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# Cherokee Chronicle Times

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## HOLZHAUER FILES FOR BANKRUPTCY

### Chapter 11 wards off bank's demands to seize vehicles

#### DEALER STAYS IN OPERATION

**BY TOM CULLEN and ALLISON MOORE**  
 Holzhauser Motors and two of its Ford franchisees filed for bankruptcy. The Cherokee and Storm Lake car dealerships filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in the Northern District of Iowa last Friday. The filing prevents Citizens First National Bank of Storm Lake from seizing their vehicles that were subject to weeks of litigation over a \$6.5 million the bank loaned to the dealership last December.

Jeffrey Goetz, a Des Moines attorney representing the dealership, wrote in a filing in Cherokee County District Court on Monday that seizing any property from Holzhauser and its partners could result in "contempt of the bankruptcy court."  
 The bankruptcy filing suspends an order Judge Michael Schilling issued in Cherokee County District Court on Friday. The order directed Sheriff Derek Scott to take possession of the dealership's inventory and transfer it to the bank.  
 Scott told the Cherokee Chronicle Times his office received "no further direction" from the Cherokee County Clerk of Court or the bank's attorneys on

seizing vehicles. Scott said the bankruptcy proceeding puts the bank's asset seizure on hold.  
 "Bankruptcy puts a stop to our involvement," Scott said on Monday afternoon.  
 In the meantime, the dealership is expected to continue selling vehicles under the oversight of U.S. Trustee Alexandria Quinn-Hanse or her designee.  
 The dealership and the bank will have to present reorganization plans to the trustee. The plans are expected to show how the dealership can satisfy its primary creditors. Creditors are expected to file appearances in the bankruptcy proceeding by Nov. 1. (The

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 3A**

## Cherokee man receives max sentencing for fatal hit-and-run

#### BY MADELINE COMBS

A Cherokee man involved in a fatal hit-and-run collision that killed 27-year-old Phillip Watterson in December 2022 was sentenced to five years in prison Monday morning.

Casey Herwig, 30, was sentenced to five years in prison with no probation for leaving the scene of an accident



**CASEY HERWIG**

where he had no knowledge of Watterson's death, according to the order signed by Cherokee County District Court Judge Charles Borth.

Herwig's attorney, Justin Reiningger, filed four affidavits Sunday from family and friends of Herwig that attested to his client's character, according to court records. The affidavits urged the judge not to impose a prison sentence. Reiningger also attached a settlement agreement between Herwig, Farm Bureau Property and Casualty and Watterson's estate, which releases all claims against Herwig in exchange for \$100,000.

Reiningger couldn't be reached for comment on Borth's sentence.

Herwig pleaded guilty to leaving the scene of an accident where the defendant had

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 3A**

## Travis Sitzmann vies for District 13

### Campaign is 'full steam ahead'

**BY ALLISON MOORE**  
 He's a proud conservative, fifth-generation Iowan and an insurance consultant living in Le Mars. The hopeful Iowa House District 13 representative learned from his grandfather, a three-term Plymouth County supervisor, to "be the people's voice, not your own."  
 Sitzmann announced his candidacy for Iowa House in March and since then, "it's been full steam ahead," he said. He won the primary election on June 4 against Noah Wieseler of Sioux City. If elected, Sitzmann would represent Monona County and parts of Cherokee, Woodbury

and Plymouth counties.  
 Sitzmann, who soon plans to move to Kingsley, is running against Rosanne Plante, a Democrat from Hinton, and Parker Hansen, a conservative independent from Correctionville, announced his candidacy and joined the ballot earlier this week. They'll face off in the general election Nov. 5. Incumbent Ken Carlson has endorsed Sitzmann as his replacement. Carlson isn't running for reelection.  
 Sitzmann, 45, has spent 23 years of his life in District 13.  
 "My great-great-grandpa homesteaded land in 1886

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2A**



**Travis Sitzmann works for Travelers insurance in Des Moines and hopes to land a seat in the Iowa House this November.**

## FEMA closes Cherokee, Emmet County Disaster Recovery Centers

FEMA permanently closed its Disaster Recovery Centers in Cherokee and Emmet counties.  
 Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management announced both centers closed Aug. 28.  
 The release also stated the O'Brien County recovery center in Sheldon's community services center will permanently close Aug. 30 at 6 p.m.  
 Resources will still be available to the community through recovery centers in Buena Vista, Clay, Dickinson, Lyon, Palo Alto and Sioux counties. Help is also available through FEMA's helpline, 800-621-3362.

## NEW WIND, SOLAR PROJECTS IN CHEROKEE COUNTY

### Invenergy discusses Cherokee County Meadow Star project with supervisors

**BY ERIN RYDGREN**  
 On Aug. 27 the Cherokee County Supervisors heard an informational presentation from Invenergy employees Brett Gallahan and Harry Finch about their new project in Cherokee County. Meadow Star is a wind energy project situated south of Hwy. 3, west of the Little Sioux River.  
 Finch, a manager on Iowa's development team, explained that Invenergy has been active in Iowa since 2006 and their company has developed or built nearly 30% of operating wind in the state. He discussed the benefits to the host communities of their projects, steps their company takes to protect county assets such as roads and infrastructure while building large-scale wind energy projects

and provided information about Meadow Star specifically.  
 The project's land campaign began in 2021 and they are currently in its second phase. This phase of interconnection studies with the larger grid includes environmental studies looking at the wind as well as impacts for birds, bats and eagle nests. The project footprint has around 30,000 acres participating and Invenergy currently has 160 agreements signed. Gallahan explained "The reason that 30,000 acres are signed up is because there's a lot of factors that go into where we can place them."  
 Meadow Star is expected to generate close to 300 megawatts. A megawatt is a unit of power equal to

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2A**

### Cherokee Co. to consider utility-scale Maple River Solar project

**BY MADELINE COMBS**  
 Cherokee County could be the next Iowa county to implement utility-scale solar energy with a proposed project from energy provider TED Renewables to lease privately owned land for a nearly 900-acre solar project.  
 Members of Cherokee County Board of Supervisors, board of adjustments and zoning commission held a joint special session Tuesday morn-

ing to discuss the future of utility-scale solar energy in the county.  
 Tuesday's informational session was just the beginning of a long and tedious process to draft and approve solar energy ordinances to eventually build and utilize utility scale solar energy. The county doesn't have an ordinance that allows solar energy on a scale large enough to accommodate the Maple River Solar Energy project, TED Renewables' proposal. Other counties in Iowa are researching utility-scale solar ordinances. The Cedar Rapids Gazette reported planning is underway for a large solar energy project near Center Point. The Linn County Board of Supervisors revamped its solar ordinance in 2023 after shelving its previous ordinance that was marred with controversy. The projects spawned years of litigation.  
 "The county does not have a [solar

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 3A**



### Paint the Park with Chad Elliott at Silver Sioux

The Cherokee County Conservation Board is hosting a "Paint the Park" series featuring accomplished artist and musician Chad Elliott on Friday, Sept. 13. Elliott will choose a spot to work and set up to create a painting of the area. The public is encouraged to watch Elliott's art process and attend a concert beginning at 7 p.m. in the Silver Sioux Barn.  
 Elliott is a midwestern singer-songwriter who blends folk roots, swampy blues and soulful writing to create his original music. He has spent over 25 years on the road performing over 200 shows annually. For more information about Elliott, visit [www.facebook.com/elliottmusic](http://www.facebook.com/elliottmusic), [www.instagram.com/chadelliottmusic/](http://www.instagram.com/chadelliottmusic/) or view his artwork at [www.facebook.com/elliottart/](http://www.facebook.com/elliottart/).

## Yacht Club closing for winter

### Council to seek bids for repairs next year

**BY ALLISON MOORE**  
 The Cherokee City Council voted to blow out the water lines at the flood-damaged Cherokee Yacht Club in Spring Lake Park to safely shut down the building before winter.  
 On Tuesday, the council agreed to table their discussion about further repairs to the yacht club until they can seek and review formal bids for the project. Blowing out the water lines will effectively remove any residual water and prevent potential freeze damage to the water lines once temperatures begin to drop. The council decided to board the building up for the winter and revisit further repairs after the weather



**Councilperson Amy Loughlin requested the council determine whether to board the building up before temperatures begin to drop. The council agreed to seek bids for building repairs at a later date.** CHRONICLE TIMES photo by CHRIS REED

warms.  
 The yacht club will be "boarded up and heated normally for the winter," according to Councilperson Amy Loughlin.  
 Loughlin asked the council to consider overall building repairs to the previous council meeting Aug. 13. She told the council Tuesday that she'd received "verbal quotes from two people" interested in re-installing electricity in the building. Area flooding at the end of June destroyed most of the yacht club's infrastructure. It

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 3A**

# CHEROKEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WELCOMES MEADOW STAR WIND ENERGY CENTER, MAPLE RIVER SOLAR



The Cherokee Chamber of Commerce held a red ribbon cutting event for Meadow Star Wind Energy Center, an Invenergy project in Cherokee County at their new office space on East Main Street in Cherokee Tuesday, Aug. 27.



The chamber held a red ribbon cutting for Maple River Solar on Monday, Aug. 26, at the project's new office space on West Main Street. Maple River Solar is a proposed utility-scale solar energy project for Cherokee County by TED Renewables.

## TRAVIS SITZMANN: Campaign based on conservative and traditional values

Continued from page one

right outside of Hinton in District 13," he said. "Our family's pretty much been in the district ever since."

Sitzmann attended Gehlen Catholic School in Le Mars and subsequently earned a political science degree from the University of Northern Iowa. He moved back home and served as a part-time reserve deputy at the Plymouth County Sheriff's Department. Sitzmann also worked in manufacturing at SmithCo Side Dump Trailers in Le Mars and is now a risk control technical consultant for Travelers Insurance in Des Moines.

Plus, he's always been farming.

"Since I was old enough to reach the clutch on the tractor I've been farming for my dad and grandpa," Sitzmann said.

Starting in March, Sitzmann said he spent 11 weeks touring a new town in District 13 every day. He estimated he knocked on over 3,000 doors.

"I think people have had plenty of opportunity to talk with me, and I'm just getting started," Sitzmann said.

While Plante has claimed that his house in Le Mars often sits empty, Sitzmann said he was on the campaign trail for most of the summer.

"I know the district," Sitzmann insisted. "I grew up in the district, I've never lived more than five miles from the district, and I've got 140 years of family ties to the district."

Sitzmann said his pride for District 13 began at a young age. When he was 12, he printed out a map of what his home district was at the time. He put it in his Bible.

"It's still there now," he said.

Since he's been meeting with Iowans — visiting parades, attending local city council meetings, listening to town halls — Sitzmann said he's identified some key issues that his potential constituents repeatedly raise: property

taxes, local control and immigration.

Sitzmann said he's spoken with many Iowans who don't want legislators in Des Moines making decisions for how to run their towns. Sitzmann wants to give more power to local government.

"I don't think Des Moines should say what our property taxes in Cherokee County should be," he said. "I will go to Des Moines and fight for small government."

Sitzmann also thinks his prior experience as a part-time sheriff deputy helps him understand border security. He said he's pulled over undocumented immigrants. He said he cited them with traffic violations.

He doesn't believe the state's laws are tough enough, as the Iowa Legislature made it a state offense for immigrants to enter the state after being deported or denied entry from the United States. The law, which was passed by the Legislature last session, was described by critics as one of the harshest state laws in the country.

"I'm the only candidate in this race that's pulled over illegal immigrants. All we do is cite them and let them go," Sitzmann said. "I think we hold our own citizens more accountable to our laws than what we do with illegal immigrants."

Sitzmann said his campaign platform boils down to conservatism and traditional values. He feels confident the Republican Party will maintain a majority in the Iowa House after Nov. 5.

"I think the ideas I have are actually going to have some backing," he said. Sitzmann added that if elected, he's "got a few agendas" for the first weeks in office, but principally aims to "promote conservative values." He intends to vote however the party wants him to.

"I plan to vote the way that the people I know want me to vote."

Sitzmann said he wants what's best for the district.

"If I thought there was a better candidate in this race, I would back out now," he asserted. "I think I'm the best voice for this district."

## Supervisors struggle with nuisance property, consider Meriden Community Center upgrade

BY ERIN RYDGREN

The Cherokee County supervisors have once again tabled an ongoing nuisance property concern. In June, neighbors to a derelict property on 510th street appeared before the board asking for help. The county is hindered in handling what county engineer Sarah Tracy called an "obvious problem" on Tuesday as ineffective nuisance ordinances do not have any real enforcement power.

The property in question has already been cleaned up by the county once, and although the bill for the work, nearly \$10,000, was applied as a special assessment, it has yet to be paid by the property owners. Additionally, it has continued to accrue penalties and interest and the bill currently sits at \$14,769.23.

"It is an infinite loop," said Tracy. Although the county can send in a contrac-

tor to clean up the property, the question remains of who will pay that bill and the stark realization that there is no way to prevent the property owner from simply filling up the space again.

The board of supervisors plans to request the county attorney Ryan Kolpin and county treasurer Jodi Mongan attend their next meeting Sept. 10 to address their concerns.

The board was approached by Meriden mayor Beau Menke with a funding request for upgrading the town's community center and city park. Menke said. "We have the Hazard Tavern over there now, so we have a lot of little kids running around Friday and Saturday nights." Although the activity is great, the city council and many Meriden residents would like to see those areas updated and improved.

The supervisors requested that Menke and the town of Meriden make an effort to fundraise and demonstrate community involvement before committing any funds from the county. Supervisor Cheryl Ellis also recommended looking into grants which would help with creating handicap accessibility and reaching out to area businesses for contributions. The project costs were estimated at around \$13,000.

In other business, the supervisors approved the hiring of new jailer Ashlyn Gimer at a rate of \$19 per hour at the law enforcement center. Sheriff Derek Scott indicated that with Gimer's employment the jail is now once again fully staffed. The board unanimously appointed Adam Glienke to the zoning board at the recommendation of Supervisor Dave Skou.

## Cherokee Chamber seeks applicants for Leadership Cherokee County program

BY ERIN RYDGREN

The Cherokee Chamber of Commerce is seeking additional applicants for its highly successful Leadership Cherokee County program. This nine-month program is designed to develop informed

and motivated leaders who are committed to shaping the future of the community. Additionally, participants will gain knowledge, skills and connections that promote strong leadership skills and encourage community involvement.

The program curriculum covers a wide range of topics, including:

- Growth in rural America and economic development
- Community planning and housing
- Healthcare and wellness
- Agriculture and manufac-

- Nonprofits and volunteerism
- Public safety and local government
- Education

Fifteen participants will be selected for the 2024-2025 program, which will run from September to May. Participants will meet on the third Wednesday of each month for a day-long session. The cost for Chamber members is \$500, while non-members pay \$650. Participants must live or work in Cherokee County or be employed by a

Cherokee Chamber member business. The fee includes one lunch each session, session materials, and one ticket per participant for the graduation ceremony.

Limited scholarships are available to assist with program tuition up to \$250 per applicant. However, scholarships are not guaranteed, and applicants must submit a separate application for consideration. For those interested in applying, please contact the Cherokee Chamber of Commerce at 712-225-6414.

## MEADOW STAR: Will build 60-80 wind turbines by 2027-28

Continued from page one

one million watts. It's a common unit used to measure the capacity or output of electricity generation facilities.

Meadow Star is expected to have between 60 and 80 wind turbines and a construction time frame of 2027-2028. Each turbine, as well as its access road, takes up roughly 0.6 acre.

Finch noted that "rough rough estimates on the tax and easement payments were looking about \$2.5 million annually for each of those." The project has two land agents in the area full time who go out and meet with landowners about easement opportunities.

Finch indicated that Invenergy is dedicated to working with county administrators and the engineer's office to conduct road surveys to assess what they call the whole route, looking at areas that might need to be upgraded or changed temporarily during

the construction process. This also includes working with area school districts to ensure that there are no turbine deliveries during times when students are being transported to or from school. "Safety is a very high concern so we want to make sure that we're coordinated and that once we've outlined and gotten the picture of the current state of the roads that we'll be operating on, we work out with this board whatever unique items that the county will require," said Finch.

Additionally, he assured the board of supervisors that

Invenergy was planning to "set aside a certain financial surety form that would be negotiated with this board that'll last until project construction has ceased and the county engineer has signed off on every single upgrade, every single nick, scratch, pothole has been fixed by us." He added, "The ultimate spirit of the agreement is to ensure that no individual or the county itself will ever be held financially liable to fix in a timely manner the damages that might come along with a major construction operation."

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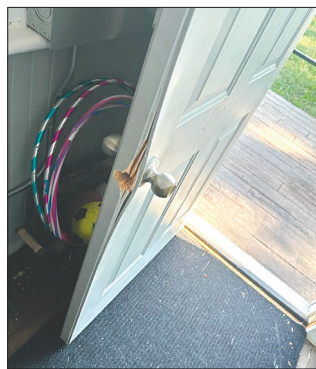
## Lily of the Valley School vandalized

BY ERIN RYDGREN

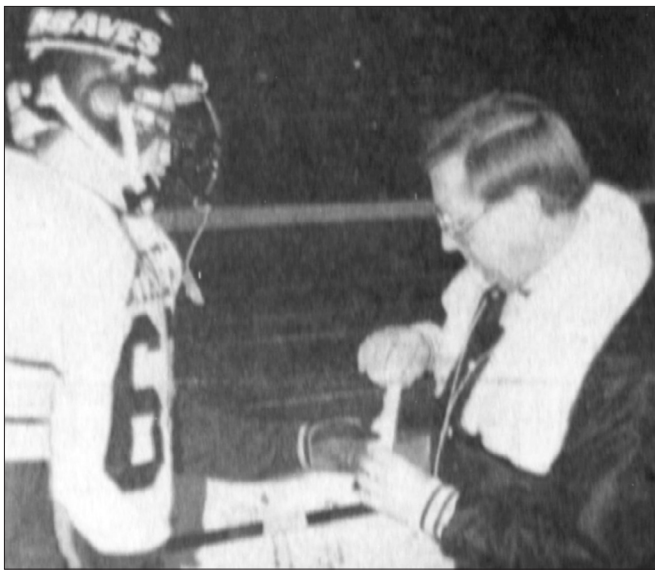
The Cherokee County Fair Board is seeking information and assistance from the public after Lily of the Valley school was vandalized sometime between Aug. 21-22. The vandals threw rocks and a branch, breaking a window and kicking in the east door. A police report has been filed, but the fair board is asking for help to find the person or persons who damaged the school, urging anyone with information to contact the Cherokee Police Department.

Lily of the Valley School is a one-room schoolhouse recently relocated to the Cherokee County fairgrounds. It's

operated seasonally by the Cherokee County Retired School Teachers and serves as a living history center. The schoolhouse is a significant part of the local community, offering visitors a glimpse into the educational experiences of the past. Built between the 1890s and 1902, the school was moved from Merville to Copeland Park in Correctionville before coming to Cherokee in 1999.



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Dr. Martin served as longtime volunteer doctor for the Cherokee Braves football team.

## Robert J. Martin Memorial Football Game Sept. 6 vs. Sioux Central HS

### DEDICATED TO PRESERVING HIS LEGACY

Cherokee Washington High School and the family of Dr. Robert J. Martin are pleased to introduce the second annual Dr. Robert J. Martin Memorial Football Game, Sept. 6, vs. Sioux Central. Dr. Martin served as longtime volunteer team doctor for the Cherokee football team, and this game is dedicated to the preservation of his legacy.

Prior to coming to Cherokee, Dr. Martin served as Chief of Surgery at the United States Air Force Strategic Air Command Hospital-Offutt Air Force Base in Omaha and as consulting surgeon for the North Central Region for the Air Force. He chose Cherokee over many other options. Dr. Martin spent much of his personal life serving the Cherokee community in varying capacities: Little League coach, school board member and board president, Cherokee Industrial Board member, lead fundraiser for the Bacon Aquatic Center and, most notably, as team doctor for the Cherokee football team for 30 years. As a part of this commitment, Dr. Martin extended his generosity to student-athletes by providing free athletic physicals for a wide range of Cherokee County athletes. It is his spirit of giving freely to the betterment of the schools and community that drives this idea of the memorial game, to

preserve his impact and legacy, as well as the announcement of the Distinguished Service Award winner.

The Distinguished Service Award is based upon two criteria:

1) Consistent, dedicated volunteer service to the Cherokee Community Schools (academics, activities, athletics, arts, facilities)

2) Humble leadership (goal and action oriented rather than recognition oriented, support for others in achieving goals, being a reliable partner/colleague, focusing on others' success rather than one's own, and being a positive influence on others). This honor will be announced at halftime of the Sept. 15 football game.

In addition to the adult award, one Cherokee football player will be selected by the coaching staff as their Humble Leaders, as well as two \$1,000 Humble Leader Scholarships to be issued this spring to two Cherokee seniors, based upon similar criteria. Last spring, Jayden Burch and Drew Spooner were awarded these scholarships.

Please join us Sept. 6 at 7 p.m. for the Dr. Robert J. Martin Memorial Football Game and help us celebrate his impact on the schools and community!

