







# Ag Secretary Mike Naig Visits What Cheer Beef Farm

By Casey Jarmes |  
The News-Review

WHAT CHEER — Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig visited Phillips Family Farm, a direct-to-consumer beef seller located outside of What Cheer, on Jan. 23. Phillips Family Farm owner, April Phillips, began selling bulk beef peer-to-peer at the Iowa City Farmers' Market last year. This year, she plans to begin selling beef by the piece. She stated that it had been a little slow during her first year, but that she believed business would pick up with the smaller amounts sold. "This way they can try it and know the quality before they go with a bigger amount," said Phillips.

She also intends to begin selling 10 or 15 pound monthly meat subscription boxes, that will also have chicken and eggs. Phillips stated that she did not plan to ship these subscriptions and would instead deliver at the farmers' market.

Phillips noted that, because calves are born in the spring, weaned in the fall, and not ready until the next August or September, it's hard to know how many to sell or keep. Phillips told the secretary that she had difficulty getting appointments to get her meat inspected for sale at

lockers last year, forcing her to sell bulk halves or quarters. She stated that she had managed to get appointments this year, but that they had told her they were otherwise full for the rest of the year.

Naig stated that he heard people talk about this difficulty all the time. He stated that there was a lot of difficulty dealing with poultry, due to labor issues at lockers. He noted that, after COVID, lockers were booked for two entire years. Naig stated that he would like USDA inspected facilities to allow inspected meat to be approved across state lines. He recommended Phillips look into the Cooperative Interstate Shipping Program.

Phillips helped her father raise cattle in her youth. A year and a half ago, with her father getting older, she came back to help her father on the farm, starting her beef business as a way to add extra income.

"We have really good genetics in our beef, and they grow good, and we have the genetics for marbling and everything like that. So it just seems like it made sense to feed some out and start selling them this way," said Phillips.

Naig brought up his Choose Iowa program, which tries to

promote locally grown meat and produce. He stated that there is increasing demand for local farm goods and that surveys overwhelmingly showed that Iowans wanted to and were even willing to spend a little more to buy local goods. He stated this was more than a passing trend. He stated he was working to try and get farmers in contact with schools, grocery stores and restaurants that want to buy from Iowa farmers like Phillips.

April's husband Nate Phillips told Naig that the biggest thing holding his wife back was not having the resources to develop those relationships. He stated that they did well but not great and that it was hard, as a family of five, to set aside enough money to expand their business through things like building a cooler building to store meat, especially when things are so expensive. Naig stated that things were tight, with a lot of farmers only needing a little bit of support to be able to expand. He mentioned a grant program that helps farmers build coolers. Naig also talked about labelling rules, property taxes, trade missions to Vietnam and Indonesia, new world screw worms, E-15 gas, and Chinese soybean demand.

# Fairfield crash kills teen; two Pekin school staff injured

By Katie Phillips |  
The News-Review

FAIRFIELD — An 18-year-old Fairfield woman was killed and two others were injured in a two-vehicle crash late Friday night in Fairfield, according to the Iowa State Patrol accident report.

The crash occurred at about 10:18 p.m. in the 2100 block of Hemlock Avenue near Cedar Creek. According to the report, a vehicle traveling north on Hemlock Avenue lost control due to weather conditions and was struck on the side by another vehicle.

Emmelia Miller, 18, of Fairfield, was pronounced dead at the scene. According to the

accident report, Miller was not wearing a seat belt.

Two people injured in the crash were teachers at Pekin Community School District's high school. In an email sent to community members Sunday afternoon, district officials said staff members James Lyman, 26, of Fairfield, and Ashlyn Hotchkiss, 24, of Urbana, currently living in Fairfield, were involved in the crash and were receiving medical care. The district said additional details would be shared as appropriate.

According to the Iowa State Patrol report, Lyman was not transported for medical treatment and was wearing a seat belt. Hotchkiss was

transported to University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics by Jefferson County Ambulance and was not wearing a seat belt.

Morgan Anderson, 20, of Fairfield, was identified as the driver of the second vehicle involved. No injuries were reported for Anderson, according to the Iowa State Patrol report.

The crash remains under investigation.

Agencies assisting at the scene included the Iowa State Patrol, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, Fairfield Police Department, Fairfield Fire Department, Libertyville Fire Department, and Jefferson County Ambulance.

# Nationwide Cold Wave Hits Iowa

By Casey Jarmes |  
The News-Review  
KEOKUK COUNTY — Last weekend was miserably cold, with temperatures

reaching as low as -10 on Friday, Jan. 23, and staying horribly cold into Saturday. All five of the local schools the News-Review covers closed

on the 23, with Pekin and Keota using virtual learning days. Sigourney, Pekin and Keota opened two hours late on Monday, Jan. 26.

# Pekin Schools partner with Sleep in Heavenly Peace for upcoming community service day

By: Katie Phillips |  
The News-Review

PACKWOOD — Pekin Schools have partnered with Sleep in Heavenly Peace-Washington/Keokuk County as part of an upcoming Community Service Day focused on helping children in need in Keokuk County.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring that no child sleeps on the floor. The organization provides beds to children ages 3-17 who are currently sleeping on floors, sofas or in other unsafe or uncomfortable conditions. Through the partnership, Pekin Schools will take a hands-on role in supporting local families.

On April 8, Pekin students and volunteers will help build beds that will be delivered to children in the community. In preparation for the build, Pekin Schools are hosting a Community Bedding Drive to ensure each bed includes a complete and comfortable bedding set.

The bedding drive is accepting new, unopened twin-size items, including sheet sets, comforters, bed-in-a-bag sets, standard pillows and waterproof mattress protectors. Because the beds are delivered to children ages 3-17, neutral or kid-friendly colors and patterns are encouraged.

To make donating easier, organizers have created an Amazon storefront where community members can purchase needed bedding items online. Items will be shipped directly to the school. Donations may also be purchased from local retailers and dropped off in person.



Every child deserves a warm place to sleep.

Monetary donations are also accepted. All funds will be used to purchase bedding supplies, with donations remaining within the Washington/Keokuk County chapter to directly support local children and families.

Community members are encouraged to involve workplaces, schools, churches, clubs and other groups in the bedding drive. Every contribution helps support the effort.

All bedding and monetary donations may be dropped off or sent to Christy Gambell at the Pekin High School office. Families in need of a bed or individuals seeking additional information may also contact Gambell at christy.gambell@pekincsd.org

Scan the QR code to visit the Amazon storefront and purchase items for the Sleep in Heavenly Peace Community Bedding Drive.



Through community service and collaboration, Pekin Schools and Sleep in Heavenly Peace aim to ensure no child in the community sleeps on the floor.



Jackson Vittetoe and Kennedy Jackson were crowned Keota's 2026 Homecoming King and Queen before the homecoming game against HLV-TC. Other Homecoming Court members include Addison Purkeypile, Olivia Lyle, Dakota Dodd, Jake Morris, Chase Haffley, and Gavin Sieren. Also pictured: Eagle Escorts Reese Conrad and Garrett Greiner.



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Community CALENDAR

information call 319-456-6541

**Wilson Memorial Library**  
Mondays 10-6pm  
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, 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](http://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. KCHS will be closed the weeks of Thanksgiving, Christmas,

and New Years. During winter, when school is cancelled, KCHS 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 Open Meeting**  
First Tuesday of the Month at The Sigourney Public Library. Meet & Greet at 6:30 p.m. Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**Webb Masonic Lodge #182**  
A.F. & A.M. Meets first Tuesday every month, Dinner 6:30 p.m.; Stated meeting 7:30 p.m. For more information call 641-660-4605

Sigourney Council Approves Mower Replacement

**By Casey Jarmes | The News-Review**  
SIGOURNEY – During the Jan. 21 meeting of the Sigourney City Council, the council approved combining parcels for the Town Square Park. The council approved spending approximately \$6,600 plus trade-in to replace a city mower. The

mower has 410 miles and is four years old. It was replaced as part of a two-year replacement schedule. The council approved paying Mayor Pro Tem Connie McLaughlin the salary of new Mayor Gary Iosbaker for the time he has been absent, due to her covering his duties. Iosbaker has been absent since the start of the year.

Former Council Member Defends School During Keota City Council Meeting

**By Casey Jarmes | The News-Review**  
KEOTA – The Jan. 7 issue of The News-Review featured a Letter to the Editor from newly-elected Keota City Councilman Chad Greiner. In this letter, Greiner stated that “rising costs – especially property taxes and the increasing expense of operating multiple school districts – are placing a growing strain on taxpayers and local governments alike. Ignoring these realities will not make them go away.” Greiner wrote that he would much rather be living here than in a large community, and that the “sense of community is worth protecting.” He brought up Sigourney CSD’s recent failed \$10 million bond measure, which would have gone towards fixing up the high school, and stated that “when school buildings deteriorate to the point of frequent closures or emergency repairs, families will look elsewhere. Open enrollment to larger districts will increase, enrollment will decline, and the cycle will only accelerate.”

high/high school students are at or above state averages in reading and math. Tinnes stated that Keota has a 95% graduation rate, compared to the state average of 88%, and spends \$12,957 per student, compared to the state average of \$14,275.

“At some point, we must ask the hard question: can Keokuk County realistically continue to support three separate school districts, or would a single consolidated district – supported by the tax base of the entire county – provide greater stability, efficiency, and opportunity for our students?” wrote Greiner.

Tinnes stated that she believed the school was in good shape and that, in conversations she had had with board members, they said that nothing was alarming right now. She stated that, if there was an issue with the school, the town and council should come together to help solve that issue. Tinnes stated that she thought consolidation was the last option for any small town, because, when towns lose their schools, they lose the town. She stated that there was value in growing up in a small town and graduating from a small town school. She stated that she had worked off-and-on at the grocery store and Countyline Mart and seen the business and traffic the school brings into town. Tinnes stated that the school board had worked hard to make the school better and that, if there was hardship, it was imperative to step up and solve that hardship.

Greiner’s letter created heavy controversy around town. During the Jan. 22 meeting of the Keota City Council, former City Councilwoman Patty Tinnes spoke out in favor of the local school district. “I will be talking facts,” said Tinnes. “Facts can change minds. I won’t be talking about feelings and opinions, because feelings can change hearts. In case there’s somebody in the community, or in this room, who thinks maybe Keota school’s not so important, I am determined to change your mind on that.”

Mayor Ryan Carr stated that Tinnes had shared good numbers and that it was always good to see when education is paying off. Later, during his mayoral comments at the end of the meeting, Carr stated the letter had been a personal opinion, not the view of Carr or the city council. He stated that this was a school board matter and urged the public to be open to discussion with the board. He stated that the board were good people who did good work and had their full support.

She explained that the Keota School District had been established in 1873, with the current building opening in 1963. Keota has 304 students (166 elementary and 138 junior high/high school) and an 11-1 student/teacher ratio. Tinnes contrasted this with a neighboring school, presumably Sigourney, based on the numbers given, which has 594 students (324 elementary and 270 junior high/high school) and a student/teacher ratio of 14-1. She noted that 62% of Keota elementary students are at or above state averages in reading and math. She noted that 71% of junior

Also at the Tuesday meeting, Councilman Keith Conrad brought up the idea of informing residents of the minimum standards their properties are required to abide to, before spring begins. He noted issues like people not mowing their yards, not mowing city rightaways, broken sidewalks, sidewalks covered in overgrowth, untrimmed brush, garbage blowing into the yards of neighbors, trees hanging down over sidewalks and streets, and gutters falling down. He stated that people should look at their properties and try to find ways to make them more appealing. Conrad noted things that bring down your property value also bring

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MENUS

Goodwin Senior Dining Center (Wellman)

Jan. 30th  
Chicken Breast, Broccoli/Cauliflower rice Casserole, Champagne Salad.  
Feb. 2nd  
Hame & Beans, Cornbread, Coleslaw, Jello w/ Fruit,  
Feb. 4th  
Minute Steaks, mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Mixed Vegetables, Mandarin Orange Cake.

English Valleys

Jan. 29th  
Breakfast: French Toast Sticks, Assorted Cereal w/ Toast w. margarine, Fruit, Juice, Milk.  
Lunch: Pizza Soup w/ Focaccia Bread, Cheeseburger, Sweet Potato Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Garden Salad, Steamed Broccoli, Fruit, Milk.  
Jan. 30th  
Breakfast: Biscuits & Gravy w/ Sausage Patty, Assorted Cereal w/ Cinnamon Toast, Fruit, Juice, Milk.  
Lunch: Glazed Wings w/ Queso w/ Focaccia Bread, BBQ Rib Sandwich, Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Garden Salad, Steamed Broccoli, Fruit, Milk.  
Feb. 2nd  
Breakfast: Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich, Assorted Cereal w/ Toast w. Margarine, Fruit, Juice, Milk.  
Lunch: Rattlesnake Pasta w/ Italian Bread, BBQ Pork on a Bun, Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, SUB Bar, Salad Bar w/ Italian Bread, Garden Salad, Corn, Fruit, Milk.  
Feb. 3rd  
Breakfast: Donut, Assorted Cereal w/ Fruit Muffin, Fruit, Juice, Milk.  
Lunch: Chicken Nachos w/ White Queso, Cheeseburger, Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Salad Bar w/ Focaccia Bread, Garden Salad, Cowboy Beans, Seasoned Fries, Fruit, Focaccia Bread, Milk.  
Feb. 4th  
Breakfast: Waffles, Assorted Cereal w/ Cinnamon Toast, Fruit, Juice, Milk.  
Lunch: Chicken Patty w/ Hot Roll Grilled Ham & Cheese Sandwich w/ Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Salad Bar w/ Hot Roll, Mashed Potatoes, Parmesan Roasted Carrots, Seasoned Fries, Fruit, Hot Roll, Milk.

Sigourney

Jan. 29th  
Breakfast: Breakfast Bowl w/ Toast w. Margarine, Assorted Cereal w/ Toast w. Margarine, Fruit, Juice, Milk.  
Lunch: Pizza Soup w/ Focaccia Bread, Cheeseburger w/ Sweet Potato Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Salad Bar w/ Focaccia Bread, Garden Salad, Steamed Broccoli, Fruit, Milk.  
Jan. 30th  
Breakfast: Honey Glazed Chicken Biscuit, Assorted Cereal w/ Cinnamon Toast, Pancakes, Fruit, Juice, Milk.  
Lunch: Glazed Wings w/ Queso w/ Focaccia Bread, BBQ Rib Sandwich, Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Salad Bar w/ Focaccia Bread, Garden Salad, Glazed Carrots, Fruit, Sugar Cookie, Milk.  
Feb. 2nd  
Breakfast: Egg and Cheese Breakfast Sandwich, Assorted Cereal w/ Toast w. Margarine, Funnel Cake Waffle, Fruit, Juice, Milk.  
Lunch: Rattlesnake Pasta/ Italian Bread, BBQ Pork on a Bun, Seasoned Fries, Salad Bar w/ Italian Bread, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Garden Salad, Corn, Fruit, Milk.  
Feb. 3rd  
Breakfast: Tot N Egg Casserole, Fruit Muffin, Assorted Cereal w/ Fruit Muffin, Donut, Fruit, Juice, Milk.  
Lunch: Chicken & Nachos w/ White Queso, Cheeseburger, Seasoned Fries, Salad Bar w/ Focaccia Bread, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Garden Salad, Cowboy Beans, Fruit, Milk.  
Feb. 4th  
Breakfast: Strawberry Shortcake Biscuit, Assorted Cereal w/ Cinnamon Toast, Waffles, Fruit, Juice, Milk.  
Lunch: Chicken Patty w/ Hot Roll, Grilled Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Seasoned Fries, Salad Bar w/ Hot Roll, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Mashed Potatoes, Parmesan Roasted Carrots, Fruit, Milk.

Keota

Jan. 29th  
Breakfast: Pancake Sausage Sandwich, Peaches, Juice, Milk.  
Lunch: Bosco Sticks, Iceberg Lettuce Blend, Green Beans, Marinara Sauce, Pears, Milk.  
Jan. 30th  
No School  
Feb. 2nd  
Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza, Tropical Fruit, Juice, Milk.  
Lunch: Pig in a Blanket, Potato Wedges, Steamed Broccoli, Cucumbers, Peaches, Milk.  
Feb. 3rd  
Breakfast: Pancakes w/ Syrup, Peaches, Juice, Milk.  
Lunch: Chicken Wrap, Romaine Lettuce, Tomato Slices, Steamed Carrots, Tropical Fruit, Rice Pudding, Milk.  
Feb. 4th  
Breakfast: Egg Bites, Toast & Jelly, Orange, Juice, Milk.  
Lunch: Spaghetti/ Meat Sauce, Garden Spinach Salad, Green Beans, Grapes, French Garlic Bread, Milk.

Tri-County

Jan. 29th  
Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza.  
Lunch: Chicken Pot Pie, Mixed Vegetables, Applesauce, Biscuit.  
Jan. 30th  
Breakfast: Cheese Omelet & Toast.  
Lunch: Turkey & Bacon Croissant, Carrots & Ranch, Grapes, Baked Chips.  
Feb. 2nd  
Breakfast: Cereal & Pop Tart.  
Lunch: Chicken Nuggets, Potato Wedges, Carrots, Peaches.  
Feb. 3rd  
Breakfast: Sausage Egg & Cheese McGriddle.  
Lunch: Rotini w/ Garlic Bread, Broccoli, Pineapple.  
Feb. 4th  
Breakfast: Egg Bake & Toast.  
Lunch: Maidrite, Green Beans, Baked Beans, 9-12 Baked Chips, Banana.

Milestones (Sigourney & Delta)

Jan. 29th  
Chili Soup, Carrots, Mixed Fruit, Cornbread.  
Jan. 30th  
Liver & Onions, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans w/ Onions, Fruit Gelatin, WW Bread.  
Feb. 2nd  
Tuna Noodle Casserole, Buttered Carrots, Fruit, Wheat Bread.  
Feb. 3rd  
Andy's Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans, Fruit, Wheat Roll.  
Feb. 4th  
Goulash, Big Bowl of Tuscan Greens, Dressing, Pumpernickel Bread, Cranberry Juice, M& M Cookie.

