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Golden Stars Set to Host Drill Team Clinic On Saturday • Page 12A

First Lenten FISH FRY Was Off the Hook!

by Edward Lynn, Editor

It seems like every year now in the springtime I'm writing about Eagle Grove area kids headed off somewhere in the country to help people whose towns were wiped out by the super-charged extreme weather we deal with nowadays.

This year, it'll be to North Carolina, where the youth mission trippers from Eagle Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church will yet again be loading up and shipping out to help rebuild from massive hurricanes in the southeastern United States. Last year they went to Florida to do the same.

And as before, the EGELC Youth Mission Trip will be funded by "Big John's Famous" all-you-

can-eat (AYCE) fish fries, the first of which went off without a hitch on Friday. Belts were loosened and hopefully a nice pile of money was raised for the good cause of helping others in need far away—while teaching our own young folks the value of a hard day's work, and the importance of showing up. Proving you can build character, and rebuild homes and whole communities, with fish and potatoes.

There was literally all you can eat fried fish, foil wrapped baked potatoes aplenty - and butter and sour cream to load 'em up with galore, more cole-slaw than you could shake a stick at, and home baked deserts in a mouth watering variety (I tried several, they



Hailey Olson and McKenzie Larsen (right), working the serving line, show off an exemplary plate of the night's fare (with McKenzie's Mom, one of the organizers, keeping a watchful eye).

were all better than store bought). And, of course, there was coffee, and lemonade (the pink kind, this year).

And the people were

packed in like, well, sardines. Not quite, but it was a full room for sure at the busiest point. As usual. The room abuzz with chatter, and being criss-crossed again and again by frazzled volunteers loaded down with fried refills of the main attraction - keeping that "all you can eat" promise.

The whole shindig was a free will offering, as it is perennially. And it will be again in a few weeks, when you get your second chance at AYCE breaded, fried goodness, buttery baked potatoes loaded with sour cream, sugary deserts, fresh coffee, sweet drinks, and all the trimmings. That'll come on April 11th, when they'll do it all over again from 5 - 6:30 pm, back in the basement at the Eagle Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church across from Hewett Park on 2nd. I plan to double dip, see you there!



The fish fry always packs 'em in like sardines. (Photos by Edward Lynn)

County Native to be Awarded Community Impact Award for Dedication in Wrestling

By Amanda Rink, Mid-America Publishing

Longtime wrestling contributor John "Johnnie" Johnson will receive the Russ Smith Community Impact Award in recognition of his dedication to the sport in Iowa. Johnson, a coach, photographer, broadcaster, and journalist, has devoted much of his life to promoting wrestling at all levels.

A Clarion native, Johnson currently serves as an assistant girls' wrestling coach at East Buchanan Schools in Winthrop. His remarkable career includes being a five-time national wrestling photographer of the year and a former president of the National Wrestling Media Association.

Johnson's journalistic achievements have been widely recognized; he has earned awards such as the Dan McCool Media Award from the Iowa Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association and the Iowa High School Athletic Association Media Award. He is also the Small College Editor for Amateur Wrestling

News and a national staff photographer for Wrestling USA.

Beyond media contributions, Johnson officiated high school and college wrestling for over 40 years. In 2023, he received the Lifetime Service to Wrestling Award from the Iowa Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. He is also a Distinguished Member of the Iowa Central Community College Hall of Fame.

His long list of achievements traces back to his roots in Clarion. Growing up as one of eight children in the Johnson family, wrestling was a key part of his upbringing.

"My dad, Jimmie

Johnson, also had a passion for the sport. When I was about nine and we were building our house at Lake Cornelia, many of the bricklayers were current Iowa State wrestlers such as Tom Peckham from Cresco, who helped get me excited about the sport as they were my idols. The ISU athletes along with the long line of wrestling legends from Clarion such as Walter Oldham, Wally Hagen, Carrol Wilson, Morris Wilson, Paul Bell, Larry Bensen, Gary Tourtelotte, Mel and Tom Waldon, Les Anderson and Andy Anderson, Ted Derscheid, Randy Smith and of course Glen Brand."



John "Johnnie" Johnson, a dedicated coach, photographer, broadcaster, and journalist, will receive the Russ Smith Community Impact Award for his lifelong contributions to Iowa wrestling. A Clarion native, Johnson grew up in a wrestling-rich community.

Clarion has long been known for producing exceptional wrestlers, including Olympic gold medalist Glen Brand. Johnson credits that rich environment with sparking his passion.

"The culture and environment in Clarion was very supportive of wrestling, and many of the home events were just electrifying!" Johnson recalled. "The North Central Conference during the late '60s and '70s was the premier wrestling conference in the state. The intense competition helped develop my passion for the sport."

Johnson's wrestling journey continued at Iowa Central Community College, where he was part of its first NJCAA national championship team in 1981. An injury ended his competitive career, but his dedication to the sport never wavered, he turned to coaching, officiating, and writing.

Reflecting on his experiences, Johnson emphasized the life lessons he strives to pass down to young wrestlers.

"There are many lessons I try to instill in my student-athletes, teamwork, dedication, hard work, and discipline," he explained. "We also talk with our

See **JOHNSON:** Page 4A



Owner Nathan Cabrera, 24, shows off some of the expanded stock of the newly transformed Bubble Cow La Tienda.

Bubble Cow Expands from Ice Cream Parlor to Full La Tienda

By Edward Lynn Editor

When 24-year-old Nathan Cabrera first opened the Bubble Cow as an ice cream parlor in the summer of 2023, he had a bigger vision in mind. "I wanted to bring more to the table than just ice cream," he said. Now, with his wedding just weeks away, he's making good on that promise by transforming Bubble Cow into a full-fledged *La Tienda*—a vibrant marketplace offering much more than frozen treats.

A second-generation local entrepreneur, Cabrera has deep roots in Eagle Grove and Wright County, and has already opened two local businesses. In addition to running the Bubble Cow he also has his photography business, Dario Studios.

And he comes from a

family committed to investing in local business. His mother and aunt own popular local establishments—Jalapeño's Night Club and Valentina's Restaurant, respectively. His mother also operates Jalapeño's Restaurant in Clarion, along with its attached store.

Bubble Cow first expanded beyond ice cream by adding fresh-baked goods. But Cabrera saw an opportunity to do even more. "I wanted to give people more selection," he said, crediting his mother with the idea. Instead of letting valuable floor space go to waste, he decided to fill it with an eclectic selection of products catering to the local community's diverse tastes.

See **BUBBLE COW:** Page 2A



There's a wide assortment of grocery items, snacks, spices, frozen and freshly baked treats to choose from. (Photos by Edward Lynn)



Eagle Grove to Host IHSMA State Music Festival

EAGLE GROVE, IA – Eagle Grove Schools are thrilled to announce they will be hosting the Iowa High School Music Association (IHSMA) Solo and Small Ensemble Festival on Saturday, April 5th. This highly anticipated event will showcase the musical talents of hundreds of students from across central Iowa.

Building on the success of hosting the festival two years ago, Eagle Grove is proud to welcome twelve schools this year, marking a significant expansion of the event. The Elementary and Middle Schools will be six performance centers running simultaneously from 8:00 AM throughout the day.

"We are incredibly excited to host the IHSMA Solo and Small Ensemble Class Festival and welcome so many talented young musicians to Eagle Grove," said Justin Schwake, High School Band Director. "This event not only celebrates the dedication and skill of these students but also highlights the importance of music education in our communities."

The public is warmly invited to attend and support these aspiring musicians. The spectator entrance will be through the main Elementary door. A suggested donation of \$3 per adult and \$1 per student will be collected at the door, with a portion of the proceeds directly benefiting the Eagle Grove school music program.

For those interested in volunteering at a performance center throughout the day, please contact Justin Schwake at jschwake@eagle-grove.k12.ia.us. Your support will be invaluable in ensuring the smooth operation of this large-scale event.

Event Details:
What: IHSMA Solo and Small Ensemble Class Festival
When: Saturday, April 5th, 8:00 AM onwards

Where: Eagle Grove Elementary and Middle Schools
Spectator Entrance: Main Elementary Door
Suggested Donation: \$3 per adult, \$1 per student
Volunteer Contact: Justin Schwake, jschwake@eagle-grove.k12.ia.us
Join us in celebrating the power of music and supporting the talented students of Iowa.

Supervisors Table Road Vacation

Amanda Rink, Mid America Publishing
March 17, 2025 - The Wright County Board of Supervisors met on Monday to address county matters, most notably a funding request from Community Family Resources and to hold a public hearing on the proposed road vacation of a county road.

Road Vacation - A road vacation relinquishes property rights of a county-owned road to abutting property owners. During the public hearing for the road vacation along Youngblood Avenue in Iowa Township, local landowners raised concerns about drainage infrastructure under the roadway.

Landowner John Goldman asked if the county would provide alternate access if the driveway leading to his property was removed. Goldman requested an engineer's opinion on it and added, "It seems like a reasonable request to provide access to the north even if it's tearing out the existing driveways." Another landowner requested to be given detailed records of the land, to be sure once he becomes the property owner he knows what he is getting into.

"We are ultra supportive of good drainage, and we have no reason to not share that information with you," stated Supervisor Dean Kluss.

"I'm happy to be supportive of it, but I don't know what I'm getting into," expressed another landowner.

The Supervisors agreed to table the road vacation to allow time for the County Engineer to evaluate the landowner's requests.

Community Family Resources - Shelly Zabel of Community Family Resources provided an annual update on the organization's work in Wright County.

Zabel emphasized the group's focus on reducing vaping, opioid misuse, and gambling risks within our community. According to Zabel, alcohol is the highest abused substance in Wright County followed by methamphetamine with marijuana coming in last.

She shared ongoing work with area 7th graders for a life skills training program. On behalf of Community Family Resources Zabel requested \$7,200 in funding for the upcoming 2026 fiscal year to continue their work.

Secondary Roads - Assistant County Engineer Jeremy Abbas provided updates on road maintenance and upcoming projects. He discussed ongoing cold patching efforts, concrete rubble transportation, and progress on the C-70 bridge replacement which is ahead of schedule.

Additionally, Abbas confirmed that crews would assess drainage infrastructure near Youngblood Avenue to determine if additional access is possible.

Other Business
In other business the Supervisors:

- approved a policy with the Clarion Development Alliance for public use of the courthouse grounds.
- approved the transfer of a balance from a no-longer-used drainage district fund into a general fund.
- approved two-year contract for the shared naturalist with Franklin County.
- discussed recent property tax legislation from the state level that could impact general, basic, and rural services.

The Wright County Supervisors will meet again on Monday, March 24 at 9:00 A.M. This meeting, along with past meetings, can be viewed online at youtube.com/@WrightCountyIowaOfficial8312.

Happenings

Eagle Grove P.E.O. Chapter EJ meet Tuesday, March 11th, at Barb Forbes' home. Ten members attended. Officers were installed, Bev Wilde, president, Barb Forbes, vice president, Vicki Jorgensen, treasurer, Denise Helmick, corresponding secretary. The budget was approved. Bev Wilde was nominated as delegate to State Convention. Cake mixes, frosting and birthday bags will be donated to Upper Des Moines. LuAnn Mersch presented the program on Iowa State Project Fund. Lunch was served by LuAnn Mersch.



Strains welcome baby girl

Steve and Alyssa Strain of Eagle Grove are pleased to announce the birth of a baby girl!

Brixtyn Mae Strain was born on March 14, 2025, weighing 7 pounds, 13 ounces. She joins siblings Deklin (8), Bella (7) and Presley (1).

Her grandparents are Juli and Mike Baker of Dakota City, and Tom and Suzanne Anderson of Coral Springs, Florida.

Great grandparents are Julie Anderson and Mary and Joe Holmberg, all of Eagle Grove.

BUBBLE COW from page 1A

Now, the shop's shelves are lined with a colorful variety of Hispanic and American goods, designed to appeal to longtime residents and newcomers alike. "I was born here," Cabrera said, "but I was raised close to the Hispanic community." With Bubble Cow's transformation, he aims to bridge cultures, ensuring that both English and Spanish speakers feel welcome. "Most things are labeled in both languages so everyone can easily read them," he noted. His goal? To create a place where Hispanic migrants can find familiar comforts while introducing others to new flavors and experiences.

Among the offerings are ingredients for Micheladas, Honduran and Guatemalan-style sour cream, spicy candies, and snacks—both familiar and adventurous. And so much more! "I want people to be comfortable. I want everyone to feel at home," Cabrera emphasized.

Of course, Bubble Cow is still an ice cream parlor, serving up banana splits and sundaes and fresh scooped cones. But now, visitors can also enjoy fresh-baked goods, crispy fried chicken, and house-made pizza with freshly baked crust. There's even a selection of toys—perfect for a one-stop birthday party shopping experience.

And for those on the go, the drive-thru is still open, now offering not just ice cream but also pizza slices and fried chicken.

The next big addition? A full-service meat counter, providing everything needed for backyard cookouts. Cabrera has also secured a liquor license and is in the process of stocking beer and other beverages, making Bubble Cow a true neighborhood marketplace.

"Eagle Grove is a beautiful community full of hardworking people who love life," Cabrera said. As he prepares to start a family of his own, he envisions a long future here, with his children attending local schools and his businesses continuing to grow. "I hope that those who come in can find a few things to remind them of home or discover more about Hispanic culture and food. And I hope to inspire and impact the young Hispanic community here."

With its latest transformation, Bubble Cow is no longer just an ice cream parlor—it's a cultural hub, a neighborhood store, and a celebration of the diverse flavors that make Eagle Grove home.

Wright County Women Prepare for a Night of Fun at "Mom Prom"

Amanda Rink, Mid America Publishing
For the women of Wright County, March 29 promises to be more than just a night out, it is a chance to connect, unwind, and make memories while giving back to their community.

The Red Shed will once again host the much-anticipated Mom Prom, an evening dedicated to giving local women a well-deserved break from their busy lives. With music by Dave Stein, "The DJ Man," guests will have the chance to hit the dance floor, sip cocktails, and enjoy an evening full of fun, all for a meaningful cause.

Though the name "Mom Prom" suggests the event is just for mothers, the event is open to all women ages 21 and older. Event organizer Nikki Conlon said the goal is simple: to create a fun, welcoming space where women can relax, connect, and enjoy themselves.

"Aside from sporting events for our kids and other community gatherings, there aren't many night-out options where women can just cut loose together," Conlon explained. "Mom Prom gives them that chance — a night to make memories, maybe meet new friends, and just have fun."

This year's Mom Prom will benefit the Clarion Parks and Recreation Board, which aims to improve local parks. Attendees will receive a complimentary drink, a raffle ticket, appetizers, and access to photo booths and a cash bar. Raffle prizes, donated by local businesses, will be awarded throughout the evening, and additional raffle tickets can be purchased to boost the chance of winning. But for a lot of mom's the event is more than just a fun night out.

"It is easy to let you as an individual person almost disappear into just being 'mom.', but since my boys have gotten older, I'm realizing that keeping ahold of who you are is important because when your kids get old enough to not need you every 3-5 minutes, you will be left to figure out who you are all over again," Hodgell said.

Hodgell, a mother of two sons, said she's excited to reconnect with friends and meet new people in the area. "I moved to Belmond in 2020, and I'm still getting to know people. This is a perfect opportunity to connect," she said. "I don't have many activities that call for dress clothes, let alone going all out formal, so finding a reason every once in a while to go big is fun."

