

Supervisors Approve 3% Salary Increases

By Casey James | The News-Review
SIGOURNEY – On Jan. 5, the Keokuk County Board of Supervisors approved 3% pay increase for elected officials to go into effect in 2027. Supervisor Mike Hadley explained that the Consumer Price Index stated that there had been 2.8% inflation in the past year. He stated that the 3% increase was not really a raise, just a continuation of the level officials are currently paid.

"I feel like we can make that work, hopefully, til it don't. That's my opinion," Hadley said.

Hadley stated that he used to always recommend 1% more than inflation, to increase salaries over time, because Keokuk County salaries used to be low. However, he stated that, due to restraints put on the county by the state legislature, he didn't feel that was possible. Supervisor Kevin Weber stated that, based on what they're allowed to levy, he can't see them being able to go above 3% at

this point in time. Hadley stated that he believed that Washington County and Jefferson County had both approved raises of 2.8%. Supervisor Daryl Wood stated that the county had received roughly \$100,000 in its general fund this year and that the 3% raises would total to around \$77,000. He stated there was a little extra in the general fund for increases to line item expenses in different departments, but not much.

In accordance with Iowa law, the Supervisors looked over the salaries other Iowa counties give elected officials before making their decision. County Assessor Drew Sanders asked what data they were using for the comparison, giving population and property tax evaluations as examples. Hadley stated that there wasn't a direct line in how much counties pay, noting that some smaller counties pay officials more; he stated that the info from the Iowa State Association of Counties was unclear on specific duties of officials, noting for example

that Sanders also does GIS work, something not all assessors do.

Prior to 2025, the supervisors were required to meet with a compensation board prior to deciding on wage increases. Following changes in state law, the Keokuk County Board of Supervisors opted to dissolve the board. They did not reinstate it this year. Hadley stated during the Jan. 5 meeting that the compensation board had become redundant, due the state "taking the teeth" out of compensation boards and making it so the supervisors no longer had to follow their recommendations. Hadley stated it was simpler to get rid of the middle-man and discuss things between the supervisors and employees. Wood stated that a few members of the compensation board had come to him and stated they had no clue what the financial means of the county were anymore and asked why they were making recommendations if they didn't know the county could afford them.



Copper Lantern in Sigourney held a Masquerade Party on New Year's Eve.

Mexico Part 1



Rick Janssen

Jan 5, 2026

Over Christmas I got to check another item off my bucket list. I was able to travel to a resort in the Mayan Rivera section of Mexico with my entire family. This is something I have been dreaming and planning for many years, and this year we made it all happen.

My wife and I have traveled to this area three times previously with various friends and family members. I talked to my family about this area and told them that SOME YEAR we were all going to go together. The only time that I could get them all free from their schedules was at Christmas. We knew it would be a busy time at the resort, but we took what we could get.

My Iowa family flew very early on Christmas Eve out of Des Moines. We had a short lay over in Dallas and then on to Cancun Mexico. My son and his wife flew out of Greenville SC and were about an hour behind us. Once we cleared customs we boarded our bus for the hour ride south to our resort.

The resort was very beautiful, and all decked out for Christmas. It is a little funny to see the Christmas

lights on palm trees instead of the traditional trees we use here, but there was still a huge "pine tree" all decorated in the lobby. The entire resort is set in a jungle area, and we were able to see many types of wildlife that are not common in Iowa. Monkeys were very abundant along with the Mexican version of a racoon.

Once my entire family was checked into their rooms, we wandered the resort trying to find food. Every time I visit a resort like this it takes me a day or two to find my way around to all the restaurants and beach areas. After a quick snack we wandered down to the beach area for our first view of the ocean. The colors of the water never cease to amaze me. The wind was blowing in some large waves as we walked along the coast. We finally made it to the sheltered beach area where some of our family went in for a quick dip.

We then made our way back to our rooms to clean up and head to the giant buffet area for supper. Since it was Christmas Eve, the buffet went all out with all kinds of food and more desserts than I had ever seen. My granddaughter tried to eat an entire lobster by herself but couldn't get it done. Everyone was very tired from the long trav-

el day, so we turned in early.

The next day was Christmas, and we knew we just wanted to relax around the beach, so after breakfast we headed in that direction. The beach is in a secluded area, so the waves are never a problem. The sand on the beach was perfect for building sandcastles and most of the family helped with the buildings. I wanted to check out the area for snorkeling, but the wind blowing in made the ocean too rough, so I went back to the beach.

There was a snack bar at the beach so we could just walk up and enjoy a quick snack and get some ice cream. We basically just chilled the entire day at the beach and then went to a Mexican restaurant back in the lobby area. The resort had 5 sit down restaurants that we needed to make reservations for, along with the buffet and other a la carte restaurants. Way too much food.

Our resort was next to a huge park called Xcaret. I have visited this park three times in the past and knew that my family would enjoy the park. It has so many interesting things to see and do that we decided to purchase

JANSSEN
pg. 3



USPS says mail-in ballots might not get postmark on same day they're dropped off

By Jonathan Shorman, States Newsroom

The U.S. Postal Service has adopted a new rule that could create doubt about whether some ballots mailed by voters by Election Day will receive postmarks in time to be counted.

A USPS rule that took effect on Dec. 24 says mail might not receive a postmark on the same day the agency takes possession of it. The postal service says it isn't changing its existing postmark practices and is merely clarifying its policy, but some election officials have looked to postmarks as a guarantee that mail ballots were cast before polls closed.

The new rule holds implications for 14 states and Washington, D.C., that count ballots arriving after Election Day if they are postmarked on or before that day — commonly called a "ballot grace period." In these states, ballots placed in the mail by voters before the deadline may not be counted if the postal service applies a postmark after Election Day.

