Video PSA or Promo: SCJ Mentors and Storm Lake High School students "It's more than a lake"

Third place: Best Short Video Documentary: Isaac Stone "Discover Albert City Threshermen"

Third place: Best Video PSA or Promo: Austin West "Buford in the Office"

Honorable mention: Best Variety-Music and Comedy Program: Austin West "The Beaver Playbook 2.27.23"

#### AUDIO:

First place: Best Air Personality: Joshua Woolcott "Woolcott's Witching Hour"

First place: Best PSA: Joshua Tigges "The Tractor Apocalypse"

First place: Best Newscast: Colin Imhoff "KBVU News"

First place: Best News Programming: Carter Soyer "Yik Yak: the wild west of social media"

First place: Best Show: Joshua Tigges and Evan Brincks "Nascar at Night"

First place: Best Long-form Audio: Colin Imhoff "Supreme Court under public review"

Second place: Best Promo: Joshua Woolcott and Joel Sikora "Anyone can be on the radio"

Second place: Best Sports Broadcast: Joshua Tigges and Austin West "BVU vs. Coe conference volleyball championship"

Third place: Best Show: Isaac Stone "Stone's Shenanigans"

Third place: Best Sports Program: Jaxon VanPelt and Nolan Faber "Travel Day"

Honorable Mention: Best Air Personality: Isaac Stone "Stone's Shenanigans"

Honorable mention: Best News Programming: Maureen Murphy "The Covid class"

Honorable mention: Best Show: Carter Soyer "Soyer Saturdays"

Honorable mention: Best Podcast Series: Carter Soyer "Murders at Camp Willow Creek"

#### MULTIMEDIA AND PRINT/ONLINE:

First place: Best Multimedia Storytelling Package: Carter Soyer "Be brave, be wrong, be creative"

First place: Best Multimedia Slideshow: Abby Clark "BVU football non-conference v. Gustavus and Lakeland"

Second place: Best Sports Feature Writing: Kosuke Fukuda "Athletes without borders"

Second place: Best Opinion Writing: Hunter Vasey "Something stinks: the litterbox lie"

Third place: Best Review: Carter Soyer "I would read this for the first time again if I could"

Honorable mention: Best Feature Reporting (Writing): Joshua Tigges "Soaring above Storm Lake: Bart's Flying Service proves crucial to the community"

Honorable mention: Best Headline Writing: Hunter Vasey "Something stinks: the litterbox lie"

Honorable mention: Best Multimedia Storytelling Package: Joshua Tigges "2023 volleyball preseason look ahead"

#### MAJOR AWARDS:

First place: First Amendment Award: Joceline Medina for KBVU 97.5 radio "American culture divided by religion"

## THE STORM LAKE TIMES KING CROSSWORD

### ACROSS

- 1 Pep
- 4 "Get Here" singer Adams
- 9 Opposite of "post-"
- 12 Equal (Pref.)
- 13 Jeremy of "Entourage"
- 14 Corn serving
- 15 Prepaid convenience for cell users
- 17 Texter's "Enough!"
- 18 Common verb
- 19 Spiritualist
- 21 Oliver Twist, for one
- 24 Cabinet dept. head

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54			55					56		
57			58					59		

- 25 "Norma —"
- 26 Snake's warning
- 28 Mexican snacks
- 31 Actor Richard
- 33 UFO crew
- 35 Commanded
- 36 Enticed
- 38 Rep.'s rival
- 40 "Diamonds" singer
- 41 Goatee's spot
- 43 "O Pioneers!" author
- 45 Long recliner
- 47 Magic, on scoreboards
- 48 "A spider!"
- 49 Cell user's practical joke
- 54 Conk out
- 55 Dodge
- 56 Classic car
- 57 Hosp. areas
- 58 Opposite of most
- 59 Watch chain
- 7 Semesters
- 8 "Still ..."
- 9 Fund for minor expenses
- 10 Malek of "Bohemian Rhapsody"
- 11 Guitarist
- 16 "Unh-unh"
- 20 Wound cover
- 21 Pitcher
- Hershiser
- 22 Pasta sauce brand
- 23 Fruity baked goods
- 27 Norm (Abbr.)
- 29 Garfield's pal
- 30 Blacken
- 32 Classic soda brand
- 34 Extra helpings
- 37 Put to rest
- 39 Grocery store
- 42 Audacity
- 44 Patient's need, briefly
- 45 Give up
- 46 Estate recipient
- 50 Bond rating
- 51 Canine cry
- 52 Zodiac feline
- 53 Arced tennis shot

Puzzle Answers: **BELOW**

## Discover your year of friendship with Girl Scouts

Are you interested in becoming a troop leader or a Girl Scout? Girl Scouts is looking to start a Daisy Troop (kindergarten and first grade).

A registration event will be held at Storm Lake Middle School on Feb. 27 from 6-7 p.m. If you can't make it, visit [girlscoutsiowa.org/join](http://girlscoutsiowa.org/join) to register, connect with a staff

member for more information and more.

The first step to friendships that last forever? Feeling totally comfortable being yourself. Be a part of a crew that celebrates you just the way you are! Be a Girl Scout.

Join us to learn more and sign up.

## CROSSWORD ANSWERS FEB. 23

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### P.E.O. announces scholarship winners

P.E.O. Chapter GJ of Sioux Rapids has awarded one \$500 scholarship to Kaylee Iedema. Three \$500 scholarships were awarded to: Karley Mills, Taylor Krager and Shayler Van Gelder. These scholarships are in memory of Dr. Carol Steiler Halverson.

Kaylee is the daughter of Mike and Janet Iedema of Spencer, graduating from Spencer High School. She is attending South Dakota State University majoring in business.

Karley is the daughter of Shiela Mills and the late Eric Mills of Storm Lake. She graduated from St. Mary's in Storm Lake and is attending South Dakota State University majoring in agricultural economics.

Taylor Krager is the daughter of Kasey and Nicole Krager of Peterson. Taylor graduated from Sioux Central and is currently attending Buena Vista University majoring in business.

Shayler is the daughter of Jay and Shantel Van Gelder of Spencer. She graduated from Spencer High School and is currently attending Northwestern College majoring in biology health professions.

P.E.O. is an international women's Philanthropic Educational Organization that through scholarships, grants, awards and loans assists women in achieving their highest educational aspiration.

The P.E.O. Chapter GJ of Sioux Rapids congratulates and celebrates the local women who have received these scholarships.

## LOCAL News, LOCAL Owners STORM LAKE TIMES PILOT

# HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTORY

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Dental Clinic  
213-0179

Sliding Fee Scale  
Bilingual Staff

**PHYSICIANS**

**NORTHWEST IOWA BONE, JOINT & SPORTS SURGEONS P.C.**

Seth Harrer, M.D.  
Rachele Randall, PA-C  
Steffany Hinkeldey, ARNP  
Alicia Heuton, ARNP

**OPTOMETRISTS**

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Megan Sullivan, O.D.  
Derrick Randall, O.D.

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**Fraudster Flicks Film Series**  
Feb. 29 - \$\$\$ - Mar. 7 - \$\$\$ - Mar. 14

Showtimes - \$\$\$ - 4:00 PM  
Light snacks courtesy of the Friends of the Library

**Fraudster Flicks Film Series at Storm Lake Public Library**

A new three-film series, "Fraudster Flicks" will begin next week at Storm Lake Public Library. This series will consist of three award winning feature films about cracker-jack con-artists! Please note this series is best suited for adult audiences. The schedule is as follows:

**Thursday, Feb. 29, 4 p.m.** —The winner of seven Academy Awards, including Best Picture, this 1973 classic stars Robert Redford and Paul Newman as two professional grifters trying to pull off the ultimate con during the Great Depression.

**Thursday, March 7, 4 p.m.** — A 1988 crime caper starring Kevin Kline, Jamie Lee Curtis, John Cleese and Michael Palin. Four jewel thieves team up on a huge diamond heist, all the while plotting ways to double-cross each other.

**Thursday, March 14, 4 p.m.** — A film inspired by the exploits of con-artist, Frank Abagnale, who claims to have swindled millions of dollars posing as a pilot, prosecutor and doctor while in his teens. Released in 2002, this movie stars Leonardo DiCaprio, Tom Hanks, Christopher Walken and Martin Sheen.

Light snacks are provided by the Friends of the Library. For more information about library programs visit [www.stormlake.lib.ia.us](http://www.stormlake.lib.ia.us) or call 732-8026. Look for "Storm Lake Public Library" on Facebook for announcements and updates as well.

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

STORM LAKE CSD
Vendor Totals
1/01/2024 - 1/31/2024

Table with columns: Vendor Name, Invoice Count, Description, Total. Lists various vendors and their associated costs for the month of January 2024.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

Regular Board Meeting
Storm Lake Community School District
School Administration Building
February 7, 2024, 5:00 p.m.

I. President Skibsted called the Storm Lake Community School District Board of Directors to order at 5:02 p.m. Directors Marroquin, Mills and Raveling, Stacey Cole, Supt. and Trudy Pedersen, Secretary present. Director Dierking was absent.
II. Visitors included administrators Justin Bouse, Jaymie Bral, Mike Cameron, Jessica Mathistad and Jeff Tollefson, Sarah Freking and two media representatives.
III. Moved by Director Raveling, seconded by Director Marroquin to approve the agenda as presented. All present in favor.
IV. Moved by Director Mills, seconded by Director Marroquin to approve the following consent agenda items:
Minutes: Regular Meeting - January 17, 2024
Claims and Financial Statements for January as listed for the General, Management, Activity, PPEL, Debt Service, SILO, GO Bond, Self-Insurance, Flex, Nutrition and Enterprise Funds
Approve the following coaching resignations:
Kevin Lopez, 9th Baseball
August Satibanchong, Dance Squad
Approve the following certified resignations:
Shelby Lucas, Elem teacher
Andrea McDonald, EES teacher
Offer the following 23-24 coaching contract:
Dario Hernandez Rosas, Asst. V Boys Soccer, 12%, \$4,481
Offer the following support staff work agreements:
Shawna Hilsabeck, Database Manager, \$23.75/hr, 260 days
Skyler Stevenson, Elem Special Ed IA, \$13.40/hr
Accept the following resignations and applications for early retirement:
Kathy Bowman, Early Elem teacher
Sheryl Hase, Elem Instructional Asst.
Valerie Rosenthal, HS Teacher/Coach
William Todd, Custodian
Approve the following internal transfer for 2024-2025:
Kara Harder from Early Elem Title I to Early Elem Music
Approve the following Open Enrollments:
Alta-Aurelia 23-24 - 1 in; 24-25 - 2 out
All present in favor.
V. There was no public forum.
VI. There was no curriculum report.
VII. There was no personnel report.
VIII. Business Office Report
A. Moved by Director Mills, seconded by Director Raveling to approve the resolution fixing the date of sale, approving electronic bidding procedures and approving the official statement of approximately \$6,150,000 school infrastructure sales, services and use tax revenue bonds. Roll call vote: Ayes: Raveling, Marroquin, Mills and Skibsted Nays: None Absent: Dierking
This will be the issuance of Early Elementary School Phase II Sales Tax bonds on March 6, 2024.
B. Moved by Director Raveling, seconded by Director Marroquin to approve the resolution authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$1,910,000 General Obligation School Bonds and levying a tax for the payment thereof. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Marroquin, Mills, Raveling and Skibsted Nays: None Absent: Dierking
This will be the issuance of the Early Elementary School Phase II 2024 GO Bonds on April 3, 2024 and the authorization to include the associated tax levy in the 2024-2025 budget.
C. Moved by Director Marroquin, seconded by Director Mills to approve the Early Elementary Phase II 2024 GO Bond Counsel and Disclosure Counsel engagement letter with Ahlers & Cooney in the amount of \$10,000 for bond counsel and \$5,000 for disclosure counsel to be paid from bond proceeds. All present in favor.
D. Moved by Director Marroquin, seconded by Director Raveling to set Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. at the school administration office as the date, time and location for the 2024-2025 Budget Public Hearing #1 and Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. at the school administration office as the date, time and location for the 2024-2025 Budget Public Hearing #2. All present in favor.
E. Moved by Director Raveling, seconded by Director Mills to approve the proposal for a two year audit extension from Cornwell, Frideres, Maher and Associates in the amount of \$20,500 for FY24 and \$21,500 for FY25. All present in favor.
F. Moved by Director Mills, seconded by Director Raveling to approve the District Office Improvements Project contract with DLR Architects in the amount of \$367,100 to be paid with ESSER funds. All present in favor.
G. Moved by Director Mills, seconded by Director Marroquin to approve the purchase of student chromebooks and MS teacher laptops in the amount of \$300,438 from CDWG as part of the 2023-2024 tech plan. All present in favor.
IX. Administrative Report
A. Moved by Director Raveling, seconded by Director Marroquin to increase spring/summer 2024 Driver's Ed instructor pay by \$5 to \$235/student. All present in favor.
B. Dr. Cole gave a Superintendent's update.
C. Jeff Tollefson shared an update on facility projects.
X. The next meetings will be March 6, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. and March 20, 2024 at 5:00 p.m., both at the Central Office.
XI. Moved by Director Raveling, seconded by Director Marroquin to adjourn at 5:20 p.m. All present in favor.
Trudy Pedersen
Secretary, Board of Education
David Skibsted
President, Board of Education 176



Julius Cleaners chooses the '55 Ford

This "new" 1955 Ford appeared in the February 1955 issue of the Buena Vista magazine. Julius Cleaners purchased "this new truck to serve you better," according to the ad. At the time, Julius Cleaners was located at 210 E. Fifth St., the former location of the Storm Lake Times office and now Buena Vista General Surgery office of doctors Armstrong and Dierking. At far right is Vera Roberson who drove the vehicle to different towns in the area to pick up dry cleaning. Today Julius Cleaners is located at 825 Grand Ave.