Hodgell has already dusted off a dress and a clutch — all of which she's excited to reuse.

While Mom Prom is all about fun, its deeper purpose resonated with Conlon.

"Women, especially moms, sometimes forget how important it is to take time for themselves," Conlon said. "Events like this provide a space for them to unwind, reconnect with friends, and just focus on having fun — all while supporting a great cause."

The Clarion Parks and Recreation Board's ongoing efforts to improve local parks will directly benefit from the event's proceeds. Businesses or individuals interested in contributing can contact the Mom Prom Board via their Facebook page or email at momprom-wrightia@gmail.com.

With a "Black and White" theme this year, guests are encouraged to embrace the theme or simply wear what makes them feel fabulous. But no matter what they wear, one thing is for sure, the women of Wright County are in for a night of music, laughter, and meaningful connections.

You can purchase your tickets at:

- Italics Boutique
- Appearances Salon & Spa
- Leah Jean Boutique & Spa
- Wright Community Connections
- Riveter Nutrition
- Slay Nutrition
- Threads and Company
- Sugarpie Bakery

Eagle Grove Community School District

-MENU-

Monday, March 24
BREAKFAST: Breakfast Taco, Hashbrown, Fruit, Juice
LUNCH: Chicken Bites, Loaded Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Pears, Bread & Butter

Tuesday, March 25
BREAKFAST: Breakfast Sandwich, Fruit, Juice
LUNCH: Tater Tot Casserole, Salad, Peaches, Dinner Roll

Wednesday, March 26
BREAKFAST: Cereal, Strawberry Muffin, Fruit, Juice
LUNCH: Calzone, Corn, Salad, Tropical Fruit

Thursday, March 27
BREAKFAST: Waffles, Ham, Fruit, Juice
LUNCH: Cajun Chicken Burrito, Refried Beans, Lettuce, Cheese, Tomato, Strawberry Cup

Friday, March 28
BREAKFAST: Cereal, Crescent, Fruit, Juice
LUNCH: Fish, Cheesy Potatoes, Coleslaw, Cinnamon Apples, Dinner Roll

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Mom Prom 2025

SATURDAY, MARCH 29

7:00pm - 11:00pm

The Red Shed Event Center • 908 2nd St NW, Clarion, IA

Tickets: \$40

Join us this year for a **Black & White** theme! Wear your best black or white dress or outfit for a fabulous, fun-filled Ladies Night Out for a great cause!

Visit these local retailers to purchase your ticket today!

Slay Nutrition

Italics Boutique
Leah Jean Salon & Boutique
Riveter Nutrition
Appearances Salon & Spa
Wright Community Connections

Threads & Company
Sugarpie Bakery & Cafe

Proud to be a part of the national Mom Prom movement!

All proceeds from this year's event will benefit local organizations.

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

Hunter Education Field Day Offered at Lake Cornelia

There is an upcoming opportunity for those who are working on gaining their hunter education certification. Saturday, April 5th from 9a-1p the Iowa DNR and Wright County Conservation Board will be hosting an in-person Hunter Educa-

tion Field Day at Lake Cornelia Campground. "Hunter education is a mandatory program that is designed to introduce students to several life-long skills that are important to many different types of outdoor recreational opportu-

nities. The course teaches students basic survival and first aid skills, water safety, wildlife identification, the basics of wildlife management, hunting laws, and firearm/archery safety. Hunter education also stresses the importance of individual re-

sponsibility and outdoor ethics." (Iowa DNR). Iowa law requires that anyone born after January 1, 1972, must be certified in hunter education before they are eligible to purchase an Iowa hunting license. To attend this field day,

students must complete the online coursework at <https://www.hunter-ed.com/iowa/>. Once you've completed the online portion, print off the field day voucher and bring it with you to class. Registration for the field day is required and can be done

by visiting gooutdoorsiowa.com and searching for Hunter Education Classes at Lake Cornelia Campground. Please contact Benjamin K. Bergman by Email: ben.bergman@dnr.iowa.gov or by Cell: (641) 425-0823 for any questions.

Farmer's Market Planning for March

Clarion Farmer's Market encourages vendors to join them when the market opens on May 31 this year. The more vendors we have, the more people will enjoy our outdoor fun. Vendors can be home based businesses, non-profit groups sharing information, or of course - fruit, veggies and baked goods. The cost to set up is \$3 per week, with a punch card available for 10 weeks/\$20 plus one free.

Farmer's Markets do have rules we have to follow. Contact us through the facebook page - Clarion Farmer's Market (IOWA - not Pennsylvania!) to see if your items meet the rules. You may also visit <https://dial.iowa.gov/licenses/food-hotels/cottage-foods>

If you want to start seeds early - now is the time. Some plants to consider

are tomatoes, peppers, cabbage, celery, eggplant, leeks, onions, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cauliflower, collards, cucumbers, and Swiss chard.

There are pots that you can start your seeds in that you can purchase. Little plastic ones can be reused, while others you pop in the ground along with the plant. However, almost any container can be used. Tin cans, milk jugs that have been cut down, take home containers (if deep enough, 2-3 inches is recommended). You can use a pencil to create a little hole to drop your seed in. Lightly cover with dirt. Keep your little indoor garden in a warm, sunny spot and remember to keep it lightly watered. Go go ahead and get your hands a little dirty this month, because next month you'll be outside in your garden!

Iowa DNR to begin annual spring burning

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will be conducting prescribed burns this spring on wildlife management areas managed by the Iowa DNR's Clear Lake Wildlife Unit in Cerro Gordo, Hancock, Winnebago, Worth, and Wright counties.

Areas scheduled for prescribed burns are Elk Creek Marsh, Grass Lake, and Hanlontown Slough, in Worth County; Buffalo Center Potholes, Eight Mile Pits, Good Neighbors Marsh and Pilot Knob, in Winnebago County; Eagle Lake and Lake Edwards, in Hancock County; Lekwa Marsh, Union Hills and Ventura Marsh, in Cerro Gordo County; and Big Wall Lake, Lower Morse Lake and Morse Lake, in Wright County.

Prescribed burns are used to improve wildlife habitat, control invasive plant species, restore and maintain native plant communities, and reduce wildfire potential. Prescribed burns vary in size from a few acres to several hundred acres.

Prescribed burns typically begin mid to late morning and are completed by late afternoon or early evening. Prescribed burns usually occur between mid-March and mid-May, and will be conducted when burn plan objectives are met and weather conditions allow. Any prescribed burn not completed this spring may be conducted in the fall.

Contact Iowa DNR wildlife biologist Rob Patterson at 641-425-2814 with any questions or concerns.



- March 16 – Lauren Graham, Actress (58)
- March 17 – Hozier, Singer (35)
- March 18 – Lily Collins, Actress (36)
- March 19 – Nico Collins, Athlete (26)
- March 20 – Xavier Dolan, Actor (36)
- March 21 – Matthew Broderick, Actor (63)
- March 22 – Dave Portnoy, Media Personality (48)

King Band's Irish Concert is Sunday

Annual concert celebrating St. Patrick's day a tradition for over a century

By Jerrold P. Jimmerson

The second in a series of three indoor winter concerts by the Karl L. King Municipal Band of Fort Dodge will be held on Sunday afternoon, March 23rd, at the Fort Dodge Middle School Auditorium, 800 North 32nd Street. There is no admission, since these concerts are provided free of charge by the City of Fort Dodge. Interim Conductor of the band is Dan Cassidy, and the announcer is Paul Bloomquist.

This concert, which will begin at 3:30 p.m., is the band's annual Irish Concert to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. It is believed that these concerts were started by Karl King when he arrived in Fort Dodge in the early 1920's, and have been held for more than 100 years. Several familiar Irish tunes will be performed, including everyone's favorite, "MacNamara's Band", as arranged by former conductor of the band, Reginald R.

Schive.

Irish selections on the program include "Ireland", an appealing medley of well-known Irish tunes by master arranger Warren Barker that combines "Saint Patrick's Day", "I'll Take You Home Again, Kathleen", and "The Kerry Dance" to create a lively composition. Roger Netz from Manson, a member of the Saxophone section, will lead the audience in a sing-along of the traditional Irish favorites, "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling" and "That's an Irish Lullaby".

Other well-known compositions include Leroy Anderson's lilting waltz, "Belle Of The Ball", and "A Tribute to Glenn Miller" by the Clarinda IA native, including the big-band era favorites "Tuxedo Junction", "Jersey Bounce", "American Patrol", and "Little Brown Jug".

Plenty of march selections will be performed as well, including Karl L. King's

1946 tribute to his adopted state with "Iowa Centennial", J.J. Richards' thrilling "Emblem of Unity", Roland F. Seitz's "Brooke's Chicago Marine Band" along with John Philip Sousa's "The Liberty Bell", and Fred Jewell's "E Pluribus Unum".

Featured soloist for the afternoon will be Paul Bloomquist on trombone. Bloomquist is a native of Dayton and graduated from Southeast Webster High School. He received his Bachelor's degree from Simpson College in Indianola, and his Master's degree from the American Band College in Oregon. He is currently an instructor and director of bands at Iowa Central Community College, and performs in Jive for Five and other area bands.

Bloomquist will perform the beautiful "Irish Tune from County Derry", followed by a lively 1905 ragtime selection, "Razzazza Mazzazza", written by Ar-

thur Pryor, the trombone soloist with the Sousa Band for 12 years. It is estimated Pryor played more than 10,000 solos during that span.

These concerts always close in the traditional way with the playing of our National Anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner". In case of inclement weather, this concert may be cancelled on the concert day. Any announcements will be made on the band's Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/karlingband/> or on the band's website at www.karling.us.



ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, forcing an agenda right now might backfire. It is best to be patient and let things unfold organically. A few new people may come to your aid this week and support you.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

You might need to reconsider what you have been fighting for, Taurus. A current battle could be particularly hard to win, so you will have to rethink your strategy.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21

Someone in a position of power might try to convince you that their way is the best approach this week, Gemini. You are determined to stick with what you think is right, but keep an open mind as well.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, avoid impulsive decisions right now, particularly those that are financial gambles. Poor or selfish actions can deliver consequences that are hard to reverse.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, what you desire could be in direct conflict with what a loved one in your home wants. Instead of trying to force your ideas on them, figure out a way to compromise.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, the universe is calling the shots right now and time is moving at whatever speed is right. It might seem like very slow progress, so you'll need to remain patient.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, this week you might be tempted to put wants before needs. Self-control is needed or you could start spending more than is financially wise right now.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, frustrating exchanges between you and loved ones might leave you retreating to quieter spaces. Any communication is better than no communication, so keep that in mind.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, you can resist a certain situation, but you might need to remain flexible as you do so. Don't fight battles unnecessarily right now. Look for the silver lining if need be.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, shortcuts can compromise your personal growth. The pathway to greater success is to work hard and put in the hours necessary to reap the most lasting rewards.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, you have more power than ever before, but remember it comes with extra responsibility. Always use your authority wisely and think through decisions thoroughly.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, if you hope to make progress, you may have to change tactics. What you have been doing simply isn't working. Start looking at other strategies.



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LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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.

CORRECTION & RETRACTION POLICY

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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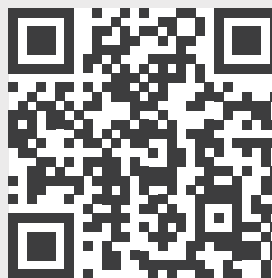
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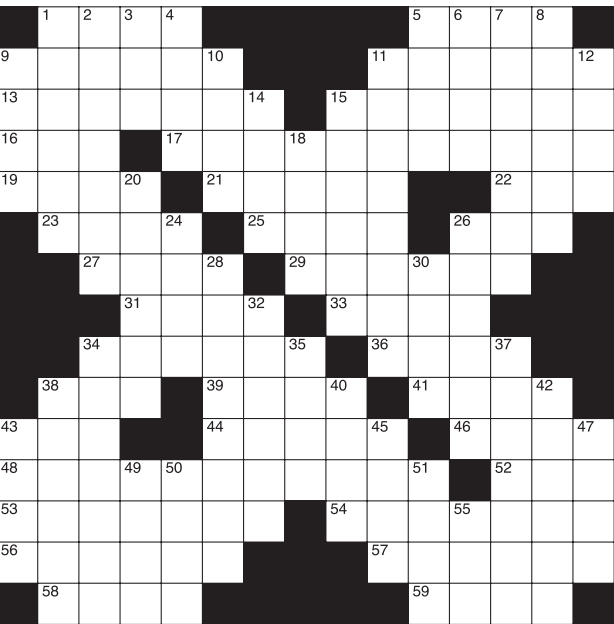
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Take heed

5. One's superior

9. Prepped meat

11. Tighten anew

13. Type of textile fiber

15. Animalistic

16. When you hope to get somewhere

17. Offender

19. Former NYC mayor Ed

21. Type of cryptocurrency

22. Mauna __, Hawaiian volcano

23. Herring-like fish

25. Popular PBS program

26. Congressman (abbr.)

27. Flightless Australian birds

29. Defrosted

31. Prior Yankee sensation Kevin
33. Nasal mucus

34. Some are southern

36. A place to construct

38. Popular beer brand

39. Shouts of farewell

41. Network of nerves

43. Make a mistake

44. Showed old movie

46. Body parts

48. A divisor

52. Congressional investigatory body

53. Papers

54. Most unnatural

56. Judge the worth of something

57. Makes sounds while sleeping

58. Which

59. Hungarian Violinist

CLUES DOWN

1. Pages

2. Head pain

3. A loud utterance

4. Large brown seaweed

5. Hulu's chef Carmine

6. Greek mountain

7. Made final

8. Bar

9. Tai subgroup

10. What you eat

11. Teaches again

12. Small constellation

14. Type of berry

15. Cows fattened for meat

18. A way to hoof it

20. Exaggerated a role

24. About two
26. Long upholstered seat

28. What employees earn

30. Fiber from a coconut husk

32. Digits

34. Polish by rubbing

35. Liquid body substances

37. Furniture with open shelves

38. Edible part of a chicken

40. Satisfy

42. Tool used to remove

43. Icelandic poems

45. Swiss village

47. Drunks

49. Evergreen plant genus

50. Light precipitation

51. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid

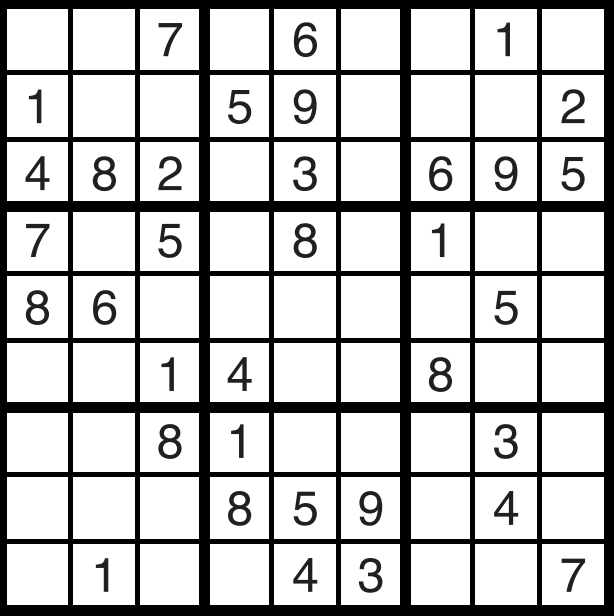
55. An informal debt instrument

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

REMOTE WORK WORD SEARCH

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

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

- ANNUALIZED

ASYNCHRONOUS

CLOUD

COMMUNICATION

COWORKING

DIGITAL

FLEX TIME

FREELANCE
- FULLY

GIG ECONOMY

GLOBAL

HOURS

HYBRID

LOCATION

MESSAGE

OFFSHORING
- REMOTE

SOFTWARE

SOLOPRENEUR

TEAM

TELECOMMUTE

VPN

WORKLOAD

WORKPLACE

Eagle Grove Police Report

March 6

10:52 AM: A white pit-bull with a black and red collar was reported running around the neighborhood and in the complainant's backyard in the 700 block of NW 3rd St.