The USPS rule says that "the postmark date does not necessarily indicate the first day that the Postal Service had possession of the mailpiece."

The USPS rule comes as the

U.S. Supreme Court prepares to consider a case that could eliminate ballot grace periods nationwide. The court's decision, expected late this spring or next summer, could render the issues raised by the postmark rule moot.

Mail-in voting surged in 2020's general election amid the COVID-19 pandemic, when 43% of voters cast their votes by mail. The percentage of voters mailing their ballots has fallen from that peak but remains above pre-pandemic levels. About 30% of voters cast mail ballots in 2024, according to data gathered by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission.

While the vast majority of mail ballots were successfully cast last year, hundreds of thousands weren't counted. During the 2024 election, 584,463 mail ballots returned by voters were rejected by election officials — 1.2% of returned mail ballots. About 18% of those ballots were rejected because they didn't arrive on time.

The USPS defended the change in a lengthy response to criticisms published in the Federal Register. The agency emphasized that it does not administer elections and doesn't advocate for or against voting by mail.

The postal service repeated its advice that voters mail their completed ballots at least a week before Election Day. And it noted that voters may request a manual postmark at their local post office free of charge.

"If customers are aware that the postmark date may not align with the date on which the Postal Service first accepted possession of a mailpiece, they will be better equipped to adjust their plans accordingly," the response reads.

"And if policymakers or other entities that create rules utilizing the postmark date are aware of what the postmark date signifies, they are better equipped to determine whether their rules adequately serve their purposes."

Stateline reporter Jonathan Shorman can be reached at jshorman@stateline.org.

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Community CALENDAR

and Thursdays 10-5pm
Fridays 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturdays 8-12.

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

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

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

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

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

Old Keota Business
Anyone having old photos
of former Keota businesses,
please contact Larry Gale
Sanders. The photos will

be used in a Keota Business
Pictorial Album.

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

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

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

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

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

Keokuk County Historical Society
Open Wednesdays and
Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2
p.m.
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
Keokuk County Extension
Office, 641-777-1653

Grief Share
Sigourney Chirstian
Church, 308 S Jefferson St
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
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

Letter to the Editor

By Chad M. Greiner
As we begin the year
2026, it is time for an honest
public discussion about
the future of Keokuk
County.
What is that future?
With continued farm
ground and livestock con-
solidation and little to no
economic growth, we must
ask ourselves where we are
headed and whether we
are prepared for the conse-
quences of inaction.
I have lived in Keokuk
County nearly my entire
life, and I care deeply about
this place. I have worked
in and around all of our
towns and know firsthand
the pride people take in
their communities. But
pride alone will not sustain
us. Rising costs—espe-
cially property taxes and
the increasing expense of
operating multiple school
districts—are placing a
growing strain on taxpay-
ers and local governments
alike. Ignoring these reali-
ties will not make them go
away.
I would much rather
live here than be a name-
less face in a large city.
That sense of community
is worth protecting. But
protecting it requires dif-
ficult conversations and
long-term planning—not
silence.
Last year, voters rejected
the \$10 million bond is-

sue for Sigourney schools.
Taxpayers made it clear:
they feel overburdened,
and I don't blame them.
However, refusing to invest
in infrastructure comes
with real consequences.
When school buildings
deteriorate to the point of
frequent closures or emer-
gency repairs, families will
look elsewhere. Open en-
rollment to larger districts
will increase, enrollment
will decline, and the cycle
will only accelerate.
At some point, we must
ask the hard question: can
Keokuk County realisti-
cally continue to support
three separate school dis-
tricts, or would a single
consolidated district—
supported by the tax base
of the entire county—pro-
vide greater stability, effi-
ciency, and opportunity
for our students?
This is not an attack on
any town or any school.
Every community in Ke-
okuk County matters.
But avoiding this discus-
sion does not protect our
towns—it weakens them.
If we want a future where
families choose to stay, in-
vest, and raise their chil-
dren here, we must be will-
ing to talk openly about
where we are going and
how we plan to get there.
The future of Keokuk
County depends on it.

Births, Engagements, Weddings, Anniversaries

• story (no photos) runs for FREE

• story with black and white photo- \$12

• story with color photo- \$24

* Some restrictions may apply.

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

Share your story!

Contact us at

641-622-3110

info@sigourneynewsreview.com

120 E Washington St, Sigourney, IA 52591

MENUS

Goodwin Senior Dining Center (Wellman)

Jan. 9th
Maid-Rite Sandwich, Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Reese's Choc. Cookie.
Jan. 12th
Ham Broccoli Bake, Breakfast Cube, Potatoes, Chocolate Chip Bar.
Jan. 14th
Ham Balls, Sour Cream Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Scotcheroos.

English Valleys

Jan. 8th
Breakfast: Scrambled Eggs w/ Cinnamon Toast, Assorted Cereal w/ Cinnamon Toast, Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Cheddar- Toni w/ Focaccia Bread, Pig in a Blanket, Seasoned French Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Salad Bar w/ Focaccia Bread, Garden Salad, Glazed Carrots, Fruit, Milk.
Jan. 9th
Breakfast: Biscuits & Pepper Gravy w/ Sausage Patty, Assorted Cereal w/ Toast w. Margarine, Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Chicken Fried Rice w. Egg Roll, Cheeseburger w/ Sweet Potato Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Salad Bar, Garden Salad, Steamed Broccoli, Fruit, Rice Krispie Treat, Milk.
Jan. 12th
Breakfast: Egg and Cheese Breakfast Sandwich, Assorted Cereal w. Cinnamon Toast, Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Bacon Mac N Cheese w/ Italian Bread, Cheeseburger w/ Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Garden Salad, Corn, Fruit, Milk.
Jan. 13th
Breakfast: Donut, Assorted Cereal w/ Yogurt, Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Pork Enchiladas, Hot Honey Garlic Chicken Bites w. Garlic Toast, Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Garden Salad, Bean Soup, Fruit, Milk.
Jan. 14th
Breakfast: Waffles, Assorted Cereal w/ Toast w. Margarine, Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Chicken Patty w/ Hot Roll, Pepper Jack Grilled Cheese w/ Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Mashed Potatoes, Glazed Carrots, Fruit, Milk.

