



EAGLE GROVE

# EAGLE

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## IN THIS WEEK'S EAGLE

- Pg A2 Local News
- Pg A5 Puzzles / Opinion
- Pg A6 Church News
- Pg A8 Classifieds
- Pg A8, A9 Public Notices
- Pg A9, A10 Sports



Santa Letters in this issue!



## Wright County 4-H Holds Annual Awards Dinner

By Edward Lynn Editor

DOWS, Iowa – The Wright County 4-H program celebrated its annual awards dinner on Saturday, Nov. 23, at the Dows Community Center, with more than 100 people in attendance. The event, hosted by the Wright County 4-H Teen Council, featured walking tacos and lemonade for dinner.

The evening celebrated achievements across various categories, recognizing members for their hard work and dedication throughout the year.

- County Council Awards**
- Rookie of the Year Award: Keegan Eientrager
  - Butterfly Award: Kali Wharton
  - Wise Owl Award: Harley Charlson
  - Cheerleader Award: Belle Wharton
  - Yes Man Award: Owen Sweeney
  - Big Brother Award:

- Quinn Whaley
- Handy Helper Award: Hannah Wharton
  - Silly Goose Award: Logan Legleiter
  - Most Competitive Award: Ethan Schreiber
  - Always 100% Award: Lea Charlson

- Record Book Completion Award**
- Lea Charlson, Harley Charlson, Ethan Schreiber, Olivia Holmes, Ciaran Holmes, Hannah Wharton, Samantha Seaba, Ember Howell, Jack Schreiber, Logan Legleiter, Owen Sweeney, Tate Jackson, Robert Nastruz, Jacob Wharton, Caleb Seaba, Lola Melandez-Zeiger, Gracyn Schmelling, Zion Marshall, Kayleigh Marshall, Belle Wharton, Kali Wharton, and Adelynn Howell.

- Star Award**
- Lola Melandez-Zeiger, Hannah Wharton, Jacob Wharton, Zion Marshall, Robert Nastruz, and Ciaran Holmes.

- Achievement Award**
- Kayleigh Marshall, Caleb Seaba, Samantha Seaba, Lea Charlson, Harley Charlson, Owen Sweeney, Logan Legleiter, Gracyn Schmelling, Ethan Schreiber, Kali Wharton, Belle Wharton, Ember Howell, Adelynn Howell, Olivia Holmes, and Tate Jackson.

- Junior Project Award**
- Olivia Holmes, Ciaran Holmes, Lola Melandez-Zeiger, Zion Marshall, Kayleigh Marshall, Jack Schreiber, and Gracyn Schmelling.

- Intermediate Project Award**
- Lea Charlson, Ethan Schreiber, and Samantha Seaba.

- Senior Project Award**
- Harley Charlson, Logan Legleiter, Owen Sweeney, and Kali Wharton.

- Club Awards**
- Lake Clovers:
- Outstanding Junior: Kayleigh Marshall, Gracyn Schmelling
  - Club Leadership Award:

- Lea Charlson, Belle Wharton, Northeast Wright (N.E.W):
- Outstanding Junior: India Ostendorf
  - Wright County P.I.G.:
  - Outstanding Junior: Avyn Morgan
  - Club Leadership Award: Randi Rae Anderson, JD Morriscal, Ashlynn Smith, Cooper Noshush
  - Wright Warriors:
  - Outstanding Junior: Jack Schreiber

- Club Leadership Award: Ethan Schreiber, Reece Demuth, Quinn Whaley
- Special Awards**
- Honorary 4-H Member: Leroy Jensen
- Alumni 4-H Member: Lillian Swanson
- Outstanding Intermediate: Ethan Schreiber, Lea Charlson

See 4-H AWARDS: Page A6



## Council Resolves Rec Center Obligations, Approves Rotary Club Housing Incentive

By Edward Lynn Editor

Council members unanimously passed Resolution 2024-139, transferring \$150,000 to an escrow fund to finalize obligations for the Rec Center. City Administrator Bryce Davis clarified the funds are designated for notices to cure if necessary.

"All the city has signed its documents, all the Rec Center people have signed... once we transfer the money tomorrow, everything will be done," Davis said, indicating the project is nearing completion.

Additionally, the council authorized a \$60,000 grant to the Rotary Club of Eagle Grove for a townhome construction project under the Commercial Construction Incentive Program. The development added \$856,000 in investment and increased the property's assessed value by \$600,000.

Davis explained the grant was adjusted from \$80,000 to \$60,000 due to the lower individual unit values compared to single-family homes. "It meets the qualifications for the grant process," noted City Attorney Lynn Seaba.

## Council Moves Forward on Neighborhood Revitalization Plan, Finalizes 2024 Street Project

By Edward Lynn Editor

The Eagle Grove City Council on Monday reviewed a \$1.75 million grant proposal for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Neighborhood Revitalization Program, targeting infrastructure, housing, and park improvements in Ward 1.

The plan prioritizes stormwater management, road and sidewalk repairs, and upgrades to Fish Pond Park, including new trails, a playground, and basketball court. Bryce Davis, City Administrator, emphasized the competitive nature of the grant, stating, "This is a point-based grant... only one of the three communities applying will get it."

Proposed projects include stormwater retention cells, housing rehabilitation capped at \$24,999 per home, and extensive road overlays. "Stormwater will be our biggest conversation," Davis noted, explaining the city's focus on mitigating flooding issues in the area.

See COUNCIL: Page A3



\$1.50



(Photos courtesy of the Wright County ISU Extension)

# Local Food Systems & Paving the Way for Better Roads in Wright County

**Amanda Rink, Mid America Publishing**

At the recent Wright County Supervisors meeting, a variety of topics were addressed, ranging from initiatives supporting local food systems to updates on infrastructure projects.

Representatives from Healthy Harvest from North Iowa provided an overview of their ongoing efforts to boost the local food network. Highlights included cooking demonstrations at area farmers markets and partnerships with regional producers. An example was their collaboration with Prudent Produce, which delivers fresh food biweekly to the Clarion food pantry through a statewide grant program.

The organization also works with local businesses like Grandview Beef and Triple C Livestock, helping them access resources to grow and expand their community impact. Another project discussed was the Local Food Guide, which promotes small businesses across the region.

Healthy Harvest presented a funding request of \$1,280 for 2024, an adjustment to align with contributions from other counties. The Supervisors agreed to review the request as they prepare the next fiscal year's budget.

**Corrective Lift**

The meeting also included updates from the Wright County Engineer's Office.

The Board approved plans for a 15-mile paving project, scheduled to begin in March 2025. The \$2.67 million project, funded entirely by regional and farm-to-market funds, involves milling and resurfacing roads. The initiative, referred to as a "cor-



Angie Petersen has been with the Wright County Treasurer's office for 30 years. She was recently recognized by the Wright County Supervisors for her years of service. (Photo: Wright County Courthouse)

rective lift," will address road slope issues by adjusting slopes to 2%.

Additionally, the replacement of Bridge 116 near Rowan with a box culvert was discussed, with a budget of \$500,000.

"Both projects are scheduled for completion in the 2025 Construction Season," Wright County Engineer Adam Clemons shared in correspondence with the Wright County Monitor.

Other updates included ongoing culvert inspections and maintenance, preparations for winter weather, and plans for future equipment purchases. Supply chain challenges, such as the limited availability of Allison transmissions, are delaying the county's efforts to secure new dump trucks.

Clemons reported that crews are actively correct-

ing cross slopes on gravel roads and responding to recent snowfall to ensure safe travel conditions.

The Board also addressed various other matters, including:

**Drainage District Work:** Acting as Drainage District Trustees, the Board approved a \$1,160 payment to Mountain Movers for tile repair work in Belmond.

**Employee Recognition:** Presented a Certificate of Achievement to Angie Petersen for 30 years of service to the county.

**Veterans Affairs Appointment:** Appointed Gregory Crowell as the Veterans Affairs Commissioner through June 2025.

**Juvenile Detention Agreement:** Tabled signing an amendment with the Central Iowa Juvenile Detention Center until they

could compare updated documents with the original agreement.

**Patrol Operator Vacancy:** Approved posting for a patrol operator position in the Dows area.

**Paving Project Payment:** Approved a final payment of \$20,618.90 for the 2024 summer paving project.

Reimbursement for Funding Shortage: Supervisor Kluss attended a meeting to ensure Wright County receives funds after a computer program error caused counties to be shorted payments from 2021 through 2024.

The next Wright County Board of Supervisors meeting will be held Monday, December 23 at 9:00 A.M. This meeting and past meetings can be viewed online at [youtube.com/@WrightCountyIowaOfficial8312](https://youtube.com/@WrightCountyIowaOfficial8312).

# Eagle Grove Police Report

**Dec. 5**

8:15 AM: Provided traffic control for a funeral procession from Evangelical Lutheran Church to Rose Hill Cemetery.

10:44 AM: Return call requested regarding an insurance document.

10:49 AM: Met with a complainant who reported a bag of unknown pills found in landscaping at a pharmacy.

1:49 PM: Officer initiated follow-up case near Sandman.

2:48 PM: Report of a driver without a license at storage units near the ambulance shed on Wright Avenue.

3:05 PM: Traffic stop near the intersection of N Eastern Avenue and NE 2nd Street.

6:23 PM: Responded to a report of a suicidal subject near Sandman.

9:34 PM: Received inquiry regarding reporting a past abuse incident.

11:05 PM: Report of a lost cell phone near the Fareway area.

**Dec. 6**

9:17 AM: Return call requested regarding a prior incident.

9:44 AM: Responded to a burglary alarm at a residence in the 200 block of SE 3rd Street.

10:06 AM: Return call requested regarding a report from an arrest.

11:46 AM: Return call requested for information.

11:52 AM: Assisted with an unspecified incident near Sandman.

2:59 PM: Report of two white dogs in a backyard in the 600 block of N Lincoln Avenue.

3:48 PM: Met with a complainant in the 500 block of NE 3rd Street.

4:24 PM: Return call requested regarding a previous incident.

5:56 PM: Provided information to Goldfield Vet Clinic.

6:24 PM: Complaint filed at Dollar General.

9:49 PM: Traffic stop near the intersection of E Broadway and N Eastern Avenue.

10:00 PM: Traffic stop near the intersection of NW 2nd Street and N Cadwell Avenue.

**Dec. 7**

12:01 AM: Traffic stop near the intersection of Broadway and S Park Avenue.

2:07 AM: Noise complaint at a residence in the 800 block of NW 1st Street regarding loud music.

4:39 PM: Responded to a dog-related call near Garfield Avenue and SW 1st Street.

8:25 PM: Traffic stop near the intersection of SW 3rd Street and S Iowa Avenue.

11:21 PM: Responded to a mental health crisis in the 800 block of S Commercial Avenue.

**Dec. 8**

1:10 AM: Responded to a burglary alarm in the 1000 block of NW 10th Street.

3:13 AM: Responded to an occupied vehicle in the 300 block of W Broadway Street.

7:03 AM: Met with complainant in the 100 block of N Wright Avenue.

9:15 AM: Report of reckless driving near

Wright Avenue and Broadway Street.

2:25 PM: Traffic stop near the intersection of 285th Street and Highway 17.

9:03 PM: Officer initiated case in the 100 block of N Wright Avenue.

**Dec. 9**

5:13 AM: Met with a complainant regarding an occupied vehicle parked on a sidewalk in the 700 block of NE 4th Street.

6:12 AM: Responded to a domestic disturbance at Ampride.

7:22 AM: Provided information regarding malfunctioning railroad crossing arms on NE 2nd Street.

8:46 AM: Addressed a nuisance regarding a neighbor's camper in the 200 block of N Pine Street, Goldfield.

11:08 AM: Assisted a complainant regarding legal advice at the police department.

12:29 PM: Responded to a report of a student with a vape at a local school.

2:15 PM: Complaint of loud music and gatherings at a residence in the 800 block of NE 4th Street.

2:36 PM: Provided information regarding jurisdiction in Woolstock.

5:07 PM: Checked on an open door at a residence in the 600 block of N Montgomery Avenue.

5:08 PM: Met with a complainant at the police department.

5:26 PM: Assisted with an insurance inquiry regarding a prior accident.

9:30 PM: Traffic stop near the intersection of W Broadway and S Park Avenue.

**Dec. 10**

12:09 AM: Traffic stop near the intersection of NW 6th Street and N Commercial Avenue.

3:52 AM: Traffic stop near the Highway 3 and Highway 17 junction, south of Goldfield.

7:21 AM: Provided information regarding malfunctioning railroad crossing arms on NE 2nd Street.

8:23 AM: Investigated fire activity near Sandman; determined to be a fire pit.

10:45 AM: Responded to an assault involving a violent student at the high school office.

1:34 PM: Noise complaint regarding traffic in an alley near Cadwell Avenue and SW 1st Street.

6:32 PM: Return call requested from a residence in the 200 block of S Park Avenue.

7:20 PM: Met with complainant regarding a dispute at Sandman.

10:15 PM: Responded to a burglary alarm in the 1000 block of NW 10th Street.

**Dec. 11**

9:22 AM: Checked on an occupied semi near the intersection of Broadway and Commercial Avenue.

1:20 PM: Assisted with the removal of a subject in the 300 block of NE 2nd Street.

3:25 PM: Responded to an additional assistance call in the 300 block of NE 2nd Street.

7:27 PM: Traffic stop in the 100 block of S Commercial Avenue.

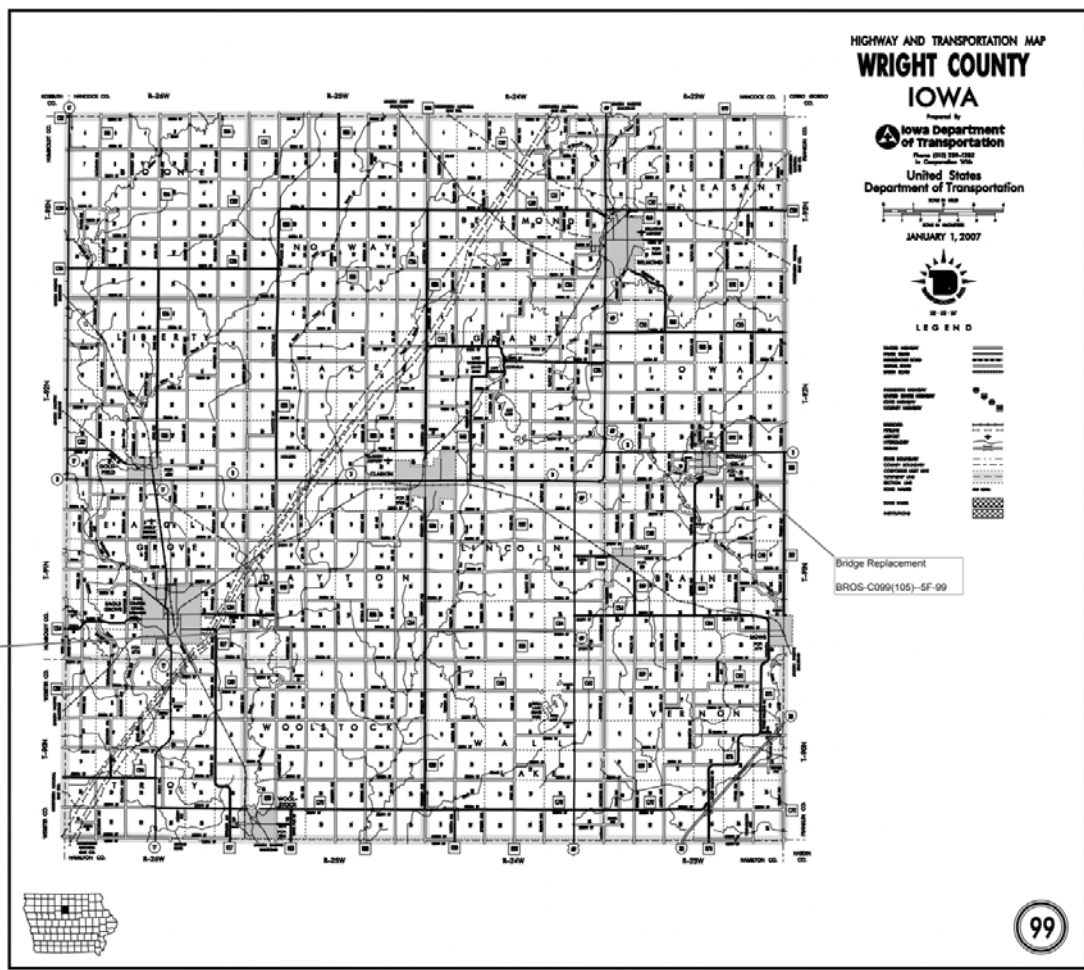
7:47 PM: Traffic stop in the 100 block of S Commercial Avenue.

7:54 PM: Traffic stop near the intersection of NE 3rd Street and N Jackson Avenue.

9:09 PM: Traffic stop near the intersection of SW 1st Street and S Commercial Avenue.