12:34 PM: A vehicle with black out-of-state plates was seen driving away from the intersection of Iowa and NW 1st St. The driver was yelling at the complainant and followed them before driving off.

1:42 PM: A vehicle had been in the parking lot for two or three days in the 100 block of S Washington St, Apt 4, in Goldfield. No one in the area knew anything about it.

2:52 PM: A complainant at the Eagle Grove Police Department requested a report for an accident that occurred in June of the previous year.

4:18 PM: A complainant in the 200 block of S Iowa Ave requested an officer at their home due to an unknown individual's snow removal causing rocks to scatter over their truck, resulting in damage.

4:41 PM: A complainant outside the police department requested to speak to an officer.

7:50 PM: A traffic stop was conducted at the intersection of N Wright and NE 3rd St.

March 7

12:00 AM: Parking violation in the 100 block of N Lucas.

12:14 AM: Parking violation in the 500 block of N Wright.

12:22 AM: Parking violation in the 200 block of N Wright.

12:30 AM: Parking violation in the 200 block of NE 3rd St.

12:44 AM: Parking violation in the 400 block of S Cadwell.

12:48 AM: Parking violation in the 200 block of S Cadwell.

12:55 AM: Parking violation in the 500 block of N Cadwell.

1:13 AM: Parking violation in the 100 block of N Cadwell.

1:25 AM: Parking violation in the 100 block of N Lincoln.

1:29 AM: Parking violation in the 200 block of N Lincoln.

1:32 AM: Parking violation in the 300 block of N Lincoln.

1:38 AM: Parking violation in the 600 block of NW 3rd St.

1:47 AM: Parking violation in the 700 block of NW 3rd St.

1:51 AM: Parking violation in the 800 block of NW 1st St.

1:55 AM: Parking violation in the 1000 block of NW 1st St.

2:02 AM: Parking violation in the 200 block of N Forest.

2:05 AM: Parking violation in the 1300 block of NW 2nd St.

2:15 AM: Parking violation in the 1300 block of SW 2nd St.

2:22 AM: Parking viola-

tion in the 300 block of S Garfield.

2:27 AM: Parking violation in the 300 block of S Western.

9:47 AM: A white dog was reported loose in the 700 block of NW 4th St.

11:24 AM: A complainant met with an officer at the police department to file a statement regarding a violation of a no-contact order.

12:26 PM: An escort was requested from a funeral home to Calgary Cemetery.

1:32 PM: Return call requested.

1:33 PM: A female caller with a language barrier requested a Spanish-speaking officer to return her call.

2:55 PM: A traffic stop was conducted at 265th St and Franklin.

5:06 PM: A traffic stop was conducted at 230th St and Highway 17. A black Ford F-150 was involved.

5:06 PM: A complainant reported a red Mercury Mariner swerving at them and making obscene gestures. The vehicle was later parked at Rails, where the driver was seen drinking beer. The plates were unknown. The driver claimed the complainant ran a stop sign.

6:44 PM: A complainant reported their dog missing. They could hear it whining in the neighborhood. The dog, a beagle mix with no collar but chipped, had been gone since 4:00 PM.

7:41 PM: Return call requested.

8:59 PM: Return call requested.

10:51 PM: A black Ram truck was reported doing donuts in the middle of Main St in front of a bar in Goldfield.

11:27 PM: A traffic stop was conducted at N Commercial and NW 6th St.

March 8

12:35 AM: An officer-initiated case was reported in the 100 block of N Wright.

2:52 AM: A suspicious vehicle was reported in the Fareway parking lot.

12:14 PM: An open 911 line was reported with multiple people talking in the background. It sounded like a child possibly playing with a phone.

4:55 PM: A complainant requested to meet with an officer in the 800 block of S Jackson Ave in Eagle Center.

5:42 PM: A shoplifting incident was reported in the 1700 block of N Iowa Ave.

6:53 PM: A dog was reported loose in the 400 block of N Garfield.

8:15 PM: A complainant requested to meet with an officer in the 800 block of S Jackson Ave.

9:54 PM: A traffic stop was conducted at SW 9th St and Commercial.

11:10 PM: A traffic stop was conducted at SW 1st St and S Lucas.

March 9

1:04 AM: A bar check was conducted at Gold's Bar in Goldfield.

4:17 AM: A noise complaint was reported in the 500 block of School St in Goldfield. The complainant

reported neighbors being loud and waking up them and their children.

8:37 AM: Return call requested. A complainant in Eagle Grove inquired about obtaining a no-contact order against an individual providing false names and committing crimes. The complainant stated the individual is in the country illegally and that no one knows their actual identity. The complainant refused to provide their own name.

9:34 AM: Return call requested for a complainant in Fort Dodge.

10:38 AM: Return call requested for a complainant in Laurens.

1:40 PM: A door was reported open at AGP in Eagle Grove.

1:41 PM: A complainant reported a shed next to the office door was open. They called but received no answer.

2:47 PM: A complainant requested to speak to an officer.

2:45 PM: A complainant in the 1400 block of SW 2nd St reported their neighbor's three dogs entered their property and got their dogs. They requested the neighbor be advised to keep their dogs in their own yard.

3:25 PM: A complainant met with an officer at the police department to pick up statement forms regarding a violation of a no-contact order.

4:20 PM: A dog was reported loose at NW 1st St and Fort Ave. A complainant reported they were walking with their two daughters and were followed by a big golden retriever wearing a harness.

March 10

12:23 AM: A noise complaint was reported in the 700 block of NW 3rd St. A complainant reported someone playing music very loud and trying to sleep. They stated that if an officer drives on Garfield Ave, they will definitely hear it.

11:08 AM: Return call requested for a complainant in the 300 block of E Oak in Goldfield.

11:11 AM: A complainant reported finding a legal note located on the inside door of a locked property they own and wanted to know how it got there.

11:29 AM: Violation of protective order.

3:03 PM: Return call requested.

3:06 PM: A caller had questions about their vehicle.

4:25 PM: A suspicious person was reported at the football practice field. A complainant described a Hispanic male, possibly on drugs, bouncing all over the field and requested a welfare check. The complainant did not want to leave their name.

5:30 PM: Return call requested for a complainant in Clarion regarding a missing hip and abdomen brace for a person who had been staying at the Sandman. The caller had contacted Sandman, who said everything was handled by the sheriff.

10:56 PM: Parking violation in the 1000 block of S Western Ave.

10:56 PM: Parking violation in the 1000 block of S Western Ave.

March 11

12:08 AM: A burglary alarm was reported at the Phibro Premix Plant Office at the front door. The key holder was attempted to be contacted, but there was no answer.

5:16 AM: A domestic disturbance was reported in the 100 block of N Western Ave. A 911 caller did not speak but background noise indicated a female yelling at someone to get out of their house before the call disconnected.

9:17 AM: A harassment complaint was reported in the 300 block of S Lucas. A complainant stated their ex-husband was on their property and was not supposed to be there.

1:18 PM: Return call requested. An insurance company requested information about an accident.

3:03 PM: A complainant requested information at the Rec Center. A vehicle was reported struck near the new Rec Center. A wrecker was being called.

4:53 PM: A harassment complaint was reported in the 2 block of Richard Dr.

4:55 PM: A complainant reported being threatened and stated that the person making threats said they were coming to their house. The complainant requested to file a report and have an officer call them.

March 12

10:35 AM: Return call requested. Caller requested that officer 401 return their call.

1:39 PM: A complainant in Goldfield requested information. Complainant stated they needed to speak with an officer about being violated. They reported their boyfriend and his kids were harassing them at their house and requested an officer meet with them in Goldfield.

4:24 PM: Return call requested.

5:44 PM: A complainant reported a silver Jeep Wrangler engaging in unsafe passing and speeding. They stated they would fill out a statement.

7:20 PM: A fireworks complaint was reported in the 300 or 400 block of S Iowa. The complainant stated there was smoke everywhere and they needed sleep before work.

7:24 PM: Return call requested. A return call was made regarding a previous harassment complaint.

7:43 PM: A complainant in Goldfield reported a red car driving erratically with a loud exhaust. They requested an officer call them.

9:46 PM: A traffic stop was conducted at Highway 17 and 230th St.

March 13

12:27 AM: Caller asking if an officer had Pepto-Bismol for their 17-year-old granddaughter, who was throwing up. They stated they did not want an ambulance.



This session, the House set out to prioritize supporting Iowa families and particularly making sure we are supporting children born into tough situations. This week we passed two bills relating to adoption that we believe are common sense policies to improve the lives and ease the burden on adopting families.

House File 248 requires employers to treat employees who have adopted a child 6 years old or younger the same way as those who have had a biological child in regard to their parental leave policies.

House File 314 allows the court to waive a home study requirement in an adoption case if the person applying is the current legal guardian for the adoptee, has been the legal guardian for the proceeding 3 years, and has complied with the duties and responsibilities of a guardian for those 3 years.

Choose Iowa Food Purchasing Pilot Program for Schools

On Monday, March 10, 2025, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) issued a press release in which Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig announced the launch of the Choose Iowa Food Purchasing Program for Schools. The pilot program aims to connect Iowa schools with Choose Iowa members to encourage school food service programs to buy more ingredients and serve more products sourced from local farmers and small businesses. The school pilot program was authorized during the 2024 legislative session and is an initiative of Choose Iowa, the state's branding and marketing program that identifies and promotes Iowa grown, raised, and made food, beverages and ag products. Additional details on the school pilot program can be found on the Choose Iowa website.

HF 550—Grocery Reinvestment Fund

Creates a grocer reinvestment and local produce processing grant program and appropriates \$2.0 million to the fund for the next two years. Modifies the local food and farm program.

Expanding Health Care Access

Like every state in the nation, Iowa is dealing with a shortage of doctors and healthcare staff, rising costs of care, and the need to ensure access to quality services in rural and underserved areas of our state. This week, the House passed three pieces of legislation related to health care workforce challenges that address the many different sides of this issue.

House File 516 aims to make it more likely that the health care professionals who are educated and trained in Iowa stay in Iowa to provide care. This bill will do that in the following ways:

- Requires the University of Iowa medical school and dental school to have at least 80% of their students be residents in Iowa or enrolled in an Iowa community college prior to acceptance.
- Requires the University of Iowa to submit an annual report on the state of residence of each graduate of the medical and dental school in the year immediately following graduation and their residence before acceptance to the program. It also asks for the same information on UIHC medical residents.

The data shows that if you complete medical school and your residency in one state, you're more likely to stay in that state and practice there.

House File 386 requires the University of Iowa and Des Moines University to study the feasibility of transitioning their programs to three-year programs. A three-year program may not make sense for every medical degree. However, there may be some that can be done over three years, saving the student money,

and getting that provider into the workforce providing care sooner.

Currently in code, there are enhanced penalties for assaulting a person engaged in certain occupations, including "health care providers." **House File 310** expands the definition of health care providers to include anyone working, volunteering, or participating in an educational course in a hospital or nursing home. This is a bill that has become increasingly necessary as we've heard from providers about more assaults happening on the health care workforce. This is just one thing we can do in the Iowa Legislature to try and ensure the safety of those who are trying to provide care.

HF 340 Dental Assistants

Recently we have received emails from around the state regarding the changes to dental assistant training. After talking to dentists, I have learned that this bill does not eliminate registration for dental assistants. It removes the requirement for registration with the Iowa dental board. Registered dental assistants will exist in Iowa if this bill passes.

• **Proper Training** – Currently, dental assistants have the choice to become trained on the job or through a community college program. This bill does not change the requirement for proper training. Dentists will still be required to hire and properly train any dental assistant that works in their offices. Additionally, HIPPA, OSHA, and CDC standards will still need to be maintained, so staff will need to be trained in proper safety protocols to remain in compliance with these required standards. It is also important to note that all our surrounding states don't have a registration requirement and still have accredited programs within their state. Some dental offices won't be able to train dental assistants in their offices, so they will continue to rely on dental assisting programs to produce top quality dental assistants.

This bill alone will not solve the dental assistant workforce shortage; however, it removes a barrier for dental offices while offering greater flexibility to hire, train, and retain the staff needed to provide care to their communities.

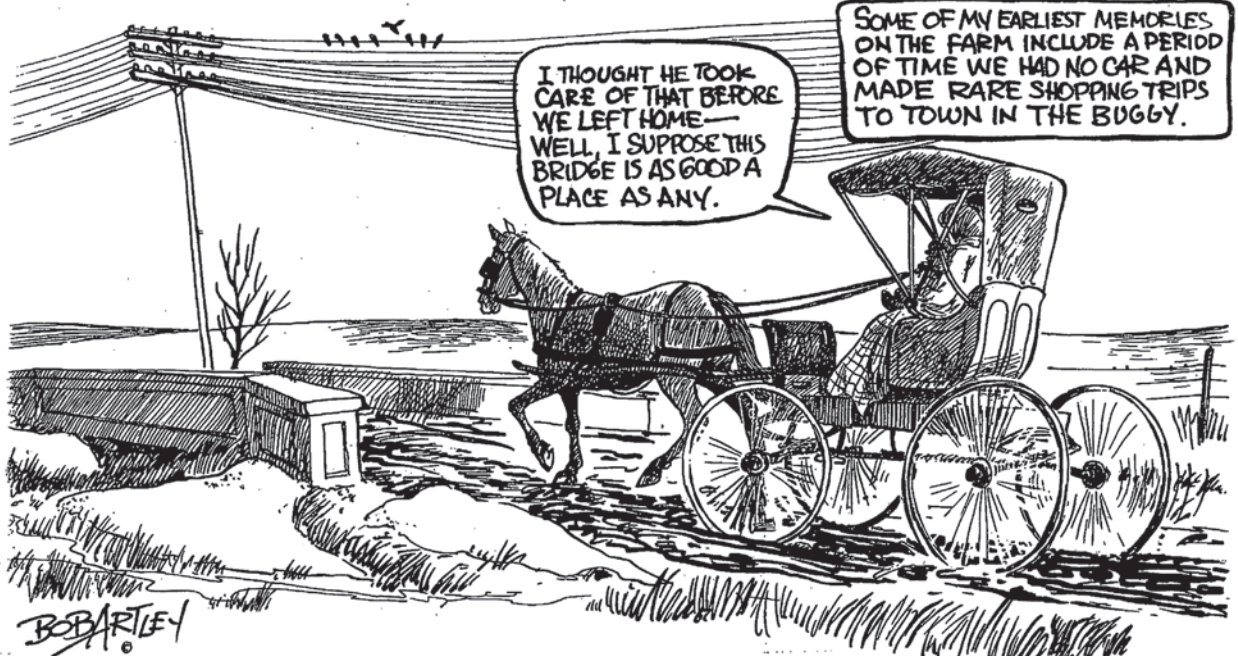
HF 397/HSB 74 - Safe at Home Program Bill

Makes several updates to the address confidentiality program to make it easier for an applicant to use a shelter as their address. This will allow for the Secretary of State to manage the mail forwarding service for those who include victims of domestic abuse, domestic assault, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking.