Milestones (Sigourney & Delta)

Jan. 8th
Cook's Choice with Dessert.
Jan. 9th
Roasted Turkey, Gravy, Mashed Sweet Potatoes, Cauliflower w/ parsley, Pumpkin Bar, Wheat Roll.
Jan. 12th
Country Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Pickled Beets, Applesauce, Wheat Roll.
Jan. 13th
Tater Tot Casserole, Green Peas, Ambrosia, WW Bread.
Jan. 14th
Herbed Pork Loin, Gravy, Rice Pilaf, Four Way Mixed Veggies, Chilled Pineapple.

Pekin

Jan. 8th
Breakfast: Sausage, Toast, Fruit, Juice.
Lunch: Mini Corn Dogs, WG Goldfish, Ham & Cheese Hoagie, Raisles, Diced Pears, Corn, Sliced Cucumbers, Milk.
Jan. 9th
Breakfast: WG Long John, Sting Cheese, Fruit, Juice.
Lunch: Pizza, Hamburger on Bun, Fruit, Baked Beans, Baby Carrots w/ Ranch, Milk.
Jan. 12th
Breakfast: Mini Cini's Yogurt, Fruit, Juice.
Lunch: Walking Tacos, Grilled Cheese, Peaches, Apple Slices, Refried Beans, California Blend, Milk.
Jan. 13th
Breakfast: Cereal Bar, GoGurt, Fruit, Juice.
Lunch: Lasagna, Bosco Stick, Egg Patty, Sausage Patty, Cinnamon Apples, Orange Slices, Romaine Lettuce, Baby Carrots w/ Ranch, Milk.
Jan. 14th
Breakfast: Tortilla Omelet, Fruit, Juice.
Lunch: Chicken Patty on Bun, Uncrustable, Mixed Fruit, Raisels, Potato Wedges, Pepper Slices, Milk.

Sigourney

Jan. 8th
Breakfast: Scrambled Eggs, Assorted Cereal w/ Cinnamon Toast, Donut, Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Cheddar- Toni w/ Focaccia Bread, Pig in a Blanket, Seasoned French Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Salad Bar w/ Focaccia Bread, Garden Salad, Glazed Carrots, Fruit, Milk.
Jan. 9th
Breakfast: Biscuits & Pepper Gravy w/ Sausage Patty, Assorted Cereal w/ Toast w. Margarine, Pancakes, Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Chicken Fried Rice w. Egg Roll, Cheeseburger w/ Sweet Potato Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Salad Bar w/ Fruit Muffin, Garden Salad, Steamed Broccoli, Fruit, Rice Krispi Treat, Milk.
Jan. 12th
Breakfast: Egg and Cheese Breakfast Sandwich, Assorted Cereal w/ Cinnamon Toast, French Toast Sticks, Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Bacon Mac N Cheese w/ Italian Bread, Cheeseburger w/ Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Salad Bar w/ Italian Bread, Garden Salad, Fruit, Milk.
Jan. 13th
Breakfast: Sticky Buns, Assorted Cereal w/ Yogurt, Donut, Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Pork Enchiladas, Hot Honey Garlic Chicken Bites w. Garlic Toast w/ Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Salad Bar w/ Italian Bread, Garden Salad, Bean Soup, Fruit, Milk.
Jan. 14th
Breakfast: Scrambled Eggs w/ Toast w. margarine, Assorted Cereal w/ Toast w. Margarine, Waffles, Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Chicken patty w/ Hot Roll, Pepper Jack Grilled Cheese w/ Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Salad Bar w/ Hot Roll, Mashed Potatoes, Glazed Carrots, Fruit, Milk.

Keota

Jan. 8th
Breakfast: Pancake Sausage Sandwich, Peaches, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Stromboli, Garden Spinach Salad, Green Beans, Pickle Beets, Fresh Strawberries, Milk.
Jan. 9th
No School
Jan. 12th
Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza, Tropical Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Taco Soup, Fresh Broccoli, Salsa, Pears, Chips, Snickerdoodle, Milk.
Jan. 13th
Breakfast: Pancakes w/ Syrup, Peaches, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: WG Mini Corn Dog, Tossed Salad, Yellow Peppers, Apple, Pumpkin, Chocolate Chip Muffin.
Jan. 14th
Breakfast: Egg Bites, Toast & Jelly, Orange, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Sausage Patty, Cheese Stick, Green Beans, Fresh Baby Carrots, Pineapple, French Toast, Milk.

Tri-County

Jan. 8th
Breakfast: Biscuit & Gravy
Lunch: Chicken & Rice w. Queso, Pico De Gallo, Lettuce, Tortilla, Peaches.
Jan. 9th
Breakfast: Breakfast Sandwich
Lunch: Pizza Rolls, Red Peppers, Pears.
Jan. 12
Breakfast: Cereal.
Lunch: Chicken Nuggets, Potato Wedges, Mixed Fruit.
Jan. 13th
Breakfast: Omelet, Tri-Tator
Lunch: Walking Taco, Lettuce, Cheese, Salsa, Pineapple, 9-12 Goldfish Graham.
Jan. 14th
Breakfast: Biscuit & Egg Bake.
Lunch: Rotini w/ Garlic Bread, Broccoli, Mandarin Oranges.