DAYS OF YORE

BVU journalism lab dedicated to Buntrocks

25 YEARS AGO
A journalism lab in Lage Communication Center on the BVU campus will be dedicated as the Kermit and Lucile Buntrock Journalism Lab during a special ceremony Feb. 17 at BVU. The public is encouraged to attend this open house and dedication. Kermit and his late wife Lucile are long-time supporters of BVU.
The Census of Agriculture reports that the number of farms in Buena Vista County dropped from 973 in 1992 to 867 in 1997.
V. There was no public forum.
VI. There was no curriculum report.
VII. There was no personnel report.
VIII. Business Office Report
A. Moved by Director Mills, seconded by Director Raveling to approve the resolution fixing the date of sale, approving electronic bidding procedures and approving the official statement of approximately \$6,150,000 school infrastructure sales, services and use tax revenue bonds. Roll call vote: Ayes: Raveling, Marroquin, Mills and Skibsted Nays: None Absent: Dierking
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C. Jeff Tollefson shared an update on facility projects.
X. The next meetings will be March 6, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. and March 20, 2024 at 5:00 p.m., both at the Central Office.
XI. Moved by Director Raveling, seconded by Director Marroquin to adjourn at 5:20 p.m. All present in favor.
Trudy Pedersen
Secretary, Board of Education
David Skibsted
President, Board of Education 176

as a D.A.R. Good Citizen Monday, Feb. 11, at Ken-A-Bob. The girls are Kathy McKenzie, Terry Paquin, Leanne Stone, Kim Waggle, Cheryl Barglof, Shari Samuelson, Kathryn Fitch, Diane Leonard and Sandra Peterson.
St. Mary's student John Johnston smashed the city all-time scoring record of Ron Kennedy, the former Storm Lake High star, in the Panther's 112-44 brutalizing of home team Newell-Providence Friday night.

75 YEARS AGO

March of Dimes reports from two townships and one town in Buena Vista County have been received by Mrs. L.J. Cuthbert, county chairman. Coon Township turned in \$350 and Truesdale reported donations totaling \$136.50. Providence Township reported \$483.
Melvin Lewis, who lives with his son near Nemaha, enjoyed a visit to Storm Lake on his 98th birthday. Mr. Lewis recalls Civil War days and events of the past.

Discounted trees available this spring at Storm Lake distribution

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources, through a partnership with Alliant Energy, is offering a mixture of hardwoods, low-growing ornamental and evergreen tree species to the public for \$25 each.
Alliant Energy customers can purchase up to two trees to be picked up at five locations around the state. The local distribution will be Thursday, April 25, 4:30-6:30 p.m., at Awaysis Park (1409 E. Lakeshore Dr.) in Storm Lake.
Trees currently available for the Storm Lake distribution (while supplies last):
• Ohio Buckeye
• Swamp White Oak
• English Oak

• American Linden
• Eastern White Pine
Customers can purchase no more than two trees per private property. If multiple properties are owned by a single individual, two trees can be purchased by property. Each unique property address must be listed on the order form. Please bring your confirmation email showing species and locations purchased to the event.
Customers must pick up their tree(s) during the event time listed.
Submit an order form, available online at www.iowadnr.gov/Conservation/Forestry/Urban-Forestry/Residential-Tree-Programs, to reserve your trees.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

STORM LAKE CSD
1/01/2024 - 1/31/2024
HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITY FUND

Table with columns: Vendor Name, Invoice Count, Description, Total. Lists various vendors and their associated costs for the month of January 2024.

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

BUENA VISTA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TENTH MEETING, 2024 SESSION (10), FEBRUARY 13, 2024

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 8:30 A.M. in the Boardroom with Chairperson Ringgenberg presiding, and the following other members present: Croker, Hartman, Merten, Snyder and Auditor Susan Lloyd as clerk for the meeting. Absent: None.
Unless otherwise indicated, all the following motions offered at this meeting were carried with the following vote: Ayes: Croker, Hartman, Merten, Ringgenberg, and Snyder. Nays: none. Abstentions: none.
Motion by Snyder, second by Croker, to amend today's agenda, adding Wellmark renewal documents and a Jt. DD #22 Lat 19-9 claim. Carried.
Motion by Merten, second by Snyder, for the Engineer to move forward with advertising for an additional full-time administrative assistant in the Engineer's Office. Carried.
Engineer Bret Wilkinson stated that he wanted to go into closed session to discuss his contract. Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to go into closed session (at 8:48 A.M.) under Chapter 215(1)(i) of the 2024 Code of Iowa, to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session. Ayes: Croker, Hartman, Merten, Ringgenberg, Snyder. Motion carried.
Motion by Merten, second by Croker, to go out of closed session at 9:35 A.M. Carried.
Motion by Merten, second by Croker, to set the County Engineer's salary for his 3-year contract at \$140,000 for FY'25, \$146,300 for FY'26, and \$152,600 for FY'27. Carried.
Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to change paragraph 4 of the County Engineer's contract to state that the Board shall defend and indemnify the engineer in accordance with Iowa Code Chapter 670. Carried.
Motion by Merten, second by Croker, to accept the Compensation Board salary recommendations, setting the FY'25 salary increase for the Attorney at 7.5%, Auditor, Recorder, Sheriff, Treasurer at 6%, Supervisors at 5%, an additional \$1,500 stipend for the Board Chair, and an additional \$1,500 stipend for the Auditor, as Board Secretary, and reaffirmed the longevity schedule for all elected officials. Carried.
Motion by Merten, second by Snyder, to approve wage increases for FY'25, for the non-elected officials and their employees that are not under another Board as: Drainage Department-Brian Blomme and Eric Yunginger (which were both approved by the shared 3-County Drainage Board); Bldg/Grounds-Joe Keller, Vance Cords, Jon Buss, Craig Boyd; I.T. Tyler Van Houten, Eric Chase; and Zoning Administrator, as they were presented in their respective budgets. Carried.
Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to approve a 6% wage increase for FY'25, for all Secondary Road employees, except the County Engineer who is on a contract, based on their current base rate. Carried.
Motion by Merten, second by Croker, to approve the minutes from 2/6/2024, as presented, today's claims approval list, stamped warrant register, and Auxiant disbursements, and accept the following reports: January

Central Iowa Detention Commission minutes and December Sheriff's Report of Fees Collected. Carried.
Motion by Merten, second by Snyder, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Jt. DD #22 Lat 19-9 claim payable to Terry Gunnarson, in the amount of \$1,275.50 for tile repair. Carried.
Motion by Snyder, second by Merten, to approve a \$300 payment to Todd Kay for beavers trapped in areas that are not part of a drainage district and are being approved separately since the original allocation for non-drainage district trapping was exceeded. Carried.
Motion by Merten, second by Hartman, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Wellmark renewal document. Carried.
Motion by Merten, second by Snyder, to approve and authorize the Auditor to void and reissue check #323497 dated 12/19/23, to Julius Cleaners (now Kasperbauer Cleaners, Inc.) for \$325.95, pending receipt of the original paperwork requesting the replacement check. Carried.
Motion by Croker, second by Snyder, to approve and authorize the Chair and Auditor to sign the Management Representation letter, for Winther Stave, regarding the ARPA compliance examination they performed. Carried.
FY25 Budget work session: The Board reviewed the levies and ending fund balances.
Other topics discussed included: Secondary Roads Report (The complete text of the minutes is on file in the Auditor's Office and online at: http://www.bvcountyowa.com/index.php/board\_of\_supervisors/supervisors\_minutes
There being no further business, motion by Snyder, second by Merten, to adjourn the meeting at 11:14 a.m. until Tuesday, February 20 at 8:30 a.m. for a special session. 145

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - PROPOSED BUDGET
Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025
District Name: SOUTH WEST SHORELINE SANITARY SEWER

Table with columns: FUND, FYE 6-30-2023 Actual Expenditures, FYE 6-30-2024 Re-estimated Expenditures, FYE 6-30-2025 Proposed Expenditures, Estimated Ending Fund Balance June 30, 2025, Estimated July 1, 2024 Beg. Balance and All Other Receipts, Estimated Amount To Be Raised By Taxation. Includes a note about the public hearing and contact information.

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Appears in the Storm Lake Times Pilot, the Muroke Chronicle, Green Saver, Advertising Guide and Aurelia Star
Email ads@stormlake.com or call 712-732-4991

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

Iowa County Treasurer's Semi-Annual

For 12/01/2023 - 12/31/2023

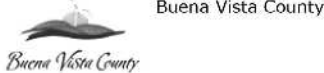


Table with columns: Beginning Treasurer's Balance, Total Revenues, Beginning Balance + Total Revenues, Total Expenses, Change In Outstanding, Ending Treasurer's Balance, Outstanding Bank Items, Outstanding Stamped Warrants. Includes rows for various departments and a final 'Iowa County Treasurer's Semi-Annual' summary.

I hereby certify the above report to be a true and accurate account of transactions during the Period(s) specified.
Dawson Haberman

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

CITY OF ALTA, IOWA CITY COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 19, 2024

A special meeting of the Alta City Council was held on the above date. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM by Mayor Kevin Walsh...

Kevin Walsh, Mayor
Attest: Megan Peterson, City Clerk

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR BUENA VISTA COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LOIS JEAN NEWMAN, Deceased.

CASE No. ESPR017835

NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Lois Jean Newman, Deceased, who died on or about December 23, 2023: You are hereby notified that on the 15th day of February, 2024, the last will and testament of Lois Jean Newman...

Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above named district court...

Dated February 15, 2024.

Date of second publication: March 1, 2024.

Probate Code Section 304

James W. Gailey, ICIS#: AT0002653 Attorney for the Executor Gailey and Walsh Law Office 205 S. Fulton, PO Box 343 Newell, IA 50568

Michael David Ross Executor of the Estate 2706 Appledown Dr. Spirit Lake, IA 51360

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

CITY OF MARATHON CITY COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 13, 2024

The Marathon City Council met in regular session at the community meeting room. Mayor Burgess called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Roll call: Doug Engers, Mary Brooks, Cassandra Yartz, Dustin Klatt & Larry Robinson...

Motion by Engers, second by Brooks to approve the agenda; all voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

Motion by Klatt, second by Yartz to approve the consent agenda; all voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

CITY OF MARATHON-MONTHLY BILL-4712.36; CRESCENT ELECTRIC-SUPPLIES-1658.51; GROW GARBAGE-GARBAGE CONTRACT-1285.00; IA ONE CALL-LOCATES-18.90; IPERS-IPERS-1992.72; LAURENS MUNI LIGHT & POWR-POWER ALLOCATION-13483.30; SIOUX LUMBER-SHOP SUPPLIES-80.74; WINDSTREAM-TELEPHONE-231.85; EFTPS-FED/FICA TAXES-2791.57; SALES TAX-SALES TAX-528.60; HAWKINS-CHEMICALS FOR WATER PLANT-492.50; IA LAKES ELECTRIC CO.-SEWER UTILITY-81.00; LAURENS MUNI POWER & COMM-LABOR FOR JAN-190.00; MATT PARROT-DOG TAGS-68.00; PLUMBING & HEATING-PROPANE HEATER-347.45; LAURENS PLUMBING-REPLACE BOARD IN FURNACE-737.85; VERIZON WIRELESS-TELEPHONE-51.54; ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY-BATTERY MINUS CORE-476.97; FIRST RESPONDERS-4 1ST RESPONDERS CPR AED-675.00; PRO COOPERATIVE-KEROSENE-52.40; BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES-ASSY AG15 W/NEW LOCK ELEC-528.09; B.V. COUNTY SHERIFF-MONTHLY CONTRACT-1238.58; NIELSON, ANGIE-FILING W4 AND 1099 ELECTRONIC-125.02; WET-WATER EXCISE TAX-332.63; LINGO-MONTHLY LONG DISTANCE-28.53; SUNWEALTH-ELECTRICITY-725.84; LAURENS HOUSE OF PRINT-OFFICE SUPPLY STAMP-46.73; CANON FINANCIAL SERVICES-MONTHLY CONTRACT-54.60; LOFFLER COMPANIES, INC.-CONTRACT FOR CANON COPIES-72.85; AG STATE-MONTHLY FUEL-497.16; BOJI PORTBLE TOILETS INC-SEPTIC PUMPING-400.00; COLLECTION SERVICE JARVIS-CLD SUP #842082-502.14; USDA RD R1 LOAN-PRINCIPAL USDA LOAN R1-1333.00; USDA RD R2 LOAN-USDA R2 PMT 6TH PMT-1460.00; GRONWOLD BELL KYHNN & CO-BILLING ON THE AUDIT OF-3750.00; SILVERSMITH DATA-GPS MARKING-4371.00; PAYROLL CHECKS-TOTAL PAYROLL CHECKS-12498.68; CLAIMS TOTAL 57921.11. GENERAL FUND 1767731, ROAD USE TAX FUND 472.66, WATER FUND 7594.51, SEWER FUND 7941.08, SEWER CAPITAL PROJECT FUND 2793.00, ELECTRIC FUND 21442.55

January receipts: General 5483.80, Road Use 1920.69, Employee benefits 201.89, Emergency Fund 2.32, LOST 3131.89, Debt Service 29.26, Water 6265.08, Sewer 8700.75, Sewer Project 134498.72, Electric 23612.35 Total receipts 183661.75

Motion by Engers, second by Brooks to approve pay request for IS Group in the amount of \$4423.09 for January; all voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

Motion by Engers, second by Brooks to approve pay request for IS Group in the amount of \$2005.00 for February; all voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

The council reviewed the public works superintendent. The fire board presented their proposed budget for FY24-25. After discussion, motion by Robinson, second by Engers to accept the fire department budget of \$18000 with the addition of the insurance increase; all voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

The 1st responders presented their proposed budget for FY24-25. After discussion, motion by Brooks, second by Engers to accept the budget for the 1st responders of \$5800.00; all voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

The library board presented their budget request for FY24-25 in the amount of \$12300.00 which is an increase of \$300.00 for the year. Motion by Robinson, second by Engers to approve the library budget; all voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

The Marathon Historical Society submitted a budget of \$500.00. Motion by Brooks, second by Robinson to approve the budget for \$500.00 for the historical society; all voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

Motion by Klatt, second by Brooks to approve advertising for part time office help; all voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

McGuire Iron presented a proposal they have for the water tower for cone tank/exterior & interior painting. We will need to address this at our next council meeting.