## HERWIG: Left the scene but had no knowledge of death

*Continued from page one*

no knowledge of the death in July, but was initially charged with a felony that carried a higher sentence. He was then convicted of a class D felony, which carries a maximum of five years in prison.

No plea agreement ever accompanied Herwig's plea.

Herwig was arrested in May in connection with the accident after allegedly striking Watterson with his Ram 1500 pickup truck on the evening of December 26, 2022 at North Fifth Street.

Herwig then allegedly left the scene, leaving Watterson lying in the road, according to

the affidavit filed by Cherokee police in May. He allegedly admitted to having consumed alcohol prior to the accident during interviews with law enforcement.

With the help of the Cherokee County's Sheriff's department and Iowa State Patrol, Cherokee Police were able to connect Herwig to the incident after analyzing the damage to his vehicle that matched the parts found at the scene of the accident. They also found remnants of what was likely mayonnaise, which was in one of the grocery bags Watterson was carrying when struck by Herwig's vehicle.

Police also filed multiple search warrants, one of which requested information from the onboard computer system of Herwig's truck such as braking and speed data.

## YACHT CLUB: Project tabled until next year

*Continued from page one*

needs electricity, new flooring, heating, drywall and a host of other improvements before it can safely reopen.

Loughlin said the two potential bidders estimated electricity installment to cost the city \$10,000 to \$12,000. Loughlin was unsure whether the bidders had estimated timelines for when they could complete the project. She declined to specify who or what companies expressed interest.

Councilperson Tim Wych questioned whether the council had formally requested bids.

"I'm not on the same page because I don't see the quotes," Wych told Loughlin on Tuesday.

"Well, I'm telling you what they were," Loughlin responded.

There were no formal bids detailed inside the council's

agenda packet. Loughlin said the bidders didn't want to write a formal application until they ensured the council wanted to move forward with electrical improvements.

The council said they'd accept formal bids for overall repairs later this year. By vacating the water lines, the city is simply ensuring the building is safe for the winter. The council plans to readdress electrical and all other necessary repairs after the season.

The council is unsure how they'll fund the project. Councilperson John Nitz said he was in favor of delaying repairs until next spring so the city can fundraise if necessary. Loughlin said she still wanted to know whether FEMA would cover repairs under one of their grants related to flood damage.

Councilperson Wayne Pingel said he wanted to "assure we're not going to do any additional damage to the building." Pingel favored delaying the project so the city could seek bids for a larger swath of repairs. "It's getting late enough in the year and it's one less thing we have to work on," he said.

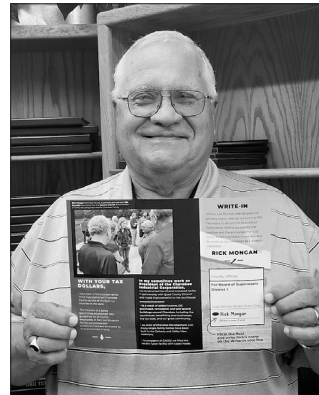
# Mongan announces write-in campaign for supervisors

BY ERIN RYDGREN

Rick Mongan isn't quite ready to give up the fight to keep his seat on the county board of supervisors. He has announced that he has begun a campaign as a write-in candidate for district one, which contains northern Cherokee County with Afton and Cherokee townships.

Mongan, who is currently serving his twelfth year as a supervisor, was the top vote recipient in June's primary election, however, he fell short of the required 35% to secure the Republican nomination.

Mongan squared off against three other District 1 Supervisor candidates: Chad Brown, Phil Stowater and Ray E. Mullins II. In a subsequent convention held by the Cherokee County Republican Party, 28 delegates from across the county ultimately selected Mullins as their nominee after three rounds of voting. The final votes were 11 for Mongan and 17 for Mullins.



"I have had a lot of people ask me about doing a write-in thing," said Mongan. "There are people who come up to me in the grocery store and think I actually won in the primary because I had the most votes." He feels encouraged that enough of his supporters will turn out at the polls and see him re-elected for a fourth term.

Mongan considers himself a fiscal conservative, noting in his campaign materials that this stance has contributed to

positioning Cherokee County as one of the best run counties in the state." He adds, "I am fully committed to the important work we do on the Board of Supervisors and to the people of Cherokee County," and promises around-the-clock support to Cherokee citizens.

Mongan told the Chronicle Times in May 2024 that he felt that he had unfinished business in the boardroom. He maintains that stance, emphasizing that the biggest thing he would like to see through is the completion of the contentious F Avenue project. He has other work and projects through various committees, many of which he serves as an officer, that he would like to continue with. These boards include Cherokee Area Economic Development Corp, Cherokee Industrial Corporation, CAEDC County Revolving Loan Fund and Emergency Management Agency.

Additionally, Mongan is excited about working with new, potential projects coming into Cherokee County. He noted specifically that two large-scale renewable energy projects, Meadow Star through Invenery and Maple River Solar through TED Renewables have a lot of potential to benefit the county's economic growth. "We have a shrinking population and these projects are a new avenue for revenue," explained Mongan.

He plans to reach voters through new campaign materials and knocking on doors across Cherokee County. "I'm going back to the way I started," he said.

As a write-in candidate, votes for Rick Mongan will only be counted for the district one seat. County Auditor Kris Glienke explained to the Chronicle Times that "writing his name in anywhere else simply will not count," due to residency requirements for the Board of Supervisors.

## Conover to fill Ward 2 council seat

BY ALLISON MOORE

The Cherokee City Council appointed Mike Conover as the city's newest council member.

Conover will assume the Ward 2 seat at the next council meeting Tuesday, Sept. 10. Ward 2 represents all Chero-

kee residents south of Main Street and a small section southeast of the intersection at East Spruce Street and South Roosevelt Avenue.

Conover spoke briefly about himself to the council at their meeting Aug. 27.

"I was approached by a councilperson to throw my name in that hat because of where I reside," Conover said. "I thought this would be a time to offer any help that I can," he said.

Conover and the council declined to specify which

council member urged him to volunteer for the position.

The Ward 2 seat has been vacant since the end of June when Dave Wilberding resigned. Wilberding took umbrage when the council denied his motion to grant former Cherokee Parks Superintendent Duane Mummert a 2.78% raise. Mummert subsequently resigned, saying "it came down to the principle of it." Wilberding had suggested that Mummert receive a salary increase above the percentage offered to all department

heads for the next fiscal year. The city council has repeatedly declined to comment on the two resignations.

After the council meeting Tuesday, Conover declined to speak further with the Chronicle Times about his new position.

He told the council that he's married with two children and four grandchildren. Conover has worked with AgState for over 20 years and serves as the agricultural cooperative's director of procurement.

## HOLZHAUER: Dealership owes nearly \$16M in outstanding debt

*Continued from page one*

dealership's creditors are in the hundreds.) The reorganization plan could involve either a sale of the dealership's holdings or a continuation of business, under the condition that the dealership's primary lenders — CFNB, Savings Bank of Primghar and Farmers State Bank of Marcus — receive regular loan repayments.

The plan would then be approved, rejected or modified by Quinn-Hanse, whose office oversees all bankruptcy cases in Iowa and South Dakota.

On Friday, the dealership wasn't accepting trade-in vehicles or offering financing to prospective buyers. At that time, all vehicle sales also needed to be approved by CFNB. Dan Winchell, the majority shareholder of Holzhauser, didn't respond to requests for comment.

Quinn-Hanse declined to comment on the case specifically. Goetz didn't respond to a request for comment.

"Every case is different,"

Quinn-Hanse said Monday.

The dealership is expected to file a report on its outstanding debts in the next 90 days.

THE DEALERSHIPS AND their partners will have to submit years of detailed financial reporting to the bankruptcy court.

They must detail with the court their assets, liabilities, current income, expenditures, contracts, leases and a statement of financial affairs. Brandon Tomjack, an Omaha, Neb., attorney representing CNFB, claimed in a district court hearing last week that bankruptcy was "a last resort" for the dealerships and their partners. Tomjack reckoned the dealerships had a chance of surviving Chapter 11 as many companies have.

Such a proceeding would offer protection so the business could continue selling cars, he said.

The dealership and its shareholders waited until the day Judge Schilling ruled on the bank's case to seize their assets. The bank claims the dealership defaulted on a \$6.5 million loan in April. Other creditors — Savings Bank and Farmers State Bank among them — have alleged the Holzhauser franchise owes millions more. Nearly \$16 million in outstanding debt was tallied against the franchise in court papers.

Tomjack wondered why they waited nearly a month to seek bankruptcy protection.

"(Holzhauer) could have gotten emergency bankruptcy filed before this hearing if they'd wanted to," Tomjack told Judge Schilling at a three-hour hearing on Thursday. The bank pleaded with the judge to seize the dealerships' vehicular inventory, as there was no bankruptcy proceeding in effect. "A bankruptcy case is going to require detailed financial reporting of individuals ... This is going to be problematic for Mr. Winchell and frankly, probably others close to him, so they're trying to avoid that at all costs."

The dealership's attorneys declined to address Tomjack's claims on why it waited so long to file bankruptcy. Kevin Driscoll, a Des Moines attorney who represented Winchell and the dealership, pleaded with Judge Schilling to appoint a receiver firm instead of approving an asset seizure. A receiver, Driscoll argued, would allow the franchise to either sell dealerships or keep selling cars while it pays off its debts to its creditors. Driscoll withdrew from representing Winchell hours after the hearing.

"Holzhauer Motors has every interest in maximizing its inventory to satisfy its cred-

itors," said Driscoll, who described the bank's legal actions as demands for "a fire sale."

Driscoll also claimed the bank targeted its legal maneuvers to rid the dealership of Dan Winchell. Four lawsuits have been filed against the Holzhauser franchise in a month. The dealership's accounts have been frozen. Vehicle sales have slowed.

"He can't operate. He can't pay for parts and can barely make payroll. The vice president of Citizens Bank is calling Holzhauser Motors staff and telling them, 'Don't you cut Dan Winchell a paycheck,'" Driscoll said. The dealership didn't respond to those claims. "Dan Winchell hasn't been paid because of the actions in this case. He's fighting this case with both hands tied behind his back, your honor, and it's not fair."

Judge Schilling sided with Tomjack, who described the dealership's arguments as a request for bankruptcy protection without the federal oversight that comes with it.

"They're trying to get the respite that is afforded to people who file bankruptcy without actually filing a bankruptcy case and having to deal with some of the burdens that come along with the benefits," Tomjack said.

Then came the filing in bankruptcy court on Monday.

## MAPLE RIVER: Will generate enough power for 27K homes

*Continued from page one*

energy] ordinance. If we're going to allow it, get one in place that puts parameters on it, or if ultimately the decision is that they don't want to allow it, then simply state that we don't," said Cherokee County Engineer Sarah Tracy.

Tracy said discussions with the three boards will ensue over the coming months. Tracy told The Chronicle Times it's likely that the board of supervisors will look to move forward with negotiating details of a solar ordinance. She couldn't estimate a timeframe for when a new solar ordinance would be done.

Construction is forecasted by the end of the decade. The Maple River Solar project is in the "very early stages" of planning, according to TED Renewables Project Development and Corporate Planning Director Elias Toshiro. Toshiro pointed to the county drafting a solar ordinance, bidding of the \$150 million project and other contingencies as factors that would slow development of the solar farm.

Prominent companies like MidAmerican Energy, Invenery, NextEra Energy Resources and former Linn County Planning and Development Director Les Beck staked their claims to the county officials on why allowing and implementing solar energy in the county should be taken into consideration by the county.

Among the visiting representatives was Toshiro with TED Renewables, along with landowners Ned Lundsgaard, Judy Von Ahsen and Gary Von Ahsen. The landowners told the county officials they were proud to lease their land to TED Renewables. Judy Von Ahsen said she made the leasing decision after considering her late family's wishes about the future of their land. She believes a solar farm is a fitting use for it.

"I was more concerned about, 'Would my dad have wanted this?' Because in our family he's kind of like a legend," she told the supervisors. "I would never do anything that would bring shame to him or be something that he would not have wanted, because that's how much he mattered to our family."

TED Renewables declined to specify the location of the project.

The company is currently leading the solar energy movement in Cherokee County with their proposed Maple River Solar project.

"At TED Renewables, we are very supportive of a solar ordinance because it gives us a clear guideline to follow," Toshiro said to the board. "On top of that, solar ordinances are very important to make sure that all developers and parties coming in will be responsible and follow the rules."

According to informational material produced by TED Renewables, the Maple River Solar project would use privately owned land and span an estimated 850 acres to generate up to 160 megawatts of electricity and provide enough power for up to 27,000 homes annually.

TED Renewables estimates a project investment of over \$150 million with more than \$7 million of estimated tax revenue that will be reinvested into the community at a local and state level.

On average, solar panels have a lifespan of 30 to 40 years. The Maple River Solar project estimates that from the beginning of commercial operation, the proposed solar farm will see a life cycle of 40 years.

Maple River Solar project details also note the growing demand for renewable energy sources, besides wind in Cherokee County. In addition, Iowa has committed to be carbon-neutral within the next 25 years meaning this project could help the state get that much closer to their energy goal.

MidAmerican Energy's Director of Project Development Kelsy Ballard contended solar energy and agriculture feed each other. As a farm owner herself, Ballard emphasized that Cherokee's agricultural industry could benefit even further from the use of solar energy through lower electricity costs and higher property values.

"Our energy systems support our food system. I cannot put food on the table that I grow on my farm without energy. It doesn't work today. It may have worked in the past, but it doesn't work today," Ballard said. "I see the two working together."

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## Death Notice

### Eric V. Wester

Eric V. Wester, 67, of Cleghorn, Iowa, passed away on Wednesday morning, August 28, 2024 surrounded by his family at Heartland Care Center in Marcus, Iowa.

Funeral arrangements are currently pending at the Boothby Funeral Home in Cherokee, Iowa. Online condolences may be left at [www.boothbyfuneral.com](http://www.boothbyfuneral.com)

## Service Notice

### Mary Jo Carnine

Mary Jo Carnine, 87, of Cherokee, Iowa, passed away on Saturday, August 3, 2024 at Accura Healthcare in Cherokee, Iowa. Memorial services will be held on Friday, September 6, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Cherokee, Iowa. Pastor Mike Agnew will officiate. Burial will be in the Oak Hill Cemetery at Cherokee, Iowa.

Online condolences may be left at [www.boothbyfuneral.com](http://www.boothbyfuneral.com). In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be made in Mary Jo's honor to the Cherokee Education Foundation, St. Paul's United Methodist Church, or Cherokee Regional Hospice.

## Birth Announcement

### Ruthie Delilah Nee

Kyrstin and Peter Nee of Marcus are happy to announce the birth of their new daughter, Ruthie Delilah. Ruthie was born on Wednesday, August 21 at 2:46 am. She weighed 8 pounds and was 20 inches long.

She was also welcomed by two brothers, Kaden and Abraham and sister, Thea. Grandparents are Abbi Agnitsch of Paulina and Chris and Dave Nee of Waterloo.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

The following events take place at the same times, dates and locations throughout the month:

- **AA:** M 7 pm, W 8 pm, St. Paul's Methodist Church, 531 W. Main, Cherokee; Sat, 9 a.m., Crossroads Christian Church, 515 W. Main, Cherokee. Use the back door.
- **Aurelia Community Coffee:** Wednesdays at 9 am at the Aurelia Community Center.
- **Aurelia Kiwanis:** Thursdays at 7 am at the Aurelia Community Center.
- **Aurelia American Legion:** 2nd Thursday of the month at 7 am at the Aurelia Community Center.
- **CAP Food Bank:** Tu & Th, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., IC Church, 709 W Cedar. Anyone in need of food is welcome to stop.
- **Cherokee Community Blood Drive:** the last Thursday of the month from 12 to 5:30 p.m. at the lower level of the Cherokee Community Center. Schedule a blood donation appointment online at [lifeservebloodcenter.org](http://lifeservebloodcenter.org) or call 800-287-4903.
- **Cherokee County Conservation Board:** 2nd month of each month at the 5 pm at the CCB Headquarters on River Road.
- **MMC Food Pantry:** Marcus Senior Center, 405 N. Main St., Marcus. Hours of operation are Wednesdays 6 to 7:30 pm and Saturdays 9 am to 10:30 am.
- **NA Recovery in Action:** Tu & Th, 7 p.m., First Church of Christ, 772 N. 2nd St., Cherokee. Park in the south lot.
- **Siouxland Food Bank:** the third Friday of the month at Trinity Lutheran Church, 230 N. Roosevelt, 5:30 pm. Please bring your own bags. If you are unable to come to the Food Pantry, but need assistance with food security, please call 712-229-4443 or 712-221-0350.
- **Washta Community Coffee:** Tuesday and Fridays from 7:30 am to 10:30 am at the Washta Community Center.
- **Welcome Plate and Food Pantry:** From 5:30 to 6:30 pm at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 300 E. Bow Drive. This meal is always free and everyone is welcome. Watch for September's date later in the month!
- **Christian Education:** Bethlehem Lutheran Church (BLC) and Memorial Presbyterian Church (MPC) will be holding a weekly Christian Education for all 4 year olds through high school youth in the Cherokee community for food, fun and learning on Wednesdays starting at 5:30 with a meal, followed by other activities. Dismissal is 7:05 for 4 year-olds through 8th grade.

The MPC 8th grade and any high school students will be transported to MPC for confirmation and bible study from 7:15-8:00.

From September-December will be held at the lower level of BLC 300 E. Bluff Street. January-April will be held at the lower level of MPC 127 E. Willow Street. Registration is September 18th with a kick off event including meal and bingo for the whole family. For more information contact Marilyn at 712-229-1868.

Stay up to date with the online calendar on our website: [chronicletimes.com](http://chronicletimes.com)

### ESTATE SALE

All Must Go! Friday, Aug 30 - 8 am - 4 pm; Saturday, Aug 31 - 8 am - noon; 637 N 1st, Cherokee, IA

## Sanitary SERVICES

**GARBAGE SERVICE - ROLL OFFS**

Schedule changes due to the Labor Day holiday the week of September 2nd, 2024

**ROUTE #1**

<p><b>MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND</b> CLOSED</p> <p><b>TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 3RD</b> - Monday and Tuesday Cherokee Commercial - City of Cherokee West side of Hwy 59 Rock Island, Doherty, and Park View additions RECYCLING - City of Correctionville/Rural - City of Anthon/Rural - City of Marcus - Kingsley Commercial</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 4TH</b> - City of Quimby/Rural - City of Washta/Rural - Rural Plymouth County, - City of Cherokee East Side of Highway 59 <b>GARBAGE</b> - Cherokee Wednesday Commercial - City of Kingsley West of Main</p>	<p>South Hill - City of Larrabee/Rural</p> <p><b>THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 5TH</b> - City of Cushing/Rural - Rural Marcus - City of Pierson/Rural - City of Meriden/Rural - City of Cleghorn/Rural - City of Cherokee West side of Hwy 59 Rock Island, Doherty, and Park View additions <b>GARBAGE</b> - Cherokee Thursday Commercial</p> <p><b>FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 6TH</b> - Cherokee Friday Commercial - City of Cherokee Eastside of Highway 59 <b>RECYCLING</b> - Rural Aurelia - Rural Buena Vista County - City of Kingsley East of Main Street - Marcus Commercial <b>RECYCLING</b></p>
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**Cherokee Chronicle Times**



### Clay Darwin Hanson

Clay Darwin Hanson, age 64 of Cherokee, IA, passed away Monday, July 8, 2024, at a Sioux City, IA hospital.

The family invites you to the celebration of life to share stories and laughs in honor of Clay.

The celebration of life memorial will be held at the Greenwood-Schubert Funeral Home on Saturday August 31, 2024, from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Burial will follow at Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Cherokee, IA.

The Greenwood-Schubert Funeral Home is assisting the



### Dan Hasty

Dan Hasty, age 70, passed away suddenly on August 23, 2024, at his home in Cedar Rapids, IA.

Born in Fort Dodge, IA, to Frank and Dolores Hasty of Gowrie, Iowa on March 9th, 1954. Dan was the eldest of two children.

He grew up in Gowrie and graduated from Prairie of Gowrie High School in 1972. He went on to attend Waldorf College for two years where he also played football. He then attended the University of Iowa where he earned a



### Patricia "Pat" Leslie

Patricia "Pat" Leslie, 85, formerly of Omaha, Neb., died in her sleep early Aug. 10, 2024, at her home in Spring Hill, Kan., after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease.

Patricia Elaine was born March 26, 1939, in Cherokee, Iowa, to John Dale Jenness and his wife Lois Virginia (Smith), who farmed and ranched near Quimby, Iowa.

Pat was an avid sports-woman and remained active and fit into her mid-eighties.

She played girls' basketball on the Quimby High School team.

She was also a skilled pianist and played clarinet in the Iowa State band where she met the man who became the love of her life.

Pat wed Jerry Lee Leslie on Dec. 27, 1959, and after several moves, settled in Omaha in 1971.

They operated a successful structural sales business from their home for 45+ years until 2021 when they moved

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## Obituaries

family with arrangements.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.greenwoodfuneral.com](http://www.greenwoodfuneral.com).