HF306 Increasing Penalties Knowingly Expose Minors to Obscene Materials

This bill relates to the dissemination and exhibition of obscene material to minors. Current law provides that any person, other than the parent or guardian of the minor, who knowingly disseminates or exhibits obscene material, including the exhibition of obscene material so that it can be observed by a minor on or off the premises where it is displayed, commits a serious misdemeanor.

It was a very robust and busy debate calendar. All four days were filled with bills to caucus, discuss, bring to the floor for debate and vote. We voted and passed 57 bipartisan bills. Besides the bills detailed above, they ranged, as an example, the final disposition of remains, at risk students' alternative programs, recycling of battery electric motor vehicles, commercial vehicle driving ages, and place of trial for certain criminal offenses. The topics are expansive and each one deserves time to research, discuss and debate.



Memories Of A Former Kid. MugWump Marketing (319) 800-4774

Lowering the cost of crop insurance for the next generation of Iowa farmers

By Rep. Randy Feenstra

As the only member of Congress serving on both the House Agriculture Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee, it is important to me that we support the next generation of Iowa farmers and producers. The volatile nature of input costs, insurance rates, regulations, and international affairs makes farming – an already challenging industry – even more difficult. Supporting policies that help alleviate these obstacles, encourage young people to pursue a career in agriculture, strengthen our main streets and rural communities, and keep our farmland

in the hands of American farmers is a top priority for me in Congress.

That's why I recently introduced the Crop Insurance for Future Farmers Act to lower the cost of crop insurance for our young, beginning, and veteran farmers during their first ten years in operation – the most vulnerable of any business. In my conversations with our farmers and neighbors on my 36 County Tour, ensuring that the next generation of Iowa agriculture can continue long-held family traditions and grow the food and fuel that our nation and the world depend on is a recurring topic of concern. It's certainly a major part of my

focus on Capitol Hill.

Losing our farmland to our foreign adversaries or absentee landowners is a threat to our economic and national security and must be stopped. To keep our farmland in the hands of Iowa farmers and away from China and our foreign enemies, we need to cut operating costs for our young and beginning farmers so that they can grow, compete, and succeed – instead of calling it quits because of financial barriers.

More specifically, this legislation would align the definition of "Beginning Farmer" to match most other beginning-farmer programs, extending crop and livestock insurance protections from 5 years to 10 years for new and beginning farmers. This increase to 10 years would apply to all federal crop insurance programs, including livestock policies. This tax relief will help our young producers plant their roots in our rural communities, promote farm profitability, and strengthen Iowa's status as an agricultural powerhouse and the breadbasket to the world.

Our young, beginning, and veteran farmers and ranchers play a critical role in the success of American agriculture. In 2022, the United States had 1,011,715 producers who were registered as beginning farmers or ranchers, accounting for over 30% of the country's producers. Additionally, there were 305,753 producers who had served or were

serving in the military. With rising input costs, softening commodity prices, and uncertainty threatening the farm economy, the need for a strong and comprehensive farm safety net is undeniable and urgent. Crop insurance serves as the best tool in a farmer's toolkit to manage the risk they face on the farm, while reducing taxpayer risk exposure. This legislation works to improve access to and affordability of this critical risk management tool.

In addition to strengthening crop insurance protections for our young producers, I have also led the charge with Senate Majority Leader John Thune to permanently repeal the federal death tax. This unfair double tax unfairly targets our family farms and small businesses and threatens the ability of families to pass their legacies from one generation to the next. This is money that has already been taxed, and there is no other reason for this tax than to extract even more of our farmers' and small business owners' hard-earned dollars. By eliminating this egregious double tax for good, we can keep family traditions alive and keep our farmland in the hands of Iowa farmers – not China.

From repealing the federal death tax to cutting the cost of crop insurance, we will invest in the future of Iowa agriculture, keep our enemies away from our farmland, and power our economy forward.

Letter to the Editor

'We will not forget or forgive'

To the editor:

In 2024, I spent 10 months running for the Iowa Senate. The district includes Franklin, Hamilton, Hancock, Humboldt, Wright, and northern Story Counties (Roland and Story City.) It's a big, rural district and mostly Republican. I'm a Democrat, and like a lot of Dems in 2024, I did not win. Senator Dennis Guth was re-elected on a platform of:

1. No eminent domain for private Gain;
2. Medical Freedom (freedom from vaccine requirements but zero freedom to make decisions about women's reproductive health) and;
3. Changing the basis of our currency to one based on the price of gold and silver. The last one is definitely a federal, not a state issue, but here we are.

In his most recent column in Iowa newspapers, "The View From Here," Guth notes that he and his wife Margaret recently returned from a trip to Israel. The bulk of his remarks were celebrating the passage of Senate File 418. The bill removes gender identity from the list of protected classes in the Iowa Civil Rights Code. Gender identity has been a protected class since added by a bipartisan vote in 2007. Guth echoed his remarks made at Iowa Central Community College on March 1 (in Webster City) when he said perhaps it is time to "just get rid of the Civil Rights Code and go back to all people are created equal." I will remind the Senator that in the early days of our government, the only folks that were equal and able to vote were white male landowners. On the day of the vote (February 27) there were, according to Iowa State Patrol troopers, at least 2,500 people inside the Capitol to protest the erasure of transgender individuals from the Civil Rights Code. Guth

described the 2,500 protesters: "The left was truly outraged by this legislation and showed up in full costume to protest loud and profanely. We had a lot of security present, and it was an interesting day." The next time you get 2,500 people who take the time to show up at the Capitol, Senator Guth, you may want to speak with some of us. Your constituents are the good people of Iowa, even those you don't understand or might disagree with. My transgender child already has a target on their back. Starting in July, my October can feel the impact of this cruel legislation when they apply for a loan to buy a home, when they apply for work when they apply for a credit card.

The rally was the largest Capitol protest ever. The crowd included dozens of clergy and pastors, gay folks, transgender folks, allies, and lots of young people. We chanted, we sang hymns, we tried to contact our senators and representatives, and tell our stories. I asked the Senate pages (high school students) if I could speak with Sen. Guth. They told me he was not there. I watched from the gallery as the Senate debated SF 418. Guth was indeed present and spent the time working on his laptop and not listening to his Democratic colleagues plead their case and tell of how the bill would harm their constituents and their loved ones. It was painful to watch. After the vote, many of us sobbed in one another's arms. When I became a mother for the first time 36 years ago, I learned quickly that I was capable of love beyond measure when it comes to my children. You, Sen. Guth, have harmed one of my children and a lot of other folks I care about. We will not forget or forgive."

Cynthia Oppedal Paschen, Webster City

Letter to the Editor

Commend Local Food, Don't Condemn It!

Dear Editor,

Since 1994, I've been helping grow Iowa's local food system, yet a 2022 USDA report says of the \$9 billion dollars of local foods produced in the U.S., the Midwest accounts for only 6% of national sales. Covid made this vulnerability of our food supply chain very clear.

Since 2021, investment in the local food system has grown. The USDA launched the Local Food Purchasing Assistance (LFPA) and Local Food for Schools (LFS) programs. Iowa has increased investment in infrastructure initiatives and the Choose Iowa Local Food Purchasing program, modeled after the LFPA and LFS programs. The success has been tremendous.

LFPA & LFS, alone, have impacted 135 schools, 300 farmers, 95 distribution locations, and 98 counties. We've gotten fresh foods into schools and anti-hunger programs and established stable markets for farmers. Farms have grown, schools have expanded capacity to serve fresh foods, and students have embraced the taste and "their farmers" with pride.

This progress is under threat.

Last week the USDA abruptly ended the LFPA and LFS programs, cutting \$11.3 million in federal support committed over the next three years. At the same time, a misdirected proposal in the Iowa legislature (SF 525/HF851), proposes to rewrite school nutrition standards, prioritizing Iowa commodities over fresh, healthy food, completely missing the opportunity to build on the decades of progress in Iowa's local food system. All the while, anti-hunger efforts are seeing record demand and evidence of diet-related, chronic disease is prevalent throughout our communities. Key partners have made substantial investments in anticipation of these programs.

This work should be commended, not condemned.

Please urge Iowa legislators to boost state investment in the Choose Iowa Local Purchasing program to \$3 million to help fill part of the gap left by federal cuts. Ensure school nutrition really is nutritious. Finally, buy local!

Jan Libbey, Kanawha

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:
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515-212-2802
egumc@goldfieldaccess.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

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
HolmesLutheran@gmail.com
All are welcome.
Sunday, March 23
9:30 a.m. Worship
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
Wednesday, March 26
7 p.m. Lenten Service with Light Supper at 6 p.m. - Midweek Three - Theme / Who Heals the Sick
Lenten Services will continue each Wednesday until Holy Week

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)
P.O. Box 333
515-448-3584

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
Noon Lenten Lunch at EGELC
Sunday
9 a.m. Worship
10:15 a.m. Coffee Fellow
10:15 a.m. Sunday School
Tuesday
5:30 p.m. Evangelism Committee
Wednesday
9 a.m. Bible Study

Noon Men's Bible Study
5 p.m. Confirmation
6:30 p.m. Lenten Service

EG MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION FOOD PANTRY
510 S. Jackson
Monday 4 - 7 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 Birr.
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 a.m. at 3320 210th St., Goldfield, Iowa 50542
www.Rejoicechurchiowa.com and Facebook

WORDS OF WISDOM



Last week's trivia questions:
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Which country singer had hit songs including "Mammas Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up to be Cowboys", "Luckenbach, Texas" and "Good Ol' Boys" (Theme from The Dukes of Hazzard)? Answer: Waylon Jennings.

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Goopy waffles for breakfast or dessert



Waffles can be enjoyed any time of the day. While traditionally breakfast fare, waffles can be a sweet or savory dessert as well.

When waffles are paired with the flavors of a traditional Banana Foster dessert, they can be a decadent breakfast or impressive evening treat. Enjoy this recipe for "Kentucky 'Nanners Foster Waffles" from "Lord Honey Traditional Southern Recipes with a Country Bling Twist" (Pelican Publishing) by Chef Jason Smith.

Kentucky 'Nanner Foster Waffles
Serves 4 to 6
Nonstick cooking spray
2 cups all-purpose flour
1/4 cup white sugar
1 tablespoon baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
2 eggs
1 1/2 cups milk, any variety
1/2 c. butter, melted & cooled
2 teaspoons vanilla
1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
Topping:
1/4 cup butter
1/4 cup brown sugar, packed
1/4 tsp ground cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
2 bananas, sliced thick
3 teaspoons bourbon

Favorite vanilla ice cream
Preheat a waffle iron, and spray with nonstick cooking spray. Preheat oven to 170 F.
In a large bowl, whisk together the flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt.
In a small bowl, whisk the eggs and milk. Add the butter, vanilla, and cinnamon, and whisk.
Add the wet mixture to the dry, and whisk until there are no lumps.
Scoop 1/2 cup batter onto the waffle iron, close the lid, and let cook until golden brown and crispy. Repeat until all the batter is gone.
Put the waffles on a sheet pan

and place in preheated oven.
To make the topping, melt the butter in a medium skillet over medium heat. Add the brown sugar, cinnamon, and nutmeg, stir to combine, and cook for about 1 minute.
Add the sliced bananas and cook for a few seconds. Add the bourbon (or apple juice, instead), and cook 2 to 3 minutes, stirring often with a light hand so the bananas do not break up.
Meanwhile, place 1 to 2 waffles on a plate and top with a scoop of ice cream. Once banana sauce has thickened, spoon over ice cream and waffles. Repeat with remaining waffles.

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PH 515-448-3843
1209 CENTRAL AVE E
CLARION, IA 50525
PH 515-532-2887

“ But now that he is dead, why should I go on fasting? Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but he will not return to me. ”
Samuel 12:23 NIV

They'll Miss Us When We're Gone

It is a sad truth that most people are not sufficiently appreciated while they are alive. Works of art are almost always more valuable after the artist has passed away, just as books are read more after their authors have died. When our parents and grandparents pass away we find ourselves wanting something of them to hang onto. We might ask for something of theirs to remember them by, sometimes it's something as simple as their favorite cup or a sweater they wore. What is often hardest for us to deal with after the death of someone we love is that we know we'll never share a conversation with them again, or a hug, or just being with them, at least not in the physical sense. I recall how much I missed my father after his passing, especially in those first few months. I went to him for advice up until the very end of his life and I felt like his advice got better as he aged, more focused on the things that really mattered. But this sad truth about missing people and only appreciating them when they are gone doesn't have to be this way. We can and should appreciate them while they are here and tell them so. And we can, in a way, still have a conversation with them after they are gone. I sometimes still talk to my father, telling him how much I miss him, and I can almost hear him responding that he misses me too, but that I should enjoy my life and my family, and soon enough we'll be together in our forever home.
—Christopher Simon

Words of Wisdom

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Wright County Courthouse

Property Transfers
Quit Claim Deed - Town Lot: Gavin Judith A to Steenblock Judith A, Steenblock John L - Belm Bartholomew's 2nd Addn Blk 4 Lot 8 E 1/2; 25-359.
Warranty Deed - Land Deeds: Poryes Valerie M Trustee, Poryes Andrew L Trustee, Poryes Andrew L Revocable Living Trust, Poryes Valerie M Revocable Living Trust, Mennenga Andrea K Trustee, Mennenga Andrea K Trust, Andrew L Poryes Revocable Living Trust, Valerie M Poryes Revocable Living Trust, Andrea K Mennenga Trust to Gross Lori M - 14-93-23 NE Except Tract; 25-361.
Warranty Deed - Land Deeds: Gross Lori M, Gross Richard H, Poryes Valerie M Trustee, Poryes Andrew L Trustee, Poryes Andrew L Revocable Living Trust, Poryes Valerie M Revocable Living Trust, Andrew L Poryes Revocable Living Trust, Valerie M Poryes Revocable Living Trust to Mennenga Andrea K Trustee, Mennenga Andrea K Trust, Andrea K Mennenga Trust - 13-93-23 SE NE 1/4, 14-93-23 SW N 1/2, 14-93-23 SW SW 1/4 Except Tract; 25-362.
Warranty Deed - Land Deeds: Gross Lori M, Gross Richard H. to Gross Lori M Trustee, Gross Richard H Trustee, Gross Richard Revocable Trust, Gross Lori M Revocable Trust, Richard and Lori M. Gross Revocable Trust - 14-93-23 NE Except Tract; 25-363.
Warranty Deed - Land Deeds: Robertson Leon L Trustee, Robertson Eleanor M Trust, Eleanor M Robertson Trust to Robertson Leon L - 19-93-23 NE Part of W 1/2, 19-93-23 Tract; Robertson 000006046004629106; 25-366.
Warranty Deed - Land Deeds: Robertson Leon L, Robertson Vicki R to Robertson Leon L, Robertson Vicki R - 19-93-23 NE Part of W 1/2, 19-93-23 Tract; Robertson 000006046004629109; 25-367.
Warranty Deed - Land Deeds: Bunnell Eldoris A, Kelley Patricia J, Kelley Jerry L, Senske Barbara L, Senske James E, Wiley Lori A, Wiley John G to Reyes Brandon L - 19-93-23 SE Tract in SW 1/4; 8880276446 Reyes, Brandon 000023998004628842; 25-369.
Warranty Deed - Land Deeds: Aldrich Lance J, Aldrich Cheri L to Aldrich Lance J Trustee, Aldrich Cheri L Trustee, Aldrich Lance J Revocable Trust, Lance J Aldrich Revocable Trust - 20-92-23 NE S 1/2; Aldrich, Lance 000028955004630341; 25-371.
Warranty Deed - Town Lot: Post Jolene Trustee, Post Family Trust, Post Family Trust to Hoang Sam D, Hoang Cindy T - Clar College Addn Blk 8 Lot 17, Clar College Addn Blk 8 Lot 18; 25-373.
Warranty Deed - Town Lot: Ademi Ferit, Ademi Sultana to Pena Garcia Roberto, Garcia Pena Roberto, Vela Alemjo Yesenia, Alemjo Vela Yesenia - Belm Orig Addn Blk 24 Lot 1 W 1/2 of E 2/3; 25-375.
Warranty Deed - Land Deeds: Waters Merle W Trustee, Waters Barbara A Trustee, Waters Family Trust, Waters Family Trust to Waters Merle Trustee, Waters Barbara A Trustee, Waters Merle Waters Trust, Merle Waters Trust - 25-91-23 NE Parts of SW 1/4; Merle Waters Trust 000022861004631220; 25-378.
Warranty Deed - Land Deeds: Koster Jimmy J, Koster Sheryl L to McLaughlin Deanne - 30-93-23 NE Tract in SW 1/4; McLaughlin Deanne 000013355004629878; 25-382.
Quit Claim Deed - Town Lot: Barrus Golden Leroy to Coe Veronica Lea - Belm Second Addn Blk