Look, a big rectangle!

Let's try and find other rectangles in this newspaper.

When you talk to your child, you build vocabulary, so everyday moments become learning moments. For more tips, visit bornlearning.org

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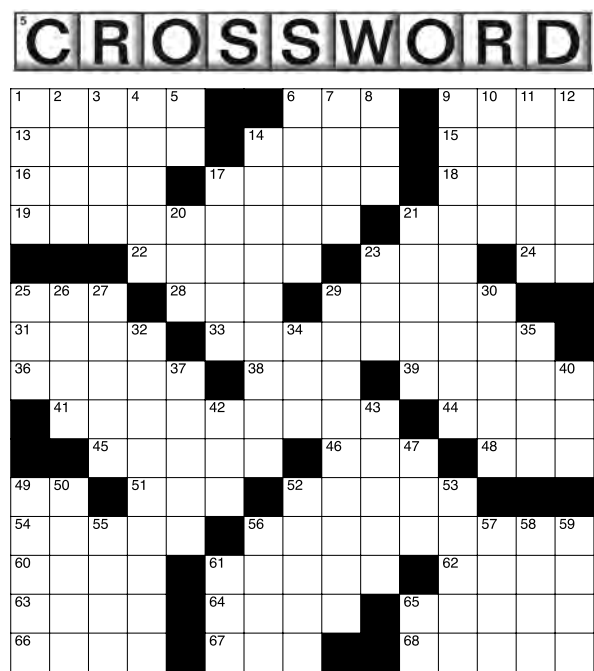
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KEOKUK COUNTY

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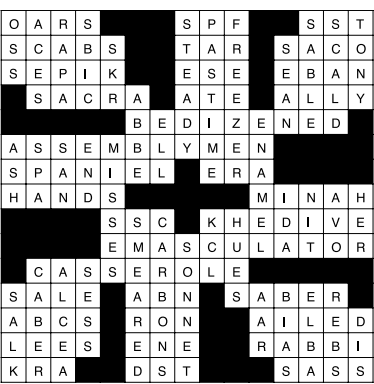
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This week's crossword, sponsored by:
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- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Lakes
 - 6. Electromotive force
 - 9. Invests in little enterprises
 - 13. Longtime Utah Jazz coach
 - 14. Small sailboat
 - 15. Actor Idris
 - 16. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls
 - 17. System that detects objects under water
 - 18. Harsh, grating noise
 - 19. Steward
 - 21. A fencing sword
 - 22. Infections
 - 23. Actress Ryan
 - 24. Sodium
 - 25. Swedish castle
 - 28. A lump of slime
 - 29. African antelope
 - 31. Insurance providers
 - 33. Choosy
 - 36. Ringworm
 - 38. Unpolished
 - 39. Drenches
 - 41. Pant style
 - 44. Son of Noah
 - 45. Spiritual being
 - 46. Upton Sinclair novel
 - 48. Journalist Tarbell
 - 49. Popular sports highlight show
 - 51. Born of
 - 52. Rich tapestry
 - 54. S. China seaport
 - 56. State of being unclothed
 - 60. Surrounded by
 - 61. Residue
 - 62. Away from wind
 - 63. Dried-up
 - 64. Visionary
 - 65. A very large body of water
 - 66. Garden tools
 - 67. Screen type
 - 68. Ancient Scandinavian poet
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Millisecond
 - 2. Spanish city
 - 3. A sudden very loud sound
 - 4. "The Indiana Jones of beer"
 - 5. Tin
 - 6. Sea eagles
 - 7. Volcanic crater
 - 8. Type of coat
 - 9. Women's apartments in Ottoman palace
 - 10. Divulge a secret
 - 11. Norwegian play-wright
 - 12. "It's a Wonderful Life" director
 - 14. Poisonous perennial plant
 - 17. 18-year astronomical period
 - 20. Clothes
 - 21. Places to sit
 - 23. Family of regulator genes
 - 25. New York ball-player
 - 26. Impressive in size or scope
 - 27. Jacques ___, French biologist
 - 29. One from the Big Apple
 - 30. Genus of woolly lemurs
 - 32. Songs to one's beloved
 - 34. Indigenous person of N.E. Thailand
 - 35. Supplemented with difficulty
 - 37. Farewell
 - 40. Investment account (abbr.)
 - 42. One from Utah
 - 43. Begets
 - 47. A male child
 - 49. Break apart
 - 50. Brief appearance
 - 52. Partner to "oohed"
 - 53. A light informal meal
 - 55. Fabric with smooth, shiny surface
 - 56. One billionth of a second
 - 57. Ancient Italian-Greek colony
 - 58. Close tightly
 - 59. Mail out
 - 61. Language
 - 65. Computer characteristic

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS



ENCOURAGE KINDNESS
TODAY

PUT A SMILE
IN SOMEONE'S DAY

English Valley Well and Pump Service
Bill Van Dee
Trenching and Backhoeing
North English, IA
319-664-3516

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

WORDS

- ACCOUNTABILITY
- ACHIEVEMENT
- ASPIRATION
- CHANGE
- COMMITMENT
- DETERMINATION
- DISCIPLINE
- FOCUS
- GOAL
- HABIT
- IMPROVEMENT
- INTENTION
- MILESTONE
- MINDSET
- MOTIVATION
- OBJECTIVE
- PERSISTENCE
- PLAN
- PROGRESS
- PROMISE
- RENEWAL
- ROUTINE
- TRANSFORMATION
- VISION

THE HISTORICAL VIEWPOINT

Emory J. Pike and the Medal of Honor

By Casey Jarmes | The News-Review

The Medal of Honor is the most distinguished decoration awarded to members of the United States Military, awarded to service members who show "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty." 3,547 Medals of Honor have been awarded in American history. 126 of these were awarded during the First World War. And, one of these was awarded to a man from Sigourney.