**Dec. 12**

1:19 AM: Responded to a fireworks complaint near the intersection of SW 4th Street and Cadwell Avenue.



Wright County Engineer provided a map highlighting upcoming road work. The projects are funded entirely by regional and farm-to-market funds with a \$2.67M, 15-mile paving project and a \$500K replacement of Bridge 116 near Rowan with a box culvert.

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## Pipeline Opponents Receive Threatening Letters From Summit

By Cami Koons

Several opponents of the proposed Summit Carbon Solutions carbon sequestration pipeline have received letters on behalf of the company threatening lawsuits over perceived defamation, an environmental group representative said.

Jess Mazour, a conservation program associate with the Sierra Club Iowa Chapter, said in a press release Thursday she received a letter from the company, "threatening to sue for compensatory or punitive damages if statements were not retracted."

The letter, dated Nov. 12, 2024, directed Mazour to cease and desist from "interfering" with and making any "further false and defamatory statements" about the pipeline project.

The letter was sent from Jason Torchinsky with Holtzman Vogel law firm in Washington, D.C. and Todd Lantz with Weinhardt Law Firm in Des Moines.



Opponents of a proposed carbon sequestration pipeline gather for a rally outside of the Iowa Capitol on Oct. 8, 2024. (Photo by Cami Koons/Iowa Capital Dispatch)

The letter points to a quote from Mazour in a [nwest-iowa.com](https://www.iowadot.com) article from August 2023, where she said Summit Carbon Solutions was in "in collusion" with the Iowa Utilities Board (now

Iowa Utilities Commission) to "take away democracy and people's rights."

The letter called the statement "false and defamatory" and said it, combined with Mazour's "explicit-

ly stated goal" to stop the pipelines, exposes her to "significant legal liability."

The letter then stated Summit Carbon Solutions and investors have \$1 billion invested into the project

to date and Mazour should "issue an immediate" public retraction of her statement to avoid legal action.

Mazour said in a call with Iowa Capital Dispatch that she and Sierra Club counsel believe Summit has no "grounds to stand on" with the threatened lawsuit.

"This is clearly an intimidation attempt just to keep us quiet and hamper our free speech rights," Mazour said.

Representatives from Summit Carbon Solutions did not respond to requests for comment or to verify the letters were sent on the company's behalf.

According to the press release from Mazour and the Sierra Club Iowa Chapter, at least six people have received similar letters.

Trent Loos, who hosts several rural broadcasts, has also publicly stated he received a similar letter about comments he has made. During a Dec. 2 broadcast on X, Loos admitted he

was wrong about one of the statements quoted in the letter, but he doubled down on two other statements the letter called false and defamatory.

"In no way, shape, or form did I make a mistake," Loos said of the two other alleged defamatory statements against him.

Mazour said the intention of the letters is "intimidation" and urged Iowans to "stand strong when companies take this kind of action."

"It's just really important that we don't let this intimidation stop us from doing what's right," Mazour said. "It is our responsibility as citizens of the state to protect our land, and our water, and our rights, and our democracy, and no one should stand in the way of that."

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## Council Gears Up for Winter, 2025

By Edward Lynn  
Editor

The Eagle Grove City Council approved maintaining 2024 health savings account (HSA) contributions, avoiding disparities between employees covered under collective bargaining agreements and those outside them.

"We're requesting that we keep everything the same," City Administrator Bryce Davis said, highlighting the nominal cost

difference of \$1.98 per month per employee.

Davis also reported that winter preparations, including equipment readiness and abandoning old utility services, are nearly complete. He also announced progress on the North Lift Station project, funded by a \$600,000 CDBG grant, with easements pending approval.

The council will revisit 2025 street project plans and vehicle sales in Janu-

ary.

The council also set a public hearing for January 6 to consider a General Obligation Loan of up to \$315,000 for essential equipment, including water radios, a loader, and a replacement truck.

Davis emphasized the city's intent to preserve cash reserves while funding long-term assets. "All this is doing is just saying, 'Hey, we might borrow money, might not, but we

want to have a public hearing to give our residents a chance to weigh in."

Additionally, the council approved its 2025 meeting calendar, maintaining the first and third Monday schedule at 6:30 p.m. Meetings will shift to Tuesdays when coinciding with holidays such as Labor Day and Presidents Day.

Finally, The Eagle Grove Eagle was re-designated the city's official newspaper for 2025.

## SEE COUNCIL from page A1

The council also approved the final pay application for the 2024 Street Project, authorizing a \$39,145 payment to Fort Dodge Asphalt. This action followed previous discussions to reduce project retainage.

SEH, the city's engineering firm, also requested an additional \$18,000 for services rendered beyond the original agreement due to project delays. "We had budgeted for about 200 hours on-site... but the time spent exceeded that," said SEH representatives, noting the agreement was initially drafted in 2021.

## DMU Research Uncovers Rise in HPV-Associated Cancer in Rural America

WEST DES MOINES, IA (12/16/2024) Rural communities in America are facing a growing and preventable health crisis as HPV-associated cancers are increasing at an alarming rate compared to urban areas.

Recent research by Jason Semprini, Ph.D., MPP, assistant professor in the Department of Public Health at Des Moines University Medicine and Health Sciences, published in the *Journal of Rural and Remote Health*, reveals a widening disparity in HPV-related cancer incidence and mortality between rural and urban communities.

Analyzing data from 2000-2021, Semprini's study found that HPV-associated cancer incidence remained relatively stable in metropolitan and non-metropolitan urban areas. In contrast, rural communities saw a sharp rise in both cancer incidence and mortality since 2020.

Using definitions from the United States Department of Agriculture, Semprini classified "rural" areas as those outside urbanized regions or with populations below 2,500. According to the 2020

U.S. Census, about 66 million people - or 20% of the population - live in these areas.

Semprini's findings are especially concerning given the preventable nature of HPV-associated cancers through vaccination.

"Leading up to 2020, non-metro urban and rural rates were fairly consistent, but since then, rural areas have experienced a notable spike in HPV-associated cancers," Semprini says. "This widening gap is likely to continue unless we take immediate action to increase HPV vaccination efforts in rural communities."

Semprini's research highlights that factors such as lower HPV vaccine rates, reduced cancer screening and limited access to health care services contribute to this troubling trend in rural areas.

"While the HPV vaccine has been available since 2006, vaccination rates remain well below the national target of 80%, particularly in rural communities," Semprini says.

Semprini's future research will delve deeper into state and regional differences in rural HPV-associated cancer rates. He is also exploring effective

public health interventions that could increase vaccine adherence and access to preventive care in underserved rural areas.

"Our goal is to better understand where the highest risks lie and develop targeted solutions to reduce the burden of these cancers in rural communities," Semprini says.

For more information about Semprini's research and DMU's public health initiatives, visit [www.dmu.edu/mph](http://www.dmu.edu/mph).

Located in West Des Moines, part of Iowa's capital metro, Des Moines University Medicine and Health Sciences offers

10 graduate-level professional degree programs in anatomy, biomedical sciences, health care administration, occupational therapy, osteopathic medicine, physical therapy, physician assistant studies, podiatric medicine and public health. Founded in 1898, the institution offers superior academics in a collaborative environment. DMU students' scores on national examinations, pass rates on board certifications and match rates for medical residency programs are consistently higher than national averages and rates at peer institutions.

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### Congregate Meal Menu:

#### Monday, Dec. 23

Hearty Veg Beef Soup, Breadstick, Lettuce/Spinach Salad, Fruit

#### Tuesday, Dec. 24

Cheeseburger on WW Bun, Potato Salad, Vegetable, Fruit

#### Thursday, Dec. 26

Chef's Choice

#### Friday, Dec. 27

Swedish Meatballs over Egg Noodles or Mashed Potatoes, Whole Wheat Roll, Vegetable, Fruit

#### Monday, Dec. 30

Greek Marinated Chicken, Brown Rice, Whole Wheat Bread, Vegetable, Fruit

#### Tuesday, Dec. 31

Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Whole Wheat Roll, Vegetable, Fruit



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The Eagle Grove Eagle welcomes the opinions of our readers in the form of letters to the editor, as long as the submissions are not in bad taste and refrain from attacking individuals without supporting documentation or a rational and legally defensible justification. In any event the newspaper reserves the sole discretion to decide whether or not a reader submission will be published. If your letter is selected it will be run on a single occasion and you agree to give us the right to publish it in print and digital form. The Eagle Grove Eagle will not accept letters that are duplicated, reprinted, copied, or otherwise reproduced. Letters should be original, typewritten or neatly handwritten. Letters should not exceed 300 words. Letters exceeding this length could be subject to editing and may not be published in their entirety.

The Eagle Grove Eagle does not as a general rule print form letters or letters which are also submitted to other newspapers. We are most interested in sincere personal views as opposed to canned publicity releases or talking

points for an individual or a cause, therefore if a writer cannot assure us that their submission is individual and personal, it may be rejected.

Your Letter to the Editor must include:

- Your full name with signature
- Your complete address
- Your telephone number

Your address and telephone number will not be printed in the newspaper, but will be used for verification by newspaper editorial staff.

Unsigned letters and letters containing personal attacks the newspaper deems to be of a libelous nature will not be published. The Eagle Grove Eagle reserves the right to end debate on a topic after both sides have had ample chance to express their views. The Eagle Grove Eagle reserves the right to edit or refuse all letters. All columns and letters on the opinion page are the views of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Eagle Grove Eagle.

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The Eagle Grove Eagle strives for accurate and complete news reporting but occasionally we get it wrong. In cases where an error has been made we will run a correction, clarification, retraction or editor's note in the next edition. Our goal in any event is to inform readers of corrections clearly and quickly, citing the incorrect information and updating with the correct information.

All corrections will be printed on page 2A in the next issue published. The correction will denote the issue, article and incorrect information along with the correction. Digital corrections will also be made and an editor's note will be added to the bottom of the article in question noting what was inaccurate and noting when the article was amended. If the article was posted on Facebook, Twitter or any other online medium controlled by The Eagle Grove Eagle, a post will be made linking to the corrected article, noting the correction.



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#### Contacts

##### Ed Lynn

News Editor

[news@eaglegroveeagle.com](mailto:news@eaglegroveeagle.com)

##### Taylor Smith

Sports Editor

[sports@eaglegroveeagle.com](mailto:sports@eaglegroveeagle.com)

#### Advertising

Marketing Consultant

[sales@eaglegroveeagle.com](mailto:sales@eaglegroveeagle.com)

##### Megan Larsen

Graphic Designer

[design@eaglegroveeagle.com](mailto:design@eaglegroveeagle.com)

#### Corporate Office

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## US Grocery Prices - and Eggs in Particular - Climb Heading Into Holiday Season

By Casey Quinlan

A rise in food prices makes for a less than merry holiday season.

Grocery prices rose 0.4% in November, according to the Consumer Price Index, released by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Eggs made one of the biggest jumps at 8.2% over the month, and 37.5% over the past year, providing challenges for people trying to eat a somewhat cheaper protein and families cooking holiday foods such as sugar cookies and challah.

Although the increase in food prices has moderated a bit from past years, they are still more than 20% higher than they were before the pandemic, according to David Ortega, at Michigan State University.

"It was a key issue in the election in terms of people really feeling that sticker shock at the grocery store," said Ortega, a food economist.

President-elect Donald Trump vowed to bring down prices during his campaign and blamed the Biden administration for how they reached this point. But in an interview with TIME published last week, Trump said he does not believe his presidency would be a failure if grocery prices do not come down.

"It's hard to bring things down once they're up," he said.

### Price changes to understand before you set the holiday table

The increase in grocery, or food at home prices, was partly driven by the rise in egg and beef prices, Ortega said. He said the price of holiday roast has been affected by drought and high feed prices. This year, the inventory of beef cattle was the smallest beef herd since 1951.

"On eggs, the story continues to be bird flu together with increased consumer demand given the holiday season," he said following

Wednesday's release of the latest Consumer Price Index. "And for beef the issue is supply — high input costs and decisions that beef producers made a couple of years back when they were facing drought and high feed prices which has reduced beef supply, and this in turn is affecting beef prices."

The latest food price numbers presented a mixed bag for holiday shoppers looking to bake treats this month. Flour and prepared four mixes fell 1% and bread decreased 1.3%, while sugar and sweets rose 0.2%, and butter ticked up 1.5%.

Oranges, including the popular stocking stuffers tangerines, fell 1.8% in the latest Consumer Price Index report.

The rise in cost of eating your meals at home compared to the rise in cost of eating out is also getting narrower, with the gap in inflation between restaurant menu prices and grocery year-over-year prices being the narrowest it has been since May 2023, according to Supermarket News. Food at home in previous reports rose 0.2% and 0.4% compared to 0.2% and 0.3% for the past two food away from home reports.

### Are companies profiting off of uncertain times?

Rakeen Mabud, chief economist at the Groundwork Collective, a left-of-center economic think tank, said that just a few seed producers, meatpackers, and grocers dominate the food industry, which is a key part of the story of what drives grocery prices. This hurts lower-income shoppers the hardest. Oklahoma, Iowa, and Arkansas are some of the states most dominated by a single grocer, such as Walmart or Hy-Vee.

"Across the food and grocery industry, we have a sector that is deeply consolidated," Mabud said. ... And so when you have big companies controlling such large chunks of the market,

we know that they have used things like inflation, things like supply chain shocks to jack up prices far beyond what their input costs to justify."

Mabud said that when there is this level of market concentration, companies can signal to each other in earnings calls that they are going to start raising prices.

"If you know that your only other competitors are also raising prices, there's kind of no reason for you to try to undercut them if you both hold giant shares of a market," she said.

An economic paper published this year found that companies are able to coordinate price increases around cost shocks and increase profits from these events. Mabud said the holidays provide plenty of opportunity for the food industry to raise prices on things people ordinarily don't buy and don't have a price comparison for during a less in-demand season.

"Grocers and the food industry kind of know that they know that they have more information about the underlying cost of a good than a consumer who only comes to buy the Christmas ham once a year. And so they can take advantage of that," she said.

### An unhappy new year for grocery shoppers

Economists are watching out for how the next administration will impact food prices.

Trump's promise to impose heavy tariffs on the U.S.'s biggest trading partners — Mexico, Canada and China — are expected to drive up the cost of everything, including groceries.

Products the U.S. can't produce year round, like fruit and coffee, will be affected, Ortega said.

"There's still a lot of uncertainty in terms of whether these tariffs are really going to be implemented or are they a negotiating tool? But that creates a lot of un-

certainty," he said. "Even that amount of uncertainty can lead to a rise in costs as companies prepare for the potential of these tariffs taking place."

Trump's expected policy of mass deportation of immigrants will also affect the agriculture industry, in addition to the major human rights implications.

"If there's a mass deportation that is a shock to the labor supply and the agricultural sector. And that will lead to an increase in costs as producers and companies have to offer higher wages to attract enough labor. Ultimately that gets passed down to the consumer in the form of higher prices," Ortega said.

Mabud is also concerned that expected tariffs could mean companies take advantage of the policy change well beyond the actual financial impact to their business.

"It's a policy change where consumers don't necessarily know how much the price of an avocado is going up because of a tariff versus a supply chain issue versus the grocery store just wanting to increase the price," she said.

Patricia "Pogo" Overmeyer, 65, who works as a lawyer in Arizona and lives with her retired husband, said she has always been focused on how to save money on groceries. But she said she has become even more thrifty since inflation worsened.

She said she's been using more meatless meals and stocks up on holiday food all year round when prices are low, some of which she freezes and cans.

"Once I retire, our income will not be as high," she said, "Most likely I will forgo some foods or make substitutions. It's anyone's guess as to what we will be paying for groceries."

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## Master Gardener Home Gardening Series Kicks-off in January

Registration is open for educational gardening series

By Alicia Herzog

AMES, Iowa — The Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Master Gardener program will again host the Home Gardening Webinar Series, beginning in January and ending in March. Sessions will take place every Thursday from 6–7 p.m. central time, ending March 13.

Designed for anyone who is interested in gardening or horticulture, the series aims to inspire and educate. Throughout the series, participants will hear from experts at Iowa State University, The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation, North Dakota State University, Iowa Arboretum and Gardens, and Des Moines Area Community College. The sessions are free and open to the public. Attendees can register to join through Zoom or join on Facebook Live.

Three sessions in January will cover native plant topics, including seed starting and selection, site preparation and maintenance, and balancing beauty with biodiversity. The last session of the month will cover supplemental lighting for indoor plants.

February will focus on perennial plants including trees and shrubs for difficult soil conditions, blueberries, roses, and how plants are assessed through trials at the Iowa Arboretum and Gardens.

In March, the series will conclude with two presentations about land-

scape design. One will cover designing dazzling shade gardens while the other tackles designing gardens on sloped surfaces.

"The Home Gardening Webinar Series is for everyone, regardless of gardening experience. The topics chosen are based on survey responses from last year's participants and will appeal to a wide range of viewers. This program is always a joy to present, and we look forward to another great season," said Alicia Herzog, statewide Master Gardener coordinator with ISU Extension and Outreach.