9 Lot 4; Anderson 3.3.25 000015601004631201; 25-385.
Warranty Deed - Town Lot: Coe Veronica L to Anderson Michael Jon, Anderson Peyton Elizabeth - Belm Second Addn Blk 9 Lot 4; Anderson 3.3.25 000015601004631207; 25-386.
Warranty Deed - Town Lot: Meza Yopez Veronica, Yopez Meza Veronica, Meza Serafin to Matul Maria, Matul Vargas Gerardo Uliser, Vargas Matul Gerardo Uliser - Clar Mckay's Addn Blk 6 Lot 13; Maria Matul 000022861004632246; 25-390.
Warranty Deed - Town Lot: Followill Jeanette E to Pals Christopher L, Pals Amber J - Belm Country Club Estates Addn Blk 1 Lot 9; Pals Christopher 000013355004632695; 25-391.
Warranty Deed - Town Lot: Pals Christopher L, Pals Amber J, Pals Amber J to Coe Veronica Lea - Belm Orig Addn Blk 28 Lot 5; Coe Veronica 000013355004632930; 25-395.
Warranty Deed - Land Deeds: Aldrich Lance J, Aldrich Cheri L to Aldrich Lance J Trustee, Aldrich Cheri L Trustee, Aldrich Lance J Revocable Trust, Aldrich Cheri L Revocable Trust, Lance J Aldrich Revocable Trust, Cheri L Aldrich Revocable Trust - 29-92-23 SE N 1/2 Except Parcel D; Aldrich's 000028955004630343; 25-398.
Quit Claim Deed - Land Deed: Drury Dwight A, Drury Marilyn J to Drury Dwight A, Drury Marilyn J - 31-92-23 NW W 1/2; Dwight and Marilyn Drury 000009075004635716; 25-403.
Warranty Deed - Land Deeds: Unger Christopher Greg, Unger Jessica to Muhlenbruch Shannon, Muhlenbruch Carla - 13-91-23 SE Tract in SW 1/4, 13-91-23 SE SE 1/4; Muhlenbruch 3.6.25 Contract & Dov 000013773004635609; 25-404.
Others - Town Lot Deeds: Wright County Treasurer, Bass Heather H to Plymouth Creek LLC - EG Hewett's Park Addn Blk 4 Lot 2 Tract Adjacent; Tax Sale Deed; 25-410.
Warranty Deed - Town Lot: Brigger Teddy D, Brigger Linda L to Burres Jared N, Burres Kelsey L - Clar Original Addn Blk 8 Lot 1; 25-417.
Warranty Deed - Town Lot: Christianson Court T, Christianson Sydney M to Weidemann Max - Belm Eastgate Addn Blk 4 Lot 3; Weidemann Max P. FHLB Purchase 000015413004637838; 25-418.
Warranty Deed - Land Deeds: Nelson Laurie K Trustee, Nelson Laurie K Living Trust, Laurie K Nelson Living Trust to Christianson Court T, Christianson Sydney M - 10-92-24 NE Parcel F, 10-92-24 NE Parcel G SE 1/4, 10-92-24 NE Easement in SE 1/4; Nelson to Christianson 00001235004637926; Related Documents: GWH 56-001; 25-421.
Affidavit Transfer: Gross Lori M to Mennenga Loren D, Mennenga Loren D Life Estate, Poryes Valerie S, Gross Lori M, Mennenga Andrea K - 13-93-23 SE NE 1/4, 14-93-23 NE Except Tract; 25-364.
Affidavit Transfer: Pinkele Louise J to Pinkele Donald G - 17-91-25 SE Part of W 1/2, 17-91-25 NE Part of SW 1/4; Pinkele3 000014316004629294 Aff Surviving Spouse; 25-376.
Tickets
Brady Lee Pate of Humboldt, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (21 or over).
Wade Anthony Obrecht of Breda, IA, operation by unqualified driver.
Ashley may Watne of Clarion, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (6 thru 10 over).

Paul Lynn Charlson of Leland, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (1 thru 5 over).
Travis Lee Storjohann of Marshalltown, IA, failure to comply with safety regulations.
David A Zieman of Meservey, IA, failure to maintain or use safety belts – adult.
Elvis Francisco Santizo Turcios of Fargo, ND, failure to provide proof of financial liability.
Alex Daniel Stein of Eagle Grove, IA, dark window or windshield.
Menelehleh Quita Silikpoh of Anoka, MN, speeding over 55 zone (21 or over).
Dimpal Lamichhane of Des Moines, IA, speeding over 55 zone (6 thru 10 over).
Kevin Omar Hernandez Mencia of Fort Dodge, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (6 thru 10 over).
Kevin Omar Hernandez Mencia of Fort Dodge, IA, no valid drivers license.
Wyatt Davis broom of Ham Lake, MN, speeding over 55 zone (6 thru 10 over).
James Shane Harle of Goldfield, IA, careless driving.
Dillon Michael Hart of Fort Dodge, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (6 thru 10 over).
Connolly of Des Moines, IA, speeding over 55 zone (6 thru 10 over).
Timothy Edward OConnor of Waterloo, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (1 thru 5 over).
Lorraine Gale Bairett of Saint Cloud, MN, operation without registration card or plate.
Danny gene McClain Jr of Pine City, MN, speeding over 55 zone (6 thru 10 over).
Alyssia Michelle Guerra of Clear Lake, IA, speeding over 55 zone (6 thru 10 over).
George Antonio Riedell of Lake View, IA, careless driving.
Rickey Lee Davis of Jones, OK, fail to yield to emergency vehicle.
Blake Reed Borrett of Ankeny, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (1 thru 5 over).
Jaymz Robert Winter of Rowan, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (16 thru 20 over).
Tasha Escobar of Eagle Grove, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (11 thru 15 over).
Nickolas Jose Reighard of Alexander, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (6 thru 10 over).
Jeffrey R Hartman of Fremont, NE, speeding 55 or under zone (1 thru 5 over).
Colleen Hutton of Overland Park, KS, speeding 55 or under zone (6 thru 10 over).
Michael Scott Feckers of Clarence, IA, fraudulent use of registration.
Michael Scott Feckers of Clarence, IA, failure to comply with safety regulations.
Kevin Ariel Osorto Galindo of Kansas City, KS, speeding over 55 zone (6 thru 10 over).
Camden Daniel Lau of Clear Lake, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (1 thru 5 over).
Sara Elizabeth Hoffman of Hubbard, IA, failure to maintain or use safety belts – adult.
Sara Elizabeth Hoffman of Hubbard, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (6 thru 10 over).
Mark Lee Crady of Grinnell, IA, failure to maintain or use safety belts – adult.
Fernando Javier Banegas Mencia of Belmond, IA, operation without registration card or plate.
Fernando Javier Banegas Mencia of Belmond, IA, failure to provide proof of financial liability.
Michael Thompson of Belmond, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (1 thru 5 over).
Fernando Javier Banegas Mencia of Belmond, IA, no valid drivers license.
Ngozi Susan Emeka Ogbonna of Webster City, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (1 thru 5 over).

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

- Omelet Brunch at Goldfield Fire Station, 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Dine in or carry-out. \$10 donation per person.
Proceeds go towards maintaining & updating equipment.
- Drill Team Night
Pre-school - 8th grade practice 1 - 3 p.m.
Pre-school - 8th grade showcase at 3 p.m.
5th - 8th grade showcase at 7 p.m. - includes guest soloists.
Registration is \$20 per child, scholarships available to those in need.
Audience admission is just \$5 each (per showcase).
Contact Coach Haley Loux (hloux@eagle-grove.k12.ia.u) or Natalie Felts (nfeldts@eagle-grove.k12.ia.us) with any questions.
- Soup Supper with free will donation at Goldfield Community Center 5-7 p.m. Silent Auction will benefit Down Memory Lane Park in Goldfield. To donate items, contact Greg Schipull at (515) 851-1965

TUESDAY, MARCH 25

- Bingo At The Bru
\$2 for 1 single game
\$20 for 3 reusable cards that you can play all 10 rounds with!
Clarion Cash Prizes Plus 1 BIG prize!

SATURDAY, MARCH 29

- Mom Prom. The Red Shed Event Center, Clarion 7-11pm
Ladies night to wear your fancy gowns
Tickets \$40, one free drink and Hors d'oeuvres. 21 and over only

FRIDAY, APRIL 4

- Nine & Dine's 10th Anniversary Celebration
Happy Hour 4-7 p.m. Live Musicby Joe Inman from 8-11 p.m.

Adam Samuel Keller of Thor, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (6 thru 10 over).
Robin Kim Frye of Clarion, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (6 thru 10 over).
Julio Cesar Escobar Velasquez of Des Moines, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (11 thru 15 over).
Troy Kevin Anderson of Kanawha, IA, maximum gross weight violation – 4001 to 5000.
Edy Ismael Tebalan Matul of Kanawha, IA, no valid drivers license.
Dylan Anthony Huse of Eagle Grove, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (11 thru 15 over).
Andres Morales Calles of Belmond, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (6 thru 10 over).
Isaac Jonathan Meyer of Altoona, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (21 or over).
Junior Romario Barrios Lopez of Clarion, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (16 thru 20 over).
Junior Romario Barrios Lopez of Clarion, IA, no valid drivers license.
Jaidynn Sue Knapp of Belmond, IA, expired license.
Brian Jon Worden of Belmond, IA, expired registration.
Michael Alan Johnson of Klemme, IA, expired registration.
Cody Homeyer of Clarion, IA, expired registration.
Kenneth Linus Kramer of Algona, IA, expired registration.
Monica Mariana Arroyo Torres of Clarion, IA, speeding.
Otoniel Quinones Cuevas of Belmond, IA, expired registration.
Luana Lee Nair of Spirit Lake, IA, speeding.
Rebecca Lynn Calkins of Collins, IA, window tint.
Zachary Tyler Willier of Ventura, IA, expired registration.
Lisa Marie Formanek of Garner, IA, expired registration.
Alejandra Chavero Martinez of Belmond, IA, official traffic control.
Alejandra Chavero Martinez of Belmond, IA, no valid drivers license.
Joshua J Coe of Ventura, IA, window tint.
Beatriz Anai Garza Elizondo of Belmond, IA, failure to obey stop sign.
William Edward Schutter of Leland, IA, window tint.
Fernando Javier Banegas

Mencia of Belmond, IA, operation without registration, failure to have valid license, proof of security against liability – driving.
Donis Tebalan of Dows, IA, failure to have valid license or permit while.
Poll Brian Flores Paz of Eagle Grove, IA, no drivers license.
Jorge A Ramirez Ortiz of Eagle Grove, IA, no drivers license.
Tania Santiago Medinilla of Eagle Grove, IA, expired registration.
Abel Hernandez of Belmond, IA, DUS - driving while license denied, suspended, or canceled.
Small Claims
Hauge Associates, INC. V. Daniel Larue: judgment for the plaintiff in the amount of \$1,981.96 plus 7.22% interest from 01/14/2025, and \$95.00 in court costs.
Civil
State of Iowa ex rel vs Diana Mae Campos: support order suspended 3/4/2025.
State of Iowa ex rel TTH vs Christina Ohara & Dustin Holton: child support in the amount of \$488 per month beginning 3/25/2025.
(CDW) Trask family farms v. Larson brothers drainage, et al: judgment against Larson brothers drainage, LLC, Larson Brothers construction, jointly and severally in the amount of \$84,841.50 with 6.02% interest from 7/24/23, and \$195 in court costs.
Discover Bank vs Kenny Harrell: judgment for the plaintiff in the amount of \$18,012.46 (less \$600 credits) plus interest at the statutory rate from 3/3/2025, and \$260 in court costs.
New Cooperative V. Leroy A. Wicks: judgment for the plaintiff in the amount of \$24,112.16 and 6.17% interest from 3/5/2025, and \$195 in court costs.

Criminal
State of Iowa vs heater, Valerie Robin: aggravated misdemeanor driving while barred. Defendant pled guilty and was fined \$855, plus \$240 in court costs, and a \$128.25 surcharge.
State of Iowa vs Cruz Gomez, Jose Antonio: class D felony introduce intoxicants or drugs into institution, charge dismissed by the court; serious misdemeanor operating while under the influence 1st offense, serious misdemeanor possession of controlled substance 1st offense, defendant pled guilty and was jailed for 4 days, and fined \$1,680, plus \$327.50 in court costs, and a \$252 surcharge.
State of Iowa vs Gates, Christopher Michael: 2 counts of simple misdemeanor violation of no contact/protective order-contempt, defendant pled guilty and was fined \$210 plus \$120 in court costs, and a \$31.50 surcharge.
State of Iowa vs Schaffer, Chad Allen: simple misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia: defendant pled guilty and was fined \$105 plus \$60 in court costs and a \$15.75 surcharge.
State of Iowa vs Banegas Mencia, Fernando Javier: simple misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia: defendant pled guilty and was fined \$105 plus \$60 in court costs and a \$15.75 surcharge.
State of Iowa vs Gates, Christopher Michael: serious misdemeanor assault causing bodily injury or mental illness, charges dismissed by the court.
State of Iowa vs Honter Levano, Richard: serious misdemeanor driving while license denied or revoked, defendant pled guilty and was fined \$1,000 plus \$1,100 in court costs, including a \$1,000 appearance bond (refunded).

a word to the wise
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THANK YOU

A special thanks to the people that were there for Michael in his time of need and those that supported the family through their grievances.

the Willard Family

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FIND IT

IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

MISC.