Emory Jenison Pike was born in Columbia City, Iowa, on December 17, 1876. His ancestors were "of old Revolutionary stock," to quote an 1897 paper. One of his ancestors, Robert Pike, took depositions during the Salem Witch Trials and was a vocal critic of the whole affair. Emory Pike's great-uncle, Zebulon Pike, was an explorer who mapped out part of the Louisiana Purchase and served as a Brigadier General during the War of 1812. Emory's father, E.J. Pike, fought during the American Civil War, then became a Methodist Minister.

I am not certain of the year, but eventually, the Pikes moved to Sigourney, where Emory graduated from Sigourney High School. After graduating in 1894, he worked as a teacher for a few years in Keokuk County. In 1897, Congressman John F. Lacey appointed Pike to fill a vacancy at West Point, after his previous appointee, Rufus McVicker, resigned from the school.

A 1897 issue of the Keokuk County News wrote that "Emory Pike is whole-souled and a perfect gentleman. To those who know him these words of praise from us are but superfluous. Emory makes friends of everyone. The many good qualities that have been manifest in him in the past cannot fail to receive due recognition in the nation's great school of honorable cadets. In good time Emory will be a popular man in the Corps. He has but to maintain the good character that he had build-ed and to apply himself with the assiduity with which he is already wont to climb the rugged ways of learning, and success is his goal. His future is assured."

Pike graduated from West Point in 1901 and spent the rest of his life with the army, serving tours in Cuba, the Philippines, and at the Mexican-American border.

In April, 1918, Pike, then a 40-year-old Lieutenant-Colonel, was sent to fight in Europe alongside the 82nd Division, nicknamed the "All American" Division. In May, the 82nd arrived in France. On September 12, the Battle of Saint-Mihiel broke out in northeast France, with Americans fighting to retake territory that had been taken by Germany in 1914. On September 15, near the small French town Vandières, Pike charged forward, during heavy artillery shelling, to scout new positions for machine gunners. After the American troops were disorganized and scattered during the shelling, Pike volunteered to reorganize the advanced infantry units. He was only able to locate about 20 men. They advanced, joining up with other infantry platoons and establishing outposts. Pike is noted to have encouraged the other soldiers through his excessive cheeriness, in spite of the extreme danger.

Said danger reared its head when a shell hit Pike's outpost, wounding one of his privates. Pike immediately rushed out of cover to the private's aid. Then, as he was attempting to drag the wounded man to safety, another shell exploded, right next to Pike. The Lieutenant-Colonel was gravely wounded, suffering heavy damage to his left arm and left leg.

Yet, Pike continued fighting, commanding his men in battle, while retaining his "jovial manner of encouragement" he was famous for until their position could be held and the wounded could be removed, according to his Medal of Honor citation. Said citation reads that "the entire operation was carried on under terrific bombardment, and the example of courage and devotion to duty, as set by Colonel Pike, established the highest standard of morale and confidence to all under his charge."

Pike died of his injuries the next day. He was buried in France, then later moved to a cemetery in Des Moines. Pike was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously, for "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action with the enemy," according to the citation. The Medal of Honor was given to Pike's daughter, Martha, on his behalf. After Pike's death, Major General Jonathan M. Wainwright, wrote to Pike's mother, to inform her of her son's death, saying "When my time comes I only hope I can die as gallantly as did your son." Wainwright would later command Allied forces in the Philippines during World War II, spend three years as a Japanese POW, and be awarded the Medal of Honor himself.

Pike at West Point (Source: Congressional Medal of Honor Society)

Letter to the Editor Policy

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

The News-Review does not as a general rule print form letters or letters which are also submitted to other newspapers. We are most interested in sincere personal views as opposed to canned publicity releases or talking points for an individual or a cause, therefore if a writer cannot assure us that their submission is individual and personal, it may be rejected.

Your Letter to the Editor must include:

- Your full name with signature
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- Your telephone number

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

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

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

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

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Deadlines

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

The News-Review dates back to 1960 after the consolidation of the Keokuk County News and the Sigourney Review.

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

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If The News-Review shall fail to publish a notice as required, in whole or in part, it shall in no event exceed the amount of the charges allowed by law for the publication of the notice which was not published.

Worship Guide

Obituaries

Margaret Goldman

1980-2026

Margaret Mary (Maggie) Goldman, 45, died January 2, 2026, at the Keokuk County Health Center in Sigourney. She was born March 14, 1980, to Chris and Michelle (Lambiase) Poluikis in Marlton, New Jersey. She graduated in 1998 from Dayton Christian High School in Dayton, Ohio and attended Bible School in New York after high school.



Margaret Mary (Maggie) Goldman

Maggie moved to Iowa in 2000, to help start a horse farm. In 2005 she started her employment at Clow, while working at Clow, Maggie attained her bachelor's degree in three years while working full time. She later became the purchasing manager. On September 5, 2009, she married Jeremy Goldman at the What Cheer Christian Church. She helped established the Delta Kids Club, volunteered for Delta Day, and a board member of Garrett Cemetery. Maggie loved her animals, ducks, goats and dachshund having her own little Delta Zoo, she was a amazing cook and enjoyed camping.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents. She is survived by her husband Jeremy Goldman of Delta, son Joel (Dana) Goldman of Gibson, Josie Goldman of Delta, her parents Michelle and Chris Poluikis of Virginia, brother Christopher (Reggie) Poluikis of Virginia, In-laws Darrell and Colleen Goldman of Delta, two brothers-in-laws Joseph Goldman, Jake (Kate Voltz) Goldman and her dog King.