Clay D. Hanson, the son of Norma and Lawrence A. (Benson) Hanson, was born November 21, 1959, in Cherokee, IA.

Clay enjoyed working with his hands. He did construction work and roofing for many years.

He enjoyed helping family and friends with odd projects. He loved to draw and was an avid collector of all things.

He loved motorcycles, music and visiting the casino with family and friends.

On July 8, 2024, Clay passed away in Sioux City, IA, at the age of 64.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Norma Benson Hanson, and brother, Jamie Hanson.

He is survived by his father, Lawrence Hanson of Cherokee, IA; three children, Ashley (Greg) Patten of Danbury, IA, Jamie (Dana) Hanson of Danbury, IA, and Kate (Steve) German of Ankeny, IA; four grandchildren: Kaeke, Kael and Daelyn Hanson and Hayden German; as well as other relatives and friends.

degree in Physical Therapy in 1977.

After graduation, Dan dedicated 40 years to his career at Sports Rehab & Professional Therapy Associates.

Dan married the love of his life, Leslie Hasty, in 2000, and they shared 24 wonderful years together.

He was a devoted father to Jason, Tom and Jerry Crocker, and a proud grandfather.

Dan was preceded in death by his parents Frank and Dolores.

Surviving family members include brother Rob (Kate) Hasty of Las Vegas, NV, two nephews, Aunt Cheryl Kearney of Coalville, Iowa and many cousins.

Dan had a passion for Iowa Hawkeye Sports, enjoyed outdoor activities, and was an avid reader. He was known for his kindness, humor, and unwavering dedication to his family and community.

Celebration of Life Services will be held at Greenwood Schubert Funeral Home in Cherokee Iowa on Friday September 6th from 1:30 PM - 5:30 PM.

to assisted living in Elk Horn, Neb., then to Kansas later that year.

Pat was a devout Methodist and was an active participant in United Methodist Women.

Pat is survived by her children: Randy (Dianna) Leslie, Kevin (Jan) Leslie, Toni (Marty) McKewon, Pam (Rob) Nore, and Debra Rosa with friend John Grounds. She is also survived by her brother-in-law Bill Leslie with friend Lois Barrett, 11 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren; and nieces and nephews and their offspring.

In addition to her parents, siblings and in-laws, Pat was preceded in death by Jerry, her husband of 64 years; their son, Scott Leslie; and their daughter, Michelle "Micki" Leslie.

A Memorial Service and Celebration of Life luncheon was held at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 29, at St. Paul United Methodist Church, 5410 Corby St., Omaha, Neb. 68104, with a private family interment service to follow.

Memorials to St. Paul United Methodist Church, [stpaul-benson.org](mailto:stpaul-benson.org).



### Gloria Gesina Ford

Gloria Gesina Ford, age 93 of Cherokee, IA, passed away on Sunday, August 18, 2024, at Accura Healthcare in Cherokee.

Memorial services took place at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 28, 2024, at the Greenwood-Schubert Funeral Home in Cherokee. Pastor Mike Agnew will officiate. Visitation was held from 5:00 p.m. until service time on Wednesday, at the Greenwood-Schubert Funeral Home in Cherokee.

A separate visitation will take place from 9:00-11:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 31, 2024, at the Goettsch Funeral Home in Anamosa, IA. A private family burial will be held at the Antioch Cemetery in Anamosa, IA with Pastor Kathryn Newhall officiating.

The Greenwood-Schubert Funeral Home in Cherokee, IA and the Goettsch Funeral Home in Anamosa, IA are assisting the family with arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be made to Camp Courageous.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.greenwoodfuneral.com](http://www.greenwoodfuneral.com).

Gloria Gesina Stadtmueller the daughter of Edward J. and Louise Balster Stadtmueller was born April 30, 1931, in Monticello, IA.

She attended Cass Center Township #4 School and Anamosa High School, grad-

uating in 1949.

On October 17, 1953, Gloria was united in marriage to Harold Clair Ford in Kirksville, MO.

Gloria worked at Maquoketa Valley REC, was a bookkeeper for Ford Electric, and a rental property manager for several property owners.

Gloria was a member of St. Paul's Methodist Church in Cherokee, IA, and member of United Women of Faith.

She was an active volunteer at Camp Courageous of Iowa in rural Monticello, IA since its start in 1972.

She volunteered at the Grant Wood Gallery in Anamosa for 30 years, and was involved with the children's school and other organizations.

In 2005 she received the "9 Who Care Award" and in 2006 participated in the Jefferson Awards in Washington, DC. Gloria also received Volunteer Hall of Fame and Senior Outstanding Volunteer of East Central Iowa United Way awards in 2016.

In her free time, she enjoyed crocheting and other crafts and reading and most of all spending time with family.

On Sunday, August 18, 2024, Gloria passed away at Accura Healthcare in Cherokee, IA, at the age of 93.

She was preceded in death by her husband Harold in 1989; parents, Edward and Louise Stadmueller; daughter, Sandy Pingel in 2020; brother, James Stadtmueller; father and mothers-in-law, Hollis and Jenni Ford.

She is survived by her children, Michael (Janiece) Ford of Hiawatha, IA, and Blake P. (Judy) Ford of Ely; and son-in-law, LeDen Pingel of Cleghorn, IA; grandchildren, Rebecca Mosebach of Cherokee, IA, Amy (Cody) Clinton of Lake Jackson, TX, and Daniel (Renee) Pingel of Ankeny, IA; great-grandchildren, Matthew, Kathleen, Michael, and Owen Mosebach, and Stella Clinton; as well as other relatives and friends.

## Secretary Pate Releases Annual Iowa State Fair Straw Poll Results

DES MOINES - Donald Trump received the most votes in the presidential category in Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate's 2024 State Fair Straw Poll. Mariannette Miller-Meeks, Ashley Hinson, Zach Nunn, and Randy Feenstra won the congressional polls for districts one through four.

Throughout the Iowa State Fair, more than 3,200 votes were cast for preferred presidential candidates at the Iowa Secretary of State's booth. "The final results of the straw poll are always intriguing because, although unscientific, the State Fair Straw Poll has historically been a fairly accurate predictor of official election outcomes," Secretary Pate said.

Below are percentage totals for presidential and congressional votes cast throughout the 11 days of the 2024 Iowa State Fair.

In the Presidential straw poll:

- Donald Trump won with 57.41% of 1874 votes cast
- Kamala Harris (36.03%), 1176 votes
- Robert F. Kennedy Jr. (3.92%), 128 votes
- Chase Oliver (2.63%), 86 votes

In the District 1 congressional straw poll:

- Mariannette Miller-Meeks won with 60.96% of 356 votes
- Christina Bohannon (32.88%), 192 votes
- Nicholas Gluba (6.16%), 36 votes

In the District 2 congressional straw poll:

- Ashley Hinson won with 66.74% of 303 votes cast
- Sarah Corkery (33.26%), 151 votes

In the District 3 congressional straw poll:

- Zach Nunn won with 58.63% of 910 votes cast
- Lanon Baccam (37.18%), 577 votes
- Marco Battaglia (4.19%), 65 votes

In the District 4 congressional straw poll:

- Randy Feenstra won with 63.67% of 382 votes cast
- Ryan Melton (30.17%), 181 votes
- Charles Aldrich (6.17%), 37 votes

All results are unscientific and unofficial. Fairgoers who visited the booth could also register to vote.

Cherokee County Suicide Prevention Coalition

Cherokee Chronicle Times

Are you currently struggling with mental health without a plan of self-harm and need someone to speak with?

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Use open access (walk-in) at any Plains Area Mental Health from 8 AM - 2:30 PM Monday-Thursday and 8 AM - 1:30 PM on Friday.

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# OPINION

## Treading Water

Buena Vista and Cherokee counties have essentially recovered the jobs lost during the pandemic, according to figures compiled by The New York Times from the US Bureau of Labor Statistics. Buena Vista's job count was down just 0.3% from 2019 to 2023, while Cherokee's grew by 0.8%. This is better performance than many rural counties.

The Sun Belt generally recovered much faster, and the Upper Midwest lagged. We were served well by food processing and light ag manufacturing, which simply had to go on despite the pandemic. Construction jobs boomed in Buena Vista by about 8%, while health care and education jobs declined by 14%. In Cherokee, health and education grew 8% while manufacturing jobs expanded by 13%. Hospitality suffered.

Overall, the two counties are not growing their labor market. The largest declines are in white-collar jobs, according to the statistics.

The US economy in this remarkable economic expansion has created far more jobs than what were lost during the pandemic. That is not necessarily true in Buena Vista or Cherokee counties, where the labor market is flat and unemployment is low. This suggests that our regional and local economic development mechanisms greased by tax dollars are not working that well. It also suggests that the federal recovery programs have not been as successful here as they have been in other places. Workers here continue to tread water.

Art Cullen

## Alternative diesel fuels the law of unintended consequences

BY ALAN GUEBERT

In our increasingly urgent quest to clean up our climate-altering, carbon-fueled culture, biodiesel and renewable diesel have become two new darlings of alternative fuel advocates.

While diesel fuel may be diesel fuel, biodiesel and renewable diesel are not the same. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), both are "produced from the same renewable feedstocks such as vegetable oils, animal fats, or used cooking oil."

The key "difference is that renewable diesel is produced using a hydrogen treatment which makes it chemically equivalent to petroleum diesel." That means renewable diesel "can be blended at higher levels and transported using existing pipelines."

Production of U.S. biodiesel peaked at 1.8 billion gallons in 2018/19 while renewable diesel production—just 40 million gallons in 2010—passed 2.3 billion gallons in 2022/23.

That rapid rise also increased U.S. soybean oil use; 46 percent of all U.S. soybean oil in 2022/23 was used in the production of alternative diesel fuels. Also, "imports of animal fats and vegetable oils... to use as feedstocks for renewable diesel production" increased, notes USDA.

Other U.S. trade operations were affected, too. As "U.S. soybean crush expanded to produce more (soybean) oil, driven by high soybean oil prices fueling strong crush margins ...U.S. soybean ex-

ports declined on expanding Brazilian supplies."

In addition to that surprising development, the "United States became a net soybean oil importer for the first time in 2023."

Few market watchers saw either price-rattling change coming.

Likewise, few predicted that California's adoption of its Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) in 2007 would create "a flood of credits from renewable diesel and manure biomethane" digesters. That flood means the Golden State "now consumes more than half of the national [biodiesel] supply even though California consumes only 7 percent of the nation's overall diesel fuel..."

It's a modern example of the Law of Unintended Consequences: California's highly incentivized alternative diesel program is so lucrative that it sucks up half the nation's vegetable- and tallow-based diesel supply and, in the process, all but ensures other states' air will become dirtier because very few other states have similar incentives to create renewable diesel markets.

Here's another unintended consequence: According to recent reporting by FERN, the Food & Environment Reporting Network, "The United States imported near-record volumes of renewable diesel each of the first five months of this year... which were 29 percent higher than in the same period in 2023..."

Moreover, "The imports... came from one producer, Neste, and were shipped

almost wholly to the West Coast."

In other words, California's renewable diesel markets—and now Oregon and Washington's similar programs—are so subsidy lucrative that one company, Neste, based in Helsinki, Finland, is sending an average of 30,000 barrels of renewable diesel per day to the West Coast to meet the government-generated demand.

Also, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), "... the larger imports were probably driven by the expansion of Neste's plant in Singapore and increased storage capacity at a terminal in Los Angeles."

So Neste, a tightly-held company where the "Prime Minister's Office in Finland... own(s) 35.91% of the shares," has sent an average of 3 million gallons of renewable diesel fuel 7,600 miles from Singapore to Los Angeles every day for nearly half of 2024.

Additionally, according to Finnish press reports, "Neste consumes 1-2% of the world's palm oil production" in its alternative fuels program.

As such, if any aspect of the California alternative diesel game is green, it's likely due to the U.S. dollars underwriting it, not any environmental benefits generated by it.

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The Farm and Food File is published weekly throughout the U.S. and Canada. Past columns, recommended reading, and contact information are posted at [farmandfoodfile.com](http://farmandfoodfile.com).

## Voters, be careful what you ask for

BY RANDY EVANS

We are in the home stretch of another presidential campaign, and it is important for voters to be alert for the unintended consequences of candidates' promises.

Office-seekers and their supporters like to portray issues in terms of absolutes — as in, my position is the very best way to address this issue; my opponent's way is all wrong.

Most of the time, issues are not all black, nor all white. Most of the time, issues involve many shades of gray, meaning there are no simple solutions.

Take illegal immigration, for example.

There should be a vigorous debate of how the United States should deal with people who have entered our country without permission or who have remained here after their visas expired. This issue has been around for decades, but the public is exploring our leaders in Washington to confront these challenges now.

Of course, politicians find it easier to issue press releases and offer their thoughts in 30-second television sound bites.

Donald Trump, for example, has made no secret about the solution he favors: "To keep our families safe, the Republican platform promises to launch the largest deportation operation in the history of our country" — an effort that would remove 15 million to 20 million people who are in the U.S. without authorization.

But his Iowa supporters who cheer his promise may want to pause to think about the economic effects such an undertaking would have.

There could be dramatic consequences in Iowa, where foreigners are an important labor source in livestock confinement facilities, in milking parlors on large dairy farms, and in livestock slaughter and meatpacking plants. The shockwaves would ripple farther, too, through landscaping and roofing businesses whose owners often turn to immigrants to take hard-to-fill jobs.

In northwest Iowa's Sioux County, farmers raise thousands of head of pigs, beef cattle and dairy cattle. About 2,000 foreign-born workers are employed on those farms, the Des Moines Register reported in 2018. The total includes people who are authorized to be in the U.S., as well as those without the proper legal documents.

Cattle producer Kent Pruisman, a former president of the Iowa Cattlemen's Association, told the Register, "If all of Sioux County's immigrant labor left tomorrow, we'd have a huge problem. ... We don't have the people to replace them."

Sioux County is not unique in that regard.

The Register reported the Pew Research Center estimated Iowa had about 40,000 workers 10 years ago who were undocumented immigrants. That represents nearly half of the 84,000 immigrant workers believed to be in the state in 2018.

It is not simply a matter of replacing immigrant labor with workers born in the United States. It is difficult finding people who want jobs involving the backbreaking work of mucking out manure, hauling bedding for the animals and moving thousands of pounds of feed for them every day.

Craig Lang, a Poweshiek County dairy farmer and former president of the Iowa Farm Bureau, told the Register in 2018, "It's just that local people are fully employed. And they don't want to milk cows when it's 20-below zero."

Don't think for a minute Lang and other livestock leaders are advocates for open borders. What they want is for the federal government to increase the number of year-round visas that are available to bring foreigners into the U.S. to work on farms and in other businesses.

But such initiatives could hit a roadblock during a second Trump administration. Ken Cuccinelli, his former acting director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, has recommended the government should reduce the use of temporary work visas for farm labor.

The demand for ag labor is going to continue to rise, even as the population in rural Iowa declines.

One of the nation's largest dairy companies, Daisy Brand, announced in April it will build a \$625 million milk processing plant in Boone to produce cottage cheese, sour cream and dips. The plant will employ 250 people. It will process the milk from 43,000 dairy cows each day.

That would represent an 18 percent increase in Iowa dairy herds. Those cows are estimated to need about 4,000 more farm laborers to care for them.

The former president has said his plan to round up illegal immigrants will be larger than President Dwight Eisenhower's mass deportation in 1954 of tens of thousands of illegal immigrants — and some U.S. citizens, unfortunately. But scholars note Eisenhower's crackdown came at the same time as the government was increasing the number of migrants who would be lawfully admitted to the U.S. through a "guest worker" program.

"It wasn't really about getting rid of immigrants in any real sense," University of Pittsburgh historian Eladio Bobadilla recently told States Newsroom publications. "It was a way to sell the American public that the problem had been solved."

During his four years in the White House, Trump also tried to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, which affects about 500,000 undocumented people who came to the U.S. as children, called "Dreamers." Many of those children grew up in communities like Iowa and do not speak their parents' native languages.

The Supreme Court blocked the president's efforts the last time, but Trump is not one to give up after an initial court loss. This does not mean Kamala Harris and Democrats can simply dig in, ignoring the desire of Americans to find some middle ground on immigration. Middle ground means neither side will be entirely happy. But middle ground is much better than where we are.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mark and I were one of the flood victims who lost pretty much everything. We cannot put into words the love we have been shown by the Cherokee community and surrounding, our friends, and family, area churches, area businesses, the Red Cross and may many more who have helped in some way.

Our hearts are overflowed with love and appreciation. Gods love has shown thru all of you who have helped and who have prayed for us and all of the flood victims. We are blessed to call Cherokee our home.

Mark & Marcia Casey

I would like to personally thank our secondary road department of Cherokee County for cutting all the trees and shrubs in the road ditch next to our farm ground. Our county employees are out there trying to make this county look so much better. I appreciate their effort very much. Thanks again,

Gary Lundquist, Former Cherokee County Supervisor

## Americanisms



"Nothing will work unless you do."  
— Maya Angelou

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More editorial content is available online at [www.chronicletimes.com](http://www.chronicletimes.com)

If you want to submit a Letter to the Editor for publication, here are the guidelines:

- Your name, address, phone number, and/or email **must** be on the submission. We have to be able to verify who signed the letter. **UNSIGNED** letters are destroyed without consideration.
- Letters should be about 750 words.
- Letters may be edited for content and clarity.
- Letters are published as space is available and in the order in which they are received.

Send your letter to: Cherokee Chronicle Times  
111 S. 2nd, Cherokee, IA 51012 or email: [editor@ctimes.biz](mailto:editor@ctimes.biz)



## Empowering Iowa small business to support America

BY JONI ERNST

Innovation should not just come from Washington when it is thriving right here in the heartland. In Iowa, small businesses make up 99% of businesses and employ more than 50% of the workers in our state.

While these businesses have been put through the wringer by inflation and the unrelenting tsunami of regulations, Washington has punished them in a much less obvious way over the last 15 years — by squeezing them out of selling to the biggest consumer in the country: the federal government. Since Fiscal Year 2008, the number of small businesses competing for federal government contracts has been cut in half.

When I became the top Republican on the Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee last year, I immediately set out to reverse this concerning decline.

I found one of the biggest obstacles was wacky government jargon and quickly introduced the ACCESS Act to

streamline the process and make it more accessible for small businesses to compete. This commonsense bill promotes job creation and supports communities right here in Iowa.

After all, Iowa small businesses are not just mom-and-pop shops. They operate as trailblazers of invention, bringing vital technologies that support our national defense to bear.

Opening the door for these small businesses to compete in the federal marketplace is about providing the government access to the latest cutting-edge technologies and ensuring a robust defense industrial base to protect our nation. It also ensures tax dollars are used more efficiently.

A steady presence of new firms creates the necessary competition to keep costs low and forces Washington bureaucrats to be good stewards of tax dollars, instead of just doling out contracts to the same few companies year after year.

My advocacy is not limited to the halls of Congress. The

best way to ensure the federal government understands how to work with small businesses is by sitting down and meeting with them.

This month, I hosted my second annual Entrepreneur Expo in Ames to get federal agencies out of the D.C. bubble and into the heartland.

The event was a roaring success, as hundreds of attendees were able to hear from 75 speakers from 40 different state and federal agencies about how their businesses can compete and win.

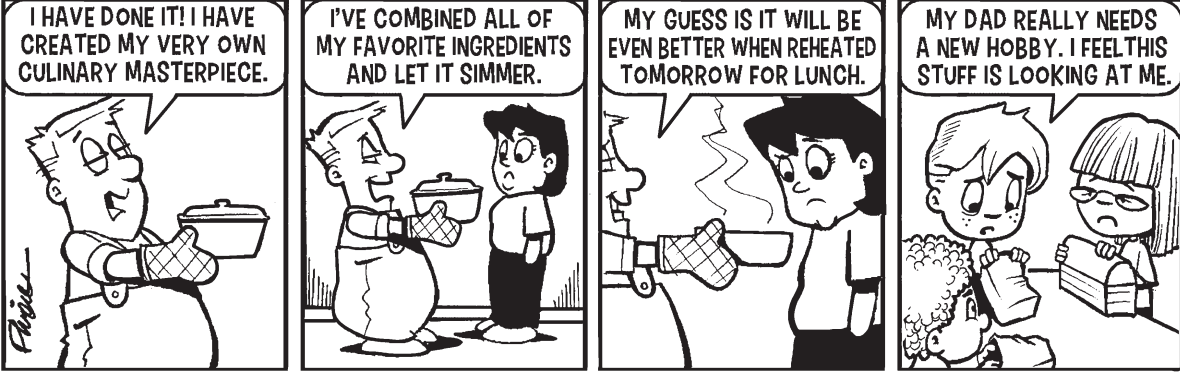
Reversing the rapid decline in the federal marketplace won't happen overnight, but I am confident that we have momentum on our side to unleash entrepreneurship in Iowa and across this country.

Small businesses power our states, and it is long past time we remove barriers and equip them to support and supply the federal government.

Joni Ernst, a native of Red Oak and a combat veteran, represents Iowa in the United States Senate.