Motion by Engers, second by Klatt to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 PM; all voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

J. Burgess, Mayor
A. Nielson, City Clerk

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR BUENA VISTA COUNTY (JUVENILE DIVISION)

No. JVVJ003350

Published Original Notice

In the Matter of H.V., Minor Child

To: Olin Odoko, biological mother of H.V., a child born on September 14, 2016.

You are notified that there is now on file in the office of the clerk of court for Buena Vista County, a petition in case number JVVJ003350, which prays for termination of your parental rights to H.V., a child born on September 14, 2016, who was previously adjudicated as a Child in Need of Assistance.

You are further notified that there will be a hearing on the petition to terminate your rights before the Iowa District Court for Buena Vista County, at the Courthouse in Storm Lake, Iowa, at 2:30 P.M. on the 6th day of March, 2024.

For further details contact the clerk's office. If you should receive this notice after the above scheduled date, please contact the clerk of court and/or the office for Juvenile Court Services immediately. The petitioner's attorney is Ashley Herring, Assistant County Attorney, 606 Genesee St., Storm Lake, Iowa 50588, 712-732-1933 (phone) 712-213-3014 (fax).

You are advised to seek legal advice at once to protect your interests.

Tami Christensen Clerk of the Above Court Buena Vista County Courthouse Storm Lake, Iowa 50588

3/3-46

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR BUENA VISTA COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF SEAN P. RUSSELL, Deceased.

CASE NO. ESPR017833

NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Sean P. Russell, Deceased, who died on or about December 23, 2023: You are hereby notified that on February 12, 2024, the Last Will and Testament of Sean P. Russell, deceased, bearing date of January 30, 2017, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and that Natalie C. Russell was appointed Executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.

Dated February 12, 2024

Natalie C. Russell, Executor of Estate 26 Ocean View Avenue Santa Barbara, CA 93103

Michael E. Gabor, ICIS#: AT0002659 Attorney for Executor Buchanan, Bibler, Gabor & Meis 111 North Dodge Street PO Box 617 Algona, IA 50511

Date of second publication: February 23, 2024.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

BUENA VISTA COUNTY SOLID WASTE COMMISSION UNPAID BILLS LISTING JANUARY 31, 2024

Table listing vendors and amounts for Buena Vista County Solid Waste Commission. Includes Vendor, Memo, and Balance columns. Total: \$173,451.42

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

BUENA VISTA COUNTY SOLID WASTE COMMISSION FEBRUARY 15, 2024

Table listing vendors and amounts for Buena Vista County Solid Waste Commission. Includes Vendor, Memo, and Balance columns. Total: \$174,006.84

prove the Employee Theft policy renewal. Motion carried with all members voting aye. The Engineer's provided a written report.

The Accountant's Report was prepared by Hunzelman, Putzier, & Co., and presented by Jason Raveling. The financial statement showed \$257,579 in operating receipts and \$164,183 in operating disbursements for the month of January, with \$87,558.69 still due from customers and \$8,560 of interest earned. The resulting increase to cash of \$105,146 brings the total Fund Balance to \$2,512,444 including \$491,516 in funds restricted for closure/post-closure. The total of the unpaid bills as of January 31st was \$174,006.84. Wise moved, and Oakleaf seconded, to approve the unpaid bills. Motion carried with all members voting aye. The Commission received two proposals for the recycling transfer project. A Committee will take some time comparing the two and will present to the Commission at the March meeting.

Manager Dicks presented the written Manager's Report. Nothing was reported in the Treasurer's Report. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 12 at 6:00 pm. There being no further business, Meyer moved to adjourn at 6:35 pm, seconded by Peterson. Motion carried with all members voting aye.

Respectfully Submitted Megan Peterson

73

Storm Lake Times Pilot TV Times February 25-March 2, 2024

SUNDAY MORNING FEBRUARY 25, 2024

Table with 12 columns (6:00 to 11:30) and multiple rows of TV programs including News 4 Today, The Last Witch Hunter, Tomorrow's World, and various sports and entertainment shows.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 25, 2024

Table with 12 columns (12:00 to 5:30) and multiple rows of TV programs including Sports Gone Wild, FIS Alpine Ski World Cup, PGA Tour Golf Mexico Open, and various sports and entertainment shows.

SUNDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 25, 2024

Table with 12 columns (6:00 to 11:30) and multiple rows of TV programs including America's Got Talent: Fantasy League, Hidden Figures, American Idol, and various entertainment and sports shows.

MONDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 26, 2024

Table with 12 columns (6:00 to 11:30) and multiple rows of TV programs including News 4 at Six, Ent. Tonight, The Voice, and various entertainment and sports shows.

TUESDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 27, 2024

Table with 12 columns (6:00 to 11:30) and multiple rows of TV programs including News 4 at Six, Ent. Tonight, The Voice, and various entertainment and sports shows.



WEDNESDAY EVENING

FEBRUARY 28, 2024

Table with 12 columns (6:00 to 11:30) and multiple rows of program listings for Wednesday, February 28, 2024.

THURSDAY EVENING

FEBRUARY 29, 2024

Table with 12 columns (6:00 to 11:30) and multiple rows of program listings for Thursday, February 29, 2024.

FRIDAY EVENING

MARCH 1, 2024

Table with 12 columns (6:00 to 11:30) and multiple rows of program listings for Friday, March 1, 2024.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

MARCH 2, 2024

Table with 12 columns (12:00 to 5:30) and multiple rows of program listings for Saturday, March 2, 2024 (Afternoon).

SATURDAY EVENING

MARCH 2, 2024

Table with 12 columns (6:00 to 11:30) and multiple rows of program listings for Saturday, March 2, 2024 (Evening).

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Clark Fort, Mike Cadwell, Jared Brashears,  
Ty Eggers, Ron Halverson

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Mary Hamilton Molly Hamilton

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Douglas W. Hansen (Retired)  
Stephen R. Gadd (Of Counsel)  
Gary W. Armstrong  
Ted Brown

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205 E. 6th St., Storm Lake  
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**CONSTRUCTION  
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Construction Equipment Garage Sale will be held from Feb., 24 to March 3 from noon to 7 p.m. daily at 305 Coombs Dr. Aurelia. Items include: tile saw, table saws, bandsaw, drill press, DeWalt cordless drills, circular saws, mitre saws, chop saw, air compressors, nail guns, nails, screws, concrete tools, shovels, hammers, corded drills, grinder, recip saw, scaffolding, and more. (3/1)

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Schuelke Trucking. OTR driving opportunities available. If interested call 515-890-2809.

**LIFEGUARDS  
WANTED**

The City of Aurelia is taking applications until 4:30 pm Friday, March 22, 2024. Please pick up application at City Hall and return with certifications attached to: City of Aurelia, PO Box 328, Aurelia, IA 51005 (EOE) (03-12)

**WANT TO BUY**

Buying and selling silver bars, silver dollars, rare coins, gold coins, gold jewelry, any gold-silver items, collector coins, currency. Kuehl's Coins, Fairmont, MN, 507-235-3886/507-399-9982. (2/28)

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Applications and a job description are available at  
**[www.bvcountyiowa.com](http://www.bvcountyiowa.com)**  
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**Buena Vista County Auditor's Office**  
317 E. 5th St., PO Box 220, Storm Lake, IA 50588  
or emailed to [sloyd@bvcountyiowa.com](mailto:sloyd@bvcountyiowa.com)

The deadline for submitting applications is March 15, 2024.  
Buena Vista County is an equal opportunity employer.

*The Buena Vista Engineer's Office  
is accepting applications for an*

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Call 200-2105 (or email) with questions, or to request job descriptions. Applications/Resumes can be submitted to Megan at Alta City Hall, 223 Main St., Alta, IA 51002 or emailed to [cityclerk@alta-tec.net](mailto:cityclerk@alta-tec.net) by Friday, March 22, 2024

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2017 Pulitzer Prize Winner for Editorial Writing

# OPINION

Storm Lake Times Pilot

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2024

## EDITORIALS

### The tap opens

The Biden Administration announced Tuesday that \$5.8 billion will be sent to the states to improve drinking water systems. The money comes from the \$1 trillion infrastructure bill and will be administered by the state. Storm Lake has upwards of \$90 million in water system needs, engineers report, but so far we have been shut out of federal or state grants. Loans are available.

Storm Lake should be at the top of Iowa's list for investments. This is a major protein center, which is why our water system is challenged. Storm Lake supports the regional ag economy as a livestock processing center. The working people of this town are seeing ballooning water rate increases. Tyson is pitching in, too, but it is not the sole cause of our wells giving out. There is tremendous and growing demand for water for all sorts of ag and industrial enterprises.

That's why Iowa should look first to Storm Lake to help solve what is a water emergency. We hope that the Biden Administration will release more funding for climate-smart investments going forward — \$5.8 billion is but a proverbial drop in the bucket for everything from lead pipe replacement to forever chemicals across the nation. First, we must take care to provide for our food supply. That is in danger so long as Storm Lake's system is on the brink of failure.

### A campaign gift

Republican legislators are giving State Auditor Rob Sand a great campaign issue as he explores running for governor as a Democrat. The Iowa Senate voted Tuesday along party lines to allow state agencies to hire private accounting firms to conduct their annual audits required by law, instead of using the auditor's office.

Last year, the legislature stripped the auditor of many of his investigative powers.

Sand and Democratic senators claim Republicans are trying to knee-cap the auditor. Sand says that diminishing the auditor's role in these stages will lead to less public oversight and more corruption.

Republicans said that agencies could save money by using private certified public accounting firms. The Legislative Service Agency reported that actual charges from private companies were higher than the \$85 per hour charged by the state auditor. The lowest reported private rate was \$93 per hour. Some rates were twice that.

Sand is the only Democrat holding a statewide elective office. As such, it makes him a big target for the GOP. It also makes him a leading contender for governor as 2026 approaches. He will make a strong argument that Republicans are afraid of him because he stands for squeaky clean government.

The auditor has been a model of restraint, which is a point of frustration. The wholesale reform and privatization of Medicaid occurred while the auditor and attorney general largely stood aside (Tom Miller lost his job as attorney general to Brenna Bird). After the damage was done, Sand did release a report on some parts of the privatization. At the local level, we begged for a state audit of missing tax increment financing revenue. Sand said that he could not get involved because he was not properly asked to do so. The City of Storm Lake claims that it did inquire with his office. Whatever the case, no audit private or public has been performed to our knowledge. No study has been done on how tax increment financing accounted for statewide. We suspect Buena Vista County is not alone, but we will never know, especially if the Republicans emasculate the constitutional office.

Sand certainly can make the point that he never abused his authority.

Why are Republicans acting like they are afraid of Sand?

Iowans elected him because they want an adversary watching over the administration. Efforts to rein him in will only fuel his primary and general election campaigns, while setting up himself or his successor in the auditor's office to run on the same issue. Other Democrats will run for secretary of state, treasurer and attorney general as fiscal watchdogs and saviors of democracy. Republicans are helping rebuild the shattered Iowa Democratic Party by giving them an issue that every Iowa voter can understand.

"Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." — John 8:32

## Storm Lake Times Pilot

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### ALABAMA COURT: FROZEN EMBRYOS ARE CHILDREN



## Spring has sprung, the lake is 'open'

The waters of Storm Lake were open from ice on Monday, one of the earliest ice-free dates on record.

The lake may have been open for a while on Saturday. At least it looked like that to me gazing south across the lake from King's Pointe. But as it turned colder that day the water seemed to close up again.

But there was no doubt Monday afternoon that the ice was out as temperatures reached the 50s and stayed there for the day.

