

The News-Review

\$1.50

SERVING THE KEOKUK COUNTY AREA SINCE 1860

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 10, 2025
NUMBER 50, 164TH YEAR

Community CALENDAR

Memorial Tree of Lights What Cheer Library

Nov. 19th - Dec. 31st.
Posting will be on City Hall Window, P.O. Box 324 What Cheer, IA 50268.

Frosted Fairgrounds Keokuk County Expo

Drive-Thru Holiday Lights Display. Dec. 5th-6th & 12th -13th 6pm-8pm. Free Will Donation

Tri-County Winter Concert

December 11, 6:00 p.m. at High School Gym

Breakfast w/ Santa

Dec 13th @ 9:00 am at Sigourney Public Library

Christmas in Sigourney

Dec. 13, 4-6:30 pm Soup Supper & Silent Auction w/ Santa. Parade @ 7:00pm.

Knights of Columbus Harper Pepper Tournament

12/13, 1/10, 1/31, 2/7, 2/21, 3/7, 3/21. 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Hometown Holiday Magic

Sunday, Dec. 14, 1 pm at Holland-Coble Funeral Home, What Cheer

Blood Drive

Thursday, Dec. 16, 3:15 - 6:00 pm. City of Sigourney Offices, Conference Room, 100 N. Main Street. To schedule an appt, contact Sue Rouw Activity at srouw@KCHC.net or online at bloodcenter.org/group;grp #5037

KCHC Auxiliary Holiday Bake Sale

Thursday Dec. 18, 2025, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Hospital Lobby. Proceeds will go to the Auxiliary Scholarship Fund

Blood Drive

Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Parish Center Classroom on Tuesday, Dec. 30, 2:00-6:30 p.m. For more info call Cindy Weber at 641-636-2116



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Christmas Comes to Keota



Darlen Crossett's home



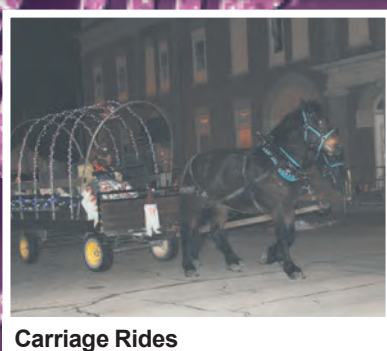
Santa and Mrs. Claus at the library



Ike Watson's home



Bingo at the VFW



Carriage Rides



Christmas carols at the tree lighting



Elyse Lyle's gingerbread house



Don & Alma Lindhart's home



Ireland Springsteen's gingerbread house



Lori Slaughter's home



Malley Hardware & Variety



Kelly Mousel's home



Olde English Barber Shop's gingerbread house



Patty Tinnes's home



Melinda Baughman's gingerbread house



The Imhoff Family's home



The Sprouse Family's home



Schmitt's soup supper



The vendor fair at Holy Trinity



The tree lighting next to the Roost



Wilson Memorial Library's gingerbread house

By Casey James | The News-Review

KEOTA – The annual Christmas in Keota celebration was held on Dec. 6, featuring Santa and crafts at the library, a vendor fair at Holy Trinity, a gingerbread house contest, a Christmas light contest, a tree lighting, carriage rides, a soup supper at Schmitt's, and bingo at the VFW.

The Christmas light contest winners were:

Silent Night

Category:

Winner: Kelly Mousel,
Runner-up: Brent and Alyssa Lindeman.

Inflatables

Category:

Winner: Ike Watson.
Runner-up: Lori Slaughter.

Open Class

Category:

Winner: Imhoff Family.
Runner-up: Carson Sprouse.
Honorable Mention: Julianna Berg (Malley Hardware & Variety)

The gingerbread house contest winners were:

Traditional Christmas:

Child 1st: Ireland Springsteen.

Child 2nd: Emilia Springsteen.

Adult 1st: Melinda Baughman.

Adult 2nd: Mia Conrad.

Business 1st: Wilson Memorial Library.

Business 2nd: Prairie Mutual Insurance

Think Outside the Box:

Child 1st: Greiner Family.

Adult 1st: Elyse Lyle.

Adult 2nd: Emerson Lyle.

Business 1st: Keota City Hall.

All About Keota:

Business 1st: Olde English Barber Shop.

Print your favorite memories



The News-Review

120 E Washington St.,
Sigourney, Iowa
(641) 622-3110
M-F 9 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.





1.) Santa visit at the high school. 2.) Christmas Bazaar at United Methodist Church. 3.) Santa breakfast at the high school. 4.) Vendor Fair at the high school.

Christmas in North English

By Casey James | The News-Review
 NORTH ENGLISH – During the Dec. 3 meeting of the North English City Council, the council received an annual report from Susan Schaefer and Bonnie Romine of Pride in North English (PINE), a community volunteer group that makes improvements around town. Schaefer and Romine explained that, this year, PINE planted and maintained flower beds around town, hosted a city-wide clean-up day in June, and expanded the Smoky Row trail eastward, also adding benches along the trail, working with the high school construction class to add a shelter south of the trail, and adding photo information history boards. Romine stated that

they wanted to do another clean-up day next year, but noted that the bill back in June had been the highest it had ever been, at \$3,000. She told the council to not hesitate to say they can't do it next year. Romine explained that the stone town signs by the city pond were becoming discolored due to an environmental algae. She stated that PINE intended to clean the signs using a chemical solution called D/2. Romine stated it would likely take four gallons per sign, with it costing \$177.95 plus shipping to order four gallons. PINE received \$3,500 in city funding last year; Schaefer stated that they would not need a budget request this year. Also at the Wednesday meeting, Councilman Red Haugland stated that he had

noticed a lot of vehicles sitting around, not being driven lately. City Clerk Tara Heyne stated that she had sent letters out to a handful of them. Councilman Lou Garringer stated that the tree lighting the previous Sunday had went pretty well. He stated it wasn't the city's fault the event was cancelled then uncanceled. Public Works employee David Knipfer stated that the group putting on the event had had a problem with getting trees. Garringer stated that, next year, if they have trouble getting trees, the city should be able to help them get trees or even plant a tree. Knipfer stated he wasn't sure they wanted to plant a tree by the Veterans Memorial, due to water lines.

CORRECTION

In the story "Sigourney Mother Champions Proposed Child Abuse Law," published in the Dec. 3 issue of the News-Review, the News-Review mistakenly stated that the father discussed in that article had hit his son with a rock in 2020. In reality, the father hit his partner's father with a rock. The News-Review apologizes for any confusion this may have caused.



Santa visited Country Junction in Richland on Dec. 6. Photo Credit Jeannie Pedrick

Supervisors Meet With Conservation Director, Iowa Primary Care Association


By Casey James | The News-Review
 SIGOURNEY – During the Dec. 8 meeting of the Keokuk County Board of Supervisors, the supervisors received an annual report on the Conservation Department from Director Pie Rieghard. Rieghard gave an overview of staffing, the conservation board, department revenue, and camping statistics, noting that it had been a "pretty good year." He listed off projects the department had carried out this year at Belta Deer Park, including: resurfacing the playgrounds with peat gravel, replacing several docks, installing an anti-seep collar, renovating all five cabin interiors, new concrete at the campground toilets, installing a new ADA-compliant sidewalk at one of the shelters, planting thirty arborvitae trees, adding a dock structure, brush mowing on the equestrian trail, and spreading millings. Rieghard also mentioned a major road and ditch project at Yenrougis, maintenance work at various wildlife areas, and purchasing a tree water-

ing system for the arborvitae trees and a new mower. Also at the Monday morning meeting, the board spoke with Sarah Berndt and Unity Stevens of Iowa Primary Care Association (PCA) and Jane Larkin from Iowa Health and Human Services Division of Behavioral Health. Berndt explained that the PCA is a non-profit that works to help people get into contact with medical, dental, behavioral health and pharmacy services in Iowa. They do not provide treatment, but help make it easier for people to gain access to healthy services. She stated their goal was to provide consistency in care between different districts. Stevens stated that they try to provide standardized, effective, person-centered care and reduce barriers to access in low-income communities. Stevens explained that they develop lists and trainings, refer people to providers and programs, help identify local and tele-health options, and help set up appointments. She noted that, during the government shutdown back in October and subsequent

pausing of SNAP benefits, they created state-wide lists of food resources. She stated that the most common referral they do is for mental health services, followed by housing and substance abuse disorder. Berndt requested the supervisors attend a district meeting and provide feedback to the organization. Stevens stated they plan to meet with other local organizations like the sheriff's department, schools and city councils in the future. She stated that they were working to identify a list of healthcare providers and libraries in every county, then would move onto listing out civic groups, faith based communities, and anywhere else someone can go for help. Auditor Christy Bates stated that she had been sent a price estimate for repairing the courthouse clock tower, which would cost roughly \$27,000 for the repairs and \$7,000 for a digital controller. She stated that they had received complaints about the clock not working, but that she was unsure if they should repair it, due to the price.

We can stop HIV, Iowa—by protecting our sexual health when we talk, test, treat.

talk	<p>Talk with your partner before having sex. Talk about when you were last tested & suggest getting tested together.</p> <p>Talk to your healthcare provider about your sex life. Ask about HIV & STI testing—including what tests you need & how often.</p>
test	<p>Get tested! It's the only way to know for sure if you have HIV or an STI.</p> <p>Many STIs don't cause symptoms, so you could have one and not know.</p>
treat	<p>HIV & all other STIs are treatable.</p> <p>If you test positive for an STI, work with your healthcare provider to get the right treatment.</p> <p>If you test positive for HIV, your provider or testing location will connect you to treatment & resources!</p>



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Community CALENDAR

Sigourney American Legion Post #19

Meets 4:00 p.m., Third Tuesday of every month at Memorial Hall

Keswick American Legion Post #319

Meets Monthly @ 5:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Keswick American Legion Post

Men's Caregiver Support Group

Bridget's Public House, 208 1st Ave E. Oskaloosa, IA 52577. 1st and 3rd Wednesday from 10:30am - 12 Noon.

Richland Public Library

Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday: 2:30-6:00
Friday: Noon-5:00
Saturday: 10:00-1:00
Closed Sunday and Monday. For more information call 319-456-6541

Wilson Memorial Library

Mondays 10-6pm
Tuesdays, Wednesday, and Thursdays 10-5pm
Fridays 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturdays 8-12.

Sigourney Public Library

Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Friday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Hedrick Public Library

Monday/Thursday/Friday 2-6 p.m.
Tuesday 1-5 p.m.
Wednesday 12-4 p.m.
Saturday/Sunday Closed

What Cheer Public Library

Monday 12:00-6:00 p.m.
Wednesday 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Friday 12:00-5:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Sigourney Kiwanis

Serving the community since 1969. Kiwanis meet Wednesdays, from 12 to 1 p.m. at Keokuk County Bowl, visitors are welcome.

Free Grace Recovery

Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at Free Grace United at 107 E Broadway St. What Cheer. For: All Addictions: any hurt, habit or hang up. Come as you are. Childcare provided. Everyone is welcome. freegrace.tv/recovery

Old Keota Business

Anyone having old photos of former Keota businesses, please contact Larry Gale Sanders. The photos will be used in a Keota Business Pictorial Album.

Keota Food Pantry

The food pantry in Keota is open on the last Sunday of the month at the United Church of Faith, 10-11 a.m. Anyone needing food is invited.

Richland Community Food Bank

Located at Richland Methodist Church, 106 W South St. Richland, (319) 456-2251 Sherry Jipp. Open Tuesday and Wednesday 9:30-11:30 a.m. and Thursday 5-7:00 p.m.

City of Keota Public Meeting

Public meetings will be held on the First and Third Monday of each month, at 7 p.m. at Keota City Hall. Special Meetings will

be posted at City Hall.

Keota School Board

The Keota School Board meets the second Thursday of each month, typically at 6 p.m.

Keota VFW Auxiliary

The VFW Auxiliary meets the third Tuesday of each month, typically at the VFW building.

Keokuk County Historical Society

Open Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. KCCHS will be closed the weeks of Christmas, and New Years. During winter, when school is cancelled, KCCHS will be closed.

Keokuk County Supervisors

The Keokuk County Board of Supervisors meets weekly on Mondays at 8:30 a.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous Sigourney

AA Meetings at Community Outreach Center-Sigourney: Wednesdays at 8 p.m. for more information, call (319) 461-6869.

Narcotics Anonymous-Sigourney

NA Meetings Community Outreach Center-Sigourney: Thursdays at 6 p.m.
615 S Jefferson St Sigourney

Food Pantry-Sigourney

Food Pantry Community Outreach Center-Sigourney: Call the Lord's Pantry at 641-224-2588 or contact a minister

Keokuk County Public Health

Keokuk County Public

Health is here to serve you. We offer an array of services such as: home health services, immunizations, education, diabetic care, foot care, partner's program, etc. We have walkers, wheelchairs, shower chairs, canes, etc. to loan out free of cost. Please call us if you or a loved one is in need. For more information, call (641) 622-3575.

Alcoholics Anonymous-Keota

AA every Monday at 7 p.m. at the Good Neighbor Fellowship Church on Broadway.

Alzheimer's Support

Alzheimer's Support Group meetings are held the first Monday of each month at the Presbyterian Church in Washington at 6:30 p.m.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly

Weekly meetings Tuesdays, 4:30pm - 5:30 pm at Keokuk County Extension Office, 641-777-1653

Grief Share

Sigourney Christian Church, 308 S Jefferson St on Wednesdays at 1 p.m., beginning Nov. 6. No charge

Fiddle Dee Dee

3rd Wednesday of every month, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Junk Journal Workday. Bring your own junk journals to build and work on. You can collaborate, share supplies, or ideas.

Keokuk County Democrats

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at City Hall 7:00 PM.



302 N. Green Street

Keota Purchases Speed Signs

By Casey James | The News-Review

KEOTA – During the Dec. 1 meeting of the Keota City Council, the council approved purchasing two cloud-connected radar signs, each costing \$4,445. These electric signs will show drivers how fast they are driving, urging them to slow down if they are speeding. The city plans to place one sign on Broadway and place the other on Davis Street, by the school. City Clerk Hunter Bruns stated that she had sent out a community survey, which had received 44 responses, only six of which said they opposed placing the signs. She stated that one business owner in town had stated she was willing to raise money to purchase two additional portable signs, each costing \$3,049. Bruns stated that she had spoken with the Iowa League of Cities, who stated that the city could use the police budget to purchase the signs and could accept donations for the signs. Councilman Heath McDonald noted that there was a problem of kids speeding by the school. Councilman Keith McDonald noted one response to the survey, which stated that the city should not by speed signs and instead add more stop signs; Conrad called this ridiculous, saying they couldn't put a stop sign on every block of Broadway, because it would take a month to get out of town. Also at the Monday meeting, the council approved purchasing a property located at 302 N. Green Street for \$12,500, pending attorney approval. This property contains a burned house, which the city plans to tear down before selling the lot. Conrad stated that the burned house would continue sitting there for at least a year if the city didn't purchase the property. McDonald stated that, if they had condemned the house, that would have taken \$8-10,000 in lawyer fees. He stated it was easier to buy the house and have it gone in a couple months. McDonald stated that no one wanted to

look at the house through the winter and into next summer, and that the city didn't want to deal with the liability if a kid went into the house and got hurt.

During the public comment time, now moved to the end of the meeting, Ryan Carr, who was elected mayor in November, stated that he understood the house was an eyesore, but that the city had now set a precedent that it will bail out people with burned houses. Carr is set to take office in January, along with newly elected Councilmen Chad Greiner and John Mather, who also spoke out at the Monday meeting. Greiner stated that people across town were becoming more and more frustrated with the amount of properties the city is purchasing. He stated that, while they didn't have to deal with the \$8-10,000 legal fees to condemn the house, the city would have to spend \$10-15,000 to tear the house down, ending up with a \$10,000 lot. He stated he struggled to believe they would get that much, saying his gut feeling was that the city would only get \$5,000.

Greiner stated that the city can't go backwards on every piece of property, saying it cost \$60,000 to deal with the Green House on Keokuk. He stated that the city can't solve all its problems by spending money and that maybe this needed to be a civil matter, with the city putting maximum fines on the property owner. He stated that the owner had gotten insurance money and that it was their responsibility to take care of the property, not the taxpayer. Greiner stated that, even if the property has to be there longer, it shouldn't be the taxpayers' responsibility to pay the costs for every dilapidated property. Mather agreed with this, saying the property owner should be responsible for their bad decision and that the city shouldn't have bailed them out.

The council approved selling an old AR-15 to former Keota Police Chief Doug Conrad for \$900.

Births, Engagements, Weddings, Anniversaries

- story (no photos) runs for FREE
- story with black and white photo- \$12
- story with color photo- \$24
- * Some restrictions may apply.

If the story is an invitation to a celebration or request for cards, it must run as an ad.

Share your story!

Contact us at
641-622-3110

info@sigourneynewsreview.com

120 E Washington St, Sigourney, IA 52591

MENUS

Goodwin Senior Dining Center (Wellman)

Dec. 12th
Pulled Pork Sandwich, Cheesy Potatoes, Cole Slaw, Cherry Cheesecake.
Dec. 15th
Lasagna, Tossed Salad, Garlic Bread, Lemon Bar.
Dec. 17th
Meatloaf, Baked Potato, Broccoli, Fruit Jello.

Sigourney

Dec. 11th
Breakfast: Scrambled Eggs w/ Muffin Square, Assorted Cereal w/ Muffin Square, Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Chili w/ Cornbread, Spicy Chicken Sandwich, Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Salad Bar w/ Cornbread, Salad, Cheesy Cauliflower Popcorn, Fruit, Milk.
Dec. 12th
Breakfast: Biscuits & Pepper Gravy w/ Sausage Patty, Assorted Cereal w/ Toast w. Margarine, Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Noodle Bowl w/ Italian Bread, Cheesy BBQ Beef on a Bun, Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Salad Bar w/ Italian Bread, Salad, Baby Carrots, Fruit, Milk.
Dec. 15th
Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza, Assorted Cereal w/ Cinnamon Toast, Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Bird Dog, Mozzarella Dunks, Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Salad Bar w/ Italian Bread, Salad, Steamed Broccoli, Fruit, Milk.
Dec. 16th
Breakfast: Gingerbread Cinnamon Roll, Assorted Cereal w/ Yogurt, Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Super Nachos, BBQ Rib Sandwich w/ Sweet Potato Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Salad Bar w/ Italian Bread, Salad, Refried Beans, Fruit, Milk.
Dec. 17th
Breakfast: Breakfast Bowl, Assorted Cereal w/ Toast w. Margarine, Waffles w/ Toppings, Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Chicken Patty w/ Hot Roll, Breaded Beef Fingers, Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Salad Bar w/ Hot Roll, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Fruit, Milk.

Milestones (Sigourney & Delta)

Dec. 11th
Herbed Pork Loin, Baked Potato, Sour Cream, Margarine, Green Beans w/ Onions, Peaches, Wheat Roll.
Dec. 12th
Cheeseburger on Bun, Lettuce Leaf/ Tomato Slice, Mayo/ Mustard, Sweet Potato Wedges, Broccoli, Fruit Cocktail.
Dec. 15th
Baked Spaghetti, Italian Blend Vegetables, Tropical Fruit, Garlic Bread Stick.
Dec. 16th
Chicken Tenders, Rice, Fiesta Corn, Hot Spiced Apples, WW Bread.
Dec. 17th
Turkey & Noodles, Green Peas, Fruit Crisp, Wheat Roll.