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ENERGY COMPANY

IT'S THE LITTLE THINGS
THAT MATTER MOST

PUT A SMILE
IN SOMEONE'S DAY

UTILITY BOARD • MARCH 12, 2025

Utility Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday March 12th, 2025 at 7:12 AM

Public Safety Building 210 W. Broadway, Eagle Grove, IA 50533
The meeting was called to order with trustees Peterson, Ryerson and Bisson. Absent: Jeske and Rethman. Also present: City Administrator Davis, Public Works Lunda and Waste Water Superintendent Brockman.

A motion was made by Ryerson and seconded by Bisson to approve February 19th minutes and claims Roll Call: all ayes

BLACK HILLS ENERGY, NATURAL GAS-PRESTAGE LIFT 105.32
BOLTON & MENK INC, ENGINEERING SVCS-SANSEWER EVAL.....2,259.00
CINTAS, SAFETY SUPPLIES.....39.64
DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP, GREY PIPE 511.98
ENGINEERED EQUIPMENT SOLUTIONS, SENSOR 1,786.00
EOSI, BULK MICRO-C.....15,259.20
HACH CO., TESTING SOLUTIONS 1,498.95
HAWKINS INC, CHEMICALS..... 4,979.03

IA. ASSOC. OF MUN. UTIL., DUES 25-26 1,002.00
INNOVATIVE PLANT SOLUTIONS, CLEAN FILTER CELL #1 36,001.18
MICROBAC LABORATORIES INC, TESTING-WRF 4,072.75
MISSISSIPPI LIME CO., STAND-DARD QUICKLIME..... 9,086.85
P & P ELECTRIC, GENERATOR MAINT-WELL/WTR PLANT..... 1,184.31

PRAIRIE ENERGY COOPERATIVE, ELECTRICITY-PRESTIGE LIFT STA..... 1,562.00
SEWER REVENUE BOND SINKING, MONTHLY TSF 125,000.00
VESSCO INC., PARTS 38.00
TINA/SCOTT ANDERSON, UB Refund.....21.31
JASON M DAVIDSON, UB Refund 167.97
WILSON GUARCAS, UB Refund..... 11.68

YURI E PADILLA, UB Refund... 5.39
ANGEL LUIS VASQUEZ, UB Refund..... 102.94
Treasurer, State of IA, 012025 sales tax..... 11665.73
Treasurer, State of IA, 022025 wet tax..... 5248.67
Postmaster, Postage for ut bills..... 575.74

Fund Totals

WATER 21799.71
METER DEPOSIT FUND 309.29
WATER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT 36,001.18
Sewer 164705.46
Discussed Financials for Water and Sewer funds

A motion was made by Bisson and seconded by Peterson to approve Resolution UB2025-05: A Resolution Authorizing Utility Billing Adjustments Report for February. Roll Call Vote: all ayes except Ryerson who abstained.

A motion was made by Ryerson and seconded by Bisson to approve Change Order #6 for the Chemical Building Project. Roll Call: all ayes
Discussed North Lift Station and Collection System Project

A motion was made by Ryerson and seconded by Bisson to approve Resolution UB2025-06: A Resolution Authorizing Service Line Repairs for certain addresses. Roll Call Vote: all ayes
Discussed 5 Year Maintenance Contract for the Sanitary Sewer Collection System

Discussed Old Business - Improvements to the West Gate of the Water Reclamation Facility, Chemical Building Improvement Project, Industrial Lift Station Improvement Project, Filter Media Room Improvement Project, Baghouse and Conveyor Improvement Project and AGP Meter Pit Project.

Department Reports were given.

A motion was made by Ryerson and seconded by Bisson to adjourn at 8:55 am. Roll Call: all ayes
Secretary

Published in the Eagle Grove Eagle on Thursday, March 20, 2025

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PROBATE • WILLIAM K. BAKER

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT
FOR WRIGHT COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF
THE ESTATE OF
WILLIAM K. BAKER, Deceased
ESPR017688
NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL,
OF

APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of William K. Baker, Deceased, who died on or about February 23, 2025:

You are hereby notified that on March 5, 2025, the Last Will and Testament of William K. Baker, deceased, bearing date of August 30, 2006, Codicil to Last Will and Testament of William K. Baker, dated July 5, 2007, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and that Ronald Baker 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 March 7, 2025.

Ronald Baker,
Executor of Estate
406 S. Lincoln
Eagle Grove, IA 50533

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:
March 20, 2025

Published in the Eagle Grove Eagle on Thursday, March 13 and 20, 2025

EAGLE GROVE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MINUTES • MARCH 10, 2025

Eagle Grove CSD
Regular Board Meeting
03/10/2025 - 06:00 PM
Board Room - Emerson Building
325 North Commercial
Eagle Grove, IA

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
Angie Capsel, Board Director
Darren Robinson, Board Director
Amanda Willard, Board Director

Non-Voting Members
Jess Toliver, Superintendent
Nicole Boyer, Business Manager/
Board Secretary/SBO
Heidi Vasquez

Community Members
Kat Alesch, TLC Member

1. Call to Order
Motion to call the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

2. Roll Call

3. Welcome

4. Conflict of Interest Declaration

None.

5. Communications and Celebrations

Heidi gave an update of what is happening at the high school.

6. Public Comment Cards

None.

7. Approve the Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as presented to the board.

Motion made by: Angie Capsel

Motion seconded by: Darren Robinson

Voting:

Tracy Crail - Yes

Angie Capsel - Yes

Darren Robinson - Yes

Amanda Willard - Yes

8. Consent Items

Motion to approve the consent items, with the updated bill list, as presented to the board.

Motion made by: Darren Robinson

Motion seconded by: Amanda Willard

Voting:

Tracy Crail - Yes

Angie Capsel - Yes

Darren Robinson - Yes

Amanda Willard - Yes

a. Minutes

b. Monthly Bills

c. Financial Statements

d. Resignations

e. Contracts

f. Open Enrollment Applications

9. TLC Update

Kat Alesch, High School TLC Instructional Coach, presented an update to the board of items they are doing in their building.

10. Updates on Staffing

Interviews have began for open positions for next year.

11. Budget Guarantee Resolution

Motion to approve the budget guarantee resolution as presented to the board.

Motion made by: Darren Robinson

Motion seconded by: Angie Capsel

Voting:

Tracy Crail - Yes

Angie Capsel - Yes

Darren Robinson - Yes

Amanda Willard - Yes

12. EGEA Costing Confirmation for 2025-2026

Motion to approve the EGEA Costing Confirmation for 2025-2026 as presented to the board.

Motion made by: Darren Robinson

Motion seconded by: Amanda Willard

Voting:

Tracy Crail - Yes

Angie Capsel - Yes

Darren Robinson - Yes

Amanda Willard - Yes

13. EGEA Employee Handbook

Motion to approve the EGEA Employee Handbook as presented to the board.

Motion made by: Darren Robinson

Motion seconded by: Angie Capsel

Voting:

Tracy Crail - Yes

Angie Capsel - Yes

Darren Robinson - Yes

Amanda Willard - Yes

14. EGEA Contract Costing 2025-2026

Motion to approve the EGEA Contract Costing 2025-2026 as presented to the board.

Motion made by: Darren Robinson

Motion seconded by: Angie Capsel

Voting:

Tracy Crail - Yes

Angie Capsel - Yes

Darren Robinson - Yes

Amanda Willard - Yes

15. Non-Bargaining Contracts for 2025-2026

Motion to approve the non-bargaining contracts for 2025-2026 as presented to the board.

Motion made by: Darren Robinson

Motion seconded by: Angie Capsel

Voting:

Tracy Crail - Yes

Angie Capsel - Yes

Darren Robinson - Yes

Amanda Willard - Yes

16. Purchases over \$25,000

No purchases over \$25,000. Motion to approve the purchase of a new ADA-compliant bus for \$20,000 from North Union CSD. No approval needed.

17. Early Graduation Request

18. Iowa Local Government Risk Pool Resolution for FY2026

Motion to approve the Iowa Local Government Risk Pool Resolution for FY2026 as presented to the board.

Motion made by: Angie Capsel

Motion seconded by: Darren Robinson

Voting:

Tracy Crail - Yes

Angie Capsel - Yes

Darren Robinson - Yes

Amanda Willard - Yes

19. Policy Updates

a. Review 800 Series (Second Reading)

Motion to approve the second reading for the 800 series as presented to the board.

Motion made by: Angie Capsel

Motion seconded by: Darren Robinson

Voting:

Tracy Crail - Yes

Angie Capsel - Yes

Darren Robinson - Yes

Amanda Willard - Yes

20. Board Member Reports

Drill Team night on March 22nd- 2 shows.

Prom is April 26.

Graduation is May 18.

21. Superintendent's Report

Contracts out on the 17th, including early signing bonus.

Legislation has been quiet, SSA has not been set yet.

22. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 6:33 PM.

Motion made by: Angie Capsel

Motion seconded by: Darren Robinson

Voting:

Tracy Crail - Yes

Angie Capsel - Yes

Darren Robinson - Yes

Amanda Willard - Yes

Board Secretary Board President

GENERAL FUND BILLS FOR APPROVAL - March 10, 2025

Allegiant Technology, cloud fax 48.68

Ait, Alana, reimb for supplies..... 12.00

Amazon Web Services, monthly charge..... 18.98

Amazon, supplies 3,749.02

Arnold Motor Supply, supplies..... 80.61

Bomgaars, supplies 1,061.68

CAM Community School District, open enrollment..... 4,599.54

Campbell's, supplies..... 20.40

Cedar Rapids Community School District, special eduation tuition 6,572.31

Cengage Learning, supplies..... 1,111.00

Central Iowa Dist, cleaning supplies 3,736.00

Central Iowa Water, services..... 224.00

Clayton Ridge CSD, open enrollment tuition 16,725.04

Column Software, legal 251.70

Comm1 Network, utilities..... 535.65

D.I.A.L./Elevator Safety Bureau, elevator inspections..... 200.00

Demco, supplies 325.44

Department of Education, bus inspections 1,100.00

Eagle Building Supply, supplies..... 54.95

Eagle Grove City of, water..... 2,507.21

Eagle Grove Schools, wires..... 30.00

Eagle Grove, City of, fire call..... 100.00

Elan Financial, training/supplies..... 1,105.12

Fareway, supplies..... 985.04

Fort Dodge Community School District, open enrollment tuition 16,987.21

Goldfield Access Network, telephone service 31.45

WRIGHT COUNTY BOS • MARCH 3, 2025

March 3, 2025
The Board of Supervisors met as Drainage District Trustees. To view the minutes from the drainage meeting, see the Drainage District minutes on the County website.
Chairman Rasmussen called the regular meeting of the Wright County Board of Supervisors to order at 9:07 a.m. Members present were Kluss, Bosch, Rasmussen, Loux, and Ellis.
Motion by Ellis and seconded by Loux to approve the tentative agenda. Motion carries.
Minutes of the previous regular meeting of February 24, 2025 were read and approved with one clarifying entry to the conservation habitat stamps. Approved claims for payment.
In open forum for public input, Rod Heiden and Tony Olson with Wright County Search and Rescue presented old and deteriorating equipment. Heiden explained that he will be retiring the position and Tony will be taking over, he continued to say that he wants to leave knowing the team has good equipment. He continued to say that they are completing a grant with Wright County Charitable Foundation and are requesting the Board matches the funds from the grant. Supervisor Ellis explained that the Search and Rescue does have a budgeted line to use for equipment.
Also, in open forum for public input, Dan Odland expressed concern for the excessive gravel being pushed into the ditches and silt around the culverts not allowing water to drain through them. Wright County Engineer, Adam Clemons stated that he is reviewing the concerns.
Motion by Ellis and seconded by Kluss to approve a \$1,500 payment to the Belmond Area Arts Center for dust control for the Power Show. Motion carries.
Motion by Kluss and seconded by Bosch to approve the appointment of Cory Anderson as Woolstock Township Trustee to fill the current term. Motion carries.
Motion by Kluss and seconded by Ellis to approve Resolution 2025-10, a resolution adjusting the recommendation of the Wright County Compensation Board from a three percent increase to a two percent increase. By roll call vote: ayes – Kluss, Bosch, Rasmussen, Loux and Ellis; nays – none. Resolution 2025-10 duly passes and reads as follows:

RESOLUTION 2025-10

WHEREAS, the Wright County Compensation Board meets annually to recommend a compensation schedule for elected officials for the fiscal year immediately following, in accordance with Iowa Code Chapters 331.905 and 331.907, and
WHEREAS, the Wright County Compensation Board met on January 9, 2025 and made the following salary recommendations for the following elected officials for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025:

Elected Official	Current Salary	Proposed Increase	Recommended Salary
Auditor	\$ 87,704.83	3%	\$ 90,335.97
County Attorney	\$ 117,828.04	3%	\$ 121,362.88
Recorder	\$ 87,704.83	3%	\$ 90,335.97
Sheriff	\$ 131,197.24	3%	\$ 135,133.16
Supervisors	\$ 45,065.83	0%	\$ 45,065.83
Treasurer	\$ 87,704.83	3%	\$ 90,335.97

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Wright County Board of Supervisors approves the following salary adjustments for the following elected officials for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025:

Elected Official	Approved Salary	Approved Increase
Auditor	\$ 89,458.93	2%
County Attorney	\$ 120,184.60	2%
Recorder	\$ 89,458.93	2%
Sheriff	\$ 133,821.19	2%
Supervisors	\$ 45,065.83	0%
Treasurer	\$ 89,458.93	2%

Approved this 3rd day of March 2025.

Motion by Ellis and seconded by Kluss to set the date for the proposed property tax levy hearing for April 7, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. Motion carries.
Adam Clemons, Wright County Engineer, presented Resolution 2025-11, Establishment of Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management Plan. Motion by Kluss and seconded by Bosch to approve Resolution 2025-11. By roll call vote: ayes – Kluss, Bosch, Rasmussen, Loux and Ellis; nays – none. Resolution 2025-11 duly passes and reads as follows:

RESOLUTION 2025-11

ESTABLISHMENT OF INTEGRATED ROADSIDE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, Wright County has developed an Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management (IRVM) Plan, and
WHEREAS, IRVM incorporates the management of vegetation in road and trail right of way properties to improve safety, wildlife habitat, and water quality, and
WHEREAS, the IRVM Plan was written following an assessment of current activities and input from Wright County Secondary Road Dept. and Wright County Conservation, and
WHEREAS, if approved by the Wright County Board of Supervisors, the plan will be submitted to the Iowa Department of Transportation for approval; and
WHEREAS, once approved by IDOT, the County will begin implementing the Plan and be eligible for state grants and funding opportunities to assist with purchases such as seed and equipment.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Wright County, Iowa approves the Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management Plan and authorizes the Wright County Secondary Roads Department to submit the plan to the Iowa Department of Transportation on behalf of Wright County.
Passed and approved this 3rd day of March 2025.

Clemons then presented a resolution for a setting a public hearing for vacating a road in Iowa Township lying between sections 1 and 2. Motion by Kluss and seconded by Ellis to approve Resolution 2025-12 a resolution for Road Vacation Public Hearing. By roll call vote: ayes – Kluss, Bosch, Rasmussen, Loux and Ellis; nays – none. Resolution 2025-12 duly passes and reads as follows:

Resolution No. 2025-12

RESOLUTION FOR ROAD VACATION PUBLIC HEARING

WHEREAS, A request has been filed with the Wright County Engineer asking that action be taken to vacate and close a section of Wright County Secondary Road, described as follows:
That Portion of Youngblood Avenue, originally established on April 14th, 1883 (See Road Record Book 1, Page 90), lying between Sections 1 and 2, T-92N, R-23W of Wright County, Iowa. The intention of this road closure is to vacate the entire portion of the road commencing at the North Right of Way line of 170th Street, thence running in a Northerly direction approximately 5,663' to the South Right-of-Way line of 160th Street.
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a hearing on the proposed vacation will be held in the Board Room, Wright County Courthouse, Clarion, Iowa, 50525, at 9:30 on Monday, March 17, 2025, in accordance with Iowa Code Chapter 306.