There was some debate in our office whether or not the lake was really ice-open on Monday. The rule of thumb is that if you can cross the widest part of the lake in a boat, it is considered open. That was the case if you wanted to cross north-south on Monday; you could navigate from Sunset Park to South Shore without needing a Coast Guard icebreaker. If you tried to cross east-west you would run into ice on the east and west shores of the lake.

If you disagree with my assessment that the lake was open Monday, I understand. But we won't have to wait long for the east and west shores to clear out. Temps are forecast to rise into the 60s over the next week and that should pretty much clear all the ice out.

Our records, which date from 1950, indicate that the earliest opening date for the lake was Feb. 19, 1954. The latest the ice went out was April 19, 1952. Last year it was March 28.



JOHN CULLEN  
FILLERS

The usual open water date is mid to late March.

In 2006 Rick Peterson was able to sail his boat across Storm Lake every month, as the lake would freeze over, then open up for a few days throughout winter.

**WHEN HAWKEYE** Caitlin Clark broke the NCAA women's basketball scoring record last Thursday night in Iowa City, several Storm Lakers were in attendance to witness the history-making

achievement.

Two of them were Steve and Pam Berg, who had seats at courtside directly behind the NBC Peacock announcers who broadcast the game. We saw the Bergs on TV during the pre-game warmup, although they were partially blocked by announcers Meghan McKeown and Zora Stephenson. We even snapped a picture to prove it.

Other Storm Lakers who we know at the historic game were Josh and Laura Newhouse and their kids Hadley, Parker and Baylor. So was Ralna McVina. They weren't on TV but they had a great time watching the great Caitlin Clark.

Clark not only broke the NCAA scoring record that night, she also set a new Iowa — and personal — single game mark with 49 points.

Go Hawkeyes!



Down in front! Unfortunately, NBC announcer Meghan McKeown, left, blocked our view of Storm Lakers Steve and Pam Berg at Carver-Hawkeye Arena last Thursday night. This is a screen shot of the broadcast on Peacock.

## A BVU and liberal arts education is 'worth it' as we transition to a learning economy

BY DR. BRIAN LENZMEIER  
Third in a series of four

In past essays I discussed costs and value of higher education. In this essay I focus on the benefits of attending a school with liberal arts grounding like BVU. I find in speaking with community members and with friends, as well as from reading and watching the news, there is a lot of confusion around what "liberal arts" means.

I will start with what liberal arts does NOT mean. The liberal arts are not, as some in the media insinuate, indoctrination of a capital L "Liberal" (Leftist) philosophy. A liberal arts grounded education is focused on teaching students HOW to think, not WHAT to think. Whether a specific college focuses on the former or the latter is not always easily discerned, but teaching people HOW to think was always at the core of what I did during my 15 years as a BVU biology professor and remains our institutional priority today.

BVU's mission statement is, "We prepare students for lifelong success through transformational academic experiences." We believe the

foundation for lifelong success is a liberal arts-grounded general education program that focuses on academic skill development. Good liberal arts general education programs are grounded in the Western philosophy that the best education happens when students learn to see the world through a variety of lenses, from the natural sciences to the humanities, and from the social sciences to the arts.

Also critical for lifelong success, every general education class and every BVU major simultaneously focuses on the development of what we call the "signature skills," which are problem solving, effective communication, and integration of learning across disciplines. Our students show tremendous growth in these academic skills during their time with us, and they set our graduates apart from others because they have developed academic skills applicable for all job settings and all disciplines.

In addition to general education, majors are important. They often provide the springboard into specific careers and professions. The purpose of a major is to allow students

to dive deeply into a discipline that will provide a foundation for what they want to do professionally. However, you can't learn everything you need to know to be a successful accountant, computer scientist, or biologist during four years of college. Laws change. Technology evolves. Research happens. Majors give you a start, but they are not as critical to lifelong success as general education.

As a college president, I have yet to find my Ph.D. in biochemistry, and my knowledge of molecular virology to be of much relevance to my job. What is of relevance is the liberal arts-grounded education I received at Saint John's University and the College of Saint Benedict, where I learned how to learn, not only within my major field of study, but in disciplines like business, accounting, politics, psychology, history, and other topics I navigate every day because they are now important to my job.

I believe former Nebraska Senator Ben Sasse, now President of the University of Florida, said it best in a recent essay in the Wall Street Journal

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

## CAPITOL LETTERS

### School security bill protects kids, gives options to school districts

BY STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
MEGAN JONES  
District 6, R-Sioux Rapids

Keeping students safe in schools is a top priority.

This week, the Public Safety Committee advanced House Study Bill 675 to ensure students have the protection they deserve.

HSB 675 has two parts, the first addresses the need for school resources officers inside buildings and the second creates a professional weapons permit and with extensive training for school employees.

School Resource Officers are an asset to schools and the community seeking better security and safety in their schools. The SRO's connection with students and staff allows them to see problems developing before they get out of hand. The officers bring a sense of safety and security to a sometimes chaotic place. Unfortunately, some schools have removed school resource officers from their buildings, and others either can't afford their services or their community does not have enough peace officers to serve as SROs.

HSB 675 is working to change that. The bill requires school districts with more than 8,000 students to have an SRO in schools with grades 9-12. These large school districts can opt out of the requirement, but that will require a vote of the school board to reject this important security. Parents deserve to know if their school boards are against SROs. Smaller schools are encouraged to have SROs and both small and large schools can apply for school security personnel grants that will provide up to \$50,000 of matching state funds to each school district that wishes to have school security personnel. In addition to law enforcement officers, schools can also hire private school security officers who meet the background checks and training standards.

While school security officers serve an important function, they cannot be in two places at once. HSB 675 also gives schools the option of allowing employees to qualify for a special professional permit for school employees. This is a completely optional program for the schools and their employees. If a school chooses to move forward with this program, staff can volunteer to join. A school employee must pass a standard weapons permit background check every year and complete extensive specialized training. The training includes:

- Prescribed firearm safety training course
- One time in-person legal training, including training on qualified immunity
- Annual emergency medical training
- Annual communications training
- Yearly live scenario training
- Quarterly live firearms training

A school employee who meets all these qualifications shall be entitled to qualified immunity from criminal or civil liability for damages when reasonable force is used in the school.

House Study Bill 675 provides two different ways for schools to protect their students, both with school security officers, and well-trained armed school employees. This bill has advanced out of the Public Safety committee and

will be ready for floor debate soon.

### Supplemental School Aid and teacher salaries

BY STATE SENATOR  
LYNN EVANS  
District 3, R-Aurelia

The sixth week of the legislative session included our first deadline of the year, keeping us busy in subcommittee and committee meetings as we worked to get important legislation through our first hurdle. This also meant we covered a wide range of issues while we worked towards our deadline.

One of the bills that was passed by committee last week was the Patient's Right to Save Act, Senate File 431. It creates incentives for people to make price transparency work by rewarding patients who shop for lower cost, high-quality care.

This bill addresses the rising cost of health care by rewarding patients who shop for more affordable care by requiring cash rate disclosures from all providers, offering deductible credit for lower-cost cash care, and letting patients share in insurance company savings post-deductible. Lower health care costs are consistently one of the top issues of Iowans and the goal of this bill is to lower costs, reduce premiums, and empower patients.

The Senate also advanced Senate Study Bill 3073, the bill to reform Iowa's Area Education Agencies. Since this idea was originally announced, we have received a lot of comments, questions and feedback. We have listened to the stakeholders and people interested, taken that feedback, and several positive changes have been made to the bill as a result.

Under the bill, as amended in the Senate Education Committee, AEAs will still be able to provide schools with the same services they do now with funding provided. This is a major change from the original bill.

The bill also requires the Department of Education's special education division to oversee special education compliance with all applicable federal and state laws related to special education and provide guidance and standards. This is not only accountability for the AEA system, but also accountability for the Department of Education to ensure that they are doing their job as expected in Iowa Code and federal law.

The goal is to help not only students with disabilities, but all students, and ensure they are getting the support they need to succeed. The focus will remain on that goal as we continue working on this important legislation.

Supplemental School Aid has advanced through committee and is eligible for debate on the floor. The governor proposed 2.5%. I am looking to improve on that number, especially in our current economy. This needs to get moving as schools are deep into developing their budgets and contract negotiations.

There is also continuing discussion to raise the minimum teacher salary. The minimum teacher salary in Iowa for a first-year teacher is currently \$33,500. The average starting salary for a teacher in Iowa is currently \$46,251. I expect some movement on this during the current session.

It is truly an honor to serve Senate District 3 and rural Iowa at our state capitol. Please feel free to reach out to me with comments or concerns at [lynn.evans@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:lynn.evans@legis.iowa.gov)

# From ink to electrons: The retirement of print journalism

BY ALAN GUEBERT

Recently, a retired friend asked if I planned to retire anytime soon. It was the right question. While I have considered retirement, I explained, I have no real plans — soon or otherwise — to do so.

But, I added, "The choice may not be up to me because I'm in a profession that might retire on me."

It's no joke. In the last year alone, two newspapers that had long published this weekly effort closed and two others quit printing it — after nearly 25 years — due to bone-deep budget cuts.

That's just the state of today's newspapers. According to research at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, 360 U.S. newspapers closed from the start of the Covid-19 pandemic through mid-2022.

If that shutdown rate continued through this January, roughly another 150 have closed since. Which means nearly 3,000 newspapers, one-fourth of all U.S. newspapers, have closed since 2005.

That clobbering has made print journalists nearly as rare as coal miners. According to the Pew Research Center, the number of people employed by U.S. newspapers dropped from 71,000 in 2008 to 31,000 in 2020. That freefall was just slightly better than coal mining that, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, lost 46,000 jobs since 2012.

We inky wretches aren't the only word shakers quaking; digital and print magazine editors are keeping their heads low in their office cubicles, too.

For example, wrote Ezra Klein in the Jan. 21 New York Times, in the last few months "Sports Illustrated has just laid

off most of its staff," and web news giants BuzzFeed and Jezebel closed while HuffPo, Vice, and FiveThirtyEight pared back staff and reach.

And all continue to lose readers, advertising and revenue. The only thing all forms of journalism seems good at nowadays is bleeding money. Ideas to stem the flow are many, varied and cheap; actual solutions are rare, hard and costly.

A decade ago the best one appeared to be white knight billionaires wanting to own trophy pieces of American journalism. Amazon founder Jeff Bezos (Washington Post), biotech investor Dr. Patrick Soon-Shiong (Los Angeles Times), and software mogul Marc Benioff (Time) spent a collective \$940 million to acquire their shiny jewels.

By mid-January 2024, though, those Midases were taking a pasting, too. According to the Times, the three had poured hundreds of millions

more into their inky ratholes before putting their checkbooks back into their pockets.

Even newspaper royalty isn't immune: On Feb. 1 Rupert Murdoch's Wall Street Journal laid off 20 journalists in its Washington, D.C., bureau.

"Wealth doesn't insulate an owner from the serious challenges plaguing many media companies," one long-time observer told the Times, "and it turns out being a billionaire isn't a predictor for solving those problems."

The problem is particularly acute in rural America, noted Northwestern's Nov. 16, 2023 "The State of Local News" Report.

"Residents in more than half of U.S. counties have no, or very limited, access to a reliable local news source — either print, digital or broadcast," it explained. Moreover, "There are 204 counties without any local news outlet and 1,562 counties served with

only one remaining local news source, invariably a weekly newspaper."

And new digital alternatives — regardless of professionalism or earnestness — aren't a universal solution because "many digital start-ups have trouble gaining enough subscribers and funding to achieve long-term sustainability," the report adds.

That doesn't mean newspapers can't make the move to digital; many have and more are headed that way. A year ago, the report noted, "42 of the largest 100 newspapers (delivered) a print edition six or fewer times a week" and 11 of those "largest dailies publish in printed form only one or two times a week."

That future — less ink, more electrons, and fewer journalists — appears as irreversible as my age.

*The Farm and Food File is published weekly throughout the U.S. and Canada.*

## OBITUARIES



### Melva Brock

Melva D. Brock, 93, of Storm Lake died Monday, Feb. 19, 2024, at Methodist Manor Retirement Community in Storm Lake.

Funeral services will take place Friday, Feb. 23, at 1 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church in Storm Lake. Burial will follow in Storm Lake Cemetery. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the church. Fratzen & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

Melva Doris Brock was born Sept. 4, 1930, to Earl and Eva (Lawlor) Brock near Webb. The family moved to southern Indiana when she was six-years-old. She grew up attending grade school in Monroe City, Ind. The family then moved back to Iowa where she attended Ruthven High School and graduated in 1948.

On July 17, 1949, Melva was united in marriage to Dean Brock at her grandparents' farmhouse near Dickens. They made their home in Sioux Rapids. In 1953, Dean and Melva were baptized and confirmed in their faith at Faith Lutheran Church in Sioux Rapids. They later moved to Storm Lake, where they resided for over 65 years. They were blessed with a daughter, Sheila.

Melva was an active member of Grace Lutheran Church in Storm Lake, participating in Mary & Martha, Ladies Aid, altar committee, meals on wheels and Bible classes.