Pekin

Dec. 11th
Breakfast: Strawberry Bagel Bites, String Cheese, Fruit, Juice.
Lunch: Toasted Cheese, Broccoli & Cheese, Baby Carrots, Mixed Fruit, Bananas.
Dec. 12th
Breakfast: WG Donut Holes, GoGurt, Fruit, Juice.
Lunch: Chicken Strips, Potato Wedges, Sliced Peppers w. Ranch, Jonny Pop, Fruit Cup, WG Rice Krispy
Dec. 15th
Breakfast: Pancakes, Cheese Stick, Fruit, Juice.
Lunch: Ravioli, California Blend, Baby Carrots, Diced Peas, Apple Slices, Bosco Stick.
Dec. 16th
Breakfast: WG Pop Tarts, GoGurt, Fruit, Juice.
Lunch: Sausage Pizza, Green Beans, Cucumber Slices, mandarin Oranges, Blueberries.
Dec. 17th
Breakfast: Egg Bites, WG Toast, Fruit, Juice.
Lunch: Ham Slice, Cheesy Potatoes, Broccoli, Diced Peaches, Cranberry Salad, WG Oatmeal Cake.

Keota

Dec. 11th
Breakfast: Donut, Fresh Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Tenderloin on a Bun, Romaine Lettuce, Tomato Slice, Tri-Tater, Steamed Carrots, Peas, Milk.
Dec. 12th
NO SCHOOL
Dec. 15th
Breakfast: Breakfast Bites, Applesauce, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Hot Ham & Cheese on a Bun, Potato Wedges, Fresh Broccoli, Grapes, Milk.
Dec. 16th
Breakfast: Mini-Cini, Mixed Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Shrimp Poppers, Yogurt, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Orange, Wheat Roll & Jelly, Milk.
Dec. 17th
Breakfast: Cereal, String Cheese, Apples, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Taco Burger on a Bun, Romaine Lettuce, Tomato Slice, Refried Beans, Chips and Salsa, Milk.

Tri-County

Dec. 11th
Breakfast: Waffle
Lunch: Hot Dog WG Bun, Sweet Potato FF, Strawberries.
Dec. 12th
Breakfast: Long John
Lunch: Garlic Cheese Bread, Green Beans, Pears, Cookie.
Dec. 15th
Breakfast: Sausage Pancake Stick.
Lunch: Meatball Sub, Cheesy Broccoli/ Cauliflower, Peaches.
Dec. 16th
Breakfast: Cinn Bagel w/ cream cheese.
Lunch: Turkey Pot Pie, Mixed Vegetables, Pears, Biscuit.
Dec. 17th
Breakfast: Apple Breakfast Bites.
Lunch: Macaroni & Cheese, Lil Smokies, Baked Beans, Pineapple.

English Valleys

Dec. 11th
Breakfast: Scrambled Eggs, Assorted Cereal w/ Muffin Square, Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Chili w/ Cornbread, Spicy Chicken Sandwich, Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Garden Salad, Cheesy Cauliflower Popcorn, Fruit, Milk.
Dec. 12th
Breakfast: Biscuits & Pepper Gravy w/ Sausage Patty, Assorted Cereal w/ Toast w. Margarine, Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Noodle Bowl w/ Italian Bread, Cheesy BBQ Beef on a Bun, Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Garden Salad, Baby Carrots, Fruit, Milk.
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Lunch: Super Nachos, BBQ Rib Sandwich, Sweet Potato Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Garden Salad, Refried Beans, Fruit, Milk.
Dec. 17th
Breakfast: Waffles w/ Toppings, Assorted Cereal w/ Toast w. margarine, Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Chicken Patty w/ Hot Roll, Breaded Beef Fingers w/ Hot Roll, Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Fruit, Milk.

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HEDRICK CLINIC
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SPECIALTY CLINICS:
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DERMATOLOGY
515-348-6383
ORTHOPEDICS
641-621-2376
PODIATRY
641-622-1180
WOUND CARE
641-684-8448

ABSTRACTING SERVICES
KEOKUK COUNTY

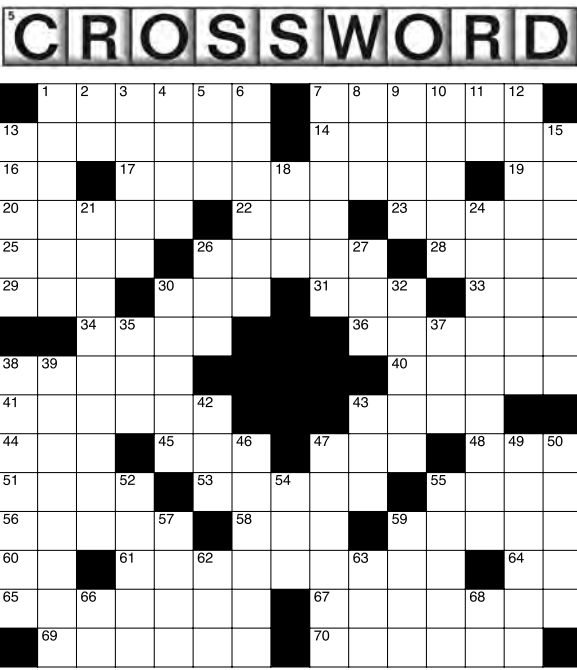
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641-622-3321

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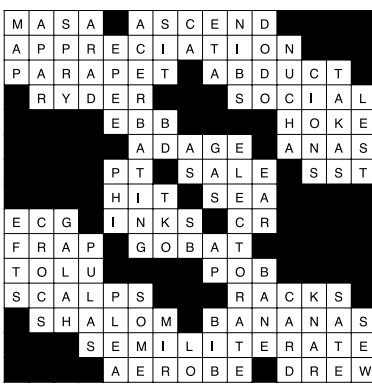
CLUES ACROSS
1. Spiritual leaders
7. A type of solution
13. Fortified wine
14. Edible mollusk
16. They precede C
17. A way to compare
19. Government lawyer
20. "Game of Thrones" actor Ciaran
22. The eighth month (abbr.)
23. Very willing
25. ___ ex Machina
26. Makes happy
28. Type of berry
29. A doctrine
30. Popular Dodge truck model
31. Dekagram
33. Naturally occurring solid
34. Company officer
36. Villains
38. Cricket frogs
40. Influential German psychologist
41. Endured
43. A female domestic
44. You can get stuck in one
45. Cigarette (slang)
47. Fiber optics network
48. Group of blood disorders (abbr.)
51. Employee stock ownership plan
53. Belonging to the bottom layer
55. Sound
56. MLB legend Hank
58. Very attractive person
59. Late beloved sportscaster Craig
60. South Dakota
61. Mocking
64. Symbol for gold
65. Longtime Braves

pitcher Julio
67. Humor
69. Shawl
70. Preliminary patient assessment

CLUES DOWN
1. Animal disease
2. Commercial
3. Necklace material
4. Containers
5. A way to save for your future
6. Colorado Heisman winner Rashaan
7. Dipped down
8. Head injury (abbr.)
9. Lay about
10. Intestinal
11. Opposite of yes
12. Caused to be loved
13. Spiritual leader of Islam
15. Businesslike
18. Not in
21. Number above the line in a fraction
24. An animal with its own day
26. Pouch

27. Swedish krona
30. Start over
32. Field flowers
35. Fourteen
37. A visual way to interact with a computer
38. Up-to-date
39. Campaigns
42. Touch lightly
43. "Boardwalk Empire" actress Gretchen
46. Violent seizure of property
47. Supporter of the Pope
49. Anxiety
50. Body fluid
52. One who's faking it
54. Title of respect
55. Chilean city
57. City in central Japan
59. Silk garment
62. A form of dance
63. Automobile
66. The man
68. Justice Dept. head honcho

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS



ON THE PROWL WORD SEARCH

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

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

WORDS

- ABYSSINIAN
- CALICO
- CLOWDER
- DOMESTICATION
- FERAL
- HAIRBALL
- HISS
- KITTEN
- LITTER BOX
- MEOW
- PADS
- PERSIAN
- POST
- PURRING
- QUEEN
- SCRATCH
- SIAMESE
- TABBY
- TOMCAT
- TORTOISE SHELL
- WHISKERS

THE HISTORICAL VIEWPOINT

The Armstrong Brothers and Pearl Harbor

By Casey Jarmes | The News-Review
John Vincent Armstrong considered himself to be one of the happiest sailors in the U.S. Navy. He'd grown up in What Cheer, never seeing the ocean until he'd enlisted. Vincent and his brother Terry had joined up in 1939, when much of the world was embroiled by war, but the U.S. was officially neutral. Before long, a third brother, Tommy, joined them. All three Armstrong brothers were assigned to the USS Oklahoma, a ship Vincent considered to be the grandest ship he'd ever imagined. "It was absolutely wonderful," Vincent recounted to the What Cheer Patriot Chronicle in 2000. "I loved it."
The Armstrong brothers were given jobs as storekeepers aboard the Oklahoma, with Vincent working in the paint store. In 1940, the Oklahoma docked at a sunny, beautiful naval base in Hawaii. That naval base, as you've no doubt guessed, was called Pearl Harbor, the location of the infamous Japanese surprise attack that drew the United States into World War II.
On Dec. 7, 1942, Vincent

Armstrong woke up early to attend Mass, held by Chaplain Aloysius Schmitt of Dubuque. After Mass he had breakfast, then stopped to "shoot the breeze" with his friend Bill Hellstern, a gunner's mate from Peoria. Hellstern could feel that things were different. He told Vincent "War's coming close. We're so close to it, it's not even funny."
Then, another sailor yelled that the Japanese were attacking. The air alarm sounded, as five explosions shook the Oklahoma. Torpedoes, launched from Japanese planes. Vincent was tasked with running through the ship, sealing the hatches, water-tight compartments, and port-holes. As he did, the ship began to list and water began rushing in through the portholes. Vincent scrambled through the flooded ship, climbing a ladder to reach a gun turret. By then, the ship had listed so hard the guns were almost pointed straight down into the water. Vincent climbed the wet, slippery gun turret. Another sailor stuck his leg down and Vincent grabbed it, allowing the sailor to pull him around the turret.

Then, Vincent realized there was nowhere else to climb to. The ship was sinking. He dove off, into the ocean, which was thick with oil. Behind him, the oil blazed. In front of him, half a mile away, was the port. Vincent Armstrong swam through the sea of oil, as Japanese planes flew above, firing into the water. Halfway to the shore, he was pulled out of the ocean by a rescue boat. Vincent got to work, helping pull other sailors out of the sea.
After returning to shore, Vincent Armstrong, having swallowed a lot of oil, went to the sick bay, where he reunited with his brother Terry. It took a week for the Armstrongs to find out Tommy was alright; he had survived the attack by leaping from the sinking Oklahoma onto the nearby USS Maryland.
The morning after the attack, Vincent climbed onto a rooftop and stared out at the harbor full sunken battleships. "I could see the mast of the Arizona, broken like a matchstick, leaning into the water," he recounted in 2010. "That's all you could see of the ship."
Vincent's friends Schmitt

and Hellstern were among the thousands that perished in the attack. Schmitt died helping other men out of a hatch. Armstrong told the What Cheer Patriot Chronicle that Schmitt could have gotten out of the ship, but went back, to help others escape. Hellstern died at his battle station. After the war, Vincent visited Hellstern's father, and had drinks with something that he should do.
In 1942, after the infamous incident where the five Sullivan brothers from Waterloo died on the same ship at Guadalcanal, the Navy began a policy of assigning brothers to different ships. Vincent spent most of the war on shore duty in Australia. Terry remained at Pearl Harbor. Tommy was assigned to the USS Louisville, seeing five major and three minor battles during the war. All three Armstrongs survived the war.
The Armstrong brothers were not the only local men at Pearl Harbor on that fateful day; five other What Cheer men (Denny Dugger, Joe Karsten, Wesley Jordan, Chester Shacklett and Romeo Wilcox) were stationed at Pearl Harbor, as were Vernon and Raymond Hartgrave of Delta, George Sigafoose of South English, and potentially other local men who didn't turn up in my research. Jordan and Shacklett were with the Armstrongs on the Oklahoma. Karsten was working guard duty on the shore. Dugger was working at a nearby airfield.
Irving "Bill" William Halleran of Long Island, whose family lives in Sigourney, was on the USS



The USS Oklahoma after the attack (Photo source: National Museum of the U.S. Navy)

VIEWPOINT
pg. 5

ENCOURAGE KINDNESS TODAY

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The News-Review 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 News-Review reserves the right to end debate on a topic after both sides have had ample chance to express their views. The News-Review 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 News-Review.

Correction and Retraction Policy
The News-Review 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 News-Review, a post will be made linking to the corrected article, noting the correction.

The News-Review | 120 E Washington, Sigourney IA 52591 | 641-622-3110 | news@sigourneynewsreview.com

The News-Review
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Sigourney, IA 52591
www.sigourneynewsreview.com
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News Editor: Casey Jarmes news@sigourneynewsreview.com

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Display Ads Noon, Friday
Submitted News Noon, Friday
Obituaries Noon, Monday
Event coverage requests 24 hours

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We reserve the right to edit any and all copy presented to our news department. We reserve the right to reject any advertising, request pre-payment and cancel at any time. Contract rates available on request. Quantity discounts available.
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Worship Guide

Please check with your church for updates, online services, postponements and cancellations. In light of COVID-19 measures, please contact your church to find out how services are being held or streamed online before attempting to attend.

DELTA
Delta Christian Church
 108 W 3rd St.
 Worship: Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

Delta Methodist Church
 Pastor Vince Homan
 Worship: 9 a.m.
 Sunday School for Elementary age children is at 9:30-10:15 a.m.

FREMONT
Fremont Community Church
 Sunday Worship 9 a.m.
 Children's Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Adult Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

First Baptist Church of Fremont
 Pastor Robb Bruns
 Sunday School, 9 a.m.
 Sunday Worship, 10 a.m.

GIBSON
Gibson Presbyterian Church
 Pastors Amy McGriff and Robert Elgin
 Worship, 10 a.m.
 Communion on the third Sunday of the month.

HEDRICK
The Church Of Living Water
 Pastor Shane Jarr
 13 North Main St., Hedrick
 Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.;
 Sunday Worship -10:40 a.m.;
 Evening Services - 7 p.m.
 Bible Study Wednesdays - 6 p.m.

Hedrick First Christian
 206 Park St. Hedrick
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m.;
 Gathering for Worship, 10:45 a.m.

Hedrick Community Church A Global Methodist Church
 Pastor Michael Elrod
 203 N. Spring Street, Hedrick
 641-653-4477
 Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship
 In Person, or online through our Facebook Page or www.hedrickumc.org

KEOTA
Good Neighbor Fellowship
 126 E Broadway
 Sunday: 9 a.m. Sunday School,
 10 a.m. Service

Holy Trinity Parish
 109 N Lincoln St.
 Rev. Fr. Robert Lathrop
 Office Phone: 641-636-3883
 Sunday Mass: 8:30am

Religious-Ed Sundays 9:30-10:45am

United Church of Faith
 201 North Ellis Street, PO Box 208
 Keota, IA 52248
 (641) 636-3825
 keotaucf@cloudburst9.net
 www.keotaucf.org
 Sunday Worship Service 9:00 a.m.

KESWICK
Keswick and Webster UMC
 Pastor Brandi Meyer
 319-430-7299
 Keswick United Methodist Church
 Service: 9:00 a.m.
 Webster United Methodist Church Worship service: 10:00 a.m.
 Communion is on the 1st Sunday of the month for both churches

New Life Fellowship
 Hwy. 22 South, Keswick
 319-738-3851
 Pastor John Stringfellow
 Service Sunday at 10 a.m. and Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
 Teaching Tuesday is Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
 Evening of Praise: every third Saturday of the month at 7 p.m.

NEW SHARON
The Lighthouse Church
 641-637-2251
 www.nsfcc.org
 Pastor Eric Sneed
 Sunday: Sunday School 9 a.m.;
 Worship 10 a.m.
 Wednesday: WOW Kids 6-7:30 p.m.
 Thursday: Prayer Connect 5:50-6:20 p.m.

New Sharon Assembly of God
 www.newsharonag.org
 Pastor Shane Farnum
 Youth Group: Wednesday: 6:30-7:30 p.m.
 Sunday: 9 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

New Sharon Friends Church
 Sunday Worship, 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School, 10:45 a.m.

New Sharon Harvest Community Church
 Pastor David Pinkerton
 2083 Hwy. 102
 641-295-0109
 Sunday School 8:45 a.m.
 Fellowship 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10 a.m.

New Sharon Lower Grove Church
 Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
 Worship, 10:30 a.m.

New Life Fellowship New Sharon
 Lead Pastor Rick Baarda
 www.newlifefellowships.org
 641-637-2561
 newlifefellowships@gmail.com
 Worship Service: Sunday, 9:15am (Church)
 Children's Sunday School during pastor's morning message. (Church Basement)
 Adult Small Group: Sunday, 10:30am (Church)
 Adult Small Group: Wednesday, 1:30pm (McVay FC)
 G2C Youth Group (2-6th)- Wednesday, 6:00 -7:30pm (Church)
 PROS Youth Group (7-12th) - Wednesday, 6:30 - 8:30pm (McVay FC)

Union Mills Christian Church
 Pastor Josh Martin
 1405 Parkin Ave, New Sharon, IA 50207
 641-637-2339
 Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
 Worship, 10:35 a.m.

NORTH ENGLISH
St. Joseph's
 221 N Knollridge St.
 Rev. Fr. Robert Lathrop
 319-664-3325
 Mass Time: Saturdays 5:00pm (Nov through Feb: 4:00pm)
 Religious-Ed: Wednesdays 6:00-7:15pm

Christian Church
 Pastor Luke Caster
 131 N. Howard St.
 Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
 Ph. 319-664-3338

OLLIE
Grace Family Church
 Rev. Dar Eckley, Pastor
 24536 Hwy. 78, Box 64, Ollie, 52576
 Sunday Worship - 10:15 a.m.
 Sunday school-10:15 a.m.
 RockKnowledge Youth Group is Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Ollie Baptist Church
 Church Phone: 641-224-9797
 Ollie Pastor Tom Grove
 Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship
 Thursday: 9 a.m. Sewing and Quilting

Prairie View Church, A Global Methodist Church
 Pastor: Steven Lamb
 641-667-2502
 27131 Hwy 78, Ollie
 Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Worship,
 Followed by Fellowship
 Sunday School 7:50 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

OSKALOOSA
Park Church of Christ
 Minister David Pearce
 1804 Burlington Road
 Oskaloosa
 Sunday Morning
 9:30 a.m. Classes
 10:30 a.m. Worship

RICHLAND
Richland Methodist Church
 Pastor Michael Elrod
 106 W. South St., Richland
 319-456-2251
 Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. in person or Facebook page.

Trinity Friends Church
 Pastor Jerry Hoover
 206 Main St,
 641-919-8922
 Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

Woolson Friends Church
 Pastor Jerry Hoover
 1005 Jasmine Ave,
 641-919-8922
 Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

ROSE HILL
Rose Hill Community Church
 Pastor: Mike Sennett
 2011 Main St.
 Sunday School- 9 a.m.
 Sunday Worship- 10:15 a.m.
 Free Food Bank Distribution- Every second Friday of the month.