The series is a good educational opportunity for existing master gardeners, those interested in becoming master gardeners and those who just want to learn more about these topics.

Zoom registration for the series is available at: <https://go.iastate.edu/AWIUIJ>

To join the Facebook Live, visit the event listing and RSVP as "attending": <https://go.iastate.edu/LSZSS6>.

All webinars will be live with question and answer at the end. Zoom participation is limited to the first 500 attendees. Attendees will be directed to Facebook Live if the Zoom room is at capacity. Registration cannot be taken over the phone or through email.

For more information, contact Alicia Herzog at 515-294-3627 or [mgardener@iastate.edu](mailto:mgardener@iastate.edu).

## Why Big Oil Is Urging Trump Not to Pull Out of the Paris Accord

In short: reputation and profits.

Interview by Jenni Doering, Living on Earth

This article originally appeared on Inside Climate News, a nonprofit, non-partisan news organization that covers climate, energy and the environment.

From our collaborating partner Living on Earth, public radio's environmental news magazine, an interview by Jenni Doering with Samantha Gross, the director of the energy security and climate initiative and a fellow in foreign policy for the Brookings Institution.

One of the big questions in the climate world is where the U.S. stands now that a change in administration is imminent.

President-elect Donald Trump has vowed to once again take the U.S. back out of the landmark Paris climate accord. But major fossil fuel corporations, including ExxonMobil, are clearly stating they would prefer the U.S. remain in the Paris Agreement.

Samantha Gross is the director of the Energy Security and Climate Initiative at the Brookings Institution. This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

JENNI DOERING: Why would Exxon warn against President-elect Trump taking the U.S. out of the Paris Agreement?

SAMANTHA GROSS: One of the hardest things



Samantha Gross, director of the Energy Security and Climate Initiative at the Brookings Institution

for energy companies, or honestly, anybody trying to make big investments in the United States, is when our policy changes a ton. It goes back and forth with changes in the administration. I think part of the reason why big oil in general would kind of like to see us stay in is that they'd like to see some consistency in the U.S. position on climate change, because they're not making four-year investments or even eight-year investments, they're making 20- and 30- and 40-year investments and they want a steady policy environment. So it's actually helpful for them to have the U.S. be a little more steady in its climate policy, rather than swing back and forth.

I also think it's a reputational thing for them. I mean, they don't want to be seen as encouraging us to pull out of this agreement that's so important for the world for dealing with the climate.

DOERING: I understand the oil industry as a whole is not actually a monolith when it comes to opinions on staying in or coming back out of Paris. What's going on there?

GROSS: No, the oil industry really isn't monolithic.

The way I like to think about it is the big companies that you and I know the names of are one part of the oil industry, but there's a whole lot of smaller companies that operate regionally that don't have public names, that you and I don't know about at all, and they often put themselves forward very different publicly.

Part of it is because the big companies are big, and it's easier for them to do certain things. A lot of actions are easier to take with economies of scale if you're doing it over a lot of facilities. But in general and across the board, because the smaller industry players don't have a reputation to protect, they don't tend to be as forward on climate issues as some of the larger companies. It's kind of funny that everybody likes to hate on big oil, but big oil is often more climate forward than some of these smaller companies. Not always, but often.

DOERING: Why are these big companies sometimes a little more attuned to their image in terms of carbon policy?

GROSS: Their image matters. I'm old enough to very clearly remember the Exxon Valdez incident, and that colors Exxon's reputation to this day. When bad public relations things happen, they're terrible for companies.

So you can think of it cynically as just a public relations thing, or you can think that these companies are made up of people who live on Earth and who, in many cases, want to do the right thing. Those companies also tend to have a bigger balance sheet and more ability to try new things. It's easier for

them to take action because they can have more economies of scale in doing it. And so often it's that those actions are easier for them than it is for some smaller operators.

DOERING: To what extent does this response from the big fossil fuel companies signify a shift in how we collectively approach an energy transition?

GROSS: Clearly, fossil fuels are what's causing climate change, or a very central cause of it, and we have to remember that.

But you also have to remember that these companies operate globally in a lot of countries that care about the climate, and they also want to be going concerns for a long time, all the way through the energy transition. So they're not just thinking about how do I make money today? They're thinking about, how do I make money in 20 years? So I think it's important to think of them as not necessarily the enemy, but as companies that also have some skills that can be used in the energy transition—and big fat balance sheets that can be very helpful in doing big projects.

DOERING: I understand that these oil companies are taking some steps to secure a role in a lower carbon future. What are some of those steps?

GROSS: There are some new technologies that are kind of naturals for oil companies to take on. A good example is carbon capture and storage. We tend to think of that as a way to make fossil fuels last longer. But there are some places where it's very, very hard to replace fossil fuels and carbon cap-

ture may be a good idea. If you think of what an oil and gas company is good at working in the subsurface, underground is exactly what they're good at. So they have the skills to make these projects go.

Another really good example is hydrogen. They already make hydrogen because they use it in their refineries and in petrochemical plants. They can make it the old way and use carbon capture and storage. Or they can make green hydrogen using electricity, but making and handling hydrogen and also just doing great big projects that take a long time and cost a lot of money. They're good at that, it's what they do now.

DOERING: If the U.S. does leave the Paris accord again, and we're out for the next four years, what's left to be done internally? What are the major actions that we should be taking within this country?

GROSS: I think the U.S. will almost certainly pull out of the Paris Agreement, sadly, but there are a ton of things we can do locally.

The Paris Agreement is actually not the main driver of our domestic action. And our automotive companies have geared up for electric vehicles. Our utilities are already installing mostly renewables. The IRA is the law of the land and has a lot of encouragement for continuing green actions. There are a lot of things that are moving forward, and they're not about the Paris Agreement, they're about domestic policy.

It's a terrible bumper to take us off the world negotiation stage. But there's also a lot of momentum and a lot of actions here that are within

our economy and not about the Paris Agreement at all.

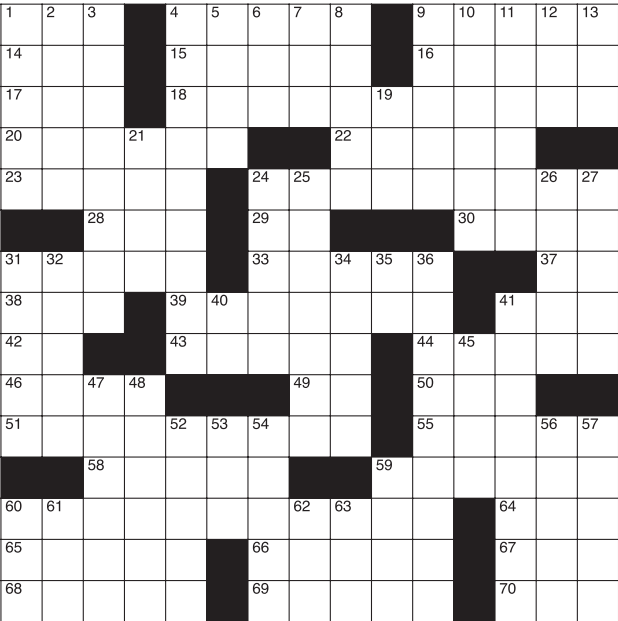
DOERING: Carbon emissions are higher than they've ever been, and the world is moving far more slowly to cut emissions than scientists prescribe. What message do you have for climate-concerned folks who frankly might be starting to feel a bit hopeless?

GROSS: It is definitely true that we are not moving as fast as many climate scientists would like us to move. That's undoubtedly true and we need to keep pushing for investing in the technology we have, and we know that works: renewable electricity, geothermal electricity, reducing methane emissions. These are all things we know how to do.

We also need to push for greater research and development on the things we don't know how to do yet. So we need to keep working.

On a small note of optimism, it wasn't that long ago—10 or 15 years ago—that we were on a trajectory that looked like maybe four degrees of warming or more, and it looks like we're now on a trajectory of two and a half degrees, maybe two and change. Is that where we want to be? No. Is it better than we were not very long ago? Definitely.

The curve is bending. It's just not bending fast enough, or the trajectory isn't changing fast enough. So it's not that we've gotten nowhere. It's just that we're not going as fast as we need to be. And I think that attitude helps fight the hopelessness. It's not that we're not doing anything, it's just that we're not moving quite fast enough.



**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Miller beer variety
- 4. Member of people inhabiting Bering Sea islands
- 9. Stomach
- 14. Investment vehicle
- 15. Fictional soccer coach Ted
- 16. Irregular in botanical parlance
- 17. Cease standing
- 18. "American Horror Story" actress
- 20. Grow milk teeth
- 22. Plant parts
- 23. Snow house
- 24. Most contemptuous
- 28. Note to repay
- 29. Old English
- 30. Wings
- 31. Financial institutions
- 33. Parks and Lopez are two
- 37. Mr. T's "The A-Team" character
- 38. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- 39. Give off
- 41. Semitic alphabet letter
- 42. Farm state
- 43. Actress Sarandon
- 44. Back parts
- 46. Zoroastrian concept of holy fire
- 49. Touchdown
- 50. One point north of due east
- 51. Refurbishes
- 55. Silver and Dogg are two
- 58. Former Tigers catcher Alex
- 59. Type of envelope
- 60. Seriously considered
- 64. Unhappy
- 65. Past (archaic)
- 66. Asian wild dog
- 67. Old English letter
- 68. Young domestic sheep
- 69. Football players need to gain them
- 70. Witness

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Dormant Peruvian volcano
- 2. Norwegian composer
- 3. Indicates location
- 4. Pubs
- 5. Unable to walk easily
- 6. Electronic warfare-support measures
- 7. World leader
- 8. Midsection
- 9. Jewish calendar month
- 10. Urological condition
- 11. A small quantity of anything
- 12. Mountain Time
- 13. Affirmative
- 19. Word element meaning ear
- 21. Carried away
- 24. Short-billed rails
- 25. Newborn child
- 26. Sword
- 27. Groups of people
- 31. Prickly, scrambling shrubs
- 32. Become less intense
- 34. Polishes
- 35. Indicates position
- 36. Songs sung to one's beloved
- 40. The 12th letter of the Greek alphabet
- 41. Insects
- 45. Israeli politician
- 47. Pre-digital
- 48. Roaming
- 52. Ambience
- 53. Brew
- 54. Late
- 56. Make ecstatically happy
- 57. Semitic alphabet letter
- 59. Blend
- 60. Dash
- 61. Self
- 62. Exclamation of satisfaction
- 63. Hill or rocky peak

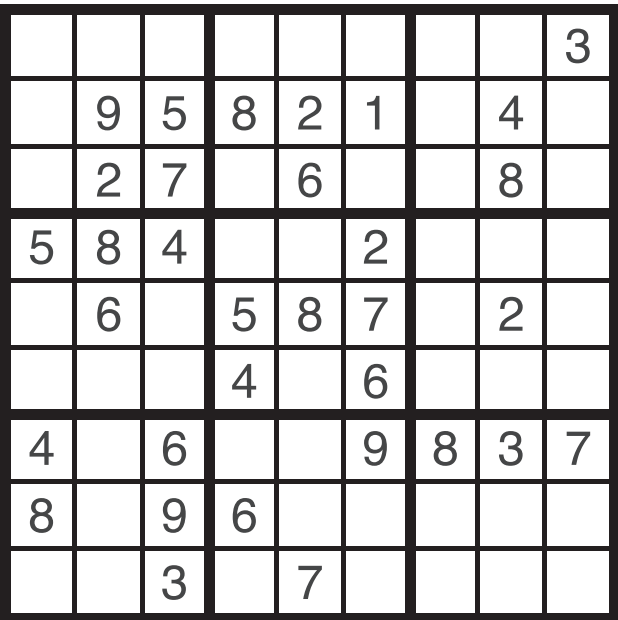
Solutions can be found on the Classified page

## Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

**Here's How It Works:**

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!



Level: Beginner

Solutions can be found on the Classified page

### UNDER THE WEATHER WORD SEARCH



Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

- ARTHTRITIS
- BACTERIA
- COMMON COLD
- COVID
- DISEASE
- E-COLI
- FUNGAL
- HEPATITIS
- HOOKWORMS
- ILLNESS
- INFECTIOUS
- INFLUENZA
- DISEASE
- MIGRAINE
- PAIN
- PARASITE
- PERTUSSIS
- SALMONELLA
- STOMACH BUG
- STREP THROAT
- THRUSH
- TOXOPLASMOSIS
- TRANSMISSIBLE
- TUBERCULOSIS
- VIRUS



Memories Of A Former Kid.

## Raising the Roof at Rowan



Wright County's resident community theater, Iowa River Players, took on the responsibility in 2000 to maintain the structure that has been its home for more than twenty-five years.

The Board of Directors have set their goal to raise the funds and complete the project of repairing the roof before fall of 2025. The estimates have come in at \$98,000.00. This number might seem daunting for such a small organization as IRP, but for the fact that since starting in early September this year, the company has raised over \$40,000.00 through grants from the James R. Johnson Trust, in Eagle Grove, the Foster and Evelyn Barke Trust, in Hampton, from various fundraisers at the "old school gym" in Rowan and gifts from individuals around Wright County and further afield.

Several fundraisers have been produced by the Board, including a concert with local musicians, a haunted house, and on this

Friday evening, Dec. 20th, a Lip Sync Battle. Performances begin at 8:00, with a social hour at 7:00.

Current board members include Treasurer, Tish Arnold; Secretary, Publicity Chair, and General Chair, Ali Holmes, and Set Shop Foreman, Dan Krabbe. Other board members are Becky Ahrendsen, Nancy Huisinga, Josh Holmes, Megan Peterson, Bethany Capps and Luanne Krabbe. They are responsible for many other board duties such as Stage Directing, Grant Writing, Set Design, Stage Management, House Management, Prop and Costume Crews, Hospitality and many other miscellaneous tasks, including Acting and recruiting Volunteers. Board Directors are variously from the cities of Klemme, Des Moines, Coulter, Clarion, Dows, Meservey and Galt.

Dan Krabbe will take his first turn at directing a play, "Leaving Iowa" in June of 2025. Auditions will be scheduled in April. The play "Water Rocks" is a musical which originates from Iowa State University of Science and Technology and will be presented in late summer, with auditions in May.

Another much anticipated event for IRP members

will be the American Association of Community Theaters National Festival 2025, which will come to historic Hoyt Sherman Place Theater in Des Moines, June 25-28. Theater people will gather for an unforgettable national community theatre festival with top theatrical productions and theater education from community theaters all around the USA. The National Festival will be located in Iowa for the first time ever.

Watch for more information and specific dates on IRP's FaceBook page: Iowa River Players Community Theater.

Back to the Roots of IRP: When the decision was made in early 2000, by a startup committee, to stage a musical and begin to look for a place that seemed welcoming for dramatic purposes, the Rowan gym was recommended, toured and rented. The possibilities were endless. It had a stage, with curtains! The roof was remarkable for its construction and was a stunningly beautiful view from the inside where the rafters in diamond patterns are still revealed.

The many handsome alterations, expertly planned, had soon made the large empty space into a "jewel

box" of a theater, comfortably seating an audience of 199. Air conditioning, radiant heat, restrooms on floor level and new windows that replaced leaky ones were installed, most of the work done by volunteer crews.

In 2004 the rain on the roof made its way onto the stage. The Board of Directors determined that their mission was to put actors on the stage, not actors on the roof with caulk guns. They began to raise funds with the agreement from the Rowan City Council that the rent would be waived as soon as the roof was secure.

At present, the old leaks are threatening to destroy the structure and leave another abandoned public building in another small town's landscape. Many of the skilled and intrepid original volunteers are only a cherished memory, their places being filled by a new generation of creative and resourceful visionaries. In honor of their work and the grand old building that houses the Drama, donations will be gratefully accepted and may be sent to:

Iowa River Players  
% Luanne Krabbe  
111 Luicks Lane North  
Belmond, IA 50421

## Keeping our military the strongest fighting force in the world

**By Rep. Randy Feenstra (R-Hull)**

Our national security depends on a strong military laser focused on defending our country and our values. China, Russia, Iran, North Korea, terrorist groups, and other diabolical forces are intent on destabilizing our nation, dismantling our economy, and sowing chaos across the globe. We cannot let this new Axis of Evil and their proxies undermine American leadership on the world stage nor can we let them get away with openly disregarding the rule of law, international norms, and global security interests.

To ensure that our troops have the resources and support that they need to keep our enemies in check and protect our communities, I recently voted for the Fiscal Year 2025 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), which sets the military's budget for the year and includes other defense-related measures. This year's NDAA makes needed investments in military housing, servicemember pay, healthcare, childcare, and military recruitment and readiness. It also includes provisions to deter China's

growing influence globally, eliminate radical DEI initiatives, and support Israel against terror. All in all, it represents a commitment to our mission of peace through strength.