Clemons then gave a brief update on Secondary Roads department. Motion by Kluss and seconded by Bosch to open the 9:30 a.m. hearing on the Wright County Budget Amendment for fiscal year 2024-2025. Motion carries.
No written or verbal objections were submitted.
Motion by Kluss and seconded by Bosch to close the public hearing. Motion carries.
Motion by Kluss and seconded by Bosch to approve Resolution 2025-09. A resolution approving 2024-2025 Budget Amendment #1. By roll call vote: ayes – Kluss, Bosch, Rasmussen, Loux and Ellis; nays – none. Resolution 2025-09 duly passes and reads as follows:

Resolution 2025-09

2024-2025 Budget Amendment #1

WHEREAS, the Wright County Board of Supervisors met on March 3, 2025 for the purpose of amending the county budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025; and

WHEREAS, no written objections were filed
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the amendment of the county budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 shall be adopted and published.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the appropriations for Fiscal Year 2024-2025, which were adopted on June 17, 2024 and amended on March 3, 2025 shall now be appropriated as follows:

EXPENSES	FROM	TO	DIFFERENCE
Auditor	524,364	506,391	-17,973
Treasurer	570,607	546,507	-24,100
Sanitarian	84,847	159,650	74,803
Engineer	7,999,033	7,602,763	-396,270
Conservation	1,515,865	1,310,461	-205,404
Public Health	847,652	778,350	-69,302
General Services	604,240	648,268	44,028
Data Processing	380,770	385,770	5,000
Communications	806,131	861,831	55,700
TOTAL EXPENSES			-533,518

By Fund Expenses	
General Basic	85,249
Public Health Basic	-66,700
Opioid Litigation	2,000
General Supplemental	-21,941
Public Health Supplemental	-4,602
Secondary Roads	-396,270
Conservation Reserve	-186,954
Communications	55,700
Revenues were increased by	\$377,370.
Passed and approved this 3rd day of March, 2025.	

Motion by Kluss and seconded by Ellis to adjourn the meeting. Motion carries.
Rick Rasmussen, Chairman Wright County Board of Supervisors
Deb Nesheim, Wright County Deputy Auditor

GOLDFIELD CITY COUNCIL MINUTES • MARCH 10, 2025

Goldfield City Council Meeting
March 10, 2025
The Goldfield Council met in regular session on March 10, 2025 at the Goldfield City Hall. Mayor Fiscus called the council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Council Members present Petersen, Schermer, Duncalf, Crees and Meinke. Also present City Clerk, Kathy Nelson; PW Superintendent Jim Sisson; Police Chief, Ray Beltran, City Attorney, Lynn Seaba. Absent: WCED Director DarrelSteven Carlyle.
Motion by Petersen, second Crees to approve the February 10th minutes. Motion by Crees, second Schermer to approve the March claims. All ayes. Motions carried.
Police Chief, Ray Beltran gave an update on the February dispatch report.
PW Superintendent Jim Sisson gave an update.
CLAIMS REPORT MARCH VENDOR, REFERENCE...AMOUNT
ACCESS SYSTEMS LEASING, COPIER LEASE 237.39
AGSOURCE LABORATORIES, TESTING/SAMPLES 28.00
AGSOURCE LABORATORIES, TESTING/SAMPLES 115.75
ARISTEO MONTES, DEPOSIT REFUND 207.47
OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE, PERIODIC EXAM FEE 1,500.00
BOMGAARS SUPPLY, WIND SHIELD WIPERS 70.36
C&H SALES AND SERVICE, MAINTENANCE MOSQUITO SPRAYER 238.98

CARGILL, INCORPORATED, SALT-WATERPLANT..... 6,802.50
CITY OF GOLDFIELD, WATER/SEWER COMMUNITY CENTER ... 68.40
CITY OF GOLDFIELD, WATER/SEWER ARCLIA BAOTISTA..... 300.00
CITY OF GOLDFIELD, WATER/SEWER DALTON SCHAFFER..... 53.21
CITY OF GOLDFIELD, WATER/SEWER ARISTEO MONTES... 92.53
DALTON SCHAFFER, UTILITY DEPOSIT REFUND 46.79
DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY, FED/FICA TAXES 2,433.00
GOLDFIELD POST OFFICE, POSTAGE CITY HALL 73.00
GOLDFIELD POST OFFICE, WATER/SEWER BILLS 149.52
GOLDFIELD TELEPHONE CO, PHONE/INTERNET..... 325.42
HAWKEYE WEST PEST CONTROL, PEST CONTROL COMM. CTR/CITY HALL 101.50
HENNIGAR'S WRECKER SERVICE LLC, REMOVE CAMPER-722 N PINE ST..... 350.00
IA ASSOC OF MUNICIPAL, WATER MEMBER DUES 2025-2026 .. 739.00
IPERS COLLECTION, IPERS - REGULAR 1,472.54
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL, JOHN DEERE LEASE 503.58
MID AMERICAN ENERGY, GAS/ELECTRIC..... 3,257.11
MID-AMERICA PUBLISHING, PUBLISHING LEGALS..... 188.12
NORTHWEST IOWA LEAGUE OF

CITIE, MEMBERSHIP DUES ... 25.00
NUWAY-K&H COOPERATIVE, GAS/DIESEL 456.81
PSI PRINTING SERVICES INC, COPY PAPER 215.36
SEABA LAW OFFICE, PLC, LEGAL EXPENSE..... 677.68
T & S SANITATION, GARBAGE FEBRUARY 55.00
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA, WATER EXCISE TAX FEBRUARY 2025..... 932.76
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA, SALES USE TAX FEBRUARY 2025..... 211.26
ULINE, UTILITY TAPE-WATER-PLANT/CITY 93.16
USA BLUE BOOK, SHUTOFF TOOL/ COMBO-WATER..... 1,256.61
VERIZON, SIM CARD-WATER PLANT 40.01
W & H COOP, GAS/DIESEL... 93.22
WESTRUM LEAK DETECTION INC, LEAK DETECTION SERVICES..... 650.00
WR. COUNTY CLERK OF COURT, CORRECT DISTRIBUTION FY 2024 12.59
Payroll Checks..... 8,556.74
******* REPORT TOTAL *******..... **32,630.37**
EXPENSES
GENERAL 8,875.83
FIRE DEPT 215.93
ROAD USE TAX 5,304.49
WATER 15,053.22
SEWER 3,180.90
TOTAL 32,630.37
REVENUE
GENERAL 15,139.52
CORN LP..... 4,167.00

FIRE DEPT. 81.02
ROAD USE TAX 6,396.87
EMPLOYEE.BEN. 188.42
LOCAL OPTION 6,379.17
DEBT SERVICE 379.03
WATER 17,240.09
SEWER 11,376.66
TOTAL 61,347.78
Motion by Schermer, second Meinke to approve Lisa Chase's building permit to put up a fence. All ayes. Motion carried.
Motion by Crees, second Meinke to approve Barga Incorporated's quote of \$29,438.28 to clean and seal cracks in the approved streets. All ayes. Motion carried.
A resolution for suspension of water services was discussed.
Motion by Petersen, second Schermer to table software quotes until April's meeting.
Motion by Petersen, second Meinke to approve Poutre Construction quote in the amount of \$10,778 to redo city hall office. All ayes. Motion carried.
Motion by Meinke, second Duncalf to set the date and time of the proposed tax levy to April 7 th at 6:45 p.m. at City Hall. All ayes. Motion carried.
Spring clean up day has been scheduled for Saturday May 31 st 8-5 p.m.
Council meetings will be at 6 p.m. going forward.
Motion by Schermer, second Crees to adjourn at 7:37 p.m.
Kathy Nelson, City Clerk
Gabe Fiscus, Mayor

CITY OF GOLDFIELD • PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY

CITY NAME: NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - CITY OF GOLDFIELD - PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY **CITY #: 99-953**
GOLDFIELD Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

The City Council will conduct a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year City property tax levy as follows:
Meeting Date: 4/7/2025 Meeting Time: 06:30 PM Meeting Location: Goldfield City Hall, 423 N Main St, Goldfield, IA 50542
At the public hearing any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of the proposed tax levy. After the hearing of the proposed tax levy, the City Council will publish notice and hold a hearing on the proposed city budget.

City Website (if available)

City Telephone Number

(515) 825-3613

Iowa Department of Management	Current Year Property Tax 2024 - 2025	Certified 2024 - 2025	Budget Year Property Tax 2025 - 2026	Effective 2025 - 2026	Budget Year Property Tax 2025 - 2026	Proposed 2025 - 2026
Taxable Valuations for Non-Debt Service		25,400,964		26,562,337		26,562,337
Consolidated General Fund		214,333		214,333		219,739
Operation & Maintenance of Public Transit		0		0		0
Aviation Authority		0		0		0
Liability, Property & Self Insurance		56,459		56,459		31,570
Support of Local Emergency Mgmt. Comm.		1,395		1,395		1,469
Unified Law Enforcement		0		0		0
Police & Fire Retirement		0		0		0
FICA & IPERS (If at General Fund Limit)		16,623		16,623		16,928
Other Employee Benefits		2,820		2,820		2,615
Capital Projects (Capital Improv. Reserve)		0		0		0
Taxable Value for Debt Service		25,400,964		26,562,337		26,562,337
Debt Service		39,112		39,112		39,246
CITY REGULAR TOTAL PROPERTY TAX		330,742		330,742		311,567
CITY REGULAR TAX RATE		13.02081		12.45154		11.72969
Taxable Value for City Ag Land		1,288,109		1,329,433		1,329,433
Ag Land		3,869		3,869		3,994
CITY AG LAND TAX RATE		3.00375		2.91026		3.00375
Tax Rate Comparison-Current VS. Proposed						
Residential property with an Actual/Assessed Valuation of \$100,000/\$110,000	Current Year 2024/2025	Certified 2024/2025	Budget Year 2025/2026	Proposed 2025/2026	Percent Change	
City Regular Residential		603		612		1.49
Commercial property with an Actual/Assessed Valuation of \$300,000/\$330,000	Current Year 2024/2025	Certified 2024/2025	Budget Year 2025/2026	Proposed 2025/2026	Percent Change	
City Regular Commercial		2,663		2,735		2.70

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

Reasons for tax increase if proposed exceeds the current:
lower due to city insurance decrease

WRIGHT COUNTY FEBRUARY 2025 CLAIMS

February 2025 Claims General Basic Fund
Access Systems, Copier contract... \$133.94
Accurate Controls, Labor... \$164.00
AgSource, Testing \$28.00
AgVantage, Fuel \$4,005.18
Jon Ahrendsen, Med. exam..... \$302.80
Amazon, Supplies..... \$595.53
Arnold's, Filter..... \$8.81
Auxiant, Insurance..... \$204.25
Denise Baker, Mileage/meal..... \$144.21
Independent, Publication... \$696.53
Blackhawk Sprinklers, Inspection... \$245.00
Blue Ribbon Pelham, Water... \$87.00
Bob Barker, Pens..... \$80.24
Ashley Bosch, Mileage/PerDiem..... \$236.00
Brothers Market, Hot deli... \$3,387.62
BOA, Credit Card..... \$643.91
Darrel Carlyle, Mileage..... \$501.20
CDW-G, UPS..... \$7,263.88
Central Iowa Detention, Detention..... \$98.52
Central Lock, Door closers..... \$2,040.00
City of Clarion, Water & sewer..... \$672.34
Clarion Distributing, Paper..... \$1,087.30
Column, Publication..... \$912.29
Comm1, Phone..... \$502.71
Culligan, Water..... \$265.55
Betty Ellis, Lodging/mileage..... \$302.88
Fillenwarth, Conference..... \$501.00
Andy Flagg, Transceivers... \$234.00
Frontier, Listing..... \$184.00
FUEL, Meals..... \$69.01
Galls, Apparel \$151.40
Gardiner + Company, Audit Fee..... \$33,600.00
Gold-Eagle Coop, Fuel \$149.94
GreatAmerica, Copier contract..... \$312.54
Guardian RFID, Renewal... \$2,382.00
Hands Up Holdings, Interpreter..... \$230.00
Hanson & Sons, Tires..... \$666.56
Hawkeye West, Pest control..... \$313.00
Health Ed. Center, Certification..... \$418.00
Hewett, Meals..... \$678.24
IACCVSO, Training..... \$75.00
ICAA, Training..... \$200.00
Idemia, Livescan..... \$2,819.00
Iowa DPS, Online access..... \$300.00
INO, Memberships..... \$250.00
IPOA, Signs..... \$1,907.20
ISH-Clarion, Menu..... \$80.00
ISAC, Registration..... \$420.00
ISACA District II, Dues..... \$20.00
K.C. Nielsen, Repair..... \$983.55
Dean Kluss, Lodging/mileage.....