Visitation: Monday, January 5, 2026 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. Holm Funeral Home

Funeral Service: Tuesday, January 6, 2026 10:30 a.m. Sigourney Methodist Church

Burial: Garrett Cemetery - Delta, Iowa
Arrangements Holm Funeral Home

Services: Jan. 6, 10:30 a.m.
Visitation: Jan. 5, 4-7 p.m.
HOLM FUNERAL HOME
SIGOURNEY

Obituaries

Lisa Kay Greiner

1968-2025

Lisa Kay Greiner, age 57, of Parkview Manor in Wellman, Iowa, passed away peacefully, surrounded by loved ones, on December 30, 2025, at Washington County Hospital. She was born on March 13, 1968, in Washington, Iowa, the thirteenth and youngest child of Mary Margaret (Redlinger) Greiner and Everett Francis Greiner.



Lisa Kay Greiner

Lisa graduated from Keota High School in 1986 and devoted much of her working life to caring for others. She worked for many years as a CNA at Maplewood Manor in Keota and also served as a caretaker in Washington and Iowa City.

Lisa will be remembered for her warm heart, quick wit, and fun-loving personality. She had a wonderful sense of humor and was always ready with a joke or a smile to brighten someone's day. Lisa was also deeply generous, often giving to others despite her own modest means. Her kindness, compassion, and ability to make people laugh left a lasting impression on all who knew her.

Lisa is survived by her siblings: Earl (Tanya) Greiner, Barb Warnke, John (Ann) Greiner, Dean (Deb) Greiner, Jeanie (Dick) Haifley, Marvin (Deb) Greiner, Milo (Denise) Greiner, Myron (Karen) Greiner, Steve (Becky) Greiner, Leslie (Candy) Greiner, and Nancy (Tom) Weber; her brother-in-law, Craig Buehneman; 30 nieces and nephews; and several great-nieces and great-nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Mary and Everett Greiner; her sister, Shirley Buehneman; her brother-in-law, Jim Warnke; and her nephews, Justin Greiner, Aaron Greiner, and Travis Greiner.

Lisa's family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the compassionate and dedicated staff at Parkview Manor in Wellman for the exceptional care Lisa received during her time there. Your kindness, empathy, and genuine friendship brought comfort not only to Lisa, but to her family as well. A special thank you to Rachel, Brian, Jeremy, Alicia, and Josie for the warmth, dignity, and respect you showed her—you truly made a difference in her life.

A Celebration of Life will be held on her birthday, Friday, March 13, 2026, at Clear Creek Church in Harper. In lieu of flowers, memorials in Lisa's honor may be made to the Sts. Peter & Paul Clear Creek Heritage Association, 30832 242nd Street, Harper, Iowa 52231.

Celebration of Life: March 13

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



“Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.”
Lamentations 3:22-23 (NIV)

Our Enduring Resolution

New Year's resolutions can be an excellent way to initiate our commitment to something we want to achieve or a habit we want to change. While we might not always see these resolutions through to the end of the year, we can still gain experience and a greater understanding of our abilities to take on new challenges. Despite these points, it is necessary to remember our enduring resolution, that is, one of commitment to love for God, our families, and others. While someone may begin a New Year's resolution due to the feeling that they are lacking in some ability or quality themselves, we must first always remember what our primary commitments are. If you find yourself undecided on a resolution this year, perhaps consider one that affirms our appreciation for our loved ones. This may simply be resolving to spend more with those we care about, or maybe even thinking of regular acts of kindness we can perform for them.

—James Stone

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Ad Council U.S. Department of Transportation

JULY from pg. 1

sion office or in the barn, is a helping, willing hand. And that I know that every face I see when I walk in there, and I know I'm bound to have a good conversation and find somebody that I haven't talked to in a while. Every time I come to the Keokuk County Expo Fair, it is a blast, and I never want to leave," said Carley Clarahan during the Expo Queen Contest, after being asked how to sell the Expo Fair to someone.

Clarahan, a 16-year-old Pekin student from Martinsburg, was crowned Expo Queen on July 17. She is the daughter of Jennifer and Casey Clarahan. Clarahan is a member of Patriotic Panthers, Seamrippers United, the Pekin FFA, and the Keokuk County Council. She also participates in Volleyball, Football and Wrestling Cheer, Quiz Bowl, Band, and Competition Dance. Her hobbies include competition dance, sewing and reading.

"This means the absolute world to me. I've been dreaming about doing this since I was a little girl, and I came to every queen show and I loved every single one. I looked up to all the previous fair queens, like Brooklyn Hemsley, Mason Clarahan... It meant everything to me and seeing that I got to be here tonight and be the queen makes my heart happy. I get to show everybody what Keokuk County can do...I'm absolutely ecstatic. It was such a hard competition. I had the best group of girls and I could not have asked for a

better group...(I am) a little nervous but mostly excited (about the State Fair). I heard from Mason that it's a whole lot of fun and she met a lot of new friends," said Clarahan after being crowned queen.

Competing against Clarahan were Ayla Baner of Hedrick, Makenzie Belvel of Sigourney, and Madelyn Sieren of Wellman. Sieren was the first runner up. Belvel was named Miss Congeniality.

The Expo in Sigourney is one of the county's two fairs, the other being the Keokuk County Fair held in What Cheer. The Keokuk County Fair also named its own queen, Hailey Brackelsberg of What Cheer, on July 10. She was the only contestant. Brackelsberg, who is set to be a Senior at Tri-County next year, is involved with the National Honor Society, SICL Art Show, and High School Play. Her interests include drums, clarinet, drawing, painting, debating, video games and fishing.