Pekin

Jan. 29th  
Breakfast: Pancakes, Yogurt, Fruit, Juice, Milk.  
Lunch: Jan. 30th  
Breakfast: WG Long John, Sting Cheese, Fruit, Juice, Milk.  
Lunch: N/A  
Feb. 2nd  
Breakfast: N/A  
Lunch: N/A  
Feb. 3rd  
Breakfast: N/A  
Lunch: N/A  
Feb. 4th  
Breakfast: N/A  
Lunch: N/A

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# Worship Guide

VIEWPOINT from pg. 4

a hat. Lowe won with ease; afterwards, Sheriff Johnson declared that the mule didn't see the hat fall.

On Nov. 26, Dr. W. W. Eastburn of Webster led a town meeting to discuss the local hotel, which had five female employees, which was apparently more female help than was "consistent with propriety." The day after the meeting, the hotel owner, Mrs. Anderson, showed up at Eastburn's drug store to berate him. Eastburn was absent, but Anderson threatened violence. Two days after the meeting, Susan Misel and Jeannie Mesuard, two of the hotel workers, walked up to Eastburn, pulled out a billy club, riding whip and broomstick that were concealed in their dresses, and beat Dr. Eastburn. Both were arrested and Misel was let go for testifying against her other coworkers, who were then arrested.

The thing that I found interesting about the 1890 issues of the What Cheer Reporter was how little local news it featured. There were occasional local tidbits, but the bulk of the paper was dedicated to state, federal, and even international news, often taken from other newspapers. It even featured entire pages dedicated to excerpts from books, for example, running the 28-chapter historical fiction novel "Cleopatra" by H. Rider Haggard, a few chapters at a time, over the course of multiple months. This, I surmise, is because local newspapers served a different purpose back then. Radio was in its infancy, and the only source of any news was the local paper. If the people wanted to learn the important stories of 1890, like the opening of the Chicago World's Fair, resignation of Otto von Bismarck, passing of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, or Wounded Knee Massacre, they needed to go to a paper published in their hometown.

The What Cheer Reporter and its publisher, Richard Burke, were unabashedly loyal to the Democratic Party, calling the paper a "Weekly Democratic Paper" in its masthead. Although, given the fluidity of political parties, that doesn't really mean the same thing it does today. Burke despised Republican President Benjamin Harrison and even more strongly despised Republican Congressman William McKin-

ley, for McKinley's staunch support of protectionist tariffs, which Burke called "The McKinley Monstrosity." Burke even published a quite frankly bizarre fairy tale about the people of What Cheer being harassed by the worshippers of the evil deity Jee Oh Pea on Nov. 26.

Of course, there were parts of this 136-year-old newspaper that have aged, let's say, poorly. In February, it ran a column by an Iowa man named E. S. Gibbs, opposing racist laws banning Chinese immigration...on the grounds that the Chinese were "as intelligent as the Negroes." Gibbs wrote about how the U.S. had "civilized" the "worker race," and advocated shipping Black Americans to Africa, so they could "enlighten the uncivilized." He argued that the only reason this had not happened is because Republicans wanted Black people's votes. Yikes.

The paper also frequently praised the temperance movement as well as the labor movement, running frequent articles by British writer John W. Postgate about how American labor rights were 40 years behind those of England. The Reporter frequently praised newly elected Iowa Governor Horace Bois. Bois was an ardent advocate of the labor movement, establishing the eight-hour work day, creating laws to protect minors, and proclaiming Iowa's first Labor Day. These politics were very popular in What Cheer. The city was a Democrat stronghold, with only one member of the city council being a Republican after the March 3rd election. And, this makes sense. What Cheer, at its peak, was a coal town, and coal miners traditionally were the most steadfast members of the labor movement, because of how dangerous and miserable their jobs were. The 1890 What Cheer Reporter issues were filled with stories of miners being injured, or even killed. That's what we'll discuss next week.

1890 is the oldest year I've touched, and it showed. Many of the old paper scans were either missing or too decayed to read. On Nov. 5, the Reporter ran a photo of their office cat, to prove it was cuter than the cat owned by their rival, the What Cheer Patriot. As you can see, it's hard to tell, because these cats are not recognizable as cats.

## Neal Bowman

†2026

Neal Bowman, 73, died January 19, 2026, surrounded by his family in Harper, Iowa. Celebration of Life at a later date. Arrangements Holm Funeral Home.

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

## Laurel Streigle

†2026

Laurel Streigle, 88, died January 24, 2026, in Sigourney. Visitation will be Friday February 6, 2026, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Holm Funeral Home.

Funeral service will be Saturday February 7, 2026, 1:30 p.m. at the Delta Christian Church. A full obituary to follow. Arrangements by Holm Funeral Home

Services: Feb. 7, 1:30 p.m.  
HOLM FUNERAL HOME  
SIGOURNEY



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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: sigourneystmary@diodav.org

**Sigourney United Methodist Church**  
Website: sigourneyumc.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 Church**  
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

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”  
Galatians 6:9 (NIV)

## Seeking Out Lasting Patience

About a month removed from Christmas, we should take time to rest and reflect on our actions during the season. While the craze leading up to the holidays can seem lasting, the feeling of them is fairly fleeting. In understanding this, we can develop an attitude of great patience as the rush simmers down and we go about our normal lives. While we may not always be able to spend our time with loved ones, regular reflection on these holiday memories we make can increase the effect of the experiences greatly. Further, as we may remain patient leading up to these holiday festivities, it is likely we will find greater enjoyment and relaxation through them.

-James Stone

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103 E Marion, Sigourney

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Deadline for next week's paper is Friday.

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Everyday moments can be learning moments with your kids. For more tips, visit [bornlearning.org](http://bornlearning.org)  
**WE BECOME WHAT WE THINK**

**Keokuk County Republican Caucus**  
Monday, Feb. 2, 2026  
Starts promptly at 7 p.m.  
Please arrive 30 minutes early to allow for check-in. Photo ID REQUIRED. Must be 18 by Nov 3, 2026 to participate. Questions?  
Call (641) 224-2830  
Paid for by the Keokuk County Republican Committee

**A) Adams/Prairie/What Cheer..... Hilltop Chapel..... 506 Briney Street, What Cheer**  
**B) English River/Liberty/Lafayette/Clear Creek..... Willson Memorial Library..... 109 East Washington, Keota**  
**C) Benton/Steady Run/Jackson/Richland..... Mother's Cabrini Center..... 306 West Main Street, Richland**  
**D) East/West Lancaster/Warren..... 102 Fritz Street, Hayesville**  
**E) Sigourney 1st Ward, 2nd Ward, 3rd Ward, 4th Ward and Sigourney/Plank Van Buren - ALL will meet at the Courthouse in Sigourney at 101 South Main (North Door)**

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Apply on-line at [priorityenv.com](http://priorityenv.com) or through INDEED.

**POOL PERSONNEL**  
The City of Sigourney is now accepting applications for Lifeguards at the Municipal Swimming Pool for the 2026 season. All applicants must have evidence of a valid certificate of completion of Red Cross Lifeguard Training and CPR training prior to the pool opening. WSI (Water Safety Instructor) certification would be preferred for the Manager and/or Assistant Manager(s). Wages will be based on qualifications and experience. Applications may be printed off the City's web site ([www.sigourney.com](http://www.sigourney.com)) or picked up at the City Clerk's Office, 100 North Main Street. Applications may be e-mailed to [ashley@sigourneycouncil.com](mailto:ashley@sigourneycouncil.com), mailed or dropped off at City Hall and must be returned no later than 4:30 p.m. on Monday, February 9, 2026.  
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**REAL ESTATE AUCTION**  
**HUNTING - FARMLAND/ CRP ACRES - TIMBER**  
We will offer for auction the following Real Estate located 6 miles West of Sigourney, IA on Hwy 92, then 1 mile South of Delta on Hwy 21.  
**Fri - January 30, 2026 - 10:00am**  
**121 ACRES M/L - 54.9 CSR2**  
Keokuk Co - Warren Twp - Sect. 14  
Auction to be conducted at the Delta Community Center located on the corner of 4th & Valley St.  
**Note:** Buyer will have tillage rights to farm this Tract for the 2026 crop year. 100% of the 2026 CRP payment will be paid to the Buyer. Duwa's Auction Service LLC shall assume no liability for any errors, omissions or inaccuracies in the information provided. All critical information shall be independently verified. **TERMS:** 15% down day of auction, balance due March 4, 2026. **CLOSING & POSSESSION:** March 4, 2026. **TAXES:** Prorated to date of closing. All announcements day of auction take precedence over all previous advertising.  
**KATHLEEN WILLIAMS TRUST: OWNER**  
**AUCTIONEER:** Dwight Duwa 319-330-6023  
Attorney: John Wehr, 116 E Washington St, Sigourney, IA 52591  
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Liz Osaki  
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# Sigourney NHS Raises Over \$500 for Charity, Pies Coach and Players

The Sigourney National Honor Society hosted the Pennies for Patients event throughout December. They collected donations for the Ronald McDonald House Charities. All donations make the house truly a home away from home for families indeed.

Collection buckets were placed in the high school lobby, and NHS members collected donations during the home sporting events.

The coaches collected \$29.08, with Coach Van Den

Heuvel securing a four-peat by collecting the most donations.

The student athletes' collection totals were:

Wells Clark \$32.35  
Charli Smothers \$45.83  
Kia Montgomery \$78.56

And our top two student-athlete winners with the most donations were:

Owen Menke \$96.70  
John Berg \$139.05

The following winners graciously accepted a pie-in-the-face:

Wrestling Coach Van Den

Heuvel  
Boys' Wrestling Captain Owen Menke  
Boys' Basketball Captain John Berg

They were able to collect over \$100 more than last year. The members also decided to donate the funds from the Candy Cane sales for a total donation of \$530.21 to the Ronald McDonald House Charities.

Thank you to all who donated. The NHS appreciates your generosity.

# Fidelity Bank & Trust Will Award Scholarships

**Fidelity Bank & Trust has announced that scholarship applications are now available for the 2026 Senior Scholarship Program.**

The forms are available at all locations of Fidelity Bank & Trust or visit [www.bank-fidelity.bank](http://www.bank-fidelity.bank). Applications must be returned by March

31, 2026.

Under the program, thirty-four \$500 scholarships will be awarded to area high school seniors who plan to attend a two or four-year college or vocational school. The students and their parents are not required to be Fidelity Bank & Trust customers.

The scholarships will be awarded based on scholastic standing, extracurricular activities, community in-

volvement, financial need and a short essay on why the individual should be considered for this scholarship.

Interested high school students should contact their high school guidance office or Fidelity Bank & Trust for further assistance in completing the scholarship application. Scholarship winners will be announced in early April.

# House GOP property tax bill released with 2% revenue cap

**By Robin Opsahl**  
**Iowa Capital Dispatch**

House Republicans released their property tax plan Wednesday, starting down the path toward finding a compromise with the governor and the GOP Senate majority on one of their top session priorities.

House Speaker Pat Grassley and Rep. Carter Nordman, who chairs the House Ways and Means committee, unveiled House Study Bill 596 Wednesday. It joins the list of property tax bills to be considered this year, alongside Gov. Kim Reynolds' proposal announced in her 2026 Condition of the State address and Senate Republicans' proposal released last week, Senate Study Bill 3001.

Nordman said House GOP lawmakers crafted their legislation with a focus on "real, tangible relief for all homeowners."

"While there may be three different proposals out there right now, I am confident that we'll be able to find common ground and accomplish property tax reform this year," Nordman said. "... This plan prioritizes the taxpayer over the taxing entities. It brings simplicity, it brings transparency, and most importantly, it brings relief."

There are some similarities between the House proposal and the governor's plan, such as a 2% revenue cap for local governments outside of new construction, with exemptions for school funding and the debt levy. Both bills also call for a focus on finding local government efficiencies and ways for local entities to cut spending.

There are also several differences. While the governor's bill includes a \$10 million pot of one-time money for localities to finance consolidation and shared service agreements, the House bill does not have a funding mechanism to

support this effort. Instead, it tasks the Iowa Councils of Government (COGs) to provide assistance with "coordination, planning and technical assistance for local government entities for the purpose of consolidating, sharing or regionalizing services."

Grassley said COGs have already worked extensively with local governments on economic development, and said these boards were identified as a good "conduit" for working with local governments across a larger region on consolidation efforts. He also said he believes there is not necessarily a need for the fiscal backing included in Reynolds' bill, as these changes will be driven by the revenue cap.

"Some communities have done really good with efficiency, so I'm not just blaming them in this conversation, but I'm saying with the ability to continue to collect more and more revenue, the incentive to find efficiencies, I don't think is always taken as seriously as (it should be)," Grassley said. "So I think with that revenue gap, it will just naturally lead to more efficiencies."

Both the governor's and Senate's proposals also include a measure specifically lowering property taxes for seniors. Reynolds' bill proposes freezing property taxes for seniors age 65 and older in homes valued at \$350,000 or less, while the Senate bill goes further, eliminating most property taxes for Iowans over age 60 who no longer pay a mortgage for their home.

The House bill takes a different approach, proposing a new \$25,000 exemption for all residential properties. This provision, which would mean all properties are not taxed for the first \$25,000 in assessed home value, will help Iowans at all stages in their life, Nordman said.

"It gives relief to seniors, it gives relief to the working families, it gives relief to young

couples who are buying a new home," Nordman said. "So rather than just looking at one section, we're given relief to everyone."

The House proposal also requires bonds payable through property taxes to receive a 60% vote of approval to pass, in addition to adding new requirements on information sent to property taxpayers explaining how the tax money is used.

This bill does not include any of the measures related to changing Iowa's "rollback" system of calculating property taxes which appeared in the Senate GOP proposal, as well as property tax plans introduced by legislative leaders in 2025. Grassley said the House Republicans' goal was to introduce a "simplified" property tax plan in comparison to previous discussions, which is why the caucus settled on advocating a 2% revenue cap.

Grassley said as the conversation on property taxes progresses, he does not see any specific points in the House bill as "deal breakers" if they are not included in a final draft. Negotiations are ongoing, he said. He added that he did not know how a consensus will be reached, but the fact that the House and Senate GOP's and governor's proposals are all out early in session shows that all three parties are serious about taking action on the issue this session.

"Ultimately, regardless of what the process is, our goal is to find a situation where we can find certainty for the taxpayer," Grassley said. "So however we get there, I'm not as concerned about. But we are already engaged in those conversations."

*Read more from Robin Opsahl online at IowaCapitalDispatch.com*

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## Tri-County CSD 2nd Quarter 2025 Honor Roll

<b>A Honor Roll</b>		
<b>4th Grade:</b> Sofia Marie Berg.	<b>3rd Grade:</b> Braxton Brumbaugh, Oaklynn Van Patten.	Adam Bos Rauch, Aubree Cranston, Eva Domenech, Griffin Hall, Memphis Hastings.
<b>5th Grade:</b> Nora Hall, Grant Sowers.	<b>4th Grade:</b> Annebelle Callow, Brooklynn Maxwell.	<b>9th Grade:</b> Sloane McKain, Leah Triplett.
<b>9th Grade:</b> Lillian McDonald.	<b>5th Grade:</b> Lane Cranston, Kenneth Hartwig, Gabriel Kenyon, Leo Molyneux, Otley Van Patten.	<b>10th Grade:</b> Keira Cooper, Xavier Jandrisovits, Gracen MacCready, Layla Shilling, Sullivan Stanley.
<b>10th Grade:</b> Lia Hastings, Karley Moore.	<b>6th Grade:</b> Natalie Terwilliger, Dax Tuttle.	<b>11th Grade:</b> Emery Hall, Saige McKain, Sienna Molyneux.
<b>11th Grade:</b> Nazareth Davis, Drayvon Dennis, Alyssa Hadsell, Aubrey Zittergruen.	<b>7th Grade:</b> Braxton Krumm, Quinn Stanley.	<b>12th Grade:</b> Tuesday Davis, Emma Lindley.
<b>12th Grade:</b> Hailey Brackelsberg, Boston Roorda, Marley Van Patten.	<b>8th Grade:</b>	
<b>B Honor Roll</b>		