She loved cooking and baking for family and friends. She is remembered for her love of hummingbirds and her porcelain shoe collection. She enjoyed traveling, gardening, reading and music. She especially loved spending time with her family. Melva will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved her.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Earl and Eva Brock; sister Sylvia and her husband Donald Brock; brothers: Wesley Brock; Raymond and his wife Loretta Brock; sisters-in-law, Donlene Brock and LuVerne Brophy;

Is Amoroso right? Are we moving away from a knowledge economy to a learning economy? I think we are, and I am excited about the next 10 years at BVU because its liberal arts grounded curriculum that develops problem solving, effective communication, and integrative learning skills is poised to create a generation of graduates who know how to learn and will thrive in the new learning economy. What does that next 10 years at BVU look like? That is the topic for my next essay.

Dr. Brian Lenzmeier, Ph.D., is president of Buena Vista University in Storm Lake.

nephew Donnie Brock; niece Doris Harvey; great-nephew Jason Brock.

Left to cherish her memory are her husband Dean Brock of Storm Lake; daughter Sheila (Bruce) Cairns of Storm Lake; brother Eldon Brock of Colorado Springs, Colo.; sister-in-law Opal Brock of Storm Lake; many treasured and beloved nieces and nephews; and other extended family and friends.



### Brian Mohn

Brian David Mohn, 64, of Happy, Texas, and formerly of the Aurelia and Cherokee area, passed away on Monday, Feb. 19, 2024 after a valiant fight against pancreatic cancer.

Brian was born Jan. 20, 1960, to Arnold and Arlene (Dittmer) Mohn. He grew up on the family farm between Aurelia and Cherokee, truly enjoying the farm life. He was confirmed in 1974 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Aurelia. Brian graduated high school in Aurelia in 1978 and went on to attend Iowa State University, graduating with a bachelor's degree in animal science in 1982. Brian came back to the farm, and for many years raised livestock and grain.

Brian continued his interest in livestock and animal production by working in the meat industry for a number of years.

In 1998 Brian married Glenda (Brownmiller) Heilman. They later divorced.

In later years, Brian took classes through Western Iowa Tech Community College and earned an associate degree in financial services.

In 2016, Brian fulfilled a lifelong dream and became a resident of the great state of Texas, settling down near the town of Happy, Texas — "The Town Without a Frown."

Brian began trucking in 2010 and continued after moving to Texas, until cancer forced him to quit.

Brian will be remembered for his interest in farm life and his animals. He also enjoyed the company of friends and celebrating events with them. Brian always enjoyed himself, and no one could say

that "Brian never had any fun."

Brian was preceded in death by his parents, Arnold and Arlene; and his grandparents.

Survivors include his three sisters: Margaret and Leo Eminger of Little Rock, Ark.; Joyce and Gordy Sievers of Slater; and Kris Mohn of Canyon, Texas; two nieces: Kathy Carillo and her two children, Caleb and Katelyn, of Little Rock; and Rebecca Lee of Little Rock. Also surviving are his aunt, Janet Jean Nielsen; and numerous cousins and other relatives.

Brian's wishes were to be cremated. At this time there is no memorial service or celebration of life planned. Arrangements are by Brooks Funeral Directors in Canyon, Texas.

### Betsy Lenz

Betsy Lenz, 73, of Alta died Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2024, at Methodist Manor Retirement Community in Storm Lake.

Funeral services will take place Monday, Feb. 26, at 10:30 a.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Alta. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery in Alta. Visitation will be held Sunday, Feb. 25, from 3-5 p.m. at Fratzen & Jensen Funeral Home in Alta.

## OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR  
BUENA VISTA COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF  
THE ESTATE OF  
RICKEY DEAN CORRIN,  
Deceased.

CASE No. ESPR017832

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT  
OF ADMINISTRATOR AND  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Rickey Dean Corrin, Deceased, who died on or about January 24, 2024:

You are hereby notified that on February 13, 2024, the undersigned was appointed administrator of the estate.

Notice is hereby given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.

Dated on February 5, 2024.

Date of second publication: March 1, 2024.

Wally Miller Jr., ICIS#: AT0005418  
Attorney for the Administrator  
Miller, Miller, Miller P.C.  
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Cherokee, IA 51012

Donna Corrin  
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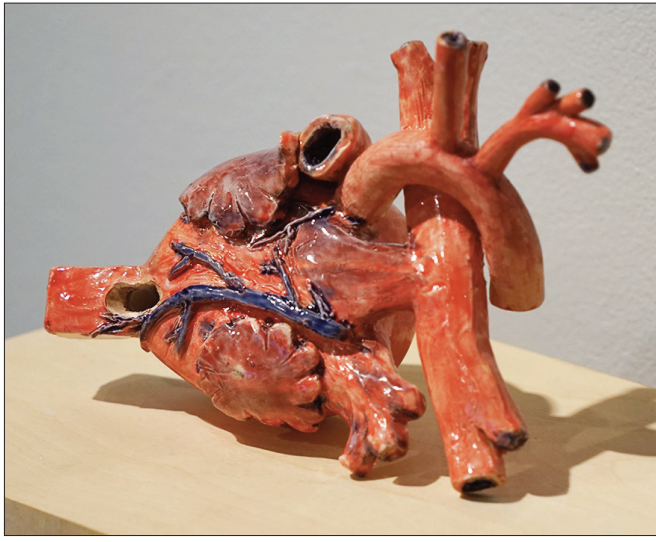
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# Gomez-Ramirez Best of Show in WISE competition



"The Organ of Life" by Eva Snyder.



Best of Show winner Crystal Gomez-Ramirez with BVU art faculty, from left: David Boelter, Mary Mello-Nee and Taylor Carlson.

The Western Iowa Salon Exhibit at Buena Vista University showcases the work of artists from the following high schools: Storm Lake, Council Bluffs, Hinton, Coon Rapids, Dakota Valley, North Union, South Central Calhoun, Ridge View, West Montana, West Harrison and Pocahontas.

High schoolers in the Storm Lake coverage area excelled, with Crystal Gomez-Ramirez of Storm Lake earning Best of Show and a Juror's Mention and Maguire Neumann of Ridge View placing second.

The exhibit can be viewed through March 16.

### Storm Lake area artists and their work:

**Best of show:** "To" drawing by Crystal Gomez-Ramirez, Storm Lake

**Second place:** "Hide" painting by Maguire Neumann, Ridge View

**Juror's Mention:** "Por tu Bien" drawing by Crystal Gomez-Ramirez

• "A Day on Bernard Street" photograph by Evan Anderson, Storm Lake

• "Oscar" sculpture by Hayley Endrulat, Ridge View

• "Mitztemoa Noyolla" painting by Daniela Izaguirre

Cabrera, Storm Lake

• "Waiting for my Soul to Come Back" painting by Daniela Izaguirre Cabrera, Storm Lake

• "Oro Real" ceramics by Daniela Izaguirre Cabrera, Storm Lake

• "Megurine Luka" graphic design by Daniela Lopez, Storm Lake

• "Aztec Life" drawing by Francisco Medina, Storm Lake

• "Aztec Couple" drawing by Francisco Medina, Storm Lake

• "Lantern" painting by Briana Monzon Benavides, Storm Lake

• "Italian Street" painting by Briana Monzon Benavides, Storm Lake

• "Dirty Deeds Done Dirt Cheap" sculpture by Maguire Neumann, Ridge View

• "Portrait of Ethan Grad" painting by Maguire Neumann, Ridge View

• "Embers" drawing by Kutenai Phimsen, Storm Lake

• "The Organ of Life" ceramics by Eva Snyder, Storm Lake

• "Join Me" ceramics by Eva Snyder, Storm Lake

• "Death," painting by Madison Stull, Storm Lake

• "Strength" painting by Madison Stull

• "Celestial Weaving" mixed media by Jewel Talbot, Storm Lake



"To" by Crystal Gomez-Ramirez



"Por tu Bien" by Crystal Gomez-Ramirez



"Hide" by Maguire Neumann.



"Waiting for my Soul to Come Back" by Daniela Izaguirre-Cabrera.



"Italian Street" by Briana Monzon Benavides.



"Dirty Deeds Done Dirt Cheap" by Maguire Neumann.

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## A NIGHT WITH Damon West

SLHS Auditorium | Adults \$5.00  
**FRIDAY, FEB. 23, 2024**  
7:00 pm (doors open at 6:30 pm)

Students are Free but MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

Tickets are purchased at the door  
If you have any questions please call Angie Woodford at the Storm Lake Middle School 712-732-8080

**MEET DAMON WEST...**

- College Quarterback
- Sentenced to life in prison
- Best-Selling Author
- Motivational Speaker

"As a motivational speaker, it is my hope that my story, my example can show others that they are capable of way more than they think they are. In order to stop the flow of pain in society, it is incumbent upon each of us, whether in life, in school or in business, to be like the coffee bean from my story."  
-Damon West

## STARS Boosters 5th Annual Bingo Night

March 1st - 7:00 pm  
Sunrise Pointe Banquet Hall  
1528 E Lakeshore Drive

**\$30**  
Includes 20 games & snacks

Doors open at 6:00 pm  
TICKET SALES BEGIN FEB. 1ST  
Contact Angie Woodford at [awoodford@slcsd.org](mailto:awoodford@slcsd.org) OR call 712-732-8080

## CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT GARAGE SALE

305 Coombs Dr., Aurelia.  
Saturday, Feb., 24 to Sunday, March 3  
Noon to 7 p.m. daily

Items include: tile saw, table saws, bandsaw, drill press, DeWalt cordless drills, circular saws, mitre saws, chop saw, air compressors, nail guns, nails, screws, concrete tools, shovels, hammers, corded drills, grinder, recip saw, scaffolding, and more.

## SIoux CENTRAL, NEWELL-FONDA PUNCH STATE TICKETS



Sioux Central's Morgan Christian (3), Caitlin Wildeman, Bradi Krager and Marley Madsen (with banner) celebrate after clinching the school's first-ever trip to the girls state basketball tournament on Wednesday night in Spencer. TIMES PILOT photos by JAMIE KNAPP

Sioux Central clinches first-ever trip to state after 51-32 win over Pocahontas Area

BY JAMIE KNAPP

It's pick your poison when it comes to defending Sioux Central. Take away one of the team's Big Three scorers, but you still have to account for the other two.

And when the supporting cast is making key 3-pointers, that makes it even tougher.

Hadley Ayers and Caitlin Wildeman each made a 3-pointer to give No. 4 Sioux Central some separation in the third quarter as the Rebels went on a 16-5 run in the final stages of the third quarter to take control as they advanced to the state tournament for the first time in school history after a 51-32 win over Pocahontas Area on Wednesday night at Spencer.

Sioux Central, now 22-1, will play Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont (23-1) in the first round at state on Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. at Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines.

Sioux Central had some trouble in the first half with the Indians. After jumping out

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3B



Sioux Central's Bradi Krager accepts the state qualifier banner after the Rebels beat Pocahontas Area.



Newell-Fonda punched its ticket to the state basketball tournament for the seventh year in a row after beating Coon Rapids-Bayard 80-33 in a regional final on Wednesday night in Fort Dodge. Photo courtesy of Scott Kilbride

Newell-Fonda clinches seventh straight trip after 80-33 win over Coon Rapids-Bayard

It was the standard blueprint for Newell-Fonda.

Start fast with tenacious pressure defense and put the game away in the first half.

No. 2 Newell-Fonda raced out to a 25-5 lead after the first

quarter and never looked back as the Mustangs advanced to the state tournament for the seventh year in a row and 11th time in the last 12 years after an 80-33 win over Coon Rapids-Bayard in a Class 1A regional final game on Wednesday in Fort Dodge.

Newell-Fonda, now 22-2, will play Calamus-Wheatland (24-1) in the first round at state on Wednesday at 5 p.m. in Des Moines.

Newell-Fonda extended its lead after the first quarter to 40-16 by halftime. The Mustangs

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3B

Wells resigns as BVU women's basketball coach

Buena Vista University women's basketball coach David Wells has resigned from his position, effective immediately. Wells, who posted a record of 19-84 in five seasons as coach, is a native of Lakewood, Colo. His coaching career began at Golden High School (Colo.). Wells spent seven years serving as the top women's basketball assistant at Metropolitan State University in Denver. From 2011-13, Wells was an assistant women's basketball coach at Millersville University (Pa.).

A search for his replacement will begin immediately.

Second half defense proves to be difference for SL boys in substate quarterfinal loss to SB-Luton

Tornadoes allow 29 points in third stanza

Sergeant Bluff-Luton isn't known as an offensive juggernaut as the Warriors average just 51.5 points a game.

They nearly scored that the second half alone.

After scoring just 20 points in the first half, Sergeant Bluff-Luton erupted for 29 points in the third quarter to take control as the Warriors scored 48 second-half points to beat Storm Lake 68-64 in a Class 3A substate quarterfinal game on Monday at Sergeant Bluff.

The first half was all about defense. Sergeant Bluff-Luton jumped out to an 8-2 lead before Storm Lake scored eight unanswered points to take a 10-8 lead after one quarter.

Sergeant Bluff-Luton went on an 8-3 spurt to take a 16-13 lead on a 3-pointer by Isaiah Jervik. Storm Lake, however, went ahead 22-18 lead late in the first half on a 3-pointer by Carson Lullmann. The Tornadoes led 24-20 at the half.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2B



Storm Lake's Jaidyn Coon vies for possession of the ball with Sergeant Bluff-Luton's Braulio Gonzalez during Monday's game. TIMES PILOT photo by JAMIE KNAPP

BVU men see season ended by Loras in ARC tournament

Buena Vista had its season come to an end at No. 3 seed Loras as the Duhawks pulled away in the second half for an 86-62 win over the No. 6 seed Beavers in the quarterfinals of the American Rivers Conference tournament on Tuesday.

