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BUENA VISTA COUNTY'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

Storm Lake Times Pilot

STORM LAKE, IOWA — The City Beautiful ■ Local News Since 1870 ■ FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 2024 ■ \$1.00

TV Times
IN THIS ISSUE
Complete listings of local cable channels

IN THE NEWS



FARM TIMES

JOHN DEERE SHOW & TELL
Terry Argotsinger's Green collection is a history lesson too. Also: BVU ag students cultivate skills as FFA judges. Pages 6-7A

IN SPORTS: 2024 SPRING SPORTS PREVIEW

SL boys soccer team hungry to get back to state tourney. SL girls soccer team looking for senior class to provide leadership. SL boys track team has talent returning, but low numbers. St. Mary's track teams look for strong foundation to carry over. SL boys golf coach excited about return of four varsity players. Storm Lake has great core group returning to girls golf team. Page 1B

OPINION: GO AHEAD AND SUE
Editorials: It will take a court to tell us how this all works and who takes the haircut in Storm Lake's suit against Buena Vista County. *Fillers:* Lambs and lions. *Stray Thoughts:* These government officials did whaaaaa? *Capitol Letters:* Addressing public safety and fentanyl, by State Senator Lynn Evans. Pages 12-13A

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TODAY
AM clouds/PM sun
high 38, low 18
SATURDAY
PM snow showers
high 35, low 28
SUNDAY
Rain/snow/wind
high 39, low 37



CITY SUES COUNTY OVER MISSING TIF FUNDS

Seeking over \$5M, claiming county stonewalled payment

Money 'misallocated' for over a decade

BY AMBER MOHMAND and TOM CULLEN

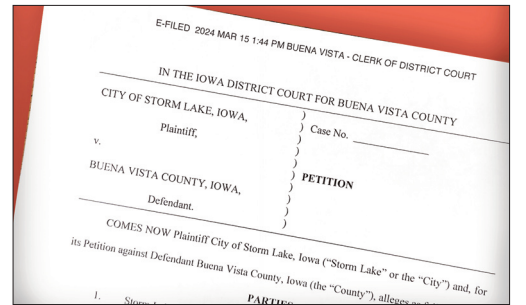
The City of Storm Lake sued Buena Vista County in Buena Vista County District Court last week for over \$5 million for tax-increment financing revenues that were misappropriated over the last 11 years. A 12-page lawsuit filed Friday by

the city's law firm, Dorsey & Whitney of Des Moines, alleged the county auditor's office misappropriated at least \$5 million from three of the city's urban renewal areas since 2013.

The city accused the auditor and other county officials of three civil charges: misappropriation, unjust enrichment and failure to perform required duties. The audi-

tor allegedly misappropriated the revenue. The assessor allegedly failed to properly classify the parcels that were supposed to be in city TIF districts — they weren't. The treasurer allegedly failed to distribute the tax revenue Storm Lake's TIF districts were owed. And all county departments allegedly failed to ensure "proper training of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3A



Robotics club strikes chord in 'Crescendo'



Storm Lake High School students, from left: Kenneth Alvarado-Orozco, Miranda Mills, Eh Nay Tha Sher and Landon Moore give Dragonfly a test earlier this week as the group prepared for the Regional FIRST Robotics Competition this weekend in Cedar Falls. Inset: Megan Backman shows off one of the rings that the robot must toss towards a basket. TIMES PILOT photos by MEGAN MOLSEED

Storm Lake readies for competition

BY MEGAN MOLSEED

The Storm Lake Robotics Club, led by Megan Backman, a math and computer science teacher, is hitting all the right notes this spring as they prepare for the Regional FIRST Robotics Competition in Cedar Falls March 21-23.

Every year, robotics teams are geared up to face the challenge of designing a robot tailored to perform specific, unique tasks. For the current season, the focus is on a musical theme, aptly named "Crescendo."

"The tasks change every year. This year, each portion of the competition will have an underlying musical theme," Backman explains.

The local robotics team is in full harmony after months of hard work designing and developing their robot, Dragonfly, to compete in the 2024 Iowa Regionals. This STEM project is an exciting challenge for Storm Lake High School students, and the team says they are ready to unleash their innovative energy on the competition stage alongside students from all over showcasing their impressive robotic skills.

Among the tasks Dragonfly CONTINUED ON PAGE 2A

Platinum prepares to crush soybeans

Construction nears finish

BY TOM CULLEN

Platinum Crush is expected to reach full production by June.

The soybean crush plant has lined up at least 200 oil tankers and hopper bottom rail cars along CN Railroad, near the intersection of 70th Avenue and Hwy. 7.

Next week the company is expected to crush one million bushels of soybeans to test its new equipment. The company finished a 17-mile discharge pipe from its campus east of Alta to the Raccoon River near Newell. Employees have already been hired — the crush plant rented space in the Yon Building in Storm Lake for its corporate offices.

Fire departments in Storm Lake and Alta are touring the facility in anticipation of full operations in the coming months, Engineer Bret Wilkinson said on Wednesday.

"They were originally talking June, when they'd maybe CONTINUED ON PAGE 2A

Alta to step up code watch on Westview mobile home park

BY MEGAN MOLSEED

The Alta City Council has directed the city's code enforcement office to crack down on Westview Mobile Home Park.

The park has become replete with debris, abandoned vehicles, water leaks and other safety hazards, according to Code Enforcement Officer John Stange. A cause wasn't cited. But the mayor and the city council agree that enforcement efforts need to increase. City Attorney Gary Armstrong signed off on the new measures.

"Council does want and expects improvements to be a top city priority," Mayor Kevin Walsh said during an interview last week.

The council has summoned Park Manager Kenny Bishop to elaborate on an improvement plan the city expects to take effect this spring.

"At this time, Kenny serves as our point of contact for Westview," Walsh added.

The Westview Trailer Park in Alta is once again sitting in the spotlight as city officials continue to address concerns about the conditions in and around the park's 45 mobile homes. In a recent meeting, Councilman Lee Meyer said the park was a "disgrace."

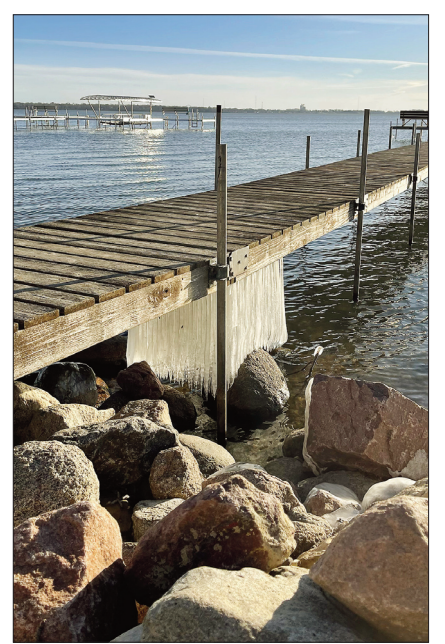
"Concerns were raised by a council member that the trailer court was falling into more disrepair,"

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3A

Water at the outlet dam, icicles under the dock



Water hasn't flowed over Storm Lake's dam in more than two years, but it's getting close. This week the lake level ran to the base of the dam at Lakeside, less than a foot from rising over the top and into Outlet Creek, according to local lake watcher Jeff Kestel. The pond between the lake and dam is completely full of water. Lake levels have been diminished by an ongoing drought that has plagued the Midwest for several years. TIMES PILOT photo by JOHN CULLEN



Storm Laker Dawn Bowles photographed an oddity hanging from her dock Monday. It's a waterfall, frozen solid. Apparently the waves, driven by strong winds, splashed upon the rocks and then hit the underside of the dock. In the below-freezing temperatures, the water froze as it dripped downwards. If anyone has a better theory, let us or AI Bowles know.

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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.

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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).

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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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ABOUT YOUR BILL

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

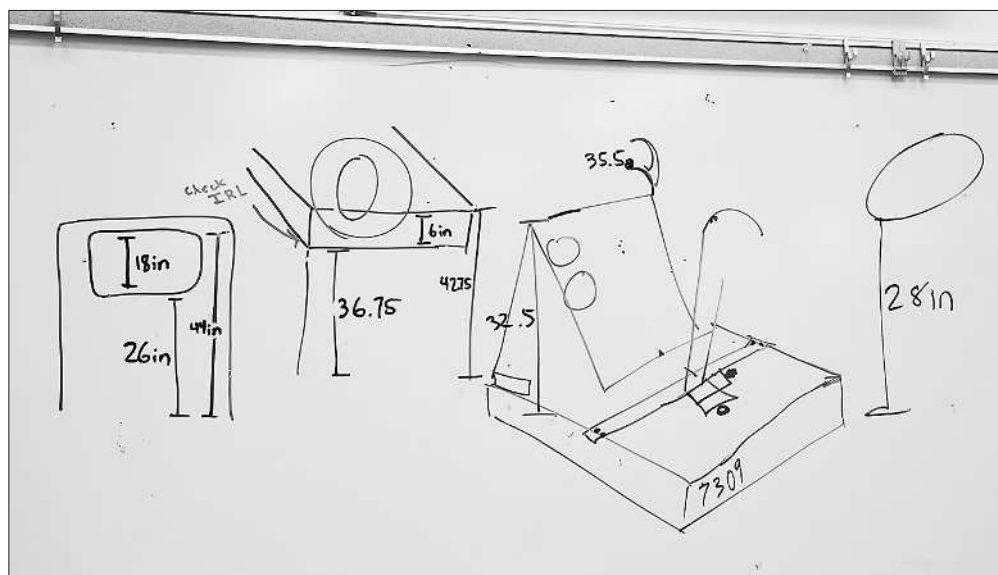
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Contact **Lily Gust** (lily@stormlake.com). A one-year subscription in Buena Vista and adjoining counties is \$96.00; elsewhere in Iowa, \$99.00; outside Iowa, \$109.00. Online subscriptions are available at www.stormlake.com for \$85.00 per year.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



Above: Dragonfly became a reality after a lot of planning, brainstorming and building. One of the first steps, of course, was the general design.

Right: Landon Moore works on Dragonfly's programming.

TIMES PILOT photos by MEGAN MOLSEED



The team works hard on the robot now named "Dragonfly." Clockwise from top: Dr. Shawn Stone, Megan Backman, Alexandra Stille, Paw Eh Shee, Sha Kee Lar Wah and Miranda Mills.

ROBOTICS: Program is out of funding and in search of sponsors

Continued from page one

has been built and programmed to perform is launching an orange circular rubber "note" into a "speaker," described by Backman as a six-foot high basket, placing one of the "notes" onto a mailslot-sized "amp" and harmonizing with teammates.

"We've developed a launcher and a claw to tackle these aspects," Backman says. Additionally, Dragonfly must be able to hang together on a chain as part of the competition, a challenge that may be harder than it initially seems to be.

"The last portion comes later in the competition so we have to ensure that, even after several events and competitions, the robot is still secure enough to hang on its own," Backman explains. These tasks are certainly fitting for a robot dubbed "Dragonfly."

A 10-week challenge

Each year, teams participating in the Regional FIRST Robotics Competition are required to redesign and rebuild their robots fitting each creation to the specific games and tasks revealed in January. Additionally, the rules regulate that the robotics teams may not create any parts of the robot during the "off-season," which lands in April through December, Backman says.

The season's challenges are then announced at the beginning of January.

"We have around 10 weeks then to design, build, code and test our new robot," Backman says, adding that this is the time she refers to as "the crazy chaos."

The students learned that with any engineering project, the first design is never the final design. Some of the students who are part of the STEM project worked as a computer programming team to write codes for various modes of the robot. The robot is designed to operate at times with no user intervention, and remotely via joystick at other

times.

For Backman, nurturing the talents of the students has been an incredible experience as she works with the students to guide them through the design and development process. The students delve deep into STEM exploration as the competition approaches working on all the necessary components to create their final product, a meticulously crafted and programmed robot designed to meet the challenges of this year's games.

Backman muses that the Storm Lake team learned firsthand last year that their STEM creation needs to be designed to withstand and endure a lot of bumps and collisions during the heat of battle. Something, the Storm Lake high school instructor says, the team wasn't quite prepared for during their first competitions.

"Our robot is solid and ready for anything coming its way," the local instructor says. "There was a lot of rebuilding and reconstructing sections on our robot and readjusting our game plan."

This year, the local STEM team will say goodbye to five seniors who've been with us for three years. But we're welcoming five new freshmen.

"At the start of the season, these students didn't even know how to use a drill," says Backman. "Now, they can drill through metal, build most of our robot, and program it to do different things."

Backman says that she sees incredible potential in the students — and there is a space for anyone on the team.

"We need artists for design, programmers and builders," she says. "There is something for everyone on the team."

BUT, BACKMAN SAYS, the program is out of funding and is in search of team sponsors who will provide funds so the STEM program can continue. From season registration to the purchasing of supplies and funding to participate in the yearly competition it takes about around \$12,000 to fund one season of the program.

"Our goal is to create a sustainable program so that these freshmen can continue to

grow over the next three years and mentor the next generation of robotics team members," Backman says. "In order to do that, we need new team sponsors."

While Dragonfly's design and programming come straight from the robotics team, much of it is made possible with the help of Buena Vista University. Dr. Shawn Stone serves as an assistant coach and a professor of computer science and robotics at the local university.

"BVU provides us with lab space where the Storm Lake robotics team meets and builds the robot," Backman says. The SLHS Robotics students have spent long hours perfecting the metal fabrication of the robot this season in the BVU labs, focusing on cutting, filing, bending, programming and molding pieces of the new robot now known as Dragonfly.

"We are very lucky for their support," Backman adds. "Without them, we'd be struggling to produce a functioning robot."

PLATINUM CRUSH: Next step is road reconstruction

Continued from page one

be up and running," Wilkinson said. "The first couple million they ran through was in February to test their equipment. They're planning on taking in another million bushels this week so they can run their equipment more, but they're not fully operational yet."

By the time the crush plant opens, a contractor will likely begin work on

a \$13 million road reconstruction of four miles around the plant, Wilkinson noted. He said the county will bid out the work later this spring.

"We're finishing plans on both grading and paving," said Wilkinson, who noted the county will complete both projects this summer because of the "time crunch" caused by Platinum Crush's earlier-than-expected opening date.

Wilkinson doesn't expect a change in the cost state and county taxpayers will bear on the project, estimated at \$13.3 million. The county is expected

to regrade and rebuild 70th Avenue, 80th Avenue and 600th Street, the four miles of county road around the crush plant. It's also expected to build turning lanes on Hwy. 7 that flow south onto 70th and 80th Avenues. And its expected build railroad crossing arms on 70th and 80th Avenues.

The crush plant is expected to be fully operational before the regrading, repaving, turn lanes and railroad crossings are built.

Wilkinson said this summer will be "a cluster" with the crush plant's first year of full operations and the county

completing its largest project in the last 10 years. Dozens of trucks will be driving on the four miles, which are all gravel. Road and entrance closures are anticipated. Traffic congestion is expected on Hwy. 7 and 70th Avenue, near Lake Creek Country Club.

"We're gonna make the best of it," Wilkinson said. "We're gonna have notes in the plans for the contractor to only close one entrance or exit at a time. And we'll definitely try not to keep their entrance on 70th Avenue closed down for more days than we have to."

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POLICE & COURTS

Woman charged after bite

A Storm Lake woman was sentenced to 60 days in jail for charging at a woman with a child in her arms and biting the woman's wrist.

Associate Buena Vista County District Court Judge Andy Smith sentenced Maria Cervantes, 30, to the probation term in an order March 3. Cervantes agreed to serve the sentence. She pleaded guilty to child endangerment and domestic abuse assault, both misdemeanors. In exchange, the Buena Vista County Attorney's Office agreed to recommend concurrent serving of the jail sentence to a separate conviction that was entered last August. Cervantes was sentenced to 60 days for allegedly striking a man in the head with a metal pole last March.

Cervantes allegedly charged at an unidentified woman last November and then bit her on the arm. She was holding a child when the assault occurred, according to an affidavit filed by Storm Lake police.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Directors of the Storm Lake Community School District of Storm Lake, Iowa, will meet in the Board Room at the School Administration Office, 419 Lake Avenue, Storm Lake, Iowa, in said district at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 3, 2024, for the purpose of hearing any comments in favor of or objections to the following project:

2024-2025 School Calendar based upon hours of instruction

Storm Lake Community School District by Trudy Pedersen, Secretary 17

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FAMILY & FRIENDS



Card shower
Marie Nieland will celebrate her 100th birthday on Friday, March 22. Marie resides at Methodist Manor Bayside View, room 226, Storm Lake.