# Keota Honor Roll

To make the Honor Roll, high school students must receive a GPA of at least 3.2. Junior high students must receive a GPA of at least 3.0. * Denotes 4.0 GPA	Aidan Greiner, Ella Greiner, Karley Greiner, Marlee Greiner, Cameron Haifley, Halle Heisdorffer, *Elyse Lyle, Tyson Osweiler, Levin Sheetz, Avalyn Wulff	Greiner, Xander Myers
<b>Quarter 2 2025 Honor Roll</b>	<b>Eleventh Grade</b> Porter Cave, Emily Conger, Lexus Detweiler, *Ayden Galindo, Jack Greiner, Brennan McGuire, Jaylah Redlinger, Tucker Sprouse	<b>Ninth Grade</b> *Jessalyn Aller, Hadley Cave, Addyson Chapman, Mia Conrad, Drew Dodd, Allie Galindo, Aspen Galindo, Emma Greiner, William Greiner, Memphis Jaeger, Vivienne Klein, Dacin Redlinger, Zoey Sieren, *Greyson Sprouse
<b>Seventh Grade</b> *Madelyn Altenhofen, Nora Bayliss, Lucas Bender, Kahlan Carl, Riley Clarke, Case Fagen, Covert Greiner, Evan Greiner, Raiden Henrichson-Mattila, Iliyah Hill, Julie Jaeger, Henry Klein, Caidan Luers, Emerson Lyle, Connor Osweiler, Daxton Redlinger, Ryker Sheetz, Aspen Sieren	<b>Twelfth Grade</b> *Reese Conrad, Dakota Dodd, Garrett Greiner, Chase Haifley, Kennedy Jackson, Olivia Lyle, Emily Mahan, *Emily Moeller, Luke Moeller, Jake Morris, Addison Purkeypile, *Gavin Sieren, *Jackson Vittetoe	<b>Tenth Grade</b> Blake Baker, Keegan Clarke, Aubrey Galindo, Aidan Greiner, Ella Greiner, Karley Greiner, Marlee Greiner, Cameron Haifley, Halle Heisdorffer, *Elyse Lyle, Tyson Osweiler, *Levin Sheetz
<b>Eighth Grade</b> Josephine Greiner, Skylar Greiner, Xander Myers	<b>Semester 1 Honor Roll</b>	<b>Eleventh Grade</b> Porter Cave, Emily Conger, Brynn Conrad, Lexus Detweiler, *Ayden Galindo, Jack Greiner, Brycen Horras, Brennan McGuire, Jaylah Redlinger, Tucker Sprouse
<b>Ninth Grade</b> Adyson Ahlberg, Jessalyn Aller, Hadley Cave, Addyson Chapman, Mia Conrad, Drew Dodd, Aspen Galindo, Emma Greiner, Memphis Jaeger, Vivienne Klein, Maddox Peterson, Dacin Redlinger, Zoey Sieren, *Greyson Sprouse	<b>Seventh Grade</b> *Madelyn Altenhofen, Nora Bayliss, Lucas Bender, Kahlan Carl, Riley Clarke, Case Fagen, Covert Greiner, Evan Greiner, Raiden Henrichson-Mattila, Iliyah Hill, Julie Jaeger, Henry Klein, Caidan Luers, Emerson Lyle, Connor Osweiler, Daxton Redlinger, Ryker Sheetz, Aspen Sieren	<b>Twelfth Grade</b> Reese Conrad, Dakota Dodd, Garrett Greiner, Chase Haifley, Kennedy Jackson, Jacob Live, Olivia Lyle, Emily Mahan, *Emily Moeller, *Luke Moeller, Jake Morris, Addison Purkeypile, *Gavin Sieren, *Jackson Vittetoe
<b>Tenth Grade</b> Blake Baker, Keegan Clarke, Aubrey Galindo,	<b>Eighth Grade</b> Josephine Greiner, Skylar	

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SIGOURNEY & PEKIN from pg. 1

• Group Improv (Brogan Spray, Zoey Atkinson, Zoe Heisdorffer).  
This group has worked very hard to prepare for District competition, and I am very excited to see how well their hard work pays off on Saturday in Centerville," said Sigourney Speech Coach Alex Holt prior to the competition. "The Reader's Theater goes through their twenty minute script over three times a day for the past three weeks and has constantly worked to become their characters for those twenty minutes of performance. I think they have a great opportunity to make some noise this weekend. I am also very excited about how Group Improv team. These two boys feed off of one another for their improv performances and have also been working tirelessly to make sure they are ready for any character or any scenario they may come across Saturday. I'm excited for what Centerville brings and can't wait to see their hard work pay off.



Dexter, The Ice Fishing Machine




By Rick Janssen

Jan 26, 2026


Once a year my grandkids will humor their old Papa and agree to go ice fishing with me. Of course it must be a nice day out, not too cold. A few weekends ago, the temps were fine and the wind was not gusting, so my grandson Dexter agreed to go with me. Even though they only go once per year the two grandkids have a competition going on to decide who can catch the most fish. Granddaughter Zoey had the record at 17 from last year, so when I picked up Dexter at his house, he announced that he was going to catch 20 in order to have the record. Game on!  
I take the kids to Maynes Grove to fish because it is a small body of water and we don't have too walk far. Also, the ponds are full of small bluegills. It is almost guaranteed that we will catch fish. That is the most important thing when fishing with kids. You want them to be successful, especially when there is a record on the line.  
The ice at Maynes Grove was very smooth and slippery. I have cleats on my boots, and I told Dexter to sit down so I could put some cleats on his boots. He informed me that he did not want any cleats because he wanted to slide around on the ice. HMMM sounds like me at his age. I agreed to his terms as long as I did not hear any crying when he fell.  
I always let the kids decide where to start drilling. Once I had a hole drilled, I started up the depth finder and taught Dexter how to read the "marks" on the screen so that he could look for fish. I drilled the holes, and he searched each hole for fish. Soon he will be tall enough to run the ice drill.  
He found fish in a few holes and selected the holes we should start fishing in. We pulled the ice sled over, sat down and pulled the top over us. My ice sled is very small and made for one person. I do fine by myself, but with two people it is tight. Dexter is now at the point when he gets bigger, both of us won't fit in the house. When my granddaughter comes with me, I am going to have to come up with a different plan.  
I got our poles ready and was demonstrating how to lower the jig down into the water and watch the depth finder. I caught a fish instantly. To my surprise it was a crappie. I then gave the pole to Dexter and he went to town. He was catching fish so fast I did not even have time to get my pole ready. After he caught 10 fish it was time for a break.  
My grandkids love to eat my homemade deer jerky and dehydrated apples. Nana makes the best hot chocolate (says Dexter) so we broke out the snacks. We also have a fun rule that says you can't have jerky until you catch a fish.

Lucky for ME I had caught that crappie right at the start. We enjoyed half of our hot chocolate and jerky and saved the rest for later.  
As we were starting snacks, I noticed that the game warden was out checking licenses. I don't think I had ever been checked in Iowa before. As the warden approached, we folded back the shelter so I could show him my license. We offered some jerky and hot chocolate, but he had to go check the other shacks. I have a lifetime license and kids under 16 don't need a license.  
Dexter was ready to fish again and got right back to it. He kept a running total and was going strong. He got 17, 18, 19, and then caught the magic number of 20. With a big smile on his face he said he was done. We celebrated with the remaining hot chocolate and jerky.  
He helped me put the gear away and then announced he wanted to slide around on the ice for a while. I said fine but be careful. He had done some sliding on his knees early but now he was ready for feet sliding. He would get a run going and then "surf" the ice. Boy, did that bring back memories. With a huge run he went into his slide and then BAM, down he went. Lucky for him he just fell on his rear end and not headfirst. He quickly looked at me and said he was OK.  
It was a successful day on the ice. A new record was made, and the ice sliding did not produce any injuries. When I dropped him at his house his sister announced she would catch 25 when she went out fishing. Game on !



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COUNTRY GIRL’S CORNER

January Jokes

**By Sheryl L. Carter**  
I actually don't have too many jokes to share, but if you happen to be on Face-Book, this lady is the one to read: Amanda Rae Hartley, Backyard Chickens, from South Carolina, (be aware there are a few choice words here and there) but this lady is just hilarious as she describes the woes of having chickens; the nice little hens, and the three roosters: Rooster Cogburn, Chad, and the ever popular, but all-around naughty boy, Ricky Bobby, who it looks like he has finally done his last bad deed. Oh, heavens, she writes so good, and needs to put this all in a book—it would sell like hot-cakes!!

What have I been up to this past week? Let me tell you—Amanda has her clucks; I have my purrs—and this was the week that Miss Cherry cat was to have her tutor. I could barely sleep Sunday night, getting up and down looking at the clock, as I had to be up by 6, and out of the house by 7:15, and people, I don't like getting up early. No kids or husband to worry about, so can sleep in a bit if I want. But Monday morning I made it up dark and early, bundled Miss Cherry in her carrier, and we were off. I relinquished her to the friendly vet tech, all the while praying that everything would go well—she's just a baby of six months, is not skittish now, having settled into our little

family fine. But not so with Petey and Pippi, who HATE the ground she walks on, and don't miss an opportunity to tell her so. They have been the top kitties here for the last five and a half years, so what on earth was I thinking to bring in another cat?? Cherry had to stay overnight, so Tuesday morning, I head back over to Grinnell to get groceries before stopping at the vet clinic. I kid you not, I walked into Walmart, and my gut was in a twist—how would she do when we got home, etc, etc? I had a couple of homeopathic type pills in my purse, Mood Sync, which helps if you get a bit anxious—I rarely need these, but that day I did, got some drink, popped two, and in minutes I felt fine, finished my shopping, and drove to the clinic. I walked up to the counter the pay the bill, whilst the tech brings a frightened screaming Cherry out in her carrier. I didn't know she was a soprano. We got her in the car, where she began to calm down hearing my voice, and were soon home. Then came the unveiling. I had the cat crate all fixed with a clean folded towel, a small plastic box of kitty litter, and two little bowls of food and water. Opened the carrier and gently ushered her in. Now I should tell you that the sheet of instructions they send home with you are “no exercise, no running, jumping, etc, etc.” They must

be kept quiet to allow the incision to heal, as horrors, you don't want the thing to bust open, and have to haul her back to the vet!! The only thing wrong with this scenario is Cherry can't read. And even if she could, she wouldn't care, as my carefully laid and prayed for plan went out the window in less than five minutes. I sat beside her crate as she adjusted to everything, and it was going so good—she drank some water, used the litter box, all was going according to plan, when her foot accidentally caught the edge of the litter box where it fell over spilling the contents, so out she came, and I quickly cleaned it up, and stuck her back inside. This time with no towel. About then Pippi, who Cherry has had more than run in with, scared her, and over went the litter box along with the bowl of water, so when I let her out to clean it up, she was walking in wet litter on her paws tracking it all over the floor. Oh yes. Well, I soon realized Cherry and the crate were not going to work, as she wanted to be free, and you could not keep her down. I put all her toys away so she wouldn't get crazy and run after them to play, but she was still jumping up on the couch, the chairs, on the old sewing machine that sets in front of the big window that they like to get up there and look out. Up on my bed. Oh people, I was so worried, and the Lord

was receiving a whole lot of requests. Tuesday and Wednesday went by, and she was walking around waving her big black fluffy tail, “There's not one thing wrong with me! Watch this!” I read the protocol on-line of what to do when your cat gets spayed; how woozy they are after the anesthetic for a few days, to keep them confined for a week to ten days, etc. Shoot, she hadn't read that one either. I checked her incision; it was a little pink on one end. Last Thursday was my day out with some friends for our monthly get-together, and I had to leave by 11, be home by five. I wasn't going to go, but things had calmed a bit. Oh, boy. I prayed on the way to our friend's house that the Lord would keep His hand on her wound. Please. Just before five, I barreled home and walked in to check on them, got her up on the washer to take a good look. The incision looked great! I took a photo and sent it to the vet. He texted back, “It's healing well!!” Whew!! And it is. She sleeps all night, and takes good naps in the day, but is hopping up everywhere she wants. No bad run-ins with the big cats. Oh, me, this is making an old woman out of me. I bet those of you animal keepers can probably tell many similar stories. That's all for now. I need to rest.



MAHASKA COUNTY NEWS

OFF THE VINE

**By Jackie Perkins**  
Monday, January 26, 2025...It is still dark this early morning, wonder if the sun will shine today? We saw the sun yesterday and enjoyed a drive to Grinnell to visit Larry and Sonda Peterman. We had not been there for quite some time and had a nice visit along with cake for Sonda's birthday. Ant here we are, off to the final week of January! In the past few years, I have seen several farm houses in the area disappear. On the way to Ottumwa last week, I saw that the home I knew as Ralph and Gladys Meyer, just north of the Hedrick Y, was gone. I remember going to their home and was amazed that Gladys had several south windows in the kitchen filled with blooming African Violets. It will be interesting to see what happens there next. Saturday was a cold one, but I ventured out anyway. Destination - Fiddle Dee Dee in Keota. Several regulars were not able to attend, but those of us there had a de-

lightful time! Since the kitchen was closed, we enjoyed a pot luck, and boy were we in luck! I experienced “Dilly Beans” for the first time and they were fabulous! I acquired a couple new recipes, and as always enjoyed the groups I was amongst. It is pretty quiet around here, but three appointments this week, although not fun, will fill up the days. I also hope to tackle taking down the Christmas decorations. It is my usual plan to take them down following the Twelfth Day of Christmas, but not this year. And when it is on to the first week of that month! That is when there are plenty of meetings and activities. We extend an invitation to our Sixty Plus meeting on the first Tuesday of each month. Noon meal and fellowship – come join us! Greg is now off to Fremont for coffee time and to have the pick up serviced while there. Another week, here we come!

KEOTA from pg. 3

down the property values of your neighbors. Councilman Heath McDonald noted that there were some houses in town with no one living in them that needed to be cleaned up and stated they needed to talk to the property owners and find out their plans for the properties. The council discussed putting the information on water bills, before instead deciding to send out a separate spring newsletter containing property standards and ordinances. Carr stated that, if they wanted a good looking community, people needed to police themselves and had to take pride in their town. Jane Westendorf stated that, when sending letters out, attitude made a big difference. For example, the letter could have a positive attitude and say to keep things clean because Fun Days were coming. Conrad agreed and suggested putting an event calendar on the newsletter. The council discussed a complicated utility billing situation caused by one local renter's divorce. The resident remained in the home he shared with his wife after they divorced, but the water account is currently still in his ex-wife's name. This account became past due, but the former city clerk agreed to a deal where the renter would pay \$150 per month, to keep his water from being shut off. This is not enough to pay off the renter's deficit and the owed balance has continued going up, month after month, due to penalties on the account. Currently, the renter owes \$760.53. In a letter sent to the city by the property's owner, who is the renter's father, the owner stated that the renter had been advised by his lawyer not to pay the outstanding balance, due to the account being under his ex-wife's name. The letter stated that, if the account were transferred to the renter's name, he would be unable to pay the \$200 deposit required for new accounts. The letter asked if the account could be transferred to the renter's name, with the penalties waived if he agrees in writing to keep the account going forward. Conrad stated that, because the deposit was in the

ex-wife's name, the renter would need to open a new account. He said the outstanding balance would stay with the ex-wife and that they needed to notify her. Brunts stated that the renter had been paying on the account for a long time. She stated that they could wave the late fees, bringing the outstanding balance down drastically, then put the account under the renter's name. Conrad stated that it was his understanding that a large chunk of the outstanding balance was from the couple was married. Brunts stated that the renter had been current since he made an agreement with the city. Chad Greiner asked if they could prove the man had been a resident in the house during the time that was billed and Brunts stated they could. Carr asked how long the account had been getting late fees. Brunts stated that, when she started in July, the balance was \$1,300 behind. Public Works Director Micah Harmsen stated that, at that time, the wife had moved out and the renter had asked for the account to be changed to his name. However, they were unable to do this until the renter gave them a decree saying they were actually divorced. Since then, the renter has been paying the account that is under his wife's name. Carr asked if they could get the renter to agree to wave all late fees and penalties, in return for prorating the bill over the course of a year. Brunts stated that they currently had an agreement with him where he pays \$150 a month, but that this didn't even cover what the renter was using, resulting in him never getting caught up. Carr asked why they had an agreement for the renter to have a budget bill, while everyone else pays what they owe. Councilman Matt Greiner stated it was set up by the previous clerk. Brunts stated that, when she was hired as clerk, there were multiple residents with outstanding bills in the hundreds or thousands of dollars range. She stated that they had allowed these people to not have their water shut off if they agreed to a payment agreement, and that, if they missed one payment, the city

would shut off their water until they paid to have their water reconnected. She stated that the renter was paying, but Carr countered that he was never gaining. Carr stated that they unfortunately couldn't null and void the contract, unless the renter made a mistake. Brunts stated that the renter was now “making a fit,” saying he shouldn't have to pay his ex-wife's bill. Chad Greiner said it wasn't the ex-wife's bill, it was their bill. Conrad stated that the man had been there the whole time and the bill was his portion. Harmsen stated that they had shut the man's water off at least once since Brunts started. Carr stated that they had been lenient for long enough and needed to look into the renter's contract. Brunts stated that he was the last resident with a bill that high. Conrad asked if they could assess the outstanding bill on the house's property taxes. Matt Greiner stated they couldn't, because the property is owned by the man's father. He suggested having the ex-wife's \$200 deposit, which the city still has, be put against the bill. Conrad stated that the renter would have to pay a new \$200 connection fee. Matt Greiner suggested putting the \$200 against the balance, forgiving the rest of it, and having the renter's father put a deposit down on a fresh account. Harmsen stated that they didn't have to put it under the property owner's name, because the renter still lives there, noting that they don't have landlord own the account for apartments with separate water meters. Matt Greiner asked who gets assessed if apartment renters get behind. Harmsen said that's the problem. Conrad looked a legal question up and stated that, after a divorce, responsibility for bills is usually clearly stated in the divorce agreement, with the occupant usually paying. He stated that the renter was “SOL.” Matt Greiner stated they could agree to get rid of the amount owed. Carr stated that they shouldn't, because the man was already going over the \$150 worth of water he was being billed. Matt Greiner stated that the problem was,

the way it was set up now, the city couldn't get out of the deal and things were going to continue to get worse. Carr stated not if they shut off the renter's water. Matt Greiner stated they couldn't, if the renter was paying his bill. McDonald suggested giving the man a deadline to get current, shutting off his water if he doesn't meet the deadline, and letting the renter sort things out with his ex-wife. Harmsen stated that's what they did when the renter's water was shut off, with them giving a week for him to pay \$150. Harmsen stated that the account wasn't even in the man's name and that they needed to figure out a way to get it back under his name. Matt Greiner stated that the bill was going to keep getting bigger. Brunts stated that 10% of the outstanding balance is added onto the bill each month. Matt Greiner stated they were “in a bad deal right now.” McDonald stated that they used to have fifteen properties with deals like this and Brunts stated that the renter was the last one left. She stated that, going forward, all new accounts would have both members sign to the account and be responsible. Carr stated that they had more questions than answers and would need to revisit this in the future. The council tabled the issue. Brunts stated that the man wanted an answer soon, because he had a payment coming up. During council comments, Chad Greiner stated that he had spoken the Keokuk County Sheriff Casey Hinnah and been given an updated 28e proposal for the Keokuk County Sheriff's Department to provide police coverage for Keota. Greiner stated that it looked promising. He stated that the proposal had been drawn up in the fall, but not been submitted to the city because Hinnah wanted to wait til after the election. This agreement did not specify hours for coverage. Greiner stated that Hinnah had stated that there aren't any other 28e agreements between the department and cities in Keokuk County and that Hinnah was willing to talk whenever they liked.

wanted to do, but we wanted to be involved in speech, and so (Coach Carrie) Burdick told us that it would be a good idea to try this and get out of our comfort zone and try some new things.” Their Short Film received a I. Ambryn Hoylman, Ellie Patterson, Kaylynn Hoylman and Pantera Spies competed in Radio Broadcasting with “64.1 - FAITH,” a Christian-themes radio broadcast discussing Christian musicians. They received a I. “We just thought it was a really creative idea, and all of us go to youth group together, so it was cool to be able to put that in perspective and apply what we learned there,” said Patterson. “And we're all pretty fond of like, the music and everything. Like, we'll listen to music going there, and we'll listen to like Forrest Frank and Josiah Queen, and it just makes a big impact on us,” said Hoylman. The third English Valleys Radio Broadcast, 1950s newscast “80.08,” featured Betsy Wells, Lydia Smith, McKenna Rugg, Olivia Debevec, and Zola Voss. “It's something we're really comfortable with, and editing wise, it's really easy to do,” said Wells. “I just thought it would bring a laugh.” Peyton Conrad and Miley Clubb sang together in Musical Theater with the song

“Therapy” from the musical “Tick, Tick... Boom!,” a song about an arguing married couple. “It's from a musical I really like and I thought Miley would be able to sing the male part,” said Conrad. “It was very difficult, and we thought it would be really good to have some difficulty. It also, as (the judge) said, is a very brutally honest song, and we're very brutally honest people,” said Clubb. Conrad stated she practiced the difficult song through Karaoke, while Clubb said “I personally had to listen to that song a lot. This weekend, I listed to that song only this weekend. Peyton must know, that's really hard for me, as someone who can't stand listening to one song all the time. Then I looked up the Karaoke with just the male part going on.” The Freshman Improv team, consisting of Davis Burdick, Drake Offerman and Sage Scheibe, received the only II rating of the day. “I thought it went well. I feel like we could have practiced more earlier. We didn't do a good time of setting up times to really rehearse them, so it's kinda on the spot,” said Scheibe. Tri-County, who were also scheduled to compete on Jan. 24, postponed their performances due to the windchill, instead performing at their school on Jan. 27.