The NDAA enhances servicemember quality of life in several ways. Through continued advocacy, Republicans secured a 14.5% pay raise for junior enlisted troops and a 4.5% pay raise for all other servicemembers. This is a long overdue adjustment that recognizes the hard work of our troops and compensates them accordingly. The NDAA also includes resources to build and renovate military housing, construct new childcare facilities, and improve education outcomes for children of servicemembers.

Standing up to China is another vital priority of this year's NDAA. We included measures to protect our defense position in the Indo-Pacific, rebuild our navy, and accelerate our advanced manufacturing capabilities. The NDAA further prevents our federal government from sharing sensitive missile information with China, bans Chinese nationals from entering our nuclear

facilities, prohibits funds for the Wuhan Institute of Virology, and requires the Department of Defense to report to Congress on military cooperation between China, Russia, North Korea, and Iran. By deterring Chinese aggression on multiple fronts, our nation will be stronger and safer.

Additionally, the NDAA guts radical DEI initiatives from our military while saving taxpayers billions of dollars. It bans the teaching of Critical Race Theory at military schools, bans the Department of Defense from offering transgender medical surgeries to children, and stops the federal government from mandating the full electrification of our trucks and tanks. By eliminating these unnecessary policies and cutting waste, this NDAA saves taxpayers \$31 billion. We must continue to identify waste, fraud, and abuse and root it out of our government.

Furthermore, this investment in our troops is also an investment in our allies. It reasserts our commitment to Israel, authorizes full funding for the Iron Dome and other missile defense sys-

tems, and ensures that we can counter terrorist groups like Hamas. The NDAA also requires the Department of Defense to notify Congress of any transfer of weapons from Iran to its terrorist proxies and to update lawmakers on the progress of Iran's nuclear abilities. We further added provisions to stop taxpayer dollars from flowing to the Taliban, prevent North Korean nationals from being admitted to our military installations, and push back against ISIS and other terrorist networks.

Our troops and their families make incredible sacrifices so that we can all enjoy the freedoms and liberties that make the United States the greatest country on Earth. The men and women who humbly wear the uniform are committed to a mission larger than themselves and a cause worthy of our endless praise. This year's NDAA serves as a small token of our gratitude for all that they do in defense of our way of life. As a proud American, I will always support our troops and their families - working to ensure that they have the resources that they need to succeed.

**PRAISE & WORSHIP**

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
421 W. Broadway St.  
Eagle Grove  
Sundays  
9:30 am Worship  
Wednesdays each week unless no school for the day: Kids' Club (K-Gr. 4) and Middlers (Gr. 5-8), 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
All are welcome.  
Dial-A-Devotion:  
515-448-3355  
515-212-2802  
egumc@goldfielddaccess.net  
515-448-4701  
www.eaglegroveumc.org

**GOLDFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
P.O. Box 214  
Goldfield,  
515-825-3754  
Sunday  
11 a.m. Worship

**GOLDFIELD UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
220 E. Oak St.  
Goldfield,  
515-825-3581  
goldfield.upc@gmail.com  
Facebook @ goldpres  
"A Church for the Community"  
Office M-F 7:30-11:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

**SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Fr. Jerry Blake  
Eagle Grove  
515-532-3586

**Thursday, December 19**  
11:40 a.m. Rosary at Sacred Heart

Noon Mass at Sacred Heart  
6:30 p.m. Cluster Pastoral Council Meeting at St. John

**Friday, December 20**  
7:40 a.m. Rosary at St. John

8 a.m. Mass at St. John  
**Saturday, December 21**  
ADVENT IV

Haiti 2nd Collection  
3:15 p.m. A/B at Sacred Heart

4 p.m. Mass at Sacred Heart

7:15 p.m. A/B at St. John  
8 p.m. Spanish Mass at St. John

**Sunday, December 22**  
ADVENT IV

Haiti 2nd Collection  
7:15 a.m. A/B at St. John  
8 a.m. Mass at St. John  
9:45 a.m. A/B at St. Francis  
10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Francis

**Monday, December 23**  
8:15 a.m. Rosary at St. Francis

1:30 p.m. Mass at the Meadows  
6:30 p.m. RCIA at St. John

**Tuesday, December 24**  
Christmas Eve  
(Cluster Office Closed)  
4 p.m. Mass at St. Francis  
7:30 p.m. Bilingual Mass at St. John

**Wednesday, December 25**  
Christmas Day  
(Nativity of the Lord)  
2025 Jubilee Year begins  
"Pilgrims of Hope"  
8 a.m. Mass at Sacred Heart

**HOLMES BAPTIST CHURCH**  
2137 Hancock Ave.  
Holmes, Iowa  
Pastor Cody Huber  
515-825-3110

**HOLMES LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Holmes, Iowa  
Pastor George Lautner  
412-874-9878

**NEW HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Eagle Grove  
Vicar Jon Merritt  
A Congregation of ELCA  
Saturday  
4 p.m. Worship at Rotary Senior Living South in the Chapel

**EAGLE GROVE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (CONGREGATIONAL)**  
1115 SW 2nd St.  
P.O. Box 333  
515-448-3584  
Sunday  
10:30 a.m. Worship

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Pastor Johnny Khaleet  
Eagle Grove  
515-448-4612  
Sunday  
9 a.m. Sunday School  
10 a.m. Worship

**Monday**  
10 a.m. Bible Study at Rotary Ann North

**Wednesday**  
5:30 p.m. Bible Study at the church.

**GRACE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH**  
448-5414  
1220 Commercial Ave,  
Eagle Grove  
www.graceefc.com  
Sundays

9:30 a.m. English speaking service  
6 p.m. Spanish speaking service

**Wednesdays**  
GraceKids (age 5-5th grade) and Youth Group activities for 6th-12th graders starting at 6 p.m.

**SOUTH ENES LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
205 Johnson Street  
Vincent  
Vicar Jon Merritt  
A Congregation of the ELCA  
10 a.m. Sunday Worship

**ULLENSVANG LUTHERAN CHURCH, N.A.L.C.**  
Pastor Darryl Landsverk  
Thor

**MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH—LC-MS**  
Eagle Grove  
Pastor Mark Eichler  
515-448-4668  
8:30 a.m. Worship

**EAGLE GROVE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
615 SW 2nd Street  
Eagle Grove  
Pastor Jason Cooper  
515-448-3697  
www.egclc.org  
Thursday  
10 a.m. Pastors' Prayer

**Sunday**  
9 a.m. Worship  
10:15 a.m. Coffee Fellow  
NO Sunday School  
3 p.m. Grief & Grub

**Tuesday**  
7 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Communion

**Wednesday**  
Christmas Day - Office Closed

**EG MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION FOOD PANTRY**  
510 S. Jackson  
Monday 4 - 7 p.m.  
Wednesday 1 - 3 p.m.  
Friday 1 - 3 p.m.  
Helping Families in Need!  
Please call to verify open.  
Food Pantry 515-448-4332 or 515-448-3743

**MAC LIFE CHURCH Blairsburg**  
Interim Pastor Dick Birt.  
Sundays  
10: a.m. Services for now

**SAMUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH NALC**  
201 N. Lincoln Ave.  
448-5038  
www.samuellutheran.net  
Sundays  
9 a.m. Worship in-person and on Facebook  
Tuesday  
9 a.m. Bible Study  
Wednesday  
Confirmation

**LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH GOLDFIELD LCMC**  
Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ  
Pastor Ron Rasmussen  
Sunday  
10 a.m. Service

**REJOICE CHURCH: A WORD AND SPIRIT CHURCH**  
Pastors Cris and Jennifer Decious  
New Location! Sunday  
Worship Services at 10:30 am IN PERSON STARTING on Sunday December 1, 2024 at 3320 210th st Goldfield, Iowa 50542  
www.Rejoicechurchiowa.com and Facebook

*Obituary*  
**Elmer Kamprath**  
1927-2024



Elmer Harvey Kamprath, the son of Oscar and Martha (Buehrer) Kamprath, was born on December 20, 1927, in Homestead, Iowa. He was raised and educated in Williamsburg, graduating from Williamsburg High School in 1945.

Elmer served in the United States Army (Army Signal Corp, 7 months in Phillipine Islands) 1946 ~1947. He attended Valparaiso University in Chicago, Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, graduating in 1951 and then Iowa State.

On August 16, 1953, Elmer was united in marriage with Edith Rope in Yorktown, Iowa.

Elmer taught Math and coached at Bradgate High School 1952 ~1958. He then taught Math at the Eagle Grove Middle and High Schools and coached baseball, football, basketball until his retirement in 1988.

Elmer was a member of Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church - served as President of the congregation and was former President of the Iowa Math Teacher's Association. He enjoyed leading the singing at Rotary Senior Living on Thursday evenings.

Elmer passed away on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at the age of 96 years. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Edith; brothers, Milton and Victor and sisters, Norma Roehrkasse and Ethel Abrams.

Elmer is survived by his son, Jim Kamprath (Sue) of Iowa City; daughter, Sandra Wirth (Al) of Eagle Grove; daughter, Denise Whiting of Iowa City; five grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; brother, Don (R.J.) of Santa Rosa, CA and sister, Loretta Wallace of Madison, WI.

Graveside services were held on Monday, Dec. 16, 2024, 11 a.m. at Rose Hill Cemetery in Eagle Grove. Visitation was Sunday, Dec. 15 from 2 to 4 p.m. at Foust Funeral Home in Eagle Grove. Burial will be in Rose Hill Cemetery, Eagle Grove.

Memorials may be left to the discretion of the family.

**Services: 2 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 15, 2024**  
Foust Funeral Home, Eagle Grove  
**Foust Funeral Home**  
515-448-3674 • www.foustfh.com

**4-H AWARDS from page A1**

**Senior Awards**  
• Agriculture Award: Owen Sweeney  
• Achievement Award: Logan Legleiter  
• Long-Term Record Keeping Award: Harley Charlson

**Graduating 4-H Members**  
Belle Wharton, Harley Charlson, Owen Sweeney, Madison Ingebritson, Jacob Wharton, Randi Rae Anderson, Makayla Beisel, Tate Jackson, Kira Ricke, and Caleb Seaba.  
Recognition was also given to Wright County Extension staff, Clover Kids, Fair Board, Endowment, Club Leaders, and the Youth Committee for their ongoing support and contributions.

Special guests included Summer Intern Bailey Heuton, Wright County Fair Manager Trish Rosandahl, and State Council Representative Sophia Niebe.

The evening honored the commitment and achievements of Wright County 4-H participants, celebrating their success and dedication to community and personal growth.



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**The First Laugh**

We often hear about the "last laugh," as in someone "having the last laugh," which is usually about revenge or retaliation for some trick played on us, but we don't hear much about the first laugh. When children laugh for the first time, it is usually because they see something unexpected, such as a funny face or a face that comes out of nowhere, as in the game of peekaboo. The Navaho believe that when children laugh for the first time they have finally entered the physical realm and left the spiritual realm. The person who made the baby laugh is expected to provide a meal for the family and there is a special ceremony to celebrate the baby's entry into the family and the physical realm. Laughter indicates that one is engaged with others; you have to pay attention to people to understand their humor and you can often tell when people aren't listening (or understanding) when they don't laugh at your jokes. In bilingual settings, you'll often see that those who don't understand the second language will not "get the jokes" or the double meanings necessary to understand certain types of humor. Which brings us to the point of all this: human connection. When we laugh with others we are celebrating the shared meaning of our stories and our jokes. It's important to do this, and if you find that you aren't laughing with the people you love, try to figure out why.

-Christopher Simon

Sunday, Dec. 22, 2024  
First Reading: Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 80:1-7  
Psalm: Psalm 113  
Epistle: Luke 1:39-45 (46-55)  
Gospel: Luke 3:7-18



# How Are States Spending Opioid Settlement Cash? KFF Built a Database of Answers

By Aneri Pattani

In the past few years, state and local governments across the U.S. have begun spending billions in opioid settlements paid by companies accused of fueling the overdose crisis. But where is that money going, who is getting it, and is it doing any good?

KFF Health News, partnering with the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and Shatterproof, a national nonprofit focused on addiction, undertook a yearlong investigation to find out.

Dozens of interviews, thousands of pages of documents, an array of public records requests, and outreach to all 50 states resulted in a first-of-its kind database that catalogs more than 7,000 ways opioid settlement cash was used in 2022 and 2023. It's the most comprehensive resource to date tracking some of the largest public health settlements in American history.

Among the findings:

- States and localities received more than \$6 billion in opioid settlement funds in 2022 and 2023. According to public records, they spent or committed about a third of that amount and set aside another third for future use. The final third was untrackable, as many jurisdictions did not produce public reports on the funds.

- Reports of spending tracked the minuscule to the monumental, from \$11.74 to buy postage in Yavapai County, Arizona, to more than \$51 million to increase the addiction treatment workforce in California.

- States allotted, on average, about 18% of their funds for addiction and mental health treatment; 14% for recovery services such as housing, transportation, and legal aid; 11% for harm reduction efforts such as overdose reversal medications; and 9% for prevention programs that aim to stop people from developing substance use disorders. States committed, on average, about 2% for syringe service programs, through which people can get sterile needles. (A variety of entities received this money, from law enforcement to nonprofit organizations to government agencies.)

- Governments reported spending more than \$240 million on purposes that did not qualify as opioid remediation. (Most settlements allow states to spend up to 15% of their funds this way.) Most of this tranche went to legal fees, but several jurisdictions funneled money to their general fund. One county even sent funds to its road and bridge department.

- Several cities and counties reported expenditures they said addressed the overdose crisis but that would leave an average person scratching their head — such as \$33.07 to an anti-abortion pregnancy center in Sandborn, Indiana, and \$30,362 to screen first responders for heart disease in Oregon City, Oregon.

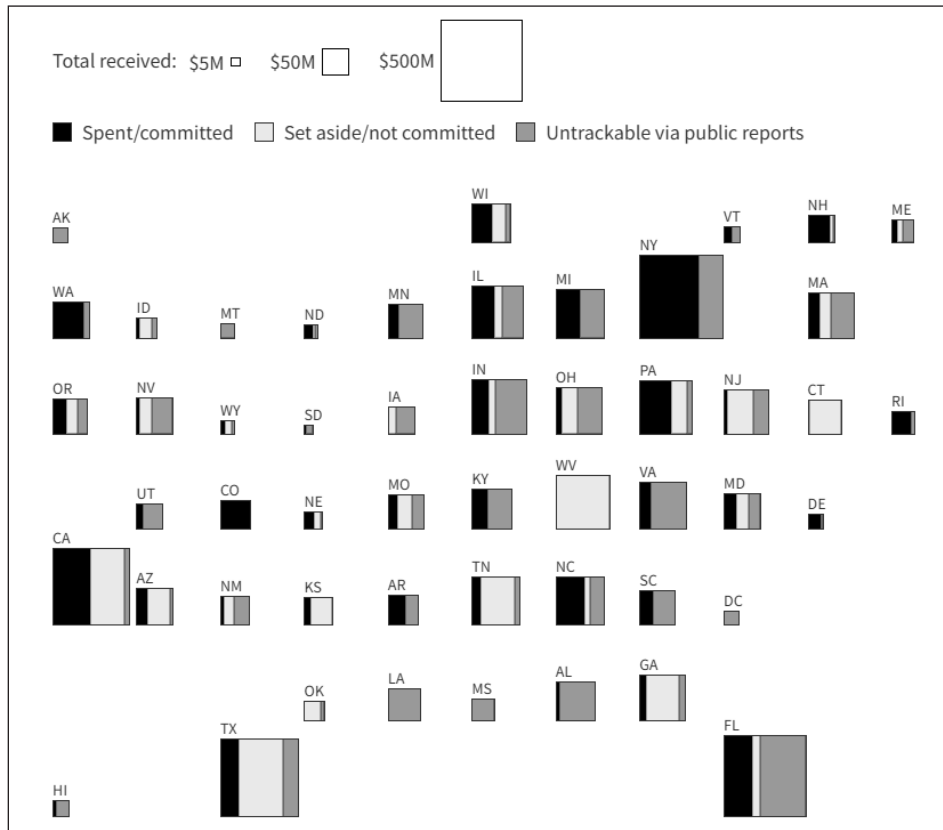
“When people know that people aren't watching and there's no accountability, then they can kind of do what they want,” said Tonja Myles, a community activist in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, who is in recovery. “That's why we have to have some kind of database and accountability.”

Despite the recent decline in overall overdose deaths in the U.S., more than 90,000 people still died in the 12 months ending July 2024 and rates are rising in many Black and Native American communities.

“We can't mess up or miss this moment,” Myles said.

Opioid settlement pay-

State	Settlement funds received	Spent/committed	Set aside/not committed	Untrackable via public reports
Iowa	\$49,781,475.24	\$622,418.07	\$13,902,398.37	\$35,256,658.80



(Data visualizations by Lydia Zuraw; Screenshots/KFF Health News)

outs are expected to total about \$50 billion over nearly two decades, paid by more than a dozen companies that made or distributed prescription painkillers, including Johnson & Johnson, Walgreens, and Walmart. Although it's a large sum, it's dwarfed by the size of the crisis, making each dollar that's spent critical.