SIGOURNEY
Be the Light Ministry
 200 Kramer St.
 Sunday- 9 a.m. Traditional
 11 a.m. Contemporary
 Sunday School (PK-6) 10-10:45 a.m.

The Bethel Church
 Pastor Nick Needham
 319-329-6070

6 miles East of Sigourney on Highway 92.
 Website: thebethelumc.org
 Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.
 Worship at 10:30 a.m.
 Member of the Global Methodist Church

First Baptist Church
 Pastor Joe Hohenshell
 308 N. Jefferson St. 319-450-8333
 Sunday School, 9 a.m.;
 Worship Service, 10 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church
 First Presbyterian Church
 215 N Jefferson St, Sigourney
 Pulpit supply for Pastor
 641-622-2247
 Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m.

Christian Church of Sigourney
 308 S. Jefferson, 641-622-2151
 Pastor Dan Glandon
 Sunday School all ages: 9:30 a.m.
 Traditional Service: 10:45 a.m.
 Adult Bible Study: Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

Hope Lutheran Church, LCMS
 The Rev. Richard Meyer
 315 W. Kelly Street
 Office: 319-668-2999
 May-Sept.
 Sunday: Worship at 11 a.m.
 Communion the first and third Sunday
 Oct-April
 Saturday: Worship at 5 p.m.
 Communion the first and third Saturday

Lancaster Christian Church
 Pastor Don Frost
 22934 W. County Rd. V5G
 815-262-5273
 Sunday School: 9 a.m.;
 Worship Service: 10 a.m.

St. Mary's Catholic Church
 415 E Pleasant Valley St.
 Rev. Fr. Robert Lathrop
 Office Phone #641-622-2316
 Sunday Mass: 10:30am
 Religious-Ed Sundays
 9:00-10:15am
 Bulletin Deadline is Wednesday 9:00am
 Email: sigourneymary@diodav.org

Sigourney United Methodist Church
 Website: sigourneymc.com
 (641) 622-2641
 Pastor Brandi Meyer
 Sunday Worship Services - 11:00 a.m.
 Everyone is Welcome

SOUTH ENGLISH
English River Church of the Brethren
 29252 137th St., South English
 319-667-5235
 Worship 10 a.m.

WHAT CHEER
What Cheer Baptist Church
 Pastor DJ Danner
 641-660-9948
 109 E Briney
 What Cheer
 Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.;
 Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sunday evening services, 6:30 p.m.
 Adult Bible Study: Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

What Cheer Methodist Chapel
 The Rev. Vince Homan
 Sunday School, 9:30; Worship, 10:30 a.m.
 Second Tuesday - Local food event for Tri-County and Delta
 Fourth Tuesday- Food Truck from Ottumwa Food Bank- Anyone in Keokuk County

What Cheer Hilltop Chapel
 506 E Briney St., What Cheer
 641-634-2990
 Pastor John Bacon
 Sunday Worship: 10-11:30 a.m.
 Kids Church: 10:30 a.m.
 Women's Bible Study: Mondays at 6:30 p.m.
 Men's fellowship: Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.
 Community Kids Club: first-sixth grades Thursdays at 6 p.m.
 Prayer Meeting: Third Friday each month at 6:30 p.m.

Free Grace United
 107 East Broadway St. What Cheer, IA 50268.
 10 a.m. Sunday service with Kids Church.
 Recovery meeting weekly
 Wednesday 7 pm

VIEWPOINT from pg. 4

Phoenix during the attack; the Phoenix was unharmed, but Halleran was able to watch the sinking of the USS Arizona from the deck. "All I remember, when the Arizona took the big hit, was a lot of smoke and fire," Halleran said in 2010, when he spoke to Amy Jones's fifth-grade elementary class, which included his great-grandson Tanner, about Pearl Harbor. I am 90% sure I was in that class, but do not remember this event even slightly. Lee Leyden of Montezuma, the son-in-law of Harriet Culp of What Cheer, had been stationed at Pearl Harbor until November of 1941; after his tour of duty ended, he remained on Oahu, working as a taxi driver. Every morning, he was tasked with driver a general to Pearl Harbor. On December 7, Leyden, used to sound of practice bombings at the naval base, initially didn't realize it was a real attack. Then, the radio announced the base had been attacked. Leyden's boss ordered him to forget about fares and drive around, picking up anyone in a uniform he saw and taking them to the naval base. Leyden also took the general to the base. The general then opened a

storage building and began handing guns and munition out to enlisted men and civilians alike. Later, Leyden helped haul wounded to the hospital. The hospital ran out of room, so he was forced to lay injured men on the grass outside. After the attack, the government decided against releasing detailed information about the attack, including information on who was alright. Families of the men stationed at Pearl Harbor had to wait, with bated breath, for weeks, to find out if their sons had perished. The families of the Armstrong brothers, Sigafoose, and Karsten received letters from their sons before Christmas. Dugger, Shacklett and Wilcox's families received letters at the start of January. It took until January 14 for the Jordans to find out that their son Wesley was missing, presumed dead. Wesley Jordan was 23, and had enlisted alongside his close friend Chester Schacklett in 1938. He married Leta Tish in 1940. And, on that day that lives in infamy, it's likely Wesley Jordan perished, one of the 429 sailors aboard the Oklahoma who went down with the ship.

Sigourney Council Receives Bids for Water Tower Rehab

By Casey James | The News-Review

SIGOURNEY - During the Dec. 3 meeting of the Sigourney City Council, the council looked over bids the planned water tower rehabilitation. The proposed project will sand blast, remove paint, and then paint both the inside and outside of the water tower. The city received 13 bids, raring in cost from \$308,500 to \$628,000. The council approved the project specifications, but tabled approving a bid, to give time to look over the different bids.

Also at the Wednesday meeting, City Clerk Ashley Fry explained that, due to miscommunication, the city received an unex-

pected bill from Mahaska Communication Group. The council approved setting aside up to \$2,500 out of LOSST for this and other MCG work in Fiscal Year 2026; this will be budgeted under Fiscal Year 2027, which will have \$5,000 set aside for MCG work. The city will not pay MCG until they are contacted to fix issues.

The council approved updating the Deputy City Clerk Job Description to contain duties formerly handled by the City Administrative Assistant, a position eliminated earlier this year. The council also approved a 50 cent per hour raise for Deputy Clerk Kadie Conrad, due to her updated job description.



Keota Elementary held a Christmas Concert on Dec. 3



Keota Jr.Sr. High held a Winter Band and Choir Concert on Dec. 4

"If I give all I possess to the poor... but do not have love, I gain nothing." 1 Corinthians 13:3 (NIV)

The Spirit of Giving

As December begins and we prepare for Christmas and New Years, we are often led to reflection on the spirit of giving. Beyond the myriad advertisements and commercial displays of the month and its holidays, giving to others can be both a simple and personal thing. While this can seem challenging sometimes, it is important to consider the burdensome expectations we may put on ourselves here. While we may be inclined to sometimes spend beyond our means for loved ones' gifts, we must reflect on our intentions for the gifts to begin with. This is to say, giving is a sign of love and appreciation. Throughout our lives, the gifts we receive hold varying meaning, often related to who gives them. So, we must understand that the spirit of giving is based in both gratitude and affection, and sometimes, our simple presence with others, in good times and bad, can be a gift by itself.

-James Stone

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SEASONAL EMPLOYEE FOR SNOW REMOVAL

The City of Sigourney will be accepting applications for the removal of snow from the sidewalks on the north and east sides of Memorial Hall, south and east sides of City Hall, north and west sides of Town Square Park, south and west sides of the City Shop on East Walnut Street, store front on East Marion Street and Legion Park Sidewalks. All applicants must be 16 years of age or older. All applications must be received by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 17, 2025, at the City Clerk's Office, 100 North Main Street, Sigourney, Iowa.

Interested parties will be responsible for snow and ice removal from the sidewalks as well as all the steps into the Memorial Hall. The snow and ice must be removed in a timely manner according to the City Code of Ordinances. This is a seasonal position paying \$210.00 per occurrence. All equipment will be provided by the City of Sigourney.

This seasonal position will run from December 18, 2025, through April 8, 2026.

City of Sigourney is an Equal Opportunity Employer
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SIGOURNEY, IOWA
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Thank You

I want to extend my gratitude to the Sigourney fire department and the other volunteer fire departments of Keokuk County and the surrounding counties for their quick and professional response to the recent fire in our area. Their fast action made a tremendous difference.

A special thank you also goes to farmer John Lane for keeping 180th Ave open & maintained, allowing firefighters to reach the scene without delay. His devotion truly matters.

We're fortunate to have such dedicated first responders & community minded neighbors.

A grateful resident

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Vomiting
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GAP GARNER ASSET PROTECT **JGIVA**

DID YOU KNOW:
E-cigarettes may lead to negative health consequences such as:

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- Preterm deliveries and stillbirths in pregnant women
- Harmful effects on brain and lung development

KNOW VAPE

DID YOU KNOW:
E-cigarettes come in a variety of shapes and sizes and may not look like a tobacco product, which can make them hard to spot.

DID YOU KNOW:
Most e-cigarettes contain nicotine, the same highly addictive drug in cigarettes. Some e-cigarettes may contain as much nicotine as a pack of 20 regular cigarettes.

Sigourney Jr./Sr. High Fall 2025 Honor Roll

A Honor Roll (3.5-4.0 GPA, * Denotes 4.0 GPA)

7th Grade

Zoey Dehne, *Jocelyn Green, Graciela Herrera, Piper Hewitt, Maddyn Hinna, *Claire Jones, Brentley Kephart, Lorelai Klett, Tristen Martinez, Berkly Moore, Tyler Pfannebecker, Neela Thompson, Miles Wehr

8th Grade

*Kathryn Anderson, Sawyer Cason, Addalee Chittick, Izaak Echelberry, Maleigh Eiben, Taylor Goldman, *Harpyr Hinnah, Baylor Kerr, London Linder, Bentlee Rush, Chloe Smith, *Jayden Snakenberg, Skye Stevens, Julia Striegel, Kellen Webb

9th Grade

Nevaeh Beinhart, Kiley Cavin, *Isabella deOliveira, *Jasey Ingle, Cole Klett, Keira Nettles, Collyns O'Rourke, Shelby Pfannebecker, Ameilia Phillips, Emerson Snakenberg, Ryker Van Den Heuvel, *Levi Weber

10th Grade

*Jordan Anderson, *Ella Bruns, Carmelita Cave, *Dayne Chittick, *Brynn Clarahan, Ember Dunham, Isabella Green, Becca Gretter, Eden Hahn, Bra-

den Hemsley, *Isaac Jones, Gracelen Karian, Cason Kerr, Keaton Leathers, Abyl McCulley, Kaylie Montgomery, Cooper Moore, Devyn Smallwood, *Emily Snedigar, Gabriel Thompson, *Ashtyn Tish, Jordan Tremmel, Ryker Vos

11th Grade

*Ella Bahlmann, Owen Clark, Caylee Corbin, *Rex Flynn, Grace Garringer, Konner Glandon, Lilly Glandon, Bailey Gretter, Cooper Hammes, *Clara Hanselman, *Ike Molyneux, Carson O'Rourke, Aslan Sanchez, Eli Snakenberg, Adalynne Tremmel, Liam Van Voltenburg, Kensley Walker, Clayton Wehr, Cloee Wilson

12th Grade

John Berg, *Hiley Brisse, Janielle Carriker, Wells Clark, Jade Dodd, Kaitlynn Dupee, *Addison Fineran, *Ty Goldman, Tierney Greiner, *Blake Gretter, Cael Jaeger

*Troy Klett, Ava Kopp, Aidyn Parker, Bailey Pfannebecker, *Colt Reed, *Kayla Renner, *Charli Smothers, *Kenzi Van Den Heuvel, *Jolie Wehr, Wyatt Wehr, Cale Wilson, *Brayden Wood,

*Joshua Wyatt, *Addison Yates, *Ellie Yates, Solon Yates, *Maxwell Young

B Honor Roll (3.0-3.49 GPA)

7th Grade

Cory Clark, Jorja Davis, Karynn Draper, Tate Jones, Alexandria Lucas, Andrew McLennan, Lucas Menke, Charles Nikkel, Blakeleigh Northup, Kysen Sines, Charlie Smallwood, Bryker Snakenberg, Patrick Stangl, Jaxsen Thompson

8th Grade

Clara Bahlmann, Kaisen Bunnell, Rylann Clubb, Isaac Dehne, Olivia deOliveira, Ethen Echelberry, Deven Foster, Gamble Fry, Josie Goldman, Monroe Hammes, Jayden Jensen, Matthew Randall-Blaske, Brody Seeley, Drake Seeley, Nile Sellers, Brooklyn Snakenberg, Lee Walden, Kinley Weber

9th Grade

Kolten Brubaker, Jake Clarahan, Makayla Clark, Luke Flynn, Serenity Green, Kearnye Greiner, Isabel Heisdorffer, Emerie McCulley, Kynsley Moore, Maci Morrison, Easton Olson, Natalia Pozarycki, Ja-

cob Randall-Blaske, Emily Short, Brayden Sines, Aubrey Utterback, Brently Weldon-Kyle

10th Grade

Nolan Anderson, Karma Coble, Violet Conrad, Carson Davis, Kylee Draker, Ella Fineran, Madison Fry, Brody Gabel, Levi Jaeger, Jaxon Khali, Aathan Kitzman, Gauge Little, Gram Mitchell, Levi Myers, Hunter Sellers, Lance Walden, Paxton Wehr, Kayleana Smallwood

11th Grade

Brianna Belvel, Atticus Boorman, Chase Clarahan, Madison Clarahan, Mercedes Clarahan, Landon Conrad, Gwenyth Gatton, Kalell Harnden, Javyn Johnson, Grayson Jones, Tate Lamansky, Chloe Martin, Kia Montgomery, Raymon Popelka, Hattie Shilling, Cooper Strand, Makayla Tinnes

12th Grade

Cora Bernhardt, Lane Buehnehan, Toby Doan, Gracie Gillam, Ellie Ireland, Cason Jaeger, Wyatt Jenkins, Gavin Khali, Owen Menke, Shawn Stout, Chloe Wallerich, Ashley Zamora

Obituaries

Michael Lee Conner

1948-2025

Michael Lee Conner "Clutch", 77, died December 3, 2025, at the Keokuk County Health Center in Sigourney, Iowa. He was born to Wilber Clell (Bill) and Helen Virginia Paris Conner on March 4, 1948 in Sigourney, Iowa. He graduated from Sigourney High School in 1966. He attended Parson College in Fairfield and masonry school. On May 2, 1969, he married Deanna (Dee) Caskey in Sigourney. Mike was employed by Conner Brothers Construction as a brick layer, Sigourney Lumber Yard and farmed. He was a member of Pheasants Forever, Mahaska Brewers and Ventners Association. Mike loved spending time with his family and friends, telling stories of "back in the day" hunting, cooking Italian foods and drinking a good wine.



Michael Lee Conner "Clutch"

He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother Bob Conner.

He is survived by his wife Dee, children Nikki Conner of Rochester, Iowa, Nathan (Lisa) Conner of New Sharon, four grandchildren Andrew (Tonya) Johannes of Oskaloosa, McKenzie (Carter) Van Denberg of New Sharon, Maddie (Zach) Anderson of New Sharon, Alex (Ashley) Mitchell of New Sharon, six great grandchildren Lincoln, Camryn, Landon, Phynneas, Carsyn, Harper and one on the way, two brothers Pat (Karen) Conner of Arizona, James Conner of Sigourney, sister Linda (Jorma) Erkamaa of Texas, sister-in-law Jerre Conner of Sigourney and Uncle Lee Paul Paris.

A celebration of life to be planned for a later date. Arrangements Holm Funeral Home

Celebration of Life: held at later date
HOLM FUNERAL HOME
SIGOURNEY



Sigourney NHS Collection Pennies for Patients

The Sigourney National Honor Society is hosting a Pennies for Patients collection during December.

All funds collected will be donated to the Ronald McDonald House.

The Ronald McDonald House provides a temporary home away from home for families of seriously ill or injured children, offering lodging, meals, and other support services. The goal is to keep families together and near the hospital while the child receives medical treatment, removing barriers to care and allowing parents to focus on their child's health.

The collection table in the school lobby allows you to place your donations in the bucket of a winter student athlete and/or a coach.

The student athlete and the coach with the most dona-

tions will get a whipped pie in the face at a pep assembly in January.

Members will walk around with buckets at the following events:

Friday, Dec.5 - Basketball vs. Belle Plaine (during boys' halftime)

Friday, Dec.12 - JH Wrestling meet

Tuesday, Dec. 16 - Boys Wrestling meet

Wednesday, Dec.17 - Bowling

Friday, Dec.19 - Basketball vs Iowa Valley (during boys' halftime)

Student Athletes: John Berg, Wells Clark, Owen Menke, Kia Montgomery, and Charli Smothers

Coaches: Coach Weber & Clubb, Coach Van Den Heuvel, and Coach Bruns

All coins and bills are accepted and appreciated.

Walking in the Woods Part 2



By Rick Janssen

December 1, 2025

I said at the end of my article last week that my wife and I enjoyed our hike in the woods last Saturday so much that we were planning to go again on Sunday. That is exactly what we did. This time we decided to go to Mallory Park since we had not been there in a few years.

Mallory Park holds some great memories for our family. Many years ago, before Maynes Grove was a county park, Mallory Park was our favorite park to go to. There were camping sites there and we even spent a few nights in our tent there in years past. The main trail was a fun walk. The trail followed the creek downstream, and at one point you had to step over some rocks to cross the creek. On

the other bank there was a small built-in ladder that you had to climb up to get back onto the trail that would lead you back to the main camping area.

My son and I also fished the creek often. We would hike the path down to cross over in the creek and then wade back up stream to the camp area where our vehicle was parked. We would always catch fish on our wading trips. The fish were never big, but it was still fun to wade in the creek.

Those trails are no longer maintained, but new trails will take a person through the upper levels in the park. Mallory Park is divided into an upper and lower level. We started at the lower level and followed a hiking trail through the trees. Once again, the smell of fall was in the air. The leaves were off the trees and with the higher elevation we were walking on, the view was tremendous.

We walked to the upper picnic area where there is a nice shelter and a small playground. The sound of the

JANSSEN
pg. 8

Obituaries

Rose Marie Torgerson

1938-2025

Rose Marie (Utterback) Torgerson, born October 25, 1938, in Sigourney, Iowa, passed away on November 13, 2025, in Tucson, Arizona, at the age of 87.

Rose was preceded in death by her beloved parents, Verle C. Utterback of Sigourney, and Blanche E. (Knox) Utterback of Delta, as well as two of her dear sisters: Lois (Utterback) Collins of Sigourney, and Alma (Utterback) Tallman of Atlantic. She is survived by her dear sister Avis (Utterback) Keen of Phoenix. She graduated from Sigourney High School and began her adult journey with a resilient and adventurous spirit.

As an adult, Rose moved to Kansas City, Missouri, where she worked as a phone operator for Standard Oil Company (later known as AMOCO). It was there she met Robert "Bob" B. Torgerson. The two were married on June 22nd, 1973, and Rose became a loving stepmother to Bob's four children: Sandra K. Torgerson, Deborah A. (Torgerson/Fogleman) Savage (Gregory V. Fogleman, Daniel W. Savage), Jerry S. Torgerson (Michelle R. [Jennaccaro] Torgerson), and Rick A. Torgerson (Laura L. [Mennen] Torgerson). Rose is survived by all except her husband Bob, who passed in 2015, and Debbie's husband Dan, who passed in 2022.