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- Slurred speech
- Fatigue



# SPORTS

## Sigourney basketball both earn back-to-back wins

By Mark Schafer |  
The News-Review  
SIGOURNEY -- Warming up is usually a good idea this time of the year.

A late January warm up not only makes the outside chills seem to disappear, but it also helps a team prepare for the journey that will await them on the tournament path. For the Sigourney girls basketball team they were able to warm up with a pair of wins last week.

Playing in back-to-back home games the Sigourney girls started their week off with a 65-37 win over Colfax-Mingo. Right away it was clear that Sigourney was in control of this game.

The Savages were able to start with a 22-4 run in the first quarter. That lead sustained the Savages through the rest of the game. By halftime the lead had ballooned to 38-16. The Savages would add another 28 points in the second half. They limited Colfax-Mingo to 21 points.

Bailey Gretter led the Savages with 15 points. Addy Fineran and Charli Smothers both would score 11 points each in the victory.

Brynn Clarahan scored nine points in the win. She added 10 rebounds. Becca Gretter finished with eight points and six rebounds. Kinsley Clubb and Adalynne Tremmel both finished with three points each.

On Thursday night the Savages were able to win a 56-53 thriller over WACO.

In the Thursday game, the Savages once again were able to use a strong first half to set

the seeds to an eventual win. After the first quarter the Savages led 18-10. By halftime the lead had grown 29-17 over the Warriors.

Things would close up in the second second half as WACO used a 19-point third quarter to close in on the Sigourney lead.

Both teams battled throughout the fourth quarter. Although they were challenged, Sigourney made just enough of their shots to gain the narrow win, and improve to 10-4 overall on the season.

Brynn Clarahan finished the game with 23 total points. She added 10 rebounds and six steals with five assists. Becca Gretter finished with 10 points. Bailey Gretter added eight points and Addy Fineran added another five points. Charli Smothers added another five points.

Adalynne Tremmel finished with three points and Devyn Smallwood added two points.

### Sigourney boys earn two lopsided wins

Like the girls, the Sigourney boys were able to gain two wins last week. It started with an 82-35 victory over Colfax-Mingo on Tuesday night.

The game started off a little too close for comfort as Sigourney led 15-10 after the first quarter. Over the next two quarters the Savages were able to take complete control of the contest as they outscored Colfax-Mingo 53-18 in the second and third quarters.

John Berg led Sigourney in scoring with 22 total points.

He added eight rebounds. Brayden Wood had 17 points and three rebounds.

Ike Molyneux added 12 points. Jordan Tremmel finished with eight points in the win.

In their Thursday night game against WACO the Savages were able to win 53-42 over the Warriors.

This time the first quarter would set the tone for the rest of the game. Sigourney outscored WACO 21-16 in the first frame. They were able to lead 32-24 at halftime. The Savages were able to score 21 points in the second half, while holding WACO to just 18 points.

Berg was able to lead his team in scoring once again. He had a double-double with 14 points, 11 rebounds. Ike Molyneux and Solon Yates both had 10 points each. Wood finished with nine points. Landon Conrad finished with four points. Landon Fisch and Hunter Sellers both had three points each in the win.

With the two wins the Savages move to 10-3 overall on the season.

Both the boys and girls team have a busy week as the Sigourney boys will host Highland and Lynnville-Sully on Monday and Tuesday. The Savages travel to play Belle Plaine on Thursday, before hosting Keota on Friday.

The Sigourney girls play at home on Tuesday against Lynnville-Sully. They travel to play Belle Plaine and will return this weekend with back-to-back games at home against Keota and Highland.

## S-K boys wrestling wins Redhawk Invite

By Mark Schafer |  
The News-Review

TRAER - On Saturday there was no better team.

At least not at the Redhawk Invite. The Sigourney-Keota boys wrestling team was able to win the Saturday tournament with a total of 120.5 points. Hudson finished second with 108 total points.

Ryker Van den Huevel was able to continue his successful season as he won the 138-pound bracket. In the first round Van den Huevel was able to pin his opponent in 1:08 to move on. In the quarterfinals he won by tech fall 20-2. The semifinals were quick for Van den Huevel as he needed just 1:20 to pin his opponent.

In the championship match Van den Huevel was

able to win over a BGM opponent with an 11-5 decision.

Dillon Menke was able to win the 165-pound bracket. He won his first match with a pin in 1:33. In the semifinals he needed just 50 seconds to earn in the pin.

It was a short day for Menke as he won the first place match with a pin in 2:39.

Luke Flynn was able to finish third in the 150-pound bracket. In the round robin style bracket Flynn was able to go 3-2. His three wins were all by first period pins.

Owen Menke was able to finish third in the heavyweight bracket. Owen Menke won his first match by pin in 1:59. In the semifinals Owen came up short in a 10-4 decision.

Owen would win the consolation semifinal with a pin in the closing seconds of the second period. In the third place match Menke was able to win 12-1 over a Beckman Catholic opponent.

Nash Baker was able to place fourth in the 190-pound bracket. He was pinned in his first match, but would win his next two matches. In the third place match Baker was pinned in the first period.

Brayden Sines was fourth in the 215-pound bracket. Overall Sines went 1-3 in his four matches.

Jacob Libe was able to place fifth. After being pinned in his opening match, Libe would win his next three matches, two by pins and one by an injury forfeit.

## Sigourney-Keota wrestlers takes third at Colfax

By Mark Schafer |  
The News-Review

COLFAX - Once again they went up against the best of the best and proved that they belonged.

The Sigourney-Keota girls wrestling team wrestled at the Colfax Girls wrestling tournament this weekend and they were able to take third overall with 143 total points. Pella won the meet with 193 and Iowa Valley was second with 178.

Karley Greiner was able to win her 155-pound bracket. In the first round Greiner needed just 1:13 to pin her opponent. She won the quarterfinals with a 3-2 win over a Pella opponent. In the semifinals Greiner won based off a 5-0 decision.

In the championship Greiner bested a Saydel opponent 5-2.

Kia Montgomery was third overall in the 125-pound bracket. Montgomery was able to win her first two matches with first period pins.

After she was defeated 11-6 in the semifinals, Montgomery won the consolation semifinal match and then pinned her third place opponent in just 39 seconds.

Izzy Heisdorffer was third in the 140-pound bracket. Heisdorffer was pinned in

her first match, but that was the last defeat she would face. Heisdorffer would win her next three consolation matches all by pins. In the third place match Heisdorffer was able to pin a Pella opponent early in the second period.

Aubrey Utterback placed fourth in the 110-pound bracket. She won her first match with a pin, but was pinned in the semifinals. In the consolation semifinal Utterback needed just 1:30 to pin her opponent. In the third place match, Utterback was pinned in the second period.

In the 115-pound bracket Bristol Ward placed fourth overall. After being pinned in her first match, Ward would win her second and third round consolation matches. She then pinned a Raccoon River Northwest opponent in the consolation semifinals.

In the third place match Ward was pinned in the first period.

Neveah Beinhart was fifth in the 130-pound bracket. Beinhart won her first two matches by a pin. She then was pinned in the semifinals. In the consolation semifinals she was pinned in the first period, but won the fifth place match with a pin of her own in the first period.

Sadie Clarahan finished

sixth overall in the 120-pound bracket. Clarahan won her first match with a first period pin. She was pinned in the quarterfinals, and would go on to win her next two consolation matches. After being pinned in the consolation semifinals, she was pinned in the first period of the fifth place match as well.

Abyl McCulley finished sixth in the 135-pound bracket. After being pinned in her opening round match McCulley would win her next three consolation matches. In the consolation semifinals McCulley was pinned in the second period. She would be pinned in the first period of the fifth place match.

Melanie Woodsmall finished in fifth in the 170-pound bracket. Woodsmall was defeated in her opening match, but was able to win her next two consolation round matches with pins in the first period.

After being pinned in the consolation semifinals, Woodsmall was able to pin a Clarke wrestler in the fifth place match.

The Cobras have a busy week as they wrestled at the SICL conference meet on Monday before heading to Wapello on Friday for their state qualifying meet.



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Athletes of the Week  
By Mark Schafer

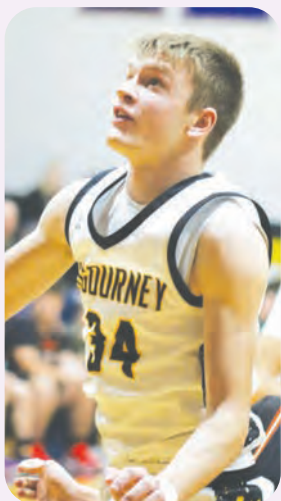
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Anna Hadley

A slow start to the week just seemed to only wake her up. In last Monday's 46-35 setback to Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont, Pekin senior, Anna Hadley only scored eight points. For the rest of the week, eight points seemed to fly to the senior before the first quarter would even end. On Tuesday night Hadley led the Panthers with 28 total points. If that wasn't enough she was able to add 15 rebounds and one block. After the Tuesday night performance, Hadley proved she wasn't done yet. In Thursday night's game against Lone Tree Hadley would add another 20 points. She had nine rebounds and three steals, although the Panthers were unable to best Lone Tree. The News-Review would like to congratulate Hadley on her outstanding week of play, and for being named this week's Athlete of the Week.



John Berg

As he has done throughout his career, last week he just couldn't not score points. Sigourney senior John Berg was able to add a lot of offense to the team last week. It started in a Tuesday night game against Colfax-Mingo when Berg was able to score 22 points. He added eight rebounds and three steals in the win over the Tigerhawks. Berg wasn't done yet. When the Savages returned to the floor during their Thursday night game against WACO, once again the senior was at the top of the scoring charts. In the Jan. 22 game Berg was able to score another 14 points. He added 11 rebounds for the double-double. He also had one assist. With a total of 36 points scored for his team, John Berg has been named this week's Athlete of the Week. The News-Review would like to congratulate Berg for his outstanding week of play.



Alijah Brock from Pekin prepares to take a layup during a Jan. 20 game played in Packwood. Pekin won the game 72-41 and stand at 13-3 overall on the season.



Pekin's Anna Hadley (middle) prepares to go for a shot against the heavy defense of Louisa-Muscatine's Kiki Enriquez (right) and Taylor Morrison (left) during a Jan. 20 game.

Pekin basketball continues to pick up wins

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review  
PACKWOOD - Everyone is trying to gain something a little extra this time of year. For the Pekin basketball teams they were able to pick up some extra confidence with some of their victories they picked up the last week. There may not have been a more attention grabbing win than the one the Pekin girls picked up last Tuesday against Louisa-Muscatine. Earlier in the season Louisa-Mucatine had been able to best the Pekin girls. This was their time to shown just how much the team had been able

to grow up since that first meeting. Eventually the Panthers were able to pick up a 54-49 victory. In order to do that they had to get a come-from behind victory in the second half. "The girls played really, really well in the second half," said Pekin head coach Neil Hartz. "We had some girls playing in spots they aren't usually used to playing in. All of our girls did an awesome, awesome job today just focusing on what they needed to do to get the win. Really, defense won that game for us."

Headed into the final eight minutes the Panthers trailed 43-34, but soon that deficit was closed up. To start the quarter the Louisa-Muscatine head coach was charged with a technical foul. The Panthers used the momentum from that to close within three of the Falcons lead. Pekin remained aggressive on defense and seemed to shake the Falcon players away from what they are used to playing on offense. Halfway through the quarter the Panthers were within one point, but the Louisa-Muscatine lead was about to fully crumble.

After the Panthers tied the game at 46, a steal by the Panthers gave them the ball right back. They rushed down the court, but Louisa-Muscatine fouled Mya Glick, which sent her to the free throw line. At the line Glick was able to knock down both of her free throws, and that gave the Panthers the lead. With their first lead since the first quarter the Panthers were looking for more. That's when Anna Hadley seemed to take complete control. On the defensive side of the floor Hadley fought through the arms of players and grabbed the free rolling ball. She would then pass to teammates, or just take the ball for her own shot. Louisa-Muscatine, at first, freely fouled Hadley, not fearing her ability to shoot the free throws. As she started to make more and more free throws, Hadley became more of a threat. In the final quarter Hadley scored nearly 10 points from the free throw line as the Panther lead started to grow. Louisa-Muscatine didn't go away. They were able to pull within three points in the final 15 seconds, but the Pekin defense kept the three pointer from falling. After a few more free throws the Panthers were able to grab a six point win, and show off just how much they had improved from the beginning of the season.

Pekin had in mind. They started on Monday night with a 46-35 setback against EBF. In that game the Panthers trailed by two after the first half, but a two point fourth quarter sealed the win for the Rockets. On Thursday night the Panthers were back in action again. They hosted Lone Tree, but fell 53-43. Lone Tree led 34-21 at halftime and despite a fourth quarter run by the Panthers, they were unable to grab the lead. Overall the Panthers stand at 9-7 this year.

Pekin boys continue winning streak  
Consistency helped the Pekin boys pick up three wins last week. Last Monday the Panthers were able to down EBF 60-41. The difference in that game came in the second quarter when the Panthers were able to hold EBF to just five points. Meanwhile the Panthers scored 16 points to help secure the lead. The Panthers added 25 points in the second half to secure the win. The next night the Panthers were able to gain a 72-41 victory over Louisa-Muscatine. From the beginning the Panthers were able to grab the lead as they doubled the amount of points the Falcons scored in the first quarter. By halftime the Panthers led by 21. That lead grew to nearly a 30-point lead at the end of the third quarter. The Panthers would score nearly another 20 points in the final frame. In their Thursday night game against Lone Tree the Panthers were able to win 77-45. Pekin started off that game in style as they scored 31 points in the first quarter, which ultimately set them up for the win. With the win the Panthers stand at 13-3 overall on the season.



Pekin's Ezra Parsons (right) lines up a shot against the defense of a Louisa-Muscatine player during their Jan. 20 game played in Pekin. The Panthers won 54-49.

The other games for the rest of the week weren't what

Pekin boys continue winning streak

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Photo by Mark Schafer

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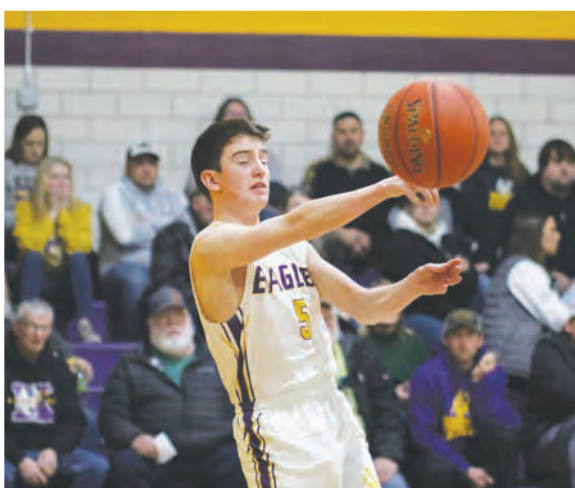
Keota's Jessalyn Aller (10) attempts to get a pass over the head of HLV-TC's Brenna Hawkins (left) during the game played in Keota.



Kennedy Jackson (back) from Keota goes up for a layup over the HLV-TC defender of Erilea Kupka (front) during the Jan. 22 homecoming game.



Karley Greiner dribbles past a HLV-TC defender during a Jan. 22 game.



Brennan McGuire (5) passes to a teammate during a Jan. 22 game played in Keota.



Porter Cave (front) rushes down the floor during a homecoming basketball game against HLV-TC. Cave led the Eagles with 20 points in the win.



Chase Haifley (left) tries to pass around the defense of an HLV-TC defender during the first half of a game played in Keota.

## Eagles fly high on homecoming night with pair of wins

By Mark Schafer |  
The News-Review

KEOTA - A little added fuel seemed to make all of the difference on Thursday night.