# The Lighter Side

## Amber Waves



## The Spats



## GRIN THE BEARD IT



## Just Like Cats & Dogs



## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	3		4				2		
5			6		7			1	
		1		8					3
9		5							4
				2	4	1			
	8		3			7			
		8		6				3	
7			9					4	
	1				3				9

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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## MAGIC MAZE

PRINCE VALIANT CHARACTERS

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: KING OF THE ROUND TABLE

Aleta Ingrid Merlin Sligon  
Arn Karen Mordred Ulfran  
Cormac King Aguar Nathan Vanni  
Galan Maeve Sir Gawain

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Answers are on the Classified Page

### CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.  
Clue: M equals S

JUC HOR AOVJ RIM, UVRM HZL  
MQHLRM DVFFVZ YARFM YZ  
ZVBRIM HZL FVBYRM?  
AURC'OR QIVA LRBYDRM.

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### SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ♦♦♦♦

♦ Easy ♦♦ Medium ♦♦♦ Difficult

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BY LUCIE WINBORNE

\* Have you ever thought that your dog's feet smell like corn chips? If so, you're not alone. In fact, the term "Frito Feet" was coined to describe the scent!

\* The fastest knockout in pro boxing history occurred when Mike Collins floored Pat Brownson with his first punch and the match ended a mere four seconds after the bell.

\* A person who enjoys doing crossword puzzles is called a cruciverbalist.

\* Nestor Carbonell's portrayal of Richard Alpert on the hit TV series "Lost" led to an internet debate as to whether the actor was wearing eyeliners.

\* During the Gemini IV missions in 1965, James McDivitt and Edward H. White were the first astronauts to have reportedly smuggled chewing gum into space without permission.

\* On average, people in India spend 10 hours and 42 minutes a week reading, the most time of any country on Earth.

\* Thumbs have their own pulse.

\* The ringing of church bells at weddings can be traced to the Celtic heritage of Scotland and Ireland, when they were used to ward off evil spirits and grant wishes to the newlyweds.

\* In 1965, Johnny Cash's younger brother, Tommy Cash, released a song titled "I Didn't Walk the Line."

\* Upon hearing that the Great Fire of London might destroy his house, English diarist Samuel Pepys took care to bury his most prized possessions in his garden -- including a wheel of Parmesan cheese.

\* Ravens in captivity can learn to talk better than parrots.

\* When your "inner voice" speaks in your head, it triggers small muscle movements in your larynx.

\* Each year, 40,000 tons of space dust settles on Earth.

**Thought for the Day:**  
"Let us be grateful to people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom."  
Marcel Proust

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### FLASHBACK

POP ROCK & SOUL TRIVIA BARBER

- What is the Continental Drift?
- Which group released "Shout"?
- Where was "Give Peace a Chance" recorded?
- Which musician was called Satchmo?
- Name the song that contains this lyric: "I could stay awake just to hear you breathing, Watch you smile while you are sleeping."

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## Super Crossword THE ROD SQUAD

**ACROSS**

1 It's removed from skin  
8 Guitar's cousin  
16 Nautical mop  
20 Be cautious  
21 Conditionally free, in a way  
22 Rock's ZZ Top, e.g.  
23 Building full of periodicals for soldiers?  
25 Outer edges  
26 Cursed  
27 Takes too much, in brief  
28 Moose cousin  
29 Fries lightly  
31 Unit of work  
32 Body of water on which there are frequent haircutters' cruises?  
35 Not sinking  
40 Smart — (wiseacres)  
42 Safecracker, informally  
43 Hailstorm on the highway?  
45 Deg. from MIT Sloan  
47 "Anaconda" director Luis  
51 Savoir faire  
52 Dumbbell selling for half off?

55 1950s-'70s defense gp.  
56 Weapon in a boxing ring  
58 MGM motto  
59 Deliver, as a verdict  
60 Politico Hatch  
62 "Sure thing, guv'nor!"  
64 "Somerset" star Richard  
65 Cleo's snake  
68 World's best singer of Venetian gondoliers' songs?  
72 Born, in Brest  
73 South African Dutch  
75 First name of Dr. Oz  
76 Cereal grass disease  
78 Quick on the uptake  
80 Many eras  
81 — Seltzer  
83 Suggest  
87 Sticking the singer of "White Christmas" with a fishhook?  
90 Tell the story of  
92 Certain building brick

93 Guitar's cousin, for short  
94 Actress Brigitte  
100 16-ounce drink from a Starbucks next to a bodega?  
105 Quick on the uptake  
107 "No idea"  
108 Frozen cubes  
110 Tent securer  
115 Unleavened combread  
116 One-wheeled cart carrying supplies for a toga party?  
121 Guitarist  
122 Dining places  
123 Perfume  
124 Marina fixture  
125 Area with bad reception  
126 Frankfurters

2 Caesar's "Vid," in English  
3 Certain building brick  
4 1990s Chrysler  
5 Unnerv  
6 Jackie's hubby #2  
7 Choir male  
8 Irate crowds  
9 Ortiz of "Kristin"  
10 "Ask Me Another" airer  
11 Risk-taking types  
12 Toothbrush brand  
13 Actress Sondra  
14 Type  
15 Moniker of a lock monster  
16 Having a hard time  
17 Judges' orders  
18 Singer Mann  
19 — nova  
24 Artist Degas  
30 "Gemini Man" director  
31 Capts.' guesses  
32 Sired, biblical-style  
33 Aspire PC company  
34 "French Kiss" co-star Meg

35 Pooch barks  
36 — gras (goose-liver paste)  
37 Singer —  
38 Keats' "Autumn"  
39 Soak up  
41 Test centers  
44 Shoot again, as a gun  
45 Mother of Bart Simpson  
46 Capital of Kyrgyzstan  
48 Witty Nash  
49 — Khan ("The Jungle Book" tiger)  
50 "If — falls in the forest ..."  
53 Author  
54 Incorrect  
57 Restrained hard time  
61 Noodle soup  
62 Turn sour  
63 Capital of Albania  
65 Addis — (capital of Ethiopia)  
66 "What a pity!"  
67 — Canada (oil brand)  
69 Love, to Luigi  
70 City near Lake Tahoe  
71 Become silver-haired

74 Gawk  
77 — Haute  
79 Links (with)  
81 Higher than  
82 Country rocker Lovett  
84 "I did it!"  
85 "This is not —" (warning label)  
86 Head, in Nice  
88 — ho (keen)  
89 Raced  
91 Blind as —  
95 "Sauer" topping  
97 Vanished, informally  
98 Villains' looks  
100 Two-legged beast  
101 Love a lot  
102 Of an ancient alphabet  
103 Ranch rope  
104 Made believe  
106 Amp (up)  
109 Main idea  
110 Curing stuff  
111 Trampled  
112 Mythical ship  
113 Donkey or Hong follower  
114 Some sheep  
117 "Norma —"  
118 Put a tear in  
119 — noir  
120 Ghostly cry

## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Ball is moved. 2. Sailboat flag is moved. 3. Puddle is added. 4. Hose is moved. 5. Window is wider. 6. Stripe on shorts is moved.

### 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!

Gloss

ENSHI

Root

RIGONI

Clear

CUDLI

Infect

SNOOPI

"When I want your \_\_\_\_\_, I'll demand it."

TODAY'S WORD

### 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.

- Sunny day cap
- Goofy
- Unadorned
- Brandish
- Klondike driver
- Clothes room
- Hut
- Meddle
- Las Vegas bet
- Law officer

B \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ Bard's poem  
\_ I \_ \_ \_ \_ Who Harry met  
\_ \_ \_ \_ N Tartan print  
W \_ \_ \_ \_ Concede  
\_ \_ \_ \_ H \_ \_ \_ Assemble  
\_ \_ \_ \_ T Nearer  
\_ \_ \_ A \_ \_ \_ Electrical jolt  
\_ A \_ \_ \_ Bad humor  
W \_ \_ \_ \_ Fervent  
\_ \_ \_ \_ C \_ \_ Gracious

S \_ \_ \_ \_  
\_ A \_ \_ \_  
\_ \_ \_ \_ D  
Y \_ \_ \_ \_  
\_ \_ \_ \_ T \_ \_  
\_ \_ \_ \_ R  
\_ \_ \_ O \_ \_  
\_ E \_ \_ \_  
E \_ \_ \_ \_  
\_ \_ \_ \_ T \_ \_

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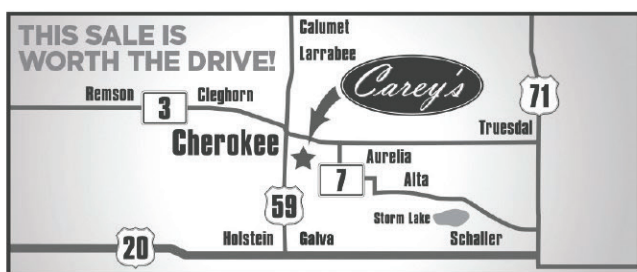
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# HOMETIMES

## Carey's Furniture: A family legacy furnishing homes for over 40 years

BY ERIN RYDGREN



For over four decades, Carey's Furniture has been a retail cornerstone of Cherokee, Iowa, providing residents with quality furniture, mattresses, and floor coverings. Founded in 1981 by Dave and Carol Carey, the business has grown from a small used furniture store to a multi-story showroom occupying six downtown properties.

Dave Carey was one of many employees who lost their jobs after the closure of Schmidt's Furniture in the early 1980s. With his wife Carol, they purchased used furniture from an upholstery shop, opening "Furniture Place" on East Main Street. Their inventory was all used merchandise purchased at auctions and on consignment.

As their business thrived, they relocated to a larger space on 5th Street, eventually incorporating new furniture into their offerings.

In 1986, another move was necessary to accommodate their growth, leading them back to East Main Street, where their main entrance remains today. The focus shifted to primarily new furniture, solidifying their position as a leading furniture provider in Cherokee.

Although he remained active in the business, Dave's retirement in 1993 saw Carol taking the helm, successfully running the business until their son Chad joined the team in 1998. Chad brought a fresh perspective and began expanding the showroom, staffing, and product lines. In 2002, they rebranded as "Carey's Furniture," reflecting the family's dedication and commitment to personalized customer service.

Carey's Furniture has continuously evolved over the years. Their downtown facility now sprawls across six properties, including their showroom in three historic buildings on four different floors. Additionally, the business has expanded to include a second warehouse offsite.

Recognizing the growing importance of online shopping, they've invested heavily in their website, CAREYSFURNITURE.com, which boasts over 33,000 furniture items and is now outpacing their brick-and-mortar business for sales.

Most recently, they've completed a renovation of their lower level, creating a dedicated "CLEARANCE CELLAR" showcasing overstock, discontinued, flawed, and used display models at reduced prices.

Since 2001, Chad has spearheaded the store's merchandising, but his wife Kelli has joined him in that responsibility. The couple works hard to ensure a visually appealing and ever-changing showroom experience. With over 20,000 square feet of space, displays are being refreshed almost daily, always creating a fresh look.

The Careys are well-versed in tracking stylistic trends and materials. Chad indicated that "Modern & Urban Rustic are popular right now and recently we've seen interest in Minimalist styling."

They strive to provide these popular options and are dedicated to maintaining connections across the industry to monitor trends. "We rely on trade publications, manufacturers, instinct, and most importantly, we listen to our customers," explained Chad. "Preferences are always changing," he continued. "One of the more notable would be that many customers now prefer beds that do not require boxspring or foundations."

Additionally, the furniture industry has continued to embrace technology from manufacturing, marketing, retail and the products themselves, all of which are designed for consumers with, as Chad puts it, "with tech in their pockets."

Carey's Furniture is deeply committed to giving back to the community they serve. None of their employees receive a commission and are encouraged to instead strive for customer satisfaction regardless if there is a purchase. The business offers financing options, delivery service, and even will dispose of old mattresses and furniture.

Recognizing a deep need, they offered special programs to assist flood victims after the historic flooding in late June. Coupons and gift cards were offered with purchases as well as free financing on approved credit, free delivery up to 50 miles, and free storage. Individuals could also make arrangements to donate their old furniture and Carey's would pick it up and deliver it to flood victims.

Carey's Furniture encourages everyone to visit their showroom space or check out their website for inspiration or assistance.

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# On Ellis Pond: the making of an oasis within the city

# HOMETIMES

BY ERIN RYDGREN

Dave and Cheryl Ellis have transformed their once-neglected backyard pond into a stunning and peaceful aquatic oasis. What began as a punishment for their daughter has blossomed into a multi-year project that has become the centerpiece of their property.

"To be completely honest," laughed Dave, "one of my daughters got in trouble, but I couldn't tell you for what. I was looking for the absolute worst punishment I could possibly come up with so I told her she had to go clean up the pond."

However, as she began to work he felt a smidgen of guilt "because it was just really gross," he said, so he went out and joined her. As they progressed, he began to think it would be fun to try to get it working again.

What began with cleaning up a stagnant pond was turned into an educational experience. Ultimately, Dave dug the pond deeper and bigger, using heavy machinery and completely added the lower pond to create natural filtration. Most recently, he's added a creek running downhill and into the pond.

Dave jokes, "At YouTube University I learned as much as I could about how to best filter it, keep the fish safe, and more."As they delved deeper into the project, their passion for creating a thriving aquatic ecosystem grew.

"We got goldfish at first to try it out," explained Dave. "We didn't want to get anything expensive until I knew I could keep fish." The pond, which now boasts a variety of koi fish, is a testament to their dedication to the project and determination to learn as much as possible. "It was a monumental pain getting rid of the goldfish because they were hard to catch," laughed Ellis.

Dave admits that they are meticulous about the fish they get because they want a variety of colors amongst the koi.

He acknowledges that the koi might not be smart, but they are hungry. "They know when Cheryl and I are on the deck so they come right over and beg for food." Ultimately, they are working to get the fish eating out of their hands. "If you dip your feet in the water they might come and nibble on your toes but I think getting them to eat out of your hand would just be really neat," he explained.

The other goal of this project was to create a welcoming space for their entire family. "We wanted to make it as accessible from the house as possible," said Dave. "So many people do these projects and stick them out in the back half of their properties and then never use them. We wanted it to be right there and be a place where our girls would bring their friends over to hang out. We're out there about every night!"

The space has also been opened to their friends and family for events when requested. "We've had two baptisms, two weddings, graduation parties and the rehearsal dinner for our daughter Elizabeth's wedding," Dave tallied. The cross country team has also enjoyed access to the space during team dinners. Rightfully proud of their corner of paradise, Dave invites anyone who is interested in the scenery to reach out and talk to him about coming to see it.

Dave estimates that the pond at its deepest is around 5 1/2 feet. In order for the fish to survive the winter they must have at least 2 1/2 feet of water and a hole has to be cut in the ice in order for oxygen to circulate and gasses to escape.

The pond has four pumps on it for its various parts. It is all natural filtration which is great for maintaining water quality in koi ponds and relies on beneficial bacteria and

**On Ellis Pond  
Cont. on Page 11**



The Ellises live on about three acres in Cherokee. Their backyard makes up about two of that and the adjoining properties are all wooded, giving the impression that they aren't in town. "It's an oasis within the city," says Dave Ellis.



At right, koi thrive in the pond. They survive the winter thanks to a hole cut in the ice and the depth of the pool.

Lower right, Ellis used heavy equipment to dig what began as a "really gross" pond into lovely koi pond it is now.

Bottom right, like a scene out of a fairy tale, the bridge over the waterfall adds a magical feel to the location.



Above, it took lots of strong backs and willing hands to put the rocks in place around the pond.



Center, a water lily looks like an impressionist's painting as it blooms in the pond.





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# Building Trades class home sells in just days



Raul Rebollo, Bryan Ledesma and instructor Wilmer Flores in front of the newly completed home.

BY MEGAN MOLSEED

As the school year kicks off, students in Storm Lake High School's Building Trades class aren't sitting behind desks; they're jumping straight into hands-on learning jumping in hammers first, building their latest home literally from the ground up.

"We need to get the base of the home done right away to get the walls up," explains Storm Lake High School Building Trades instructor Wilmer Flores. "This way, we'll be ready to begin working on the interior projects once winter hits."

Although the school year has just started, Flores's morning class is fully engaged, working hard on the new home site. Each student is focused on their task — cutting wood, arranging it on pallets or hammering nails, despite the ongoing heatwave, which has lessened somewhat as the week continues.

"Some students enter the class already knowing they enjoy working with their hands and what they love to do, while others are picking up tools for the first time," Flores notes. Each home takes about 10 months to complete.

The most recently finished home by the Building Trades classes was completed during the 2023-2024 school year. And, it can join the other success stories created by Flores's students after it found fantastic success in the local housing market.

"It was listed on Friday and sold by Monday," Flores says with a smile, watching as his students remain hard at work, plugging away at

the first construction phases of this year's home, which is located just one lot away from the program's current project, directly across the street from the high school.

"It's a fantastic location for us. While our previous sites were great, we had to consider travel time for each class," Flores says. "With our lots so close to the school, that's no longer a concern."

While the Building Trades' most recent house isn't Tornado green, it still showcases a bit of school spirit with its hunter-green exterior, complemented by black trim and a black garage door.

The four-bedroom, three-bathroom home offers exceptional storage options. Each bedroom includes generous closet space, while the master bedroom features a spacious walk-in closet adjacent to the bathroom. Additional storage is provided under the stairs, with numerous closets, ample kitchen cabinets, and linen storage throughout. Located at 1014 Oneida St, the home spans 2,348 square feet and includes a two-car garage.

The open floor plan includes two bedrooms and two bathrooms on the first floor, with a master suite boasting a full bath and his-and-her sinks. The finished basement adds two more bedrooms and another full bathroom.

"We try and build these homes with our own lives in mind," Flores says. "It's important to us that it all looks good and the features are things that you would want in your own home."

Two students, Storm Lake

seniors Bryan Ledesma and Raul Rebollo, who are part of the morning class working on this year's home, were also involved in building the house at 1014 Oneida, just one lot away from the current construction site.

Both Ledesma and Rebollo say they feel a strong sense of pride knowing that their previous project sold just days after listing. They say they can't really pick a favorite piece of the homebuilding process, some of it was hard, some of it was easy, but putting up the drywall was something they each enjoyed when building the last home.

"Making the markings was kind of fun," Ledesma smiled. Rebollo agreed, noting that this planning process was fun for him because it was the beginning of putting the pieces together.

"It's kind of when it starts to look like a home," the Storm Lake senior says. "Before that, it was a construction site."

### Building something big

Since 2018, Flores has led the Storm Lake CSD High School Building Trades program. The goal, notes the school district, is to offer students a hands-on homebuilding experience while contributing new homes to the community. The trades program includes two classes: one in the morning with 18 students and another in the afternoon with 10 students.

Under Flores's leadership, the program has become a district highlight and even a profitable endeavor. Recent homes have sold for more than their construction costs, allowing a reinvestment of the

# HOMETIMES



Bryan Ledesma (left) and Raul Rebollo (middle) were part of the 2023-2024 class that built the home at 1014 Oneida under the direction of Building Trades instructor Wilmer Flores (right). The local home sold after just a few days on the market.



The heat isn't slowing down the Storm Lake High School Building Trades class as they spend their morning hard at work in their outdoor classroom.

profits into purchasing new lots for future projects.

The Storm Lake CSD school board strategically bought three adjoining lots before starting construction on last year's home, planning ahead for the program's success.

"We have the land we need for the next three years," Flores says, emphasizing that this planning makes his class time much more productive. Knowing the lot size and shape in advance allows him to design homes more effectively with blueprints, and the business trades classes also know their project locations before starting their coursework.

"It's much easier when we can map out our plans a few years in advance," Flores explains. "We decide on floorplans based on lot size, code requirements, and what needs to be prepared for each location."

The Building Trades program supports local businesses. Floor plans come from Marcus Lumber, as well as the lumber from the base of the home to the shelving, cabinetry, trim, and beyond. Weiss Plumbing and Heating handles and installs the plumbing and heating, including bathroom fixtures.

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# Crystal Clean

Storm Lake, IA

### On Ellis Pond Cont. from Page 11

aquatic plants to break down harmful substances to create a healthy environment for the fish. The plants absorb nutrients from the water, helping to reduce algae growth and improve water clarity while providing oxygen and shelter for the fish.

The brook and the little creek were all hand dug while heavy machinery was used for the larger ponds. The space features rocks that he collected "From anyone and anywhere I could get them," says Dave. "And I moved all the rocks with the exception of the very biggest ones by hand." He jokes that he knows every single rock in the project.

Dave estimates that the pond takes about 10,000 gal-

lons of water which comes from the city. The pond has an automatic fill on it so if the water level gets too low it will kick on and gradually refill. "The water bill is high," he admits. "It's similar to having a pool. It's higher than we would like but it's well worth the investment to have it."

The pond also draws in a lot of wildlife. They had to take steps to protect the fish from predators like raccoons and foxes. "The way it's designed is that it's deep enough on the sides that a raccoon can't get in and just start picking off the fish," Dave explains.