KFF Health News and its partners reviewed hundreds of settlement spending reports, extracting expenditures line by line, and developed a methodology to sort the expenditures into categories like treatment or prevention. States were given an opportunity to review the data and comment on their spending.

To be sure, the database does not capture the full picture of opioid settlement spending nationwide. Some places do not publish spending reports, while others declined to engage with this project. The data presented here is a snapshot as of the end of 2023 and does not account for further spending in 2024. The differences in how states control, process, and report on the money make apples-to-apples comparisons nearly impossible. Still, the database helps fill a gap left by a lack of national reporting requirements and federal government inaction.

It is “a tool for those who want to objectively measure whether everything that can be done is being done,” said Matthew Myers, a former president of the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, which compiles similar annual reports on tobacco settlement money.

### Treatment a Clear Winner

The top priority to emerge from early opioid settlement spending was treatment, with more than \$416 million spent or committed to residential rehabs, outpatient counseling, medications for opioid use disorder, and more.

The state of New York — which spent the most on treatment — allocated about \$22 million of that for programs that make the gold standard for care as easy as possible for patients: providing same-day prescriptions for buprenorphine, a medication that decreases cravings for opioids.

The result was a program that John Greene said changed his life.

Greene, 57, used to live in the woods down the street from Family & Children's Counseling Services in

Cortland, New York. He cycled through jails and hospitals, overdosing half a dozen times and trying rehab just as many.

But now he has four months of recovery under his belt — the longest stint since he started regularly using drugs at 14.

He said it's because the counseling center's new program — funded by a mix of state and local opioid settlement dollars — has a different approach. Counselors aren't didactic and judgmental. They don't force him to stop smoking marijuana. Several staff members have experienced addiction themselves. They drive Greene, who doesn't have a car, to doctor appointments and the pharmacy for his buprenorphine prescription.

Now Greene lives and works with his brother, looks forward to weekly counseling sessions, and is notching small victories — such as buying his nephew toy cars as a stocking stuffer.

“It made me feel good to do something for somebody and not expect nothing back,” Greene said.

Emily Georgia, one of Greene's counselors, said the center has worked with nearly 200 people like him in the past year. Without the settlements, “the program probably wouldn't exist,” she said.

Across the country, the money supports other innovative treatment approaches:

- \$21 million for a new program in Kentucky that diverts people with mental illness or addiction who face low-level charges away from incarceration and into treatment, education, and workforce training

- More than \$3 million for, in part, three new mobile methadone programs in Massachusetts, to bring the medication to rural and underserved areas

- Tens of thousands of dollars each in Iowa and Pennsylvania to cover out-of-pocket treatment costs for people without insurance or those with high deductibles

Philip Rutherford, an expert on substance use disorder at the National Council for Mental Wellbeing, said these efforts “are really positive” and many have been “historically difficult or impossible to achieve with federal or state funding.”

But some funds are also flowing to treatment approaches that defy best practices, such as denying

people medications for opioid use disorder.

Some in the recovery community consider methadone and buprenorphine a crutch. But study after study show that the medications help people stay in treatment and reduce the risk of overdose and death. Research even suggests that treatment without these medications can be more harmful than no treatment at all.

Although not everyone will want medication, settlement funds shouldn't “prop up a system that doesn't allow people to have that choice,” said Regina LaBelle, a professor of addiction policy at Georgetown University.

### Babies, Forgotten Victims of the Epidemic

While treatment received a windfall in early opioid settlement spending, another aspect of the crisis was neglected: neonatal abstinence syndrome, a condition in which babies exposed to drugs in the womb experience withdrawal.

Nationwide, more than 59 newborns a day are diagnosed with it. Yet only about \$8.4 million in settlement money was committed to the issue — less than 0.5% of all funds publicly reported as spent or committed in 2022 and 2023.

Experts in public health and addiction, as well as affected families, say it's due to stigma.

“A mom using drugs and being a parent is a very uncomfortable reality to face,” said Ashley Grant, a 38-year-old mother of three in Mesa, Arizona. “It's easier to just push it under the rug or let them fall through the cracks, as sad as that is.”

It almost happened to her. Grant learned she was pregnant with her third child last year. At the time, her partner was in jail and she was using drugs after an eight-year period of recovery, was estranged from her family, and didn't know how she'd survive the next nine months.

During a visit to a methadone clinic, she saw a booth about Jacob's Hope, a specialty nursery that cares for substance-exposed newborns and their moms. Nursery staff connected her with a therapist, helped her enroll in parenting classes, and dropped off diapers and a playpen at her home.

After delivering at the hospital, Grant and her baby boy stayed at Jacob's Hope for about a week. Nurses showed her how skin-to-skin contact calmed his withdrawal symptoms

and more frequent feedings and burpings decreased gastrointestinal discomfort, which is common among substance-exposed newborns.

Today, Grant has roughly five months of recovery. She got certified as a peer recovery specialist and hopes to join Jacob's Hope one day to help moms like her.

But the nursery's future is uncertain.

After opening in 2019, Jacob's Hope nearly shut down this summer due to low reimbursements and delayed payments from insurers, said Lindsey Steele, its associate director. Community donations kept the nursery afloat, but “it's still hanging on by a thread,” she said.

She's hoping opioid settlement money can help.

In 2022, Jacob's Hope received about \$250,000 from Arizona's opioid settlements. But this year, the legislature captured the state's share of remaining funds and, in a controversial move, gave it to the Department of Corrections.

Jacob's Hope has now turned to local governments, which control their own settlement dollars. Its home city of Mesa said a first round of grant applications should open in the spring.

Steele prays it won't be too late for babies in need — the epidemic's “forgotten victims,” she called them.

### Heart Disease Screening, Robot Ambulances, and More

Some opioid settlement expenditures have sparked fierce disagreement. They generally fall into three buckets: money for law enforcement, funding for youth prevention programs, and purchases unrelated to the opioid crisis.

Settlement dollars nationwide have bought body scanners, K-9 units, bulletproof vests, patrol trucks, and laptops and printers for police and sheriffs.

Some spending strayed even further from the spirit of the settlement. In Oregon City, Oregon, more than \$30,000 was spent on screening first responders for heart disease. Police Chief Shaun Davis said his staff respond to opioid-related emergencies and experience trauma that increases their risk of heart attack.

But some people question if settlement funds should be footing the bill.

“This looks to me like you're trying to defray other costs” from the police budget, said Stephen Loyd, chair of Tennessee's Opioid Abatement Council. “I don't think that there's any way that this opioid money was earmarked for stuff like that.”

A second area of contention is youth prevention.

Although most people agree that stopping children from developing addictions is important, the execution is tricky.

Nearly half a million settlement dollars have gone to the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program, commonly known as D.A.R.E. Decades of research suggest its original curriculum is ineffective.

Robeson County, North Carolina, spent about \$10,000 in settlement money to buy “Andy the Ambulance,” a robot ambulance with big eyes and an audio system through which a human operator can discuss

the dangers of drugs. EMS Director Patrick Cummings said his team has taken the robot to churches and elementary schools.

We “don't have any studies that show it's working,” he said, but educating kids seems like a good investment because “if they never try it, they don't get addicted.”

Then there's the chunk of money — up to 15% of each state's funds — that's a free-for-all.

Flint, Michigan, spent nearly \$10,000 on a sign for a community service center. The city reported that the expense did not qualify as “opioid remediation.” In other words, it's unrelated to addressing the crisis.

But Caitie O'Neill, a city spokesperson, said that “the building sign makes it possible for residents to find” the center, which houses city services, “including Narcan kits, fentanyl testing strips, and substance abuse referrals.”

Jurisdictions across 29 states reported non-remediation spending in 2022 and 2023. Most opioid settlements require such reports but operate on an honor system. No one is checking if the other 21 states and Washington, D.C., were truthful.

Jackie Lewis, an Ohio mother whose 34-year-old son, Shaun, died of an overdose in October 2022, finds that hard to stomach.

“This is blood money,” she said. Some people have “lost sight of that.”

Lewis is raising Shaun's daughter, ensuring the 9-year-old receives counseling at school and can attend the hip-hop music classes she enjoys — all on Lewis' Social Security payments. This year they moved to a smaller town with lower costs.

As settlement funds continue flowing, she wants officials in charge of the money to help families like hers.

“We still exist and we're still struggling,” she said.

KFF Health News' Henry Larweh and Megan Kalata, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health's Sara Whaley and Vivian Flanagan, and Shatterproof's Kristen Pendergrass and Sahvanah Prescott contributed to this article.

The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health has taken a leading role in providing guidance to state and local governments on the use of opioid settlement funds. Faculty from the school collaborated with other experts in the field to create principles for using the money, which have been endorsed by over 60 organizations.

Shatterproof is a national nonprofit that addresses substance use disorder through distinct initiatives, including advocating for state and federal policies, ending addiction stigma, and educating communities about the treatment system.

Shatterproof is partnering with some states on projects funded by opioid settlements. KFF Health News, the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and the Shatterproof team who worked on this report are not involved in those efforts.

KFF Health News is a national newsroom that produces in-depth journalism about health issues and is one of the core operating programs at KFF—an independent source of health policy research, polling, and journalism. Learn more about KFF.

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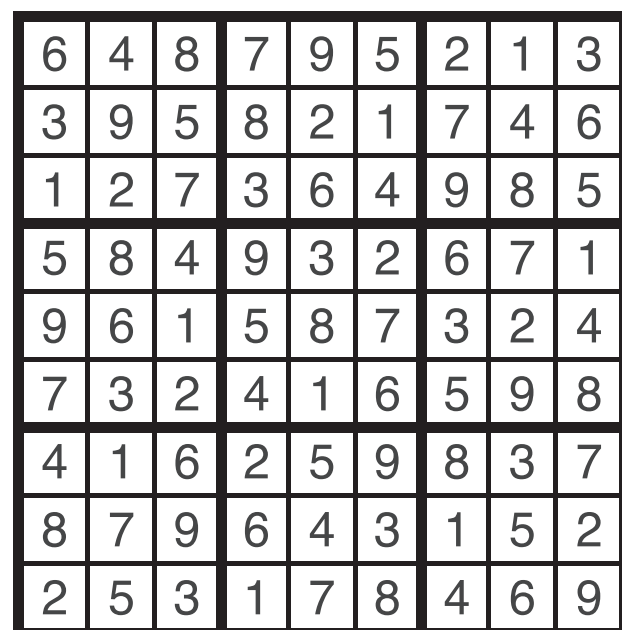
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Advertisement for breast & cervical cancer screenings. Text: 'Be around for countless memories to come! Get FREE or LOW-COST breast & cervical cancer screenings! Learn more at hhs.iowa.gov/public-health/cancer/cfy'. Includes IOWA Health and Human Services logo and 'IN THE CLASSIFIEDS' graphic.

EAGLE GROVE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING • DEC. 9, 2024

Eagle Grove CSD Regular Board Meeting 12/09/2024-06:00 PM Board Room - Emerson Building 325 North Commercial Eagle Grove, IA Printed: 12/10/2024 10:16 AM MEETING MINUTES MISSION STATEMENT: The Eagle Grove Community School District, in partnership with the community, will promote in all students the knowledge and skills necessary to become independent thinkers, life-long learners, and responsible productive citizens Attendees Voting Members Tracy Crail, Board President Darren Robinson, Board Director Amanda Willard, Board Director Non-Voting Members Jess Toliver, Superintendent Nicole Boyer, Business Manager/ Board Secretary/SBO Heidi Vasquez McKristie Willard Community Members Ed Lynn, Eagle Grove Eagle 1. Call to Order The meeting was called to order by President Crail at 6:01 PM. 2. Roll Call 3. Welcome 4. Conflict of Interest Declaration 5. Communications and Celebrations Mrs. Vasquez and Mrs. Willard presented updates and activities happening in their buildings. 6. Public Comment Cards 7. Approve the Agenda Motion made by: Darren Robinson Motion seconded by: Amanda Willard Voting: Tracy Crail - Yes Darren Robinson - Yes Amanda Willard - Yes 8. Consent Items Motion made by: Darren Robinson Motion seconded by: Amanda Willard Voting: Tracy Crail - Yes Darren Robinson - Yes Amanda Willard - Yes 9. Minutes b. Monthly Bills c. Financial Statements d. Resignations e. Contracts f. Open Enrollment Applications 9. TLC Update No one. 10. Chapter 12 Waiver/Exemption Motion to accept the Chapter 12 Waiver/Exemption as presented by the board. Motion made by: Darren Robinson Motion seconded by: Amanda Willard Voting: Tracy Crail Yes Darren Robinson - Yes

Amanda Willard - Yes 11. Approve Title IX Plan- Sexual Harassment Procedures Manual Motion to accept the Title IX Plan-Sexual Harassment Procedures Manual as presented to the board. Motion made by: Amanda Willard Motion seconded by: Darren Robinson Voting: Tracy Crail - Yes Darren Robinson - Yes Amanda Willard - Yes 12. SBRC Modified Supplemental Amount for Open Enrollment Out Motion to approve the SBRC Modified Supplemental Amount for Open Enrollment Out in the amount of \$117,075.28 as presented to the board. Motion made by: Darren Robinson Motion seconded by: Amanda Willard Voting: Tracy Crail - Yes Darren Robinson - Yes Amanda Willard - Yes 13. SBRC Modified Supplemental Amount for EL Instruction beyond 5 Years Motion to approve the SBRC Modified Supplemental Amount for EL Instruction beyond 5 years in the amount of \$143,469.26. Motion made by: Darren Robinson Motion seconded by: Amanda Willard Voting: Tracy Crail - Yes Darren Robinson - Yes Amanda Willard - Yes 14. Purchases over \$25,000 Motion to approve the purchase of ByteSpeed Cameras the amount of \$63,064. Motion made by: Amanda Willard Motion seconded by: Darren Robinson Voting: Tracy Crail - Yes Darren Robinson - Yes Amanda Willard - Yes 15. Eagle Grove CSD plan for recruitment and retention/Enriching the Employment Experience Motion to approve the Eagle Grove CSD plan for recruitment and retention/enriching the employment experience as presented to the board. Motion made by: Darren Robinson Motion seconded by: Amanda Willard Voting: Tracy Crail - Yes Darren Robinson - Yes Amanda Willard - Yes 16. Dropout Prevention for 2025-26 Motion to approve the dropout prevention for 2025-26 as presented to the board in the amount of \$385,603 and the plan presented by Toliver. Motion made by: Darren Robinson Motion seconded by: Amanda Willard

lard Brown, Hope, reimb for mileage and meals..... 132.00 Central Iowa Distributing, supplies . . . . . 2,575.00 Central Iowa Water, supplies... 375.00 City of Eagle Grove, water... 2,798.37 Column Software, legal publications ..... 318.57 Comm1 Network, telephone service ..... 535.65 Copy Systems, supplies ..... 45.00 Crescent Electric, supplies... 314.75 Crowson Piano Service, service..... 330.00 Demco, supplies ..... 173.92 Eagle Building Supply, supplies..... 1,099.22 Eagle Grove CDC, meals ..... 320.00 Eagle Grove Schools, wire..... 30.00 ECA Educational Services, supplies ..... 12,209.13 Elan Financial, supplies..... 28.40 Eocene Environmental Group, training..... 150.00 Fareway, supplies..... 756.17 Gina Blomberg Consulting, training ..... 1,600.00 Goldfield Access Network, telephone service ..... 31.45 Gordon Flesh, supplies..... 150.00 GoStrengths, subscription..... 137.90 Hawkeye West Pest Control, monthly service..... 255.00 Johnston, Amanda, reimb for supplies ..... 40.61 Jostens, supplies ..... 44.70 JW Pepper, supplies..... 61.34 Mackin, supplies ..... 448.86 Maier, Susan, reimb. .... 133.15 Martin Brothers, supplies..... 917.88 Medical Enterprises, drug testing ... .. 815.00 Menards, supplies ..... 857.37 MidAmerican, utilities..... 3,565.35 Oldson Plumbing, Heating, and Air, service ..... 427.50 Pappel Repair, repairs ..... 452.00 Paper Corporation, supplies..... 2,005.54 Plumb Supply, supplies ..... 90.18 Pritchards, service ..... 184.39 Qiell, supplies ..... 408.08 Rieman Music, supplies..... 192.40 Roosa, Radney, mileage reimbursement..... 26.67 Roto-Rooter, service ..... 485.00 Schindler, inspection..... 2,606.99 Scholastic, supplies ..... 123.58 School Bus Sales, repairs ... 384.29 School Specialty, supplies... 432.80 Temeyer, Pauline, reimb for course ..... 1,845.00 Thomas Bus Sales, repairs... 134.55 Timberline, medicaid services ..... 1,235.22 Toliver, Jess, meeting expense reimbursement..... 163.90 Trash Man, monthly service ..... 1,722.00 Ventris Learning, LLC, supplies..... 90.00 Verizon, cell phones ..... 1,010.60 W & H, fuel ..... 5,132.03 Walmart, supplies ..... 268.42 Wilson, Beth, reimb for registration