Mariachi Los Tornados performs "Besame Mucho," with soloist Ana Suez Flores in this panoramic shot from the Parade of Bands March 5. At right is director Corbet Butler. Band members are, from left: Alex Almanza, Seanna Lincoln, Miriam Tejeda, Kurenai Phimsen, Annelly Rojo, Madison Stull, Maysa Xayyavong, Brian Chea, Ana Quej Flores, Brisayde Lopez, Shawn Lee, Ary Contreras and Marlyne Magaña.

Come to Storm Lake's first Mariachi Festival

Open house

Ruth Wright, Storm Lake, will celebrate her 90th birthday on April 20. An open house will be held on April 20, from 1-3 p.m. at the St. Joseph Parish Hall at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Storm Lake.

Her children are Denise (Patrick) Fleming, deceased, of Sioux City, Paul (Nancy) of Waverly, Pat (Melanie) of Marion, Sue (Jay) Norgaard of West Des Moines, Mike (Donna) of Earlham and Jim (Cheryl) of Tucson, Ariz.

BY DOLORES CULLEN
Storm Lake High School will present its first ever Mariachi Festival - Noche de Mariachi - on Saturday, April 6.

You'll enjoy food, fun and local mariachi music. The Storm Lake Music Boosters will cater an authentic hispanic meal.

In addition to music by the SLHS ensemble Mariachi Los Tornados, you'll hear special guests for the evening "Mariachi Reyes del Oeste" from Denison High School.

Denison was the first school in Iowa to form a mariachi band. What started 13 years ago has evolved into four bands in the high school, based on skill level.

Their program has been

featured on Iowa PBS, in the Des Moines Register and elsewhere.

Denison's top band, which is coming to Storm Lake, performs at numerous events, including a mariachi festival in Denver, Colo., last year.

This will be the third year the SLHS group participates in the mariachi festival in Denison April 13.

Mariachi Los Tornados going strong

SLHS students make special time to participate in mariachi, explains director Corbet Butler. He hopes to create some structure in the future to offer a beginner mariachi class at the high school to teach the basics of performance and the culture

behind the music. A "top group" would perform for concerts and the community, similar to jazz band.

"I'm grateful for their talents being shared despite their busy schedules," says Butler. Mariachi Los Tornados meets three times a week for 30 minutes each rehearsal.

"I believe the thing I like most about mariachi is that it's music designed for everyone to enjoy," says Butler. "You don't have to be from Mexico or speak Spanish to experience the joy and emotion of mariachi music. Music has always served as a bridge between cultures and I'm proud that we are able to share the pride of Mexican heritage and culture with everyone in our community."



Denison High School's Mariachi Reyes del Oeste are guest performers.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS MARCH 22

M	I	D	A	S	M	I	R	K	A	T	
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GET YOUR TICKETS

Doors open at 6 p.m. with performances beginning at 6:30 p.m. All meal tickets must be purchased online before the event.

- Meal tickets are \$15 each for those ages 12 and older, and \$5 each for those ages 11 and younger.
- Music only tickets are \$10 each for those ages 12 and older, and \$3 each for those ages 11 and younger

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At right are Shirley Drzycimski, Maxine Thompson and Kathryn Dick busy with their creations. Below: Inez Cressler, at left, shares ostrich eggs from the farm near Fonda where her family raised ostriches. At right is Shirley Drzycimski. TIMES PILOT photos by RENAE BLUME

Sure sign of Spring

A sure sign of Spring was this flower arranging activity at Lake Pointe Villa. Activity director Renae Blume was happy to accept cuttings from Storm Laker Tim Humes' pussy willow bush, which were combined with flowers in vases with plastic eggs and Easter grass.



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Puzzle Answers: **BELOW**

Holy Week at Lakeside Church

Holy Week is an important part of the church year at Lakeside Presbyterian Church in Storm Lake. This is a sacred period observed between Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, commemorating pivotal events in the life of Jesus Christ. From triumphant processions to solemn services, the church invites the community to join in the journey of faith and reflection. The Holy Week journey begins with Palm Sunday on March 24 at 10 a.m. There will be a processional with waving of palm branches. Special music will be provided by the

Chancel Choir and the Tower Bells. Maundy Thursday, March 28, at 6 p.m., a modern day "Last Supper" (child and family friendly) will be held in the church dining room. Pizza, salad and cookies will be served. We will share communion around the tables as we hear the story of Jesus' last meal. Activities will also be provided for the children. Please call the church office if you plan to attend at 732-2076. Our Good Friday Service will be held at 7 p.m. on March 29. This will be a solemn service of scripture, prayer, hymns and a brief message as we watch and wait for the Resurrection. Easter Sunday, the pinna-

cle of Holy Week, we will celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord during our 10 a.m. service. We'll have music from our Chancel Choir, brass and organ, led by organist and choir director Barbara Wells. There will be a children's message, communion and the Easter message by Pastor Jennifer Olson. Following the service, there will be an Egg Hunt for the kids and an Easter Brunch for everyone served in the dining room. All visitors are welcome, always. Lakeside Presbyterian Church is located at 110 E. Third St., Storm Lake. Our services are also live-streamed and available on YouTube. You are invited to follow us on Facebook or view our website at stormlakepresby.org.

BVU, Sioux City Schools forge Strategic Partnership

Buena Vista University and Sioux City Community School District have aligned as Strategic Partners to help support those who educate students while strengthening their communities and the people they serve. This partnership allows employees of the Sioux City Community School District, as well as eligible family members of full-time employees, to receive grant funding to lower the overall cost of education while enrolled in classes at BVU's Storm Lake campus. Partner grant funding also lowers the cost per credit hour for students enrolled in BVU's convenient online undergraduate programs or the organizational leadership graduate program. "Whether it's our employees, or their children, or another family member in their home that can benefit from getting a post-secondary degree or furthering their education, I think this Strategic Partnership is a win-win for everyone," says Sioux City Community School District Director of Human Resources Dr. Jennifer Gomez. The Sioux City Community School District provides educational programs for about 15,000 students in the Woodbury County seat. More than

2,500 staff members serve the school district's 13 elementary schools, three middle schools, three high schools, and the Sioux City Career Academy—a central campus for career and technical education. Educating students to believe in their talents and skills, achieve academic excellence, and succeed in reaching their potential is the aim of the school district, which prides itself in the boundless opportunities provided at every grade level and its diverse student body, whose families speak more than 50 languages. "I originally went to BVU because it was close to home. Once there, I adjusted quickly because of the small class sizes. My professors were tough, very knowledgeable, and cared about my success. As a student-athlete, I was able to manage my studies and my track schedule comfortably," says North Middle School STEM teacher Natalie Olorundami Hughes '09. "I am forever grateful to BVU for the opportunity to compete at a high level while receiving a high-level education. I've had many opportunities with my degree and always felt confident in what I could bring to the job. I have BVU to thank for that."

BVU has long enjoyed strong educational ties in and around Sioux City, home to Western Iowa Tech Community College, a campus that has collaborated with BVU for decades. Students enrolled in a program through WITCC can seamlessly transfer their credits toward their bachelor's degree at BVU. Students receive personalized support including admissions and enrollment counseling and academic advising right in Sioux City through BVU's office on the WITCC campus. "Buena Vista University is thrilled to collaborate with the Sioux City Community School District through our Strategic Partnerships initiative to provide affordable, accessible education to employees and their family members," says BVU Director of Strategic Partnerships Laura Todd. "We look forward to the many opportunities this partnership will create in Sioux City, the state of Iowa, and points beyond." For more information about BVU's Strategic Partnerships and partner opportunities, please visit the BVU website at bvu.edu/strategic-partnerships or contact Strategic Partnerships at StrategicPartnerships@bvu.edu.

GUEST TRUST SCHOLARSHIPS

The William H. & Edith M. Guest Educational Trust Scholarships will be available this year to Cherokee County students attending a vocational school. Applications are available in the counselor's offices at the Cherokee, Marcus and Alta-Aurelia high schools or may be picked up at the Cook Law Firm, 209 W. Willow St. in Cherokee. Applications must be turned in to the Cook Law Firm by May 1, 2024. Students who received the scholarship last year to attend their first year of school are urged to reapply for a second year. William H. Guest was a long time interior decorator in Cherokee, who desired to help young people obtain a vocational skill.



Ehlers to perform at state speech
 Congratulations to Allison Ehlers of the Sioux Central speech team who has been selected to perform at the IE All State Festival in Cedar Falls. Her category is expository address, an informative speech that is memorized. Students are also allowed to have a visual aid. The students pick the topic and write the speech themselves. Allison's speech is titled "Another Day, Another Dollar."

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Storm Lake **Times Pilot**

FARMTIMES



The 1950 John Deere A was the first tractor Argotsinger bought. He turned it into a pulling tractor. "She really crackles and pops," he said. "I had a lot of fun with her over the years." He belongs to the Central Iowa Antique Tractor Pulling Association.



Argotsinger has the entire John Deere 30 series except the 830, which he has his eye out for. The 530 comes from his great uncle and has been in the family since 1960. The 1960 630 is rare – one of 181 made – and marks the end of the two-cylinder era plus the end of the use of kerosene.



The 1951 Hi Crop is rare. It was used for vegetable farming.

John Deere show and tell

Argotsinger's Green collection is a history lesson too

BY DOLORES CULLEN
John Deere tractors and equipment will fill the grounds at the Albert City Threshermen and Collectors Show in August, but until then, here's the collection of Storm Laker Terry Argotsinger. Argotsinger, 74, owns about 70 John Deere tractors. His affection for the brand began as a kid growing up on a farm near Kiron. "I cut my teeth on an A John Deere," he

recalls. He would obtain a degree in ag business from ISU, his schooling interrupted by four years in the U.S. Navy. His first job in farm management took him to Aurora, Ill. Then in 1978, faced with the prospect of advancing to a desk job in St. Louis, he and his wife Barb decided to relocate to Storm Lake, where Argotsinger would become a partner in Stalcup Ag Service.

In 1992 Argotsinger happened to see an A John Deere in the shed of a client near Vail. And it was for sale. "It was the first one I bought, and then I needed another one for parts. Then I needed a shed to break 'em down, rebuild and repaint 'em." A few more sheds would follow. Argotsinger finds that "it's more about the hunt," searching for that rare desired model to complement his collection. He was 66 years old in 2015 when he retired from Stalcup and decided to return to farming. It was a change of pace for a guy whose career was in farm management and real

estate. He had traveled to multiple states as an expert on the impact of wind turbines on the farm. He provided testimony in court cases involving agriculture. Taking part in tractor rides has been another pastime in these later years. He took his dad to Wyoming so he could drive a tractor across the state of Nebraska. "It's great to see the countryside at 12 miles an hour," Argotsinger remarks. "You stop for ice cream, you stop for coffee. You can't beat it."



The older John Deere tractors ran on kerosene AND gasoline. Gas was more expensive and more explosive, but was needed to start the engine (an issue of temperature). Argotsinger's right hand is on the cap for the one-gallon gas tank, and his left hand is on the cap for the bigger kerosene tank.

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In this shed, Argotsinger has “unstyled” tractors on the left and “styled” tractors on the right. John Deere company hired a designer to improve the looks of their tractors in 1938. Henry Dreyfuss of New York he designed a hood and grill for the tractor.



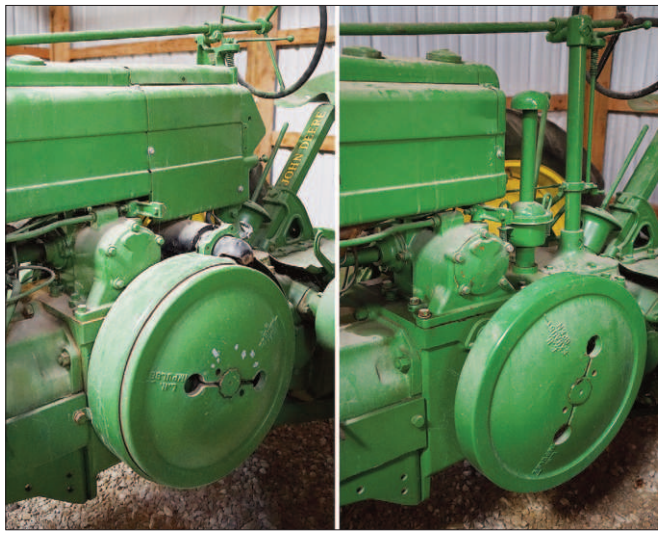
Every tractor has a story, and Argotsinger likes to tell them. He will be involved with the 2024 John Deere-themed Albert City Threshermen and Collector's show.



Argotsinger's oldest tractor is from 1934.



The rare “ant eater nose” was discontinued “because it breaks.”



The effect of World War II is seen in these photos. At left, the 1941 model boasts 6-volt electric flywheel start. At right, is the 1942 model. The U.S. had entered the war and John Deere had to decrease the number of tractors produced. Because glass, copper and battery material were needed for the war effort, the 1942 model became a simpler tractor and regressed to the hand operated flywheel starter.

Times Pilot photos by Dolores Cullen



From left: Riley Haschke, Gillian Dowell, Clare Woodworth and Olivia Grooters.

BVU ag students cultivate skills as FFA Judges

Buena Vista University Agriculture Education students gained hands-on experience as FFA (Future Farmers of America) instructors by serving as judges at Sub-district contests held at Alta FFA High School on Feb. 20.

“All of us have been on the other side of it and know how hard everyone works on their projects,” noted BVU senior Clare Woodworth of the judging experience. “It was challenging to deduct points for mistakes on the projects. We’ve all been there.”

For BVU freshman Gillian Dowell, the experience was particularly intriguing as it was one of her initial encounters working with an Iowa FFA chapter.

“It was all new to me,” said Dowell, who hails from Missouri. “It was fun being a part of the process and seeing the students’ dedication to their projects.”

Joining Woodworth and Dowell in the Sub-district judging in Alta were BVU classmates Riley Haschke, also an Agriculture Education major, and Olivia Grooters, who is focusing on Animal Science at the local university.

Iowa ranks among the most competitive states in FFA participation, boasting just under 20,000 chapters

throughout the state, noted Rich Crow, Director of Ag at BVU, who also teaches Ag classes at both Storm Lake CSD and St. Mary’s and serves as an FFA Advisor.

The Sub-district judging was a new experience for the BVU students each of whom spent time participating in their own hometown FFA programs before heading to the local university.

“Leading a contest as a judge helps us understand this side of the process,” Woodworth remarked.

“We learned a lot connecting with other groups and judges in the area who share similar interests,” agreed Grooters.

“It’s reassuring to have other judges alongside you,” Haschke commented. “The experience was really interesting,” adds Haschke.

Offering advice to high school FFA students aspiring to pursue careers in the field, Olivia Grooters emphasized the importance of being prepared to tackle every challenge.

“It helps you network,” she said, highlighting the significant community involvement associated with exploring the field.

“Engage with people and actively participate,” Woodworth agreed.

Hashke urged FFA high school students not to shy away from the hard work required to succeed in the programs, emphasizing its worth.

“Don’t be afraid to ask for help from any of the Ag Leaders in your school or your community,” adds Dowell. “It’s a lot of work but so much fun.”

For high school FFA students considering a career in agriculture, especially teaching, Olivia Grooters stresses the importance of facing challenges head-on. “Be prepared to tackle every obstacle,” she advises.

Woodworth echoes this sentiment, highlighting the networking opportunities inherent in community involvement within the field. “Engage actively in the community and build connections,” she recommends.

Hashke added that she encourages every FFA student not to shy away from the hard work necessary for success in the programs.

“Get to know people and participate,” she said. “Make the effort because it really pays off.”

“Don’t be afraid to ask for help from any of the Ag Leaders in your school or your community,” adds Dowell. “It’s a lot of work but so much fun.”

Support the fair with gifts of grain

The Buena Vista County Fair now has an account set up at AgState. Please consider a gift of grain to the Buena Vista County Fair.

Gifts of grain can offer producers considerable tax ad-

vantages over a standard monetary donation. (As always, please consult your tax advisor).

If you’re interested in helping the BV County Fair continue to move in the right di-

rection, consider a gift of grain today!