Rose cherished her grandchildren: Jessica Moore, Brent Torgerson (Olivia Brosnan), Jaquelyn (Torgerson) Haynes (Cory Haynes), Dennis Fogleman, Scott Fogleman, Maribeth Savage, Ryan Torgerson (Lacey Peterson Torgerson), Johnathan Torgerson, Chase Torgerson, McKenzie Torgerson, Lindsey Torgerson, and Lucas Torgerson. She is also survived by 13 great-grandchildren (Kruz, Nevin, London, Henry, Rylee, Emma, Bronx, Jaelyn, Jackson, Rylee, Boyd, Darcy, and Liam), and many nieces and nephews who will all miss her dearly.

Although Rose never had children of her own, she gave her heart and love without reserve to her entire family, always kind and generous to each child, grandchild, and great-grandchild she knew. She had a gift for making everyone feel valued and loved.

Rose found joy in playing the piano, working on puzzles, playing solitaire, and taking photos of her family. She truly enjoyed watching all sports, and following sports was a big and meaningful part of her life. Over the years she developed a deep love for the Arizona Diamondbacks (Her #1 favorite team). However, Tucson is Arizona's second-largest city, which where The University of Arizona is located - Arizona's first university and home of the Wildcats. Rose followed most all the Wildcat teams with great enthusiasm. Additionally, she also enjoyed cheering for both the Iowa Hawkeyes and the Iowa State Cyclones, especially during basketball and football seasons. Nevertheless, her loyalty to the Kansas City Royals and the Kansas City Chiefs remained constant throughout her life as well. She listened to both country and modern alternative music, and often you could hear her humming along to the songs she loved. She and Bob shared adventures in their 5th Wheel Travel Trailer after retirement, spending summers traveling the Midwest and making lasting memories with family while living in Arizona.

A Celebration of Life will be held in her honor on December 20 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Mountainside Village Clubhouse, 3341 W Gentry Ln, Tucson, AZ 85746. Friends and family are warmly welcome to remember and celebrate a life well-lived.

Rose's kindness, generosity, and love for her family will be treasured forever by all who had the joy of knowing her.

Celebration of Life: Dec. 20, 4-6 p.m.



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Obituaries

Vickie Flynn

1951-2025

KEOTA—Vickie Flynn, age 74, of Keota, died Wednesday, December 3, 2025, at the Keokuk County Health Center in Sigourney.

Vickie was born May 18, 1951, in Washington, Iowa, to Donald "Dick" and Yvonne (Myers) Norenberg. She graduated from Keota High School in 1969 and attended Iowa State University for one year.

On June 27, 1970, she married Dan Flynn at St. Mary Catholic Church in Keota and they were later divorced. Vickie lived in the Keota area and worked at Chase's Jack and Jill and Malley Hardware, retiring in August of 2024. She was a member of Holy Trinity Parish, where she sang in the choir, and the Altar and Rosary Society. Vickie enjoyed her dogs, sewing, gardening and her grandkids.

Survivors include three sons: Scott (Holly) Flynn of Keota, Matthew (Jenny Hobbs) of Keota and Brett (Brynn Weimer) of Chicago; six grandchildren: Jacob, Thomas, Anna, Lily, Toby and Daniel; two sisters: Connie (Keith) Tuttle of Grimes and Terri (Dennis) Hawkins of Iowa City. She was preceded in death by her parents.

A memorial service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 7, 2025, at Powell Funeral Home in Keota. Visitation was from 2:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. on Sunday at the funeral home.

A memorial fund has been established for the Keokuk County Hospice Foundation or Paws & More Animal Shelter in Washington. Powell Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Keota is caring for Vickie and her family. Tributes may be made at www.powellfuneralhomes.com.

Services: Dec. 7, 2 p.m.
Visitation: Dec. 7, 2:30-5:30 p.m.
POWELL FUNERAL HOME
KEOTA



SAVE A LIFE. DON'T DRIVE HOME BUZZED.
BUZZED DRIVING IS DRUNK DRIVING.

Ad Council U.S. Department of Transportation

COUNTRY GIRL'S CORNER

December Lanes

By Sheryl L. Carter

So which lane shall we go down first? I am speaking about the big Sully Christmas celebration that was going on uptown today, as I write this on Saturday, December 6, and out at our church, Sully Community.

The first lane this morning was to get up, get dressed, make the coffee, and in between those, to fill three plates with dry kitty food, then open the porch and outside door and call, "Kitty, kitty, kitty! Come in, babies!" And the two big bodies of Petey and Pippi came rolling out of the shed door which was open just a crack, and they flew into the house. No Cherry at first, oh, shoot—where is she? I figured I would have to put on warm jacket and boots and go out to see. But before that, I filled the trusty and faithful humidifier that sits on my big and now unused wood stove, and sit it to regular mist.

I looked back out the porch door, and there she was! The fat little bundle (who keeps growing!) of black fur and fluffy tail, who hopped inside, stayed by my feet to be petted for her morning love, and then off to her food plate.

After my workout with Miranda, and dressed warmly for the day, I had my coffee, flax seed cereal, and a couple of sips of blueberry smoothie, got the mail out at the mailbox at the end of the driveway, and was soon in Miss Jazzy, and headed uptown. Cars were parked everywhere with people and kids all over the sidewalks going in and out of businesses, dropping their names in collection receptacles for later drawings (I hope I get a free subscription to the Hometown Press), and off to the next business.

I first stopped at the La Rose Marie Bakery & Boutique, thinking I would get one of their delicious cappuccinos, but the line was clear to the door. I glanced around the boutique side, and was impressed again at the cute displays of clothes on racks and display counters, as well as the original shelves along

the wall filled with fragrant candles and more. The place was pretty much jammed, so I went on up the street to Fikse Chiropractic, he is also my dr, and I thought I need to make an appointment to see you on Monday, buddy, went inside and they had a table set up in the waiting room with meatballs, fudge bites, and drink. I put my name in the drawing, but now forget what this one was for?

Dr Chad had just had his food column in this week's Hometown Press about his fudge—he loves to cook and his recipes always look so good—so I was eager to try one of his candies. Well, he has every right to rave—that chocolate fudge bite with walnuts was absolutely delicious! I also bought a box of Detox Tea, then was on over across the street to the library—such a nice one our small town has—and put my name in the box for another drawing, this time for \$20 worth of Sully Bucks.

I walked over across the park to the First State Bank to sign up for another drawing, and who should be there, but good ole Santy! Dressed up in his fine red suit, floppy hat, and rippling beard down his chest. "Hi, there, Santy!" I said brightly. "It's not every day I get to see you!" He chuckled a response, so before I signed for another drawing, I looked at him and said, "Do you want to know what I want for Christmas?" "Why, yes I do!" "Can I sit on your lap?" "Sure!" And I plopped right down, and made myself at home, putting my arm across his shoulder. "What I want is my family to be home for Christmas," "Well, that's a good thing, then, isn't it?!" He answered.

I caught the eye of the nearby bank manager and said, "Will you take our picture?" And he did! It's not every day you can be an 82-year-old lady, and sit on ole Santa's knee!

By this time some things were closing down at 11 o'clock, but I walked past the bakery once more. Still

people lined up to the door, so I was done with uptown. (I am super glad the bakery has done so well, as that large building housed an old plumbing shop years ago, and had not been used for years. Finally, the building was purchased and lovingly restored and refurbished leaving the wonderful high tin ceilings, the original shelves, the old wooden floor—I was glad for it all, and when I heard a bakery was going in that space, I was beside myself. That young business, now in it's sixth year, has been a resounding success for the youthful owner, who beside being a young wife and mom, is a genius baker and cake designer.)

I walked across the street, got in Jazzy, and drove out to the south side of town where our big beautiful church sits beside the grass airport. This was the Christmas Trees and Wreaths display located in our big gym. (To have such a wonderful facility for our church is still a joy, as we were at 100% capacity in our old church. The Lord God in His goodness allowed us to have this new church, without steps, so wonderfully accessible for everyone, and so beautifully designed. We praise Him!)

The admission was \$5, and I toured the many beautiful trees and wreaths, and browsed through the silent auction displays. The best tree to my mind was our church's—I don't know who designed and decorated it, but it was especially meaningful, as it was all of the Nativity. Small soft-body dolls had been dressed as shepherds, angels, and the Holy Family in white and tan fabric with soft Christmas lights winking throughout. It was really beautiful, and I hope it will be on display in our church during this Christmas season so more people can enjoy it!

I drove over to the First Reformed Church, ready to partake of their hot soup dinner, but inside I realized it was a sit-down meal, and not also take-out, as I had planned

to just bring some home to enjoy. But that was ok, so Jazzy and I came on home, back in the garage with that door firmly closed down, so not more stray cats can get in there, and wreck havoc. I do pray those two big cats—probably toms—will find a good warm home to be fed and loved, because the Carter household doesn't need anymore, and they scare my cats to death.

I soon fixed a good hot lunch for myself, with a cup of hot coffee, and a little snack glass of eggnog. Yes, it's that time again, and I do love that stuff so much. It's good it only comes in quart sizes! I sprinkle a little nutmeg on top, and delight myself with this seasonal treat.

Well, that's about it for now—I did enjoy a great warm nap, fixed myself a hot cup of tea after, am about done with this, and then off to balance my checkbook. Hmm. Oh, yes—it's 4 o'clock—feeding time at the zoo—time for the wet kitty food which my cats just love. So, I will grab their three plates, and toddle out to the shed where they can eat in peace. And stay there for the night. Which they aren't happy about, but it's not that cold tonight, and I don't like to have my sleep interrupted with kitties hopping up on the bed.

It was funny—they were in a couple of those below zero nights, and it went fine—Pippi especially is nuts about being in overnight—the big cats mostly found other places to snooze, but I could feel little Cherry hopping up on my bed, and soon had herself snuggled up beside me. One night, I woke up to find Petey ensconced right beside my pillow. Ha!

Well, folks, that is it for now. I hope you are all doing well, not sick in the bed, happy and healthy, (and if you're not, I hope you get better soon!) and praising God for your life, and the awesome, wonderful, spectacular gift of His own Son this Christmas tide! I know I am.

THE SUN SPOT

MAHASKA COUNTY NEWS

OFF THE VINE

By Jackie Perkins

December 7, 2024....A day of remembrance, Pearl Harbor Day. Another one of those days, that most of that time can remember exactly what they were doing when they heard the news. I remember our sixth-grade teacher, Mrs. Johnson telling us that she grabbed her nylon stockings and put them in her pocket.

What a week last week was! The first week of the month is always busy, and this one involved a lot of cooking. Tuesday was Sixty Plus, and a variety of tasty dishes were shared. Following the meal, the discussion was holiday candy, with each of us remembering and sharing their favorites. Divinity seems to be the number one choice. Fudge, ribbon candy, and taffy were also favorites. The traditional gift exchange provided some clever items. We won't be surprised to see some of them back next year! Roxanne Mosbey was quite possessive of her "surprise", but lost it in the final round of trading. I guess Greg wasn't real excited about the recycled trophy and gave it back

to her...she was happy.

Other holiday events during the week were shared with the Hedrick Legion Auxiliary, Patwork Peddlers & the Garden Club. All included food and gifts. I was sorry to miss Sit and Stich at Fiddle Dee Dee and the concert at Sts. Peter and Paul. We did attend Cardio & Cookies this afternoon at the YMCA. This group is quite entertaining with drumming as a cardio exercise. Among the group were two of my cousins, Roxanne Denner and Cindy Paulson. Also Susan Dinsmoore and Shirley Linder. Santa and Mrs. Clause as well as the Grinch attended as well. And you should have seen the array of homemade cookies served following the performance!

I am so hoping the weather this week is better than last. Lots of snow and extreme cold just makes things harder. We have a little trip planned for mid week and hopefully that will work out. Can't wait to tell you about if it happens. Something I have wanted to do for several years.

Enjoy the beauty of the season! And stay warm!

JANSSEN from pg. 7

creek babbling over the rocks was very peaceful. We explored the upper level for a short time, and then took a separate trail back to the lower level where we had parked.

There were places on the trail where moss was still growing thick. You could tell these areas were still getting plenty of sunshine for the moss to grow. Touching the moss was like the feel of deep shag carpet. I wondered how long the moss would continue to grow once the cold weather arrived.

When we got back to our vehicle we drove around the campgrounds and reminisced about our earlier trips to the park. We then drove around the park on the gravel roads to get to the upper part of the park where we had just hiked to. The gate on the upper part was closed so we could not enter

from that direction. We enjoyed our drive through the countryside on the way home. There is so much timber areas in that part of the county it is almost like a whole different state. I admit I envy the people who own a bit of heavenly timber for their enjoyment.

Now as I am writing this article the wind is blowing 40 MPH and the temps are down in the 20's. I don't think we will be out walking in the woods anytime soon. Once again, that shows a person that they need to take advantage of hiking times whenever they can.



Southern Iowa Mental Health Center
Where Recovery Happens

Finding help for addiction

Anyone thinking about seeking help for addiction should know that they are not alone. The 2022 United States National Survey on Drug Use and Health indicates 46.8 million Americans age 12 and older battled a substance use disorder in the previous 12 months. In addition, 10.5 percent of Americans 12 and older had an alcohol use disorder in the past year.

Alcohol is the most commonly abused drug in Canada, followed by nicotine/tobacco and cannabis. An estimated 3 percent of Canadians have used one of five illegal drugs in the past year, and that rate increases to 4 percent among youths between the ages of 15 and 19.

Substance abuse is not only expensive, but also dangerous. Addiction can cause health problems and damage relationships. Use of illicit substances and alcohol also can cause

death. Taking the first step to enter treatment is seldom easy, but it can prove beneficial in the long run. Here's how to start the journey to recovery.

- Be honest with yourself. The first step to recovering from a substance use disorder is to recognize you have a problem. You are not alone in this battle, and it can take great courage to admit your missteps. Be proud of yourself for wanting to get help, even if you haven't quit just yet.
- Reach out to friends and family. WebMD says a close family member or friend can be one of your biggest supporters as you take steps to recover. Although you cannot be entirely sure how they will react to the news, family and close friends may already suspect a substance abuse problem.
- Be receptive to an intervention. Sometimes it takes the collective efforts of friends

and family to help addicts realize they have people in their corner willing to help them recover. Sometimes interventions are surprises, other times they are not. Listen to what others have to say and how they may be willing to help you change patterns that lead to continued substance abuse.

- Work with an addiction professional. The Mayo Clinic says an addiction professional is usually a licensed alcohol and drug counselor, social worker, psychologist, or psychiatrist. Medical experts have realized that addiction is an illness and not just a matter of bolstering one's willpower. Therefore, enlisting a professional to suggest the best approaches to treatment and follow-up can lay a foundation for a successful recovery.
- Speak with a doctor. It may be intimidating to admit you need help, and if you don't feel comfortable speaking with family, you can consult your doctor. A doctor is required to keep anything you say to him or her confidential. A doctor may refer you to substance abuse professionals or prescribe medications that could make it easier to stop using a substance and ease withdrawal symptoms. If drugs or alcohol are being used to self-medicate, a doctor also may suggest safer alternatives that can treat issues that alcohol or drugs may be masking.

Addiction can seem like an impossible hole to climb out of. However, with help, people can get on the road to recovery.



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Thursday, January 1	New Year's Day
Monday, February 16	President's Day
Monday, May 25	Memorial Day
Friday, July 3	Independence Day
Monday, September 7	Labor Day
Wednesday, November 11	Veterans' Day
Thursday, November 26	
& Friday, November 27	Thanksgiving
Friday, December 25	Christmas Day
Friday, January 1	New Year's Day 2027

All County offices will be closed on the above holidays.

Sigourney girls down Colfax-Mingo, Belle Plaine in back-to-back games

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review
SIGOURNEY - As long as Brynn Clarahan has the ball, there is almost no worry. That's how the Sigourney girls team has to be feeling, especially after the Savages were able to pick up two more victories on the season, with Clarahan playing a large part in both wins.

"She has really been able to step up her game from even last year," Kaylee Weber, the Sigourney head girls basketball coach, said. "She scored a lot of points last year, but she also had another player to take some of the pressure off of her. This year, she has been able to take over the role where she is the main scorer. It shows how strong she is as an athlete at such a young age. She embraces it and isn't overwhelmed by it."

In Friday night's game it seemed as if Clarahan was more than willing to not just lead the Savages in scoring,

but also get them started after a slow start.

Neither team could score in the beginning of the game as the score remained still for nearly the first three minutes. Sigourney was putting up shots, but they were off target. Belle Plaine struggled against the defense of Sigourney. The score was tied at two with just over three minutes left before the Savages, led by Clarahan, were able to create their own sparks.

As Belle Plaine started to run down the floor coach Weber instructed the Sigourney defense to take on a different, more aggressive, role. Instead of waiting for the Plainsmen to cross half court the Savages swarmed on the ball handler. Almost immediately, a turnover led to Sigourney getting the ball and Clarahan scoring off an easy layup.

That shot seemed to open the flood gates.

"It was a very slow start to the game, and there was just

no energy in the gym to get us started," Weber said about Friday night's game. "It was nice that the girls were able to get everything started with their defense. They got the momentum going that way. Defense leads the offense, so that's how it goes."

By the end of the first quarter, the Savages led 14-4. Sigourney mixed their defenses up and continued to generate steals. Steals led to more and more points.

By halftime, the Savages led 33-5.

"I was able to throw a lot of different looks out there tonight, I think we played four or five different defenses tonight," Weber said. "It was nice that the girls were able to adapt to each of the different defenses that we tried out."

In the second half the multi-look defenses for the Savages limited Belle Plaine to just six total points. The Savages scored 15 points in the second half, which featured an accel-

erated clock because of the score difference.

Unofficially, Clarahan scored 32 points in the win, to lead her team. Addy Fineran and Bailey Gretter both scored four points each. Adalynne Tremmel finished with three points. Devyn Smallwood also scored three points. Charli Smothers finished with one point.

On Thursday night, Sigourney had been able to best Colfax-Mingo 46-34.

In that game, the Savages needed a 21-point second quarter to help them get the lead. Once they were able to get the lead, they never looked back as they limited Colfax-Mingo to 13 points in the second half.

Complete scoring stats from that game were not reported at press time.

The Savages are 3-0 on the season. They played Lynnville-Sully on Tuesday and then travel to play Keota on Friday night.

Panthers led by Sieren at Bill Rex Invite

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review
PACKWOOD - At the home tournament, he wanted to make sure his name was remembered.

For Pekin's Brantyn Sieren, he was able to leave his mark as the 285-pound wrestler was able to lead his team and finish second in his bracket.

At Saturday's Bill Rex Invitational Sieren was the highest placing finisher for the Panthers when he was able to finish second overall.

Sieren's first match was a win by fall when he needed just 3:09 to best a Moravia wrestler. In the semifinals Sieren was overpowering against a North

Mahaska opponent, winning 12-0.

After battling for two periods in the championship match Sieren was pinned in 3:30 in the championship match.

Zach Doud wrestled in the 150-pound bracket where he finished fifth overall. Doud started off his tournament with a win by pin in 1:17. After being defeated in his next two matches, Doud would need just 59 seconds to win over a Chariton wrestler in the fifth place match.