There are also plenty of built-in hiding spaces and plants to keep them safe. However, what he really dreads is a heron finding the

place. "If they ever find the pond it would be catastrophic," he said. "They will find it and remember it and just decimate all of the fish."

Dave and Cheryl enjoy their slice of tranquility. Dragonflies, frogs, deer, and lots of smaller birds and animals enjoy the space too. "Everything you would expect in a natural pond you would find there," he says. "I guess we've gotten old because we've discovered we really enjoy bird watching."

As their pond continues to grow and evolve, the Ellis' are excited to see what the future holds. They hope to continue to inspire others to create their own backyard havens and enjoy the beauty of nature.

### LEGAL NOTICE

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES TUESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2024, 6:00 P.M.**

#### CHEROKEE CITY HALL

A regular meeting was called to order on this date by Mayor Schmidt. Roll call: Present: Councilpersons Loughlin, Nitz by phone, Pingel by phone, Wych, City Attorney Vondrak and City Clerk-Treasurer Lucas. Absent: None.

Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Pingel to approve the agenda. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Bob Leach, Cherokee Horse Arena would like to have the Horse Arena Project added to the September 10, 2024 agenda. Chris Jepsen gave a follow up report from the August 13, 2024 meeting that the Fair board is in favor of moving the horse arena to the fairgrounds if that is what is decided. Ray Mullins, Park and Rec Board was looking for clarification of what the purpose of the Park & Rec Board is if they are not included in any decision making. Loughlin explained a few roles of the board and stated that there is a Park and Recreation Master Plan that Clerk Lucas will email to the board.

Mike Conover, 926 Amber Drive, introduced himself as a candidate for City Council Ward 2.

Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Wych to appoint Mike Conover, City Council Ward 2 to fulfill Dave Wilberding's term through December 31, 2025. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

On a motion by Loughlin, seconded by Pingel, the following was approved under Consent Agenda.

Roll call: AYES: Loughlin, Nitz, Pingel. NAYES: Wych.

Approve City Council Minutes of August 13, 2024.

Approve I & S Invoice.

Approve Moose Equipment Invoice.

Approve Woodall Electric Invoices (4).

Approve Pay App. #1 Willow St. Curb & Gutter Improvement Project.

Approve Class E Retail Alcohol License for Hy-Vee, Inc.

Bills totaling \$214,611.77

360 CUSTOM DESIGNS CLOTHING \$265.00

AGSTATE DIESEL \$1,769.78

ALLIANT ENERGY NATURAL GAS \$923.04

BOMGAARS OPERATING SUPPLIES \$938.33

BUILDERS SHARP & SERVICE OIL & OIL FILTER \$159.32

CHAMPION ELECTRIC, INC. LOCATE AT WILLOW & 59 \$205.00

CHEROKEE CO. TREASURER PROPERTY TAXES-1657 515TH ST. \$822.00

CHEROKEE TRUCK & TRAILER UNIT 20 TRUCK REPAIRS \$237.32

CONNOR BEECK WINDOW CLEANING CLEAN WINDOWS \$26.00

CORE & MAIN LP TEST STRIPS \$33.18

COUNTRY TIRE & SERVICE OIL CHANGE \$64.08

FAREWAY STORES, INC. POP FOR COMMUNITY CENTER \$86.31

FOUNDATION ANALYTICAL LAB WASTEWATER SAMPLES \$745.50

HY-VEE, INC. POOL CONCESSIONS \$55.16

I & S GROUP, INC. SOUTH INDUSTRIAL PARK STUDY \$2,285.00

IOWA LAKES ELECTRIC COOP ELECTRICITY \$153.00

JOSH CEDAR FEMA-SKIDLOADER RENTAL \$5,121.02

MACQUEEN EQUIPMENT LLC SCBA FLOW TESTING \$1,635.75

MEDIACOM LLC INTERNET \$406.90

MID AMERICAN ENERGY NATURAL GAS \$36,566.31

MID-AMERICAN BENEFITS, LLC 9/24 HRA ADMIN FEE & CLAIMS \$576.44

MORSE EQUIPMENT CO., LLC BEARING KITS & CARBON RINGS \$14,573.36

MUNICIPAL SUPPLY, INC. METERS & SMARTPOINTS \$2,916.00

NORTH CENTRAL LABORATORIES LAB SUPPLIES \$808.58

NORTHSIDE TIRE BATTERIES \$189.75

ONE OFFICE SOLUTION POST ITS \$81.13

PAIGE REINERT UTILITY BILL REFUND \$9.92

PITNEY BOWES RELOAD POSTAGE 8/5/24 \$1,027.34

PITNEY BOWES GLOBAL FIN. POSTAGE MACHINE LEASE \$159.57

SECRETARY OF STATE NOTARY \$30.00

SIoux VALLEY FAMILY HEALTH VACCINE \$1,110.00

THOMPSON PROPANE & SUPPLIES THOMPSON \$1,711.90

UNUM LIFE INS. CO OF AMERICA LIFE & DISABILITY INS. \$1,494.35

USPS UTILITY BILL POSTAGE \$513.53

VOGEL TRAFFIC SERVICES PAINT \$3,722.15

VONDRAK LAW FIRM, LLC 7/24 LEGAL FEES \$3,840.00

WOODALL ELECTRIC FEMA-SPRUCE ST LIFT STATION \$129,349.75

Council discussed how to proceed with repairing the Yacht Club following the June flood. We have received several quotes to repair the electrical, these would be the only repairs made until a final plan is set. Motion by Pingel, seconded by Loughlin to winterize the Yacht Club and make sure it is safe from the water and sewer line standpoint and readdress all repairs after the winter season. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Council members attended the FEMA Buyout meetings held by Emergency Management to go over the potential buyout process. Lucas meet with FEMA last week to go over the beginning stages of a potential buyout. Lucas will continue to meet with FEMA and report back to council.

The City received two Request for Qualifications for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. One was received from Veenstra and Kimm, Inc. and one from ISG, Inc. Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Pingel to accept ISG, Inc. as the Wastewater Treatment Plant Engineer. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

SCE supplied four proposals for the Wastewater Treatment Plant so that we can use the lagoons for treatment once the power is restored. This involves replacing a 16" valve so we can shut the force main off from the plant. A new 12" tap and line so we can discharge water into the north end of the lagoons. Replacing a broken 14" valve that allows us to drain the lagoons, and adding additional piping

to a lift station so we can run discharge water from the lagoons to the UV system. Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Pingel to approve the proposals and begin the repairs. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

The City needs to update our Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Lucas is looking for direction on who should be working on this since we are without a City Administrator. Wych stated that per a Resolution 2018-46, department heads are in charge, so each department head can help the Mayor and Lucas complete the document.

Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Wych to approve the following Hotel/Motel Grants: Cherokee Historic Preservation Commission-\$2,500, Cherokee Golf Course-\$2,500, Tinsel & Tidings-\$2,000, Tiel Sanford Memorial Trust Fund-\$3,500, Cherokee Chamber Commerce-Women in Business-\$2,000 and deny Cherokee Regional Hospice-\$5,000. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Kyle Basten, Beck Engineering presented to options for a restroom/concession building at the new Wescott Park. Consensus of the council was to proceed with the block frame building. Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Wych to table this until the September 10, 2024 meeting and find out what funding source will be used. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Todd Larsen, Street Superintendent presented a quote from Schmillen Construction to crush the cities concrete pile. The crushed concrete is used for roads, alleys, water leaks, and other miscellaneous jobs. Since this is not a budgeted item and mul-

iple departments use the concrete, Larsen would like the expense to be spread over those departments. Motion by Pingel, seconded by Loughlin to table for 2-4 weeks and have each department determine if they have it in their budgets to pay for a portion of it. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Larsen requested approval to have Beck Engineering begin the design of the FY25 Curb and Gutter Project on the East side of town. Motion by Wych, seconded by Loughlin to table this for 2 weeks. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Loughlin requested that each council member check in with the department they are the liaison for and send an update on Friday's of what each department is doing. Pingel commented that we need to make sure the Parks Department gets the seeding around the new sidewalk at the Bacon Aquatic Center taken care of. Jamie Hodgdon will seed it for us if we get the sight prepared. Loughlin has been in contact with Justin Pritts, Cherokee County Emergency Management and he has two trailers for flood victims that he would like to place at Spring Lake Park Campground for 6 months. We should have a lease from FEMA for this at the September 10, 2024 meeting.

Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Nitz, the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Media Present: Allison Moore, Cherokee Chronicle Times.

Craig Schmidt, Mayor ATTEST: Sara Lucas

City Clerk-Treasurer (CT08-30/L#256)

# Setting the stage for a miracle

By Pastor Philip Beisswenger Memorial Presbyterian Church, Cherokee, Iowa

Does God still do miracles, like back in biblical times? If he does, why don't we notice more of them. Can miracles be explained scientifically? Do some people fake them? Again, if God is the same today as he was yesterday, why don't we notice more miracles?

The Bible tells about the miracle of the loaves and fishes, probably Christ's most famous miracle.

There were 5,000 men, around 20,000 people including women and children. All day long they'd been listening to Jesus out in the middle of nowhere, and they were hungry.

Jesus asked a disciple, "How much money would it take to feed them?" The disciple calculated it would take what most workers made in half a year. Unfortunately,

the disciples didn't have that kind of money. Even if they did, there weren't any stores nearby with enough food for 20,000 hungry mouths.

So, the disciples couldn't buy their way out of that problem. They needed a miracle. Lo and behold, they got one. Somehow, there was plenty of food for everybody, even leftovers! What happened?

Of course, only God, or God's Son, can perform miracles. But there was more to the story, because Christ's miracle didn't come out of thin air. People played a role in it.

First, one of the boys there had a sack lunch. It was a typical meal for poor people—a few dried fish and some barley loaves. The boy donated it to the cause. Although it wasn't much, it was a start, something for Jesus to work with. That measly meal, given with a generous heart, helped set the stage for a miracle.

Secondly, the twelve disciples also pitched in. Their

contribution was their organizational skills. participated. God doesn't seem to work as well in chaotic situations. Large crowds tend to get rowdy, so Jesus had the disciples do crowd control, dividing the people into smaller, more manageable groups. Perhaps the disciples didn't understand why they were doing it, but their efforts helped set the stage for a miracle.

Thirdly, some people in the crowd had brought empty baskets. Remember, not only did Jesus feed the 20,000; there were 12 baskets full of leftovers! Why would they lug around empty baskets? Maybe they trusted that the Good Shepherd would fill them to overflowing. The faith of the people helped set the stage for a miracle.

Before Jesus did anything else, he turned to God and gave thanks for all who had helped set the stage. Jesus thanked God, in advance. He was thankful for the little boy's lunch, and for how the disciples got the crowd ready, and for the faith of at least twelve people who brought baskets. Jesus blessed all of it, and then he started multiplying. That's what happens when we give to Jesus what we have, instead of worrying about what we don't have.

How often do you hold back from God what you have, thinking it's too little? How often do you deprive God of your capabilities, even though they might be few? How often do you come to Jesus full of yourself, and end up leaving empty, instead of coming empty and leaving full?

It seems to me like that's

our takeaway from this story. Yes, God performs miracles, but that doesn't mean he likes to do them in a vacuum. We should give what we've got and do what we can, even when we don't think it's enough. That's called setting the stage.

## BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Galatians (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Joshua 6, on the seventh day, how many times did the men of war march around Jericho? 1, 3, 5, 7
3. In His first recorded miracle, what did Jesus turn into wine? Goat's milk, Grape juice, Fig cider, Water
4. From 1 Chronicles, what king was buried with his sons under an oak tree? Neco, Jehoash, Saul, Rezin
5. In the story of creation, what did God call the darkness? Blackness, Night, Four-score, Trinity
6. In Exodus 17:15, who built an altar and called it Jehovah-Nissi? Moses, Abraham, Jacob, Aaron

Hardcore trivia fan? Visit Wilson Casey's subscriber site at [www.patreon.com/triviaguy](http://www.patreon.com/triviaguy). © 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

## BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

Psalm 34:3-4

Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together. I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

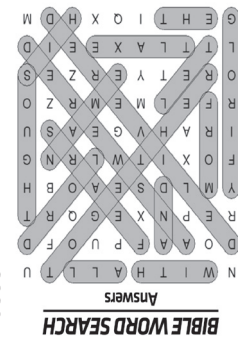
N W I T H A L L T U  
D O A A F P U O F D  
R E P N X E G Q R T  
Y M L D S E A O B H  
F O X I T W L R N G  
I R A H V G E A S U  
R F E L M E M R Z O  
O R E T Y E R Z E S  
L T T L A X E E I D  
G E H T I Q X H D N

Find the **bolded/underlined** words in the diagram. They run in all directions — forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

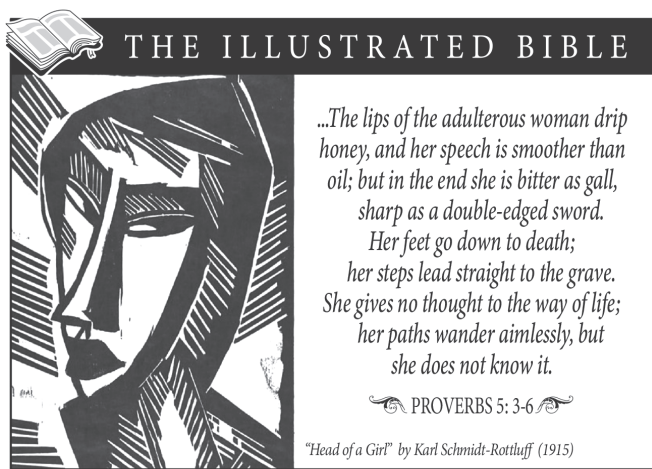
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ANSWERS: 1) New, 2) Seven, 3) Water, 4) Saul, 5) Night, 6) Moses



If your church has changes to your schedule, please let us know by emailing [news@ctimes.biz](mailto:news@ctimes.biz). While we strive to keep all service times up-to-date, we don't know unless you tell us!



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## your guide to area CHURCHES

CHEROKEE

- Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
300 E. Bow Dr Phone: 712-225-4969  
Pastor Jean Morse  
Shine Pre-K to 12: Wednesdays at 5:30 pm  
Saturday Night Worship: 5 pm  
Worship Service: 9:30 am  
Coffee & Fellowship: 10:30 am
- Community of Christ  
413 Clark St.  
Co-Pastors: Jean Jenness & Julie Wright  
Church School: 9:15 am;  
Worship Service: 10:30 am  
Craft Night: 2nd Thur. every month at 7 pm
- Crossroads Christian Church  
515 W. Main St. Phone: 712-225-1422  
Pastor: Chuck Erickson  
Worship Service: 11:00 am Sunday
- Faith in Christ Fellowship  
5096 Hwy. 3 W. Phone: 712-225-6216  
Pastor: Pinky Person  
Worship: Sundays 10 am; Wednesdays 7 pm  
Thursday - Youth: 7 pm
- First Baptist of Cherokee  
118 E. Willow St.  
Pastor Jeff Harris  
Worship Service: 9:15 a.m.  
Small Group: 10:15 a.m.  
Prayer Bible Study: Wed. 7 pm
- First Church of Christ  
772 N. 2nd St. Phone: 712-225-2667  
Pastor: David Hall [www.cherokeefcc.com](http://www.cherokeefcc.com)  
Sunday School: 9:00 am; Worship: 10:00 am;  
Bible Buddies: Wednesday 6:30 pm
- Grace Baptist Church  
758 N. 2nd St. Phone: 712-225-4533  
Pastor: Kenneth Thrasher  
Sunday School: 9:30 am  
Worship Service: 10:30 am  
Sunday Eve Worship: 6 pm  
Thurs. Prayer & Bible Study: 7 pm
- Heritage Bible Church  
1318 S. 2nd St.  
Pastor: Mark Leeds  
Sunday School: 9:00 am  
Morning Worship: 10 am  
Sunday Evening Worship Service: 6 pm  
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer: 7 pm
- Iglesias Evangelica El Leon de la Tribe de Juda  
118 E. Willow St.  
Pastor: DTh Norma Sousa  
Friday & Saturday Nights Worship: 6:30 pm  
Sunday Worship: 1:30 pm
- Immaculate Conception Catholic Church  
709 W. Cedar St. Phone: 712-225-4606  
Father Dan Rupp  
Saturday Evening Mass: 5 pm  
Sunday Mass: 10:30 am  
Weekday Mass: See bulletin or call rectory  
Reconciliation: Before Mass times
- Memorial Presbyteian Church  
127 E. Willow Phone: 712-225-637  
Rev. Philip Beisswenger  
Worship: 9:30 am - Nursery provided  
Sunday School: 10:45 am
- Mount Olive Baptist Church  
6080 S Ave.4 Phone: 712-434-2218  
Pastor: Jeff Harris  
Worship Service: 10:45 am
- St. Paul's United Methodist Church  
531 W. Main Phone 712-225-3955  
Pastor: Rev. Michael T. Agnew  
Worship Service: 9:30 am  
Fellowship with snacks following worship service  
NO staffed nursery or Sunday School is available during the summer
- Trinity Lutheran Church  
230 N. Roosevelt St. Phone: 712-225-4332  
Rev. Jonathan R. Riggert  
Saturday Night Worship: 5:30 pm  
Worship Service: 9 am  
Sunday School & Bible Class: 10:15 am

- AURELIA**
  - First Congregational Church  
500 W. 5th St. Phone: 712-434-5694  
Pastor: Timmy Jones  
Sunday Worship Service: 8:30 am
  - First United Methodist Church  
31 Valor Ave. Phone: 712-434-5994  
Pastor: Linda Morris  
Worship Service: 9:30 am  
Sunday School: During Worship Service
  - St. Paul Lutheran Church  
501 Locust St. Phone: 712-434-2331  
Pastor: Derek Evans  
Worship Service: 9:30 am  
Followed by Sunday School & Adult Bible Class  
Holy Communion 1st & 3rd Sun. of the month
- CALUMET**
  - Zion United Church of Christ  
110 West 3rd St. Phone: 712-446-2308  
Rev. Kristy May  
Worship Service: 9:30 am
- CLEGHORN**
  - Cleghorn Christian Church  
207 E. Front St.  
Worship Service: 11 am  
Bob Blair Speaking
  - First Presbyterian Church  
102 W. Adaline St.  
Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School: 9:15 am
- HOLSTEIN**
  - CrossRidge Evangelical Free Church  
301 Lohff Schumann Dr. Phone: 712-368-6139  
Pastor: Tyler Parson  
Youth & Adult Sunday School: 9:30 am  
Contemporary Worship: 10:30 am
  - Faith Lutheran  
113 N. Main St. (Hwy. 59) Phone: 712-368-2850  
Pastor: Scott Neumann  
Youth Sunday School & Adult Bible Study: 9 am  
Worship w/Communion: 10:15 am
  - Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church  
513 Mueller St. Phone: 712-368-4755  
Father Dan Rupp  
Sunday Mass: 8:30 am
  - St Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church  
310 E. 2nd St. Phone: 712-368-2228  
Pastor: Bob Lewis  
Worship: 9 am  
Sunday School: 10 am (Sept. - May)  
Coffee fellowship: 10 am
  - United Methodist Church  
208 S. Kiel Phone: 712-368-2678  
Pastor: Betty Kiboko  
Sunday Service: 9am  
Sunday School, Youth Group &  
Fellowship 10:10am during the school year
- LARRABEE**
  - Calvary Chapel of Cherokee  
213 Jordan St. Phone: 712-437-2411  
Pastor: Jason Bolinger  
Sunday Worship: 10 am  
Wednesday Worship: 7 pm
  - United Methodist Church  
106 S. Church St. Phone: 712-437-2489  
Pastor: David Morris  
Worship Service: 9 am

- MARCUS**
    - Faith Lutheran Church  
305 W. Cedar  
Pastor: C. Alan Cummins  
9:30 am Worship, coffee & Fellowship following  
1st & 3rd Sunday-Marcus  
2nd & 4th Sunday-St. Paul's Lutheran, Remsen
    - Grace Methodist Church  
303 E. Fenton Phone: 712-376-4329  
Pastor: Travis Stevick  
Worship Service: 9:30 am  
Church School: 10:30 am
    - Holy Name Catholic Church  
102 N. Elm St. Phone: 712-368-2628  
Father Tim Pick  
Sunday Mass: 10 am  
Confessions: each weekday before Mass
    - Peace Lutheran Church  
300 E. Spruce Phone: 712-376-4818  
Pastor L. Kevin Rupp  
Saturday Service: 5:30 pm  
Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 am  
Communion: 1st & 3rd Saturdays & Sundays
    - Trinity Lutheran Church  
5289 C Ave. Phone:712-376-2666  
Pastor: Alex Kaldahl  
Sunday Worship: 11:30 am
  - MERIDEN**
    - Meriden Evangelical Free Church  
412 E. 3rd St. Phone: 712-443-8283  
Senior Pastor: Nelson Jenkins  
Youth Pastor: Peter Younker  
Sunday School: 9:30 am  
Worship Service: 10:30 am  
Wed. Evening - Awana: 6:30 pm
    - Oakdale Evangelical Free Church  
1207 450th St. Phone: 712-443-8385  
Sunday Worship: 9:30 am; Sunday School: 11 am
  - QUIMBY**
    - Pilgrim Lutheran Church  
204 W. 1st Phone: 712-445-2549  
Pastor: Alex Kaldahl  
Worship Service: 8 am; Sunday School: 9 am  
Sunday Bible Study: 9 am
    - Quimby Baptist Church  
208 Plain St. Phone: 712-445-2288  
Pastor: Dan Barnes  
Sunday School: 9:30 am  
Worship Service: 10:30 am  
Sun. Evening Worship: 6:30 pm  
Wed. Bible Study Prayer: 6:30 pm
    - United Methodist Church  
300 Sellars St. Phone: 712-445-2253  
Pastors Karen Berg-Currier & Dr. Michael Currier  
Children's Sunday School: 10:15 am  
Worship Service: 10:45 am  
UMW: 2nd Thurs. of month: 2 pm
  - WASHTA**
    - Meadow Star Church  
6506 C Ave. Phone: 712-375-5047  
Pastor:  
Worship Service: 9 am; Sunday School: 10 am
    - Washta Church of Faith  
103 S. 4th St. Phone: 712-447-6291  
Pastor: Barb Dinelli  
Worship Service: 9 am
- If your church has a change in schedule or staff, please contact the Cherokee Chronicle Times office at 712-225-5111. You can also email the corrections to [cindyh@ctimes.biz](mailto:cindyh@ctimes.biz). Please include your church's name and location in the email to avoid any confusion.