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FUN TIMES

MOMENTS IN TIME

ON APRIL 1, 1988, a federal judge in Little Rock, Arkansas, dismissed a sexual harassment case against President Bill Clinton, stating it had no "genuine issues" worthy of a trial. Although Clinton had denied any wrongdoing, a unanimous ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court in May 1997 allowed the case to proceed, establishing a precedent permitting sitting presidents to be sued for personal conduct that allegedly occurred before they took office.

ON APRIL 2, 1863, a bread riot occurred in the Confederate capital of Richmond, Virginia, when angry people demanded bread from a bakery wagon before wrecking nearby shops. The mob only dispersed after Confederate President Jefferson Davis made a personal plea and threatened to use force to break it up.

ON APRIL 3, 1944, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled 8 to 1 that African Americans could not be barred from voting in the Texas Democratic primaries. The court stated that discrimination against Blacks violated the 15th Amendment and that political parties were not private associations.

ON APRIL 4, 1802, American social

reformer Dorothea Dix was born in Hampden, Maine. Dix founded a home for girls in Boston while she was still just a teenager and later passionately campaigned for humane conditions in jails and insane asylums.

ON APRIL 5, 2008, actor Charlton Heston, who won an Oscar for his starring role in "Ben-Hur," died of Alzheimer's disease at his home in Beverly Hills. Heston notably played Michelangelo, El Cid, and other heroic figures in Hollywood movies of the 1950s and 1960s.

ON APRIL 6, 1917, following a vote by Congress approving a declaration of war, the U.S. entered World War I in Europe. Four days earlier, President Woodrow Wilson cited Germany's violation of its pledge to suspend unrestricted submarine warfare in the North Atlantic and the Mediterranean, as well as its attempts to entice Mexico into an alliance against America, as his reasons for requesting the declaration.

ON APRIL 7, 1712, a rebellion of 27 Black slaves took place in New York City, with nine whites shot as they attempted to put out a fire started by the slaves. The state militia was called out to capture the rebels, and 21 were executed while the remaining six committed suicide.

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Fishing line is different. 2. Branch is higher. 3. Hut is different. 4. Mountain is added. 5. Cloud is larger. 6. Cap is different.

TRIVIA TEST

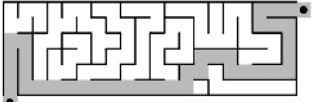
- LITERATURE:** What is the name of the kingdom in "The Princess Bride"?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** In British royalty, what is King Charles' family name?
- TELEVISION:** Which TV sitcom features Sheldon's catchphrase "Bazinga!"?
- U.S. STATES:** Which U.S. state is home to the Awatovi Ruins, a national historic landmark?
- HISTORY:** According to a WWII government slogan,

- what sinks ships?
- GEOGRAPHY:** What is the name of the small principality that lies between Spain and France?
 - ANATOMY:** Which part of the brain controls hunger?
 - LANGUAGE:** The Latin word "caput" refers to what part of the human anatomy?
 - SCIENCE:** Which color has the longest wavelength in the visible spectrum?
 - FOOD & DRINK:** What is the primary alcohol used in margaritas?

Even Exchange answers

- Fable, Table
- Martin, Marvin
- North, Worth
- Butter, Better
- Moose, Mouse
- Sprint, Spring
- Pantry, Pastry
- Gomez, Gomer
- Aerie, Eerie
- Hanger, Hunger

Kids' Maze Solution



Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

- | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 1. Aesop's specialty | F _ _ _ _ _ | Kitchen slat | T _ _ _ _ _ |
| 2. Steve or Dean | _ _ _ _ T _ _ | Gaye or Lee | _ _ _ _ V _ _ |
| 3. Compass direction | N _ _ _ _ _ | Value | W _ _ _ _ _ |
| 4. Pancake topping | _ U _ _ _ _ | Improved | _ E _ _ _ _ |
| 5. Bullwinkle, e.g. | _ _ O _ _ _ | Mickey, e.g. | _ _ U _ _ _ |
| 6. Dash | _ _ _ _ _ T | Planting season | _ _ _ _ _ G |
| 7. Larder | _ _ N _ _ _ | Bakery treat | _ _ _ S _ _ |
| 8. Wednesday's dad | _ _ _ _ _ Z | Andy's pal, ___ Pyle | _ _ _ _ _ R |
| 9. Bird sanctuary | A _ _ _ _ _ | Spooky | E _ _ _ _ _ |
| 10. Closet accessory | _ A _ _ _ _ | Food longing | _ U _ _ _ _ |



"That's funny. Nobody else ever thought I was the _____ type."

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Pleat

ERACES

Contest

BEATED

Rebuff

NAILED

Deceive

TEACH

TODAY'S WORD

MAGIC MAZE SECRET SERVICE CODE NAMES FOR PRESIDENTS AND FAMILY

Y K I F C Z W Y U R R P M J S
 H E C Z X L A R E N E G A D E
 U S Q N U M E L V K T J E G A
 E C Z G D C X V E T S C L R R
 P N O N N L J D R H A S G E C
 C M A A A Y I W G L M V A T H
 R R L P N H L K R I K G E P L
 G E C B W M U S E Z C X W U I
 S R P A D R A C E R O C S O G
 M L R J R E E T N U L O V I H
 G E D B A F L O W R E B M I T

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
 Unlisted clue hint: YOUR MOM'S MOM

Eagle	Lancer	Passkey	Searchlight
Evergreen	Lock Master	Rawhide	Timberwolf
General	Mogul	Renegade	Volunteer
Lace	Muse	Scorecard	

STRANGE BUT TRUE

- Using high-pressure, high-temperature techniques that mimic Earth's diamond-forming conditions, scientists can transform the carbon in peanut butter into sparkling gemstones. Chew on that!
- And speaking of chewing, snails have thousands of tiny teeth on their radula, the tongue-like organ they use for grinding up food, making them one of the earth's toothiest creatures.
- Mary, Queen of Scots, was history's youngest monarch, ascending to the throne at a mere six days old. Coming in at second place was Emperor Shang of China's Han Dynasty, who in 105 A.D. assumed his royal position at 100 days old.
- If stored correctly and not contaminated, honey can last for thousands of years without spoiling.
- Though T-shirts have existed since the late 1800s, the plain white version gained popularity as a wear-alone garment thanks to Marlon Brando's portrayal of Stanley Kowalski in the movie "A Streetcar Named Desire."
- One out of every seven American jobs is related to transportation.
- The "United States Postal Service Anthem," a unique song composed by (appropriately) Jack Stamp, is an official musical salute to the USPS, its employees, and its role in American life.
- In some WWII POW camps, the Nazis would allow Allied soldiers to play board games like Monopoly, even providing the games. The British exploited this opportunity by using compasses, banknotes and real-world maps in place of standard boards and pieces, as a means of helping prisoners to escape.



"I don't think this is the right time to ask him for a campaign contribution."

FEAR KNIGHT

By: rj Johnson

DOUBT? ...OR DARE!

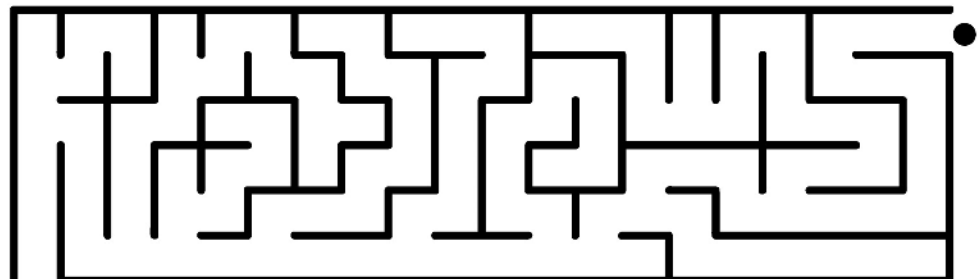
IFE
 SPLOGE
 ♥ SASEP
 NGWA
 APILEM
 ♥ WLA
 LPFE
 ♥ NIWSE
 ♥ PNA
 WEGSEA
 LWFNO
 ♥ WSOL

Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥RATHE becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

SECRET SERVICE CODE NAMES FOR PRESIDENTS AND FAMILY TRIVIA TEST ANSWERS

- Florin.
- Mountbatten-Windsor.
- "The Big Bang Theory."
- Arizona.
- Loose lips.
- Andorra.
- Hypothalamus.
- The head.
- Red.
- Tequila.

Kids' Maze



SCRAMBLERS solution

- Crease
 - Denial
 - Cheate
- Today's Word
ATHLETIC

Pioneer merchants and a history of their buildings on Lake Avenue

BY JON HUTCHINS

Last year Storm Lake celebrated its 150th birthday. In the earliest days nearly all its buildings were made of wood. Today, however, our downtown has many brick structures only a few years younger than the city. Knowing something of the history of the people, businesses and the buildings erected for them is of general interest and important for the future economic health of our downtown. It is needed for historic preservation and promoting tourism. Covering the whole city in one short article is impossible. Choosing the west side of Storm Lake's fifth block for investigation was prompted by there being a number of buildings with names, dates and other insignia; also old photographs showing a highly ornate Victorian structure no longer visible (see photo). Material presented here comes from local newspapers available on-line and other internet sources.

The Brown brothers were among the earliest Storm Lake businessmen. George W. Brown (1844-1922) came to town in 1873 with a small stock of general merchandise and built a frame building for his store in the middle of the block. After his brother Freeman arrived in 1875, they joined forces and built a single story brick building immediately north of their store. Their general merchandise business grew well and a larger building was needed. The frame building was torn down and a two story building with a fireproof exterior replaced it in 1878. In 1881 Brown Bros. closed and D.D. Brown & J. P. Morey, druggists, took over. Freeman was Storm Lake Postmaster from 1894-1908 and for a while owned the Democratic Vidette newspaper. From 1909 until 1919 George Steig (1857-1925), a well-known local stockman, operated a meat market there (see photo). The Brown Building remains today, 512 Lake Ave., immediately north of Storm Lake Candy Co.

Walter G. Stock (1866-1946) was an important later owner of Brown property. He was born in Woolavington, England, and came to the US with his parents in 1880. The family farmed in Sac County before coming to town in 1898. Walter became an important stock feeder, businessman and extensive property owner. He bought Brown's single story building in 1906, rebuilding it as a two story structure in 1913

and renting it to John C. Bell for use as a grocery store. Walter was the architect of this still standing structure at 514 Lake Ave. with a plaque marked W.G. STOCK above the upper windows. In 1921 Walter's son Ralph (1893-1967) bought the business there, restoring the earlier name "City Grocery and Bakery." He sold the grocery side a year later, leaving town in 1923 to start a poultry business in California. In 1938 he returned to own and operated the "Sail In Motel" until retiring in 1959. In 1946 Walter Stock sold the building to John Dvergsten (1916-2009) for his ladies ready-to-wear store, "The Woman's Shop." The store operated until 1984. Its owner is remembered by many as the founder of both Serpaci and the Zauer Kraut band.

The Mack building, 518 Lake Ave., now home to "Better Day Cafe," was for many years a highly ornamented piece of Victoriana (see photo). Edgar E. Mack (1850-1918) purchased the site and constructed the building in 1885. It housed drug stores for over 100 years, ending only in 1998 with the closing of Lake Apothecary. The second floor provided office space, including for many decades the multigenerational Mack law firm.

In 1885 Brown & Warren purchased stock from Fletcher & Johnson and started Central Pharmacy in the Mack building. This name continued until 1907, when a large portion of the business was relinquished by W. C. Skiff and sold to George M. Pedersen (1867-1939). George was born in Denmark and came to town as a pharmacist from Harlan. In 1905 he was president of the Iowa Pharmaceutical Association. Pedersen left the drug business to work in real estate and in 1918 sold the store to his employee H. M. Stuhr. In 1946 Lloyd Constable took over from Stuhr. Constable advertised itself as the oldest drug store in the city. In 1947, while still belonging to the Mack family, the complex facade of the old building became unstable and contractor Louie Christensen performed the difficult job of creating the simpler facade we see today. This involved the addition of a 1.5 ton steel I-beam.

Just as the Mack building housed various drug stores, the building immediately to its south sold hardware for many years. Civil War veteran George Marshall (1842-1922) bought the Jorgensen & Fikes stock and purchased a lot at 516 Lake Ave. In 1878 he built the present store. His older brother Fred, a participant in the '49 California gold rush, worked in the tin shop at the rear. Fred died in 1890 and in 1897 George sold his share of the Marshall, Potter & Son business to Joseph Nattress. George Mittlestadt sold hardware in this building in 1912 (see photos). In 1920 Danish-born A. P. Olsen (1868-1950) took over. He came to Storm Lake in 1910, initially working with his father-in-law N. H. Peterson, and later buying him out. In 1938 the building became home to the Sugar Bowl, originally a confectionery and snack business, begun in 1927. The Sugar Bowl moved again around 2005 to its present location.

The north end of the block was for many years the site of the major department store in



Mittlestadt Hardware (left), the old Mack Building (Pedersen's Drugs) and the remodeled Jones building at the north end of the block. Date: 1913-1915.

the county, the W. C. Kinne Company (1874-1909). Edmund Wirick (1825-1912), whose daughter Aurelia was the first child born in Storm Lake, opened Wirick & McCune's "Greenback" dry goods general store in 1871. Shortly before 1874, Kinne joined forces with Wirick and built a large brick building with a 25' frontage on Lake Avenue and a 70' frontage on West Fifth. Kinnes sold a wide variety of goods (see 1874 advertisement). Edmund Wirick (1825-1912) left the merchandise business in 1878 to build the Park Hotel and operate it for 17 years.



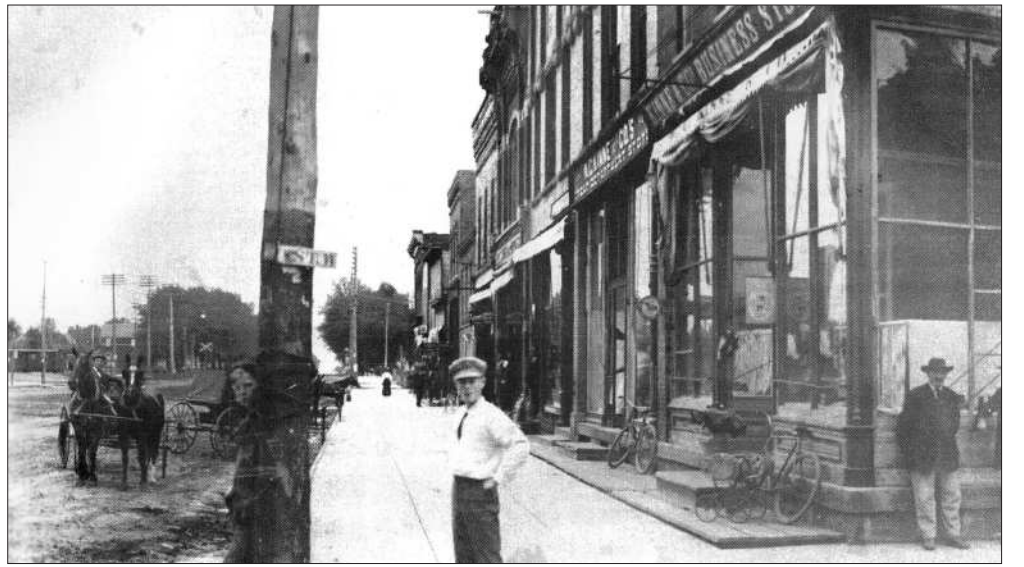
W. A. JONES

W. A. "Billy" Jones (1853-1940), another pioneer merchant, started a general merchandise business in 1883 in a frame building on the site later occupied by the Mack block. At one time his store was in the Benson block. In late 1907 he announced the closing of his very successful business, and in 1908 co-founded Security Bank with L. E. Ballou in the Benson block. Next year he sold his interest in the bank, bought the Kinne building and extensively remodeled it. The facade was rebuilt to match buildings to the south that had been erected in 1900. These buildings remain today, with the remodeled part at the north end known for many years as the Jones block. H. E. Swope bought the Kinne business in 1909 and continued until 1920. That year Fred Dumbaugh took over and eventually removed groceries and men's clothing from the store. Dumbaugh continued until 1958 under son Robert's leadership. In 1959 this building was Feldman's ladies and children's wear store.