..... 50.30 Woodman Controls, tech support... .. 1,616.00 ..... 55,833.59 OFFICIALS - PREPAID - APPROVED DECEMBER 9, 2024 Becker, Jerry, MS BBall 11/15, 11/19, 11/22 ..... 285.00 O'Hern, Dan, MS BBall 11/15... 95.00 Signorin, Craig, MS BBall 11/19 ..... 95.00 ..... 475.00 OFFICIALS-PREPAID APPROVED DECEMBER 9, 2024 Becker, Jerry, MS BBall 12/05... 95.00 Hungerford, Rodney, HS BBall 12/03..... 100.00 Mclellan, Ryan, HS BBall 12/03..... 100.00 Meyer, Justin, HS BBall 12/03 ..... 130.00 Kuhlmann, Korey, HS BBall 12/03... 130.00 Wickett, Gregory, HS BBall 12/03... 130.00 Signorin, Craig, MS BBall 12/05 ..... 95.00 ..... 780.00 MANAGEMENT FUND BILL FOR APPROVAL-DECEMBER 9, 2024 Eagle Grove Schools, retiree ins for Oct..... 992.04 SU Insurance, equipment breakdown insurance ..... 20,491.75 ..... 21,483.79 PPEL BILLS FOR APPROVAL - DECEMBER 9, 2024 AGParts, monitors ..... 2,599.00 Amazon, supplies ..... 495.88 ByteSpeed, cameras ..... 63,064.00 C.H. McGuiness, repairs ..... 837.27 CDW Government, supplies ..... 1,800.00 Central Iowa Distributing, repairs ..... 1,200.00 Central States Roofing, repairs ..... 437.89 Full Warranty Bus Leasing, bus lease ..... 4,580.00 Gordon Flesch Leasing, copiers..... 3,232.86 ICN, internet access ..... 407.51 JourneyEd, technology..... 3,265.10 Lund Construction, repairs..... 835.97 McPeak Trenching, repairs..... 3,671.44 Quadient Leasing, postage machine ..... 394.92 SVPA, service ..... 1,005.00 Tech Zone, bus wifi/cameras ..... 3,295.00 ..... 91,121.84 SAVE SERVICE BILLS FOR APPROVAL - DECEMBER 9, 2024 Chase, interest on SAVE bonds ..... 32,208.00 ..... 32,208.00 ACTIVITY FUND BILLS FOR NOVEMBER, APPROVAL DECEMBER 9, 2024 AMAZON-SUPPLIES ..... 732.83 ATLANTIC COCA-COLA BOTTLING-SUPPLIES ..... 871.40 EAGLE GOVE COLF COURSE- 2024-2025 GREEN FEES CON-

TRACT..... 700.00 EAGLE GROVE CSD-CASH..... 527.20 EAGLE GROVE GREENHOUSES-SUPPLIES ..... 100.00 ENYART, KATHY-CRITQUIING ..... 375.00 ENYART, SCOTT-CRITQUIING ..... 225.00 FAMILY TABLE- TEAM MEALS..... 704.38 FAREWAY-SUPPLIES ..... 1,094.26 GLAZIER DRIVE- FOOTBALL COACHES CONFERENCES ..... 319.00 HEWETT WHOLESALE INC - SUPPLIES ..... 585.28 IOWA HS SPEECH ASSOCIATION- 2024-25 MEMBERSHIP ..... 100.00 IOWA SPORTS SUPPLY COMPANY-SUPPLIES ..... 1,966.00 JACK SPORTS LLC- SUPPLIES ... 210.00 MALDONADO, MARTA-REIMBURSEMENT BOUNCY HOUSE FOR HISPANIC FESTIVAL... 300.00 MARTIN BROTHERS DISTRIBUTING CO INC-SUPPLIES... 1,173.63 NCIBA-MS HONOR BAD REGISTRATION ..... 40.00 PASQUALE'S FOOD SERVICE INC-SUPPLIES ..... 71.40 PEDERSEN, RYAN - REIMBURSEMENT ..... 59.89 PUTNEY, JASON-MEAL REIMBURSEMENT ..... 33.25 RAILS BAR & GRILL-PIZZA ..... 1,159.19 REBEL ATHLETIC INC-DANCE COSTUMES ..... 6,583.54 RIEMAN MUSIC INC - MUSIC ..... 117.00 SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIRS-SUPPLIES ..... 4,022.43 TMI SERVICES INC- PORTABLE TOILET ..... 578.00 TROPHIES PLUS - AWARDS ..... 1,263.27 WEISSMAN'S DESIGN FOR DANCE- COSTUME ..... 111.40 WUBEN, ANTHONY - REIMBURSEMENT STUDENT COUNCIL MEAL ..... 150.00 WYHE'S CHOICE FUNDRAISING-SUPPLIES ..... 2,265.00 ..... 26,438.35 NUTRITION FUND INVOICES FOR NOVEMBER, APPROVAL DECEMBER 9, 2024 Amazon- Supplies ..... 453.86 Anderson- Erickson Dairy Co. - Milk ..... 8,556.60 Bimbo Bakeries USA- Bread ..... 1,805.00 Elan Financial Services- Parts and Conference Registration..... 720.97 Fareway Stores - Supplies ..... 7.05 Martin Bros Distributing Co Inc-Supplies ..... 51,812.08 Oldson Plumbing-Repairs..... 662.48 Eagle Grove CSD- Cash ..... 25 ..... 64,043.04



# Shorthanded Eagles Show Out In Humboldt

## Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

On Monday, girls wrestling fans pack Humboldt High School gym for the Michelle Jensen Memorial Tournament. Due to injury, two Eagles weren't in their singlets, but the purple and gold remained focused and turned in some fantastic in-

dividual performances. Catherine Orozco earned another individual title in the 100 pound weight class after two swift wins by fall in a combined 64 seconds. In her final bout, she won a major decision over Kourtney King of South Central Calhoun. Orozco boasts a 15-3 record as she prepares for the Fort

Dodge Girls Invite. Keylyee Collins went 2-2 on the night and placed fifth. The 135 pounder secured wins over wrestlers from East Sac County and Humboldt. Baylee Steig (145) placed

fifth for Eagle Grove. She had two wins by fall and won her final match in 59 seconds. At 170, Keeley Peterson won by fall over a South Central Calhoun wrestler. After losing a tough bout

against Danica Diedrick of Humboldt, Peterson bounced back with another pin. She would take home fourth place after falling in the second period of her placement match. As a team, the ladies tallied

59.5 points, good enough for an eighth place finish. Humboldt won their home tourney with a score of 148. Hampton-Dumont-CAL and Manson Northwest Webster tied for second with 135 points apiece.



Keeley Peterson celebrates a win over Lilly Picard



Coach Thacker and Coach Ascherl look on during a Keylyee Collins wrestleback



Sophomore Catherine Orozco tore up the field at 100 pounds (Photos by Taylor Smith)

### PROBATE | DEENA M. PYLE

**THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR WRIGHT COUNTY**  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DEENA M. PYLE, Deceased  
ESPR017658  
**NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Deena M. Pyle, Deceased, who died on or about October 16, 2024:  
You are hereby notified that on December 3, 2024, the Last Will and Testament of Deena M. Pyle, deceased, bearing date of March 3, 1993, was admitted to probate in the above named court and that Daron D. Pyle 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. 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: December 3, 2024.  
Daron D. Pyle, Executor of Estate  
224 33rd St.  
West Des Moines, IA 50265  
Dani L. Eisentrager, ICIS#: 20041 Attorney for Executor  
Eisentrager Law  
109 South Commercial Avenue  
P.O. Box 346  
Eagle Grove, IA 50533  
Date of second publication: December 19, 2024.

Published in the Eagle Grove Eagle on Thursday, Dec. 12 and 19, 2024

### ORIGINAL NOTICE

**IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR WRIGHT COUNTY**  
IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP OF JGVJ003034  
**ORIGINAL NOTICE**  
A.J.C., )  
Protected minor. )  
TO: MELISSA DAWN KING & JEREMY MARCUS COLEMAN  
You are notified that there is now on file in the office of the Clerk of the above Court, a Petition in the above-entitled action, which Petition prays for the appointment of Tia Woeste and Elena Woeste as guardians of the person of the protected minor. The Petitioners' attorney is Dani L. Eisentrager, whose address is 109 S Commercial, P. O. Box 346, Eagle Grove, Iowa 50533, telephone 515-603-6400, fax 515-603-6401, email: dani@eisentrager-lawoffice.com.  
You are further notified that unless, within 20 days after the last publication of this original notice upon you, you serve, and within a reasonable time thereafter, file a written special appearance, motion, or answer, in the Iowa District Court for Wright County, at the Wright county courthouse in Clarion, Iowa, judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Petition.  
A hearing on the Petition will be held at the Wright County Courthouse, 115 N. Main Street, Eagle Grove, Iowa, on **February 21, 2025 at 11:30 a.m.**  
**THIS CASE HAS BEEN FILED**

IN A COUNTY THAT UTILIZES ELECTRONIC FILING. Therefore, unless the attached signature page contains a hearing date for your appearance, or unless you obtain an exemption from eFiling from the court, you must file your Appearance and Answer electronically. You must register to eFile through the Iowa Judicial Branch website at <https://www.iowacourts.state.ia.us/EFiling> and obtain a log in and password for the purposes of filing and viewing documents on your case and of receiving service and notices from the court. FOR GENERAL RULES AND INFORMATION ON ELECTRONIC FILING, REFER TO THE IOWA COURT RULES CHAPTER 16 PERTAINING TO THE USE OF THE ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, also available on the Iowa Judicial Branch website. FOR COURT RULES ON THE PROTECTION OF PERSONAL PRIVACY IN COURT FILINGS, REFER TO DIVISION VI OF IOWA COURT RULES CHAPTER 16.  
If you need assistance to participate in court due to a disability, call the disability coordinator at (515) 421-0990. Persons who are hearing or speech impaired may call Relay Iowa TTY at 1-800-735-2942. **Disability coordinators cannot provide legal advice.**  
**IMPORTANT**  
**YOU ARE ADVISED TO SEEK LEGAL ADVICE TO PROTECT YOUR INTERESTS**

Published in the Eagle Grove Eagle on Thursday, Dec. 19 and Dec. 26, 2024 and Jan. 2, 2025

# Orozco Takes Individual Title At Lady Eagle Invite

## Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

Six Eagle Grove girls wrestlers continued their season on Tuesday, December 10 as Eagle Grove Elementary played host to teams across the state. All six varsity grapplers won by fall in the first round at the annual Lady Eagle Invitational.

Catherine Orozco pinned her first 100 lb. opponent in just 38 seconds on her path to the second round. After a win via medical forfeit, Orozco won by fall in 2:41 over Letty Jensen of Humboldt for first place.

Junior Evelyn Jergenson (115) won by fall in the opening period of her first two matches. She finished in sixth after losing by fall in a pair of bouts and a medical forfeit in the fifth place match.

Jaymie Anderson (120) received a bye in Round 1. She quickly pinned her first comer in just 32 seconds and won her next match by fall in 1:24. In the final, Anderson would face the #10 ranked wrestler in her weight class. Anderson battled for two periods, but placed second after losing by

fall to Anna Stene of Lake Mills.

Keylyee Collins (135) went 2-2 at the Lady Eagle Invite. In Round 1, she trailed for most of two periods, but never backed down. With a fraction of a second left on the clock, Collins provided a jolt for the home crowd and pinned an AGWSR grappler just inside the mat. After a loss, Collins won her wrestleback, but was eventually defeated by Madelyn Thompson of West Marshall.

Baylee Steig (145) controlled her first opponent from start to finish. She recorded a takedown in the first period and easily won by fall in the second. Steig went 3-2 on the day and earned fifth place for Eagle Grove.

Keely Peterson won by fall in her Round 1, 170 lb. match against an AGWSR wrestler. She then lost two in a row and did not place.

Fifteen teams were in attendance, and the Lady Eagles finished seventh with 79 points. Lake Mills took the team championship with 181, followed by Humboldt (169), and Nevada (166).



Coach Thacker watches Evelyn Jergenson lay down the law. (Photos by Taylor Smith)



Keylyee Collins reverses her fortunes in the final seconds of her first match

### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**  
The City of Eagle Grove, Iowa, is hereby serving as Public Notice that on Monday, January 06, 2025, at 6:30 p.m., the City Council will hold a public hearing at the Council Chambers, 210 E. Broadway in Eagle Grove, Iowa to consider disposing of a 2009 Ford F450SD ambulance operated under the Eagle Grove Emergency Medical Services Department. Residents are hereby notified that the City Council will consider sealed bids following the public hearing. Should any individual be interested in purchasing this vehicle, the City Council shall request a sealed bid with the vehicle description, bid amount, and signature delivered to the City of

Eagle Grove City Hall, 121 N. Commercial, PO Box 165, Eagle Grove, Iowa 50533 by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, January 6, 2025. This hearing will be held to give residents the ability to voice their support or concerns regarding the disposal of a 2009 Ford F450SD ambulance. Citizens are encouraged to attend and express their preferences about the proposed decision. Anyone having questions about this, or if you require special accommodation to attend the meeting, you may contact City Hall at 515-448-4343.  
Bryce Davis  
City Administrator  
City of Eagle Grove

Published in the Eagle Grove Eagle on Thursday, Dec. 19, 2024

### WRIGHT COUNTY BOS • DEC. 2, 2024

December 2, 2024  
The Board of Supervisors met at Drainage District Trustees. To view the minutes from the drainage meeting, see the Drainage District minutes on the County website.  
Chairman Helgevoild called the regular meeting of the Wright County Board of Supervisor to order at 9:02 a.m. Members present were Kluss, Rasmussen, and Helgevoild.  
Motion by Rasmussen and seconded by Kluss to approve the tentative agenda. Motion carries.  
Minutes of the previous regular meeting of November 25, 2024 were read and approved.  
Approved claims for payment.  
Adam Clemons, Wright County Engineer, presented Resolution 2024-33, allowing Clemons to sign on behalf of the Board of Supervisors for the bridge replacement for Bridge 210 (Voss Quarry) on C70. Motion by Kluss and seconded by Rasmussen to approve Resolution 2024-33, the Award Contract for Project HDP-C099(103)-6B-99. By roll call vote: Ayes – Kluss, Rasmussen, and Helgevoild; Nays – none. Resolution 2024-33 duly passes and reads as follows:  
**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-33**  
**AWARDING CONTRACT FOR PROJECT HDP-C099(103)-6B-99**  
**WHEREAS**, the Wright County Board of Supervisors, hereafter referred to as "the Board", believes that HDP-C099(103)-6B-99, hereafter referred to as "the project" is in the best interest of Wright County, Iowa, and the residents thereof. The project is defined as HDP-C099(103)-6B-99 consisting of BRIDGE REPLACEMENT - PPCC; and  
**WHEREAS**, the Board has sought appropriate professional guidance for the concept and planning for the project and followed the steps as required by the Code of Iowa for notifications, hearings, and bidding/letting; and  
**WHEREAS**, The Board finds this resolution appropriate and necessary to protect, preserve, and improve the rights, privileges, prop-

erty, peace, safety, health, welfare, comfort, and convenience of Wright County and its citizens, all as provided for in and permitted by section 331.301 of the Code of Iowa; and  
**IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED** by Board to accept the bid from Peterson Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$1,737,108.61 and awards the associated contract(s) to the same; and  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that all other resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed. If any part of this resolution is adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the resolution or action of The Board as a whole or any part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional. This resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its approval as provided by law; and  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors of Wright County, Iowa, that after receiving the necessary contract documents, including but not limited to, the contractor's bond and certificate of insurance, Adam W. Clemons, P.E., the Engineer for Wright County, Iowa, be and is hereby designated, authorized, and empowered on behalf of the Board of Supervisors of said County to execute the contracts in connection with the afore awarded construction project let through the DOT for this project. Dated at Wright County, Iowa, this 2nd day of December, 2024.  
Clemons gave an update on the Secondary Roads. There were 18 work orders completed last week. Blade operators installed their snow equipment for winter preparation. Crews continue to inventory culverts and completed ditch burning in troubled areas.  
Motion by Kluss and seconded by Rasmussen to adjourn the meeting. Motion carries.  
Karl Helgevoild, Chairman  
Wright County Board of Supervisors  
Amanda Meyer, Finance Manager  
Wright County Auditor's Office