## Thank you to our sponsoring businesses:

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**R.J. Thomas Mfg. Co. Inc.**  
**Pilot Rock**  
Hwy. 59 S. • Cherokee  
225-5115

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**Open Monday-Saturday 8 am-9pm**  
Closed Sundays

**Greenwood Schubert Funeral Home**  
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Cherokee, Iowa  
712-225-4886

**Cherokee Chronicle Times**  
111 S. 2nd St., Cherokee  
712-225-5111



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Cherokee, Iowa  
Holstien & Carquest  
AUTO PARTS STORES

Cherokee Chronicle Times TV Times

September 1 - September 7, 2024

SUNDAY MORNING SEPTEMBER 1, 2024. Table with columns for time slots (6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for various TV channels and programs.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 1, 2024. Table with columns for time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30) and rows for various TV channels and programs.

SUNDAY EVENING SEPTEMBER 1, 2024. Table with columns for time slots (6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for various TV channels and programs.

MONDAY EVENING SEPTEMBER 2, 2024. Table with columns for time slots (6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for various TV channels and programs.

TUESDAY EVENING SEPTEMBER 3, 2024. Table with columns for time slots (6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for various TV channels and programs.

WEDNESDAY EVENING

SEPTEMBER 4, 2024

Table with 13 columns (6:00-11:30) and 13 rows of TV listings for Wednesday, September 4, 2024.

THURSDAY EVENING

SEPTEMBER 5, 2024

Table with 13 columns (6:00-11:30) and 13 rows of TV listings for Thursday, September 5, 2024.

FRIDAY EVENING

SEPTEMBER 6, 2024

Table with 13 columns (6:00-11:30) and 13 rows of TV listings for Friday, September 6, 2024.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

SEPTEMBER 7, 2024

Table with 13 columns (12:00-5:30) and 13 rows of TV listings for Saturday, September 7, 2024.

SATURDAY EVENING

SEPTEMBER 7, 2024

Table with 13 columns (6:00-11:30) and 13 rows of TV listings for Saturday, September 7, 2024.

# Annual Back-Pack program receives continued support

Members of the Cherokee Rotary Club participate with Mid-Sioux and Hy-Vee on the annual Back-Pack Program.

The Cherokee Rotary Club recently purchased 51 backpacks and filled them with some school supplies to help out Cherokee County children in need.

Corteva production held a employee drive and collected additional supplies for the back packs as well.

Mid-Sioux, in turn distributes them to families who sign up for the Back packs and supplies.



# Invenergy contributes to Cherokee County Disaster Recovery Fund



Invenergy made a \$5,000.00 contribution to the Cherokee County Disaster Recovery Fund. Members of the Invenergy team presented the check to CAEDC Board of Directors.

## Keane, Sampson announce engagement



Mari Kait Keane and Ben Sampson of Ankeny, Iowa are pleased to announce their engagement. Mari Kait is the daughter of Diane and Kent Bahrenfuss of Webster City, Iowa and Dave and Tina Keane of Burlington, Iowa. Ben is the son of Kirk and Lisa Sampson of Cherokee.

Mari Kait graduated from Webster City High School in 2012 before going on to earn her bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa in 2016 and her master's degree as a physician's assistant in 2018 from the University of Iowa. She currently works at UnityPoint.

Ben graduated from Washington High School in 2013 before attending Buena Vista University, graduating with a bachelor's degree in accounting and finance in 2017. He currently works at Fidelity & Guaranty (F&G) Life Insurance.

The couple plan a September 14, 2024 wedding.  
Photo credit: Ilderina Suljic Photography

## Don't be a victim of storm-related scams

BY SONYA SELMEYER  
Consumer Advocacy Officer for the Iowa Insurance Division

As Iowans continue to rebuild from storms, it is essential to stay vigilant about storm-related scams. Here are some common scams to watch out for:

**FEMA Scams:** Scammers may impersonate Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) representatives and ask for personal information and account numbers. If FEMA benefits were applied for in your name without your knowledge, call the FEMA fraud hotline at 866-720-5721 or send an email to StopFEMAFraud@fema.dhs.gov. Remember, FEMA does not charge for assistance.

**Contractor Scams:** After a storm, unscrupulous contractors, also known as storm chasers, may offer to repair damage but then take the payment and disappear without doing the work. To prevent these types of scams, get more than one estimate. Don't pay large up-front payments or give into pressure tactics. Always verify the contractor's credentials, license, and check reviews. Get a written contract that details the type of work to be done, the schedule, and the payment arrangements. Don't pay for any services with gift cards or virtual currency. If you are suspicious of a storm chaser scam call the Iowa Attorney General's Office at 888-777-4590.

**Charity Scams:** Fake charities might appear after a disaster, claiming to collect donations for relief efforts. Research and donate to established and reputable

organizations. Verify their legitimacy through watchdog organizations like Charity Navigator or GuideStar. Charity scams may be reported to the Iowa Attorney General's Office.

**Insurance Scams:** Watch out for individuals or companies that claim they can expedite your insurance claim or promise large payouts for a fee. Always contact your insurance company directly and never share your policy details with unsolicited contacts. Remember to communicate directly with your

insurance company and understand the settlement of your claim. Call the Iowa Insurance Division if you have questions at 877-955-1212 or 515-654-6600.

**Phishing Phone Calls, Emails, and Texts:** Scammers might call, send emails or texts pretending to be from official organizations, asking for donations or personal information such as bank or credit card account numbers. Don't answer phone calls from unknown numbers, and don't click on links in emails or text messages from unknown

sources. Be cautious of any unsolicited communications, and verify their authenticity through official channels.

**Identity Theft:** You may be asked to give personal information during a disaster in order to obtain assistance. Protect yourself from identity theft by freezing your credit with all three credit bureaus: Equifax, TransUnion, and Experian.

If something seems too good to be true, or involves being pressured to act quickly, stop and double check by verifying the information through reliable sources.

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(712) 368-4381

## LEGAL NOTICE

The Cherokee County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, August 13, 2024 with Rick Mongan, Bryan Petersen, Duane Mummert, Cheryl Ellis and Dave Skou present. There were no representatives from the press. Karin Cedar, Jillian Cates, Maria Murillo, Steve Zarr, Kenny Schlegler, Sarah Tracy and Kelly Puhmann were also in attendance. Unless otherwise indicated, all votes were offered as follows: Ayes – Ellis, Skou, Mummert, Petersen, Mongan; Nays – none; Abstentions – none.

Chairman Mongan called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Skou seconded by Mummert to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Ellis, seconded by Petersen to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Mummert, seconded by Skou to approve the claims for payment as presented. Motion carried. A complete listing is available for review in the County Auditor's office and online.

Claims Approved August 13, 2024:  
State Cherokee Agronomy Fuel 23,772.81  
Alliant Energy Serv 378.42  
Alpha Wireless Communications Serv 1,326.31  
Arnold Motor Supply Parts 24.36  
ASCENDANCE TRUCKS, LLC Parts 641.05

Aurelia Lumber Supp 232.42  
Aurelia Municipal Utility Serv 80.70  
Barco Municipal Products Inc Supp 2,032.94  
Beck Engineering Serv 4,020.50  
Blaine's Culligan Supp 178.65  
Boji Portable Toilets Inc Serv 200.00  
Bomgaars Supp 2,069.93  
Builders Sharpening & Serv Parts 57.09  
Bunkers Feed & Supply Inc Serv 244.44  
C & B Operations, LLC Equip 435.35  
Calhoun Burns Associates, Inc Serv 15,721.50  
Central Bank Supp 1,373.36  
Central Iowa Distributing Supplies 303.00  
CenturyLink Serv 33.95  
Champion Electric, Inc Serv 9,180.00  
Cherokee County Engineer Fuel 2,461.42  
Cherokee County Solid Waste Alloc 22,827.39  
Cherokee Co Treasurer Taxes 538.00  
Cherokee Depot Rent 960.00  
Cherokee State Bank Flex/Merp Flex/Self Fund 6,316.46  
Cherokee NAPA Parts 117.88  
Cherokee Regional Medical Ctr. Health Serv 354.32  
Cherokee Regional Medical CTR Contract 5,622.21  
Cherokee Rural Water Serv 531.89  
Cherokee State Bank Supp 105.30  
Cherokee Chronicle Times Publ 1,026.01  
Cintas Supp 100.98  
City of Cherokee Serv 40.81

City of Marcus Serv 10,024.78  
City of Meriden Serv 28.03  
City of Quimby Serv 63.46  
CJ Cooper & Associates Serv 200.00  
CML Telephone Coop Serv 2,555.79  
Cole Papers Supp 124.36  
Continental Fire Sprinkler Co. Serv 150.00  
Corporate Translation Services Serv 55.29  
Country Tire & Service, Inc. Serv 1,254.21  
Lacey M Daum Supp 913.05  
Brian Denery Per Diem 50.00  
Discover Supp 958.38  
Don Drefke Per Diem 50.00  
Joel M Ehrig Travel Reimb 384.56  
Elan Financial Services Supp 909.46  
Equipment Blades Inc Parts 7,448.40  
Evertek, Inc. Serv 400.00  
First Abstract & Loan Co. Serv 6,750.00  
Brian Filkeid Serv 162.00  
GovConnection, Inc. Supp 5,510.76  
Hallett Materials Gravel 15,543.03  
I-State Truck Center Parts 341.35  
IACCVSO Dubuque County VA Dues 50.00  
Imaging Spectrum, Inc. Supplies 291.43  
Iowa Prison Industries Parts 1,925.87  
Jack's Uniforms & Equipment Clothing 156.89  
Janitor's Closet, Ltd Supp 117.26  
Jebro Inc Supp 2,484.00  
KCHE Ads 247.00  
Lynne Lauck Serv 288.00  
Loughlin Law Firm Fees 75.00  
LSCP, LLC ROW 1,770.00  
Mail Services, LLC Postage 626.04

Marco Serv 245.99  
Marcus Lumber Supp 2,649.68  
Marcus News Publ 754.86  
Martin Marietta Materials Supp 18,997.03  
Mid American Energy Serv 5,194.76  
Mid-American Benefits, Inc. Admin Fees 625.50  
Midwest Lubricants, Inc Supp 412.50  
Midwest Wheel Companies Parts 1,262.02  
Wane A Miller Per Diem 50.00  
Modern Heating & Cooling, Inc Serv 990.91  
Motor Parts Sales Parts 452.45  
Newlands 1, LLC ROW 6,300.00  
Northside Tire Serv 3,407.81  
Nuvera Serv 66.88  
One Office Solution Supp 891.14  
Charles Peters, ETAL ROW 59,610.00  
PJ Greufe & Associates Serv 1,500.00  
Point C HealthCaf Admin Fees 82.50  
Polar Spray Foam Serv 1,296.00  
Cherokee County Pork Producers Serv 150.00  
PRO Cooperative Dust Control 896.00  
Prosecuting Attorneys Training Supp 56.00  
Rees Mack Sales & Service Parts 1,899.37  
Rider Family Dentistry PLC Serv 147.00  
Royal Apartments LLC Rent Pmt 200.00  
Jen Ryan Serv 72.00  
S & S Equipment, Inc. Parts 259.56  
Sanitary Services Inc Serv 947.30  
Secretary of State Notary Dues 30.00  
Siouxland Dist Health Dept Serv

100.00  
Jacqueline M Stephens Reimb/Serv 533.35  
Barb Steward Serv 300.00  
The Storm Lake Times Pilot Publ 723.85  
T Mobile Serv 60.83  
Thompson Propane & Supplies Fuel 75.00  
Thomson Reuters-West Fees 651.11  
Triple C Pest Control Serv 110.00  
Truck Center Companies Truck 155,752.22  
U.S. Postal Service Postage 1,000.00  
UST Testing Services Inc Serv 1,050.00  
Van Diest Supply Company Supp 5,051.50  
Vander Haag's Inc Parts 122.00  
Verizon Wireless Serv 2,186.34  
Vermeer Sales & Serv Parts 694.17  
Vestis Uniforms 251.28  
Visual Edge IT Inc./Counsel Serv 419.25  
WesTel Systems Serv 405.59  
Nissa M White Travel Reimb 294.04  
Woodbury County Sheriff Fees 78.00  
Ziegler Inc Supp 668.97  
Grand Total 445,192.61  
There were no comments from the public.

Steve Zarr, Survey Engineering Technician, presented utility permits for consideration.

Motion by Mummert, seconded by Skou to approve an underground construction on county right of way application for Cherokee Rural Water in Sections 21, 29 and 32 of Pilot Township. Motion carried.

Motion by Ellis, seconded by Petersen to approve an underground construction on county right of way application for CML Telephone in Sections 28 and 29 of Sheridan Township. Motion carried.

Motion by Skou, seconded by Mummert to accept Sarah Tracy's resignation from her position as Cherokee County Engineer effective September 13, 2024. Motion carried. The supervisors thanked Tracy for her five years of service to the county.

Motion by Ellis, seconded by Mummert to approve a separation of employment and \$555.00 final payout of hours worked for Peyton Kohn, Veteran Affairs Temporary Worker, effective July 30, 2024. Motion carried.

Motion by Skou, seconded by Petersen to approve a separation of employment and \$480.00 final payout of hours worked for Allison Daum, Conservation Seasonal Worker, effective June 28, 2024. Motion carried.

The supervisors provided committee reports and reviewed meeting schedules.

There being no further business, Chairman Mongan called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion by Ellis, seconded by Petersen to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 a.m.

All board agendas and minutes are available online at [cherokeecounty.iowa.gov](http://cherokeecounty.iowa.gov).

Rick Mongan, Chairman  
Attest: Kris Glienke, County Auditor (CT08-30/L#237)

# SPORTS

## Warriors win season opener in close match to Falcons

By Adam Dublinske

ALTA - The Alta-Aurelia volleyball team started the season off with a hard-fought 3-2 win over OABCIG at home on Tuesday.

The Warriors started off strong and jumped out to an early lead en route to a 25-17 first set victory. The Falcons

took control and led most of the second set as they took it 25-16. Both teams fought for the third set, but OABCIG came out on top again at 25-22 to lead 2-1. Alta-Aurelia didn't let it end there though as they fought to win the fourth set 25-18, forcing a

fifth set that they quickly won at 15-7 for the 3-2 victory.

Alta-Aurelia starts the season 1-0 and was scheduled to travel to face 1-0 Southeast Valley on Thursday. They will travel to take on Class 1A #7-ranked Newell-Fonda on Tuesday at 7 p.m.



Above, Charlotte Boelter, left, and Avery Westphal jump up to block a spike during Alta-Aurelia's home win over OABCIG on Tuesday. Below, Kadence Langschwager sets the ball up for a spike.



Breyer Anderson serves the ball during Alta-Aurelia's home game on Tuesday.

## Raptors drop season opener at South Central Calhoun

By Adam Dublinske

LAKE CITY - The Ridge Valley team traveled to take on South Central Calhoun on Tuesday where they

fell 3-0. The Titans took control and won the first set 25-17. They went on to win the second and third sets with scores of

25-19 in each for the 3-0 final. Ridge View is now 0-1 and will travel to take on Woodbury Central on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.



Above, Nora Peterson spikes the ball during Alta-Aurelia's 3-2 victory over OABCIG on Tuesday. Below, Peyton Kies receives a serve. Photos by Adam Dublinske



Kadence Langschwager bumps the ball during Alta-Aurelia's win over OABCIG.

## Wolverine volleyball drops three to start season

By Adam Dublinske

SPENCER - The South O'Brien volleyball team traveled to Spencer on Tuesday for a tournament where they lost three matches.

The Wolverines first took on Algona where they fell 2-0. The Bulldogs won the first set

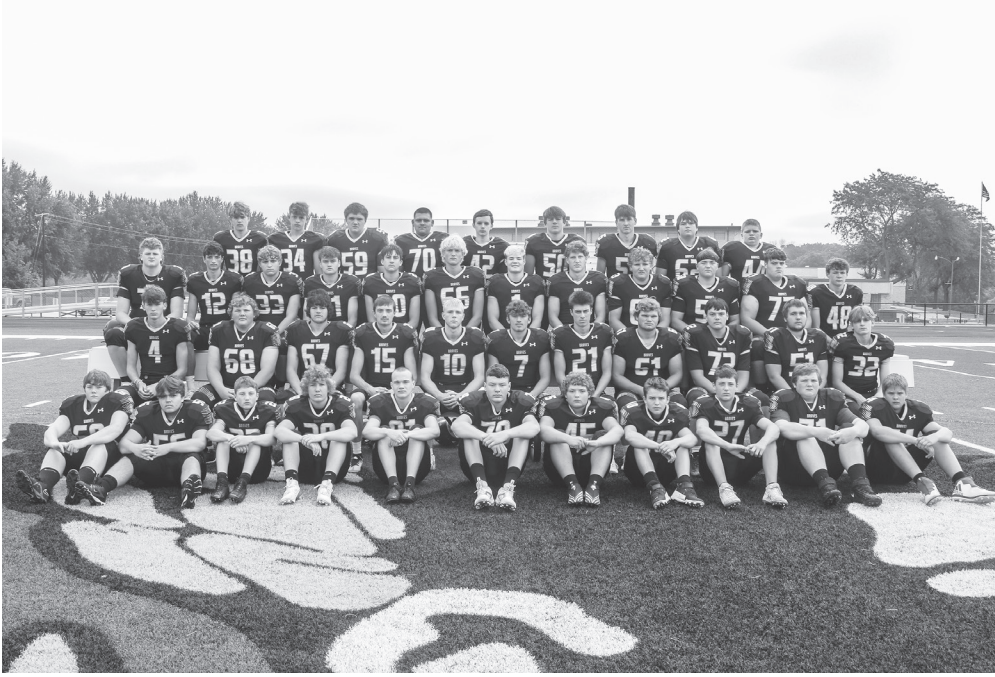
21-14 and the second 21-12. Next South O'Brien faced Okoboji where they lost 2-0 as the Pioneers won the first set 21-18 and the second 21-15. To end the night the Wolverines took on the host Tigers and lost 2-1. Spencer won the first set with a close

21-19 before South O'Brien dominated the second set for a 21-11 victory. In the third and final set Spencer took a 15-8 victory for the 2-1 final.

South O'Brien is now 0-3 and will travel to take on Harris-Lake Park on Tuesday at 5 p.m.



# SPORTS



The Cherokee football team is, front row from left to right, Tristin Harding, Mitchell Friedrichsen, Linkin Benson, Parker Wych, Eli Harris, Cohen James, Ryan Kennebeck, Kyson Anderson, Tyson Fuller, Braylund Hoepfner and Nash Pigott. Second row, Christian VanderBroek, Oscar George, Brayden Good, Logan Stowater, Tru Timmerman, Henry Lugar, Jacob Hurd, Colton Happe, Cole Comstock, Gavin Wych and Ethan Salberg. Third row, Levi Klingborg, Landan Stowater, Payton Gunn, Noah Rapp, Kyle Waldner, Coy Lewis, Jaxon Paulsrud, Blake Lovell, Teagan Thatcher, Mason Campbell, Joel Devos and Logan Patterson. Fourth row, Thomas Ruschmann, Travis Carson, Brice Cresap, Gabe Cortes, Gabe Bustos and Mallon Malausky, Kameron Kraft, Sean Comstock, Brayden Domsch. Not pictured is Ty Schlivhting and Kaden Nee.