Louis Henne (1833-1919) was for 35 years a saddle salesman and horse harness manufacturer. He erected a still existing building south of the Kinne block with the inscription "HENNE 1900." He rented



Princess Theatre (left), Steig Meat Market, City Grocery & Bakery, Mittlestadt Hardware. Date 1913-1915.



W.C. Kinne Department store, southwest corner of Lake Avenue and Fifth Street, before 1909.

much of this out, initially to Knapp & Schuler Hardware on the ground floor and Mrs Rhodes, Millinery, above. In 1910 the ground floor became a soda fountain operated by Fred P. Foster, a golf enthusiast and merchandising innovator selling household electrical equipment, postcards and magazine subscriptions. Henne retired in 1915, at a time when automobiles had taken over much of the transportation business. Foster took over his store and remodeled the soda fountain before leaving merchandising in 1919.

The last part of the block to be redeveloped were the three buildings immediately north of the Benson building. In 1913 the furthest north of these frame structures was torn down to build the Princess Theatre (see photo). In 1918 building contractor Herman Marten acquired the two blocks to the south and built

two adjoining store buildings with identical facades. Initially C. C. Jackson did business in one and W. L. McNeal opened an exclusive ladies wear store in the other. In 1921 L. A. Douglass bought a half share in Jackson's store, forming Dou-

glass & Jackson. Gilbert and Pauline Douglass operated this store as Douglass Clothiers until 1993. Both buildings still exist, "the newest on the block," most recently serving as Rust's Western Shed and Menswear stores.

SUMMARY OF THE STILL EXISTING BUILDINGS ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE FIFTH BLOCK OF STORM LAKE

BUILDER	DATE BUILT	STREET #	FIRST USE
E. W. Benson	1883	504	Bank etc.
H. Marten	1918	506	Ladies Dress
H. Marten	1918	508	Men's Dress
H. Dlugosch	1913	510	Princess Theatre
G.W. & F. Brown	1878	512	General Store
W. G. Stock	1913	514	Grocery
G. Marshall	1878	516	Hardware
E. E. Mack	1885	518	Drug Store
L. Henne	1900	520	Harness
?	1900	524	?
W. C. Kinne	1874	526	Department Store

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No trouble to show Goods! Satisfaction in goods and prices guaranteed.

W. C. KINNE.

705061

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

CITY NAME: NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - CITY OF MARATHON - PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY CITY #: 11-087
MARATHON Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

The City Council will conduct a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year City property tax levy as follows:
Meeting Date: 4/9/2024 Meeting Time: 06:00 PM Meeting Location: Community Meeting room Marathon Community Center
At the public hearing any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of the proposed tax levy. After the hearing of the proposed tax levy, the City Council will publish notice and hold a hearing on the proposed city budget.

Iowa Department of Management	Current Year Property Tax 2023	Certified 2024	Budget Year Effective Property Tax 2024	Proposed 2025
Taxable Valuations for Non-Debt Service	8,252,328	9,091,579	9,091,579	9,091,579
Consolidated General Fund	70,186	70,186	70,186	75,074
Operation & Maintenance of Public Transit	0	0	0	0
Aviation Authority	0	0	0	0
Liability, Property & Self Insurance	19,895	19,895	19,895	23,239
Support of Local Emergency Mgmt. Comm.	99	99	99	99
Unified Law Enforcement	0	0	0	0
Police & Fire Retirement	0	0	0	0
FICA & IPERS (If at General Fund Limit)	8,413	8,413	8,413	7,142
Other Employee Benefits	10,888	10,888	10,888	10,897
Capital Projects (Capital Improv. Reserve)	0	0	0	0
Taxable Value for Debt Service	8,252,328	9,091,579	9,091,579	9,091,579
Debt Service	28,106	28,106	28,106	28,128
CITY REGULAR TOTAL PROPERTY TAX	137,587	137,587	137,587	144,579
CITY REGULAR TAX RATE	16.67261	15.13545	15.13545	15.90251
Taxable Value for City Ag Land	285,301	280,651	280,651	280,651
Ag Land	857	857	857	843
CITY AG LAND TAX RATE	3.00375	3.05361	3.05361	3.00375
Tax Rate Comparison-Current VS. Proposed				
Residential property with an Actual/Assessed Value of \$100,000	Current Year Certified 2023/2024	Budget Year Proposed 2024/2025	Percent Change	
City Regular Resident	911	737	-19.10	
Commercial property with an Actual/Assessed Value of \$100,000	Current Year Certified 2023/2024	Budget Year Proposed 2024/2025	Percent Change	
City Regular Commercial	911	737	-19.10	

Note: Actual/Assessed Valuation is multiplied by a Rollback Percentage to get to the Taxable Valuation to calculate Property Taxes. Residential and Commercial properties have the same Rollback Percentage at \$100,000 Actual/Assessed Valuation.

Reasons for tax increase if proposed exceeds the current:
Increase in insurance and property values

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

CITY NAME: NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - CITY OF ALBERT CITY - PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY CITY #: 11-085
ALBERT CITY Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

The City Council will conduct a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year City property tax levy as follows:
Meeting Date: 4/8/2024 Meeting Time: 07:00 PM Meeting Location: Albert City City Hall
At the public hearing any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of the proposed tax levy. After the hearing of the proposed tax levy, the City Council will publish notice and hold a hearing on the proposed city budget.

Iowa Department of Management	Current Year Property Tax 2023	Certified 2024	Budget Year Effective Property Tax 2024	Proposed 2025
Taxable Valuations for Non-Debt Service	24,306,365	28,048,412	28,048,412	28,048,412
Consolidated General Fund	203,445	203,445	203,445	227,928
Operation & Maintenance of Public Transit	0	0	0	0
Aviation Authority	0	0	0	0
Liability, Property & Self Insurance	23,368	23,368	23,368	33,712
Support of Local Emergency Mgmt. Comm.	203	203	203	204
Unified Law Enforcement	0	0	0	0
Police & Fire Retirement	0	0	0	0
FICA & IPERS (If at General Fund Limit)	24,392	24,392	24,392	24,677
Other Employee Benefits	3,439	3,439	3,439	3,459
Capital Projects (Capital Improv. Reserve)	0	0	0	0
Taxable Value for Debt Service	24,306,365	28,048,412	28,048,412	28,048,412
Debt Service	42,621	42,621	42,621	43,175
CITY REGULAR TOTAL PROPERTY TAX	297,468	297,468	297,468	331,155
CITY REGULAR TAX RATE	12.23827	10.60552	10.60552	11.87786
Taxable Value for City Ag Land	92,578	107,419	107,419	102,419
Ag Land	379	379	379	308
CITY AG LAND TAX RATE	3.00375	2.72410	2.72410	3.00375
Tax Rate Comparison-Current VS. Proposed				
Residential property with an Actual/Assessed Value of \$100,000	Current Year Certified 2023/2024	Budget Year Proposed 2024/2025	Percent Change	
City Regular Resident	669	530	-17.79	
Commercial property with an Actual/Assessed Value of \$100,000	Current Year Certified 2023/2024	Budget Year Proposed 2024/2025	Percent Change	
City Regular Commercial	669	530	-17.79	

Note: Actual/Assessed Valuation is multiplied by a Rollback Percentage to get to the Taxable Valuation to calculate Property Taxes. Residential and Commercial properties have the same Rollback Percentage at \$100,000 Actual/Assessed Valuation.

Reasons for tax increase if proposed exceeds the current:
The increase in tax levies are due mainly to the high increases in insurance.

Iowa NRCS announces May 7 deadline for conservation agreement proposals

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is announcing a funding opportunity for agreements that address Iowa-specific conservation issues. The proposal deadline is May 7, 2024.

Through the Iowa Partners for Conservation (IPC) Award, successful projects will address local natural resource issues, encourage collaboration and develop state and community-level conservation leadership.

The purpose of the IPC awards will be to leverage NRCS and partner resources with pro-

posals that address the following goals of the Iowa NRCS Strategic Plan:

- Result in Soil Health engagement in the agronomic community (private sector) with the help of conservation agronomists.
- Conduct on-site (field) practice certifications and follow-up with producers on conservation seeding establishment.
- Conduct inventory and quantify benefits of conservation practices.
- Provide engineering planning and design for wetland restoration on easements.

Priority will be placed on projects that address Soil Health/Climate Smart Ag, Water Quality and Quantity, Habitat, Urban Agriculture and Racial Equity. Projects will be executed through:

- Providing high quality technical services that help our customers achieve their conservation goals.
- Increasing adoption of conservation in Iowa.

In 2023, Iowa NRCS provided more than \$1.9 million through four IPC projects. This

year, an estimated \$5 million will be available for IPC agreements, as funding allows. Funding amounts can range from \$75,000 to \$3.2 million through 2- to 5-year agreements.

Proposals must be submitted electronically at www.grants.gov. (Refer to USDA-NRCS-IA-MULTI-24-NOFO0001347 by 10:59 p.m. CST on May 7, 2024.

Additional details are available on the Iowa NRCS website.

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Hooping it up

The Alta-Aurelia Fusion Dance Team held their Candy Land-themed dance night March 9. Here they are with a Hoopla routine. Front and center you'll notice Parker Buckendahl, the rare male you'll find on a dance squad. "We have loved having Parker on the team," says coach Brooke Nielsen. "He was the first male to join the team last year as a junior. It has been great to have new ideas as well as to challenge the team with choreography that was comfortable for a male as well as the females." Front row left to right: Charlotte Boelter, Ashley Hinkeldey, Parker Buckendahl, Leyla Molinsky, Aubrey Kannegieter. Back: Lainey Buckendahl, Aneissa Yahola, Kelise Aronson, Ella Nielsen, Emily Launderville, Hannah Colerick, Jayden Bush and Olivia Fritz. TIMES PILOT photo by CINDY HANNER



Firefighters from left: Andrew Wetrich, Keith Stoeber, Pete Kragel, Garrett Hohbach, Asst. Chief Corey Brown, Capt. Brady Scheiber, Josh Hinckley, Taylor Norland, Lt. Gary Wernimont, Lt Steve Jarvis and Nathen Anderson.

Grant benefits Sioux Rapids Fire Department

The Sioux Rapids Fire Department was the recipient of a recent grant from the Buena Vista County Community Foundation. The \$26,000 matching grant covered nearly half the cost of the first phase of updating the fire department's turnout gear. In this phase of the project, 12 sets of bunker gear (coats and trousers) were purchased to equip nearly half of the fire-

fighters. Additionally, all firefighters were equipped with new helmets, boots, gloves, and protective hoods. Sioux Rapids Fire Chief Aaron Nelson said, "The turnout gear we wear has an intended lifespan of 10 years, and is becoming more and more expensive to replace. We are very thankful for the support of the Buena Vista County Community Foundation. The foundation's

support, along with the generosity of our community, is critical in equipping and protecting our firefighters so we can better serve our community."

The Sioux Rapids Fire Department hopes to complete the second phase of this project later this year, purchasing the remaining sets of bunker gear needed to fit the rest of its firefighters with updated gear.



From left: Trista Erlandson, Kaylee Mattson, Vivianne McGill, Emma Wilkinson, Lainey Buckendahl and Nia Hamilton.

Alta-Aurelia state individual speech contest results

Six members of the Warrior Speech Team performed eight entries at the State Individual Speech Contest at Kuemper Catholic in Carroll on March 9. Each entry earned an overall Division I rating, with six of

the entries receiving Division I ratings from each of their three judges.

Trista Erlandson, After Dinner Speaking 1-1-1 (1); Emma Wilkinson, Storytelling 1-1-1 (1), Prose 1-1-1 (1); Nia

Hamilton, Prose 1-1-2 (1); Kaylee Mattson, Prose 1-1-1 (1); Lainey Buckendahl, After Dinner Speaking 1-1-1 (1), Storytelling 1-1-2 (1); and Vivianne McGill, Acting 1-1-1 (1)

Storm Lake Public Library Poetry Reading Poets wanted!

Storm Lake Public Library will host a poetry reading on Saturday, April 6 at 10:30 a.m. in celebration of National Poetry Month 2024.

Poets and their poems are

needed to make this event a success. Already scheduled to participate is Storm Laker Ashley WolfTornabane, who has had poems selected for publication in "Lyrical Iowa," the annual publication of the Iowa Poetry Association the last two years. Storm Lake High School graduate Matthew Marroquin, spoken word poet and artist, now living and performing on the East Coast, will also join the program via Zoom to share a

few of his poems. More poets and their poems are wanted for this reading.

Anyone who has a poem they would like to share should email kampbell@stormlake.org or call Storm Lake Public Library at 732-8026 and leave a message for Aimee. Original poems will be given preference, but if space allows the reading of a favorite poem by another author will be welcome. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Make and take succulent class

Spring is the perfect time to create your own indoor mini-garden. Buena Vista County Naturalist Katie Struss will help you up-cycle or recycle an old vase, pot or terrarium into a living succulent garden. Join Struss at Gabrielson Shelter House on Thursday, March 28, at 7 p.m. with your own container to receive a lesson in trendy succulent gardening.

You will receive the specialty potting soil needed for succulents, decorations and three plants. The cost for the class is \$10 to help cover the cost of supplies. Please bring your own container.

Class size is limited, so make your reservation as soon as possible. Reservations will close on Tuesday, March 26, at 4 p.m. To register, call the conservation office at 712-295-7985 by 4 p.m.

Gabrielson Park/Gustafson Lake is located South of Sioux Rapids on Hwy. 71.

Conversation Club for English language learners at The Bridge every Monday

The Bridge of Storm Lake is hosting an English Conversation Club Mondays from 10:30-11:15 a.m. and 6-6:45 p.m.

Adults of all speaking levels and from all cultures are invited. "It is a time to practice their English, share about their culture and make new friends," says Shelly Rock, executive director of The Bridge. "It is a great way to learn from each other and build cross-cultural friendships." She added that although the sessions are set up for adults, young people are also welcome.

The Conversation Club was initiated by the Iowa Central Community College program for English language learners. The move to The Bridge, 529 Seneca St., will help attract more community members.

"Those who have been coming have expressed how enjoyable and helpful it's been to them in giving them an opportunity to practice their English and grow in confidence in speaking," says Elizabeth Peterson, ICCA Adult Education & Literacy Assistant Director.



NF student secures spot in All-State Festival

Newell-Fonda's Analise Tiffany impressed the judges in a recent speech competition earning straight 1s with her Prose piece "Danger of Silence." The performance has earned Tiffany a coveted spot at the All-State Speech event at UNI on March 25.

"Analise is a hard worker," notes Newell-Fonda speech instructor Jennifer Tovar.

"She puts in 110% into her speech practice and performances," Tovar says of Tiffany. "She has more than earned this recognition."

During the recent speech competition other team



ANALISE TIFFANY

members Greta Larsen and Mackenzie Wallace performed their pieces, with Wallace earning mixed 2s for performance. Larsen brought home mixed 1s for her prose piece.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH FRY

Storm Lake Knights of Columbus Council 2326 will host its annual Friday Night Lenten Fish Fry, 5:30-7 p.m. at Columbus Club Hall (1507 E. Lakeshore Dr.) in Storm Lake on March 22. Dine-in or to-go orders available. Adults are \$12, kids 12 and under \$8 and under five are free.

Serving fried fish, potatoes, coleslaw, mac and cheese, rolls and dessert. Add four butterfly shrimp for \$3.

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OPINION

Storm Lake Times Pilot

FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 2024

EDITORIALS

Go ahead and sue

What a state of local affairs: Storm Lake filed suit against Buena Vista County for misallocating at least \$5 million in tax increment financing revenue away from the city as it was due. The city increased its total property tax asking by 14% for next fiscal year while the streets flood and crumble. Fees at the waterpark increased by 27% over two years. Water/sewer rates are set to rise 7% annually as far as the eye can see. The county's roads are not much better than the city's as the supervisors have directed available funds toward development of the soy crush plant.

We have to ask what we are getting for all this taxation, huge chunks of which are thrown to the wind and scattered. Well-kept city officials snoozed while the county frittered away our money. After the city woke up and realized the diversion, the county acted as if it were not a problem. No audit was conducted. Just a review by the parties who flubbed it up in the first place. There were no serious conversations about how to make this right. All the while the public has been kept in the dark. Who got the TIF money? The school district? We have no idea. How did this happen? We don't know. The county filled out its insurance claim wrong, the city claims in its lawsuit, and we could believe that — given that the county can't keep track of its funds, or that it doesn't have a clue about insurance (recall the Des Moines Water Works lawsuit, not covered by insurance).