Loras shot 67 percent from the field in the first half, including 5 of 10 from 3-point and led 38-26 at the half. Buena Vista shot 40 percent from the field, but was able to hang around after going 9 of 10 at the free-throw line.

The Beavers pulled to within 52-48 less than 4 minutes into the second half, but the Duhawks used a 15-3 spurt to extend their lead to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2B

### UPCOMING SPORTS

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL

TUESDAY, FEB. 27

► Sioux Central vs. Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont @ Des Moines, 8:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28

► Newell-Fonda vs. Calamus-Wheatland @ Des Moines, 5 p.m.

# BOYS PREP BASKETBALL

## BOYS DISTRICTS



Storm Lake's Tim Yanga steals the ball from Sergeant Bluff-Luton's Joey Hardy during Monday's substate quarterfinal game. TIMES PILOT photos by JAMIE KNAPP

### Storm Lake ...

Continued from page 1B

While the first half featured defense, the second half showcased offense. Sergeant Bluff-Luton's Scott Dickson was unstoppable inside as he

carried the Warriors in the third quarter. He scored 14 of his team's 29 points in that stanza as they built a 49-41 lead heading into the fourth period.

Sergeant Bluff-Luton extended its lead to as much as 11 at 59-48 with just over 3

minutes remaining on a layup by Ryan Hoffman. Storm Lake cut it to 61-55 on a Jaidyn Coon 3-pointer. Coon, however, injured his knee with about 2:30 left to play and the Tornados trailing 63-55. He returned with 1:30 remaining and Storm Lake got as close as 66-62 on a 3-pointer by Tim Yanga, but could get no closer than that the rest of the way.

Coon led four players in double figures with 18 points for Storm Lake, including 16 in the second half. Cam Boyd added 13, Justin Guynn 12 and Lullmann 11. Yanga scored seven points, Charlie Dvergsten two and David William one.

Coon and Guynn each grabbed six rebounds apiece. Coon had three assists and William two. Boyd and Guynn each tallied two steals while Coon blocked two shots.

Storm Lake made 22 of 45 field goals for 49 percent, including 6 of 18 from 3-point. The Tornados committed 15 turnovers in the game.

Dickson led Sergeant Bluff-Luton with 27 points. Hoffman added 15 and Jervik 13.

Sergeant Bluff-Luton was 27 of 52 from the field for 52 percent, including 4 of 12 from 3-point range. The Warriors had nine turnovers.

Storm Lake was 14 of 21 from the free-throw line while Sergeant Bluff-Luton was 10 of 18.

"We started out very well



Storm Lake's Carson Lullmann attempts a shot while guarded by Sergeant Bluff-Luton's Ryan Hoffman during the first half of Monday's substate quarterfinal game.

defensively," Storm Lake coach Evan Franzmeier said. "We did a lot of things correctly. We held them to 20 points in the first half. At half I felt like our defense was talking and flying around and following assignments. Then in the third quarter we had a couple guys pick up their third fouls early, which resulted in them having a lot of success in the paint. They made three of their four threes in the third quarter and we gave up 29 points in the third. That was the difference in the game.

"We fought back in the fourth and had chances, but ran short on time," Franzmeier added. "Tough way for a good season to end. We made a lot of growth this season going from four wins to 12 wins with seven losses under eight points. We were very close a lot of nights. We're going to miss our five seniors, but we return five of our top seven next year. We have a good nucleus to build off of."

Storm Lake finished its season 12-9.



Storm Lake's David William pressures Sergeant Bluff-Luton's Braulio Gonzalez during their substate quarterfinal game on Monday night in Sergeant Bluff.



Storm Lake's Cam Boyd attempts a shot while guarded by Sergeant Bluff-Luton's Isaiah Jervik during the second half of their game on Monday night.



Storm Lake's Jaidyn Coon passes the ball while guarded by Sergeant Bluff-Luton's Scott Dickson during Monday's substate quarterfinal game.



Storm Lake's Justin Guynn attempts a reverse layup during the second half of Monday's substate quarterfinal game against Sergeant Bluff-Luton.

## Carlson, Bloom make all-TLC first team

Newell-Fonda's Max Carlson and Alta-Aurelia's Jack Bloom were selected to the Twin Lakes Conference first team for boys basketball, it was released.

They were joined by Gavin Batta and Cole Higgins of South Central Calhoun, Byron Maina of Emmetsburg, Ryan Clair of East Sac County, Logan Moline of Manson Northwest Webster and Kasey Hough of GTRA.

Selected to the second team were Keegan Soard of South Central Calhoun, Carter Hudson and Gavin Swanson of Emmetsburg, Sam Julin and Luke Wright of East Sac

County, Jacksyn Hogrefe of Newell-Fonda, Owen Mills of Sioux Central and Ethan Behrens of Pocahontas Area.

Making the third team were Andrew Anderson of South Central Calhoun, Carson Baak of Emmetsburg, Guyson Lyman and Eli Roberts of Newell-Fonda, Matt Condon of Manson Northwest Webster, Ayden Dullea of Alta-Aurelia, Sullivan Hall of GTRA and Jaxon Zaugg of West Bend-Mallard.

Clive Clark of South Central Calhoun and Bill Geelan of Emmetsburg were voted co-Coaches of the Year by their peers.

### Buena Vista ...

Continued from page 1B

67-51 with under 9 minutes to play.

BVU tried to stay close, getting within 10 points at the 7:45 mark, but Loras scored 11 unanswered points over the next 4 minutes to put the game out of reach.

Zane Neubaum led the Beavers with 17 points and

moved into ninth place on the program's all-time scoring list with 1,463 points. Carter Sievers added 13 points and Gunner Reed chipped in with nine.

Neubaum led the way with five rebounds while Sievers tallied a pair of steals. Kyle Sternberg came off the bench and registered eight points and four rebounds.

Buena Vista wrapped up its season 13-13.

**CLASS 1A**  
**DISTRICT 1, SUBSTATE 1**  
**GAME TUESDAY**  
**at Humboldt**  
 North Union 54, Fort Dodge St. Edmond 51  
**DISTRICT 2, SUBSTATE 1**  
**GAME TUESDAY**  
**at Cherokee**  
 South O'Brien 57, MRCRU (Marcus) 44  
**GAME SATURDAY**  
*(Winner advances to state tourney)*  
**at Spencer**  
 North Union (21-3) vs. South O'Brien (21-3), 7 p.m.  
**DISTRICT 3, SUBSTATE 2**  
**GAME TUESDAY**  
**at Garner**  
 Lake Mills 61, Algona Garrigan 52  
**DISTRICT 4, SUBSTATE 2**  
**GAME TUESDAY**  
**at Orange City**  
 Remsen St. Mary's 42, George-Little Rock 39  
**GAME SATURDAY**  
*(Winner advances to state tourney)*  
**at Spencer**  
 Lake Mills (23-1) vs. Remsen St. Mary's (19-3), 5 p.m.  
**CLASS 2A**  
**DISTRICT 1, SUBSTATE 1**  
**GAME TUESDAY**  
**at Orange City**  
 West Lyon 65, Spirit Lake 45  
**DISTRICT 2, SUBSTATE 1**  
**GAME TUESDAY**  
**at Hartley**  
 Unity Christian 57, Emmetsburg 40  
**GAME SATURDAY**  
*(Winner advances to state tourney)*  
**at Sioux Center**  
 West Lyon (22-1) vs. Unity Christian (19-4)  
**CLASS 3A**  
**SUBSTATE 1**  
**GAMES THURSDAY**  
**at Orange City**  
 MOC-Floyd Valley (19-3) vs. Glenwood (13-8)  
**at Sioux City**  
 Sioux City Heelan (13-8) vs. Sergeant Bluff-Luton (12-10)  
**GAME MONDAY**  
*(Winner advances to state tourney)*  
**at TBD**  
 MOC-Floyd Valley or Glenwood vs. Sioux City Heelan or Sergeant Bluff-Luton  
**Note:** All games begin at 7 p.m. unless noted



# GIRLS PREP BASKETBALL

# SCOREBOARD



Sioux Central's Morgan Christian steals the ball from Pocahontas Area's Madison Vial during the first half of their regional final game on Wednesday night in Spencer. TIMES PILOT photos by JAMIE KNAPP

## Sioux Central ...

Continued from page 1B

to a 9-2 lead early, Pocahontas scored eight unanswered points to take a 10-9 lead on a basket by Jenna Vonnahme. The Rebels responded with five straight points to take a 14-10 lead at the end of one.

A 3-pointer by Madison Vial pulled Pocahontas Area within 14-13, but Sioux Central scored six unanswered points to go up 20-13. The Indians came back again, getting within 20-18 before Sioux Central got layups from Morgan Christian and Avery Wilson to go into halftime with a 24-19 lead.

Ayers made a 3-pointer to start the second half for Sioux Central, but the Indians countered with a 3-pointer by Vial to make it 27-25. It was 29-27

Sioux Central when the Rebels scored seven straight points to go ahead 36-27. Bradi Krager and Wilson each had a layup and Wildeman made a 3-pointer.

Pocahontas Area made a 3-pointer to pull within 38-32, but a layup by Wilson and a 3-pointer by Wilson gave the Rebels a 45-32 lead after the third quarter. Pocahontas did not score a single point in the final 8 minutes.

Wilson and Christian each scored 15 points to lead Sioux Central. Preslie Peterson added nine points, Wildeman five, Krager four and Ayers three.

Vial led Pocahontas Area (14-9) with 14 points.

"It was a hard-fought game," Sioux Central coach Kasey Krager said. "I give a lot of credit to Pocahontas. They played really hard. They gave us fits in the first half for sure. Once we got some steals and runoffs we kind of separated ourselves from them. Avery was huge, Morgan was huge, Preslie on the glass and Caitlin Wildeman I thought really played well."

Krager talked about what made the difference.

"The difference was the consistency of our team I think," he said. "We just have options that we can go to. Obviously, they shut Bradi down. They were guarding her hard and they weren't letting her get any threes off. The other girls had to pick it up and I think Morgan and Avery had over half of our points."

Sioux Central's defense was lights-out.

"Defense was pretty good," Krager said. "I felt if we held them to 40 points, we'd be good. We held them to 32. There were times where we helped too much on penetration and gave up some open looks. Overall, a really good effort."



Sioux Central's Avery Wilson attempts a shot while guarded by Pocahontas Area's Khloe Mefferd (12) and Jenna Vonnahme during Wednesday night's game.

Krager talked about what Pocahontas did to make it tough in the first half.

"We couldn't get anything at the rim with our offense with Vonnahme as a rim protector," he said. "They were guarding Bradi so tough that it kind of made our offense different. We had to go with some 1-on-1 action with Avery at the point."

## Newell-Fonda ...

Continued from page 1B

tangs made 11 3-point shots in the second half and led 65-25 after three quarters.

Kinzee Hinders led three players in double figures with 22 points for Newell-Fonda. McKenna Sievers added 11 and Ava Vie 10.

Jaicee Vanderhoff scored nine points while Kierra Jungers had eight. Greta Larsen chipped in with six points, Maren Brabec five, Isabel Bartek four, Joice Walsh three and Anna Mercer two.

Sievers led the Mustangs in rebounding with seven. Bartek added five, Mercer four and Jungers three. Sievers charted seven assists. Bartek had five, Mercer four, and Brabec and Jungers three.

Newell-Fonda finished with 21 steals. Sievers and Brabec led the way with five apiece. Jungers and Hinders each added three. Hinders also blocked two shots.

Newell-Fonda made 31 of 60 field goals for 52 percent, including 12 of 28 from behind the 3-point arc.

Coon Rapids-Bayard committed 32 turnovers.

"I was very pleased with our effort and enthusiasm," Newell-Fonda coach Dick Jungers said. "This group came out and made things tough for a very good Coon Rapids team. We moved the ball well and found the hot hand. The second half we started to hit a lot of threes and that made the margin what it was. This team continues to improve with tenacious defense, and we have a lot of different players stepping up each night."



Sioux Central's Preslie Peterson attempts a shot in front of Pocahontas Area's Khloe Mefferd during their regional final game on Wednesday in Spencer.