## Braves return batch of starters to continue success

The Cherokee football team returns some starters and look to have another winning season under head coach Tony Gunter. The Braves finished 5-4 in a tough district last season. Jaxon Paulsrud returns on the offensive side of the ball for the Braves. Paulsrud threw for 563 yards and five touchdowns, and rushed for 896 with 13 touchdowns, leading the team in rushing yards and

scores. Also returning is Jacob Hurd who had 149 receiving yards with two touchdowns. Gunter expected Landan Stowater to be a big addition to the Braves' offense this season. On defense, Gunter said the front seven should be strong, but the back end needs to get better at third down stops. He wants them to focus hard on forcing turnovers. Paulsrud led the defense with 62.5 total

tackles, 45 solo and 8.5 for a loss. Also returning is Blake Lovell, 57 tackles, Tru Timmerman, 38.5 tackles and an interception, and Henry Lugar, 18 tackles and three picks. He said the team's main goal this season is to finish with a winning record. In order to accomplish that goal he said his team needs to work hard and play together as a team.



The Cherokee volleyball team is, front row from left to right, Danika Ducommun, Edith Deubner, Adrie Ducommun and Ava Kremer. Second row, Lola Christensen, Addy Pigott, Elise Anderson, Laney Wolfswinkel, Keylee Gregg and Ava Bouchard. Third row, Kalexis Hyndman, Kendyl Fox, Deidra Doeden, Kady Volkert, Macy Gravenish, Elle Mortenson and Mahren Malausky. Fourth row, Brittany Kannegieter, Raelyn Rodgers, Ally Timmerman, Alana Cruz, Frances Deubner, Anna Nixon, Ember Staver, Kenda Smith, EmmaJean Ohlendorf, Addy Wolfswinkel, Dreleigh Johnson, Chloe Pigott, Bryn Lewis, Lara Manrique, Laityn Riley and Ireland Kennedy.

## Braves volleyball eyes return to State Tournament

The Cherokee volleyball team returns a good batch of talent this season as they look to return to the State Tournament under head coach Tara Lugar. Cherokee finished last season 29-7 and are ranked ninth in class 3A in the pre-season rankings. Returning for the Braves is Laney Wolfswinkel, who was second in kills with 204 and digs with 240, Keylee Gregg, third in kills with 190 and digs with 174, Deidra Doeden, who had 107 kills and 111 blocks as a freshman, and

Addy Wolfswinkel, 99 kills as a freshman last season. Elise Anderson comes back as a setter as she had 299 assists last year. Addy Pigott, who led the team in digs with 289, returns as well. "We bring back a good depth of kids who have had started or played but we have a lot of young talent who will sprinkle in opportunities for us to be successful," said Lugar. New additions to the varsity lineup according to Lugar will be Macy Gravenish as

a middle hitter and Kaden Volkert as a right side blocker. The team's goals this season are to return to Coralville in November, stay in the top 10 of the rankings, execute on every play and take care of the ball. She says the team can accomplish that by practicing every day like they have been. "The kids have been a ton of time in the gym this summer and look forward to seeing where we will go," Lugar added.



The Cherokee cross country team is, front row from left to right, Alli Booth, Payton Reinert, Eva Anderson, Kallie Busse, Ruby Mongan, Addy Wilkie, Alexa Gravenish, Ameila Bo Ellis, Madison Lauck, Carli Lubeck, Mariana Diaz, Miriam Riggert and Leah Ellis. Second row, Hayden Brown, Lydia Hart, McKenna Benson, Sophie Thorson, Sophie Scherbring, Nora Hare, Josie Yeoh, Lena Loucks, Ella Badtram, Brynn Smith and Jess Olguin. Third row, Zyanya Reatiga, Hailey Allbaugh, Addison Schubert, Grace Woodall, Ella Simonsen, Sophia Patterson, Lana Busse, Alivia Schmillen and Kennedy Steward. Fourth row, Kaleb Nelson, Kyler Ducommun, Gerrit DeVos, Riley Swartz, Oscar Reatiga, Tyler Hughes, Garrett Patterson, Madden Richter, Tyler Rife, Tatem Richardson, Zach Walker, Colten Puffer, Clayton Scherbring, Mason Daum, Emmet Rosentrater, Grady Mizner-Fundermann, Cully Mizner-Fundermann and Hayden Turner.

## Large Braves team sees solid mix of veterans, newcomers

The Cherokee cross country team has a large group of returners and fresh faces under head coach Matt Hoskinson for the 2024-25 season. Returning for the Braves for the boys is Kyler Ducommun,

Kaleb Nelson, Riley Swartz, Cully Mizner-Fundermann, Grady Mizner-Fundermann and Hayden Brown. For the girls is Grace Woodall, Addy Wilkie, Ella Simonsen, McKenna Benson, Lydia Hart and Alli Booth.

"We have a good mix of veteran runners and young newcomers on both sides," said Hoskinson. "It is a hard-working group that has a lot of fun." Some key newcomers to the team this season will

be Stefi Beisswenger, Miriam Riggert, Eva Anderson, Colton Puffer, Clayton Scherbring, Madden Richter, Mason Daum, Garrett Patterson and Hayden Turner. The goals for the team this year is to see the girls return

to the State Meet and for the boys to push for a State appearance. When asked how they could accomplish those goals Hoskinson said, "We need to stay healthy on both sides. Our boys will need to see some young run-

ners step up and run with our strong upperclassmen. The girls must pack close together and see strong leadership from the upperclassmen."

**GOOD LUCK BRAVES**

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**Good Luck to our Cherokee Braves!**

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# SPORTS



The Alta-Aurelia football team is, front row from left to right, Nolan Reeves, Gable Van Oort, Alex Manteufel, Austin Droegmiller, Alex Daughenbaugh, Tilman Bern and Urijah Thompson. Second row, Adrik Kolpin, Abe Barajas, Holton Falck, Trevor Diischer, Cale Sievers, Wilson Alpet and Dustin Mattson. Third row, Dayn Simonsen, Jaxson Page, Maddux McCoy, Hayden Garlow, Peyton Meyer, Kadin Greene, Ashton Snyder and Cline Sievers. Fourth row, Ridge Cargin, Breydan Westphal, Jordyn Hinrickson, Gavin Sleezer, Quintin Jensen, Sam Sennert, Parker Cargin and Camden Reinert.

## Warriors look to improve from 3-5 finish last year

The Alta-Aurelia football team returns a group of starters under head coach Chris Reinert to start the 2024-25 campaign as they look to improve upon last season.

Returning for the Warriors is Gavin Sleezer, an All-State linebacker, Angel Barajas, Camden Reinert and Ridge Cargin, each All-District, Hayden Garlow, Parker Cargin, Sam Sennert, Jaxson Page, Breydan Westphal and Peyton Meyer.

Some top prospects to fill spots are Preston Miller-Jackson, Ashton Snyder, Maddux McCoy, Nolan Reeves, Dayn Simonsen, Darnold Manuel, Payton Syndergaard, Kadin Greene and Jordyn Henrickson.

When asked how this team

will be better than last years, Reinert said the experience that they return as a whole will help the team. "We finished the season last year with only one senior playing so many of these guys have game experience," added Reinert. "That should pay off and allow those kids to play fast."

Reinert thinks their defense will be a big strength for the team this season. "Our defense has the potential to have a little depth with some players that like to fly around and make plays," Reinert added. "Many returning players that will feed off of last season and what they learned."

When asked about the team's offense Reinert said,

"We will be experienced with our skill positions which gives us a lot of hope. Our line will have a learning curve to start the season but I trust they will be consistent for us once we get players in the right spots and assignments all figured out. We will have to be solid upfront on offense to compete. I feel that we have the potential to do some great things but will need to gel quickly as a unit."

Looking at the district, Reinert thinks MMRU will repeat at the top of the district, and thinks that every other team in the district, including his, will be battling for the top spots after that and will be competitive each Friday.



The Alta-Aurelia cross country team is, front row from left to right, Drew Huisenga, Jaxson Page, Antonio Garcia, Cline Sievers, Caden Kolar and Ledger DeMuth. Second row, Skylar Stowe, Jacob Launderville, Eric Kueny, Lainey Buckendahl, Jade Wilkinson, Andrew Kueny, Laeton Langschwager and Alvin Stowe. Third row, Korbin Glienke, Tegan Robertson, Breyer Anderson, Hayden Berkland, Nora Peterson, Bryndalyn Brock, Kiera Aberson, Bree Anderson, Meleigha Buckendahl and Angus Miller.

## Warrior runners return lots of starters, State runners

The Alta-Aurelia cross country teams return most of their starters this season, including a group of girls runners who have experience at the State Meet.

Returning for the girls is three-time State competitor Nora Peterson, who placed fourth last year, and Breyer Anderson who came in 63rd. Also returning is Hayden Berkland who finished in the top 10 of the Twin Lakes Conference, with Peterson and Anderson, Lainey Buckendahl and Tegan Robertson.

Returning for the boys are, State qualifier Jacob Launderville who took 49th at the

State Meet last year, Angus Miller, Andrew Kueny, Drew Huisenga and Alvin Stowe.

"Our girls' team should be another strong group again this year," said head coach Ariel Huseman. "We did lose Taylor Robertson, but we have some girls who are vying for that fifth spot on our team. We also have some returners who put in a lot of mileage and work this summer and are starting the season off in a great spot. We lost two boys from last year's team who were both in our top five at some point in the season, but we have been able to recruit some sophomores

and freshmen to bring our boys' numbers up to 13. We think we have the potential to have a strong boys' team this year, and we are excited to also have enough runners to put together a full JV team as well."

The goals of this season are to stay healthy, see each athlete achieve a personal best, take another team to State and improve their place in their conference. Huseman said they can accomplish those goals by finding what their strengths and weaknesses are and tailoring their practices to them.



The Alta-Aurelia volleyball team is, front row from left to right, Nalani Yeariks, Emily Sanchez-Platero, Adyson Greene, Eden Ferrusca, Keira Aberson, Hanna Edwards, Kealy Imel, Morgan Munro, Olivia Binder and Ellie Bloom. Second row, Elsie Peterson, Reese Wieland, Ariana Hernandez, Abree Maldonado, Tegan Robertson, Jade Mier, Gracen Herrig, Clare Gunkelman, Kadence Langschwager, Anessa Yahola-Jepson, Quimby Kies, Delilah Boelter and Macie Aronson. Third row, Kara Bryant, Brylee Bengtson, Elizabeth Schable, Payton Kruse, Hayden Berkland, Peyton Kies, Charlotte Boelter, Avery Westphal, Eva Kaskey, Nora Peterson, Emma Brunning and Leyla Molinsky. Not pictured are Breyer Anderson and Bree Anderson.

## Warriors look to continue success under new head coach

The Alta-Aurelia volleyball team has a new head coach as Erin Nelson leads the team after the retirement of long time coach Jeannie Henningson. The Warriors finished last season 20-3 and look to continue off that success.

Returning to the Warriors

varsity lineup this season is Nora Peterson, Kadence Langschwager, Breyer Anderson, Hayden Berkland, Avery Westphal and Peyton Kies. Langschwager led last years team in assists with 323 and was second in digs with 142, while Peterson and Anderson

were second and third in kills with 126 and 122 kills, respectively.

"I think our team has really good team chemistry," said Nelson. "Our team gets along really well and they are good at communicating with each other. I think we have the

ability to be competitive and make this season exciting. We have high hopes for the team and for the season."

Some key newcomers to the team will be Eden Ferrusca on the back row, Payton Kruse and Quimby Kies in the front row, and Bree Anderson

as a setter.

"We have an awesome freshmen class and they are all working hard on earning their spots," Nelson added.

Nelson said the team will be successful this year if they can work together, communicate well and fight hard for

every ball.

"When we are talking and moving our feet our level of play improves so much," Nelson added. "Everyone has to be willing to talk and cover on defense as well."

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# SPORTS



The MMCRU football team is, front row from left to right, head coach Kyle Oswald, Mason Carver, Brayden Miller, Noah Hart, Grant Prescott, Ben Ross, Owen Lennon, Tayden Hicks, Nolan Carver, Kezden Steffen, Thomas McKinney, RJ Krier and Gage Johnson. Second row, assistant coach Alex Wimmer, Brady Glassmaker, Ayden Miller, Parker Glassmaker, Cody Schmillen, Michael Schmillen, Carsten Schrooten, Caleb Wurth, Cooper Loutsch, Parker Loutsch, Aiden Shea, Aaron Letsche and Josh Doellinger. Third row, assistant coach Braeden Kamphoff, assistant coach Derrick Marra, John Schmillen, Brandon Dreckman, Jacob Pick, Eli Harpenau, Brennen Ball, Jesse Schnider, Luke Kintigh, Brayden Hill, Brayden Dunn, Kamden Bork, Blake Barinsky and Kaden Steffen. Fourth row, assistant coach Colin Youde, Owen Alesch, Mason Hill, Max Schnepf, Eli Schlenger, Josh Peterson, Ben Tentinger, Michael Peterson, Brayson Mulder, Jace Colling, Lukas Peterson, Carter Astidias, Carver Miller, Isaac Astidias and Gunnar Durkee.

## Royals look to continue success from last season

The MMCRU football team returns a ton of starters as they look to repeat among the top in the district under head coach Kyle Oswald. The Royals finished 7-3 last season. Returning for the Royals is Jace Colling, Carer Miller, Michael Peterson, Brayson Mulder, John Schmillen, Grant Prescott, Ben Tentinger and Tayden Hicks. Some key

newcomers will be Michael Schmillen, Lukas Peterson, Eli Schlenger, Parker Loutsch, Gage Johnson, Blake Barinsky, Brayden Dunn, Max Schnepf, Mason Hill, Parker Glassmaker, Wyatt Alesch, Eli Harpenau and Kamden Bork. "We graduated a lot of talent and experience, but we are excited to see many new faces step into important

positions and roles," said Oswald. "Finally being able to come off a winning season is starting to pay dividends. We have more out for football this year than ever before, we have a large amount of players who have seen some time on the varsity field and I believe we are going to have a very strong showing for our JV squad as well."

Some question marks for the team this season will be to make sure they have depth at every position and knowing their playbook and how to execute their jobs on every play. "I would also like to see passion flowing out of our guys on every play in every facet of the game," added Oswald.

Some of the team's goals this season are to have a winning record, make the playoffs and host a playoff game. They were one score from a district championship last season and coach Oswald would like to accomplish the title this season. To accomplish those goals Oswald said, "We have several new guys stepping into

roles, we need to play for each other and not plan on any one individual carrying our team. If we rely too much on any individual instead of the team, we will struggle. If we can be a consistent force as a team, we can be dangerous."



The MMCRU volleyball team is, front row from left to right, Gracie Schroeder, Sadie Youde, Breanna Staab, Kylie Harpenau and Tia Tentinger. Second row, Peyton Busch, Deanna Partridge, Lana Florine, Olivia Spenner, Chloe Alesch, Brielle Lux, Aleah Lux and Raya Staab.

## Royals volleyball looks to improve with experience from last year

The MMCRU volleyball team is still a young team, but has much more experience this season under head coach Heather Youde as they look to improve from last year's 7-15 finish.

"Even though we are fairly young, we have many of our sophomores now starting their second year on varsity," said Youde. "This will be a big factor for us as four of our starters were freshmen last year."

Returning for the Royals are Breanna Staab, second team

All-Conference in the War Eagle Conference as a libero, Chloe Alesch, All-Conference honorable mention as a middle hitter, Tia Tentinger as a setter, Aleah Lux as a middle hitter and Brielle Lux as an outside hitter.

Some key newcomers to the team according to Youde are Deanna Partridge on the right side, Kylie Harpenau as a setter, Lana Florine as an outside hitter, and Sadie Youde as a defensive specialist.

The team is really focusing on passing and communica-

tion to run a highly explosive offense. The team will continue to work on those as the season continues to improve their offense.

"We are focused on hard work," said Youde. "Our motto is 'Nobody has ever drowned in their own sweat'. Our goal is to outwork our opponent in practice and on the court. We feel it is doing the little things well that will lead to be able to do the big things. In the long run, our record will improve."



The MMCRU cross country team is, front row from left to right, Max Pepper, Karsen Galles, Lucas Braun, Jeff Braun, Clint Staab and Conner Galles. Second row, Audrey Etter, Alisa Pajazetovic, Annika Juhl, Rylee Nissen-Teepe and Sophia Etter.

## Royal runners look to field full teams this year

The MMCRU cross country team has a ton of varsity experience returning, and some State experience with Lucas Braun on the boys team, under head coach Lisa Letsche.

"I'm excited to have both a boys and girls full team this year," said Letsche. "I haven't determined yet if all will run varsity and therefore allow us

to score as a team, but I am hopeful that will be the case by the end of the season."

Some things the teams will work on throughout the season are finishing strong and running as a team since they will have the opportunity to score as a team at most meets this year. "That will be a slightly different concept for us, as opposed to scoring

solely as an individual," Letsche added.

The goals for the teams are to win meets and see consistent improvements in times from meet to meet. To accomplish those goals Letsche said their practices will have a wide variety of workouts including some more focus on strength training.

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# SPORTS



The South O'Brien football team is, front row from left to right, Drew Wittrock, Tyler Hintz, Noah Wittrock, John Puhmann, Will Stout, Ashton Hunt, Marshal Warnke, Dominic Rounds, Corbin Warnke, Conner Hedberg, Hunter Lange and Brayden Stines. Second row, Austin Negus, Billy Lange, Gabe Moermond, Brady Struve, Teagan Barenfuss, Brady Riedemann, Carter Halverson, Caden Wittrock, Kaydyn Kuehn, Andrew Suarez, Westyn Harper and Roman Harms. Third row, Reese Lundquist, Derek Paulsen, Brody VanBeek, Jaden Kreber, Jayven Miller, Jordan Jenness, Brett Evans, Brennan Billick, Brooks Billick, Jaxon Weier and Jasper Johnson.

## Wolverine football looks to improve from 1-7 finish last year

The South O'Brien football team had a rough finish last season, but looks to improve under head coach Mark Fuhrman this season.

Returning starters for the Wolverines is Derek Paulsen

as a receiver and corner, Jordan Jenness as a fullback and linebacker, Caden Wittrock as a tight end and linebacker, and Teagan Bahrenfuss and Jayven Miller on the lines. Also returning is Gabe Moer-

mond, Brady Riedemann, Billy Lange, Ashton Hunt, Jaxon Weier and Carter Halverson.

"At this time we have a lot of wide open positions with a lot of different people filling

those spots," said Fuhrman. "We are going to have to be able to move people around until we can find some consistency. The players are working hard and are getting better with every practice."

Fuhrman said his goal for the team is just to improve every week. "We struggled last year blocking and tackling," Fuhrman added. "This affected our running game offensively and defensively

we struggled getting off the field. We also need to play better together as a team and play within our roles."



The South O'Brien volleyball team is, front row from left to right, Abby Woodall, Addi Hedberg, Ashlyn Gunnerson, Avery Halverson, Abby Nelson and Shayli Johnson. Second row, Tori Schueller, Lindsey Einck, Raegan Plagge, Taylor Wulf, Reese Farquhar and Chloe Hustedt.

## Young Wolverines have good start but seek growth

The South O'Brien volleyball team has some varsity starters returning to the line-up, but will have a lot of fresh faces to the roster under head coach Amy Schmidt. The team looks to improve from

its 6-16 finish last season.

Returning for the Wolverines are Ashlynn Gunnerson, second team All-Conference in the War Eagle Conference as a setter last season with 300 assists, Abby Nelson,

an All-Conference honorable mention with 214 digs, Chloe Hustedt, who had 115 digs and 72 kills last season, and Taylor Wulf, who had 14 blocks.

"We are young for the most

part," said Schmidt. "We will have three to four new players in our starting rotation and so we are working on team chemistry and what rotation works best for us. We are at a good starting point

but have a lot of room for improvement and growth."

Some of the teams goals this season are to play unselfishly, fulfill individual roles to make the team better, communication and getting to

the ball. Schmidt said they can achieve those goals with constant daily learning and improvement.



The South O'Brien cross country team is, front row from left to right, Tricia Kilts, Bode Bailey, Bensen Rohwer, Ethan Schwarz, Trey Cobb, Caleb Buenger, Asa Flinders and Hailei Wallinga. Not pictured is Landen Davenport.

## Wolverine's see mix of returning veterans and newcomers to team

The South O'Brien cross country team see a good mix of returning letter winners and some new faces to their team under head coach Jeremy Lansink.

Returning for the Wol-

verines is Ethan Schwarz, Bensen Rohwer, Caleb Buenger, Trey Cobb and Hailei Wallinga. "We'll have a variety of leadership forms from alot of different athletes," said Lansink. "Should

be a fun group to watch grow together."

Lansink said the team has a lot of new members to the t team this year and that they will have to learn the in's and out's of cross country. The

team will work on learning what their true race pace is so they can compete at the best of their abilities.

The team's goals are to be competitive at the Holstein meet, their home meet and

the War Eagle Conference Meet. Lansink said that those three meets will tell them a lot about how they can square up at the district meet.

"We shoot to improve every day through working

hard in practice, and knowing when to take days off," Lansink added. "We'll schedule practices so that way we can be at peak performance for key meets and end of the season."