Elections are held, and the beat goes on. Higher taxes, poorer services, pictures of sunsets on Storm Lake's Facebook page to make you feel better about it all.

It will take a court to tell us, we pray, how this all works and who takes the haircut. Unfortunately, the court cannot set property taxes or water rates, nor can it do much about roads. That is up to city and county officials who have not been able to sort out their common mismanagement of public funds. The county has spent so much time fighting about office space that it lost track of our money. They act so cavalierly as to appear they think it is their money.

The increasing taxes and fees that crest well beyond the rate of inflation are indicators that we do not have a handle on our fiscal affairs. It would take the city council to impose order on the administration, and it would take a board of supervisors that can acknowledge that the courthouse has made a pretty big screw-up. The court can provide some relief in the city getting its due revenue in a timely fashion. It cannot take the place of good municipal government. The public should demand better.

In this fight, neither side is right. Storm Lake taxpayers were wronged. We will be so long as we tolerate local government officials acting as if the public is their servant. This is our money they are blowing on a lawsuit, and no reckoning is in sight.

Seeking moderation

A series of recent surveys by The Des Moines Register/Mediacom Iowa Poll provide a fascinating and accurate insight into the views of voters. Long story short: They are a moderate lot. They are turned off by hard shifts to the right, especially in schools. They clearly support gun rights and income tax cuts, but don't like book bans or gutting Area Education Agencies.

The latest Iowa Poll was especially interesting: It found that State Auditor Rob Sand has the highest approval rating of any elected state official, at about 55%. Gov. Kim Reynolds, who has honed her image as a cultural conservative and pushes hard on wedge issues like immigration and abortion, rated at 49%. Attorney General Brenna Bird, a conservative lightning rod, comes in at 40% approval.

Sand is a moderate, Democratic turkey hunter from Decorah who mingles easily with Republicans and independents. A flame thrower he is not. He has not used his office as a political foil. The public is uncomfortable with Republicans stripping the auditor of his authority to investigate public agencies, and allowing government units to hire their own private auditors instead of submitting to state audits. Iowans like a public check on public spending. They see this as a political attack that will consolidate power in the governor's office.

Reynolds's star is fading as she crashes right.

There will be a governor's race in 2026. Sand is positioned better than any Democrat to run. He enjoys a positive approval rating from Republicans and independents. He swears that he is non-partisan. That has a certain appeal these days. The Iowa Poll strongly suggests that Iowans are tiring of the culture war being imposed on them from the statehouse. Someone who appears to rise above the fray like a Bob Ray may be just the person voters are searching for. This is a red state that can swing purple, and it feels like movement is underfoot.

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

Storm Lake Times Pilot

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Lambs and lions

It looks as though this month will live up to the adage, "If March comes in like a lamb, it goes out like a lion."

Last Sunday the forecast for the following weekend was more than a foot of snow in Buena Vista County. By Tuesday the forecast has been throttled back to 3.5 inches on Sunday, 5 inches on Monday and maybe an inch on Tuesday. By Thursday, snow projections were lowered again to 2.25 inches on Sunday and less than an inch on Monday. Plus, next week's high temperatures are only going to reach the low 30s. Those are still a few days off, and we're hoping the forecasters are wrong, but the weather folks seem to get things pretty close nowadays. We are going out like a lion.

A little precip wouldn't be bad, especially for our lake. Wednesday the water was all the way up to the dam, just about a foot below the top. We haven't seen that in a couple of years. It wouldn't take much rain or snow to put water over the top and into Outlet Creek. Fishers and boaters would like that too.

If you recall the first week of March, the days were mild and spring-like. We even missed the traditional blizzard the week of the girls basketball tournament.

This week Tuesday it was 62 and sunny, but by Wednesday morning it was down to a chilly 18. We've had such nice weather the past few weeks that I considered putting the



JOHN CULLEN

FILLERS

snow blower away on Sunday. Then I remembered things can turn upside down quickly in Iowa in March — and they have. So old Toro is still gassed up and ready to go in the garage.

SINCE SUNDAY was St. Patrick's Day, as a pure-blooded son of Ireland I wore green and looked at pictures of the Emerald Isle from last August when we visited there with our kids. We trod the Cullen homelands in County Cavan, and Glenties, a village in County Donegal, where the Tolans — Mary's family — hailed from. Her great-grandparents lived in Fonda and her great-grandfather is buried in St. Mary's Cemetery here.

Mary is also half Czech (her mother was a Kopriva from Pocahontas), so we wore red on Tuesday to commemorate St. Joseph, whose feast day is March 19. St. Wenceslaus, whose feast day is Sept. 28, is patron saint of the Czech Republic (Bohemia), so I'm not sure why Czechs — or, at least, the Koprivas — honor St. Joseph, but I wear what I'm told.

THE NEXT big meteorological/astronomical event in North America will be the solar eclipse on Monday, April 8.

Storm Lake will not be in the path of the total eclipse, which will pass from Texas northeasterly through Maine. However, we will experience a 75% blockage of the sun by the moon. The partial eclipse here will start at 12:43 p.m. and end at 3:11 p.m., with the maximum eclipse occurring at 1:57 p.m., when the sun will be most hidden by the moon.

The closest total eclipse to Storm Lake will be a 9.5 hour drive to southwest Illinois around Carbondale.

The last total solar eclipse over North America was Aug. 21, 2017, when the closest it passed to Storm Lake was southeast Nebraska. We drove south of Omaha to Peru, Neb., to witness that. It was quite a sight for three or four minutes in the middle of the afternoon, as the sky turned dark and the birds quit chirping.

The next total eclipse over North America will be Aug. 12, 2045. The closest view to Storm Lake then will be in Kansas.

The precision with which our vast universe operates boggles my feeble little mind. Scientists can predict these eclipses hundreds of years in the future, tracking the movement of our planetary system down to the second.

Simply amazing!

These government officials did whaaaat?

What were they thinking? That is a question I ask myself a lot lately.

Those were the first words out of my mouth when the Manhattan district attorney had to postpone Donald Trump's New York criminal trial on the alleged hush-money payments to porn star Stormy Daniels — the delay necessitated because government lawyers had dropped the ball.

I muttered those words during several days of court hearings in Georgia into Atlanta prosecutor Fani Willis' affair with a subordinate prosecutor — the one she chose to lead the criminal case against Trump and a dozen other defendants for trying to undo that state's 2020 presidential election results.

And those words come to mind about bills the Iowa Legislature is considering that would affect criminal cases like those brought against state university athletes for their online wagers on sporting events.

What were these government officials thinking? That is an excellent question in these cases.

In New York City, Trump's trial in state court was scheduled to start March 25. But the date went out the window when Manhattan District At-



RANDY EVANS

STRAY THOUGHTS

torney Alvin Bragg announced the federal government, after a year's delay, finally handed over 100,000 pages of potential evidence to Trump's defense lawyers.

What were the federal attorneys thinking? They know the rules of "discovery," the obligation of prosecutors to turn over potentially exculpatory materials to a criminal defendant. They knew the nation is watching the New York case against Trump like hawks. And they surely knew any attempt to cut corners would give America's court system an embarrassing black eye, especially when Trump and many supporters believe the courts and government lawyers have it in for him.

The nation has been watching the Georgia election case like hawks, too. The former president faces 13 state charges relating to his efforts undo Joe Biden's whisker-thin

victory in that state in 2020.

Atlanta prosecutor Fani Willis should have been savvy enough to know her every move would be scrutinized by critics. So, what was she thinking when she decided to engage in an affair with the man she picked to handle the Trump case? Well-educated people in positions of authority should be smart enough to know they need to be above even the appearance of a conflict when their every move will be dissected.

That brings me to Iowa. Criminal charges of illegal gambling were filed last summer against 25 athletes and student managers at Iowa State University and the University of Iowa. The cases have had a devastating effect on these athletes' careers and held them up to ridicule. They lost their ability to compete.

Most agreed to plead guilty to less serious charges to avoid the possibility of bigger fines by going to trial. But attorneys for four ISU athletes or former athletes fought back. They took sworn statements, called depositions, from investigators and used subpoenas to obtain evidence agents gathered. What the lawyers learned suggests the actions of Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation agents were an unconstitutional in-

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Stray Thoughts...

Continued from previous page
vision of students' privacy rights.

Story County prosecutors agreed to drop the charges against the four athletes when the defense attorneys' findings became public.

The DCI's tactics in this investigation are an embarrassing black mark on this respected law enforcement agency — just as delays by federal officials in the New York criminal case and the astoundingly poor judgment by the Georgia prosecutor are embarrassing black marks on our judicial system, too.

The response by state officials in Iowa is telling, however. Rather than evaluating how the lapse of judgment occurred and establishing clear procedures to ensure people are not subjected to unreasonable invasion of their privacy, state officials seem more interested in providing a legal shield to block defense lawyers from uncovering such scandals in the future.

The DCI's disturbing conduct came to light because the athletes' attorneys were able to issue investigative subpoenas and compel the deposition testimony of DCI agents to learn state agents gathered digital evidence of student gambling without first providing sufficient legal justification for a judge to issue a search warrant.

Bills now before the Legislature — pushed by Attorney General Brenna Bird, the DCI and a state senator who is a DCI agent — would virtually eliminate the use of investigative subpoenas and the ability of criminal defendants to take sworn testimony from witnesses and investigators.

Andrew Mertens, the executive director of the Iowa Association for Justice, an organization of trial lawyers, has a chilling analysis of these proposals. (By way of disclosure, Mertens is on the board of trustees of the Iowa Freedom of Information Association, the organization I lead.)

"These subpoenas are vital tools, especially when the state attempts to cover up evidence of their own misdeeds, as they've done in the gambling cases," Mertens wrote in a statement.

"Had the attorney general's pending bill been law, these cases would have likely never been dismissed, ruining the students' athletic careers, and the vast invasion of student privacy at our state universities would have never been uncovered. The attorney general's pending bill could have let the DCI get away with their unconstitutional warrantless invasion without consequence."

Mertens said defense attorneys face stringent requirements under existing Iowa court rules before they can issue subpoenas. The attorney general's bill seeks to practically eliminate this already limited investigatory tool in criminal cases. In civil cases, on the other hand, where money is on the line rather than a person's freedoms, attorneys defending insurance companies or the state have much broader ability to subpoena evidence under existing court rules, he pointed out.

Mertens added, "It all begs the question: Are these legislative proposals motivated by the state's desire to hide their conduct during this and similar investigations? Should these be held to account, or allowed to run roughshod over Iowans' constitutional rights?"

That is a good question. And so is this one: What were they thinking?

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

PUBLIC NOTICE OF STORM WATER DISCHARGE

The City of Storm Lake plans to submit a Notice of Intent to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to be covered under the NPDES General Permit No. 2 "Storm Water Discharge Associated with Industrial Activity for Construction Activities."

The storm water discharge will be along Memorial Road from King's Pointe Parking Lot to E 3rd Street, located in SW & SE 1/4 Section 2, Township 90 North, Range 37 West, Buena Vista County, Iowa.

Storm water will be discharged from 1 point source(s) and will be discharged to the following streams: through storm sewers eventually discharging into Storm Lake.

Comments may be submitted to the Storm Water Coordinator, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, 502 E. 9th St., Des Moines, IA 50319. The public may review the Notice of Intent from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the above address after it has been received by the department.



One size fits all?

Fifty years ago – in 1974 – students in the Storm Lake High School safety patrol had to do their work, even in the rain. From the Storm Lake Register: "Dallas Poppen, left, rear, on behalf of the Storm Lake Jaycees gives 12 raincoats to the Storm Lake school safety patrols. Front row, from left: Tom Quick, Charles Crouch, Mark Borgman, Amy Eaton, Valerie McCoy and Kay Appleseth. In back are Poppen, Roger Schultz, Alec Engebretson, John Merlin, Daryl Wikstrom and Curt Reis."

DAYS OF YORE

Resolutions pass to impeach Nixon

25 YEARS AGO

The Southeast Asian Community Christian Church hosted an open house Sunday afternoon to celebrate the lunar New Year and the church's one-year anniversary. About 200 to 250 attended the celebration, said Khamlo Khounlo, co-chair of the church.

John Madsen, who as spouse of Storm Lake Mayor Sandra Madsen could be called The City Beautiful's "First Gentleman," has announced his retirement from Buena Vista University.

Congratulations to Amy Henderson of Sioux Rapids who has been chosen to sing

the National Anthem at the 1999 Boys State Basketball Tournament in Des Moines.

50 YEARS AGO

The resolutions calling for Congressional action to impeach President Nixon were passed at Democratic caucuses held Monday night, according to Lee Campbell, County Democratic chairman.

Wally Burns, former superintendent of Marathon Schools, has been hired as administrator of the Storm Lake Center of Iowa Central Community College. (Hayes Center).

Storm Lake will join in the sendoff Tuesday for the Aurelia Bulldogs to the boys' state basketball tournament. The local sendoff is being organized by the Chamber of Commerce.

75 YEARS AGO

Nineteen entries have so far been made in the Buena

Vista County spelling contest to be held March 19, it was announced Wednesday by County Superintendent Albert Harrison. Five schools are represented to date.

At one of the largest caucus meetings ever held in Storm Lake prior to a city election, Irwin Kroll, mortician,

Wednesday night was nominated for mayor of The City Beautiful on the Citizens ticket. Over 300 men and women literally filled the district courtroom to overflowing. Mr. Kroll will be opposed at the election by Oscar Grau, who will head the People's ticket.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

ALBERT CITY CITY COUNCIL

The Albert City city council held a public hearing on Monday, March 11, 2024 at city hall. Mayor Skog called the public hearing to order at 7:00 PM. All council members were present. Also present was Keith Moe, zoning clerk. The purpose of the public hearing is to hear comments for or against a change in commercial zoning that will allow R2 usage for parcels located in the 100 and 200 blocks on Main Street. Keith informed the council that the planning and zoning passed the change, but those wishing to do this need to know it will change your valuation of your property. There being no comments for or against the public hearing, motion by Ehlers, second by Forbes to close public hearing at 7:05 PM; all voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

At this time Mayor Skog opened the regular meeting. Motion by Forbes, second by Nagengast to approve the agenda with the deletion of the treasury report; all voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

Motion by Hanson, second by Krohn to accept the 1st reading of the commercial zoning change; roll call being called Ehlers, Nagengast, Forbes, Hanson, & Krohn voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

Motion by Nagengast, second by Forbes to approve the billings for payment:

NIELSON, ANGIE.....	BALLFIELD MOWER PARTS.....	71.85
ALLIANT ENERGY.....	MONTHLY.....	3,975.02
STORM LAKE TIMES.....	PUBLICATIONS.....	92.68
ARNOLDS MOTOR.....	AIR FILTERS FOR SEWER BLOWERS.....	126.74
BUENA VISTA CO AUDITOR.....	MONTHLY CONTRACT.....	2,475.75
AC POSTMASTER.....	WATER BILLS.....	148.93
B & B CHLORINATION.....	CHLORINE CALCIUM HYPCHLORITE.....	15.5
AC LIBRARY.....	FEB ALLOCATION.....	502.34
OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STAE.....	YEARLY PERIODIC EXAM FEE.....	1,500.00
IA DEP PUBLIC HEALTH.....	FEE FOR POOL.....	35
CLERK OF COURTS.....	COURT FEE DISMISSAL FEE.....	95
IOWA LAKES ELECTRIC COOP.....	SEWER PLANT MONTHLY BILL.....	3,452.00
J & S REPAIR LLC.....	METAL FOR POOL STANDPIPES.....	63.08
FOUNDATION ANALYTICAL.....	WATER & SEWER TESTING.....	1,088.50
CRS.....	MONTHLY GARBAGE BILL.....	3,875.00
AG STATE.....	FUEL.....	637.57
D & D AUTO.....	TORNADO SIREN BATTERIES POOL.....	624.6
DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP.....	GRATES & FRAMES.....	622.26
COLLECTION SERVICE CENTER.....	CASE 1060817.....	412.25
KASPERBAUER CLEANERS INC.....	RUG CLEANING.....	130.43
PAYROLL CHECKS.....	TOTAL PAYROLL CHECKS.....	29,342.37
CLAIMS TOTAL.....	16,182.57
GENERAL FUND.....	2,238.64
WATER FUND.....	4,921.16
SEWER FUND.....	