North Mahaska won the meet with 206.5 points. Pekin finished 12th with 41 total points.

S-K's Clarahan, Montgomery, Pekin's Nelson, Pedrick claim wins at Bill Rex

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review

PACKWOOD - It was a successful Friday night for the two local teams at the Bill Rex Invitational wrestling meet.

Overall four local wrestlers were able to win their brackets. Two Sigourney-Keota wrestlers, Sadie Clarahan and Kia Montgomery. Lexa Nelson and Hailey Pedrick also were able to claim wins at the meet.

The scoring was close at the end of the tournament. Burlington won the tournament with 158 total points. Sigourney-Keota finished third with 134 total points. Pekin was fourth with 126.5 points.

For Pekin's Lexa Nelson she needed just over three minutes of mat time to be named the champion.

In the 110-pound bracket Nelson started off her meet with a 25-second pin. In the next round she pinned a Burlington opponent in 1:21. She would pin a Van Buren County opponent in 1:05 to claim the championship.

Hailey Pedrick from Pekin wrestled in the 145-pound division. She won her semifinal match after her opponent was disqualified. In the championship match Pedrick was able to pin a Burlington opponent in 2:35.

Sadie Clarahan had a quick path to her 125-pound championship. Clarahan won her first match in just 37 seconds. She was able to pin her semifinal opponent in the third period. In the championship she won by tech fall.

Kia Montgomery won the 130-pound bracket with three pins. She started off with a pin at the end of the first period in the quarterfinals. She then needed 3:32 to win over a Lone Tree opponent in the semifinals.

In the championship match Montgomery pinned teammate Neveah Beinhart in 1:06.

Neveah Beinhart of Sigourney-Keota was second in the 130-pound bracket. She pinned her first two opponents before being pinned by Montgomery in the championship.

Layla Shilling was second in the 135-pound bracket for Sigourney-Keota. She won her first two matches by pin, but was pinned in the first period of the championship.

Lila Miller was second in the 125-pound division. Miller pinned her first two opponents in the first period. She was de-

feated by Sigourney-Keota's Clarahan in the championship by tech fall.

Aubrey Utterback from Sigourney-Keota wrestled in the 115-pound bracket where she was third overall. Utterback won her first match by tech fall, but was bested in the semifinals. She rebounded with back-to-back pins to place third.

Bree Earnest wrestled in the 105-pound bracket where she finished third overall. She earned three wins all by pin in the tournament and only suffered one defeat.

Carly Clubb finished fourth in the 190-pound bracket. Clubb won her first match with a pin in 3:08, but was pinned in the semifinals. Clubb won her consolation semifinal match, but was pinned in the third place match.

Rylee Frye wrestled in the 235-pound bracket, where she finished fourth. Frye won her consolation semifinal match with a pin in 2:46. She was pinned in the third place match.

Ella Rose was fifth in the 155-pound bracket. Rose was defeated in her first match, but won her next two matches. After being pinned in the consolation semifinals, Rose won the fifth place match by medical forfeit.

Sigourney-Keota's Bristol Ward was fifth in the 120-pound bracket. She won in the quarterfinals, but suffered back-to-back defeats. She won the fifth place match with a 19 second pin.

Sigourney-Keota's Izzy Heisdorffer was fifth in the 145-pound bracket. She was 2-2 on the day with both of her wins coming with first period pins.

Melanie Woodsmall was fifth in the 170-pound bracket for Sigourney-Keota. She won her first and final match on the day.

Madison Clarahan wrestled in the 190-pound bracket for Sigourney-Keota. She finished fifth after going 2-2 in the tournament.

Izzy McCullough of Sigourney-Keota finished sixth in the 105-pound bracket. McCullough finished the day with a 2-3 overall record, after she won her first two matches.

Sigourney-Keota 140-pound wrestler Abyl McCulley was sixth overall. She finished the day 2-3 overall.

Keota kicks off home slate with sweep

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review

KEOTA - There's no place like home, and for the Keota basketball teams that was exactly the case last Tuesday.

Both the Keota girls and boys teams were able to walk-away with lopsided wins in the Dec. 2 contest against Belle Plaine. The Keota girls kicked things off with a 66-22 victory. Meanwhile the Eagle boys were able to win 62-29.

In the girls game a lot of it just seemed to be all about a matter of time. Early on the Keota defense figured out they could get steals, but the steals didn't always lead to points.

"One of the things we talk about is being aggressive on both sides of the floor. We wanted to set the tone early on and I thought Elyse Lyle was able to come out and play really, really sound defense," said Keota girls head basketball coach, Jeff Sprouse. "She didn't let her player do anything, especially once we switched to a three-quarter court defense. From there we were able to get Cameron (Haifley) involved too."

When the Eagles were able to put pressure on the Belle Plaine offense, good things seemed to happen.

Either Lyle or Haifley were able to get a steal that led to a scoring opportunity for the Eagles, or the Belle Plaine of-

fense would panic and try to get their offense going a lot quicker than they wanted.

When either of those things happened it wasn't long until the Eagles would get the ball back and take control of the game.

Throughout the first half the Eagles were able to use their defense to fuel the offense. By halftime they were able to lead 31-8, but that score was hampered by some shots of Keota that continued to roll out of the rim.

By the second half the Eagles were able to slow themselves down on offense just enough to get the ball to fall through the hoop more readily.

"We missed some easy shots early on, we have to make those shots, but I think we were just a little rusty because we hadn't practiced in about eight days," Sprouse said. "Once we got that rust off we started to really show what we're capable of."

With the defense and offense starting to play to their full potential in the second half the Eagles started to soar over Belle Plaine.

In the second half the Eagles scored 35 points while holding the Plainsmen to just 14. That allowed the Eagles to take a relatively easy 66-22 victory.

Leading the way for the Eagles in scoring was Jessalyn Aller who finished with 16 points. She also had six re-

bounds.

Haifley added another 14 points. Kennedy Jackson added 12 points in the win. Emily Conger and Dakota Dodd both scored five points each. Another five points were turned in by Brynn Conrad.

Karley Greiner scored four points. Adyson Ahlberg finished with three points. Lyle added two points.

While scoring was something that held the girls back in the first half of their game, the boys didn't have the same problem.

Keota bested Belle Plaine 62-29, with the help of 35 points scored in the first half.

At the start of the game the two strongest players for the Eagles seemed to be Jackson Vittetoe and Blake Baker. If it wasn't one player scoring, the other seemed to be able to pick up the rebound and add the score.

Throughout the first half the combination of Baker's high energy, lane charging ability and Vittetoe's ability to shoot the long shots helped the Eagles take a large lead. When they weren't on offense the Eagles were able to out rebound Belle Plaine, shutting down any ability of the Plainsmen to get a second chance shot up.

With the large, 35-12, halftime lead the second half featured an accelerated clock. It wasn't long before both teams

were substituting in their younger players to finish out the game.

Baker would lead the scoring for the Eagles with 18 total points. Porter Cave added 16 points in the season-opening win. Vittetoe finished with 15 points. Brennan McGuire added eight points. Another five points came from Ayden Galindo. Galindo also added 11 rebounds.

The wins continued for Keota on Dec. 5 as both teams picked up a victory over HLV-TC.

In the girls game the Eagles used a 23-point second quarter to propel them to a 57-31 victory.

Cameron Haifley would finish with 24 total points in that game. Emily Conger scored 15 points. Another 11 points came from Elyse Lyle.

The boys game was a 62-45 victory. The Eagles led by one point after the first quarter, and only continued to build on their lead for the rest of the contest.

Vittetoe led the team with 21 points and 14 rebounds. Chase Haifley added 15 points. McGuire, Cave and Galindo all finished with eight points each. Blake Baker added two points.

This week the Eagles host Colfax-Mingo and Sigourney.

English Valleys teams start season with back-to-back wins

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review

Girls basketball:
EV girls score wins over Iowa Valley, BGM

NORTH ENGLISH - They opened their season with consistent scoring and an uncontested victory.

Last Tuesday the English Valleys girls basketball team started their season with a 63-32 victory over Iowa Valley. In both of the opening quarters the Bears were able to score 17 points. They added another 18 points in the third quarter before finishing off with 11 points in the fourth quarter to secure the win.

Anna Luers was able to lead the scoring effort with 22 points. Another 16 points came from Kaylynn Caster. Addison Achenbach finished with 13 points, as the Bears featured all but two of their players finish the game with at least one point.

Following their win over Iowa Valley the Bears moved on to defeat BGM at home, 58-37.

It was a close game in the first half as English Valleys led 33-25 over BGM. However, a 25 point second half gave English Valleys the lead, they helped themselves by limiting BGM to just 12 points.

Adison Achenbach finished with 23 points, leading her team. Luers finished with 16 points and seven total rebounds. Aubrey Achenbach finished with nine points. Mallory Koehn was able to score eight points. Kailor Low added two points.

The Bears are 2-0 this season. They are off until the

weekend when they play Montezuma and Lone Tree.

Panthers move to 3-0 with wins over Wapello, WACO

The road trip for the Panthers didn't seem to bother them this last week.

First, the Panthers were able to travel to Wapello where they won 42-36 over the Arrows. After trailing by five at halftime the Panthers started to chip away at the lead, eventually taking the lead late in the fourth quarter to gain their second-straight win.

Anna Hadley and Abby Guise both scored 11 points in the win. Maddy Petrehn added six points while Ezra Parsons scored five points.

On Friday night against WACO the Panthers were able to win 53-47 surviving a second-half scare by WACO.

The Panthers led 30-18 at halftime, but WACO scored 29 points in the second half to close in on Pekin.

Anna Hadley led all scorers with 16 points. Another 14 points came in from Guise. Petrehn was able to score 10 total points.

Carlie Gambell and Ezra Parsons combined to score 12 points in the win.

Overall the Panthers are 3-0. This week they are on the road with games against Louisa-Muscataine and Lone Tree.

Boys basketball:

Bears showcase offense in a trio of wins to start the season

NORTH ENGLISH - They are proving they are more than capable of scoring this season.

In their season-opening game the Bears scored 47 combined points in the second and third quarters to help them

grab a 78-70 victory over Iowa Valley.

In that contest the Bears trailed by two after the first quarter, but thanks to a 26-point second quarter they were able to lead by four at halftime. They held off Iowa Valley throughout the second half to grab the win.

Everett Bender led the way with 28 points scored. Another 10 points were added by Kane Axmear. Owen Mather came off the bench to score 15 points. Rojert Patterson scored nine points. Tyler Lortz would finish with eight points in the game.

Ben Axmear and Colton Mikesell combined to score eight points in the season opening win.

English Valleys would move on to win their next game, 85-62 over Highland.

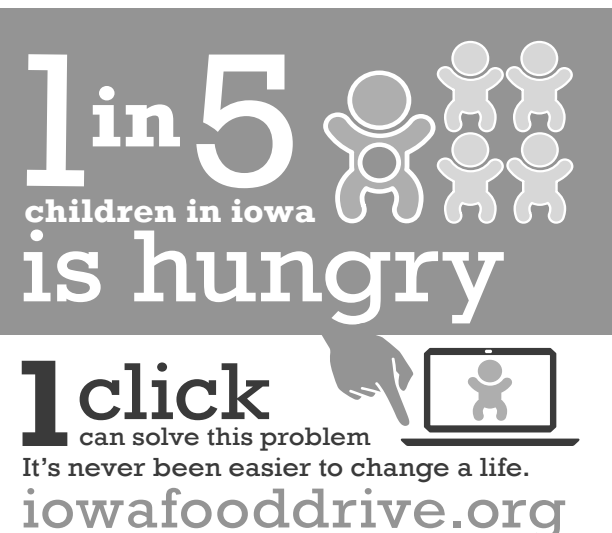
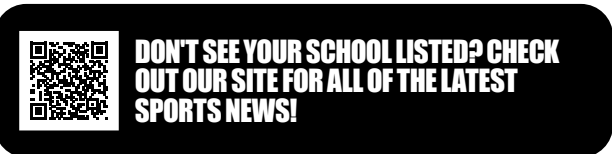
This time the Bears would never trail and they scored over 20 points in every quarter as they were able to turn a 45-33 halftime lead into the ultimate 85-62 win.

Bender was the leading scorer once again as he turned in 28 points. Christian Tripses was able to score 23 points in the win.

Another 15 points came from Kane Axmear. Ben Axmear scored eight points and Mikesell finished with six points.

The offense still wasn't done scoring as the Bears bested BGM 72-58.

English Valleys trailed by four points after the first quarter, but a 20-point second quarter helped pull them within one of BGM at halftime. Both teams were tied at 47 af-



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Athletes of the Week

By Mark Schafer

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Jackson Vittetoe

His first game was strong, but his second game was even better.

Last week Keota senior Jackson Vittetoe was able to start the season with a 15 point effort in a win over Belle Plaine. He also added six rebounds, three assists and a pair of steals.

With the first game under his belt it seemed as if the senior was just getting warmed up. In the next game he showed

what he is capable of.

In a Friday night win over HLV-TC Vittetoe was unstoppable as he was able to score 21 points with 14 total rebounds. He added six more assists, two more steals and a block.

The News-Review would like to congratulate Jackson Vittetoe on his two outstanding games, and also for being named this week's Athlete of the Week.



Brynn Clarahan

Sometimes it is hard to believe she is just a sophomore.

Game after game it seems as if Sigourney's Brynn Clarahan is playing on easy mode while everyone else is stuck.

This last week was no exception as Clarahan was able to turn in two more strong games. In a Thursday night win over Colfax-Mingo Clarahan was able to lead her team with 19 total points and

10 rebounds in the game.

Friday night, against Belle Plaine, the sophomore was able to unofficially score 32 total points, nearly tripling the score of Belle Plaine by herself.

The News-Review would like to congratulate Clarahan on both of her games, and for being named this week's Athlete of the Week.

S-K bowling rolls into the 2025-26 season

Special to the News-Review
NEWTON - Both the boys and the girls SK bowling teams opened their 2025-26 season over the past two weeks.

For the first time, the new Iowa state high school rules have the boys and girls seasons staggered with the girls starting two weeks sooner than the boys. This change will result in the state tournaments for each to be on different dates in February 2026.

Nov. 22 saw the SK girls begin their regular season with a victory over Knoxville; as, the varsity girls rolled for a pin tally of 1,615 to begin their overall stats.

On Dec. 2 SK's head coach Austin Bruns traveled with both the boys and girls teams to Cardinal Lanes in Newton to take on the Newton Cardinals. The girls fell to Newton during the meet with Sophie Young providing the SK highlight of a 372 two-game series.

The boys' varsity team opened their season by handling the Newton Cardinals their second loss of the season. SK's total number of pins was 2,715 with Newton tallying 2,593. Senior

Wells Clark rolled the meet's high game of 248 while junior Liam VanVoltenburg claimed the high two-game series of 443. Other boys' varsity team members contributing to the win were Owen Clark, Caden Meyer, Aidan Greiner and Easton Olson.

On Dec. 6, both the SK boys' and girls' teams were back in Newton for the Newton Invitational tournament. The Class 1A S-K teams were

up against larger schools which included Waukee (5A), Oska-loosa (4A), Gilbert (4A), Pella (4A), Knoxville (3A), Newton (4A), and Mason City (4A).

The S-K girls placed second in the tournament with Sophie Young claiming third place in the individual overall with a 408 two-game series. Other S-K girls' team members responsible for their success were Kaylie Montgomery, Calli McCoid, Caylee Corbin, and Brianna Belvel.

The SK boys placed 3rd overall at the tournament just behind the first-place team of Oska-loosa and the second-place team of Waukee. SK senior Wells Clark lead the team with a 195 and a 227 for a 422 two-game series, followed closely by sophomore Aidan Greiner with a 223 and a 192 for a 415 two-game series. Other members contributing to the team's achievement were Liam VanVoltenburg, Owen Clark, Caden Meyer and Bentley Ingle.

The S-K teams will host Pella on Monday December 9 at their home lanes of Keokuk County Bowl beginning at 1:00 p.m.



Sophie Young from the Sigourney-Keota girls bowling team poses with her third place finish at the Dec. 6 meet held in Newton. Photo courtesy of Christie Iosbaker



Sigourney senior Brayden Wood (right) dribbles around the defense of Belle Plaine's Quentin O'Leary (left) during a game played Dec. 5 in Sigourney. Wood scored three points in the game.



Sigourney's Landon Conrad (with ball) secures the ball away from two Belle Plaine defenders during a Dec. 5 game played in Sigourney.

Savages start season with back-to-back wins

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review
SIGOURNEY - If the first two games are any indication, it seems they are just building momentum.

In the first two games of the season the Sigourney boys basketball team has only seemed to get better. The boys started the season with a 44-24 win over Colfax-Mingo. They then won their next game in a lopsided 70-32 victory over Belle Plaine.

"We struggled in our first game against Colfax-Mingo to just get the game started," said Sigourney head coach Mitch Eslick. "We looked a lot more comfortable tonight. I think we are still trying to figure things out. It was a step in the right direction."

Any rust that the Savages had through the off season had been knocked off by the time the Friday night game against Belle Plaine rolled around.

Sigourney scored early and often in the first half. Within the first few minutes of the game John Berg and Solon Yates were leading the Savages, and were on pace to out score the entire Belle Plaine team by themselves.

Sigourney led 25-5 after the first quarter, but they kept the scoring rolling in the second quarter.

Sopomore Hunter Sellers took over the second quarter scoring almost all the points by himself as he was credited with nine points right before half. With the scoring coming from all over, including several Sigourney bench players getting scores, the Savages were able to lead 47-16 at halftime, and would continue to be comfortable for the rest of the game.

"We moved the ball well and made some shots, obviously playing in our gym helps," Eslick said. "Our offense was miles ahead of where it was last night."



Sigourney's Landon Conrad (14) grabs the ball away from a trio of Belle Plaine defenders during a Dec. 5 game played in Sigourney.

I think it is just a matter of time before we get everything clicking like we want it to be."

Although the Savages only scored 23 points in the second half, a lot of that was because of the first half surge of points which allowed the clock to be continuous throughout the second half, limiting the time both teams had to score.

Berg led the Savages with 22 total points. Yates finished with 14 points. Another 11 points came from Hunter Sellers. Landon Conrad had eight points. Landon Fisch scored five points. Brayden Wood and Carson O'Rourke both finished the game with four points each.

In their win over Colfax-Mingo the Savages started off scoring 16 points in the first quarter. By halftime they had doubled the Colfax-Mingo score, 24-12.

Sigourney scored just 20 points in the second half, but

their defense limited Colfax-Mingo to 12 points.

"Any time you can hold teams to under 35 points per game you're going to have a lot of success from that," Eslick said about the first two games. "We also know that we have some bigger tests coming up on the schedule. We need to clean up things guarding the ball. We were beat off the dribble a little too much tonight. We have good athletes, and experience. I know we will be able to clean those things up."

Berg led the scoring on Dec. 4 with 17 points. Yates added 15 points. Wood finished with nine points. Sellers had two points and Fisch finished with one point.

The Savages are 2-0 on the season. This week they play on the road against Lynnville-Sully and Keota.