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# SPORTS



The Ridge View football team is, front row from left to right, Austin Wood, Carson Harriman, Xavier Rojas, Kyle Burk, Kellen Jensen, Dramelle McCray, Conner Jacobson, Gavin Vohs, Colin Pribble and Jared Taylor. Second row, Jake Cougill, Lucas Heilman, Zach Kolpin, Carter Todd, Blake Myrtue, Kinnick Jensen, Adam Stephan, Donovan Martin, Tyler Friedrichsen, Cole Jochims, Kellen Clausen and Drew Burk. Third row, Broc Wilken, Kreighton Krager, Landyn Peterson, Kolton Witzke, Raif Jensen, Jonathan Friedrichsen, Leo Avina, Tate Schossow, Kyson Turnquist, Jasper Scadden, Shane Reiss and Alax Goettsch. Fourth row, Evan Kolpin, Derek Heilman, Carson Jacobson, Blake Friedrichsen, Karson Jensen, Ayden Heitmann, Aiden Myrtue, Carter Heitmann, Talan Witzke, Ian Hanson, Kelsen Griffin, Lane Wandrey and Hayden Hawthorne. Fifth row, Alex Pribble, Ty Clausen, Coach Adam Bisenius, Coach Tyler Wingert, Head Coach Brian Wilken, Coach Brian Bode, Coach Wade Harriman, Coach Nathan Conover, Oscar Rubio, Tucker Parker, Kyler Crum and Brock Johnson. Not pictured are Lukas Bruns and Brady Goettsch.

## Raptors return starters under new, experienced head coach

The Ridge View football team has a solid batch of varsity players returning to the lineup under new head coach, Brian Wilken, who has a storied 26 year career as head coach. Ridge View finished 4-5 last season.

Returning for the Raptors on offense is Kyle Burk on the line, Kellen Jensen, Kinnick Jensen and Zach Kolpin as ends, Gavin Vohs and Lucas Heilman in the backfield and Raif Jensen as a quarterback.

Returning on defense is Austin Wood, Dramelle McCray and Lucas Heilman on the line, Kellen Jensen, Gavin Vohs and Blake Myrtue as linebackers, and Zach Kolpin, Kinnick Jensen

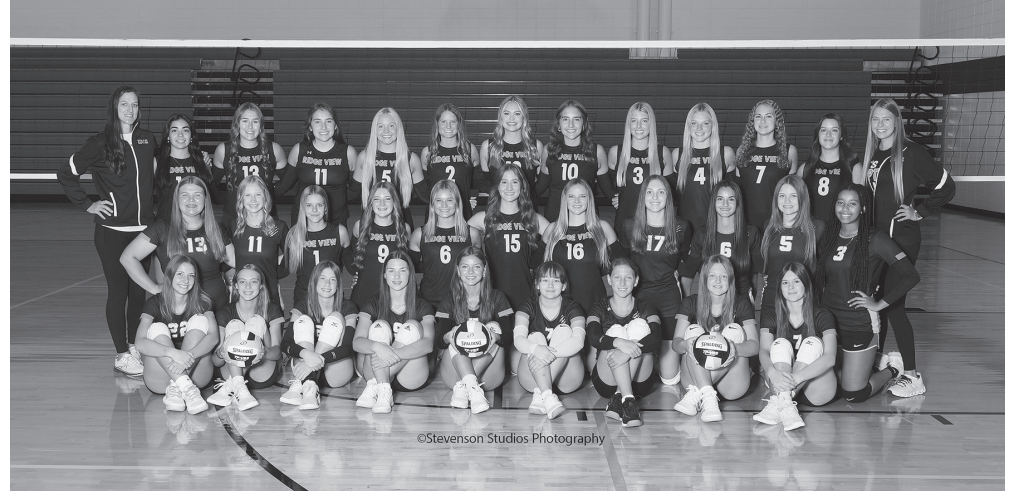
and Raif Jensen as defensive backs.

When asked about the team's strengths Wilken said, "One of our team strengths as we begin the 2024 season will be our numbers with ten seniors, twelve juniors, twelve sophomores, and twenty one freshman out for football. These numbers will obviously create some great competition for playing time at all positions along with depth. A number of skill kids return as offensive or defensive starters which will provide this football team with a starting place as we begin practices and also some experience."

A big concern for the team in Wilken's eyes are the line

"Football games are won and lost up front and the success one has is due to one's ability to control and dominate the line of scrimmage," Wilken added. "Depth in these two areas could also be a concern as we are not currently blessed with an abundance of offensive and defensive linemen. We may have to ask some young men to move positions to help in these two areas."

Looking at the district, Wilken thinks each team has a chance to fight for the title. He said OABCIG will be strong, but that each team in the district has talented players on their roster.



The Ridge View volleyball team is, front row from left to right, Emyllynn Winkel, Cora Tesch, Graceyn Hansen, Haley Wright, Bryli Blunk, Kiaya Stieneke, Hannah Brown, Brynlee Grieme and Kallie Pyle. Second row, Carli Friedrichsen, Brooklynn Lukins, Chloe Murphy, Zoey Aschinger, Naunika Crum, Gillian Chance, Natalie Madsen, Madelynn Horan, Savannah Cudaback Savannah Leshner and Kimiya Boldin. Third row, coach Monica Brandhorst, Leslie Avina, Claire Wandrey, Mazee Henningson, Cadey Vohs, Gabi Mason, Sydney Blackmore, Mya Henningson, Lillian Whitmer, Kiara Luscombe, Alyssa Biede, Callie Wendt and coach Carly Murphy. Not pictured is coach Steph Wandrey.

## Raptors look to stay atop Western Valley Conference

The Ridge View volleyball team returns a few starters under head coach Monica Brandhorst as they look to stay among the top of the Western Valley Conference teams after last years 34-9 finish.

Returning for the Raptors is Sydney Blackmore, first team All-Conference middle hitter who had 328 kills and 64 blocks last year, Lillian Whitmer, an All-Conference honorable mention setter who had 163 assists and digs, Kiara Luscombe, an All-Conference honorable mention outside hitter who had 102 kills last season, and Gabi Mason, who was out last season with an injury.

Some new players to the varsity lineup will be Claire Wandrey, Naunika Crum, Alyssa Biede and Gillian Chance on the front row. As libero and defensive specialists are Cadey Vohs, Leslie Avina and Chloe Murphy. Other contributors will be Mya and Mazee Henningson,

Zoey Aschinger and Callie Wendt.

"A strength for us is a willingness to learn and try new things," said Brandhorst. "These girls are constantly asking for ways to improve. They listen and then follow through. They are always helping each other too."

When asked how the teams offense will run, Brandhorst said, "Lillian will finally get her time to shine running the offense. She is a great hustler and will work hard to put it on a platter for her teammates. Sydney will be a powerhouse for us offensively. She has outstanding court awareness and can manipulate the ball well. Kiara and Gabi will do most of the swinging on the outside. They both have improved over the summer and are ready to take on a bigger role. With four or five other options in those younger girls I am excited to see what our offense can really do when we put it all together. It's going to depend

on getting a good passing lineup and everyone contributing. We'll need to utilize all our hitters to keep the blocks open."

Defensively Brandhorst said, "Our defense is really shaping up in the back row. We are reading the hitters well, anticipating the angle, and putting 100 percent effort into every ball. We are working on getting better at having two blockers up and closing on every hit. It's going to make a big impact on our play if we can get our blockers in the air and sealed just a bit earlier to slow down or stop a few more balls."

Looking at the Western Valley Conference Brandhorst expects a number of teams to have solid seasons, with River Valley, Westwood and MVA-OCOU being the teams that will compete for the top with the Raptors, while OABCIG and West Monona have the potential to be up in the mix as well. She expects her team to finish among the best.



The Ridge View cross country team is, front row from left to right, Clara Todd, Tiegan Vohs, Regan Ruble, Addy Tesch, Xaria Rojas, Alyssa Biede, Hannah Brown, Cora Tesch, Destiny Chavez and Taylor Hansen. Second row, coach Tesch, Tyler Dutler, Talan Witzke, Landyn Peterson, Dramelle McCray, Daniel Najera-Torres, Ayden Heitmann, Odin Hanson, Brody Bisenius, Aiden Stevenson, Tristan Werner, Robert Forristal and coach Downs. Not pictured, Linda Spahn and Ethan Serrano Castillo.

## Raptor runners lost talented runners from last year's roster

The Ridge View cross country teams lost a ton of runners, including some who competed at State, but have a group of returners under head coach Katie Tesch.

Returning for the girls are Addy Tesch, Clara Todd and Regan Ruble, who each placed as the Western Valley Conference meet and helped the team win the title last year, along with Xaria Rojas and Tiegan Vohs. Back for the boys are Landyn Peterson, Brody Bisenius, Odin Hanson, Tristan Werner and Ethan Serrano Castillo.

New to the girls team are Alyssa Biede, Hannah Brown, Destiny Chavez, Taylor Hansen and Cora Tesch.

"This year we are returning with a younger group after graduating many talented

seniors," said Tesch. "Biede is coming off a strong track season and our freshmen come in bringing their own success winning the middle school Western Valley Conference title last fall. In our first couple weeks of practice we're happy with the girls' enthusiasm, work ethic, and determination to run as a pack."

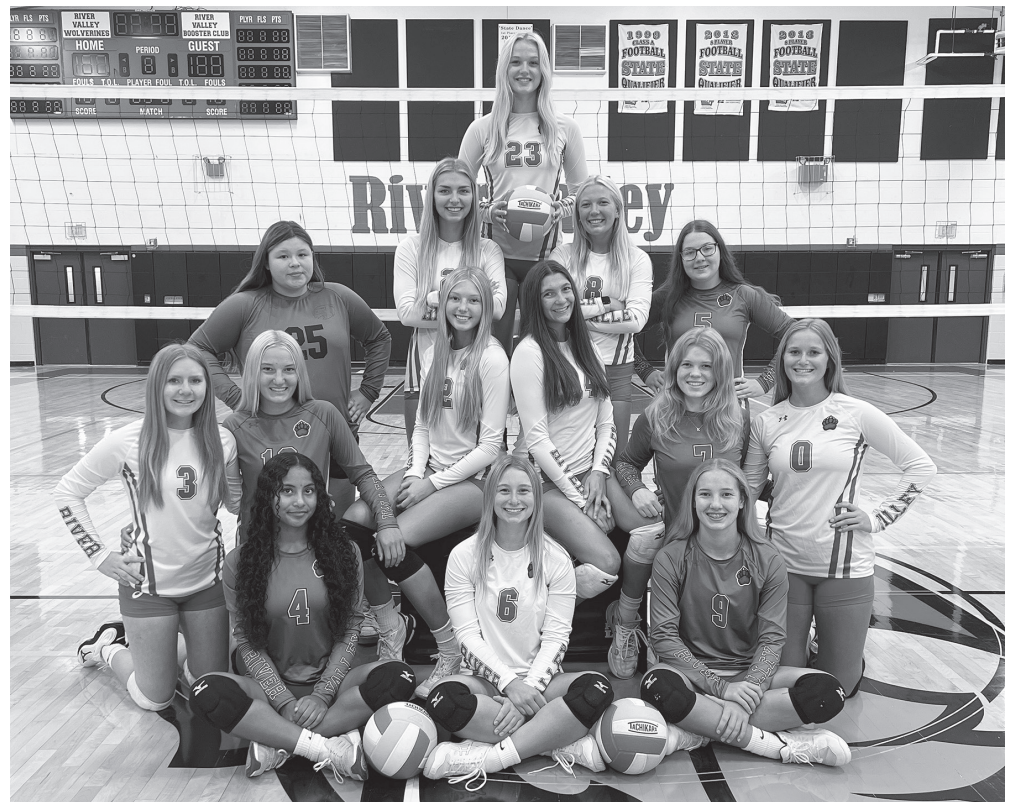
Newcomers for the boys are Dramelle McCoy, Robert Forristal, Tyler Dutler, Ayden Heitmann, Aiden Stevenson and Talan Witzke.

"Our boys team also lost quite a few seniors, but return two western valley conference place winners, junior Odin Hanson and sophomore Ethan Serrano Castillo," said Tesch. "The incoming freshmen boys also won the middle school Western

Valley Conference meet, with Talan Witzke being the individual champion. The boys are a competitive group and really challenging each other to work hard to achieve their goals for this upcoming season."

The team's goals are to keep their runners healthy to remain competitive all season. They would like to see both team's place in the top three in the Western Valley Conference and be competitive at the State qualifying meet at the end of the season.

"As we train, we'll really have to focus on keeping everyone healthy and helping each of our runners run to the best of their ability," Tesch added. "Each day is an opportunity to get better."



The River Valley volleyball team is, front row from left to right, Yesenia Hernandez, Karlee Shever and Jaedyn Dausel. Second row, Kaya Paris, Addy Dausel, Alaina Goettsch, Addie Law, Natalie Schlenger and Anna Kozora. Lily Brinkerhoff, Jacy Jacobson, Myah Dausel and Morgan Buettner. Up top, Sunny Todd.

## River Valley volleyball eyes run at State Tourney

The Ridge Valley volleyball returns this season with tons of varsity experience under head coach Olivia Utesch. The Wolverines finished last season 25-7 and are ranked fifth in Class 1A in the preseason rankings.

Returning for the Wolverines are Addie Law and Myah Dausel, both first team All-Conference in the Western Valley Conference, Alaina Goettsch, second team

All-Conference, and Sunny Todd and Jacy Jacobson, All-Conference honorable mentions. Some key newcomers to the varsity roster is Natalie Schlenger and Jaedyn Dausel.

"River Valley is striving to win the Western Valley Conference this year," said Utesch. "It won't be an easy route, but the girls are ready for the challenge. River Valley's ultimate goal is to win

their region final and qualify for State. This is an experienced team that is extremely motivated to prove their worth."

The keys to achieving those goals are consistency in practice, each player knowing their role and what they contribute, goal setting, having clear expectations and starting strong and playing to their best abilities in games, according to Utesch.

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THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR Cherokee COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF **Janice m. Korleski, Deceased** CASE NO. ESPR017173

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

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Janice M. Korleski, Deceased, who died on or about May 28, 2024: You are hereby notified that on

May 28, 2024, the Last Will and Testament of Janice M. Korleski, deceased, bearing date of February 13, 2023, was admitted to probate in the above named court and that Duane J. Korleski was appointed Executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

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

Dated August 22, 2024.  
 Duane J. Korleski, Executor of Estate  
 101 6th St.  
 Ireton, IA 51027  
 Jason M. Cook, ICIS#: AT0012443  
 Attorney for Executor  
 Cook Law Firm  
 209 W. Willow St., PO Box 209  
 Cherokee, IA 51012  
 Date of Second Publication; 6th of September, 2024  
 (CT08-30,09-06/L#55)

**LEGAL NOTICE**

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR Cherokee COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF **Harry A Johnson, Deceased** CASE NO. ESPR017196

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

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Harry A Johnson, Deceased, who died on or about August 3, 2024: You are hereby notified that on August 14, 2024, the Last Will and Testament of Harry A Johnson, Deceased, bearing date of April 12, 2017, was admitted to probate in the above named court and that JoAnn Johnson was appointed Executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

Dated August 14, 2024.  
 JoAnn Johnson, Executor of Estate  
 2460 Five Rocks Road  
 Gering, NE 69341  
 John H. Cook, Jr., ICIS#: AT0001621  
 Attorney for Executor  
 Cook Law Firm  
 209 W. Willow St., PO Box 209  
 Cherokee, IA 51012  
 Date of Second Publication: 6th of September, 2024  
 (CT08-30,09-06/L#55)

**We can stop HIV, Iowa—**  
 by staying up-to-date on recommended screenings!

Health screenings help to identify diseases and chronic conditions before symptoms occur. The CDC recommends:

- All people ages 13-64 should be screened for HIV at least once in their lifetime.
- All people ages 18 and over should be screened for hepatitis B and hepatitis C at least once in their lifetime.
- Pregnant women should be screened for HIV, hepatitis B, and hepatitis C during each pregnancy.

Talk to your healthcare provider about getting screened! Forgot if you've had a screening? Ask them to check your records!

Screenings are important because HIV, hepatitis B and hepatitis C don't always have noticeable signs or symptoms. Some people should be tested **more often**—visit the web resources below to learn more!

Scan here to learn more about HIV screening recommendations—  
 Or visit <https://cdc.gov/hiv/testing/>

Scan here to learn more about hepatitis B screening recommendations—  
 Or visit <https://cdc.gov/hepatitis-b/testing/>

Scan here to learn more about hepatitis C screening recommendations—  
 Or visit <https://cdc.gov/hepatitis-c/testing/>

**STOP HIV IOWA**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR Cherokee COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF **Janice m. Korleski, Deceased** CASE NO. ESPR017173

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

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Janice M. Korleski, Deceased, who died on or about May 28, 2024: You are hereby notified that on

May 28, 2024, the Last Will and Testament of Janice M. Korleski, deceased, bearing date of February 13, 2023, was admitted to probate in the above named court and that Duane J. Korleski was appointed Executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

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

Dated August 22, 2024.  
 Duane J. Korleski, Executor of Estate  
 101 6th St.  
 Ireton, IA 51027  
 Jason M. Cook, ICIS#: AT0012443  
 Attorney for Executor  
 Cook Law Firm  
 209 W. Willow St., PO Box 209  
 Cherokee, IA 51012  
 Date of Second Publication; 6th of September, 2024  
 (CT08-30,09-06/L#55)

**LEGAL NOTICE**

Washta City Council met in regular session Monday August 5th, 2024 at 6:30 P.M. in the City Hall. The following Council was present: Ashley, Patterson, Joy, Stieneke and Roepke. Also present: Paul Riggs, Sue Flitts, Dawn Shea, Michelle McCampbell and Nancy Parrott. Mayor Conner called the meeting to order, motion Stieneke, 2nd Ashley, ayes: 5/0 to approve consensus business which includes the new agenda, new bills, previous minutes, and all reports.

A bill for \$600.00 was presented from the new attorney with no detail on it, this bill will be pulled out and the Mayor will contact him.

Prices for summer fill propane and 1400.00 gals @ \$1.52 prepaid was gone over, motion Stieneke, 2nd Patterson, ayes: 5/0 approved to order from New Coop.

A letter of resignation from Clerk Slota was gone over, due to unforeseen health issues she had to resign as of July 1st 2024. Motion Stieneke, 2nd Patterson, ayes: 5/0.

She has stated she will help train the new person @ 25.00 an hour.

Michelle McCampbell spoke to the Council about her neighbor moving a fence closer to her property. The Mayor will contact Lyle to check this out.

Due to the Labor Day Holiday the regular Council meeting is set for Monday September 9th, 2024 at 6:30 P.M., motion Conner, 2nd Ashley, ayes: 5/0 approved.

There being no further business, motion Patterson, 2nd Joy, ayes: 5/0 meeting adjourned at 7:05 P.M.  
 Jennifer Conner, Mayor  
 (CT08-30/L42)

**The Garden Bug**

**Make a terrarium**

A terrarium is an enclosed, clear container with plants growing inside. Once the plants are gently watered then enclosed, a mini-environment is created. Moisture is transpired through the leaves, condenses on the inside of the container, then flows back to the soil. Begonias, ferns, swedish ivy and pothos do well in terrariums. - Brenda Weaver

Source: [www.thegardenhelper.com](http://www.thegardenhelper.com)

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**CryptoQuip**  
 answer

Why are trowels, hoes and spades common items in novels and movies? They're plot devices.

**SNOWFLAKES**  
 solution

**SCRAMBLERS**  
 solution

1. Shine; 2. Origin; 3. Lucid; 4. Poison

**Today's Word OPINION**

**Weekly SUDOKU**  
 Answer

8	3	9	4	5	1	2	6	7
5	4	2	6	3	7	9	1	8
6	7	1	2	8	9	4	5	3
9	2	5	1	7	6	3	8	4
3	6	7	8	2	4	1	9	5
1	8	4	3	9	5	7	2	6
4	9	8	7	6	2	5	3	1
7	5	3	9	1	8	6	4	2
2	1	6	5	4	3	8	7	9

**FLASHBACK ANSWERS**

11. It's a line dance, aka the Sid Shuffle, from the animated movie "Ice Age." See YouTube for instructions on the dance.

2. The Isley Brothers, in 1959. It took until 1999 for the song to be admitted to the Grammy Hall of Fame.

3. In a motel room in Montreal in

**PRINCE VALIANT CHARACTERS**

1969, during the "Bed-In" staged by John Lennon and Yoko Ono during their honeymoon. Recording equipment, including a four-track recorder, was brought in. The small crowd included one of the Smothers Brothers, Timothy Leary of LSD fame and a rabbi.

4. Trumpeter Louis Armstrong was called Satchel Mouth because of the shape of his mouth from playing trumpet. That was shortened to Satchmo.

5. "I Don't Want to Miss A Thing," by Aerosmith in 1998. The song was featured in the film "Armageddon" and topped charts around the world. Mark Chesnutt followed with a cover the next year.

**Even Exchange**  
 answers

- Bonnet, Sonnet
- Silly, Sally
- Plain, Plaid
- Wield, Yield
- Musher, Muster
- Closet, Closer
- Shack, Shock
- Tamper, Temper
- Wager, Eager
- Police, Polite

**Super Crossword**

**Answers**

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