The 2nd public hearing regarding the fence height restriction was opened at 7:15 PM. Keith explained that the planning & zoning board approved the fence height restrictions. There being no comments for or against the proposed fence height restriction to the zoning ordinance, motion by Hanson, second by Forbes to close the public hearing; all voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

The council resumed the council meeting. Motion by Forbes, second by Hanson to waive the 1st reading of the height restriction for the fence; roll call being called Ehlers, Nagengast, Forbes, Hanson, & Krohn voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

Motion by Forbes, second by Krohn to waive the 2nd reading of the height restriction for the fence; roll call being called Ehlers, Nagengast, Forbes, Hanson, & Krohn voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

Motion by Hanson, second by Krohn to accept the 3rd reading of Ordinance #2024-02 to the Albert City zoning ordinance to be as follows: to amend Article #10 Section 2: Yard and Area Regulations Subparagraph E. Fences: Item d) 5. Fencing Regulations: a) the first sentence will include an additional prepositional phrase, and now read "The average height of a permanent fence shall be no more than six feet tall nor less than three feet tall in any required side or rear yard". An additional and new second sentence will be included "The total height of a permanent fence shall be no more than four feet tall or less than three feet tall in any required front yard"; roll called Ehlers, Nagengast, Forbes, Hanson, & Krohn voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

The council went over budget items to include cameras for the city's facilities, street pole painting, paint steel on back of city hall, ceiling in shop being painted, painting the roof of the cold storage shed, and \$3000 for the chamber toward their insurance cost.

Motion by Forbes, second by approve the pool sand media for around \$2000 for FY23-24; all voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

Motion by Nagengast, second by Hanson to have Kevin Buse paint the shelter house for fy23-24 in the amount of \$3135; all voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

There being no further business, motion by Ehlers, second by Nagengast to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 PM; all voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

D. Skog, Mayor

A. Nielson, City Clerk

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J. Burgess, Mayor
A. Nielson, City clerk

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completely eliminated the tax on retirement income, making Iowa one of the most tax-friendly states for retirees.

Congratulations to Clay County Public Health! They were selected by the University of Iowa College of Public Health and its Business Leadership Network as one of the five winners of its annual Community Grant Program funded by the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation. Their "Every Day Healthy Eating" project will provide education and cooking tools to individuals who frequent local food pantries. The purpose of the Business Leadership Network Community Grant is to foster collaboration in Iowa communities in addressing areas of identified community health or public health need.

Evans can be reached at lynn.evans@legis.iowa.gov

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

TRUST NOTICE

IN THE MATTER OF THE TRUST OF: MARCIA L. OTTO, Deceased.

To all persons regarding Marcia L. Otto, deceased, who died on or about March 7, 2024. You are hereby notified that the Trustee listed below is the Trustee of the Marcia L. Otto Trust dated August 20, 2007. Any action to contest the validity of the Trust must be brought in the District Court of Buena Vista County, Iowa, within the later to occur of four (4) months from the date of second publication of this Notice or thirty (30) days from the date of mailing this Notice to all heirs of the Decedent Settlor whose identities are reasonably ascertainable. Any suit not filed within this period shall be forever barred.

Notice is further given that any person or entity possessing a claim against the Trust must mail proof of the claim to the Trustees at the address listed below via certified mail, return receipt requested, by the later to occur of four (4) months from the second publication of this Notice or thirty (30) days from the date of mailing this Notice if required or the claim shall be forever barred unless paid or otherwise satisfied.

Dated on March 18, 2024.

Shannon Kelly, Trustee
1671 600th St.
Storm Lake, IA 50588

Edean M. Murray #AT0005557,
Attorney for Trustee
Murray & Murray, PLC
530 Erie St., PO Box 27
Storm Lake, Iowa 50588

Date of second publication: March 29, 2024. 1/2-49

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR BUENA VISTA COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF PEARL JOLENE PHELPS, Deceased.

Probate No. ESPRO17845

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Pearl Jolene Phelps, Deceased, who died on or about January 7, 2024: You are hereby notified that on March 18, 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 March 19, 2024.

Date of second publication: March 29, 2024.

Probate Code Section 230

Brett C. Redenbaugh, ICIS#: 9766
Attorney for the Administrator
The Law Offices of Redenbaugh and Mohr, P.C.
111 W. 6th Street
PO Box 1284
Storm Lake, IA 50588

Lori Strand
Administrator of the Estate
201 Lake Street
Sioux Rapids, IA 50585 1/2-54

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

CITY OF MARATHON CITY COUNCIL MEETING MARCH 12, 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 Enger, Mary Brooks, Cassandra Yartz, & Larry Robinson. Dustin Klatt was absent.

During Mayor and Council comments, Larry Robinson advised that city garbage bags were still not being used at the apartments. Also Larry Robinson inquired about the estimated delivery time for the new payloador.

During public comments it was requested that city workers pick up branches this spring.

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

BOMGAARS-SHOP SUPPLIES UNIFORM ALLOWANCE-475.42; CITY OF MARATHON-MONTHLY BILL-3864.21; GROW GARBAGE-GARBAGE CONTRACT-1285.00; GUNNARSON, TERRY-MILEAGE & MEAL REIMB PARKING-393.68; IPERS-IPERS-1802.32; LAURENS MUNI LIGHT & POWER-POWER ALLOCATION-9124.05; STORM LAKE TIMES-PUBLICATION-87.39; WIND-STREAM-TELEPHONE-151.63; EFTPS-FED/FICA TAXES-2489.10; SALES TAX-SALES TAX FEB-494.56; IA LAKES ELECTRIC CO.-SEWER UTILITY-28.00; POSTOFFICE OF MARATHON-5 ROLLS .68 CENTS 1ST CLASS-605.00; MENARDS-PARK SIGNS & SHOP SHELVEING-239.43; LAURENS MUNI POWER & COMM-LABOR FEBRUARY 2024-532.00; PLUMBING & HEATING-UTILITY SWING CHECK VALVES-183.63; VERIZON WIRELESS-TELEPHONE-5154.1; S GROUP, INC-ENGINEERING LAG00N-6428.09; BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES-ELECTRICAL GLOVES-44.24; B.V. COUNTY SHERIFF-MONTHLY CONTRACT-1238.58; WET-WATER EXCISE TAX FEB-341.98; LINGO-LONG DISTANCE CITY HALL-22.55; FOUNDATION ANALYTICAL-TESTING WATER-33.00; CANON FINANCIAL SERVICES-MONTHLY LEASE PAYMENT-54.60; AG STATE-FUEL FIRE DEPARTMENT-550.48; COLLECTION SERVICE JARVIS-CLD SUP #042802-502.14; USDA RD R1 LOAN-FEB R1 7TH PMT-1333.00; USDA RD R2 LOAN-USDA R2 PMT 7TH PAYMENT-1460.00; KISCHER, CHAD-FUEL FROM BREDA FOR FIRE DEPT-50.01; MACHINE SHOP & WELDING LLC-WACKER HYDRAULIC HOSES-228.78; PAYROLL CHECKS-TOTAL PAYROLL CHECKS-8277.27

-CLAIMS TOTAL-42371.68
-GENERAL FUND-10569.48
-ROAD USE TAX FUND-311.28
-WATER FUND-4796.48
-SEWER FUND-4103.33
-SEWER CAPITAL PROJECT FUND-9221.09

-ELECTRIC FUND-13370.02

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

The council reviewed the public works superintendent report.

Motion by Brooks, second by Yartz to approve pay request #17 for I&S Group in the amount of \$101,710.80. All voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

Budget discussions were tabled until next month.

Motion by Enger, second by Yartz to approve Midwest Spray Team and Sales Contract for 2024 in the amount of \$228.00. All voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

Motion by Enger, second by Robinson to put property located at 209 N. Scott up for sealed bids. All voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

Motion by Robinson, second by Enger for a 4% pay increase for city employees. All voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

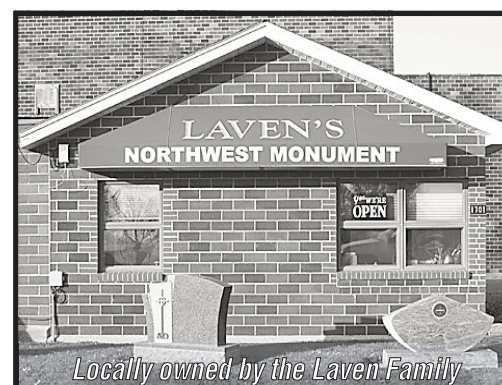
There were no permits or correspondence.

Motion by Yartz, second by Enger to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm. All voted aye, no nays, motion carried.

J. Burgess, Mayor
A. Nielson, City clerk

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: TIMES@STORMLAKE.COM



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Katie Bauer
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Ashley Lovell
Realtor
712-626-4332

100 W Links Dr, #2, Alta, IA

2
BED
2
BATH
1,994
Sq.Ft.



\$285,000

Motivated Seller! This is condo living at its best. This spacious home is located at the end of a long private drive. Appreciate the attractive steel siding, brick accents and brand new shingles and know that your investment will likely be low-maintenance for many years to come. The open floor plan is ideal for entertaining. The large kitchen features quality stainless steel appliances, dark hardwood cabinetry with soft close hinges and gorgeous quartz countertops! The walk-in pantry is truly divine! The master bedroom has a full en-suite bathroom. The guest bathroom doubles as the laundry room, but conveniently the washer and dryer are tucked away discreetly in a closet. Another notable feature of this listing is that it comes with three additional parcels that includes two out buildings and a vacant lot. The hobby farmer, wood worker or person that likes to tinker will appreciate the heated machine shed with immaculate concrete floors. There is also a smaller shed with electricity that currently houses the mower and lawn equipment. The shingles were replaced in 2021. Get in to see this one before it is gone!

217 Lake Ave, Storm Lake, IA

4
BED
3
BATH
2,953
Sq.Ft.



\$259,000

217 Lake Ave is an excellent value priced at only \$87/square foot!! You will have nearly 3,000 square feet of living area in a very desirable neighborhood WITH a fenced-in back yard! The home has received some nice updates including painting of exterior siding and sealing along windows and siding to increase energy efficiency. The property is surrounded by mature trees and has great curb appeal. The main floor offers two living areas, each with their own fireplace. The kitchen has abundant counter space and has a new walk-in pantry. For the professional that works from home this property is perfectly equipped with an executive office on the main floor. Of course if one does not need a large home office, this space could easily be a generously sized bedroom. Upstairs you will find the primary bedroom with it's own bathroom and conveniently attached laundry. There are two other bedrooms on the second level including one that could be used as a theater room or bonus room as it is expansive. There is a detached two car garage with one standard size door and one extra tall door to accommodate a range of toys. Attached to the garage is a screened area with a quaint bench swing. The sellers have generously offered a \$5,000 flooring allowance, so feel free to dream big and envision the flooring of your choice! Don't miss your chance to own this lovely piece of Storm Lake's grand history.

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Alta-Aurelia's Nora Peterson (left) and Ridge View's Taya Phillips (right) run the first leg of the distance medley relay during last Friday's BVU Elite indoor meet at the Lamberti Rec Center. TIMES PILOT photo by JAMIE KNAPP

SL boys soccer team hungry to get back to state tourney

BY JAMIE KNAPP

Coming up short to Denison-Schleswig in the substate final last year didn't sit well with Storm Lake. The Tornadoes are using that result to fuel their hunger this season.

Storm Lake hasn't been to state in boys soccer since 2019, and this year's team wants to do something about that.

"I believe that our team's strength will be the drive and determination to create change in this program on and off the field," said first-year coach Roberto Martinez. "Storm Lake hasn't gone to state since 2019, so this team wants to be the one to bring us back to Des Moines."

Storm Lake has some experienced starters coming back to help achieve that goal.

"Our top returning performers this year include our senior goalkeeper Alexis Sanabria, who is also a captain this season," Martinez said. "Alexis broke our single-season saves record last season with 90 saves. We also have our other senior captain Jose Oropeza

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2B

SPRING SPORTS PREVIEW 2024

SL boys track team has talent returning, but low numbers

BY JAMIE KNAPP

Storm Lake will return several athletes who did well last season, but numbers will be an issue for the boys track and field team.

The Tornadoes return six athletes from last year's team that finished fifth in the Lakes Conference meet. Joel Ramirez-Parra was a state qualifier in the 3,200 meters last season. Sprinters Justin Guynn, Sitah Chaiyawong, Brandy Azurdia and Brock Turnquist return, as does middle distance runner Raul Jacuinde-Mellado.

Jacob Mills had a very good cross country season and will add to the distance group.

Storm Lake coach Justin Mellmann measured the team's strengths and concerns heading into the season.

"We have several returners that did very well last season," he said. "Numbers will be an issue."

Mellmann discussed how this year's team could be better than the one from a year ago.

"Several of our sprinters ran very well last season and are off to a great start," he said. "Justin Guynn took fifth at the Lakes indoor and looked very good. I'm excited to see a few of these veteran sprinters have some success this spring."

Mellmann gave an assessment of the sprint and hurdle events.

"I think we will have some success with a few guys in individual events," he said. "It will be a challenge to put together relays as we are low on numbers."

The middle distance events will be in fairly good hands.

"We have a few guys that are running decent 800's already this season, so I'm excited to see if we can get a few of them around the 2:05 mark, which I think is attainable," Mellmann said.

The long distance events will be an area of strength.

"Joel Ramirez-Parra is back and running well," Mellmann

SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent
April 2	at MOC-Floyd Valley Invite
April 4	at Cherokee Invite
April 8	at Unity Christian Invite
April 12	at Estherville Invite
April 16	at Spirit Lake Invite
April 19	at Pocahontas Invite
April 25	Storm Lake Invite
April 29	Tornado Relays
May 2	Lakes Conf. (at Spencer)
May 6	at Spencer Invite

said. "He was a state qualifier in the 3,200 meters last season and a cross country state qualifier. He is running well already this season. I look for big things from him as a sophomore. Jacob Mills was one of our top varsity runners in cross country. He has a lot of talent and drive. I think he will have some great times as we head to the track this spring. He will be a great addition."

Mellmann assessed how the field events will be.

"Field events will be a struggle," he said. "We are lacking numbers and experience. We do have a few athletes that are taking these events on and are hopeful."

There are a few important factors that will dictate how much success the Tornadoes have this season.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2B

St. Mary's track teams look for strong foundation to carry over

BY JAMIE KNAPP

Last season brought several notable performances that established a strong foundation moving into this year for the Storm Lake St. Mary's boys and girls track and field teams.

The Panther boys will be led with the return of Brett Petersen, who qualified for state in the 3,200 meters. Kaeden Larson also claimed multiple top-five finishes in the shot put with several throws surpassing 45 feet.

Karla Limones will lead the girls team. Her fifth-place finish in the 3,000 meters at districts was a lifetime best, only a few seconds short of a state qualifying mark.

The graduation of Bianca Limones and the departure of exchange student Lara Pascual will open a few holes in the sprints and mid-distance

SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent
March 23	at Algona Garrigan Invite
March 25	at South Central Calhoun
April 1	at Sioux Central (boys only)
April 2	at Southeast Valley (girls only)
April 9	at Ridge View Invite
April 12	at East Sac County Relays
April 19	at HMS Invitational
April 22	at Alta-Aurelia Relays
April 25	at Storm Lake Invitational
April 30	Twin Lakes at Emmetsburg
May 6	at MMCUR Relays

events. Several newcomers have already demonstrated their ability to make an impact.

Sophomores Jesus Melendez, Dominic Mills and Brendon Peterson look to add depth to a seasoned mid-distance group. The addition of juniors McWindel Gomez and Pedro Lopez will further add maturity to the sprint core.

Girls looking to make an impact include freshmen Abby Wunschel and Dani Young in the sprints. Sophomore Isabelle Landgraf will serve as a bridge between the sprint and distance events.

St. Mary's coach Chance Downs measured the team's strengths entering the season.

"Since last year, the team has expanded from its previous

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2B

SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent
April 2	Sioux Center
April 8	at Sheldon
April 11	at Sioux City East
April 13	at Council Bluffs Jefferson
April 15	at MOC-Floyd Valley
April 16	Humboldt
April 23	at Spencer
April 26	at Denison-Schleswig
April 30	Western Christian
May 2	Spirit Lake
May 3	at Unity Christian
May 6	West Sioux
May 9	at Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley

SL girls soccer team looking for senior class to provide leadership

BY JAMIE KNAPP

Storm Lake lost some strong girls soccer players in last year's senior class, but the Tornadoes do return a good nucleus back to this year's team.