"My sister Tori ran in 2017, so I wanted to try it because she did...It's a little nerve-racking. I'm not a very big social person, but it's something to break it...I'm really nervous (about the State Fair) but I think I've got it," said Brackelsberg.

Rounding out the crownings in the two fairs are Riley Wehr and Brexton Bruns, who were the Expo Little Miss and Little Mister, and Huxlee Fobert and Rhea Price, who were the Fair Little Miss and Mister.

AUGUST from pg. 1

time to launch it...We've always kinda had the idea of creating a women's program, it was more about timing. There's been a recent, pretty large uptick in terms of natural and national attention that's going into women's wrestling, with all of these schools sanctioning state tournaments and national tournaments for women getting increasingly popular. Coe felt like it was the right time to add a program to give women in college the opportunity to be able to compete in an awesome sport like the sport of wrestling. It's pretty crazy, not a lot of people think about the world level stage. A lot of our women are performing really, really well on the world stage, and this is women who grew up without the sanctioning of a tournament or a normal high school season. So, with that kind of development, I think as a country we'll be able to put women increasingly more on the world map as well."

The first official NCAA Women's Wrestling Championship is set for 2026. The Coe team is set to begin competing the following 2026/2027 season. Reeves stated that his goal was to have a full team recruited by October of next year.

"The goal is to be able to provide women the opportunity on all levels," said Reeves. "You know, women who are just wanting to wrestle in college, and then, eventually, the goal is to be able to provide opportunities to women that are willing to continue and potentially do world level competitions as well."

As a Sigourney student, Reeves was a four-time state qualifier and three-time state place winner. During his five years at Coe, Reeves had an overall 103-22 record and earned NCAA All-American Heavyweight status three times. He was a career falls leader, with 87 career falls, setting the school's single-season record with 27 in 2021/2022. After graduating in 2023, he began working in the

Coe admissions office and volunteering as an assistant wrestling coach.

"When I did a lot of my training at the senior level, going to the World Championships in 2023 in Albania, when I was training at the Olympic Training Center, the women wrestlers were down there as well," said Reeves. "And, obviously, our area is kind of a local hotbed for women that have exceeded on the women's wrestling level. Reanah Utterback is a very strong standout from Sigourney, obviously. But then, even going back a couple years, Megan Black from Edyville was a really, really strong female wrestler as well. So I've kind of grown up around women's wrestling. It wasn't something I gravitated towards at first, but as I started going through my career here and finishing up my career as an athlete, I realized how much attention and how much real growth that women's wrestling has a chance to do."

Reeves noted that the biggest hurdle for female wrestlers is the fact that, while male wrestlers wrestle Folkstyle in both high school and college, female wrestlers wrestle Folkstyle in high school then have to switch to Freestyle in college. He stated that Coe had great athletic facilities and was ready for women to begin wrestling.

"It's going to be a challenge, being a first year program and not having any real accolades for our program yet, versus other programs that have been competing for a while and have those kind of things. But, the biggest thing that I've thought about internally as I go to recruit is, you know, I'm personally not a person who likes to sit in the mediocrity. I don't want to just kind of build this program through years. My goal is to have this program, within the first year, really kicking off and going and competing at a high level," concluded Reeves.

SEPTEMBER from pg. 1

"We buried a time capsule for people to dig up fifty years later, and see what we did, but I didn't know I was going to be the only one who remembered burying it or where it was," said Delta mainstay Dixie Shipley.

Shipley buried the time capsule with the other members of the centennial group, all of whom have since passed away. She stated that she had been thinking about the time capsule off and on for years. Shipley recalls burying the time capsule in a tin can next to the old school's flagpole. Unfortunately, the time capsule could not be found. In the five decades since the time capsule was buried, the old school was torn down and replaced by community housing. The concrete base of the flagpole is still there, but it is likely that the time capsule was destroyed during construction, deteriorated over time, or went missing through some other means.

"I'm still glad that we didn't try sooner to dig it up and know it wasn't there. I like the crowd watching. And you know, it's just one of those things where you take whatever happens," said Shipley.

After digging several holes to try and find the time capsule, the gathered crowd moved onto the other half of the planned activities: burying a second time capsule. The new time capsule was

made out of a sealed piece of PVC pipe. Items put in the time capsule include 1995, 2005 and 2025 Delta Days fliers and a 2020 Delta Days shirt from Dixie Shipley; a 2025 Delta Days shirt from Delta Town and Country; a list of Delta residents, a page out of a telephone book, pennies and a Sacagawea dollar from June Rice; a kazoo and toy car from Kyson Mateer; a koozie from her parents from Nicki Leathers; origami dollar bill frogs and hearts from Linda Keasling; a koozie from Terry McNabb; money from Carter Kleinschmidt, spin art and a dime from Madilyn Behneman, a quarter from Evie Behneman; a dollar from Kimly Herman; a 1957 picture of the Delta 2nd and 3rd grades from Ellen Souer; a Delta Days button from Karen Goodman; the Sept. 3 issue of the News-Review from Casey Jarmes; an Elks membership card from Mickey Kerr; and a thank you gift card from Bob Stevens.

The new time capsule was buried next to the old school gym, which is currently used as a community center. The capsule was buried by the northeast corner of the bell next to the gym's southern entrance. It was buried eleven feet south of the gym's main wall, three feet east of the bell, and two feet down. The people of Delta intend to dig this time capsule up in 25 years.

OCTOBER from pg. 1

bandstand and that it would be costly to fix up the bandstand, Kiwanis opted to build a new pavilion instead. The dedication of the pavilion featured a bags tournament and performances from the bands Double Trouble and the Boys.