Both the Keota boys and girls basketball teams were able to walk away with a homecoming wins which added a little bit of warmth to the impending chilly temps outside.

In the girls game the Eagles were able to sustain their lead throughout the game, eventually earning a 47-32 victory over the Warriors.

The boys game was in complete control of the Eagles as they led early and eventually earned a 62-33 victory.

"It is a unique thing for us (to play homecoming during the basketball season) and it is always nice to continue to get wins, it is especially better when both the boys and girls get a win on homecoming," said Dan Stout, the boys head basketball coach for Keota. "On the boys side the seniors have never lost a homecoming game in their four years. We look forward to playing homecoming all year. The kids play harder and play better when the crowd is as loud as they were. I think the kids really get into playing homecoming during the basketball season."

There was plenty to cheer on for both teams in both games.

Starting in the girls game, Keota, at first, looked like they were going to run away with the ball game. The Eagles scored the first six points of the game and would eventually stride out to an early 11-6 lead over HLV-TC. Both offenses seemed



Cameron Haifley (right) starts to dribble past the defense of HLV-TC defender Aubrey Zittergruen (left) during the first quarter of the homecoming basketball game played Thursday night.



Keota senior Chase Haifley (20) prepares to take a shot during a Jan. 22 homecoming game against HLV-TC played in Keota. The boys won the game 62-33.

to find a little bit extra in the second quarter as a total of 26 points were scored.

By halftime the Eagles led 25-18, but their lead was threatened in the third quarter.

Although the Eagles started off on another 6-0 run to seemingly put the game out of reach, the early scores to start the second half would prove to be the only offense that Keota would muster in the third quarter.

After the Eagles made two-straight three pointers in the third quarter their lead shots seemed to disappear. Shots that had easily fell through the net in the first half rolled off the rim. Worse yet, HLV-TC was focusing more and more on their rebounding. Suddenly, the Warriors were making a comeback, and there was little the Eagles could do to stop them.

"We definitely got a little too stagnant on offense at times tonight," said Jeff Sprouse, the head coach for the Keota girls basketball team. "Overall defensively, we were able to hold HLV-TC off the board at

times, which is what we wanted, and ultimately what we needed to do to get the win."

The lead dipped down to eight points for the Eagles.

Soon, the offense would return though. In the final quarter the Eagles were able to get their shots again. Despite turning it over a few more times than they would have liked, the Eagles were able to build their lead.

"We just have to make sure that we take care of the ball and make the right passes at the right time," Sprouse said. "There were times that we were a little disjointed, but we were able to do just enough to make sure things didn't get too far out of hand."

Near the end of the game the Eagles were able to embark on one last 7-0 run which helped them grow their lead. That would prove to be the final push that the Eagles would need to grab the homecoming victory.

"Our biggest thing is we know we have a lot of girls that can shoot, we just need to make sure we are taking some of the right

shots at the right time," Sprouse said. "One thing we need to probably realize is we can take the same shots, just a lot later in the shot clock. If we can add some more flow and move inside and outside then we will be a lot better as we focus on the rest of the season."

Sophomore Cameron Haifley would lead the Eagles in scoring with 18 points on Friday night. She added seven rebounds. Emily Conger added another 12 points, half of those points coming from three pointers. Jessalyn Aller had five points. Kennedy Jackson added four points. Karley Greiner added three points and Elyse Lyle had two points.

The win moves the Keota girls to 12-4 this year.

"Anytime you win a homecoming game by 15 points, you don't worry too much about how you get the win, because it wasn't too many years ago that we weren't able to consistently get a homecoming victory," Sprouse said. "We just need to continue to go out there and

take care of business like we know we can."

One team that didn't have any problems taking care of business, after a bit of a shaky start was the boys team.

In the first quarter it wasn't always looking like it was going to be a walk-away win for the Eagles.

Their defense was working as it should. Several steals in the first few minutes of the game helped the Eagles get down the floor, but their layups wouldn't fall. An early 5-0 run by Keota helped them get the lead, but HLV-TC would make a charge at the end of the first quarter.

After the first quarter the Eagles led 9-8, but the Warriors would fight back and tie the game at 11 early in the second quarter.

If the trajectory of the game continued on the same path then it was going to bring a bad end to the Keota homecoming winning streak. Then, a steal and a layup by Porter Cave seemed to open up the floodgates, which eventually would drown out the Warriors.

In the second quar-

ter the Eagles scored 28 points, holding HLV-TC to just nine points. That gave the Eagles a 20-point lead at halftime and put the Eagles on a more than comfortable path for the second half.

"In the second quarter we were really able to ramp up the pressure with our full-court press," Stout said. "We don't play it a lot because we don't want our guys to get into foul trouble, but we've been working on it and working on it, and felt comfortable putting it out on the court tonight. We scored 28 points in the second quarter and that was huge for our offense."

The Eagles were able to continue to pour on the points in the second half as they limited HLV-TC to just 16 points in the final 16 minutes. Meanwhile the Eagles scored 11 points in the third quarter and another 14 points in the final frame to keep the homecoming winning streak alive.

"We were passing the ball well tonight and we got everyone involved," Stout said. "When you do that then the rest of the game just seems to come easily."

Porter Cave led the scoring with 20 points on Friday night. He added five steals and four assists.

Chase Haifley added another 15 points with five rebounds. Ayden Galindo added seven points with 10 rebounds. Blake Baker came off the bench for 11 points. Brennan McGuire added three points. Jackson Vittetoe finished with two points.

The win improves the Keota boys to 11-4 on the season.

Photos by Mark Schafer



Keota's Ayden Galindo (front) tries to save a ball before it goes out of bounds during a game played in Keota.



Blake Baker from Keota goes for a layup during a Jan. 22 game.

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SECTION B, NUMBER 4, 165<sup>th</sup> YEAR

## COURT RECORDS

### Civil

**Jan. 16th**

Defendants Sigourney Tractor & Implement Company LLC, Robert Sinclair; Plaintiffs Helen Sinclair, Maurice Sinclair; Dismissed w/o Prejudice.

**Jan. 19th**

Defendants Candough Redemption Center, Leanna Kay Collins; Plaintiff Waste Management, INC; Dismissed w/o Prejudice.

**Jan. 21st**

Counter Defendant Samantha M. Hendrickson; Counter Plaintiff Slater Paul Williams; Petitioner Slater Paul Williams; Respondent Samantha M. Hendrickson; Order Setting Trial.

**Criminal**

**Jan. 16th**

Defendant Courtney Ann Jacob; Plaintiff State of Iowa; Order for Arraignment, Trial

Information.

**Jan. 21st**

Defendant William Braxton McCarroll; Payee Washington County Sheriff; Plaintiff State of Iowa; Motion for Continuance.

**Jan. 22nd**

Defendant Matthew Lee Lanman; Plaintiff State of Iowa; Motion for Continuance.

**Domestic Abuse**

**Jan. 21st**

Defendant Paul Anthony Davis; Plaintiff Lorna Davis; Motion for Continuance.

**Schedule Traffic**

**Jan. 16th**

Defendant Paul Joseph Gent; Speeding 55 or Under Zone (21 or Over).

Defendant Terry L. Starkey; Speeding 55 or Under Zone (6-10 Over).

**Jan. 18th**

Defendant Jennifer Lynn Di-

eter; Failure to Provide Proof of Financial Liability.

Defendant James A. Sines; No Deer License or Tag.

Defendant Ryan Robert Warren Porter; Speeding 55 or Under Zone (1-5 Over), Registration Violation.

**Jan. 19th**

Defendant Harry James Reed; Speeding 55 or Under Zone (11-15 Over).

**Jan. 20th**

Defendant Ethan Cole Laughery; Speeding 55 or Under Zone (6-10 Over).

**Jan. 21st**

Defendant Edward Brian Tumlin; Speeding 55 or Under Zone (6-10 Over).

Defendant Faith Renee Reyes; Speeding 55 or Under Zone (6-10 Over).

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## PROPERTY TRANSFERS

**Jan. 12th**

Court Officer Deed: Hazel L. Greiner Estate, Paul Dean Greiner Co Executor, Paul D. Greiner Co Executor, Rebecca Sue Callahan Co Executor to Paul Dean Greiner; PT NW 22-74-10, EXCEPT LAND DEED RECORD B59 P516.

Deed Quit Claim: Judith A. Winn, Judy Winn to Dana C. Miller Co Trustee, Jill A. Winn Co Trustee, Jill Amber Winn Co Trustee, Amber Winn Co Trustee, Judith A. Winn Revocable Trust; Lot: 02 NW NW 25-74-11, SW NW 25-74-11, PT SW SW 11-75-10, PT NE SE 23-74-11, PT Lot: 02 SW SE 23-74-11, PLAT B2 P105, Lot: 03 NW SE 23-74-11, ALLEY PT NW SE 23-74-11, Lot: 05 NW SE 23-74-11, Lot: 06 NW SE 23-74-11, L04 Lot: 03 SW SE 23-74-11, PLAT B3 P544, PT Lot: 03 SE SE 23-74-11, PT Lot: 04 SE SE 23-74-11, PLAT B3 P543, EXCEPT PLAT 2013-1792, NW SW 24-74-11, PT SW SW 24-74-11, PT NE SW 24-74-11, PT SE SW 24-74-11, Lot: 03 SW SW 24-74-11, PLAT B3 P522, EXCEPT PLAT 2019-0715, Lot: 01 NW NW 25-74-11, NE NW 25-74-11, SE NW 25-74-11, PT NW NE 25-74-11, PT SE NE 23-74-11, SW NW 24-74-11, SW NE 23-74-11, PT SE NE 23-74-11, Lot: 01 NW SE 23-74-11, SE NW 24-74-11,

PT NE 26-74-11, 272ND AVE PT SE NW 24-74-11, ROAD RECORD 614 BOOK B P412, ROAD RECORD 583 B01 P82, QCD 2018-0772.

**Jan. 13th**

Warranty Deed: Conner Five LLC to Catrina M Shilling, Charles W. Shilling; NW SW 11-75-12 Parcel: AUD PAR A, PLAT 2025-1871.

**Jan. 15th**

Trustee Warranty Deed: Donna Jean Strand Trustee, H. Dean Appleget Revocable Trust, M. Jean Appleget Revocable Trust, H. Dean Appleget and M. Jean Appleget Revocable Trust to Donna J. Strand; PT SE SE 22-75-12, NW SE 22-75-12, NW SE 22-75-12, SW SE 22-75-12, Lot: 01 SE NE 22-75-12, Lot: 02 SE NE 22-75-12, Lot: 01 NE SE 22-75-12, EXCEPT PLAT 2025-2201, NE SW 23-75-12, SE SW 23-75-12, PT SW NE 22-75-12, PT SW NE 22-75-12.

Warranty Deed: Cassens Country LLC to Dennis Lee Hiemstra; NW NE 35-76-13, SW NE 35-76-13, NW SE 35-76-13, NE SE 35-76-13, SE NE 35-76-13, SE SE 35-76-13 Parcel: AUD PAR A, PLAT 2025-1998.

Deed Quit Claim: Gloria Jean Bestland, Gloria Kriegel to Gloria Jean Bestland, Allen Bestland; SOUTH ENGLISH

J F WHITES ADDITION (SOUTH ENGLISH) Lot: 02 Block: 13.

Warranty Deed: Robert Strand, Donna J. Strand, Robert T. Strand to Donna J. Strand Trust; PT SE SE 22-75-12, NW SE 22-75-12, SW SE 22-75-12, Lot: 01 SE NE 22-75-12, Lot: 02 SE NE 22-75-12, Lot: 01 NE SE 22-75-12, Lot: 02 NE SE 22-75-12, EXCEPT PLAT 2025-2201, NE SW 23-75-12, SE SW 23-75-12, PT SW NE 22-75-12, PT SW NE 22-75-12.

**Jan. 16th**

Trustee Warranty Deed: Marilyn J. Horras Living Trust, Marilyn J. Horras Trustee to Marilyn J. Horras; UNDIVIDED 1/2 INTEREST IN, NE NE 33-75-11, SE NE 33-75-11, NW NW 34-75-11, PT SE NW 34-75-11, NE SW 34-75-11.

Warranty Deed: First Resource Corp, Keokuk County Properties Inc to Joseph Gerst, Kylvynn Gerst; EDDY'S SUBDIVISION LOT 3 (75 12 02) Lot: 05 SE NW 02-75-12, EDDY'S SUBDIVISION LOT 3 (75 12 02) Lot: 06 SE NW 02-75-12, PLAT B4 P108.

Warranty Deed: Marilyn J. Horras to Marilyn J. Horras Revocable Trust; UNDIVIDED 1/2 INTEREST IN, NE NE 33-75-11, SE NE 33-75-11, NW NW 34-75-11, PT SE NW 34-75-11, NE SW 34-75-11.

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**City of What Cheer • 2025 Payroll**

<b>CITY OF WHAT CHEER PAYROLL 2025</b>	
<b>EMPLOYEES</b>	
MELANIE VERMILLION.....	
GARY J. VAN PATTEN.....	\$48993.58
JUSTIN VAN PATTEN.....	\$54575.02
DON NORTHUP.....	\$9600.00
IDA DAY.....	\$11379.31
KEITH MOLYMEUX.....	\$7483.75
CHERYL MCDONALD.....	\$1567.50

CARL HAMPTON.....	\$4093.25
<b>MAYOR/COUNCIL</b>	
DARRELL WILKENING.....	\$2430.00
DONNA ROGERS.....	\$560.00
SANDRA VAN PATTEN.....	\$600.00
CHRISTINE HOWARD.....	\$480.00
DWIGHT DANNER.....	\$600.00
RICK SHAFRANEK.....	\$400.00
<b>TOTAL PAYROLL IN 2025.....</b>	
<b>\$157796.16</b>	
<i>Published in The News-Review on January 28, 2026</i>	

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**City of What Cheer • Receipts & Disbursements**

<b>CITY OF WHAT CHEER RECEIPTS.....DISBURSMENTS</b>	
<b>GENERAL FUND, \$8428.33</b>	
TAX.....	\$7169.50
ROAD FUND, \$6780.91.....	\$617.50
DEBT SERVICE, \$0.00.....	\$0.00
TRUST & AG, \$1736.07.....	\$2324.60
GARBAGE FUND, \$5493.84.....	\$6548.38
<b>WATER FUND, \$7083.39</b>	

SEWER FUND, \$3948.97.....	\$6550.36
<b>\$4081.26</b>	
<b>LOCAL OP SALES TAX,</b>	
<b>\$5491.66.....\$60.00</b>	
<b>LIBRARY, \$79.10.....\$1827.09</b>	
<b>TOTAL, \$39042.27.....\$29178.69</b>	
<i>Published in The News-Review on January 28, 2026</i>	

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**City of Sigourney • January 2026 Library Claims**

<b>JANUARY 2026 LIBRARY CLAIMS</b>	
Access Systems (Services).....	\$527.54
Access Systems Leasing (Fire-wall).....	\$151.89
All American (Services).....	\$35.00
Alliant Energy(Services).....	\$831.89
Amazon Business (Collection).....	\$1,324.61
Amazon Business (Supplies).....	\$984.59
Baker and Taylor (Video Collection).....	\$6.99
Bancard (Collection (movies/music/books)).....	\$10.30
Bancard (Fees).....	\$122.93
Bancard (Postage).....	\$22.46
Bancard (Restricted Gifts-Freezer Meals).....	\$869.92
Bancard (Miscellaneous).....	\$282.23
Brother's Market (Supplies).....	\$102.61
Greenley's Corp. (Supplies).....	\$74.30
ICN Comm. Network (Services).....	\$6.51
MCG (Internet/Phone).....	\$93.08
Sha-Ran Enterprises (Services).....	\$30.00
<b>TOTAL.....\$5,476.85</b>	
<i>Published in The News-Review on January 28, 2026</i>	

**PROBATE**  
**Jeannie C. Hackert ESPR038658**

**THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR KEOKUK COUNTY**  
IN THE MATTER OF  
THE ESTATE OF  
Jeannie C. Hackert, Deceased  
CASE NO. ESPR038658  
**NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL,  
OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR,  
AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Jeannie C. Hackert, Deceased, who died on or about December 24, 2025:

You are hereby notified that on January 14, 2026, the Last Will and Testament of Jeannie C. Hackert, deceased, bearing date of June 21, 2022, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and that Buffie Gier was appointed Executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

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

Dated January 16, 2026.  
Buffie Gier, Executor of Estate  
17277 185<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Sigourney, IA 52591  
John N. Wehr, ICIS#: 0008299  
Attorney for Executor  
John N. Wehr, Attorney at Law  
116 E Washington  
PO Box 245  
Sigourney, IA 52591  
Date of second publication  
January 28, 2026  
Probate Code Section 304  
*Published in The News-Review on January 21 and 28, 2026*

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Notice of Petition • Case No. CDCV006184**

**IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR KEOKUK COUNTY**  
Upon the Petition of  
Shayna Kate Fullilove, Petitioner  
and concerning  
Justin Jermaine Fullilove, Respondent  
Case no. CDCV006184  
**Original Notice by Publication**  
If you need assistance to participate in court due to a disability, call the disability coordinator (information at [www.iowacourts.gov/for-the-public/ada](http://www.iowacourts.gov/for-the-public/ada)). Persons who are hearing or speech impaired may call Relay Iowa TTY (1-800-735-2942).  
**Disability coordinators cannot provide legal advice.**  
1. Information for Respondent  
• Petitioner (your spouse) has filed a divorce lawsuit naming you as Respondent.  
• Petitioner's contact information during the divorce case:  
Shayna Kate Fullilove  
300 North St. Ollie, IA 52576  
Keokuk County  
(641) 541-0692  
Skerue@gmail.com  
2. Respondent's deadline for filing a Response  
You must file an Answer or a Motion with the clerk of court in the above county within 20 days after February 4, 2026.  
3. Instructions to Respondent  
You must file an Answer or a Motion with the clerk of court in the

above county within 20 days after the date provided above. If you do not respond, the court may enter a judgment against you giving Petitioner what he or she asked for in the Petition.  
Notice to Respondent  
• You should talk to an attorney at once to protect your interests.  
• If you choose not to have an attorney represent you in this matter, go to the Iowa Judicial Branch website for self-represented litigant information and free guided interactive interview court forms or free fillable .pdf court forms under Divorce.  
• You must register through the Iowa Judicial Branch website at [www.iowacourts.state.ia.us/Efile/](http://www.iowacourts.state.ia.us/Efile/) and obtain a log in and password to electronically file and view court documents in your case and to receive service and notices from the court.  
• For general rules and information on electronic filing, refer to the Iowa Rules of Electronic Procedure in Chapter 16 of the Iowa Court Rules.  
• For court rules on the Protection of Personal Privacy in court filings, refer to Division VI of the Iowa Rules of Electronic Procedure in Chapter 16 of the Iowa Court Rules.  
*Published in The News-Review on January 21 and 28, 2026*