Leading the way will be Nelly Cortes. Valeria Zuniga and goalkeeper Iratzel Ocegueda also return.

"Nelly Cortes is coming back with 11 goals from last year," Storm Lake coach Katie Voortmann said. "We are looking to her to really get our offensive going. Valeria Zuniga is our golden passer and she had many great assists to Nelly. I am hoping these two will continue to be leaders offensively. Iratzel Ocegueda will also be returning in goal, and she had 287 saves as a freshman. We are hoping she continues to excel and be a great leader on the team."

There are some top prospects to help fill the void left by the loss of last year's starters.

"We lost a really strong and aggressive senior class last year," Voortman said. "Samantha Castillo and Andrea Gomez weren't afraid of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2B

SL boys golf coach excited about return of four varsity players

BY JAMIE KNAPP

Andrew Zinn is excited about the upcoming boys golf season, but he's most excited about the return of four varsity players from last year's team that finished second in the Lakes Conference.

SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent
April 12	at Newell-Fonda
April 13	at Unity Christian Invitational
April 15	at Spencer Invitational
April 16	Estherville Lincoln Central
April 22	at Denison-Schleswig
April 23	at Cherokee
April 25	at Spencer
April 27	Storm Lake Invitational
April 30	at Spirit Lake
May 3	Alta-Aurelia, RV, OABCIG
May 6	Lakes Conference at Cherokee
May 7	Alta-Aurelia, Cherokee

Heading that list for Storm Lake is first team all-state golfer Charlie Dvergsten, who qualified for the state tournament last year. Also back are

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2B

Storm Lake has great core group returning to girls golf team

BY JAMIE KNAPP

Storm Lake returns a lot of experience for girls golf this season as the Tornadoes have four of their top players back.

"This year, we will have a great core group of golfers returning," Storm Lake coach Will Swanson said. "Taylor

SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent
April 2	at Denison-Schleswig
April 12	Newell-Fonda
April 16	at Estherville
April 23	Cherokee
April 25	Spencer
April 29	at Spencer Tournament
April 30	Spirit Lake
May 6	Lakes Conference at BVULC
May 7	at Alta-Aurelia
May 11	Storm Lake Invitational

Ripke is back after she missed last season to knee surgery. We expect her leadership and scoring to help our team. Maddy Raveling, Kennadie Miller and Hannah Taylor will round out our top four

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2B



Alta-Aurelia's Mason Barnes lost a show while running in the shuttle hurdle relay during last Friday's BVU Elite indoor meet. TIMES PILOT photo by JAMIE KNAPP

SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent
April 2	at Sioux Center
April 8	Sheldon
April 11	Spirit Lake
April 15	MOC-Floyd Valley
April 16	at Humboldt
April 19	at Carroll Kuemper
April 22	LeMars
April 23	Spencer
April 26	Denison-Schleswig
April 30	at Western Christian
May 2	at Spirit Lake
May 3	at Unity Christian
May 6	at West Sioux
May 9	Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley
May 13	at Sioux City West

St. Mary’s track ...

Continued from page 1B

ous high of 14 total athletes to a roster of 23,” he said. “With greater numbers, we have been able to diversify our training progressions while maintaining an unprecedented level of unity. Our unwavering work ethic and no-excuse approach remain our primary strength as a team. Every athlete comes in each day looking to take advice and work hard to adhere to the vision and core values we have established.”

However, there are some question marks.

“Right now, we are looking forward to establishing events,” Downs said. “Last season, we started to fill relays, but with even more athletes in both genders, we now have the opportunity to cover almost every event. The unknown step at this juncture is how we will fill those cards meet to meet while prioritizing our training.”

Downs discussed how this year’s team could be better than the one from a year ago.

“Considerable depth in numbers and experience will undoubtedly lead the team as a whole to greater performances and shared experiences,” he said. “The coaching staff has worked tirelessly to

design event programming that advances athlete understanding and conditioning. On paper, I expect to see more points being scored week by week for both the boys and girls.”

Downs gave an assessment of how the sprint and hurdle events will be this season.

“Our sprint and hurdle core this year has some experience, but is overall young,” he said. “Newcomer Ashley Camacho is looking to help complement the strengths of freshman Dani Young in the short sprints. Abby Wunschel will build on her hurdle experience from last year to take on the 100 and 400 meter hurdles. Jesus Melendez attempts to match Wunschel’s diversity in the hurdle and long sprint events.”

The middle and long distance events will be an area of strength for the Panthers.

“With three out of the four members of the school’s record-setting quartet returning this season, the mid-distance girls have a lot to work with,” Downs said. “Experienced upperclassmen Autumn Wunschel and Karla Limones will look to further lead sophomores Isabelle Landgraf and Aubrey Crum along with freshman Jessa Fetrow in the 800 to 3000-meter spread. Brett Petersen is joined by his brother Brendon

and Dominic Mills to supply speed and savvy across the 800 and 1600-meter runs. Both genders are expected to pick up more points and place-winnings as individuals and relays.”

Downs gave an assessment of the field events.

“In the throwing events, Kaeden Larson’s shot put and Ivan Del Villar’s discus improvements set a strong tone for this year’s performances,” he said. “On the boys’ side, Santiago Soria and Jose Mendoza intend to add further depth in the throws while Jesus Melendez is reaching new heights in the high jump. For the girls, Avery Smith’s utility in the shot put, discus and long jump will aid in team point races as freshman Ruby Phelps joins the ranks in the throwing events. Sophomore Carissa Elsdon is also already making her mark in the high jump.”

There are several important factors that will dictate how much success the Panthers have this spring.

“First, we must continue to have leaders step up and help guide their teammates through the good times and the bad,” Downs said. “Athletes who can buy into working hard on key workout days and taking recovery seriously will see the best outcomes. Becoming a student of the

sport is another major factor that can greatly impact our success. We are always urging our athletes to ask questions and learn more about why we are doing what we do. Our best indication of success will be our ability to trust the process and keep our focus on the postseason. Ultimately, having faith in our progression and team philosophy is going to have a significant impact on our season outcomes. The coaching staff is dedicated to implementing quality training and individualized approaches to meet athletes’ needs.”

Downs offered his insight on the Twin Lakes Conference and included his team’s position in it.

“Like last year, our primary goal is to rise in the conference ranks,” he said. “With greater depth and range of events, we are looking to pick up far more points than in years previous. On the girls’ side, I believe we can compete with the talent of close conference finishers such as East Sac and GTRA. On the boys’ side, West Bend-Mallard and GTRA remain within striking distance with our newfound depth and event ranges. With more opportunities to score points and a building team philosophy, we aim to put more individuals and relays in the top eight.”

SCOREBOARD

BOWLING

ALLEY KITS

Team	W-L
Fritcher Abstract	74-30
The Girls	54-50
Wilson & Co.	44-58
She Devils	34-70
High game: Carolyn Kies 203.	
High series: Carolyn Kies 499.	
High team game: Wilson & Co. 368.	
High team series: Wilson & Co. 1022.	

LADIES

Team	W-L
Eileen	61-27
Carolyn	59-29
Donna	51-37
Karen	42-46
Sandy	29-59
Laurie	22-66
High game: Eileen Turnquist 204.	
High series: Carolyn Kies 481.	
High team game: Eileen 243.	
High team series: Laurie 598.	

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
High scratch game: Big Black Angus 736.	
High scratch series: Big Black Angus 2128.	
High handicap game: Big Black Angus 809.	
High handicap series: Big Black Angus 2380.	
High scratch game: Adam Olson 257,	
Trevor Robbins 236, Ryan Diischer 210.	
High scratch series: Adam Olson 621,	
Trevor Robbins 605, Ryan Diischer 565.	

TOWN & COUNTRY

Team	W-L
Mike’s Team	26-6
AMF	21-11
Pinheads	19-13

Team	W-L
Sixty Strikers	17-15
Team #3	16-16
Cecilia’s Old Farts	12-20
Fred’s Team	10-22
Walsh Chiropractic	7-25
High scratch game: Mike’s Team 852.	
High scratch series: Mike’s Team 2337.	
High handicap game: Mike’s Team 996.	
High handicap series: Mike’s Team 2769.	
High scratch game: Darren Erps 257,	
Adam Olson 256, Kevin Bengtson 246.	
High scratch series: Adam Olson 657,	
Darren Erps 632, Bruce Robbins 631.	

TUESDAY MIXED

Team	W-L
Benny and the Jets	37-15
Who Cares	25-27
The Franchises	25-27
Girls	17-35
High scratch game: Benny and the Jets 549.	
High scratch series: Benny and the Jets 1516.	
High handicap game: Benny and the Jets 656.	
High handicap series: Benny and the Jets 1837.	
High scratch game: Dean Stough 200.	
High scratch series: Brian Underwood 571.	
High women’s scratch game: Missy Bendixen 185.	
High women’s scratch series: Rachel Swanson 507.	

BASEBALL

AMERICAN RIVERS CONFERENCE

Team	W-L	W-L
Dubuque	0-0	11-3
Wartburg	0-0	9-3
Buena Vista	0-0	11-4
Loras	0-0	11-4
Luther	0-0	10-4
Simpson	0-0	7-7
Nebraska Wesleyan	0-0	7-7
Central	0-0	4-5
Coe	0-0	6-8

SL boys soccer ...

Continued from page 1B

returning. He’s the leader on and off the field and does an exceptional job whether it’s in the midfield or in the backline. I expect our junior striker Raymond Hernandez to have a breakout year and score a big chunk of our goals this season. Last year, Raymond was our second leading scorer.”

There are also some top prospects to help fill the void left by the loss of last year’s starters.

“We lost several talented seniors from last year’s team, but I expect several guys to step up and fill those voids,” Martinez said. “Iker Gomez in the midfield, Nay Tun in the backline and freshman Cairo

Hernandez as either a midfielder or a forward.”

There are some concerns with the Tornados entering the season.

“This group of guys wants to be the one to take us back to state,” Martinez said. “That being said, there are other teams who are just as hungry who want the same result, so wanting something isn’t enough. The guys have to understand that every bit of their success this season will come down to discipline and execution. So I would say execution is the biggest question mark for this team.”

Martinez discussed how this year’s team could be better than the one from a year ago.

“I believe there’s several areas we can look at with this

year’s team compared to last year’s in terms of improvement,” he said. “For one, we have a lot of young talent who have gained experience and will be much more prepared coming into this season. It was a terrible feeling losing in the substate final to Denison-Schleswig last year and not being able to earn a trip to state with those seniors. The positive thing we can take out of that, though, is the fact that our returning players have that loss to build off of and use as fuel to make sure we end the year on a deeper run compared to the year prior. They have a better idea of what it takes.”

There are a few important factors that will dictate how much success the Tornados have this spring.

“Execution in everything we do with high standards and expectations, whether it’s at practice, during games or in the classroom,” Martinez said. “We need to be a team that won’t settle for anything less than our best effort in everything we do.”

Martinez offered his insight on the Northwest Iowa Soccer League for this season.

“Last year in our conference, we were a mid-table team, so our hope for this season is to finish back on top,” he said. “We expect Spencer to be solid this year despite losing some crucial seniors, as well as Western Christian, who’s coming off a state championship year. The competition will be tough, but we expect to be able to go toe-to-toe with anyone.”

SL boys golf ...

Continued from page 1B

Carson Lullmann, Cam Boyd and Jayden Butler.

“I am excited to see what all of them can do this season,” Zinn said.

There are several top prospects who will compete for the other two varsity spots. They include Jake White, Peyton Phillips, Grant Smith, Alan White, Bobby Boeckman, Ty Bodholdt and Carson Taylor.

“I am excited to see out of this group who will contribute at the varsity and JV level this year,” Zinn said. “I expect a lot of competition going on for the final varsity spots and top JV spots.”

Zinn measured the team’s strengths entering the season.

“We have four guys with varsity experience coming

back this year,” he said. “I am most excited about this moving forward. I am excited about how well we can compete with the way we finished the year. I know all of them played a ton last summer and played with each other. This is a tight group of boys and I am excited to work with them this year.”

However, there are some question marks with the Tornados.

“Who is going to step up this year and contribute?” Zinn said. “How consistent can we be toward the end of the year? We have guys who have played from last year, but who is going to be a leader for us and step up to help us. Can we finally get over the hump and win the Lakes Conference?”

Zinn discussed the ways that this year’s team could be better than last year’s.

“I think the team is coming together great,” he said. “Everyone gets along with each other and that is huge for us this season. We are going to need a lot of different people to step up for us. We have been hitting early in the morning, and as the weather gets nicer, we will be able to get outside and hit some.”

There are a few important factors that will dictate how much success the Tornados have this spring.

“Our team goal is to finish toward the top of the conference this season,” Zinn said. “We will want to improve each and every meet, and if we are able to do this, we will be there at the end of the season when we need to be playing our best. We have a new opportunity this year. We have a varsity and JV conference tournament. I am excited to see this happen and

see where we can finish as a whole team. We don’t know where sectionals or districts will be this year, but I hope they are courses we have played or will play throughout the season.”

Zinn offered his insight on the Lakes Conference.

“I feel Spencer will always be tough,” he said. “All in all, our conference is really tough and we have to make sure we are playing our best when we go against them to see where we fall in the conference race. Spirit Lake has a couple of guys who are young, so you cannot count them out. Cherokee has the returning Lakes Conference individual champion, so they should be much-improved as well. ELC is always streaky as well. We will have to find time to go to Emerald Hills and play there since conference is there this year.”

SL girls soccer ...

Continued from page 1B

going for the ball. This year, I am going to call upon my seniors to fill those shoes, including Nayeli DeLeora, Brianna Najera and Nelly Cortes. Nelly and Nayeli will more than likely be in the midfield, and we are hoping to run our offense through them. Brianna will be a great component on defense because she isn’t afraid of the contact and she is willing to push up the field and be part of the offense. America Najera is an incoming freshman and will be up top this year. We are hoping her speed and athleticism can help us score some more goals.”

Voortmann considered the team’s strengths heading into the season.

“There is a core group of

girls who have been putting a lot of time in during the off-season playing in indoor leagues and coming to open gyms,” she said. “They have gelled together, so they are going to be comfortable with each other. Otherwise, I think our strength is hard work and hustle. The girls aren’t afraid to work hard during practice and go 110 percent.”

However, there are some question marks with the Tornados.

“I think our biggest concern is showing up for every match,” Voortmann said. “Last year, we started off really flat in a lot of games and dug ourselves a hole early on. We have to be ready to compete no matter who we are playing against. We need to take care of the ball more on offense in order to get more scoring opportunities.”

Voortmann discussed the

ways that this year’s team could be better than last year’s.

“I think our team has gotten better with being calm under pressure and staying spread out,” she said. “It’s been a long journey, but most of the varsity players have been with me for three years and they are starting to understand how to play soccer and not just run around on the field and clump toward the ball. First touch is something that we work on every day at practice, so I want this to be one of our big improvements so we don’t lose the ball right away.”

There are a number of important factors that will dictate how much success the Tornados have this season.

“I think the biggest thing that will determine our success has to do with our work ethic and competing,” Voort-

mann said. “We have to challenge each other at practice to get better instead of being OK with being average. As soon as we step on the field, we have to lock in and stick to our game plan. I need every single player whether they are starter, a bench player, or a practice player to compete against the other team.”

Voortmann gave her insight on the Northwest Iowa Soccer League for this season.

“We are hoping to improve in conference this year,” she said. “I feel like we are underestimated due to our records in the past. During the offseason, the girls who played indoor won the championship against several teams in our conference including MOC-FV, West Sioux, Unity Christian and Sheldon.”

SL girls golf ...

Continued from page 1B

golfers.”

There are some top prospects to help fill the void left by the loss of last year’s starters.

“We have four golfers, though relatively new to golf, are showing promise to fill out

our varsity team,” Swanson said. “Maddison Ripke, Morgan Zanfes, Juliette Perez-Zavala and Evelyn Morales Trejo will contribute.”

Swanson measured the team’s strengths heading into the season.

“Our top four girls have a lot of experience over their years on the team,” he said. “The team chemistry is great.

Our girls enjoy playing golf together.”