Photos by Mark Schafer

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City of Sigourney • Claims 12.3.2025

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DECEMBER 03, 2025**

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Acco- Supplies-.....	\$506.80
Arnold Motor Supply- Supplies-.....	\$351.00
Bailey Office Outfitters- Supplies-.....	\$59.50
Brother's Market- Supplies-.....	\$28.68
Column Software PBC- Services-.....	\$227.13
Dakota Supply Group- Supplies-.....	\$1,460.00
Dave Goldman- Services-.....	\$67.10
Design House- Services-.....	\$170.00
Eldon Stutsman- Supplies-.....	\$4,601.65
Elliott Oil Company- Services-.....	\$105.35
Greenly's- Supplies-.....	\$19.15
H&M Farm & Home- Supplies-.....	\$117.70
HM Consulting LLC- Services-.....	\$200.00
Iowa One Call- Services-.....	\$18.90

Keokuk County Auditor- Services-.....	\$4,456.96
Keokuk County Highway Dept. - Services-.....	\$1,018.33
Martin Equipment- Supplies-.....	\$113.06
MCG- Services-.....	\$994.67
Microbac Laboratories- Services-.....	\$588.50
Sigourney Fire Department- Apportioning-.....	\$3,000.00
T-Mobile- Services-.....	\$214.20
USA BlueBook- Supplies-.....	\$469.48
Customer Water Deposit Refunds:	
Garrett, Virginia-.....	\$98.55
Stout, Dave-.....	\$64.12
City of Sigourney -.....	\$537.33
Virginia Garrett -.....	\$26.45
Miranda Little -.....	\$200.00
Heather Pozarycki -.....	\$125.00
Dave Stout -.....	\$60.88
Wendy Yeo -.....	\$125.00
Total-.....	\$19,733.50

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Keokuk Co BOS • Minutes 11.24.2025

**KEOKUK COUNTY BOARD PROCEEDINGS
NOVEMBER 24, 2025**

The Keokuk County Board of Supervisors met in regular session, Monday, November 24, 2025, in the Board Room of the Courthouse. Present were Michael C. Hadley, Daryl Wood, Kevin Weber and Christy Bates, County Auditor.

Weber moved, Wood seconded to approve the agenda as submitted. All ayes and motion carried. Also present was Casey Jarmes, News-Review.

Wood moved, Weber seconded to approve the minutes of November 17 & 18, 2025 as submitted. Weber seconded the November 17th minutes, Hadley seconded the November 18th minutes. All ayes and motion carried.

Weber moved, Wood seconded approval of resolution to assign county held tax sale certificate 2011165 (Marshall's Addition S 15' Lot 1 Block 10 & E ½ 12" N-S Alley W Lot 2 Block 10 in the City of Ollie, Keokuk County, Iowa) to Donnell and Tammy Haile as submitted. All ayes and motion carried.

Met with Engineer McGuire regarding the Keokuk County Highway Department as follows: wings are being placed on the motor graders in preparation for snow; 123rd Street bridge update between North & South English: cement poured last Friday and upcoming Wednesday to lock in diaphragms. Hadley noted he received an Iowa County Engineers Association - Efficiency in Action flyer that notes the partnerships and sharing of Engineers, staff, equipment and projects between counties. Wood inquired about the soil stabilization project near Keota. McGuire stat-

ed this will be the third winter said area continues to be monitored and data collected for moisture content, with the underlying question being whether the cost is worth the benefit.

Wood moved, Weber seconded approval of certification of expenses for the November 4, 2025 Regular City-School Election as submitted. All ayes and motion carried.

Weber moved, Wood seconded approval of resolution regarding Keokuk County Policy for public records exemption and disclosure of security related information as submitted. All ayes and motion carried. IT Director Hite explained said policy defines what is allowed regarding security related open records requests.

Various Board and Committee reports were held. Wood attended RUSS and 1015 Transit meetings. Weber attended a KCED meeting. Hadley attended a Senco meeting last week.

Discussion of old/new business and public comment was held. Cunningham's called to inform they will be here this week for general HVAC maintenance.

On vote and motion Hadley adjourned the meeting at 9:35 pm.

The above and foregoing information is a summary of the minutes taken at the above indicated meeting. The full and complete set of minutes is available at the Keokuk County Auditor's Office and www.keokukcounty.iowa.gov.

Approved _____
Disapproved _____
Michael C. Hadley, Daryl Wood, Kevin Weber
Published in The News-Review on December 10, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

City of North English • Sealed Bids

The City of North English will be accepting sealed bids for a 2008 Chevy 2500 with steel utility box. Extended cab, 4x4, 6.0 Liter Gas, 90,700 miles. "As Is Condition." The City has the right to reject any and all bids. All bids due to North

English City Hall by end of business day January 6th. Contact Dave Knipfer for more information at 319-653-1793.
Published in The News-Review on November 19 and 26, and December 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pekin CSD • Minutes and Claims 11.20.2025

PEKIN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Regular Meeting
Pekin School Media Center, Packwood, IA 52580
November 20, 2025 6:01 P.M.
Board members present:
Josh Arendt, Kortney Baumberger, Sherry Beamis, Mike Davis, Ray Fear, J.J. Greiner, JD Olinger
Board members absent:
Also present: Dave Harper, Kaye Gilbert, Shawn Dorman, Aaron Deutsch, Linda Brock
I. Opening
A. President J.J. Greiner called the meeting to order and acknowledged a quorum and then led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.
B. Adoption/Approval of Agenda
Josh Arendt moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by JD Olinger. Motion carried 7-0.
I. Public Forum
Katie Phillips spoke requesting the board consider The News Review as the official publication.
I. Consent Agenda
A. Minutes
The minutes of the October 13, 2025 regular meeting.
B. Finance Report
Business Manager Gilbert submitted a current financial report of the district.
C. Payment of Bills and Credit Card
General Fund bills- \$102,487.16;
General Fund Mastercard \$2,888.42; Management bills- \$0;
Day Care bills - 0; PPEL bills - \$109058; SAVE bills - \$0; Scholarship bills - \$0;
Activity bills - \$11,339.91; Activity Prepaid \$2,151.25; Hot Lunch bills - \$19,895.57.
D. Open Enrollment Requests
OE-In:
None at this time.
OE-Out:
None at this time.
E. Personnel Report
Resignations
Halisha Hackert-Dance Coach.
New Hires
Ashlyn Hotchkiss-Dance Coach; Payten Coleman-Daycare Worker; Teacher Mentors: Antoinette Wittrock, Amanda Brom, Shelby Atwood, Johannah Neff
Transfers/Volunteers
Aaron Deutsch Volunteer Girls HS Wrestling
Mike Davis moved to approve the following consent items. Seconded by Sherry Bemis. Motion carried 7-0.
IV. Non Action Items
A. Special Guests – FFA
Zach Brecht and student Kennedy Loch presented regarding attending FFA national convention.
V. Action Items
A. 2nd Reading of Annual Policies
Ray Fear moved to approve the 2nd Reading of the following board policies: 103, 505.08; 506.01, 506.02, 506.04, for annual review. Second-

ed by Sherry Beamis. Motion carried 7-0.
B. 2025 Election Results
Sherry Beamis moved to approve the November 4, 2025 school board election results: District 1 to fill a Vacancy – JD Olinger 424 votes, Scattering 10 votes; District 5 – Linda Brock 299 votes, JJ Greiner 236 votes. Scattering 2; District 3 – Ray Fear (write in) 54 votes, Jerry Gorman (write in) 9 votes, Scattering 25 votes; At Large District – Kortney Baumberger 414 votes, Scattering 37 votes. JD Olinger, Linda Brock, Ray Fear, and Kortney Baumberger all were elected to 4-year terms. Seconded by Josh Arendt. Motion carried 7-0.
VI. Closed Session
This is a closed session pursuant to the provisions of Section 21.5(1)(i) of the Code of Iowa which states: Sherry Beamis moved to go into closed session according to Iowa Code 21.5(1)(i) to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation. Seconded by JD Olinger. The motion passed unanimously. The time was 6:17 pm.
The board exited closed session. The time was 6:28 p.m.
VII. Adjournment of the Retiring 2025-2026 school board
Mike Davis moved to adjourn the meeting of the Retiring 2025-2026 school board at 6:30 pm. Seconded by Ray Fear. Motion carried 7-0.
Pekin School District Board of Education Meeting Organizational Meeting
Following Regular Meeting – 6:31 pm
I. Opening
A. Board Secretary – Pro-Tem Kaye Gilbert called the meeting to order and acknowledged a quorum.
II. Oath of Office
A. Board Secretary – Pro-Tem Kaye Gilbert administered the Oath of Office to Kortney Baumberger, Linda Brock, Ray Fear, and JD Olinger
III. Election of Officers
A. President
Pro-Tem Board Secretary Gilbert opened the meeting for nominations for Board President, Vice President or individually. Sherry Beamis nominated Mike Davis for Board President.
B. Vice President
Sherry Beamis nominated Josh Arendt for board vice president.
Ray Fear motioned to elect Mike Davis as Board President and Josh Arendt by unanimous ballot. Seconded by Linda Brock. Motion carried 7-0.
C. Oath of Office
Board Secretary Pro-Tem Gilbert administered the Oath of Office to Mike Davis as Board President and Josh Arendt as Board Vice Presi-

dent.
Board President Mike Davis assumed the position and chair of the meeting.
IV. Appointment of Board Secretary
Linda Brock moved to appoint Kaye Gilbert as the Board Secretary for the 2025-2026 school year. Seconded by Sherry Beamis. Motion carried 7-0.
V. Appointment of Board Treasurer
Linda Brock moved to appoint Kaye Gilbert as the District Treasurer for the 2025-2026 school year. Seconded by Sherry Beamis. Motion carried 7-0.
VI. Oath of Office
Board President Mike Davis administered the Oath of Office to Kaye Gilbert as Board Secretary/Treasurer.
VII. Establishing Meeting Date, Time and Location
Ray Fear moved to establish the board meetings for the 2025-2026 school year to be held at 1062 Birch Ave, Packwood, Iowa in the high school media center as the 2nd Monday of the month and a start time as 6:00 PM. Seconded by JD Olinger Motion carried 7-0.
VIII. Name Official Publication
Kortney Baumberger moved to approve the News Review as the official newspaper for the district for the 2025-2026 school year. Seconded by Josh Arendt. Motion carried 7-0.
IX. Designation of Legal Counsel
Sherry Beamis moved to appoint Ablers and Cooney as the district's legal counsel for the 2025-2026 school year. Seconded by Linda Brock. Motion carried 7-0.
X. Committee Membership and Assignments
Ray Fear moved to forego committees for the 2025-2026 school year. Seconded by Sherry Beamis. Motion carried 7-0.
XI. Keokuk, Jefferson, Wapello and Washington County Conference Board
Sherry Beamis moved to appoint the following board members to their respective County Conference Boards: Josh Arendt – Keokuk Co., Mike Davis – Washington Co., Linda Brock – Jefferson Co. and Kortney Baumberger-Wapello Co. Seconded by Ray Fear. Motion carried 7-0.
XII. Depository Resolution
Ray Fear moved to approve the following resolution:
Pekin Community School District RESOLUTION NAMING DEPOSITORIES
RESOLUTION #11202023
RESOLVED, that the Pekin Community School District of Packwood, Iowa in Jefferson County, Iowa approves the following list of financial institutions to be depositories of the Pekin Community School District, all funds in conformance with all applicable provi-

sions of Iowa Code Chapters 452 and 452 (1983) as amended by 1984 Iowa Acts. S.F. 2220. The Business Manager and/or Board Secretary are hereby authorized to deposit the Pekin School District funds in amounts not to exceed the maximum approved for each respective financial institution as set out:
Pilot Grove Savings Bank, Iowa Schools Joint Investment Trust (IS-JIT) and UMB Bank - \$5,000,000.00 each.
Seconded by Sherry Beamis. Motion carried 7-0.
XIII. Signature Authority
JD Olinger moved to approve Ann Swanson authorization to sign checks for Nutrition Program and Activities Program for the 2025-2026 school year. Seconded by Linda Brock. Motion carried 7-0.
XIV. Approval of Agenda
JD Olinger moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Kortney Baumberger. Motion carried 7-0.
XV. Non Action Items
None at this time.
XVI. Drop Out Prevention Plan
Ray Fear moved to approve the Drop Out Prevention Plan for the 2025-2026 school year as presented. Seconded by Sherry Beamis. Motion carried 7-0.
XVII. GPAEA Board of Directors
Sherry Beamis moved to vote for Bev Nelson on the GPAEA Board of Directors. Seconded by Kortney Baumberger. Motion carried 7-0.
XVIII. Sidewalk Bid
See below
XIX. Door Quote
Linda Brock moved to approve the sidewalk bid from Bill Slaney and the door quote from Walsh Doors & Security as presented. Seconded by Ray Fear. Motion carried 7-0.
XX. Denovo Construction Services
Ray Fear moved to approve Denovo Construction Services as our Construction Manager. Seconded by Sherry Beamis. Motion carried 7-0.
XXI. Sale of Football Helmets
Ray Fear moved to allow the sale of football helmets for \$300 to outgoing seniors. Seconded by JD Olinger. Motion carried 7-0.
XXII. Purchase of Strength Equipment
Josh Arendt moved to allow the purchase of strength equipment as presented. Seconded by Sherry Beamis. Motion carried 7-0.
XXIII. Administrative Reports
The Superintendent, Secondary Principal, Elementary Principal, Business Manager, Athletic Director, Tech Director, Transportation Director, and Maintenance Director presented their administrative reports to the board.
XXIV. Items for the Next Board Meeting
• The next regular School Board Meeting will be held on Monday, December 8, 2025 in the High

School Media Center at 6:00 p.m.	
• New POS System for Hot Lunch XXV. Adjournment	
Sherry Beamis moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Josh Arendt. Motion carried 7-0. The adjournment time was 7:36 p.m.	
GENERAL FUND	
MASTERCARD.....	2,888.42
AGRILAND FS, INC.....	523.38
AHLERS & COONEY P.C.....	427.50
AIRGAS USA, LLC.....	779.15
ALL AMERICAN TERMITTE & PEST CO.....	190.00
ALPHA MEDIA, LLC.....	500.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES.....	2,148.39
ARNOLD MOTORS SUPPLY.....	621.35
AUTO-JET MUFFLER CORP.....	143.83
AUTUMN ACRES.....	259.00
BUENA VISTA UNIVERSITY.....	930.00
CAPITAL ONE.....	5.00
CDW GOVERNMENT, INC.....	772.06
CENTRAL IOWA DISTRIBUTING, PTN.....	80.00
CONNELLY SANITATION, INC.....	780.85
DHS CASHIER 1ST FLOOR.....	255.00
ELLIOTT BULK SERVICES LLC.....	22,723.83
ENERGY ASSOCIATION OF IOWA SCHOOLS.....	3,500.00
ENGLISH VALLEY RADIO SERVICE.....	194.30
ESCO ELECTRIC.....	875.00
ALISHA FREESE-MCCABE.....	88.00
KELLY GOUDY.....	151.09
GRAINGER.....	449.94
GREAT PRAIRIE AREA EDUCATIO.....	29,919.10
GSA TURF SERVICES, LLC.....	700.00
MATHEW GUISE.....	6.60
H & M FARM & HOME SUPPLY.....	35.96
DAVID HARPER.....	72.09
HD SUPPLY.....	216.36
INDIAN HILLS COMM. COLLEGE.....	22,728.98
IOWA BASKETBALL HOLDINGS, LLC.....	700.00
IOWA SCHOOL FINANCE INFORMATION.....	160.00
KALONA COOPERATIVE TECHNOLOGY.....	357.33
KELLY SUPPLY COMPANY.....	55.98
MARCO TECHNOLOGIES LLC.....	119.20
MEDICAL ENTERPRISES, INC.....	1,180.00
MENARDS.....	700.08
MIDWEST TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS.....	489.70
NALCO WATER.....	651.39
OTTUMWA RADIO.....	743.20
PEKIN HOT LUNCH FUND.....	37.17
PEPPER J.W. & SONS.....	856.13
RED LION RENEWABLES.....	414.97
SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR.....	638.64
SCHOOL BUS SALES SERVICE.....	470.47
SHERWIN-WILLIAMS.....	684.25

SHETTLER MEDIA INC.....	300.00
SINCLAIR NAPA.....	122.94
TIMBERLINE BILLING SERVICES LLC.....	1,161.97
TRACTOR SUPPLY CREDIT PLAN.....	519.97
U.S. CELLULAR.....	29.79
WALSH DOOR & HARDWARE CO.....	675.00
JOELENA WILLIAMS.....	735.00
WINGEN CONTRACTING CO.....	110.00
WMPF GROUP, LLC.....	333.07
STACI WRIGHT.....	164.15
.....	105,375.58
PPEL	
THE BARN LLC.....	17,599.00
FRASE CO, INC & OVERHEAD DOOR OF OTTUMWA.....	9,409.00
GREAT PRAIRIE AREA EDUCATION.....	19,600.00
GULLETT FENCE & GUARDRAIL INC.....	57,950.00
IOWA SCHOOL FINANCE INFORMATION SERVICE.....	2,300.00
SCHROEDER GRAPHICS & SIGNS.....	2,200.00
.....	109,058.00
ACTIVITY FUND	
MASTERCARD.....	2,151.25
X-GRAIN SPORTSWEAR.....	162.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES.....	792.22
CAPITAL ONE.....	517.14
MASTERCARD.....	1,391.70
WALMART BUSINESS.....	414.06
BROTHERS MARKET.....	462.97
BSN SPORTS.....	299.00
CARDINAL COMM. SCHOOL.....	100.00
CITY OF OTTUMWA.....	70.00
DANNCO.....	287.95
DECKER SPORTING GOODS.....	372.50
DERLEIN SCALE INC.....	150.00
ELITE AWARDS.....	517.89
FROGTOWN JAVA.....	60.00
FRONTLINE PRINT & WEB.....	64.90
JENNIFER GORMAN.....	45.98
MATHEW GUISE.....	36.67
KARI BETH HAMILTON.....	118.00
JEFFERSON COUNTY SHERIFF.....	480.00
JOSTENS.....	1,282.20
LIVESTOCK JUDGING COM.....	300.00
MATTHEWSON'S MINI HELMETARS.....	452.00
MENARDS.....	173.95
PACKWOOD LOCKER.....	751.49
PEKIN HOT LUNCH FUND.....	37.17
STACK SPORTS.....	986.00
JACQUELINE TURSC.....	41.70
WAPPELO COMM. SCHOOL.....	97.99
STACI WRIGHT.....	336.75
.....	13,491.16
HOT LUNCH FUND	
ANDERSON ERICKSON DAIRY CO.....	2,938.76
EMS DETERGENT SERVICES.....	238.00
MARTIN BROTHERS DISTRIBUTING.....	16,718.81
.....	19,895.57

Published in The News-Review on December 10, 2025

**PUBLIC NOTICE
Official Notice E-21518**

OFFICIAL NOTICE BEFORE THE UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF IOWA TO THE CITIZENS OF KEOKUK COUNTY:

Notice is given that Central Iowa Power Cooperative, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 478, has filed a petition with the Iowa Utilities Commission (IUC) for an extension of the franchise to maintain and operate an electric transmission line setting forth the following as the maximum voltage, starting points, routes, and termini of the existing line:

**EXHIBIT A
69,000 VOLT NOMINAL (72,500 VOLT MAXIMUM)
ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION LINE
KEOKUK COUNTY, IOWA**

The East Endpoint is an interconnection with an existing Central Iowa Power Cooperative (CIPCO) transmission line located in the Northeast Quarter (NE ¼) of Section Fifteen (15), Township Seventy-six (76) North, Range Twelve (12) West of the 5th P.M., Keokuk County, Iowa.