Published in the Eagle Grove Eagle on Thursday, Dec. 19, 2024

### GOLDFIELD CITY COUNCIL MINUTES • DEC. 9, 2024

**Goldfield City Council Meeting December 9, 2024**  
The Goldfield Council met in regular session on December 9, 2024 at the Goldfield City Hall. Mayor Fiscus called the council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Council Members present Schermer, Duncalf, Crees and Meinke. Also present City Clerk, Kathy Nelson; Police Chief, Ray Beltran; PW Superintendent Jim Sisson; City Attorney Lynn Seaba. Absent: Council Member Petersen and WCED Director Darrel Steven Carlyle.  
Motion by Crees, second Shermer to approve the November 11th minutes. Motion by Meinke, second Duncalf to approve the December minutes. All ayes. Motions carried. Absent: Petersen.  
**CLAIMS REPORT**  
**DECEMBER CLAIMS**  
**VENDOR, REFERENCE...AMOUNT**  
ACCESS SYSTEMS LEASING, COPIER LEASE..... 222.20  
AGSOURCE LABORATORIES, TESTING/SAMPLES..... 14.50  
BOMGAARS SUPPLY, SUPPLIES SHOP..... 168.81  
CARGILL, INCORPORATED, SALT-WATERPLANT..... 6,815.05  
CITY OF GOLDFIELD, NESTOR RAMIREZ UTILITY..... 106.32  
CITY OF GOLDFIELD, WATER/SEWER COMMUNITY CENTER... 68.40  
DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP, HYDRAULIC CEMENT..... 46.55  
EAGLE GROVE LIBRARY, 1ST HALF

PAYMENT FY 24-25.....3,117.50  
DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY, FED/FICA TAX..... 3,207.12  
FIRST BANK, NEW WELL LOAN..... 35,728.25  
GOLDFIELD CEMETERY, 1ST PAYMENT FY 24-25..... 2,200.00  
GOLDFIELD POST OFFICE, POSTAGE CITY HALL..... 73.00  
GOLDFIELD POST OFFICE, WATER/SEWER BILLS..... 150.08  
GOLDFIELD TELEPHONE CO, PHONE/INTERNET..... 272.99  
HANSON & SON TIRES, NEW TIRES-BACKHOE..... 3,143.34  
HAWKEYE WEST PEST CONTROL, PEST CONTROL COMM. CENTER/CITY HALL..... 99.36  
HAWKINS, INC, AZONE15-WATERPLANT..... 431.20  
IOWA ONE CALL, LOCATES... 32.60  
IPERS COLLECTION, IPERS - REGULAR..... 1,472.54  
JIM SISSON, REIMBURSE TRANSDUCER-WATER PLANT.... 320.95  
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL, JOHN DEERE LEASE..... 503.58  
MID AMERICAN ENERGY, GAS/ELECTRIC..... 2,039.75  
NESTOR VELAZQUEZ RAMIREZ, UTILITY DEPOSIT REFUND..... 193.68  
NFCS, LLC, REPLACE LIGHT BULBS-WATERTOWER..... 741.16  
SEABA LAW OFFICE, PLC, LEGAL EXPENSE..... 463.68  
T & S SANITATION, GARBAGE NOVEMBER..... 55.00  
TITAN MACHINERY-DES MOINES,

MAINTENANCE BACKHOE..... 2,564.84  
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA, WATER EXCISE TAX NOVEMBER 2024..... 972.48  
VERIZON, SIMS CARD-WATER PLANT..... 40.01  
W & H COOP, GAS/DIESEL..... 201.26  
Payroll Checks..... 13,411.10  
**\*\*\*\* REPORT TOTAL \*\*\*\***  
**78,877.30**  
**EXPENSES**  
GENERAL..... 10,560.27  
FIRE DEPT..... 5,485.85  
ROAD USE TAX..... 10,664.44  
DEBT SERVICE..... 20,364.40  
COMMUNITY CTR..... 84.96  
WATER..... 28,822.02  
SEWER..... 2,895.36  
**TOTAL..... 78,877.30**  
**REVENUE**  
GENERAL..... 28,946.18  
CORN LP..... 4,167.00  
FIRE DEPT..... 1,969.87  
ROAD USE TAX..... 7,559.08  
EMPLOYEE BEN..... 1,917.33  
LOCAL OPTION TAX..... 6,444.90  
DEBT SERVICE..... 3,857.06  
COMMUNITY CTR..... 1,953.91  
WATER..... 17,148.43  
SEWER..... 11,923.17  
**TOTAL..... 85,886.93**  
Police Chief Ray Beltran discussed the November dispatch report. Nuisance properties were discussed in detail.  
Motion by Crees, second Meinke to approve the 1st Reading of Ordinance 187 Street Parking. Motion by Crees, second Schermer

to approve the updates of the 1st Reading of Ordinance 187 Street Parking. All ayes. Motions carried. Roll Call: All Ayes. Absent Petersen. PW Superintendent Jim Sisson gave an update.  
Motion by Crees, second Meinke to name the Eagle Grove Eagle as the city's official newspaper for 2025. All ayes. Motion carried. Absent Petersen. Motion by Duncalf, second Schermer to approve Res. #781, designating First Bank Depository for Public Funds. Roll call vote: Ayes: Schermer, Crees, Meinke, Duncalf. Motion carried. Absent Petersen. Budget Workshop was set to January 8th & 15th at 5:30 p.m. Mayor Fiscus informed the Council that the school demo project will be finished in the Spring. He also informed that Twins River will be doing hydrogen testing along Highway 3 starting in January.  
Motion by Schermer, second Meinke to adjourn at 6:42 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried. Absent Petersen.  
Kathy Nelson, City Clerk  
Gabe Fiscus, Mayor

Published in the Eagle Grove Eagle on Thursday, Dec. 19, 2024

Send us your new address before you move...  
...so your subscription isn't interrupted.

# SPORTS

## UPCOMING SPORTS SCHEDULE

### Thursday, Dec. 19

- Varsity Esports vs. OABCIB, 4 p.m.
- Girls JV/Varsity Basketball @ MNW-Webster, 4 p.m.
- Boys JV/Varsity Basketball @ MNW-Webster, 5 p.m.
- Boys JV/Varsity Wrestling Quad @ Eagle Grove, 6 p.m.

### Friday, Dec. 20

- Junior High Boys Wrestling @ Boone, 4:30 p.m.
- Boys JV Wrestling @ IF-A, 5 p.m.
- Girls Varsity Wrestling @ FDSH, 5 p.m.

### Saturday, Dec. 21

- Boys Varsity Wrestling @ Roland-Story, 10 a.m.

## Girls Can't Keep Up With Belmont-Klemme

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

The EG varsity girls basketball team continued conference play last Thursday night at home against the Broncos of Belmont-Klemme. Poor outside shooting hampered the 1-3 Eagles, and three Broncos scored in double digits in the 57-27 blowout.

The freshmen heavy Eagles were led by Adelle Pamperin's 10 points and 3 steals. Pamperin shot 5/11 from the field.

Salem Willard finished with 6 points and 4 rebounds, and Taytum Edwards added 4 points and 4 rebounds.

Senior Myah Edwards cleaned up 11 rebounds and recorded 2 steals and 2 blocks. Kendra Schild had 3 points and 6 rebounds in the loss, and Myka Anderson and Ellie Lenning both had 2 points.



ABOVE: Adelle Pamperin sheds a Bronco defender. RIGHT: Salem Willard shoots from outside (Photos by Mitch Jones Photography)



## Bronco Hoopers Outplay Eagles

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

Top of Iowa-West opponent Belmont-Klemme visited Eagle Grove Elementary last Thursday night for a showdown against the Eagle Grove varsity boys basketball team.

The Eagles trailed 32-28 at halftime, only scored 10 in the third, and eventually lost 65-55.

Guard Adrian Whipple converted on nearly 40% of his three-point attempts and was Eagle Grove's highest scorer with 19 points. Post players Gavin Pedersen (10 points, 9 rebounds) and Josh Miller (8 points, 10 rebounds, 3 steals) each performed well and shot a combined 8/16.

Shooting wise, Jaxon Morris (10 points) and Abraham Lin (8 points) both had an off night, but the duo distributed the ball to their teammates and combined for 11 assists.



Josh Miller fades away against Belmont-Klemme



## Golden Stars Continue Tradition at The Well

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

On December 4th and 5th, the Eagle Grove Golden Stars Drill Team represented Eagle Grove once again at the Iowa High Team Championships in Des Moines. The young ladies danced once on Thursday, twice on Friday, and earned some impressive hardware in the process.

For the Golden Stars' Class IV Jazz routine, they danced to the lively "Can't Touch This". The routine was choreographed by Megan Jenkins and earned EG third place out of twelve schools.

On Friday, the girls returned for their Class II Kick routine. They brought home second place after high kicking to "Mama Mia".

Later that day, the drill team performed to "Lady Gaga Mix" for their Class VIII Pom routine, securing yet another trophy. This time, they placed fourth out of twelve schools.



Christmas came early for the Golden Stars



Front (L to R): Gracie Sisson, Avery Wepel-Sisson, Jocelyn Gonzalez - Middle (L to R): Crystal Flores-Baez, Madeline Capetillo, Kendra Schild, Ally Capsel, Brenna Grandgeorge - Back (L to R): Amelia Gonzalez-Willard, Myka Anderson, Jazsalene Gonzalez-Willard (Photos courtesy of Eagle Grove Golden Stars Drill Team)



### Refinery Material Handler

Ag Processing Inc (AGP) is currently looking to hire a temp-refinery material handler worker in an entry level capacity. This is an amazing opportunity with growth potential at our Eagle Grove facility.

AGP offers a positive work environment. Refinery Material Handler duties include both indoor & outdoor work activity with a rotating shift schedule. Candidates should have a high school diploma or equivalent.

**Don't miss out on your chance for advancement at AGP. Apply today by filling out an application at our Eagle Grove main office located at 500 North Commercial Avenue, Eagle Grove or at AGP.com.**

AG Processing Inc is an Equal Opportunity Employer & participates in E-Verify.

During halftime of last week's varsity boys game, spectators threw teddy bears and plush toys onto the court. The "Teddy Bear Toss", organized by the EGHS StuCo, donates these toys to local pediatric agencies for kids that are facing mental health or domestic violence issues. (Photos by Mitch Jones Photography)

**ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS**



**Community Health Center of Eagle Grove**

306 West Broadway, Eagle Grove  
Call 515-293-8111



**Community Health Center of Clarion**

303 N Main St., Clarion  
Call 515-532-3343

 Medical

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 Medical

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Open to all, regardless of insurance status. We accept Medicare, Medicaid and most major insurance. We have a sliding fee scale for those who qualify. **Si, hablamos español.**



# Special Olympics Bowlers Clean Up in Waterloo

by Edward Lynn  
Editor

WATERLOO—Athletes from across Iowa showcased their skills during the Special Olympics bowling competition held on November 22nd and 23rd. Hundreds of participants competed in Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, and Waterloo, with Eagle Grove athletes achieving standout performances in Waterloo on November 22nd.

As the largest sport the organization offers, the annual bowling competition is a highlight of the Special Olympics calendar. "Everyone loves participating in it and the families love coming out and supporting their athletes," said Grace Poots, Unified Sports Manager for Special Olympics Iowa, in an interview with We Are Iowa. "We have a ton of families here, from aunts and uncles

to cousins, and it's just a great experience here for us and for the athletes because they love bowling."

This year, Eagle Grove athletes brought home several top honors, including the following placements:

### Ramp Assisted Bowling

- Division F\_8-11\_2: 1st place - Cecelia Houser, 269 points (Eagle Grove Elementary).
- Division F\_16-21\_1: 1st

place - Rosa Vasquez-Reyes, 212 points; 2nd place - Darci Anderson, 202 points (Eagle Grove High School).

### Bowling Singles

- Division M\_8-11\_4: 1st place - Maxtyn Fonken, 231 points; 2nd place - Junior Gonzales, 188 points; 3rd place - Adrien Habhab, 181 points; 4th place - Sebastian Estrada-Kreitlow, 180 points; 5th place - Maxtyn Hill, 172 points (Eagle Grove

Elementary).

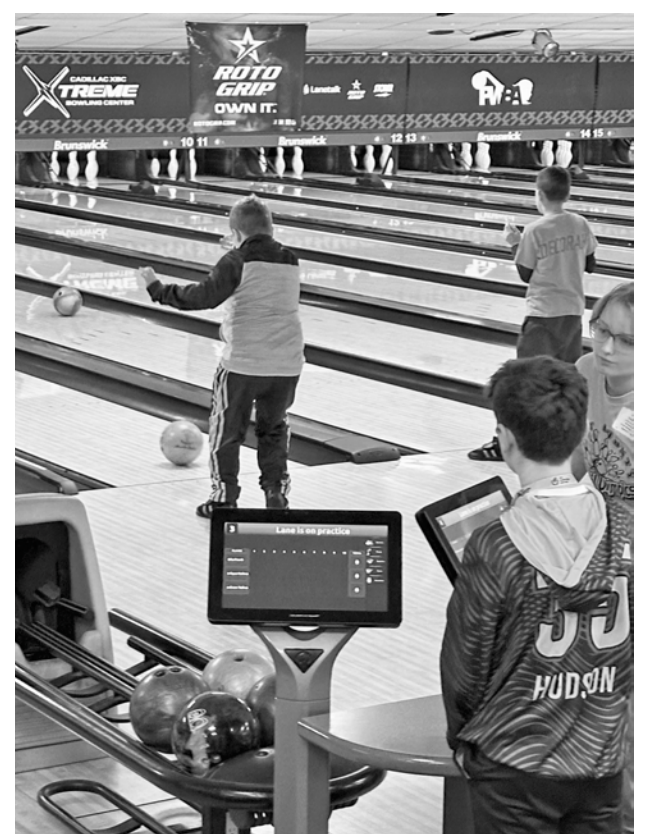
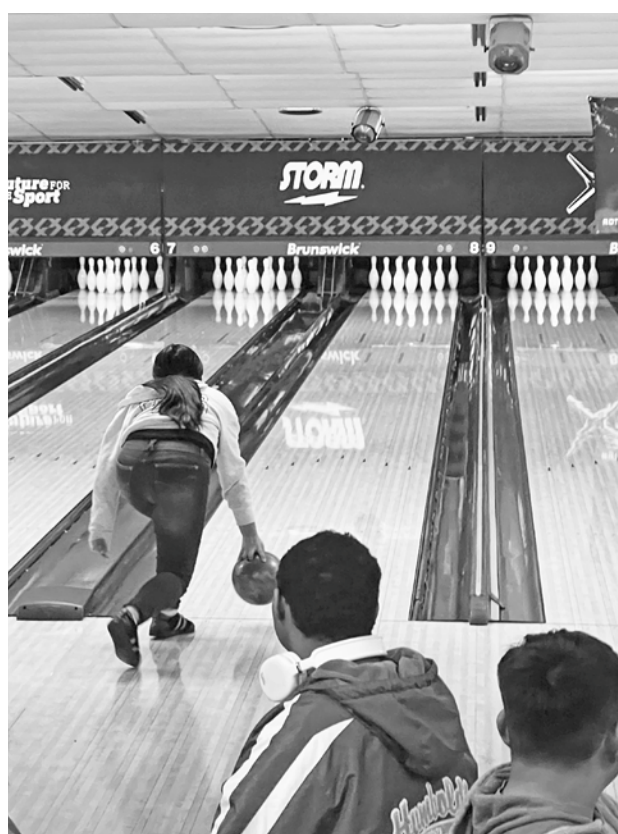
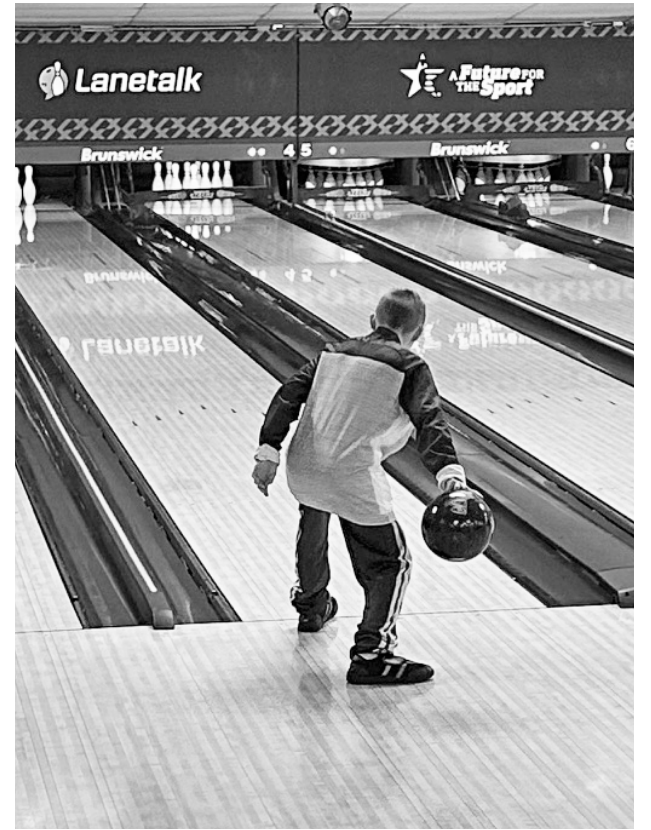
- Division M\_8-11\_5: 1st place - Barry Washington, 203 points; 2nd place - Jahxriel Cintrom Rosado, 180 points (Eagle Grove Elementary).
- Division M\_12-15\_3: 1st place - Josiah Toyne, 240 points (Eagle Grove High School).
- Division M\_16-21\_2: 1st place - Parker Poppin, 214

School).