However, there are some question marks.

“With new golfers rounding out our varsity and JV program, the learning curve is steep,” Swanson said. “They are up to it and we will see good things from our new teammates as well as continued growth and success of our

returners.”

Swanson discussed how this year’s team could be better than the one from a year ago.

“This year, we have power hitter Taylor Ripke back after missing last season,” he said. “Her play will be important for our success.”

There are some important factors that will dictate how

much success the Tornados have this spring.

“The longest distance on the course is between our ears,” Swanson said. “We will work on mental toughness and grit to get us through bad shots, making the most of each and every time we get the opportunity to compete. Our success isn’t always measured with W’s. Our goals as a

they put effort and time into it.”

Because of the low numbers, it will be difficult for Storm Lake to contend for the Lakes Conference title.

“Team scores will be tough this season as we are low in numbers and talent,” Mellmann said. “Filling each event and scoring will be tough to do.”

team are to improve and to enjoy this lifelong sport.”

Storm Lake should be competitive in the Lakes Conference.

“We have a core group of varsity golfers that should be competitive in the conference. Individually, we were competitive with each of the schools last year, so we look to be that way again this year.”

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.

T-ball program to be offered for ages 4-6

T-ball is a developmentally appropriate introductory baseball/softball program for children 4-6 years old. The program teaches children proper ball skills in a fun, non-threatening environment. Kids will participate in four sessions of skill building and four games. T-ball is a beginner program meant to introduce participants to baseball/softball and play some organized games. Participants can register on the Community Education registration portal or complete a registration form at the office located at 930 East 5th St., Portable #3. For more information, contact Community Education at 732-5711.

BVU baseball home opener moves to Indianola

Due to forecasted cold temperatures and chances of rain and snow throughout this weekend in northwest Iowa, the upcoming three-game weekend series between Buena Vista (11-4) and Simpson (7-7) has been shifted from Storm Lake to Indianola.

As it was a scheduled home series for the Beavers, they will remain the home team for all three games. The two teams will play a doubleheader starting at 2 p.m. today and play the single nine-inning game on Saturday at 1 p.m.

The series will be the American Rivers Conference opener for both teams.

SL boys track ...

Continued from page 1B

“Keeping everyone healthy will be important,” Mellmann said. “We need kids to train hard, step up and commit to this track season. Track is a tough sport. We have some good kids out that I think can have success this season if

Storm Lake Times Pilot TV Times March 24-30, 2024

SUNDAY MORNING

MARCH 24, 2024

Table with 12 columns (6:00 to 11:30) and multiple rows of program listings for Sunday Morning.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON

MARCH 24, 2024

Table with 12 columns (12:00 to 5:30) and multiple rows of program listings for Sunday Afternoon.

SUNDAY EVENING

MARCH 24, 2024

Table with 12 columns (6:00 to 11:30) and multiple rows of program listings for Sunday Evening.

MONDAY EVENING

MARCH 25, 2024

Table with 12 columns (6:00 to 11:30) and multiple rows of program listings for Monday Evening.

TUESDAY EVENING

MARCH 26, 2024

Table with 12 columns (6:00 to 11:30) and multiple rows of program listings for Tuesday Evening.

WEDNESDAY EVENING

MARCH 27, 2024

Table with 13 columns (6:00 to 11:30) and 18 rows of TV listings for Wednesday evening, including channels like KTVI, KCAU, and ESPN.

THURSDAY EVENING

MARCH 28, 2024

Table with 13 columns (6:00 to 11:30) and 18 rows of TV listings for Thursday evening, including channels like KTVI, KCAU, and ESPN.

FRIDAY EVENING

MARCH 29, 2024

Table with 13 columns (6:00 to 11:30) and 18 rows of TV listings for Friday evening, including channels like KTVI, KCAU, and ESPN.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

MARCH 30, 2024

Table with 13 columns (12:00 to 5:30) and 18 rows of TV listings for Saturday afternoon, including channels like KTVI, KCAU, and ESPN.

SATURDAY EVENING

MARCH 30, 2024

Table with 13 columns (6:00 to 11:30) and 18 rows of TV listings for Saturday evening, including channels like KTVI, KCAU, and ESPN.

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HELP WANTED

Gooseneck driver hauling hogs, partial land help. Monday-Friday with no weekends or holidays, home every afternoon. Full benefit package: health, eye, dental, 401k match and competitive wage. Must be 23 or older with clean CDL, no air endorsement required. Contact Ron Jorgensen at 712-574-2201. Parks of IA/Newell, 394 W. Hwy. 7, Newell, IA 50568.

Farm help. Dependable individual to help with grain farm operation. CDL preferred. Spring-Fall. Call 712-299-5704.

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

CAR FOR SALE

2013 Camaro RS V6, 93,000 miles, \$9,500. Call 712-229-8396 (3/20)

FRENCH BULL-DOG FOR SALE

Beautiful French Bulldog, fully AKC registered, fully vaccinated, 6.5 month male. Lilac tan. \$2,500. 712-291-9818.

TOWNHOME FOR SALE

Townhome beside Aurelia Golf Club, 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, 2-car attached garage,

newer appliances included, plentiful storage, 1566 sqft, 659 E 6th St Aurelia, \$171,000. Call 515-669-9920.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

One bedroom apartment for one person. Available immediately. Heat, water, electricity and garage included. No pets. \$650/month. Call 712-299-1104 for application.

Two bedroom in Storm Lake. Excellent location near lake. Available immediately. \$850/month plus utilities. Stove and refrigerator furnished. Garage. Hookups available for washer and dryer. No pets. Call 712-299-1104 for application.

Country Home For Rent 4 bedroom, 2 bathrooms on acreage south of Storm Lake with a Schaller address and Schaller school district. Available immediately. Stove furnished. Hookups for washer and dryer. No pets. Must be able to operate self-propelled mower. \$1,200/month all utilities included. Call 712-299-1104.

HELP WANTED

POLICE OFFICER: Indianola Police Department is taking applications for the positions of Police/Patrol Officer. Obtain applications by visiting <https://indianolaiowa.applcantpro.com/jobs>, choose

Police Officer. Deadline 5/10/2024 EOE

MISC.

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. Plus 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-913-1560.

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 7-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-855-954-5087 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

PUPPIES FOR SALE

Irish Goldendoodle and Aussiedoodle Puppies For Sale! Website: www.dutchbarnpuppies.com Phone: 309-386-9594; Email: info@dutchbarnpuppies.com. Puppies will be ready to go home in April. Contact us for pricing!

The City of Alta-Parks Board is accepting applications for the following seasonal positions:



- Summer Ball Manager
- Concession Stand Manager
- Swimming Pool Manager



In addition, we are accepting applications for:

- Lifeguards
- Umpires (Softball and Baseball)

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 by Friday, March 22, 2024

The City of Alta is an equal opportunity employer

HUGE GUN & MILITARY ONLINE AUCTION!

Closes Friday, March 29



900+ Lots Online Now at www.KramerSales.com

Modern & Collectible: Winchester, Colt, Ruger, Browning, S&W, Marlin, Savage, Glock, Remington, Benelli, Henry & More! US M1 Garands, Carbines, German Lugers, Huge WWII German Dagger Collection, Sharps & Western Guns, Thompson SMG, Military Surplus arms & so much more!



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Call 712-272-6227 to schedule your free quote!



Be A Part Of Our Team!

Available Positions:

- RN - Med/Surg
- RN - OR
- RN - ER
- CNA
- Charge Report Coordinator
- Pharmacy Tech
- Respiratory Therapist
- Lab - MLT/MT/MLS
- Registered Dietitian
- Nutrition Specialist (Dietary)

For details on above positions, or to apply, click on the "Career Opportunities" link at www.bvrmc.org

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Help Wanted

The City of Fonda is accepting applications for the following 2024 summer help:

POOL MANAGER

Applications are available at Fonda City Hall between 8:00 a.m. & 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

Applications are requested by April 1, 2024 but will be accepted until the positions is filled. The City of Fonda is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



Alta-Aurelia Community Schools

Positions Available for the 2024-2025 School Year

- Preschool Teacher - Alta Elementary
- Junior High Football Coach - 2
- Junior High Volleyball Coach - 2
- Junior High Basketball Coach - 2
- Junior High Girls Basketball Coach
- Custodian - Alta Building

If interested in any of these positions, contact Denny Olhausen at 712-200-1010 or 712-434-2284 for more information. AA/EOE

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TRANSAGRA

INTERNATIONAL INC.

PRODUCTION/WAREHOUSE ASSISTANT

Salary Position starts at \$22-25/hour

Group Health Insurance / Group Life Insurance
Simple IRA company-sponsored retirement plan

Company Description: TransAgra International Inc. is a privately-held, family-owned company located in Storm Lake, IA. It has been in business since the 1960s. The company manufactures microbial fermentation products for use in agriculture. It's 3 main business lines are animal feed supplements, forage treatments and plant growth stimulants. The company manufactures both liquid and dry products marketing under the brand name of "Culbac," derived from CULTured BACTeria.

Basic Production Assistant Responsibilities (assisting QC/QA Manager):

- Clean and sanitize the culture room and bottling room before AND after production runs.
- Clean counter tops, walls, floors and production tanks, etc.
- Maintain culture room/production equipment
- Clean maintain, whey wagons, hoses, filters, etc.
- Assist in Starter culture production
- Weight out ingredients
- Feed & maintain fermentation cultures

Basic Warehouse Assistant Responsibilities (assisting Warehouse Manager)

- Bottling and Packaging liquid products (2-oz, 4-oz, pint, 1-gal, 5-gal)
- Package dry plant products
- Load/Unload incoming ingredients/shipments/products
- Back-up Warehouse Manager (learn how to bag dry products)
- Help maintain warehouses
- Help maintain outside perimeter

Qualifications:

- High School or GED equivalent
- Good math and verbal skills and excellent work habits.
- Knowledge of forklift work preferred
- Requires some weekend work.
- Physical demands: Ability to lift 50 lbs. repetitively and wear respirator.
- Desirable personal attributes: detail-oriented, good communication skills, self-starter.

For further information, please email Dr. Rebecca Quesnell at rebecca.quesnell@transagra.com

www.transagra.com

TRANSAGRA

INTERNATIONAL INC.

BOOKKEEPER/CUSTOMER SERVICE

Salary Position starts at \$40,000-\$50,000

Group Health Insurance / Group Life Insurance
Simple IRA company-sponsored retirement plan

CDetailed Description: TransAgra International Inc. is a manufacturer of microbial products for animals, forage and crops located in north-west Iowa. The Bookkeeper's role is a full-time, in person (no-remote option) position. Responsibilities involve a variety of duties that include overseeing the daily operation of the office, maintenance of the financial records and employee records of the company, ensures timely and accurate bill payment, customer invoices/ payments and is the first point of contact for customers and vendors.

Basic Responsibilities:

The Bookkeeper duties include paying bills, monitoring and maintaining inventories of ingredients, raw materials and packaging materials, answering phones and emails, maintaining financial records for Payroll, Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, Inventory and Invoicing and inputting data into company's accounting software (Sage Accounting and Zoho One) The Customer Service duties include processing customer orders (preparing invoices, freight documentation, freight trafficking), develop tracking system for free goods, directing customer inquiries, sending out marketing literature.

Qualifications:

Minimum of 2 year experience in office management/bookkeeping preferred Working knowledge of Microsoft Office(WORD/EXCEL) and Outlook Desirable personal attributes: detail-oriented, good communication skills, self-starter, organization and ability to multi-task

For further information, please email Lisa Sakai at lisa.sakai@transagra.com

www.transagra.com

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ADS@STORMLAKE.COM

BVU

Buena Vista University Golf Course at Lake Creek

Is accepting applications for a
Clubhouse/Administrative Assistant

This immediate opportunity will provide clubhouse and administrative support and report direct to the GM. A weekday schedule with 30+ hours, some weekend scheduling possible. Applicants shall be familiar with Microsoft computer programs and general office equipment. Applicants shall have great customer service skills, good oral and writing skills, organizational and problem-solving skills, dependable, an energetic-hard worker and possess people skills to work well with the membership and public patrons. Will train as needed. Wage DOQ. Benefits not provided. Reliable transportation a must.

If interested, call or contact BVU Golf Course at Lake Creek, Clubhouse/Pro Shop at (712) 732-1548 or email: lakercreekgolf@gmail.com for additional information and to apply.

Schaller-Crestland Community School District

HELP WANTED

Transportation Director & Maintenance

Contact Adam Bisenius/Steph Wandrey
712.275.4266



Application Form: BVRAPTOURS.ORG
- Main Menu
- Employment
- Schaller-Crestland



HELP WANTED

CITY ADMINISTRATOR - CITY CLERK

Full-time position. Duties include but are not limited to all aspects of payroll, accounts payable, budgeting, bank reconciliations, and preparation of financial reports. Serves as caretaker of all city records, prepares agenda and attend Council meetings and all other required meetings, take minutes and ensure publication in a timely manner. Manage City website and social media. Ability to communicate effectively with city staff in all departments, board members and the public.

Prefer graduate from Iowa Municipal Clerk's Institute or the ability to complete within three years of hire. Must have knowledge and experience working with Word, Excel or Google programs. Experience with gWorks municipal accounting software a plus. Benefits include IPERS, health insurance, paid vacation, holidays, and sick time. Salary DOQ.

Send resume to: **Alta City Hall, 223 Main St., Alta, IA 51002**

Applications accepted until position is filled. *Alta is an equal opportunity employer.*

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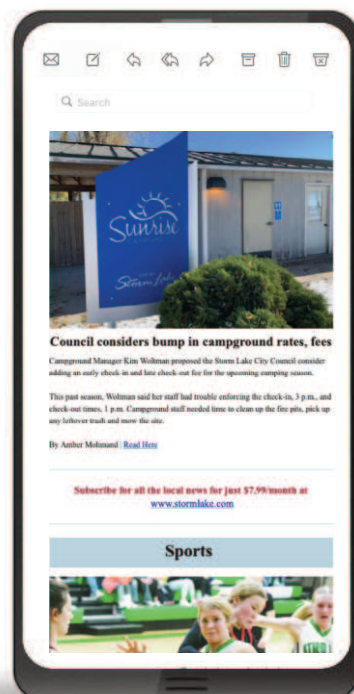
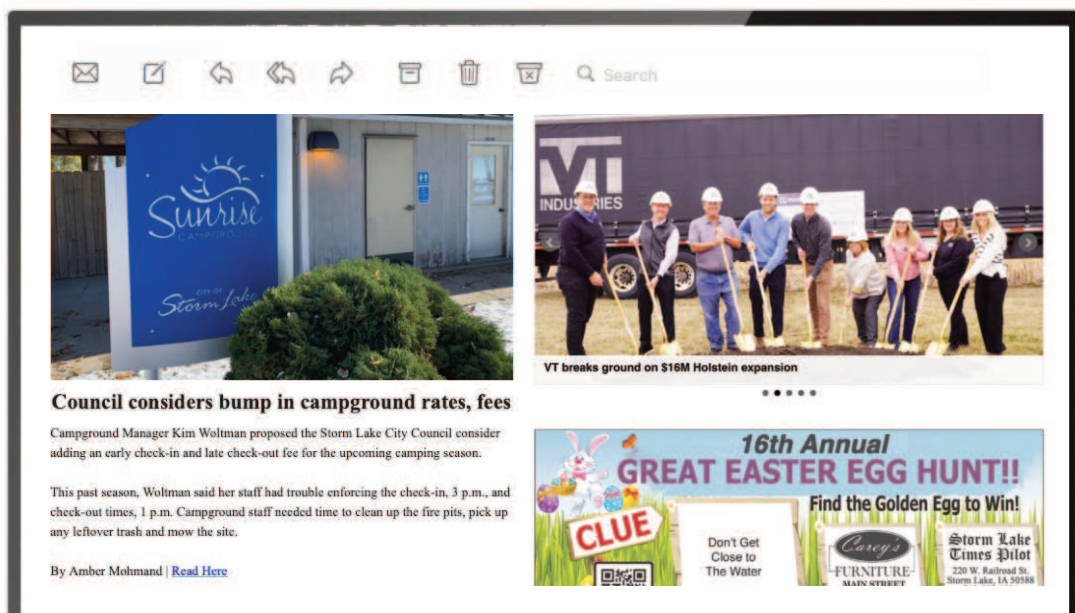
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