## BASKETBALL

### LAKES CONFERENCE

Boys	W-L	W-L
Estherville	7-1	19-3
Spirit Lake	5-3	12-10
Storm Lake	3-5	12-9
Cherokee	3-5	10-12
Spencer	2-6	8-14
Girls	W-L	W-L
Estherville	8-0	22-2
Spirit Lake	6-2	16-6
Cherokee	3-5	15-8
Storm Lake	3-5	14-8
Spencer	0-8	1-21

### TWIN LAKES CONFERENCE

Boys	W-L	W-L
Emmetsburg	10-1	18-6
South Central Calhoun	10-1	17-6
East Sac County	9-2	18-5
Newell-Fonda	8-3	13-10
Manson NW Webster	7-4	16-8
Alta-Aurelia	6-5	12-11
Graettinger-Terril/R-A	5-6	11-11
Sioux Central	5-6	7-14
Pocahontas Area	3-8	3-18
Southeast Valley	2-9	2-18
West Bend-Mallard	1-10	5-18
Storm Lake St. Mary's	0-11	0-22
Girls	W-L	W-L
Newell-Fonda	11-0	22-2
Sioux Central	10-1	22-1
Pocahontas Area	9-2	14-9
Emmetsburg	8-3	13-10
Manson NW Webster	5-6	12-12
West Bend-Mallard	4-7	13-11
Southeast Valley	4-7	11-9
Alta-Aurelia	4-7	11-11
East Sac County	4-7	8-14
Graettinger-Terril/R-A	4-7	8-15
South Central Calhoun	3-8	7-15
Storm Lake St. Mary's	0-11	1-21

### WESTERN VALLEY CONFERENCE

Boys	W-L	W-L
Kingsley-Pierson	7-1	14-7
Lawton-Bronson	6-2	14-6
OACBIG	6-2	11-10
Ridge View	5-3	12-10
Westwood	5-3	12-10
MVAOCCOU	3-5	4-18
West Monona	2-6	8-12
Woodbury Central	2-6	5-15
Siouxland Christian	0-8	3-13
Girls	W-L	W-L
Westwood	8-0	21-0
Kingsley-Pierson	6-1	16-6
MVAOCCOU	5-2	17-5
West Monona	4-4	13-7
Ridge View	3-4	9-11
OACBIG	2-5	2-18
Lawton-Bronson	1-7	6-16
Woodbury Central	0-8	4-17

### AMERICAN RIVERS CONFERENCE

Men	W-L	W-L
Nebraska Wesleyan	13-3	22-3
Coe	13-3	21-4
Loras	11-5	21-5
Dubuque	11-5	21-5
Central	11-5	17-9
Buena Vista	6-10	13-13
Simpson	3-13	9-16
Luther	2-14	7-18
Wartburg	2-14	3-22
Women	W-L	W-L
Wartburg	16-0	23-2
Loras	14-2	22-3
Coe	11-5	21-5
Dubuque	9-7	16-10
Simpson	9-7	14-12
Luther	6-10	11-13
Central	5-11	11-14
Buena Vista	2-14	3-20
Nebraska Wesleyan	0-16	0-21

### TOWN & COUNTRY

Team	W-L
Mike's Team	26-6
AMF	21-11
Pinheads	19-13
Sixty Strikers	17-15
Team #3	16-16
Cecilia's Old Farts	12-20
Fred's Team	10-22
Walsh Chiropractic	7-25

### MONDAY NIGHT FARMERS

Team	W-L
Big Black Angus	16-4
Team 2	13-7
Bryce Radke	11-9
Kash Team	9-11
Team 3	7-13
Team 1	4-16

### LADIES

Team	W-L
Donna	38-18
Eileen	37-19
Carolyn	35-21
Karen	32-24
Sandy	14-42
Laurie	12-44

### ALLEY KITS

Team	W-L
Fritcher Abstract	52-12
The Girls	30-34
She Devils	24-40
Wilson & Co.	22-42

### High game: Donna McPherren 181.

High series: Donna McPherren 523.

High team game: Fritcher Abstract 357.

High team series: Fritcher Abstract 986.

### High game: Donna McPherren 179.

High series: Donna McPherren 476.

High team game: Laurie 219.

High team series: Sandy 599.

## HAPPENINGS

### Men's volleyball league planned

Community Education will be offering a men's volleyball league starting in April. The league is an adult recreation program for men 18 years of age or older and graduates of high school. Teams will play two matches per night in the Storm Lake Community School District gyms. Teams will officiate and score their own matches. The league will run from April 3 through May 22. Playoffs will be May 29 and June 5. Teams can register on the Community Education registration portal or complete a registration form at their office located at 930 East 5th St., Portable #3. For more information, contact Community Education at 732-5711.

### Start Smart Baseball to be offered

Start Smart Baseball is a developmentally-appropriate introductory baseball program for children in preschool and kindergarten. The program prepares children for organized T-ball, baseball and softball in a fun, non-threatening environment. Start Smart Baseball is designed for children and their parents to develop skills for organized baseball and softball without the threat of competition or the fear of getting hurt. Age appropriate equipment from Franklin Sports and Hasbro is used in teaching throwing, catching, batting, running and agility. Participants can register on the Community Education registration portal or complete a registration form at their office located at 930 East 5th St., Portable #3. For more information, contact Community Education at 732-5711.

### Open gym program being offered

Community Education will be opening the Early Elementary School for recreation opportunities. The community will have the opportunity to use the gym for recreation on select nights of the week. The rec center/open gym program is designed to give area children and adults a safe space to participate in sport. While the primary usage of the gym will be for basketball and volleyball, participants can play other sports as well. The cost to participate is \$3 per session for in-district students and residents, punch cards are available for \$25 (10 punches) that will reduce the price to \$2.50 per session. Out of district cost is \$6. Participants can register on the Community Education registration portal or buy a punch card at their office located at 930 East 5th St., Portable #3. For more information, contact Community Education at 732-5711.

### Start Smart Tennis program planned

Community Education will be offering Start Smart Tennis in March. The program is a developmentally-appropriate introductory tennis program for children 4-8 years old. The program prepares children for organized tennis in a fun, non-threatening environment. Start Smart Tennis is a parent and child program who work together to learn tennis. Participants can register on the Community Education registration portal or complete a registration form at the office located at 930 East Fifth St., Portable #3. For more information, call Community Education at 732-5711.



# Preparing Members for Leadership and Career Success

## We SALUTE our local FFA Chapters

### Storm Lake and St. Mary's FFA chapters celebrate National FFA Week

At St. Mary's, students will showcase their agricultural pride with Tractor Day, wearing their favorite tractor color to school and vote for the school's favorite. The week also includes a Teacher Appreciation Breakfast, Dress Like a Farmer Day, and an Ag Olympics competition featuring ag-themed contests.

Meanwhile, Storm Lake High School FFA hosts a fun-filled lineup of activities, including an ID that Ag Song Bingo game for the whole school, FFA Apparel Day where members proudly wear their FFA gear, and a Chapter Meal to foster camaraderie among members.



### Storm Lake and St. Mary's

Front from left (seated): Zoey Jesse, Val Meja-Terry. Second Row: Jessa Fetrow, Jenna Merten, Carissa Elsden, Avery Smith, Heidianies Ortez-Nunez, Santiago Soria, Melanie Gonzales and Mauricio Bermunde. Third row: Melanie Rosales, Brett Petersen, Alex Adams, Avery Smith, Clare Peters, Harley Doyle, Maddie Fiorendino, Anastasia Lloyd and En Na Tha Sher. Back row: Autumn Wunschel, Abby Wunschel, Caden Brendon Petersen, Dominic Mills and Jesus Melendez.



On Tuesday, St. Mary's celebrated Tractor Day. Students proudly sported the colors representing their favorite tractor brand. After a tally of votes, John Deere emerged as the favored tractor brand among the student body.

### FFA WEEK

Alta-Aurelia is recognizing National FFA Week with daily

dress-up days, officer spotlights, and locker posters. Activities include a scavenger hunt, teacher appreciation breakfast, Subdistrict Convention hosting, drive your

tractor to school day, member movie night, and outreach to future members with Program of Activities distribution and an elementary school

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5B



### Alta-Aurelia

Front row from left: Eva Kasky, Taylor Sherwood, Mary Connolly, Bryleigh Marshall, Ashley Hinkeldey and Lily Schulenberg. Middle row: Allison Watts, Aubrey Kannegieter, Kerrigan Pedersen, Caitlyn Mattson, Leah Kannegieter and Leyla Molinsky. Back: Jacob Erpelding, Braden Schmidt, Gabe Olsen, Ethan Zoch and Kouper Schulenberg.

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BUENA VISTA COUNTY'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

# Storm Lake Times Pilot



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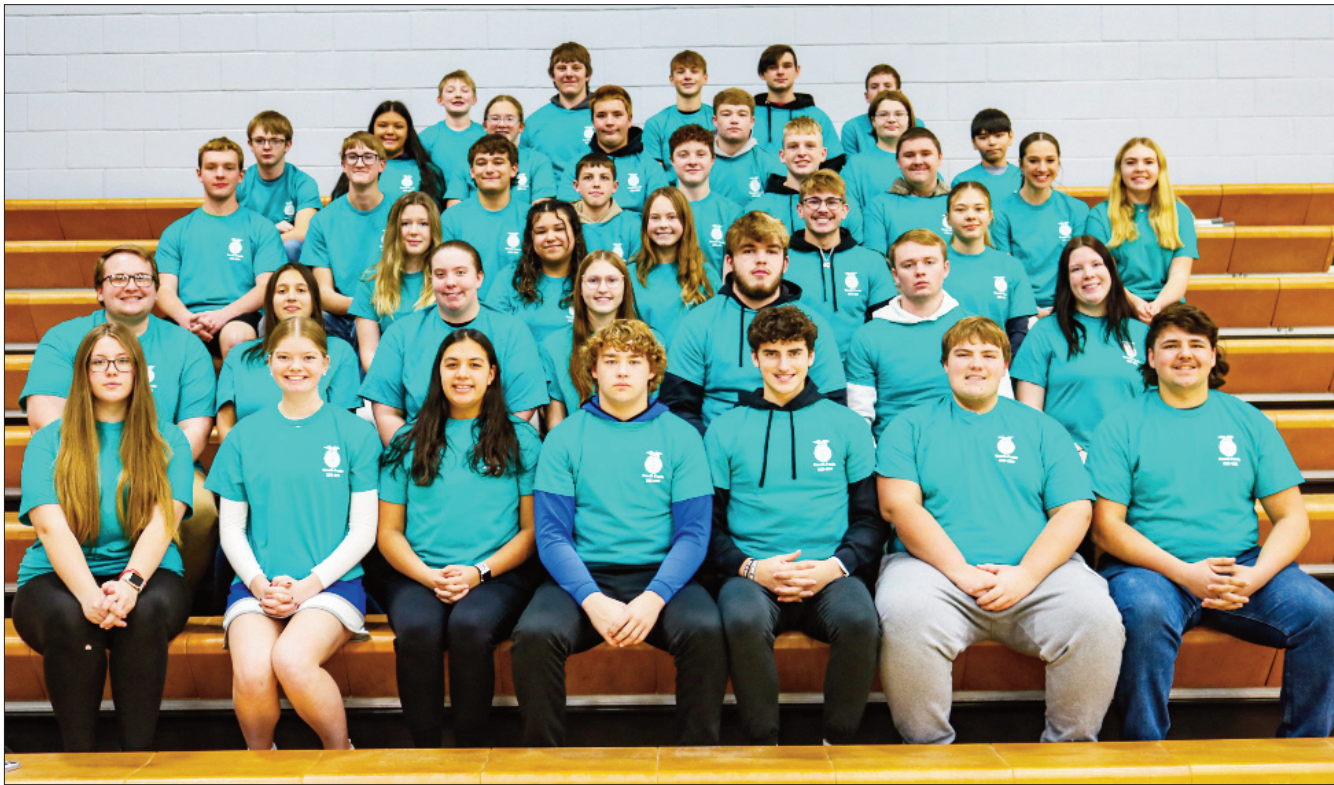
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## Sioux Central

Front row from left (seated): Lacey Johnson, Angel Lively, Annaliese Bloom, Laina Sangwin, Mady Forbes, Catelyn Haight, Max Bjork — to the right of the podium — Caden Rydstrom and Levi Meier. Second row: Grace Ahrendsen, Emmalee Thompson, Karina Bloom, Kiely Morrow, Natalie Laursen, Nevaeh Brauhn, Lindsay Peck, Natalie Neagles, Hannah Brown and Evelyn Geisinger. All others standing: Sierra Mears, Dalton Kreibaum, Taber Caraway, Spencer Forbes, Isabella Holt, Zane Sangwin, Keegan Geisinger, Lelan Bolte, Judah Neagles, Ian Lockwood, Baker Teepe, Everett Burhans, Kylie Anderson, Linnea Bloom, Ava McCarty, Andrew Nelson, Gauge Smith, Aiden Knudtson, Cristhian Reyes-Abellon, Mario Gallardo-Najera, Leo Durazo-Vazquez, Marcus Price, Brayden Vanderhoff, Emma Boughey



## Newell-Fonda

Front row from left: Olivia Smith, April Meyer, Kiana Brown, Trevor Johnson, Mason Hoberman, Brooks Bellcock, Jake Roberts. Second row: Mr. Johnson, Carmen Alfaro, Brooke Jackson, Melea Morenz, Austin Witzke, Ty Tauber and Olivia Webster. Third row: Chantal Swoboda, Vianca Diaz, Alexa Kraft, Guyson Lyman, Analise Tiffany. Fourth row: Calvin Lockrem, Sam Mohwinkel, Antonio Garcia, Wyatt Bartek, Landen Kruse, Jacksyn Hogrefe, Logan Copp, Ava Vie and Emma Hurd. Fifth row: Tyler Crotty, Carolina Torres, Paysli Weltzheimer, Liam Gauley, Brayden Johnson, Piper Ladehoff and Mario Gonzalez. Back: Kellen Meyer, Colton Lindgren, Brady Babel, Owen Thomas and Braden Jackson. Not pictured: Sigrid Adams, Leah Bean, JD Frazier, Madison Goings, Grayson Hermstad, Kiera Laubenthal, Isis Rodriguez, Perry Spooner and Clara Tunink. Collegiate members: Emma Ahrendsen, Michelle Anderson, Dalayna Brugman, Clayton Ehlers, Kameron Zeka, Andrew Anderson, Gregory Anderson, Aric Baier, Arianna Barglof, Saul Christensen, Owen Heppner, EJ Madsen, Rayce Meyer, Bryson Smith, Brooklyn Vanderhoff and Deklan Willeford.