- Division M\_30-50\_1: 1st place - Paul Allen Kelley, 159 points (Eagle Grove Adults).

### Bowling Singles Ramp Assisted

- Division M\_8-11\_1: 1st place - Maxtyn Fonken, 231 points (Eagle Grove Elementary).
- Division F\_8-11\_1: 2nd place - Naidelyn Garcia, 185 points (Eagle Grove Elementary).



# Teacher of the Year Tours, Praises EG Schools

By Edward Lynn  
Editor

EAGLE GROVE — Ann Mincks, Iowa's 2024 Teacher of the Year, and Rachel Pettigrew, Title III and Title I-C Consultant with the Iowa Department of Education, recently toured Eagle Grove's school buildings to observe the district's Multilingual Learner (ML) program. The visit aimed to highlight effective practices for serving ML students at the state level.

During their visit, Mincks and Pettigrew spent two hours in each building, observing a variety of classes and groups. The tour showcased the district's dedication to fostering a supportive and inclusive environment for Multilingual Learners.

"Eagle Grove should be proud of the work they are doing to support Multilingual Learners!" said Mincks. "I saw so many things to be excited about: staff that are excited to serve all students, a growing number of teachers with EL endorsements, lots of translanguaging opportunities in all classrooms, and relationships with parents/guardians and community partnerships."



ABOVE: Several students enrolled in Eagle Grove's Multilingual Learners program pose with Ann Mincks and Jenice Hammitt, an ML instructor at EGHS. RIGHT: 2024 Teacher of the Year Ann Mincks speaks to students during her visit.



"It was an honor to host Ms. Pettigrew and Ms. Mincks for the day," said Janae McKinley, Robert Blue Middle School Instructional Coach and Eagle Grove Communi-

ty School District ML Coordinator. "We were able to showcase all of the wonderful things happening in each of our buildings in the district. It was so great to see our students

and staff get the recognition they deserve for all of the hard work they put in each day. I am so proud to be part of this district and community!"

## ARTIST OF THE WEEK



Shelby has been working these past few weeks on creating a squid string art. She wanted to have a variety of colors and shades of pink and blue.

Shelby's favorite class has been 3D because she gets to create her own projects and come up with her own ideas.

*Shelby Steig*

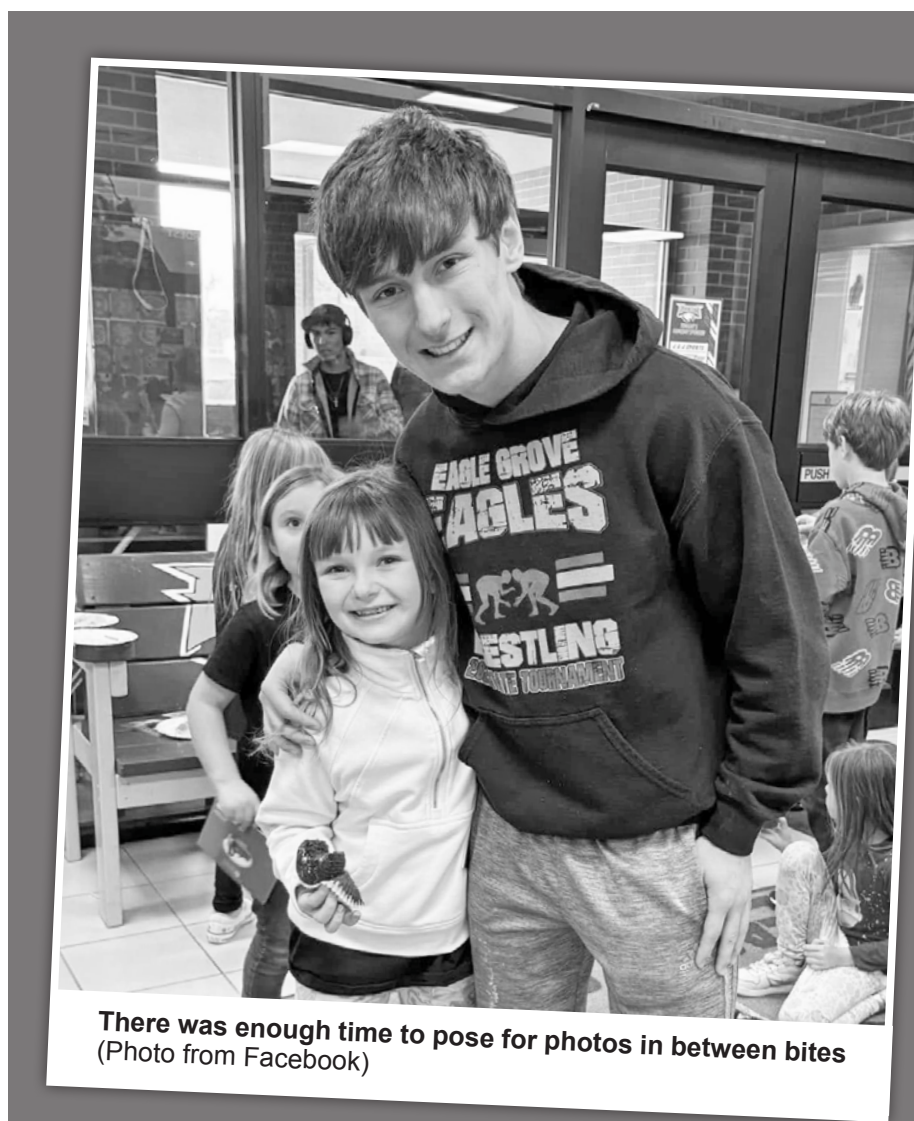


(Graphic from EGHS Facebook)

## FCS Helps Younger Students Celebrate



Elementary students enjoys every last bite (Photo from Facebook)



There was enough time to pose for photos in between bites (Photo from Facebook)



Those born in December or June were treated to a cupcake and a candle (Photo from Facebook)



High school Family and Consumer Science students commandeered the concession stand (Photo from Facebook)

*Thanks for being a reader!*

**Readers make good citizens.**

**Readers help enrich cultural and civic life.**

*Share the newspaper, encourage more reading!*

Source: [www.arts.gov/sites/default/files/ToRead.pdf](http://www.arts.gov/sites/default/files/ToRead.pdf)

## THIS WEEK'S Famous Birthdays

- DECEMBER 15**  
Adam Brody, Actor (45)  
**DECEMBER 16**  
Krysten Ritter, Actress (43)  
**DECEMBER 17**  
Pope Francis, Religious Leader (88)  
**DECEMBER 18**  
Christina Aguilera, Singer (44)  
**DECEMBER 19**  
Alyssa Milano, Actress (52)  
**DECEMBER 20**  
Jonah Hill, Actor (41)  
**DECEMBER 21**  
Ray Romano, Comic/Actor (67)

## THIS WEEK'S Horoscopes

- ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20**  
Aries, a special person in your life deserves all of your attention. Romance might be on your mind, and you'll look forward to all of the time you can spend together.
- TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21**  
You may feel artistically inspired this week, Taurus. Explore projects like home improvements or crafting. There are many things to try.
- GEMINI – May 22/June 21**  
Your attendance at a wedding or another special event could have your thoughts moving in a romantic direction, Gemini. Maybe you're thinking of taking your relationship to another level?
- CANCER – June 22/July 22**  
Cancer, forge ahead in your efforts if you aspire to learn a new skill or take on a different project. This might involve meeting new and interesting people. Expand your social network.
- LEO – July 23/Aug 23**  
Leo, it is important to put others first this week, particularly your spouse or romantic partner. You don't want any hurt feelings circulating right now.
- VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22**  
An unexpected visitor might come your way in the next few days, Virgo. This could require overhauling your schedule and even space in your home to make room.
- LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23**  
Family and friends will have a difficult time changing your mind once you have taken a stance, Libra. You have dug in your heels on this topic.
- SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22**  
Scorpio, new work assignments or additional business may complicate matters in the days ahead. That can be great during times of year when spending can get out of control.
- SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21**  
As you prepare for the colder temperatures, holistic arts, acupuncture, herbs, and therapies might be on your mind, Sagittarius. You don't want to be sick this go-around.
- CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20**  
Capricorn, you will try to meet the demands of your need for information this week. Chances are you'll be reading the newspaper and news outlets as much as you can.
- AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18**  
You cannot gain traction right now, Aquarius. Perhaps you haven't met the right people yet? Keep your eyes and ears open for new opportunities.
- PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20**  
Pisces, if a career change has been on your mind, the new year might be a chance to get those gears moving in the right direction.

## What's Cookin' this week?

### Bake up a sweet holiday treat

Entertaining is a big part of the holiday season. Calendars are packed this time of year with gatherings with friends, family and professional colleagues.

Entertaining requires keeping plenty of refreshments on hand to ensure guests maintain their holiday spirit. Dessert is no stranger to the season, with office break rooms, dining tables and buffet stations brimming with sweet treats to tempt celebrants' palates. Everyone should have a go-to dessert to bring along to a holiday party or to offer guests when hosting their own fêtes. Cookies are a standard due to their versatility and portability.

Festive "Sour Cream Cookies" provide all of the holiday feels and can be customized in color to reflect celebrations of Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanzaa, or New Year's. Bake up a batch, courtesy of "Live Well Bake Cookies" (Rock Point) by Danielle Rye.

**Sour Cream Cookies**  
Makes 22 cookies  
1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour, spooned and leveled  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, softened  
3/4 cup granulated sugar  
1 large egg, at room temperature  
1 1/2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract  
1/2 cup sour cream, at room temperature

**Vanilla Buttercream Frosting**  
1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, softened  
1 1/2 cups powdered sugar  
1 tablespoon heavy whipping cream or milk  
1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract  
Gel food coloring (optional)

1. To make the cookies: Preheat the oven to 350 F. Line two large baking sheets with parchment paper or silicone baking mats and set aside.

2. In a large mixing bowl, whisk together the flour, baking powder and salt until well combined. Set aside.

3. In the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment or in a large mixing bowl using a hand-held mixer, beat the butter and granulated sugar together for 1 to 2 minutes, or until well combined.

4. Mix in the egg and vanilla extract until fully combined, making sure to stop and scrape down the sides of the bowl as needed.

5. Mix in the dry ingredients in two additions, alternating with the sour cream. Make sure to mix in each addition until just combined, and be careful not to overmix the batter.

6. Using a 1 1/2-tablespoon cookie scoop, scoop the cookie dough onto the prepared baking sheets, making sure to leave a little room between each one.

7. Bake for 14 to 16 minutes, or until the tops of the cookies are set and spring back when touched lightly. Remove from the oven, and allow to cool on the baking sheets for 10 minutes, then carefully transfer the cookies to a wire rack to cool completely.

8. To make the vanilla buttercream frosting: In the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the whisk attachment or in a large mixing bowl using a hand-held mixer, beat the butter for 1 to 2 minutes, or until smooth. Add the powdered sugar, 1/2 cup at a time, mixing in each addition until well combined.

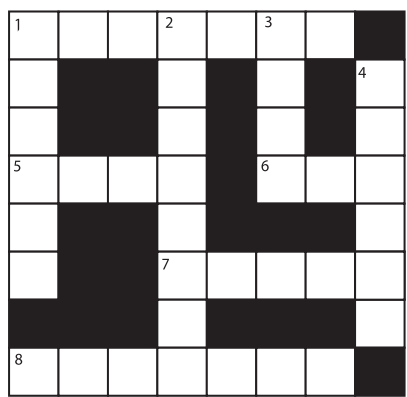
9. Add the heavy whipping cream, vanilla extract, and gel food coloring (if using), and continue mixing until fully combined.

10. Once the cookies have cooled completely, spread the frosting on top of the cookies.

11. Store the cookies in an airtight container at room temperature or in the refrigerator for up to 4 days.

## KIDS Corner

### Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS**  
1. Unexpected, beautiful things  
5. Fluid from eye  
6. \_\_\_-fi, book type  
7. Move on hands and knees  
8. Winter yard friend
- DOWN**  
1. Cold season  
2. Animal that provides milk  
3. Orderly columns  
4. A bit cold

Answers:  
Across: 1. Unlikely, 2. Dairy cow, 3. Rows, 4. Chilly  
Down: 1. Winter, 2. Deer, 3. Crawl, 4. Snowman

### SPORTS FACT:

This popular winter sport is played on ice and involves hitting a puck into a net.  
Answer: Ice hockey

### How they say that in...

English: Shovel  
Spanish: Pala  
Italian: Pala  
French: Pelle  
German: Schaufel

### NEW WORD

**MERCURY**  
a metal used in thermometers and barometers

### THIS DAY IN HISTORY

DECEMBER 19

- 1783:** 24-year-old William Pitt the Younger becomes the youngest Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.
- 1972:** The last crewed lunar flight, Apollo 17, returns to Earth.
- 1998:** Bill Clinton is impeached by the United States House of Representatives.

### Did You Know?

When it snows, hills around many neighborhoods can become ideal spots for sledding. It is important to wear a helmet.

### Get the PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?  
Answer: Sledding child

### CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to cold and flu. Each number corresponds to cooking. (Hint: 6 = E)

A. 5 25 8 10 10 20 6 5  
Clue: Runny nose

B. 10 6 7 6 17  
Clue: Elevated temperature

C. 24 9 11 6 5  
Clue: Body soreness

D. 14 24 20 24 8 5 6  
Clue: Unwell

Answers: A. sniffles B. fever C. aches D. malaise

### WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to cold and flu.

V S E I R S U

ANSWER: Viruses

### GUESS WHO?

I am a comedic actor born in Canada on December 17, 1946. In high school I used humorous campaign posters to win the student council race. I've worked alongside fellow Canadians and am known for my thick eyebrows and glasses. My most iconic role was as an awkward dad in a movie about teenagers and virginity.

ANSWER: Eugene Levy

## WORDS OF WISDOM

Last week's trivia questions:  
What 1987 movie, set in Chicago in 1930, stars Kevin Costner and Sean Connery as federal agents trying to bring Al Capone (played by Robert De Niro) to justice during Prohibition? Answer: The Untouchables.  
What 1988 movie, set in Los Angeles at Christmas time, stars Bruce Willis as New York City police detective John McClane, who is caught up in a terrorist takeover of a skyscraper while visiting his estranged wife? Answer: Die Hard.

This week's trivia questions:  
The only two counties in Iowa that start with the letter "I" are Ida County and what other county?  
The most common first letter for names of counties in Iowa, with 12 counties, is what letter?  
Dec. 18 is Answer the Telephone like Buddy the Elf Day, and Bake Cookies Day; Dec. 19 is National Hard Candy Day; Dec. 20 is Go Caroling Day, and Sacagawea Day; Dec. 21 is December Solstice, World Snowboard Day, and National Crossword Puzzle Day; Dec. 22 is Forefathers' Day, and National Cookie Exchange Day; Dec. 23 is National Christmas Movie Marathon Day; Dec. 24 is Christmas Eve, and National Eggnog Day.

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,

Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this."  
— Isaiah 9:6-7

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."  
— John 1:14

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."  
— Matthew 7:7

"What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. What if Christmas...perhaps...means a little bit more!"  
— Dr. Seuss

Dance like Frosty  
Shine like Rudolph  
Give like Santa  
Love like Jesus

"I never thought it was such a bad little tree. It's not bad at all really. Maybe it just needs a little love."  
— Charlie Brown, 'A Charlie Brown Christmas'

"Merry Christmas, ya filthy animals!"  
— Kevin McCallister, 'Home Alone 2'

"Nobody's walking out on this fun, old-fashioned family Christmas."  
— Clark Griswold, 'National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation'

"God bless us, every one!"  
— Tiny Tim, 'A Christmas Carol'

"It's not what's under the Christmas tree that matters. It's who's around it."  
— Charlie Brown, 'Charlie Brown Christmas'

"Of course. Santa. The big man. The head honcho. The connection."  
— Ralphie, 'A Christmas Story'

"Son of a nutcracker!"  
— Buddy, 'Elf'

U.S. Highway 20 stretches from Newport, Oregon on the west coast, to Boston, Massachusetts on the east coast. Spanning 3,365 miles, it is the longest road in the United States.

U.S. Highway 59 stretches from Laredo, Texas at the Mexico-U.S. border, to the Canada-U.S. border north of Lancaster, Minnesota. From there, it continues north through the city of Winnipeg, to Victoria Beach on Lake Winnipeg. The highway spans approximately 1,700 miles.



Van Diest Medical Center employees were there for High Five Friday (Photo from stopped by for High Five Friday (Photo from Facebook)

## Respectful Classrooms Earn Snack Privileges



Decisions, decisions... (Photos from Facebook)



TK Students in Mrs. Felt's class pose with the medical staff from Van Diest Medical Center after learning about healthy hand washing (Photos from Facebook)



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or Drop Off: Eagle Grove Eagle, 304 W Broadway St., Eagle Grove, IA 50533



Ms. Traster and Ms. Jacobson's classes were visited by the "Snack Cart" last week