**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**City of Sigourney • 2025 Wages**

<b>2025 WAGES</b>	
EMPLOYEE.....TOTAL	\$3,424.39
DOUGLAS A. GLANDON.....	\$2,469.50
SADIE CLARAHAN.....	\$2,826.50
DONALD L. NORTHUP.....	\$2,047.75
RANDY L. HEMSLEY.....	\$53,435.71
BRENT F. GILLILAND.....	\$86,791.28
LOGAN M. NORTHUP.....	\$51,783.36
BRYAN S. HAHN.....	\$1,309.50
JONATHON UTTERBACK.....	\$50,051.09
TERESA L. GRAHAM.....	\$12,327.80
ASHLEY L. FRY.....	\$55,133.77
KADIE CONRAD.....	\$47,514.57
JESSICA WEBER.....	\$15,161.56
HOLLY ELLIS.....	\$6,000.00
LARA DAVIS.....	\$2,500.00
ALAN L. SELLERS.....	\$2,500.00
BROOKE A. GARRINGER.....	\$6,489.47
JENNIFER BELL.....	\$703.14
HALLE I. GARRINGER.....	\$3,952.95
GRACE GARRINGER.....	\$2,550.50
COURTNEY HEMSLEY.....	
TY GOLDMAN.....	\$2,469.50
BRADEN HEMSLEY.....	\$2,826.50
SADIE CLARAHAN.....	\$2,047.75
DEVYN SMALLWOOD.....	\$2,087.75
ELLA BRUNS.....	\$1,553.75
ABYL MCCULLLEY.....	\$1,724.75
SANDRA JONES.....	\$1,021.47
AMANDA L. KELLY.....	\$41,759.04
SHARON C. STOUT.....	\$2,548.55
GINGER A. BROWN.....	\$5,549.20
CATHY J. YOCK.....	\$20,488.90
EILEEN E. MCBETH.....	\$3,297.63
BRANDY STANGL.....	\$3,800.09
CONNIE M. SLECHTA.....	\$7,750.78
EDWARD M. CONRAD.....	\$1,000.00
CONNIE J. MCLAUGHLIN.....	\$1,040.00
GARY D. IOSBAKER.....	\$1,000.00
RANDY SCHULTZ.....	\$1,040.00
STEPHANI LENTZ.....	\$1,000.00
ADAM J. CLARK.....	\$1,000.00
JIMMY L. MORLAN.....	\$4,500.08
TOTAL.....	\$647,208.25
<i>Published in The News-Review on January 28, 2026</i>	

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**City of Sigourney • December 2025 Claims**

<b>REVENUES:</b>	
General -.....	\$33,744.79
Memorial Hall Restoration.....	\$2,734.00
Library.....	\$8,698.88
Road Use.....	\$22,237.88
Employee Benefits.....	\$4,000.23
Local Option Sales Tax.....	\$40,545.93
Tax Increment Financial.....	\$210.52
Lewis Memorial Fountain.....	\$20.00
Restricted Gifts.....	\$1,950.00
Debt Service.....	\$12,436.95
Water Utility.....	\$50,776.71
Water Sinking.....	\$6,750.00
Water Improvement.....	\$3,000.00
Water Project.....	\$5,439.58
Utility Deposit.....	\$1,250.00
Sewer Utility.....	\$54,894.21
Sewer Sinking.....	\$29,485.00
Sewer Improvement.....	\$1,000.00
Sewer Surcharge.....	\$3,505.69
Sanitation.....	\$24,753.09
Medical Partial Self-Funding.....	\$1,600.00
December 2025 Revenue Total.....	\$309,033.46
<b>Other Checks Issued:</b>	
State Revolving Fund #15.....	\$1,251.25
State Revolving Fund #16.....	\$47,400.00
State Revolving Fund #17.....	\$4,030.00
Voided Check-Keokuk County HWY Dept.....	\$1,646.77
IA Dept of Revenue- Water Excise Tax.....	\$2,467.74
IA Dept of Revenue- Excise Sales Tax.....	\$913.36
Visa(Supplies).....	\$1,690.32
Alliant Energy.....	\$15,224.51
gWorks Monthly Fee.....	\$164.30
gWorks Monthly Fee.....	\$5.00
gWorks Monthly Fee.....	\$20.70
US Postmaster.....	\$477.85
Brent Gilliland- Reimbursement.....	\$40.00
Randy Hemsley- Reimbursement.....	\$40.00
Don Northup- Reimbursement.....	\$40.00
Logan Northup - Reimbursement.....	\$40.00
Jonathon Utterback - Reimbursement.....	\$40.00
UMB Bank Fees.....	\$500.00
Transfers / Expenses.....	\$52,419.00
Payroll(11/24/2025-12/07/2025).....	\$23,119.71
Payroll(12/8/2025-12/21/2025).....	\$48,464.94
Medical Partial Self - Fund.....	\$80.89
December 2025 Other Checks Issued Total.....	\$196,782.80
<i>Published in The News-Review on January 28, 2026</i>	

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**City of What Cheer • Minutes 1.13.2026**

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING**  
Tuesday January 13<sup>th</sup> 2026  
The What Cheer City Council met in regular session at City Hall, Tuesday January 13<sup>th</sup> 2026. Mayor Darrell Wilkening called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Council Members answering roll call were: Sandra VanPatten, Dwight Danner, Donna Rogers, Frank Calvert, and Lisa Brackelsberg. Also, present was Carl Hampton, Gary J. Van Patten, City Clerk Melanie Vermillion.  
Rogers motioned to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Van Patten. All in favor. Motion Carried.  
Mayor Darrell Wilkening gave his Mayors Report. He gave some information to elected officials on open meetings and open records courses that need to be taken by newly elected officials. And he also gave an update on the gas line work being done by Alliant Energy.  
Frank Calvert made a motion to close the regular meeting at 7:15 and open the public hearing on the adoption of the city code of ordinances. Seconded by Donna Rogers. All in favor. Motion Carried.  
Sandy Van Patten made a motion to close the public hearing at 7:25, seconded by Donna Rogers. All in favor. Motion Carried.  
Donna Rogers made a motion to adopt the city code of ordinances 01-2026, by resolution 26-01 Lisa Brackelsberg seconded the motion. Roll Call: Calvert, Aye; Van Patten, Aye; Rogers, Aye; Brackelsberg, Aye; Danner, Aye. Motion Carried.  
Mayor Darrell Wilkening appointed Donna Rogers and Mayor Pro Tem.  
Lisa Brackelsberg made a motion to appoint Melanie Vermillion as City Clerk, seconded by Donna Rogers. All in favor. Motion Carried.  
Frank Calvert made a motion to appoint, Gary Jo Van Patten, Carl Hampton, Keith Molyneux, Cheryl McDonald as City Maintenance. Lisa Brackelsberg seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion Carried.  
Sandy Van Patten made a motion to appoint Nicole Bryant at the city's attorney, seconded by Donna Rogers. All in favor. Motion Carried.  
Frank Calvert motioned to appoint the News Review and the City's official Newspaper. Donna Rogers seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion Carried.  
Donna Rogers made a motion to appoint Tru Bank as the city's bank; Sandy Van Patten seconded the motion. Four of the council was

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**City of What Cheer • ORDINANCE # 01-2026**

**ORDINANCE # 01-2026  
AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING  
THE CITY CODE OF  
ORDINANCES.**  
Be it ordained by the City Council of What Cheer, Iowa  
Section 1. Pursuant to published notice, a public hearing has been duly held and the City Council of What Cheer, Iowa hereby adopts the What Cheer Code of Ordinances of 2026 as the 2026 Municipal Code.  
Section 2. An official copy of the Municipal Code, as adopted including a certification by the City Clerk as to its adoption and effective date, is on file at the office of the City Clerk.  
Section 3. Copies of the code shall be kept available at the City Clerk's office for public inspection and sale at cost.  
Section 4. All general ordinances or parts thereof passed prior to January 13<sup>th</sup> 2026, not contained in the What Cheer Code of Ordinances are hereby repealed except as hereafter provided, or special ordinances not named.  
Saved from repeal:  
Section 5. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon publication as required by Iowa law.  
Passed by the City Council of What Cheer, Iowa on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026.  
Darrell Wilkening, Mayor  
City Clerk's Certificate: I hereby certify that the foregoing was published as Ordinance number 01-2026 on January 28, 2026.  
Melanie Vermillion, City Clerk  
*Published in The News-Review on January 28, 2026*

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**City of What Cheer • Claims 1.13.2026**

<b>BILLS PRESENTED AT JANUARY 13TH 2026 MEETING WHAT CHEER FIRE DEPT.....</b>	<b>417.84</b>
ALLIANT ENERGY.....	1276.89
WATER EX TAX.....	567.04
941 TAX.....	3531.04
IPERS.....	2359.83
WAPELLO RURAL WATER.....	3777.42
CALDWELL EQUIPMENT.....	645.48
ELLIOTT BULK SERVICES.....	650.18
FORD CREDIT ~ FINAL PAYMENT.....	20230.90
3E~ GENERATOR SERVICE.....	588.50
MAHASKA HEALTH.....	115.00
SCHULING HITCH COMPANY.....	887.00
NATIONWIDE.....	238.00
INTUIT ~ FORMS.....	47.98
GLOBE LIFE.....	431.76
IOWA ONE CALL.....	20.80
WINDSTREAM.....	319.17
CALDWELL EQUIPMENT.....	45.04
DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP.....	1379.52
MUNICIPAL PIPE TOOL.....	17023.02
HESLINGA LAW.....	20.00
TREMEL BACKHOE SERVICE.....	700.00
H&M FARM AND HOME.....	336.04
DOUDS STONE~SAND.....	798.30
FAAS FEED.....	368.51
ARNOLD MOTOR.....	66.33
WASTE MANAGEMENT.....	6540.84
USPO.....	200.00
CASEYS.....	285.29
MICROBAC LAB.....	486.25
COLUMN.....	336.69
<i>Published in The News-Review on January 28, 2026</i>	

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**City of Sigourney • Claims 1.21.2026**

<b>CITY OF SIGOURNEY JANUARY 21, 2026</b>	<b>Access Systems- Services.....</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>
Access Systems- Services.....	\$1,641.38	
Access Systems Leasing- Services.....	\$131.33	
All American Pest Control- Services.....	\$128.00	
Alliant Energy- Services.....	\$19,162.15	
Armstrong Heating & AC, Inc- Services.....	\$110.00	
Arnold Motor Supply- Supplies.....	\$29.98	
Column Software PBC- Services.....	\$136.62	
Cummins- Supplies.....	\$251.39	
Eldon C. Stutsman- Supplies.....	\$4,670.57	
French-Reneker-Associates, Inc- Services.....	\$2,100.00	
H&M Farm and Home Supply- Supplies.....	\$255.07	
HM Consulting- Services.....	\$200.00	
Keokuk County Recorder- Services.....	\$21.50	
Keokuk County Sheriff's Office- Services.....	\$32.50	
M4I Concrete- Services.....	\$2,700.00	
Martin Equipment- Supplies.....	\$982.76	
Metering & Technology Solutions- Supplies.....	\$4,460.47	
Mid-American Publishing Corp- Services.....	\$58.80	
Northway Well & Pump- Services.....	\$3,810.26	
SEMO Sanitary Landfill- Services.....	\$2,090.25	
Sinclair Napa- Supplies.....	\$116.23	
Windstream- Services.....	\$5.99	
Total.....	\$43,095.25	
<i>Published in The News-Review on January 28, 2026</i>		

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Keokuk Co BOS • Minutes 1.12.2026**

**KEOKUK COUNTY BOARD  
PROCEEDINGS  
JANUARY 12, 2026**  
The Keokuk County Board of Supervisors met in regular session, Monday, January 12, 2026 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 James, News-Review.  
Wood moved, Weber seconded to approve the minutes of January 5, 2026, as submitted. All ayes and motion carried.  
Weber moved, Wood seconded approval of resolution approving settlement agreement with Windstream Communications, LLC as submitted. All ayes and motion carried. Also present were County Attorney Denny and IT Director Hite.  
Met with Engineer's Assistant Clarahan regarding the Keokuk County Highway Department. They are working on culvert designs and continue the wait to hear of grant approval for the Pigeon Road project and other grant applications.  
Woods moved, Weber seconded approval of updated personnel reports for Ross Roberts and Colton Altenhofen regarding 25¢ per hour salary increase for spraying license endorsement as submitted. All ayes and motion carried.  
Wood moved, Weber seconded to approve opioid funding at 100% for

payment of the new county website as presented. All ayes and motion carried. Also present were PH Director Helmut; IT Director Hite; Conservation Director Reighard and Treasurer Long. Utilization of said funds for creation of a media campaign through the website with a standalone opioid page will serve our community as a good resource for education and training. The current balance of opioid funds is \$100,292.  
Various Board and Committee reports were held. Weber attended a Workforce Iowa meeting. Neither Wood nor Hadley had scheduled meetings last week.  
Discussion of old/new business and public comment was held. Weber inquired about the ice depth on Lake Belva Deer. Reighard responded over 60 percent of the lake is currently open.  
On vote and motion Hadley adjourned the meeting at 9:20 a.m.  
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](http://www.keokukcounty.iowa.gov).  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_  
Michael C. Hadley, Daryl Wood, Kevin Weber  
*Published in The News-Review on January 28, 2026*

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Notice of Petition • EQEQ041609**

**IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR KEOKUK COUNTY  
FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, PLAINTIFF  
vs.  
STEPHEN ELWOOD, JR., SPOUSE OF STEPHEN ELWOOD, JR., IF ANY, AUTOVEST, LLC, DISCOVER BANK AND HAUGE ASSOCIATES, INC., DEFENDANTS  
EQUITY NO. EQEQ041609  
ORIGINAL NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION**  
TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS:  
You are hereby notified that there is a petition on file in the office of the clerk of the above court which petition prays for a judgment in rem against the property involved in this action for the sum of \$147,205.66 with interest at 3.625% per annum from and including June 1, 2025, on the promissory note executed by Stephen Elwood, Jr., a single man and mortgage executed by Stephen Elwood, Jr., a single man to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as mortgagee, as nominee for Cardinal Financial Company, Limited Partnership, its successors and assigns and assigned to Plaintiff, who is the sole and absolute owner thereof.  
Said note, together with the mortgage given to secure the same are due and payable by reason of the failure of the Defendants Stephen Elwood, Jr., a single man to pay the installments of principal when due. Plaintiff also prays in said Petition for the foreclosure of said mortgage dated June 1, 2021 recorded in Document 2021-1080 in the Recorder's Office of Keokuk County, Iowa, with said note dated June 1, 2021 on the following described property, to-wit:  
The North Half (N 1/2) of Lot Nine (9), all of Lot Ten (10), and the South Twenty-two (22) feet in equal width of Lot Eleven (11), in Block Three (3), in the City of Harper, in Keokuk County, Iowa  
and also asking that said mortgage be declared a prior and superior lien to that of each of the above named Defendants; for appointment of a receiver; for the amount paid by Plaintiff for attorneys' fees, abstract expense, costs and accruing costs of this action; that special execution issue for the sale of said real estate to satisfy said judgment, interest, attorneys' fees and costs and for such other and further relief as may be just and equitable.  
FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS, SEE COPY OF PETITION NOW

ON FILE.  
THE PLAINTIFF HAS ELECTED FORECLOSURE WITHOUT REDEMPTION. THIS MEANS THAT THE SALE OF THE MORTGAGED PROPERTY WILL OCCUR PROMPTLY AFTER ENTRY OF JUDGMENT UNLESS YOU FILE WITH THE COURT A WRITTEN DEMAND TO DELAY THE SALE. IF YOU FILE A WRITTEN DEMAND, THE SALE WILL BE DELAYED UNTIL THREE MONTHS FROM ENTRY OF JUDGMENT IF THE MORTGAGED PROPERTY IS YOUR RESIDENCE AND IS A ONE-FAMILY OR TWO-FAMILY DWELLING OR UNTIL TWO MONTHS FROM ENTRY OF JUDGMENT IF THE MORTGAGED PROPERTY IS NOT YOUR RESIDENCE OR IS RESIDENCE BUT NOT A ONE-FAMILY OR TWO-FAMILY DWELLING. YOU WILL HAVE NO RIGHT OF REDEMPTION AFTER THE SALE. THE PURCHASER AT THE SALE WILL BE ENTITLED TO IMMEDIATE POSSESSION OF THE MORTGAGED PROPERTY. YOU MAY PURCHASE AT THE SALE.  
The Plaintiff's attorneys are Petosa Law LLP by Benjamin W. Hopkins, whose address is 1350 NW 138<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 100, Clive, IA 50325, telephone number 515-222-9400, facsimile number 515-222-9121.  
You must serve a motion or answer on or before the 24<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2026, and within a reasonable time thereafter file your motion or answer in the Iowa District Court of Keokuk County, at the Courthouse in Sigourney, Iowa. If you do not, 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 the protection of personal information in court filings.  
If you require 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).  
**YOU ARE ADVISED TO SEEK LEGAL ADVICE AT ONCE TO PROTECT YOUR INTERESTS.**  
*Published in The News-Review on January 21 and 28, 2026*





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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**English Valleys CSD • Work Session 1.14.2026**

**THE MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE ENGLISH VALLEYS BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON JANUARY 14TH, 2026.**

English Valleys members present: Susan Schaefer, Trent Forrest, Steve Axmear, Katie Taukei, Tom Voss, and Board Secretary Wendy Ayers

Others present: Superintendent Curt Rheingans, Brennen Grimm, Carrie Burdick, Marty Marsh, Amy Harger, Karen Sieren

The work session was called to order at 4:37pm.