Eighth grade: Rowan Baines, Kooper Bean, Clay Binder, Arianna Bolte, Kase Glover, Kayley Hermstad, Titus Kruse, Hunter Perry, Violet Sangwin, Ryley Stauffer, Ella Stoner and Sage Weber.  
Seventh grade: Beau Brauhn, Zander Burks, Annabelle Christensen, Emersyn Franzmeier, Keaton Hogrefe, Bradley Madsen, Johnny Madsen, Isaac Nelson, Paiwune Ochalla, Alyssa Smith and Berkley Vaudt.  
Sixth grade: Rowan Ackerman, Alianna Alfred, Cade Chalstrom, Angel Coppinger, Kage Glover, Jayden Goings, Kennedy Goodchild, Amethyst Gregory, Ayden Hass, Cambri Kreibaum, Savannah McCarty, Emmalyn Mills, Chet Madsen, Pynix Payne, Vance Sangwin, Ryan Waldstein, Brittney Warkentin and Addison Wood.



## Ridge View

Top Row: Janna Friedman, Sarai Cervantes, Savanna Jones, Clara Todd, Jon Friedrichsen, Landan Peterson, Lane Johnson, Leo Avina, Carter Padavich, Caleb Hagen, Cole Jochims, Alyssa Biede, Jack Braunschweig, Cody Wunschel, Brayden Blum, Jordan Kluver, Raelynn Hansen, Tristan Werner, Kyle Burk, Landon Smith, Ethan Dutler, Braxton Galvin, Cole Bloyer, Clayton Jacobsen, Mya Henningson, Kiara Luscombe, Mazee Henningson, Blair Berends, Austin Wood, Tyler Wingert, Kade Wright, Gavin Steer, Noah Shepherd, Tatum Shepherd, Janella Faist, Aubree Galvin, Kiersten Volkert, Courtney Pyle, Ben Todd, Klay Grieme, Luke Brinkman, Kenna Wiese, Abby Else, Morgan Wright, Daynia Werner, Tyler Fredrichsen.

## FFA...

continued from page 4B

coloring contest.

Ridge View High School's FFA Week was filled with excitement and spirit as students celebrated a variety of themed dress-up days.

The week began with Counting Sheep Pajama Day on Monday, where students cozied up in their favorite sleepwear. Tuesday saw students dressed to impress in Official Dress attire, showcasing their FFA pride.

Wednesday was a sea of blue and gold as students showed off their FFA colors, followed by Flannel Day on Thursday, where students embraced a lumberjack-inspired look.

The week wrapped up on Friday with Farmer Day, as students donned their best farmer gear to celebrate agriculture and honor the hard-working farmers in their community.

Newell-Fonda High School's FFA Week was

packed with creativity and camaraderie as students participated in a series of themed dress-up days.

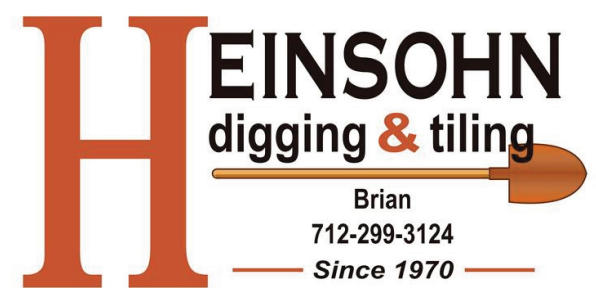
The week kicked off with Pajama Day on Monday, allowing students to start the week off in comfort and style. Tuesday saw a variety of hats on display as students showed off their favorite headwear.

Wednesday brought a fun twist with Students Dress as Favorite Teacher Day, while teachers turned the tables by dressing like students, creating a lighthearted atmosphere throughout the school.

Thursday's theme was Country vs. Country Club.

Finally, the week culminated in Blue and Gold Day on Friday, with students proudly displaying their FFA colors and school spirit.

Sioux Central's FFA week included dress-up days such as career day, ag college apparel day, blue & gold day, and FFA Merch day. Activities featured FFA member BINGO, FFA trivia, a staff appreciation meal, and a member lunch.



# HOMETIMES



Ross Parcel's outdoor setup features a firepit, outdoor kitchen, dining area for eight, and a practice golf tee by the pond.

## DESIGNING A DREAM HOME

### Landscaper Ross Parcel brings his vision to life

**BY MEGAN MOLSEED**  
Alta native, Ross Parcel has earned a solid reputation through his landscaping business Ross Parcel Landscapes. His journey began in high school, where he developed a passion for landscaping and outdoor projects.

Over the years, he refined his skills, creating outdoor spaces for a variety of clients. One of his favorite projects is designing outdoor kitchens. Recently, he took on a new challenge by building his own modern dream home, blending his design talent with his landscaping expertise.

Parcel says his talents in the landscaping business are highlighted in the creative projects he takes on with his clients.

"I like challenging my mind and creativity," he says. "My favorite projects are outdoor kitchen areas."

Parcel's business is all about listening to his customer's ideas and, along with his employees, making them a reality.

"They make it easy to be at work," Parcel says of his crew. "It wouldn't be possible to get jobs done without them."

### Building a dream

At a stage in life where many are still exploring career paths, Ross embarked on the ambitious project of constructing his own modern and unique home. Parcel says that he had just completed the remodel of five area condos, a job that inspired him in his home project.

"The lot took a lot of work to get it to where it is," Parcel



Parcel's landscaping touch shines throughout the home like in the driveway which features unique brick design that adds charm to the entrance. With his careful eye for detail, Parcel elevates the driveway into a stylish focal point that sets the tone for the entire property.

explains. "That was something I was interested in for more of a long-term home instead of condos."

Set on an expansive eight-acre lot at the former West Links Golf Course, and complemented by a scenic two-acre pond, this tranquil backdrop provided the perfect setting for Parcel's dream home. Through meticulous planning and his eye for detail, Parcel's dream took shape in a 4,000-square-foot contemporary home.

The home boasts meticulous attention to detail. The front door sets the tone of the home.

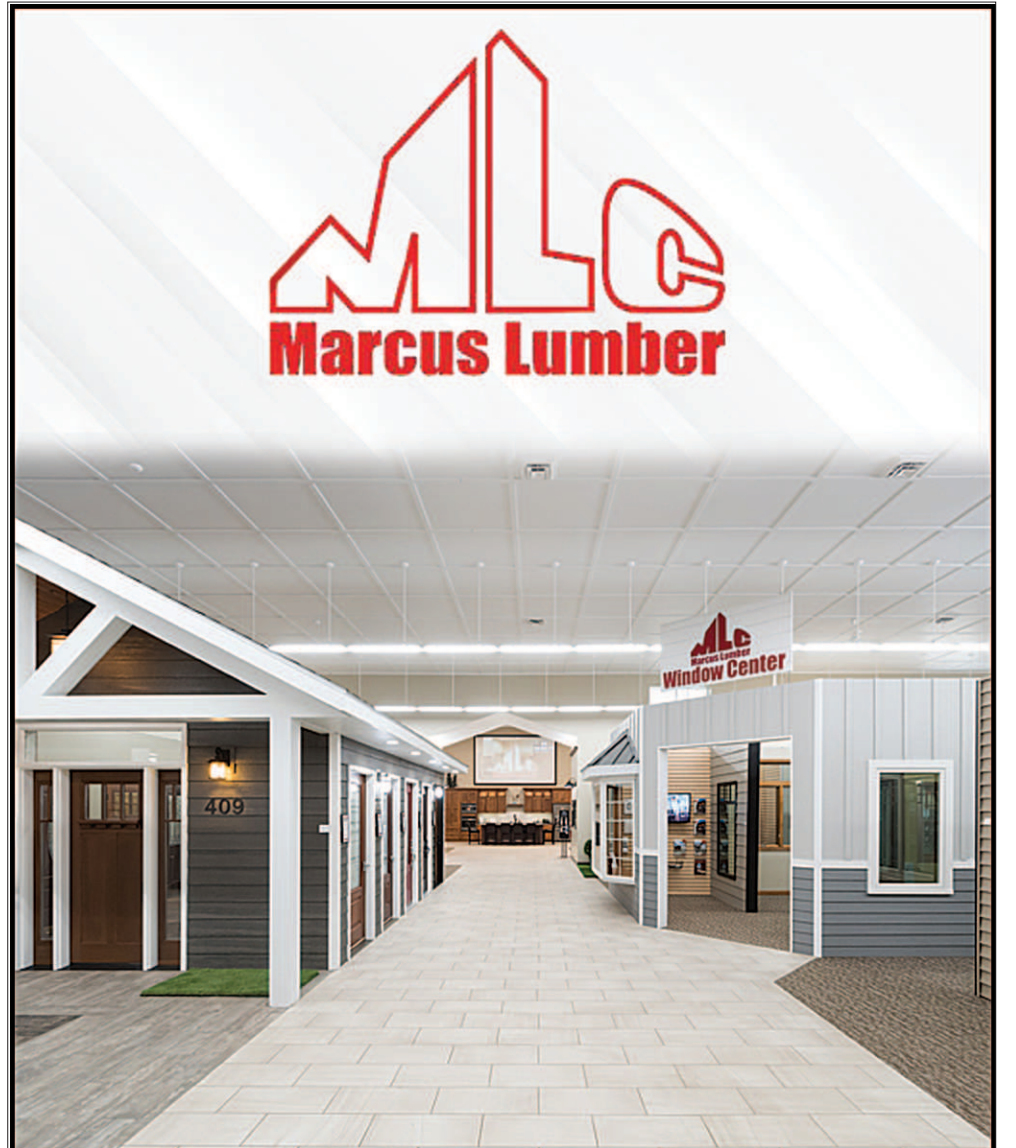
Parcel's landscaping expertise blends pieces of the interior designs to the outdoor living areas. The stone patio, complete with an outdoor kitchen, fire pit, and even a golf tee, seamlessly extends the living space outdoors. Regardless of the season, the outdoor areas are a focal point for entertaining and relaxation.

And it's a perfect setup for Parcel's right-hand pup — the 180-pound St. Bernedoodle, Ollie. In fact, when not outside enjoying the outdoor living areas, Ollie can often be found relaxing on the back of the liv-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7B



Ross Parcel and Ollie in the kitchen.



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Ross Parcel's kitchen boasts a blend of style and practicality. It's also a place where Ollie loves to relax.



This sitting room features unique pieces of art and modern yet comfortable seating.



Ross Parcel's outdoor spaces are perfect for gathering with a firepit, outdoor kitchen and dining area.

**Parcel...**

*continued from page 6A*

ing room couch gazing out-  
doors.

With its two-story entry, contemporary chandelier and glass railings, the foyer exudes elegance and sophistication. Decorating was done by Elements bringing the modern and luxurious style mixed with a sense of warmth and

comfort.

One of Parcel's favorite areas in the home is the main living space, where guests can gather around the island, cozy up by the fireplace, or step outside to the gorgeous outdoor kitchen and living areas.

In the master bedroom, simplicity is key, offering a peaceful retreat. A walk-out patio provides a private outdoor space, while the attached en suite boasts luxurious amenities including a dual-

head rainfall shower and a Japanese-style soaking tub.

While the home design aspect was a new adventure for Parcel, his time as a business owner and professional landscaper developed a foundation for the contemporary home. Every aspect of the home reflects Ross's attention to detail and dedication to quality. There's a harmonious blend of indoor and outdoor elements, highlighting his ability to bring ideas to life.

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Trevor Kruger in front of the new building. TIMES PILOT photos by DOLORES CULLEN

## New BV Glass building rises on north side of Storm Lake

BY DOLORES CULLEN

An impressive new building at 120 E. 16th St. enables BV Glass to keep up with projects that are growing in size and number.

The glass front that rises 25' gives customers a sense of this longtime Storm Lake company's capabilities. "We wanted to showcase what we do," said owner Trevor Kruger, 43.

One of Trevor's larger jobs is Storm Lake's Early Elementary. BV Glass is also at work on Storm Lake's Iowa Central building, the Sac

County Fairgrounds, two hospitals and a church in Cherokee.

Other services include glass shower enclosures, repair and replacement for residential, commercial auto and agricultural projects — everything down to fixing screens or broken mirrors. An addition is the line of Diamond Vogel paints.

Kruger grew up in the glass business. His dad owned a shop in Adrian, Minn., so he's been working with glass and windows most of



The back shop is 60' x 90' with four garage doors that open to the east.



Above: Paint is displayed in the front lobby.



Far left: A giant suction device grips a 465-pound pane of glass as it is installed by BV Glass in Fort Dodge.

his life.

He started BV Glass in Storm Lake in 2018 with only himself on the payroll. Today he employs five people.

Most recently BV Glass was located at 815 W. Milwaukee. Ground was broken for the new building in the summer of 2022 and the move to the new location occurred last March — which Trevor says has made semi deliveries much easier: "They had to park in the middle of Milwaukee."



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# Johnson

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