\$314.80
Language Link, Interpreter... \$30.20
LexisNexis, Online research..... \$338.00
Mail Services, Print/postage..... \$486.13
Sandra McGrath, Mileage... \$75.60
Mid-America, Publications... \$120.40
MidAmerican, Utilities..... \$5,724.91
MW Alarm, Inspection..... \$829.74
Nature's Wood, Frames..... \$732.00
Network-Value, Phones... \$11,673.30
North Iowa Reporting, Transcript... \$206.25
Oldson's, Repair..... \$1,357.37
Christine Oliver, Mileage/PerDiem... \$303.20
Overhead Door MC, Repair..... \$809.76
P&P Electric, Repair..... \$546.29
Phoenix Supply, Toiletries... \$178.57
Pitney Bowes, Lease..... \$2,203.50
Polk County Sheriff, Fees... \$39.38
Postmaster, Postage..... \$154.00
Prairie Energy, Utilities... \$1,537.41
Pritchards, Repair..... \$2,903.88
Eric Rector, Meal..... \$15.81
Doug Riley, Contract carrier..... \$400.00
RJThomas, Table frames... \$3,326.00
Roto-Rooter, Labor..... \$230.00
James Russell, Mileage..... \$276.50
Schumacher Elevator, Maint..... \$195.85
State Hygienic Lab, Testing... \$556.50
State Med. Ex., Autopsy... \$3,233.00
Stivers Upfitters, Repair... \$1,648.49
T & S, Disposal..... \$348.00
T-Mobile, Phone..... \$801.90
Thrifty White, Meds..... \$19.96
Tiffini Toliver, Med. Ex..... \$710.50
True Value, Gloves..... \$26.99
Umress, Handle..... \$435.02
US Cellular, Phone..... \$129.79
Verizon, Phone..... \$1,871.02
VISA, Credit Card..... \$2,206.36
Visual Edge, Copier contract..... \$489.87
Wr. Co. Aud., Postage..... \$1,005.59
Wright County Fair, Apport..... \$5,000.00
Wright County IT, ID card ... \$10.00
Public Health Basic Fund
Amazon, Off. supp..... \$29.98
Elizabeth Bernal, Mileage... \$323.40
Carrie Covington, Mileage... \$207.90
Culligan, Water..... \$72.30
Fareway, Soup..... \$16.94
Monica Figueroa, Mileage... \$140.00
ISH-Clarion, Prenatal Visit... \$220.80
Sandra McGrath, Mileage... \$126.70
Naomi Rothman, Mileage... \$158.20
Denise Schumacher, Mileage..... \$326.90
Secure Shred, Recycle..... \$106.00
UnityPoint Health, HS cards..... \$198.00
US Cellular, Phone..... \$163.77

VISA, Credit Card..... \$37.00
Wells Fargo Fin., Copier Lease..... \$523.12
Angela Wesselink, Mileage... \$454.30
American Rescue Plan of 2021 CGA, ROW..... \$8,250.00
General Supplemental
Crittenton, County Bed... \$1,446.15
Wr. Co. Aud., Postage..... \$514.05
Wr. Co. Employees Side Fund
Auxiant, Insurance..... \$35,971.55
Belmond Fitness, Memberships..... \$120.50
Clarion Health, Memberships..... \$290.00
Hartford, Insurance..... \$1,074.69
ISAC Group Benefits, Insurance..... \$168,538.56
Rotary Senior Living, Memberships..... \$105.00
Jail Commissary
BOA, Credit Card..... \$14.00
Hewett, Meals..... \$119.67
Rural Services Basic Fund
Belmond Library, Apport... \$2,683.67
Clarion Library, Apport... \$2,571.83
Dows Library, Apport..... \$1,229.92
EG Library, Apport..... \$3,019.08
Ed Stivers Ford, Vehicle... \$32,535.00
IPI, Decals..... \$52.50
Rowan Library, Apport... \$1,677.33
Attorney Share Forfeiture \$
ISCIA, Registration..... \$175.00
Econ. Dev. Marketing
Heart of IA, Match fund... \$1,500.00
Secondary Road Fund
AgVantage, Fuel..... \$7,581.73
Airgas, Weld supp..... \$333.35
Amazon, Off. supp..... \$600.77
Arnold's, Parts..... \$873.72
Ascendance, Parts..... \$458.22
Independent, Publication... \$96.00
CINTAS, Coveralls..... \$257.33
City of Belmond, Utilities... \$75.13
City of Clarion, Utilities... \$504.41
City of Eagle Grove, Utilities... \$75.98
C.J. Cooper, Drug Testing... \$110.00
Clarion Distr., Shop supp... \$628.60
Comm1, Phone..... \$279.40
Culligan, Water..... \$159.00
Force Filters, Clothing... \$181.30
Hawkeye West, Pest control... \$60.00
Hoffman Filter, Filters..... \$65.00
Interstate Battery, Batteries... \$496.05
Iowa DOT, Repairs..... \$270.00
ISH-Clarion, Drug Testing... \$341.00
Jack's O.K. Tire, Tires..... \$180.56
Kimball Midwest, Parts... \$1,562.35
Lawson Products, Supp... \$2,027.10
Mid-America, Advertising... \$180.60
MidAmerican, Utilities... \$3,911.30
Prairie Energy, Utilities... \$352.88
PSI, Name plate..... \$47.24
Spencer, Steel..... \$45.12
Steenblock Plumbing, Repair..... \$696.09
T & S, Disposal..... \$463.00
T-Mobile, Phone..... \$214.65

Truck Center, Parts..... \$80.30
Union Pacific, Engineering..... \$5,347.91
Umress, Supp..... \$207.65
US Cellular, Phone..... \$1,673.60
Visual Edge, Copier contract..... \$119.60
W & H, Fuel..... \$3,334.21
Wheeler Lumber, Lumber..... \$1,491.91
Wr. Co. Aud., Postage..... \$5.52
Ziegler, Cutting edge... \$24,883.68
Public Health Resource
Wr. Co. Health Dept., Flu Shots..... \$50.00
FmHA Int. Relending Loan
Eagle Grove CDC, Loan..... \$21.36
Conservation Reserve
Agronomy First, Seed..... \$6,280.00
PSI, Letter/envelopes..... \$162.00
E911 Surcharge Fund
Alliant Energy, Utilities... \$481.85
AT&T, Phone..... \$52.51
Independent, Publication... \$52.65
CenturyLink, Circuit Pay... \$243.04
Column, Publication..... \$194.62
Frontier Comm., E911 Circuits..... \$70.87
Goldfield Telephone, Phone..... \$119.12
Iowa One Call, Loc. serv... \$11.90
Language Link, Interpreter... \$4.05
MidAmerican, Utilities... \$294.82
Prairie Energy, Utilities... \$289.81
Windstream, Phone..... \$164.66
Local Emergency Management
Independent, Publication... \$58.50
Column, Publication..... \$108.40
Comm1, Phone..... \$55.95
Rod Heiden, Fuel..... \$79.71
Ziegler, Phone..... \$121.49
VISA, Credit Card..... \$949.55
Wright Co. Communications
Hawkeye West, Pest control... \$65.00
ILEA, Training..... \$375.00
Tiffon Pohlmam, Mileage... \$157.50
Co. Assessor Agency Fund
Independent, Subscription... \$52.00
Column, Publication..... \$128.58
Culligan, Water..... \$10.00
ISAC, Registration..... \$210.00
NIAA, Registration..... \$750.00
PSI, Envelopes..... \$965.61
US Cellular, Phone..... \$183.33
Vanguard, Appraisal Serv... \$6,600.00
VISA, Credit Card..... \$753.76
Visual Edge, Copier contract..... \$151.72
Wells Fargo Fin., Copier Contract... \$84.27
Wr. Co. Aud., Postage..... \$38.98
Agribusiness Park Water Supply
AgSource, Testing..... \$14.50
Hawkins, Azone..... \$169.82
Prairie Energy, Utilities... \$251.44
Grand Total..... \$471,618.43

Carbon Pipeline Company Seeks Pause in Permitting Schedule After SD Adopts Eminent Domain Ban

By Joshua Haiar
Summit Carbon Solutions wants the schedule of proceedings for its South Dakota permit application “paused for review and adjustment” after the state’s Legislature and governor approved a ban on the use of eminent domain for carbon dioxide pipelines.

The company filed a motion Wednesday with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission asking for a suspension of the scheduling order and an indefinite extension of the deadline for regulatory action on the application. The existing schedule includes a multi-day evidentiary hearing in August and September.

Summit cited House Bill 1052, signed last week by

Republican Gov. Larry Rhoden, as a significant obstacle to completing land surveys along the pipeline’s planned route.

“With the passage of HB 1052, the Applicant’s ability to obtain survey permission has changed,” wrote Summit attorney Brett Koennecke. “The surveys which are necessarily required to inform the route decisions as to right of way will be significantly delayed.”

Eminent domain is a legal process for acquiring access to land for projects that have a public benefit, with compensation for landowners determined by a court. It’s commonly used for projects such as electrical power lines, water pipelines, oil pipelines and highways.

The ban has been hailed as a victory by some landowners who have resisted Iowa-based Summit’s proposed \$9 billion carbon capture pipeline. The project would transport carbon dioxide emissions from dozens of ethanol plants in five states, including Iowa, to an underground storage site in North Dakota. It would qualify for billions in federal tax credits incentivizing the sequestration of heat-trapping greenhouse gas emissions.

The project has permits in other states, although some are being challenged in court. South Dakota regulators rejected Summit’s first application in 2023, largely due to the route’s conflicts with local ordinances that

mandate minimum distances between pipelines and existing features. The company has since made adjustments to its route and reapplied.

Critics of the project are interpreting Summit’s motion as another victory for the opposition.

“This request for extension is a clear sign that Summit knows they have lost the trust of South Dakota, and will be unable to proceed on their original timeline without being able to force surveys on unwilling landowners,” said Chase Jensen, of Dakota Rural Action, in a statement.

Rhoden, a longtime advocate for property rights, described the ban last week as a way to restore trust

between landowners and developers. Summit issued a statement last week criticizing the ban as unfairly targeting its project and said “all options are on the table” when asked if it was considering legal action.

Summit did not immediately respond to South Dakota Searchlight’s requests for comment Wednesday.

The company is not the first to encounter trouble earning a permit for a carbon capture pipeline in South Dakota. Navigator CO2 canceled its \$3 billion project in October 2023, citing the “unpredictable nature of the regulatory and government processes involved, particularly in South Dakota and Iowa.” South Dakota regulators

had denied Navigator’s permit application a month earlier.

Iowa and North Dakota regulators have granted permits to the Summit project. Iowa’s permit stipulates that construction may not begin until the project gains permits in both North and South Dakota.

This story was originally published by South Dakota Searchlight, which is part of States Newsroom, a nonprofit news network supported by grants and a coalition of donors as a 501c(3) public charity. South Dakota Searchlight maintains editorial independence. Contact Editor Seth Tupper for questions: info@southdakotasearchlight.com.

The Great Out-of-Doors Provides a Vast Array of Seemingly Insurmountable Challenges

Residing At The Very Pinnacle of That Tall Mountain is The Pursuit of The Elusive White Goose

By Lowell Washburn
You could feel the excitement in the weathercaster’s voice as she described the intense spring thunderstorm currently building to the south. Surging northward at breakneck speed, the storm was scheduled to sweep into the northern half of Iowa by late afternoon, March 14. It was just the kind of dramatic change in weather that longtime friend and snow goose hunting enthusiast, Curt Stille, had been waiting for.

It came as no surprise when the phone rang, and it only took seconds to realize that Curt was even more giddy than the weather girl.

“Lowell, this storm is a big one and I’m pretty sure there’ll be some birds [snow geese] riding the front edge of this system. I think we should be out there when they arrive.”

I’ve shared goose blinds with Stille, off and on, for more than a quarter century now. And if there’s one thing I’ve learned during that time, it’s that his migration predictions are a lot more than wishful thinking. If Curt thinks that migrating geese will be moving up the flyway, you can bank on it. We did indeed need to be out there.



ABOVE: Surrounded by more than 300 windsock decoys, Curt Stille awaits the arrival of migrating snow geese. RIGHT: North Iowa snow goose enthusiast, Curt Stille, displays a portion of the day’s growing bag. “Snow geese can be frustrating, and nothing is more challenging. But when it works there’s nothing in the world like it,” he says. (Photos courtesy of Lowell Washburn)



As we stood chatting at the edge of the decoys, Stille suddenly froze and gazed skyward. “Look at that,” he exclaimed. Looking up, I spotted the night’s biggest wonder -- a flock of eleven beautiful snow geese hovering just a few yards above our heads. The birds had arrived without a sound. Best of all, they had mistaken our spread of 300 plus white windsocks for a live flock of their kissin’ cousins. A sign of good things to come, our

anticipation began to escalate.

At the approach of daybreak, the countryside began to stir. Attracted to the waving windsocks, a small

flock of green-winged teal and a squadron of elegantly streamlined pintails conducted a high-speed reconnaissance of the decoys. But although near continual lines of white-fronted and Canada geese passed in the distance, the species we sought had yet to be seen. The show continued until, several minutes later, the first flock of snow geese appeared in the south. Although hundreds of yards distant, we could tell that the birds were already locked onto our spread. With geese on the way, Stille lost no time in switching on the electronic caller. The recorded sound of feeding geese added some much-needed realism to our headless Tyvek socks.

Arriving over the decoys, the snows began a critical inspection of the scene below. Although our individual decoys may have suffered a definite lack of realism, their overwhelming numbers combined with the lifelike recording of feeding geese really did make the spread seem more convincing. Lying motionless in the decoys, Curt and I hoped our white parkas would make us appear as just two more white dots amid a fluttering ocean of white dots.

Following a couple minutes of hanging motionless in the sky, the geese finally bought the ruse -- hook, line, and sinker. Simultaneously setting their wings, the flock began its descent. But in this case, it was not the wary, back and forth, inch-by-inch, painstakingly slow loss of altitude normally displayed by decoying snow geese. Instead, the birds extended their webbed feet and began falling from the sky like so many feathered meteors. Another second or two and the parachuting birds were all over us. Curt called the shot. Shouldering the shotguns, we managed to collect five geese; with Curt scoring an impressive triple as the flock flared into the wind.

The snow goose is an amazing bird, annually traversing the continent in an epic, 6,000-mile round trip migration that leads from remote arctic nesting areas to the coastal wintering grounds of Louisiana, Texas, and Mexico and then back again. Despite nearly year-round hunting pressure, snow goose populations have not only survived, but have actually prospered to a point of overabundance. So much so, that their overgrazing has decimated vast portions of the species’ fragile tundra nesting grounds. In an effort to reduce populations, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has implemented liberal spring hunting seasons. Beginning in 1999, the seasons removed bag limit restrictions, extended hunting hours, and allow the use of electronic callers. Although the long-term seasons have failed to achieve their desired goal, they have provided hunters with countless hours of outdoor recreation.

While in the process of successfully adapting to increased hunting pressure, the snow goose has arguably become the wariest of waterfowl. Hunting them requires huge spreads of field or floating decoys which, even when combined with the recorded sounds of real geese, often fails to do the job. Although most traveling flocks will pause for a look -- “Inspect & Reject” -- remains their credo, a fact which made our in-your-face encounter with that first flock an exceptional event.

But the morning was just beginning. Within minutes, a second undulating line of white geese appeared from the south. Adjusting their course, the birds made a direct approach to our position. Within a couple of minutes, we could hear their single syllable yelping above the sound of the electronic speakers. Amazingly, the flock conducted a repeat performance of the first, dropping to the decoys with little hesitation.

When a third flock approached the decoys, I traded shotgun for camera. Curt ran the caller while I lay on my back clicking away. As the geese hovered above, I could see the adults cranking their heads back and forth in an effort to determine what was real and what was not. When the birds suddenly ‘cupped up and stood on their tails’ I went back to the shotgun. In the second it took to make the exchange; the geese had already dropped to a scant handful of yards. Rushing my shot, I missed the closest bird -- twice. Curt fared better, cleanly downing another pair.

The flocks kept coming. The geese continued to decoy with reckless abandon. The action was so intense that it became what Curt fittingly described as “pure chaos”. The morning’s eighth flock provided a sight I won’t soon forget. Arriving at the decoys, the geese stalled and began their assessment. While still hovering overhead, the birds were joined by a second group of snow geese that suddenly appeared from who knows where. The combined flock contained a good number of adult birds which, after taking a long look, smelled a rat and said adios.

When the departing birds were a couple of hundred yards distant, I was surprised when Stille suddenly cranked the electronic speakers to a blaring, rock concert volume. When the ear-splitting sound reached the retreating flock, the geese made an instant U-turn and conducted a full throttle return to the decoys. Arriving overhead, the birds -- including the well-educated adults -- piled straight in to what they had rejected just a couple of minutes before. It was an amazing event.

“Wow -- That was incredible,” I exclaimed. “I can’t believe what just happened. Getting retreating snow geese to change their minds? You don’t see that every day.”

Curt agreed. “It was amazing, but I can’t take credit for this one. It’s a trick I learned from Gary Sturges,” Stille noted, referring to North Iowa farmer and former professional snow goose hunting guide, Gary Sturges.

“Gary is an incredible goose hunter and most of what I know about snow geese I learned from him. Snow geese can be frustrating, and nothing is more challenging. But when it works there’s nothing in the world like it. It’s a sight and sound that keeps you coming back for more.”

Enjoy more wildlife tales online at Washburn’s Outdoor Journal at iawildlife.org/blog/.

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