Administration discussed that a survey was sent out to patrons and staff members on what the board should consider as priorities for projects in the future.

Katie Taukei arrived at 4:37pm.

The board entered discussion on a facility improvement plan and PPEL spending plan for the summer of 2026. The board received a listing of projects that have been completed and projects that are still on the improvement list.

The board continued discussion on whiteboards for the district. The board discussed pros and cons for new whiteboard and installing sleeves on the current boards, retro fitting to the frame, inserts or a total replacement. The board went and visited the classrooms that had a sleeve installed and an insert installed. The board agreed that they wanted to go with getting bids for inserts. The board discussed updating classrooms.

The board decided the following: Getting bids for whiteboards in-

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**English Valleys CSD • Minutes 1.14.2026**

**THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENGLISH VALLEYS BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON JANUARY 14TH, 2026.**

English Valleys members present: Susan Schaefer, Tom Voss, Trent Forrest, Katie Taukei, Steve Axmear, Board Secretary Wendy Ayers

Members absent:

Others present: Superintendent Curt Rheingans, Amy Harger, Zach Weilbacher, Tami Marsh, Karen Sieren, Pam Nachtman, Carrie Burdick, Melinda Semler, Leah from OPaa, Daniel from OPaa, Marissa Allison, Renee Allison, John Conrad

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

A motion was made by Forrest, seconded by Voss to approve the agenda. Motion carried

1. Regular Business- Consent Agenda

A. Approve Minutes of Meetings Held December 10, 2025

B. Approve Payment of Activity Bills

C. Approve Payment of Bills

D. Receive Secretary/Treasurer's Financial Report for the Month Ending 12/30/25

E. Receive and Take Action on Resignations

F. Receive and Take Action on Staff Contracts

i. Audeanna Fritz- Elementary Para

ii. Brennen Grimm Junior High assistant wrestling

iii. Brennen Grimm Varsity assistant girls wrestling

A motion was made by Taukei, seconded by Forrest to approve the consent agenda. Roll call vote. Schaefer aye, Voss aye, Forrest

aye, Axmear aye, Taukei aye. Motion carried.

Open Forum – No speakers

Good News:

The board discussed the At Risk/ Drop Out Prevention application and plan for the 2026-2027 school year. The MSA amount for next year is \$174,345. A motion was made by Forrest, seconded by Axmear to approve the At Risk plan. Roll call vote. Axmear aye, Taukei aye, Schaefer aye, Voss aye, Forrest aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Forrest, seconded by Taukei to authorize the district's administration to submit a request to the School Budget Review Committee in the amount of \$176,663 for MSA for the purpose of expenditures related to drop out prevention/at risk curriculum for the 2026-2027 school year. Roll call vote. Axmear aye, Taukei aye, Forrest aye, Voss aye, Schaefer aye. Motion carried. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

The board received a request from PACE to rent buses for their after prom activities. The group is planning on taking the students to Cedar Rapids. A motion was made by Forrest, seconded by Voss to approve the request from PACE to rent buses for their after prom activities. Motion carried.

Representatives from OPaa presented the current happenings in the Nutrition fund. They spoke about initiatives to get increased participation. They also spoke about the breakfast program and the 2nd chance program.

The board received the fundraiser requests:

G. Skills USA

The board discussed more fundraisers that have the kids have a

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**City of Sigourney • Minutes 1.21.2026**

**SIGOURNEY CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

The following are summarized minutes of the regular city council meeting on January 21, 2026.

The Sigourney City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Wednesday, January 21, 2026, with Mayor Pro-Tem McLaughlin presiding and the following Council members answering roll call: Conrad, Schultz, McLaughlin, Hannam and Goldman. Others present were: Don Northup, Public Works Department I; Brent Gilliland, Public Works Department II; and Steve Shettler, with Steve Shettler Media; Kadi Conrad, Deputy City Clerk and Ashley Fry, City Clerk.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Conrad moved, seconded by Schultz, to approve the tentative agenda. Roll call vote, Ayes: 5

Schultz moved, seconded by

Goldman, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: Minutes of Regular Council Meeting of January 7, 2026; Council Account Payable Claims in the amount of \$43,095.25, January 2026 Library Claims; City Clerk Financial Reports, Payroll Expenses, Miscellaneous Expenses, ACH and Monthly Transfers for December 2025; Approval of Liquor License for Toby's Pizza at 102 E Washington Street, Sigourney, IA 52591; Approval of Liquor License for Dollar General at 704 E Jackson St Sigourney, IA 52591; Credit Card Report and Set time and place for the February 4, 2026 Regular Council Meeting at 6:00 PM at City Hall. Roll call Vote Ayes: 5

Conrad moved seconded by Hannam to Approve Resolution No. 2026-01-02 Authorizing the Combination of City Owned Parcels located within Town Square Park.

Roll call vote Ayes: 5

Conrad moved seconded by Hannam to approve Ordinance 2-4-4 to pay the salary of the Mayor to the Mayor Pro-Tem during the Mayor's absence. Roll call vote Ayes: 4, Abstain: 1

Conrad moved, seconded by Schultz, to approve the purchase of a Z970R ZTrak Lawn Mower, including the trade-in of the 2022 Z970R, for a total cost of \$6,763.31. Roll call vote Ayes: 5

Schultz moved, seconded by Goldman, to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote Ayes: 5

The meeting was adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

Connie McLaughlin, Mayor Pro Tem

Ashley Fry, City Clerk

*Published in The News-Review on January 28, 2026*



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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**English Valleys CSD • December 2025 Claims**

<b>ENGLISH VALLEYS SCHOOLS, CLAIMS PAID, DECEMBER 2025</b>	
<b>Activity Account, December ~ 2025,</b>	
Amazon Business, Drama Supplies, .....	145.11
Shawn Angell, Wrestling Official, .....	50.99
Bender Angie, vb line judge, .....	169.41
BGM Community Sch. District, JH Boys Wrestling Fe, .....	200.00
BMO Harris Commercial Card, ffa travel, .....	375.00
BSN Sports, Boys BB Shooting SHI, .....	3103.02
Jordan Challis, Wrestling Official, ..	622.13
Chance Blake, Basketball Official, ..	180.00
Ryne Christner, Basketball Official, ..	160.00
Greg Davies, Basketball Official, .....	160.00
Demco INC, Book Fair Supplies, .....	160.00
Matt Dicicco, Basketball Official, ...	491.56
Brad Doerring, Basketball Official, ..	160.00
Elite Sports, State Cross County S, .....	944.50
Julie Foglesong, assignor fees, .....	430.00
Freeman Foods, script cards, .....	308.54
Freese Jay, Basketball Official, .....	160.00
Jeff Frese, Basketball Official, .....	160.00
Kelby Homeister, Basketball Official, ..	160.00
Iowa FFA Association, FFA Dues, .....	1256.00
Iowa Sports Supply, Athletic Supplies, .....	369.46
Nathan Klingenberg, Basketball Official, ..	166.51
Joe Koehn, JH Basketball Official, .....	80.00
John Koehn, Basketball Official, .....	320.00
Lane LeBahn, Wrestling Official, .....	329.03
Eric Lenox, Wrestling Official, .....	160.00
Zachary Liddle, Wrestling Official, ..	165.97
Alan Ling, official starter fee, .....	150.00
Main Street Pub & Grub, script cards, .....	451.25
Mid West One Bank & Trust, Athletic supplies, .....	160.16
National FFA Organization, FFA Registration fee, .....	638.00
Michelle Patterson, fundraiser reimb., .....	250.00
Playscripts INC., Play scripts, .....	637.93
RaiseRight, fundraiser cards, .....	8596.01
Bryan Sylvester, Wrestling Official, ..	162.86
Leighton Tjaden, Basketball Official, ..	160.00
Varsity Spirit Fashions & Supplies LLC, Cheer Uniforms, .....	2393.75
Wapello School District, volleyball tourney f, .....	200.00
Mark Watts, Basketball Official, .....	160.00
Travis Zaputit, Wrestling Official, .....	204.19
Activity Account, ** BANK ACCOUNT TOTAL ** , .....	25260.39
<b>Class Construction Account, -</b>	
<b>December ~ 2025,</b>	
Amazon Business, Construction Supply, .....	50.99
Class Construction Account, **	1088.32
BANK ACCOUNT TOTAL ** , .....	50.99
<b>General Account, December ~ 2025,</b>	
95 Percent Group Inc., elem reading supplie, .....	163.90
Access Systems Leasing, copy fees, .....	1974.51
Acme Tools, Industrial Tech Supp., ..	995.00
Ahlers Law Firm, legal fees, .....	418.50
AlG Retirement, Tsa/Ira/Annuities, ..	435.00
Alliant Energy, Electricity, .....	970.57
Amazon, youth basketball rim, .....	760.52
Amazon Business, HS Supplies, .....	135.00
Wendy Ayers, travel reimb./notary, ..	805.96
Baker Paper & Supply, Custodial Supplies, .....	908.74
BMO Harris Commercial Card, elem supplies, .....	320.00
Boiler & Pressure Vessel Inspection, Boiler inspection fe, .....	518.24
Carquest Auto Parts, vehicle repair parts, .....	1435.45
Claimaid, medicaid fees, .....	456.42
Collection Services Center, Other Deducts W/H, .....	20.00
Noah R. Cornelius, gas reimb., .....	781.85
Cox Sanitation Service, Garbage Collection, .....	14231.60
Demco INC, HS Library Supplies, ...	1805.00
Department Of Education, Vehicle Inspection f, .....	91.95
DHS Cashier 1st Fl., state share - medica, .....	122229.57
Empower, Tsa/Ira/Annuities, .....	6665.90
Enabling Devices, HS Sp Ed Supplies, .....	485.00
English Valleys CSD, Medical Insurance, .....	984.08
English Valleys Hot Lunch Fund, revtrack transfer, .....	671.25
Equitable, Tsa/Ira/Annuities, .....	36593.90
Fleetside Mobile Service, vehicle repair, .....	1882.50
Freeman Foods, fcs supplies, .....	135.00
Grant Wood AEA, mentoring fees, ..	132.99
Great Prairie Area Education Agency, shared librarian, .....	202.99
Green Top Lawn Care, snow removal, .....	1540.00
Mary Greene, DOT Physical reimb., .....	3124.44
H & M Farm And Home, vehicle repair parts, .....	125.99
HD Supply Facilities Maintenance Ltd., Custodial Supplies, .....	282.55
Horace Mann, Tsa/Ira/Annuities, .....	847.10
ING USA Annuity & Life Ins, Tsa/Ira/Annuities, .....	140.30
Iowa Public Employee Ret Sys., IPERS, .....	3124.44
ISFIS, Background Checks, .....	125.99
J B Repair, bus repair, .....	282.55
J.W. Pepper & Son INC., HS Music Supplies, .....	847.10
Jostens Inc., Diploma Covers, .....	
Keokuk County Auditor, election fees, .....	
Library World Inc., Library renewal fee, .....	540.00
Marengo Farm & Home, Bus Supplies, .....	61.97
Tami Marsh, tech maintenance fee, ..	4200.00
McCloud Services, Pest Control, ...	192.29
MCI, phone, .....	113.83
Medical Enterprises, driver drug test fee, .....	700.00
Menards - Iowa City, Industrial Tech Supp., .....	118.81
Midwest Alarm System, fire alarm monitorin, .....	414.54
Multi County Oil, gas/diesel, .....	1622.59
New Century, LP, .....	1638.30
North English Co-Op Tele Co., Phone, .....	695.58
City Of North English, Water Sewer, .....	868.61
thyssenkrupp Elevator Corp., elevator maintenance, .....	314.59
Push Pedal Pull, equipment repair, ..	340.00
RevTrack, online fees, .....	330.90
Curt Rheingans, mileage reimb., .....	1835.00
S & S Plumbing Heating & Air Conditioning, Plumbing repair, .....	352.94
Scholastic, Elem Supplies, .....	40.67
School Bus Sales, bus repair parts, .....	1197.24
Schoolsin, Whiteboard shipping, .....	2329.09
Sigourney Body Shop, bus repair, ...	170.00
Sigourney Chiropractic and Wellness, DOT Physical, .....	135.00
SkillsUSA Iowa, Membership fees, ..	224.00
Swift True Value Home Center, custodial supplies, .....	47.98
T I P Rural Electric Coop, electricity, .....	3420.69
The Joy of Music, music therapy fees, .....	160.00
The News-Review, Legal Notice, ...	229.03
Tifco Industries, vehicle repair parts, .....	158.78
Treasure State Of Iowa, State Income Tax, .....	7024.00
Tremmel Backhoe Services, Drain repair, .....	300.00
Tri-State Automatic Sprinkler, sprinkler maintenanc, .....	318.00
U S Postmaster, PO Box fee, .....	358.00
UMB Bank, bond interest paymen, ..	7269.50
Verizon Business, phone, .....	91.61
Voya, Tsa/Ira/Annuities, .....	2795.00
West Music Company, HS Band Supplies, .....	54.75
White State Bank, wire fees, .....	30.00
Williamsburg Community School, engine control modul, .....	750.00
Williamsburg Lumber Store, custodial supplies, .....	140.61
Woodman Controls, tech support fees, .....	276.74
General Account, ** BANK ACCOUNT TOTAL ** , .....	296377.47
<b>Insurance Account, ** BANK ACCOUNT TOTAL ** , .....</b>	
<b>** DISTRICT TOTAL ** , .....</b>	
<b>~ 2025,</b>	
Seabury & Smith INC IA Fiduciary, premiums, .....	56030.57
TASC, premiums, .....	2128.90
Insurance Account, ** BANK ACCOUNT TOTAL ** , .....	58159.47
** DISTRICT TOTAL ** , .....	379848.32
<i>Published in The News-Review on January 28, 2026</i>	





# English Valleys Bearometer

January 28, 2026

[www.facebook.com/Bearometer](http://www.facebook.com/Bearometer)

Issue: XXI

## English Valleys Drama Department Presents: Laughs, Drama, and Royal Mayhem

By: Phoenix Sorden

The English Valleys High School Drama Department is excited to announce this year's school play, *Game of Tiaras*, written by Don Zolidis and directed by Mrs. Burdick. *Game of Tiaras* is a creative adaptation inspired by William Shakespeare's *King Lear*, *Game of Thrones*, and classic fairytale princesses.

The aging king of a magical kingdom (England), played by Tyler Wiseman, makes the fateful decision to divide his empire among his three daughters. Cinderella (Olivia Debevec), Belle (Kaylynn Hoylman), and the Snow Queen (Kaylee Frazier), who in no way resembles a copyrighted character, quickly turn that decision into chaos and comedy. Along the way, the audience will also meet other familiar fairytale princesses, including Snow White (McKenna Rugg) and the Little Mermaid (Peyten Corad). As if that weren't enough trouble, two princes, played by Jack Osborn and Chyar McGaffee, enter the mix and further complicate this power struggle.

This production puts a fresh and funny spin on a classic tragedy, mixing dramatic twists with playful humor. Phoenix Sorden and Ellie Patterson serve as narrators, guiding the audience through a kingdom in turmoil as alliances change and tensions rise. The result is an entertaining blend of drama, comedy, and unexpected moments.

The cast and crew invite you to join the *Game of Tiaras*. You won't want to miss this entertaining and memorable production. Come see what happens when ambition, rivalry, and fairytale magic collide on stage. The performances take place at English Valleys High School in Gene's Gymnasium on Friday, March 20, and Saturday, March 21. The shows start at 7:00 PM, and doors open at approximately 6:30 PM. Tickets are \$4 dollars for students and \$6 for adults.

Join us for a night of laughter, drama, and fairytale fun as crowns clash and the game begins—because in *Game of Tiaras*, only one can rule the kingdom.



## Big Night for English Valleys Basketball: Both Teams Secure Thrilling Wins Over Keota

English Valleys basketball fans were treated to an exciting doubleheader on January 15 as both the girls' and boys' teams came away with hard-fought victories over Keota.

The girls' team edged out Keota 52–48 in a nail-biter, showing focus and determination down the stretch to seal the win. Addison Achenbach led the team with 15 points, followed by Anna Luers with 13 points.

The boys' team followed with a 55–49 victory, marking a historic moment for EV basketball. This win is the boys' first home victory over Keota in several years. The last time they defeated Keota was on February 1, 2022, at Keota, making this home win even sweeter. Kane Axmear led the Bears with 20 points, while Christian Tripses added 18 points, powering the team to the victory.

Coaches and teammates alike praised both squads for their effort, teamwork, and resilience throughout the games. It was a night to remember for English Valleys basketball, showcasing the talent, heart, and determination of the Bears.

Way to go, Bears!