The West Endpoint is an interconnection with an existing CIPCO transmission line located near the Northwest Corner of Section Eighteen (18), Township Seventy-six (76) North, Range Twelve (12) West of the 5th P.M., Keokuk County, Iowa.

The West Terminus is a T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative Substation located near the Northwest Corner of said Section Eighteen (18), said township and range, Keokuk County, Iowa.

Beginning at a point of interconnection with an existing CIPCO transmission line as East Endpoint, located in the Northeast Quarter (NE ¼) of Section Fifteen (15), Township Seventy-six (76) North, Range Twelve (12) West of the 5th P.M., Keokuk County, Iowa approximately Eleven hundredths (0.11)

County, Iowa. The East Terminus is a CIPCO owned Substation located in the Southwest Quarter (SW ¼) of the Southeast Quarter (SE ¼) of Section Thirty-five (35), Township Seventy-six (76) North, Range Twelve (12) West within the city of Sigourney, Keokuk County, Iowa.

The West Endpoint is an interconnection with an existing CIPCO transmission line located near the Northwest Corner of Section Eighteen (18), Township Seventy-six (76) North, Range Twelve (12) West of the 5th P.M., Keokuk County, Iowa. The West Terminus is a T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative Substation located near the Northwest Corner of said Section Eighteen (18), said township and range, Keokuk County, Iowa.

The total distance of this 69kV line is approximately Three and four tenths (3.40) of a mile.

The map showing the route of the electric line may be obtained at no cost by calling 319-734-4313 or by writing to Central Iowa Power Cooperative; Attn: Dan Ketchum; P.O. Box 2517; Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-

2517. Orders issued and documents filed in this docket (No. E-21518) may be viewed by searching under the docket number in the IUC's electronic filing system (EFS) at efs.iowa.gov. Objections to the granting of the franchise may be filed electronically using EFS or filed in writing with the IUC no later than 20 days after the date of second publication of this notice. Instructions for submitting an electronic filing can be found on the EFS; written objections must be mailed to the Iowa Utilities Commission, 1375 E. Court Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50319.

The date of the first publication is December 3, 2025. The date of the second publication is December 10, 2025.

IOWA UTILITIES COMMISSION
BY: Hunter Fors
Attorney
Dated this 20th day of November, 2025
Published in The News-Review on December 3 and 10, 2025

**PUBLIC NOTICE
WN25-0047**

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR KEOKUK COUNTY
Deutsche Bank National Trust Company As Trustee For Home Equity Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Trust Series SPMD 2004-A, Home Equity Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates Series SPMD 2004-A,
Plaintiff,
vs.
Constance June Phillips; Midland Funding LLC; United States of America; Iowa Department of Revenue; Unknown Spouse (if any) of Constance June Phillips; Unknown Spouse (if any) of Richard LaVern Phillips a/k/a Richard Lavern Phillips; and Parties in Possession Defendant(s).
Equity No: EQEQ0041580
ORIGINAL NOTICE TO THE ABOVE NAMED DE-

FENDANT Constance June Phillips 201 Main Street, Martinsburg, IA 52568; Unknown Spouse (if any) of Richard LaVern Phillips a/k/a Richard Lavern Phillips, 201 Main Street, Martinsburg, IA 52568; Unknown Spouse (if any) of Constance June Phillips, 201 Main Street, Martinsburg, IA 52568; Parties in Possession, 201 Main Street, Martinsburg, IA 52568.

You are notified that there was filed in the office of the Clerk of the above-named Court, a Petition, copies of which are attached hereto.

The Plaintiff's attorney is Chris Irk, c/o The Wirbicki Law Group LLC, 33 W Monroe Street, Suite 1540, Chicago, IL 60603.

You must register to e-File through the Iowa Judicial Branch website at <https://www.iowacourts.state>.

ia.us/Efile/ and obtain a log in and password to file and view documents in your case and to receive service notices from the court. For general rules and information on electronic filing, refer to the Iowa Courts Rules Chapter 16, pertaining to the Use of the Electronic Document Management System, available on the Iowa Judicial Branch website. For Court Rules on the Protection of Personal Privacy in court filings, refer to Division VI of the Iowa Court Rules, Chapter 16

You must, within 20 days after service of this Original Notice upon you, serve, and within a reasonable time thereafter, file a motion or answer, in the Iowa District Court for Keokuk County, at the county courthouse in Sigourney, Iowa. If you do not, judgment by default

may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

If you need assistance to participate in court due to a disability, call the disability coordinator at 641-684-6502. Persons who are hearing or speech impaired may call Relay Iowa TTY (1-800-735-2942). Disability coordinators cannot provide legal advice.

/s/Clerk of Court
Keokuk County Courthouse
Sigourney, IA
Acknowledged before me this July 23, 2025. IMPORTANT: YOU ARE ADVISED TO SEEK LEGAL ADVICE AT ONCE TO PROTECT YOUR INTERESTS.
Published in The News-Review on November 26, and December 3 and 10, 2025

**PUBLIC NOTICE
Numa Property Management re Nancy Winegarden**

ORIGINAL NOTICE BY PUBLICATION TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS: NANCY M. REIGHARD, a/k/a NANCY M. WINEGARDEN; SPOUSE OF NANCY M. REIGHARD, a/k/a NANCY M. WINEGARDEN, a/k/a NANCY M. WINEGARDEN, AS HEIR OF ANTHONY B. WINEGARDEN; SPOUSE OF NANCY M. REIGHARD, a/k/a NANCY M. WINEGARDEN, IF ANY; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ANTHONY B. WINEGARDEN; CREDITORS OF ANTHONY B. WINEGARDEN; AND THE UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE SITUATED IN KEOKUK COUNTY, IOWA, THE WEST HALF OF LOT TWELVE IN BLOCK THIRTEEN IN J.F. WHITE'S FIRST ADDITION TO THE CITY OF SOUTH ENGLISH, KEOKUK COUNTY, IOWA

You are hereby notified that there is now on file in the office of the Clerk of the District Court in and for Keokuk County, Iowa, a Pe-

tion to Quiet Title (Equity) in the above-entitled action upon the following described premises located in Keokuk County, Iowa, to wit:
The West Half of Lot Twelve in Block Thirteen in J.F. White's First Addition to the Town of South English, Keokuk County, Iowa.

The attorney for Plaintiff is Matthew E. Eck, whose address is Suite 401, 421 West Broadway, Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503. Telephone: (712) 256-5566.

You are further notified that unless you serve and within a reasonable time thereafter file a Motion or Answer on or before December 30, 2025, in the Iowa District Court for Keokuk County at the courthouse located at 101 S. Main St., Sigourney, Iowa 52591, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Petition.

This case has been filed in a county that utilizes electronic filing. You should refer to (i) Iowa Court Rules Chapter 16 for general rules and information on electronic filing; and (ii) Iowa Court Rules Chapter 16, division VI regarding protection of personal information in court filings.

If you require the assistance of auxiliary aids or services to participate in Court because of a disability immediately call your district ADA coordinator at 641-684-6502. (If you are hearing impaired call Relay Iowa TTY at 1-800-735-2942.)

IMPORTANT - YOU ARE ADVISED TO SEEK LEGAL ADVICE AT ONCE TO PROTECT YOUR INTERESTS
Published in The News-Review on November 26, and December 3 and 10, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Sigourney • November 2025 Claims

REVENUES:	
General -	\$74,902.81
Memorial Hall Restoration -	\$2,734.00
Library -	\$8,735.48
Road Use -	\$25,365.52
Employee Benefits -	\$6,803.42
Tax Increment Financial -	\$1,617.85
Lewis Memorial Fountain -	\$1,020.00
Restricted Gifts -	\$4,838.52
Debt Service -	\$21,333.65
Water Utility -	\$44,270.63
Road Sinking -	\$6,750.00
Water Improvement -	\$3,000.00
Water Project -	\$5,016.99
Utility Deposit -	\$850.00
Sewer Utility -	\$51,578.36
Sewer Sinking -	\$29,485.00
Sewer Improvement -	\$1,000.00
Sewer Surcharge -	\$3,309.92
Sanitation -	\$21,894.80
Medical Partial Self-Funding -	\$1,600.00
November 2025 Revenue Total -	\$316,106.95
Other Checks Issued:	
Treasurer, State of Iowa - Excise Tax -	\$1,004.16
Treasurer, State of Iowa - Sales Tax -	\$2,909.25
Renosys Systems -	\$35,727.50
VISA - Supplies - Membership -	\$2,182.10
Voided Check- Baker and Taylor ..	\$(125.36)
MCG Cameras -	\$2,139.25
ICAP Insurance Premium -	\$359.00
gWorks ACH Fee -	\$162.55
gWorks Fee -	\$5.00
gWorks -	\$0.70
US Postmaster - Utility Bills -	\$480.42
Brent Gilliland - Cell Phone Reimbursement -	\$40.00
Randy Hemsley- Cell Phone Reimbursement -	\$40.00
Don Northup- Cell Phone Reimbursement -	\$40.00
Logan Northup- Cell Phone Reimbursement -	\$40.00
Jonathan Utterback - Cell Phone Reimbursement -	\$40.00
Midwestone (Deposit Slips) -	\$154.62
Fidelity Sales Tax -	\$0.35
UMB Corp Debt Payments -	\$45,078.13
Monthly Transfers -	\$52,419.00
Payroll(10/27/2025-11/09/2025) -	\$21,674.63
Payroll(11/10/2025-11/23/2025) -	\$39,552.92
November 2025 Other Checks Issued Total -	\$203,924.22

Published in *The News-Review* on December 10, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of North English • Minutes 12.3.2025

CITY OF NORTH ENGLISH CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
Wednesday, December 3rd, 2025 6:30 p.m.

The North English City Council met in regular session at City Hall on Wednesday, December 3rd, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. Roll call showed the following present: Mayor Pro-Tem Haugland, Garringer, Carter, Custer, and O'Rourke. Strohmman was absent. Also present: City Clerk Heyne, City Employees Knipfer and Lee, Casey James, Susan Schaefer, Bonnie and Scott Romine, Bri Clarahan, and Bryan O'Rourke.

Garringer, seconded by Carter, made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried with roll call vote as follows: Haugland, yes; Garringer, yes; Carter, yes; Custer, yes; O'Rourke, yes.

Susan Schaefer and Bonnie Romine addressed the council with PINE's end of year report and FY26-27 budget request. No increase was requested.

O'Rourke, seconded by Custer, made a motion to approve the health insurance renewal plan offered. Motion carried with roll call vote as follows: Haugland, yes; Garringer, yes; Carter, yes; Custer, yes; O'Rourke, yes.

City Services: Heyne reported the auditors would be on site Thursday.

Garringer, seconded by Haugland, made a motion to approve the Nov. 5th Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion carried with roll call vote as follows: Haugland, yes; Garringer, yes; Carter, yes; Custer, yes; O'Rourke, yes.

Carter, seconded by Garringer, made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried with roll call vote as follows: Haugland, yes; Garringer, yes; Carter, yes; Custer, yes; O'Rourke, yes.

O'Rourke, seconded by Haugland, made a motion to approve Dec 2025 bills to be paid as indicated on the handout (\$33,957.70) plus any regular bills received after the meeting. Motion carried with roll call vote as follows: Haugland, yes; Garringer, yes; Carter, yes; Custer, yes; O'Rourke, yes.

Utility Report was shared.

Oath of Office was completed.

Public Comments: None.

Council Communications: Garringer commented on the Tree Lighting event and thought it went well and mentioned the possibility of planting a tree for future events. Knipfer thought it might not be a good idea there with the water lines in that area.

Meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Tara Heyne, City Clerk/ Treasurer
Published in *The News-Review* on December 10, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of North English • November 2025 Claims

TREASURER STATE OF IOWA, NOV2025 WATER EXCISE TAX ..	1,189.79	ANCE, INSURANCE ..	266.00	VICES, PERIODICALS ..	310.02
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA, NOV2025 SALES TAX ..	242.99	STANDARD PEST CONTROL, NOV2025 SERVICE ..	30.00	MAAS, GARRETT, REFUND OF MISPAYMENT ..	124.22
USDA - RURAL DEVELOPMENT, NOV2025 USDA LOANS 02,04,05 ..	15,509.00	WELLMARK BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIEL, INSURANCE DEC2025 ..	4,188.81	NORTH ENGLISH POST OFFICE, DEC 2025 BILL POSTAGE ..	300.73
NORTH ENGLISH POST OFFICE, 2025 NOV UTILITY BILL POSTAGE ..	301.34	CENTER POINT LARGE PRINT, BOOKS ..	147.42	37, Grand Total (excluding void checks) ..	35,756.90
CITY OF NORTH ENGLISH, DEPOSIT PD ON ACCT#44600 ..	179.21	ELAN CARDMEMBER SERVICE, OPERATIONAL, BOOKS ..	283.16	NOVEMBER 2025 EXPENSES BY FUND	
ERWIN, STEFANI, DEPOSIT REFUND #44600 ..	146.27	FREEMAN FOODS OF NORTH ENGLISH, OPERATIONAL SUPPLIES ..	10.39	001 GENERAL FUND ..	8,782.86
LANDERS, TAYLOR, DEPOSIT REFUND #55000 T LANDERS ..	74.52	INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES, BOOKS ..	449.01	110 ROAD USE ..	1,117.96
ACE HARDWARE, MISC SUPPLIES ..	39.58	LEAF, OPERATIONAL SUPPLIES ..	63.75	600 WATER FUND ..	5,727.77
ALLIANT ENERGY, NOV2025 ALLIANT BILLS ..	4,659.28	MICRO MARKETING, AUDIO VISUAL ..	169.34	610 SEWER FUND ..	20,128.31
BADGER METER, UTILITY TECHNOLOGY ..	65.73	NORTH ENGLISH CO-OP TEL CO, NOV2025 PHONE BILLS ..	78.92	TOTAL ..	35,756.90
CHARLES CAPPER AUTO CENTER INC, TRUCK MAINTENANCE ..	230.00	STANDARD PEST CONTROL, NOV2025 - LIBRARY ..	30.00	NOVEMBER 2025 REVENUES BY FUND	
COX SANITATION & RECYCLING INC, OCT2025 CURBSIDE SERVICE ..	2,814.00	THE GAZETTE, PERIODICALS ..	374.40	001 GENERAL FUND ..	18,100.95
ELAN CARDMEMBER SERVICE, OPERATIONAL EQUIP REPAIR ..	853.16	WT.COX INFORMATION SERVICES, PERIODICALS ..	310.02	031 GIFTS & MEMORIALS ..	5.00
HAWKINS INC., CHEMICALS ..	373.85			110 ROAD USE ..	12,671.86
ION ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS, LAB TESTING ..	760.50			600 WATER FUND ..	23,953.42
IOWA ONE CALL, LOCATE SERVICES ..	21.60			610 SEWER FUND ..	34,281.89
IOWA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION, MEMBERSHIP DUES ..	365.00			TOTAL ..	89,013.12
KNIPFER, KILE, TRUCK MAINTENANCE ..	350.00				
LEAF, MINOR EQUIP ..	107.17				
MARENGO FARM & HOME, MISC SUPPLIES ..	13.99				
NORTH ENGLISH CO-OP TEL CO, NOV2025 PHONE BILLS ..	383.75				
OXLEY, DEREK, TECHNOLOGY ..	250.00				
SOUTHEAST IOWA INSURANCE ..	266.00				

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Ad Council **AHRQ** Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

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Only ONE Lifeline benefit is permitted per household. Federal rules prohibit consumers from receiving more than one Lifeline service. If a consumer or his or her household currently has more than one Lifeline discounted service, they must select a single provider immediately or be subject to penalties.

Only low-income consumers with proof of eligibility are qualified to enroll.

Subscribers have an obligation to recertify their eligibility every year and should respond to their Lifeline Provider's attempts to recertify eligibility. **Subscribers must verify that they remain eligible to participate in the Lifeline program once each calendar year.** Subscribers who fail to recertify their eligibility will be de-enrolled from the Lifeline Program.

For More Information

Please visit www.lifelinesupport.org. You may also call the Federal Communications Commission at: 1-888-225-5322

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English Valleys Bearometer

December 10, 2025

www.facebook.com/Bearometer

Issue: XIV

United in Song: EV Joins Area Schools for Honor Choir

By: Tyler Wiseman

English Valleys junior high and high school students traveled to Montezuma High School for the biannual SICL Honor Choir, an event that brings together singers from every school in the South Iowa Cedar League. Students spent the afternoon rehearsing before performing in a combined concert at 7:00 PM.

The two groups practiced in different locations. The junior high choir rehearsed in the Montezuma High School gym under the direction of Joe Tangen from Pella. Meanwhile, the high school choir practiced at a nearby church with Adam Orban from Algona, who also composed one of the pieces performed by the high school group, Alle Alleluia.

English Valleys High School participants included seniors Adam Forbes, Blake Murphy, Lydia Smith, Phoenix Sorden, and Tyler Wiseman; juniors Kaylynn Hoylman, Clara Karr, Miley Clubb, Zola Voss, Betsy Wells, Ximena Hernandez, and Helen Owen; and sophomore McKenna Rugg. The junior high choir featured Natalie Armstrong, Izabella Clark, Brynn Montross, Isabella Holden, Allie Morrison, Allison Mather, Hailie King, Hadley Husband, Anna Gehrking, Kinnick Conrad, Cooper Fisch, Noah Gent, Asher Frederick, Brecken Hoylman, Jayvee Patterson, Lucas Sieren, Ashton Caster, and Eli Overy.

Both groups spent the afternoon working on challenging music, collaborating with students from other schools, and preparing for their performances that evening. Their hard work and dedication were evident during the concert, which highlighted the talent and teamwork of English Valleys students. Choir director Mr. Cornelius accompanied both groups, providing guidance and support throughout the day. Staff from other schools praised the students for their positive attitudes, focus, and the way they represented their schools through both their singing and character. The event was a successful celebration of music, learning, and collaboration for all participants.



EV Athletes Earn All-Conference and All-District Honors

Congratulations to Ava Gehrking, who was named to the All-District Volleyball Team by the Iowa Girls Coaches Association! Her hard work, dedication, and outstanding performance this season make us incredibly proud. Way to go, Ava!

EV Bears Football also celebrated a standout year with multiple All-District selections:

1st Team: Braydon Anderson (RB), Everett Bender (WR), Drew Fisher (Offensive Utility), Cael Grove (LB), Kane Axmear (DL), and Jack Osborn (Defensive Utility). 2nd Team: Ben Flander (OL), Kaleb Bolinger (OL), and Colton Mikesell (LB). Honorable Mention: Owen Mather and Christian Tripses. Golden Spikes Award: Deshon Anderson, recognized as an All-District-caliber player whose season was cut short by injury.

In Cross Country, several athletes earned SICL All-Conference honors: First Team: Anna Luers and Isaac Frazier; Second Team: Addison Achenbach, Aubrey Achenbach, and Will Luers; Honorable Mention: Kaylynn Caster

The SICL Volleyball Coaches also recognized five EV players. Olivia Debevec received a Golden Award for significant contributions despite an interrupted season. Honorable Mention honors went to Anna Gorsh and Joslyn Bender; Second Team honors to Hadyn Bender; and First Team (Unanimous) to Ava Gehrking. Congratulations to all our athletes and the teammates who supported them, on their dedication, talent, and success!