## Senior Night Highlights: Boys Wrestling



## Upcoming Activities:

### January 29:

JH Boys Basketball vs Colfax-Mingo - 4:15 pm

JV Boys Basketball @ Pekin - 4:30 pm

V Basketball @ Pekin - 6:00 pm

### January 30:

Girls Wrestling State Q. Meet @ Wapello - 4:00 pm

HS Basketball @ Montezuma - 6:00 pm

### January 31:

Boys Wrestling SICL Tour. @ Iowa Valley - 10:00 am

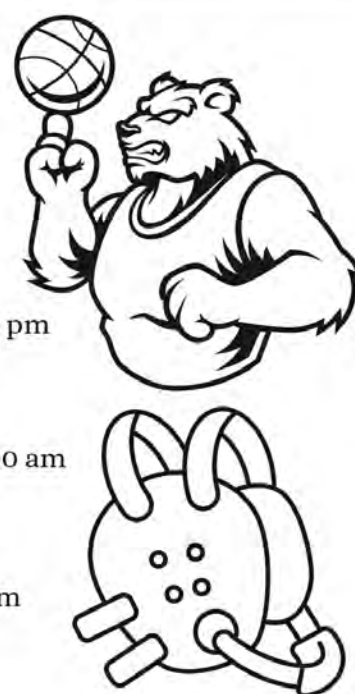
### February 2:

JH Girls Wrestling @ Iowa Valley - 4:15 pm

HS Boys Basketball vs Valley Lutheran - 6:00 pm

### February 3:

HS Basketball @ North Mahaska - 6:00 pm



## ENGLISH VALLEYS

### NOW HIRING

#### AVAILABLE POSITIONS 2025 - 2026:

- AM Bus Driver
- Elem. Special Ed. Paraeducator
- MS/HS Special Education Teacher
- PK-12 Substitute Teacher

#### AVAILABLE POSITIONS 2026 - 2027:

- Assistant HS Football Coach
- Assistant HS Volleyball Coach
- HS Science Teacher
- 6-12 English Teacher

Please apply through [iowa.schoolspring.com](http://iowa.schoolspring.com). For questions, please contact the District Office or [jrugg@english-valleys.k12.ia.us](mailto:jrugg@english-valleys.k12.ia.us)







# THE EAGLE'S WING

Issue No. 9

Keota Jr./Sr. High School Student Newspaper



## Senior Spotlight

### CHASE HAIFLEY

This week's senior spotlight is Chase Haifley. He is the son of Amy Haifley, who graduated from Independence high school, and works as a physical therapist. His father Shawn Haifley graduated from Keota High School and now works for Eichelbergers. Shawn has also helped Keota Schools with coaching. He has one sister, Cameron, who is 15 years old. Chase is a kid who has participated in several sports and after school activities, such as basketball, track, speech, and FFA. His athletics is where he shines, winning several awards and medals. He is always willing to help his team, shown by breaking a record for most assists in one game set back in 1979 by Mike Conrad. His dreams as a child were to play in the N.B.A., and it shows since he is planning to go to college to play basketball and get his advanced degree in business and marketing to get into real estate. He wants to be remembered as a fun guy, shown by participating in TP-ing and ag ball with peers. His favorite Keota tradition is homecoming; he believes it has a lot of fun activities to participate in such as dress up and Eagle Olympics. He believes that life should not be taken too seriously. Chase hates last minute changes. Chase is a very outgoing person; he says he would be described as "serious, unpredictable, and fun." He is on student council and was voted onto Homecoming Court. He is seen hanging out with peers often. Chase says he will miss Keota athletics and has valued the time he has gotten to participate in them.



By: David Sherman

## SK BOYS WRESTLING HAVING AN INCREDIBLE SEASON

Senior SK wrestling team member Jacob Libe, says the SK boys wrestling team has had a spectacular season with many team members maintaining a winning record. The SK boys have been all across the state to attend tournaments and dual meets, with many of the dual meets staying in the SICIL conference. Jacob says he and his teammates prepare for a meet by drilling during practice and taking practice easy the day before a meet or dual. Jacob says he participates in the sport because he enjoys the sport and feels he benefits from the lessons learned along the way. Jacob says the most important lesson someone can receive from wrestling is that life isn't easy. Jacob has a record of 11-7 and won the Regina Invitational wrestling tournament in December of 2025. Jacob's goal is to make it to State this year, and he plans on doing this by putting in extra work. We wish Jacob, Coach Van den Huevel, and the rest of the SK wrestling team a great rest of the season



By: Jack Greiner

## KEOTA BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM DEFEATS HIGHLAND

On January 19th, 2026, the Keota boys basketball team beat the Highland boys basketball team by 31 points. After a loss to English Valleys on Friday, January 16th, the Keota boys rebounded with a win over the Huskies. Team members Porter Cave and Brennan McGuire say that the win was a moral booster and a good win for the team. The Eagles will play HLV/TC Friday in a homecoming showdown after having beat the Warriors earlier in the season.



By: Jack Greiner



## HOMECOMING COURT ANNOUNCED



King Nominees: Jackson Vittetoe, Gavin Sieren, Chase Haifley, and Jake Morris.

Queen Nominees: Kennedy Jackson, Addison Purkeypile, Dakota Dodd, and Olivia Lyle

Eagle Escorts: Garrett Greiner & Reese Conrad (not pictured)

## EVENTS

26-30 Radon Screening  
30 Dist. Wrestling  
30 No School  
Feb 2 (G) District Bowling @ West Burlington 9:30  
JH G Wrestling @ Mid-Prairie 4:00  
V BB vs Monte 6:00  
3 Student Co Mtg JH G Wrestling @ Pekin 4:30  
V BB @ IA Valley  
6:00  
4 FFA Mtg Audit. 7:30  
10th to Kirkwood 9  
5 JH B BB @ HLV 4:15  
G State Wrestling  
6 No School (PD)  
V BB @ Belle Plaine  
6:00  
G State Wrestling  
7 State Large Group  
Speech  
B Wrestling @ Mid-Prairie

## EAGLE'S WING STAFF

2025-2026

JACK GREINER  
DAVID SHERMAN  
FORREST BONEBRAKE

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.

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE HOMECOMING TRADITION?

MRS. MEYERS  
STAFF



"Lipsync"

LUKE MOELLER  
12TH



"Hoco Game"

BRYNN CONRAD  
11TH



"Eagle Olympics"

MARLEE GREINER  
10TH



"Eagle Olympics"

EMMA GREINER  
9TH



"Eagle Olympics"

ISAAC FLYNN  
8TH



"Eagle Olympics"

JULIE JAEGER  
7TH



"Dressing Up"



# DNR sets public meetings to recap hunting, trapping seasons, discuss possible rule changes

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is hosting a series of town hall-style meetings where local staff will provide updates on recently completed hunting and trapping seasons, discuss possible changes to hunting and trapping rules and regulations, and address other topics as requested.

“We want people to come out to these meetings, listen to the seasons reviews, ask questions and hear directly from our staff,” said Todd Bishop, chief of the Iowa DNR’s Wildlife Bureau. “Part of the meeting will be devoted to discussing potential rule changes and collecting feedback as we work through the rules process.”

The meetings are open to the public. Comments collected from these public meetings will be considered along with other related comments received by the Iowa DNR prior to proposing changes to hunting rules and regulations. Proposed rules will be presented to the Natural Resource Commission during a regular public meeting for consideration and additional public comment.

Comments received during previous listening sessions have resulted in regulation changes, including modifying and removing areas closed to Canada goose hunting, establishing later goose season dates and increased bag limit, expanding the raccoon hunting and trapping season on private land, modifying Iowa’s antlerless deer quotas in north central and western Iowa, and extending the regular trapping season through the end of February.

Meeting date, time and location

**Waverly, March 2, 6 p.m., Waverly Public Library, 1500 W. Bremer Avenue**

**Bloomfield, March 3, 6 p.m., Pioneer Ridge Nature Center, 1339 Hwy. 63**

**Boone, March 3, 6 p.m., Wildlife Research Station, 1436 255th Street**

**Burlington, March 3, 6 p.m., Burlington Public Library, 210 Court St.**

**Chariton, March 3, 6 p.m., Pin Oak Lodge, 45996 State Hwy. 14**

**Creston, March 3, 6 p.m., Performing Arts Building**

**multi-purpose room (124), 1201 West Townline Street Decorah, March 3, 7 p.m., Franklin W. Olin Building, Room 102, Luther College, 700 College Drive, next to the Prues Library**

**Des Moines, March 3, 6:45 p.m., Des Moines Izaak Walton, 4343 George Flagg Parkway**

**Maquoketa, March 3, 7 p.m., Hurstville Interpretive Center, 18670 63rd Street**

**Spencer, March 3, 6:30 p.m., Iowa Lakes Community College, 1900 Grand Ave. Suite B1, Entrance #1-West side of the North Mall**

**Iowa City, March 4, 5:30 p.m., Johnson County Extension Office, 3109 Old Hwy 218 South**

**Charles City, March 4, 6:30 p.m., Public Library Zastrow Room, 910 Clark Street**

**Okoboji, March 4, 6 p.m., Maser Monarch Lodge, 22785 Nature Center Road**

**Perry, March 4, 6 p.m., Dallas County Conservation Board, Forest Park Museum administration building, 14581 K Avenue**

**Algona, March 5, 7 p.m., Tietz Entrepreneurial Center at the Algona campus of Iowa Lakes Community College, 2111 Hwy 169 North**

**Council Bluffs, March 5, 5:30 p.m., Bass Pro Shops, 2901 Bass Pro Drive**

**Hinton, March 5, 5 p.m., Dennis L. Sohl Center for Outdoor Learning, Hillview Recreation Area, 25601 C60**

**Lake View, March 5, 6:30 p.m., Speaker Park Shelter House, 418 North Blossom Street**

**Toledo, March 5, 5:30 p.m., Tama County Nature Center at Otter Creek Lake Park, 2283 Park Road**

**Ventura, March 5, 6 p.m., Clear Lake Wildlife Unit Office, 15326 Balsam Ave.**

Any person attending the public meeting that has special requirements, such as those related to mobility or hearing impairments, should contact the Iowa DNR or ADA Coordinator at 515-725-8200, Relay Iowa TTY Service 800-735-7942, or Webmaster@dnr.iowa.gov, and advise of specific needs.



Grain Bins (photo courtesy of Metro Creative Connection)

# Bins of Tomorrow Webinar to Focus on Grain Conditioning for Profitability

**By: Kapil Arora**

AMES – Farmers are invited to participate in an upcoming “Bins of Tomorrow” webinar on Feb. 9 from noon to 1 p.m. The webinar is offered by the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach agricultural engineering team and will focus on issues encountered during the 2025 grain harvest, grain quality and its storability in 2026.

Kapil Arora, field agricultural engineer with ISU Extension and Outreach, noted that the 2025 corn and soybean harvest had its unique challenges.

“Cooled grain with low moisture content is typically good for winter storage. The conditions of Grain bins in the distance under a blue sky both soybeans and corn should be looked into as spring 2026 approaches,” he said. “Dry grain kernels are prone to shattering and splitting, which can cause issues during storage. Additionally, there is an economic loss when such grain is sold, as weights are not adjusted for corn with a moisture content below 15% or soybeans with a moisture content below 13%.”

Webinar topics include how to adjust weights using sensors, weather data and bin monitoring, using apps for decision-making and how to improve grain quality during storage, especially for soybeans. The webinar will be led by Dirk Maier, professor and director of the ISU Kent Feed Mill and Grain Science Complex.

Visit the Bins of Tomorrow website to register for the webinar or learn more about the Bins of Tomorrow programs. This webinar is offered to all participants at no cost, but registration is required.

Questions regarding the webinar can be directed to Kapil Arora at pbtiger@iastate.edu, Kris Kohl at kkohl1@iastate.edu or Tony Mensing at tmensing@iastate.edu.



Carl Kurtz

# Virtual Field Day to Explore Prairie Establishment and Management with Carl Kurtz

**Iowa Learning Farms virtual field day is scheduled for Feb. 12 at 1 p.m. CST**

By: Elizabeth Ripley

AMES – Iowa Learning Farms, in partnership with C-CHANGE: Grass2Gas, will host a virtual field day on Thursday, Feb. 12, at 1 p.m. CST. The event, which is available at no cost, will feature a live discussion with Carl Kurtz, a professional writer, teacher, naturalist and photographer with over 50 years of prairie establishment and management experience.

This field day aims to assist farmers, landowners and conservation professionals with Carl Kurtz establishing and maintaining prairie perennial vegetation. These areas provide numerous benefits, such as creating pollinator habitats, reducing soil erosion in sensitive locations, improving soil health, enhancing wildlife presence, increasing landscape beauty and serving as biomass feedstock for renewable natural gas production.

“About 50 years ago, I was introduced to the prairie by Roger Landers, who was a botanist at Iowa State University, and with my background in wildlife biology, I began to see that this is probably some of the very best wildlife habitat there is,” noted Kurtz.

Any person interested in establishing and managing a prairie is welcome to attend the virtual field day. Participants are also encouraged to bring any questions they would like to ask.

“You’ve got to remember you’re going to be in it for the long haul. It’s not something you plant for one year, and then you plow it up 10 years,” explained Kurtz when asked what advice he would share with those looking to establish a prairie. “In 10 years, it’s just getting started doing what it will do best, and the diversity will start to get really good.”

To participate in the live virtual field day, visit Iowa Learning Farms Field Days - Exploring Prairie Establishment and Management With Carl Kurtz, or join from a dial-in phone line (dial 646-876-9923 or 646-931-3860, with meeting ID 914 1198 4892). The field day will be recorded and archived on the ILF Virtual Field Day Archive for future viewing.

Participants may be eligible for a Certified Crop Adviser board-approved continuing education unit. Information about how to apply for and receive the CEU will be provided at the end of the event.

# Ag Pest Control Course Set for February 11

**Preregister before February 4 for spring commercial pesticide applicator Continuing Instruction Course**

Sigourney – Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Keokuk County will host an Ag Pest Control Continuing Instruction Course (CIC) for commercial pesticide applicators Wednesday, February 11, 2026. The program, provided by the ISU Extension and Outreach Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP), is available at office locations across Iowa.

The local attendance site is Keokuk County Extension Office, 400 220th Ave. Suite A. Sigourney, IA 52591. Pre-registration may be required. Walk-ins are not guaranteed admission. The course runs from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. The registration fee is \$45 on or before February 4 and \$60 after February 4. To register or to obtain additional information about the CIC, contact Emily Belvel at the ISU Extension and Outreach Keokuk County office at 641-622-2680.

The course will provide continuing instruction credit for commercial pesticide applicators certified in categories 1A, 1B, and 1C. Topics covered will include personal protective equipment and safe handling; professionalism, storage of pesticides, including chemical security and pests, pest management, and pesticides.

Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be offered at this program. Interested participants should bring their CCA number.

Additional information and registration forms for this and other courses offered by the PSEP program can be accessed at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/PSEP>.

# 4-H “Know Your Swine” Project & Exhibitor Meeting Feb 10

**4-H’sers involved in the swine project area have several important events coming.**

February 10 at 6 pm at the Extension Office will be the annual “Know Your Swine” Workshop and Exhibitor Meeting for new and beginning swine showman. This is an introductory meeting to the Swine Project and current swine industry topics. ISU Swine Specialist Matt Romoser, 4-H swine superintendents and mentor families, and 4-H staff will discuss early care management, facilities and equipment, feeding, bio-security issues, showmanship tips, African Swine Fever and ractopamine-free projects.

This meeting is required if you plan to show swine at the 2026 county fair and have not attend a 4-H swine meeting since the ractopamine rule started in 2020. The same information will be covered. All swine exhibitors must attend one of these ractopamine-free project meetings with a parent/guardian to exhibit at the Washington County Fair.

April 1 is the deadline to register for the unique Washington County Single Source Commercial Swine Class. Interested exhibitors should contact the Extension Office to sign up or to learn more about this class where all pigs come from the same commercial swine building. The pigs have near identical genetics. The project begins on April 11 when all participants get their pigs at the production swine weigh-in at the Washington County Fairgrounds.

Questions regarding how to get involved with the swine project area as an exhibitor or community partner may be directed to the Washington County Extension Office, 319/653-4811.

# Seed Treatment and Ag Pest Control Course Set for February 18

**Preregister before February 11 for spring commercial pesticide applicator Continuing Instruction Course**

Sigourney – Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Keokuk County will host an Seed Treatment and Ag Pest Control Continuing Instruction Course (CIC) for commercial pesticide applicators Wednesday, February 18, 2026. The program, provided by the ISU Extension and Outreach Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP), is available at office locations across Iowa.

The local attendance site is Keokuk County Extension Office, 400 220th Ave. Suite A. Sigourney, IA 52591. Pre-registration may be required. Walk-ins are not guaranteed admission. The course runs from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. The registration fee is \$45 on or before February 11 and \$60 after February 11. To register or to obtain additional information about the CIC, contact Emily Belvel at the ISU Extension and Outreach Keokuk County office at 641-622-2680.

The course will provide continuing instruction credit for commercial pesticide applicators certified in categories 4, 1A, 1B, and 1C. Topics covered will include personal protective equipment and safe handling; professionalism, storage of pesticides, including chemical security; and pests, pest management, and pesticides.

Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be offered at this program. Interested participants should bring their CCA number.

Additional information and registration forms for this and other courses offered by the PSEP program can be accessed at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/PSEP>.

# Ornamental and Turfgrass Pest Control Course Offered March 4

**Preregister before February 25 for fall commercial pesticide applicator training recertification**

Sigourney – Iowa State University and Outreach Keokuk County office will host an Ornamental and Turfgrass Pest Control Continuing Instruction Course (CIC) for commercial pesticide applicators Wednesday, March 4, 2026. The program provided by the ISU Extension and Outreach Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP) can be seen at office locations across Iowa.

The local attendance site is Keokuk County Extension Office, 400 220th Ave. Suite A. Sigourney, IA 52591. Pre-registration may be required. Walk-ins are not guaranteed admission. The course runs from 9 to 11:30 a.m. The registration fee is \$45 on or before February 25 and \$60 after February 25. To register or to obtain additional information about the CIC, contact Emily Belvel at the ISU Extension and Outreach Keokuk County office at 641-622-2680.

The course will provide continuing instructional credit for commercial pesticide applicators certified in categories 3O, 3T, and 3OT. The IDALS-required topics to be covered are personal protective equipment and safe handling; professionalism, storage of pesticides, including chemical security; and pests, pest management; and pesticides.

Additional information and registration forms for this and other courses being offered by the PSEP team can be accessed at [www.extension.iastate.edu/psep](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/psep).



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