Bears Build Early Season Momentum in Triangular at Home

By: Kaleb Bolinger

The English Valleys Bears boys' wrestling team kicked off their season on Tuesday, December 2nd, showing grit and determination throughout a tough opening night. Hosting the EBF Rockets and the Wapello Indians in a triangular dual, the Bears opened against a strong EBF squad that came out on top. After also facing EBF's JV team, the Bears continued to push forward and improve with each match. Their persistence paid off as they closed the night with a solid 42-21 victory over Wapello, giving the Bears a strong finish and momentum for the rest of the season.

William McPherson ended his night 2-1 with two pins. Dayne Render ended his night 0-2 with a close overtime match. Brennick Geiger finished 0-1 with a loss by tech fall. Drake Offerman ended his night 1-0 with a win by decision. Aidan Smothers finished 0-1 with a loss by decision. Noah Armstrong finished 1-2 with two losses by fall. Teagan Mast ended his night 3-0 with two tech falls and one fall. Cael Grove went 2-1 with one pin. Hunter Offerman finished 1-2 with his win by fall. Kaleb Bolinger ended his night 2-1 with one win by fall.

With a strong mix of experienced wrestlers and emerging talent, the Bears showcased plenty of potential. Their resilience, growth, and competitive spirit point to an exciting season ahead.



Upcoming Activities:

December 11:

JH Girls Basketball vs Iowa Valley - 4:15 pm

December 12:

JH Girls Basketball vs Sigourney - 4:15 pm

JH Boys Wrestling @ PCM - 4:30 pm

HS Boys Wrestling @ Montezuma - 5:30 pm

HS Basketball vs Montezuma - 6:00 pm

December 13:

JH Boys Wrestling @ HLV-TC - 10:00 am

HS Basketball @ Lone Tree - 2:00 pm

December 15:

JH Girls Basketball @ BGM - 4:15 pm

JH Boys Wrestling @ EBF - 4:30 pm

December 16:

JH Girls Basketball vs North Mahaska - 4:15 pm

HS Boys Wrestling @ Sigourney-Keota - 6:00 pm

HS Basketball vs North Mahaska - 6:00 pm



ENGLISH VALLEYS
Christmas
CONCERT

11 DEC Elementary Grades 3rd-5th
Gene's Gym - 6:30 pm

15 DEC Elementary Grades PK-2nd
Gene's Gym - 6:30 pm

18 DEC Jr/Sr High School Program
Gene's Gym - 6:30 pm



THE EAGLE'S WING

Keota Jr./Sr. High School Student Newspaper



Issue No. 6

Senior Spotlight

KENNEDY JACKSON

This week's senior spotlight is Kennedy Jackson. Kennedy's dad is Ken Jackson; he graduated from Muscatine High School. He works as a 10-15 transport driver. Her mom is Amy Jackson. She graduated from Tipton High School and now works as a medical coder. Kennedy has two siblings: Jordan is 15, and Kenzie is 21. After high school, Kennedy wants to go into pediatric occupational therapy. For her college, she is still undecided. She wants to help young children get back to their normal functions to living in their day to day life. When she was younger she dreamed of being a teacher. Kennedy's classmates and friends would describe her as caring because she displays concern for others, amiable because she is friendly, and optimistic because she is hopeful and confident about the future. In high school Kennedy participated in many extracurriculars such as, volleyball, basketball, track, softball, speech, fall and spring plays, EagleRock!, DARE, CYM, student council, and silver cord. Kennedy's most memorable high school memory is winning in Eagle Olympics against the seniors her 9th grade year. Her favorite school activity is playing volleyball, and her favorite teacher is Ms. Sanchez. Her favorite school tradition is Eagle Olympics because it is fun to beat the other classes and it's a time for people to have good school spirit. Kennedy's biggest pet peeve is when people chew with their mouths open. After graduation, Kennedy will miss seeing and playing sports with her friends every day. She wants to be remembered as a leader, courageous and considerate to people. Kennedy's advice to give to anyone before they become a senior and graduate is to have fun and cherish the memories and moments you have left.



By: Kaylee Kindred

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

This week's high school spotlight is Jaylah Redlinger; she does not happen to have a nickname. Jaylah has 3 siblings, her being the oldest. She has 3 brothers: Dacin, Daxton and Darin. She is involved in a few extracurriculars such as volleyball, track, FFA, student council, speech and cheer. Jaylah's favorite class is English. Her favorite memory from Keota High School would be homecoming week with all the activities or Eagles Olympics with all the fun things everyone participates in with their class. She likes to hang out with friends in her free time and also her family. When she grows up, she wants to be a pediatric sonographer or a labor and delivery nurse.



By: Kaylee Kindred



Student Council sponsored a food drive for the Eagle Advisory classes and collected boxes of nonperishable food and hygiene items for the local food bank.

EAGLE'S WING STAFF

2025-2026

KAYLEE KINDRED

ADVISER: Dr CULLETT
This page was composed and designed by Keota High School students. The News Review is not responsible for the makeup or editorial content expressed.

JUNIOR HIGH BASKETBALL

The junior high girls have already started their basketball season and have played two games at home and one away. They won against Colfax, winning 26-25. They played Iowa Valley and played at North Mahaska. The girls high school basketball has a game on Friday at Lone Tree playing Highland and Saturday at Lone Tree playing Lone Tree. The first conference games for high school boys and girls is December 2nd at home playing Belle Plain.

By: Kaylee Kindred



EVENTS

- 3 FFA Meeting - Audit. @ 7:30 AM
- 3 Elem. Winter Concert - HS Gym - 6:00 PM
- 4 JH(B) W @ Pekin - 4:30
- 4 S/K(B) W @ Montezuma - 6:00
- 4 JH & HS Winter Concert - HS Gym - 7:00 PM
- 5 No School - (PD Day)
- 5 S/K(G) W @ Pekin - 4:00 PM
- 5 S/K JV(B) W @ BGM - 5:00
- 5 BB @ HLV - 6:00
- 6 EagleRock! "Cookie Walk"
- 6 S/K Bowl @ Newton - 9:00 AM
- 6 S/K (G&B) W @ Wapello - 10:00 AM
- 8 S/K Bowl vs Pella
- Christian - 1:00
- 8 JH(G) BB vs English Valley - 4:15
- 9 PAC Mtg - EA
- 9 NHS Mtg - EA
- 9 JH(B) W @ Ia Valley - 4:15
- 9 S/K(B) W @ Sig - 5:30
- 9 Var BB vs Colfax-Mingo - 6:00
- 11 School Board Mtg - 6:00 PM
- 12 No School (Comp Day)
- 12 JH(B) W @ Sig. - 4:00
- 12 S/K JV(B) W @ Marion - 5:00
- 12 Keota Booster Club - "Chili Supper" - Café - 5:00-7:00 PM

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SEASON?

MRS. JAEGER STAFF



'Fall and winter'

REESE CONRAD 12TH



"Fall"

TUCKER SPROUSE 11TH



"Fall"

AIDAN GREINER 10TH



"Fall"

DREW DODD 9TH



"Fall"

GREYDEN HORNING 8TH



"Fall"

JULIE JAEGER 7TH



"Spring"

Donated deer hides benefit disabled veterans

Hunters donated nearly 3,500 deer hides to Elks Lodges across Iowa last year, which was a decrease from the year before but still very beneficial to the program. The deer hides are used by the Elks Veterans Leather Program to make professionally-crafted leather gloves for veterans in wheelchairs and also turned into leather used for therapy programs for recovering veterans. The Elks Veterans Leather

Program relies on the charity of hunters to donate their deer hides. Hunters willing to donate their hides are encouraged to contact the local Elks Lodge for drop off locations or visit www.elks.org/lodges to find the nearest lodge. The therapeutic kits and gloves are distributed at no cost to the veterans. Contact Curtis Blystone at 712-621-2823 or blystonecurtis@gmail.com for more information.

Doe harvest registry

Hunters interested in working with farmers to harvest additional does are encouraged to sign up with the Iowa Doe Harvest Registry. The Registry has been a resource that the Iowa DNR has offered to farmers since the mid-2000s, but is now easier to access.

To participate, go to www.iowadnr.gov/deer and scroll down to Doe Hunter Registry

(Connecting Farmers with Hunters) and complete the online form. Hunters and farmers can select their preferred hunting seasons and their region of the state.

Harvesting antlerless deer is the most important tool for managing deer populations at the state, county and local level.

Deer donation program

Hunters may sign up as a deer donor or recipient with the Iowa Deer Exchange at www.iowadnr.gov/deer then scroll down to Iowa's Deer Exchange Program link. There, donors can provide their information on what they are willing to donate. The database creates a map and table with information deer donors and deer recipients can use to get connected.

Hunters and recipients who had previously registered for the Deer Exchange Program

should review their information to make sure it is still accurate and active. There is no cost to participate. It is illegal to sell wild fish and game in Iowa.

The Iowa DNR, the Food Bank of Iowa and 32 meat lockers also participate in the Help Us Stop Hunger program for 2025. Hunters are encouraged to contact a participating locker before they harvest a deer to see if the locker has any additional drop off instructions.

2026 hunting, fishing licenses on sale Dec. 15

Iowans can buy 2026 resident hunting, fishing and other licenses on Dec. 15. Licenses purchased for 2025 expire on Jan. 10.

The menu of license options includes the popular Outdoor Combo annual resident hunting/fishing/habitat combo license for \$55; the Angler's Special three-year fishing license for \$62; and the Hunter's Special three-year hunting license with habitat included for \$101.

Also available is the Bonus Line option for \$14 letting resident and nonresident anglers fish with one more line in addition to the two lines allowed with the regular fishing license.

Download the GoOutdoorslowa mobile app for iPhone and Android devices to buy and access your license information, no matter where you are. Sync your hunting and fishing licenses on the app to show in the field. You may download multiple customer licenses to offer one secure digital license document location for families, groups, and more.

Licenses are available at 650 locations across the state, and online at www.iowadnr.gov/GoOutdoorslowa.

Hunting and fishing are often enjoyed with family and friends. A fishing or hunting license makes a great stocking stuffer.



Photo Courtesy of MetroCreativeConnection

Iowa's busiest deer seasons are here

By: Jace Elliott, State Deer Biologist, Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Iowa's most popular deer hunting seasons started this past weekend, when more than 100,000 hunters took to the timber for the long-awaited gun seasons.

Iowa's first gun season is Dec. 6-10. Second gun season is Dec. 13-21. While hunters are split about 50-50 as to which season they hunt, the trend has been moving toward the second season due to the flexibility of hunting two weekends. Hunters are expected to harvest 55,000 to 60,000 deer during these two seasons, which is 50-60 percent of Iowa's total deer harvest.

So far this fall, youth, disabled hunter, early muzzle-loader and archery hunters have reported 28,600 deer through the harvest reporting system, which is three percent below the five-year average.

"We've had a strong harvest in Eastern Iowa, which has offset a lower deer harvest in Western, Central, Southern and Northwestern regions of the state," said Jace Elliott, state deer biologist with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR). To date, the 2025 harvest is about exactly the same as the 2024 harvest at this point in the season.

"We are getting reports of low deer numbers in Central and Western Iowa in the wake of severe hemorrhagic disease impacts from 2024 and 2023. Hunters are encouraged to reach out to our wildlife staff and conservation officers to discuss what they are seeing in the field."

Weather-wise, the 10-day forecast calls for high temperatures from the middle 30s to middle 20s, which means the snow is likely here for a while.

"The cooler temperature

generally leads to better harvest, but the snow can be tricky. We know that snowfall on opening day leads to a 10 percent increase in harvest for the season. Snow does make it easier to see deer, track deer, and see deer signs, which are all the right conditions for hunters to be successful," Elliott said.

"However, if the snow is too deep, it can lead to fewer deer harvested, and that's likely due to hunter behavior, not deer behavior," he said.

The gun seasons have been traditionally associated with groups of hunters walking through the timber, pushing deer towards other members of the hunting group, but results of the 2024 deer hunter survey found that gun season hunters are divided evenly in how they pursue the deer.

About half participate in traditional deer drives, while the other half prefer to hunt from a stationary position. The deer hunter survey found that overall, 80 percent of respondents indicated they are satisfied with the overall deer hunting experience, citing the social aspect of the hunting groups and the opportunity to put deer meat in the freezer as two reasons they hunt.

Main beam antler measurement

Hunters are required to include the main beam antler measurement when reporting their deer harvest.

"Main beam antler measurement allows us to estimate the percentage of yearling bucks as part of the harvest. There was a strong variation across Iowa where counties with lower deer densities and less deer habitat saw a higher rate of yearling bucks as a percentage of the buck harvest," Elliott said.

Statewide, yearling bucks made up roughly 40 percent of the total buck harvest.

Chronic Wasting Disease in Iowa (Part Two of Four)

New Chronic Wasting Disease Response Plan

In 2025, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) published a new Iowa CWD Response Plan (2025-2030) that outlines the history, policy, surveillance, and management efforts associated with the disease in Iowa. The Iowa CWD Response Plan (2025-2030) is available online at www.iowadnr.gov/deer-hunting.

The Iowa DNR began collecting tissue samples in 2002 after chronic wasting disease was found in Wisconsin and Illinois, with an initial goal of obtaining 2,000 samples; 500 from Allamakee, Jackson, Dubuque and Clayton counties, and 1,500 from the rest of the state. In those early days, test results could take anywhere from three to six months.

In 2010, the Iowa DNR and the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship produced a preliminary plan, outlining sampling methods, free-range/captive herd responsibilities and response protocols in the event a deer tested positive. In 2013, Iowa found its first positive deer, an adult buck from Allamakee County.

With that first positive, the DNR's surveillance kicked in – additional deer were harvested and tested in the immediate area where the positive was found, public meetings were held during the winter to provide hunters and landowners with information on the future surveillance and to answer questions.

The timing of Iowa's first positive detection allowed the DNR to consider results of different techniques used in other states, from aggressive removal to a hands-off approach, to manage the disease on the land. Ultimately, the DNR settled on a pragmatic strategy of avoiding overabundant deer populations through volun-

tary hunter harvest.

"We produced a comprehensive response plan intended to serve as a blueprint to showcase how we're currently responding to CWD in the state," said Jace Elliott, state deer biologist, with the Iowa DNR.

"Our hope is the public sees it as a measured, moderate approach to managing an extremely difficult challenge," he said.

There is no cure for chronic wasting disease and infected deer can spread the disease for years through saliva, urine and blood left on the landscape, and through direct contact. While much remains unknown about the disease, it poses a significant threat to the health and quality of Iowa's deer population in the future.

"We appear to be in a relatively early stage of the disease," Elliott said. "We have hotspots in the northeast (Allamakee, Clayton, Dubuque) and south-central (Wayne, Appanoose) with several other counties that only have one or two detections."

In the early years, the disease starts with a small number of positives, then undergoes exponential growth over time. Iowa's rise in chronic wasting disease prevalence and geographic spread has been similar to that in other states.

"It can take a couple years for this disease to physically impact an individual deer, and decades to potentially impact a deer population," Elliott said. "Our goal is to minimize the transmission of the disease by managing balanced deer populations through voluntary hunter harvest. By collecting samples statewide every year, we're able to evaluate disease dynamics over time."

Up next...Part Three: Deer Management

During public meetings, the question seems to always get asked - If you can't stop chronic wasting disease (CWD), what's the point of doing anything?



Photo Courtesy of MetroCreativeConnection

Deer gun seasons are important for chronic wasting disease sample collection

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources will be partnering with Iowa deer hunters to collect tissue samples to monitor for chronic wasting disease during the upcoming gun seasons.

The goal is to collect samples from each county, with higher quotas based on the presence of or proximity to confirmed positive locations. Hunters interested in submitting samples to the DNR's surveillance program can do so by contacting their local wildlife staff. Hunters can monitor progress towards county quotas on the DNR CWD Dashboard (www.iowadnr.gov/cwd). So far during the 2025-26 surveillance year, there have been 24 positive cases of chronic wasting disease.

Hunters in areas where the disease has been found or in counties where the quota has filled, can get their deer tested by going to www.iowadnr.gov/cwd and clicking on the hunter submission pathway. There is a video demonstrating how hunters can remove the lymph nodes and package them for mailing.

The hunter submission pathway allows hunters to pull and submit their own tissue sample simply by filling out the online form and paying a \$25 processing fee, the same fee the DNR pays for its samples.

No special packaging is required, and hunter-submit-

ted samples are prioritized to expedite testing and results. Samples are tested at Iowa State University's Veterinary Diagnostic Lab, and results are included with the data from samples the DNR is collecting.

Local wildlife staff can help hunters with pulling samples. There are also resources online that show how to pull and ship samples.

Chronic wasting disease is spread through direct contact between deer and through contact with contaminated surfaces in the environment. Artificially concentrating deer by putting out grain or mineral can increase transmission of the disease because it increases the opportunity for deer to interact and come in contact with infectious material. Deer will concentrate on their own through scrapes and during the breeding season.

The disease can also be spread by transporting infected carcasses. To avoid introducing the disease to a new area, hunters should not transport deer carcasses outside of the county where it was harvested, if at all possible.

If, for some reason, hunters need to take the carcass with them, they should landfill the carcass through regular waste disposal. In the few instances where land filling isn't an option, hunters should return the carcass to the site of harvest after processing.

Safety first, during the gun deer seasons

For an expected 100,000-plus deer hunters, the long wait is almost over, Iowa's gun deer seasons are here.

But before heading to the timber, it's important that hunters go through their gear, sight in their gun and take time to review their hunting safety plan, said Craig Cutts, chief of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Bureau.

"Hunters should check their blaze orange gear to make sure it still fits and that that orange hasn't faded to the point of being ineffective," Cutts said. "We're not hiding from deer during the firearm seasons; we want to be seen by the other hunters. The more external blaze orange that's worn, the better the chance that hunters will be seen in the timber."

The minimum amount of blaze orange required by Iowa law to hunt in the firearm deer season is a 100 percent solid blaze orange vest, but hunters should wear as much blaze orange as possible, he said.

"We have a lot more hunters choosing rifles and rifles can travel much greater distances so blaze orange is really important," he said. "But they also need to be cognizant of that distance, so they need to take good shots – avoid shooting at running deer, and know what's in front of and behind

the deer, in case the shot misses."

Not shooting at running deer is key to avoiding property damage or injuring another hunter. With the added distance rifles are capable of, hunters really need to be aware of what is behind the deer if the shot misses.

Cutts said there has been an average of nine hunting related incidents over the past three deer gun seasons involving rifles with around six involving personal injuries. Following the hunting plan is another way to avoid problems.

The hunting plan identifies the location, outlines each person's role, describes how it will unfold and when the hunters are expected to return home. Hunters are encouraged to leave a copy of the plan with someone in the event of an emergency.

"You cannot deviate from the plan," Cutts said. "The problems start when you see the deer coming out of a different area than you expected, then leave your location to get closer to the deer and suddenly the hunter is in the line of fire."

Iowa's first gun season is Dec. 6-10; second gun season is Dec. 13-21.

For more information on hunting safety, contact your local conservation officer.


 Southern Iowa
Mental Health Center
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