"We are delighted with tonight. All of us who have been involved in this project, are looking out around the square and seeing people over here watching, and a bunch of people over here watching, and a bunch of people over here watching," former Sigourney Kiwanis president Stuart Grossman said, gesturing to the gathered crowd. "And little kids to grandma and great grandpa. And this is exactly what we hoped this would be."

Grossman gave heavy thanks to the county, City of Sigourney, Matt Welter, the Renner family, Ross Yoder, Billy Tremmel, Kelly McDowell, Amber Thompson, Atwood Electric, and Mike Bishop for work they did on getting the pavilion built. He then handed the mic over to current Sigourney Kiwanis President Dave Peterson and Kiwanis member Jerry Wohler read off the names of people and organizations that donated to the project. Special thanks was given to the Order of the Eastern Star, who were the first donors to the project, and to David and Noreen Revier. Order of the Eastern Star members and the Revier family were invited into the pavilion for the ribbon cutting.

The list of donors, written on a plaque attached to the pavilion, includes:

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David and Noreen Revier.

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NOVEMBER from pg. 1

money. KCED, formerly called SADC, has been hosting the Ten Grand Gala for around twenty years. The ticket cost for the night went towards the raffle prize, with the remaining money used to fund KCED's work helping out with businesses in Keokuk County. KCED gave out \$250,000 in start-up and expansion loans to local businesses in the past 18 months. The organization also works with the City of Sigourney and helped start the Keokuk County Childcare Network, which is set to open a daycare in Keota in January.

"It's a great evening for people to get together. The weather is in our favor; it's been really cold some of the nights we've all had this out here, and I'm feeling pretty good about it," said KCED Director Gary Iosbaker.

"We always have a good time. It's always well attended by our community. So I'm feeling really good about it," said KCED member Lucas Meier. "We had some good ticket sales, and we're just here to have a good time and just tell what KCED is about."

During the gala, the annual KCED Star Award, given to "community members who go above and beyond to make a difference - those who offer outstanding service and leadership," was awarded to Mike

and Carol Bensmiller. The Bensmillers are community staples, organize and host the annual community Thanksgiving dinner, have served on the Ministerial Alliance board, and are longtime supporters of the Keokuk County Expo. In addition, Mike serves on the Sigourney School Board, extension board and Lancaster church board, helps with the chain gang, helps out at the food pantry, farms and works at a feed business, while Carol leads the food pantry, assists with funeral dinners, and serves coffee and refreshments at church.

"We're surprised and very honored," said Mike Bensmiller.

"And we want to thank our community, for everything," said Carol Bensmiller.

"The community is what makes it easy for us, because they support us so much" said Mike Bensmiller.

Sponsors for the gala included Ottumwa Radio Group, Misc. On Main, Fidelity Bank & Trust, Brothers Market, Grant Ranch, Complete Care of Iowa, Sigourney Body Shop, Steve Shetler Media, FCA Vision Ag, The News-Review, Hog Slat, Amy's Salon House & Spa, MidWestOne Bank, Libertyville Savings Bank, and the Greenley Companies.

DECEMBER from pg. 1

principal at Armstrong Elementary in Bettendorf, then as a superintendent in West Branch for seven years, and finally as an administrative services coordinator at Grant Wood AEA. Hatfield then retired for the first time.

A few months later, area superintendents reached out to Hatfield, telling him that Sigourney and Pekin were looking for someone with his qualities. Hatfield, still wanting to work as a superintendent, applied and was hired as the shared Sigourney and Pekin superintendent in 2021.

When he spoke with the News-Review, Hatfield noted the accomplishments he'd made during his time as superintendent, most notably the \$6.4 million elementary school improvement project, which was completed on time and under budget. He also noted that they had paid off the Career Academy building three years in advance, lowered the district tax rate for four straight years, passed the instructional support levy, added STEM and Work Based Learning programs, added the Construction Academy, completed various facility improvements, and added extracurriculars like soccer, eSports, and girls' wrestling. He stated he was particularly proud of the new safety features at the elementary school.

"When I started thinking about these things, it's been a lot of great work. It's been busy but a lot of great work," said Hatfield.

Hatfield stated that Sigourney was getting more attention from surrounding areas, noting that, in the past 5 years, they had had a 35 student increase in the number of students open enrolled in versus out. "That's

been a pretty good thing for our community and I think it speaks really about how good our staff is. Really, in all honesty, they're just good and they just know how to dig in for kids, and our reputation is other there with people, that we can really give you student a really meaningful education," said Hatfield.

Hatfield stated that the school board will take formal action about his resignation at the December board meeting. He plans to oversee the search for a new superintendent. Hatfield stated he plans to share more info at the December meeting, post the position in late December, and hopefully bring a candidate back to the board in March.

"I have a lot of mixed feelings, only because I really just connect well with people. And one thing in life is when you get older, you start to worry, well you know, will I stay active and thoughtful about work and continue to be active and pursue things that keep you alive, so to speak. So I feel like, you know, I feel good," said Hatfield, when asked how he felt about retiring. "I told a board member, when I'm all done here, I really want to know in my heart that, when I drive up the highway out of Sigourney on my last day, that I tried my best to leave it better than I found it. And I think for kids, in terms of programming, the type of teaching we're digging in on, and of course this goes with everybody, it's not a Kevin thing, it's the entire district, the staff and the board members and everyone, I think we did. I think together we've accomplished quite a bit. I'm going to feel good about that. I want to finish strong. I fully intend to just provide the district I've got to the very end."

Miller-Meeks says her health care bill would address ‘root causes’ of high premiums

By Robin Opsahl,
Iowa Capital Dispatch

U.S. Rep. Marianne Miller-Meeks said on Dec. 15 the health care bill she is leading in the U.S. House would address the "root causes" behind rising health care premiums while not seeking to extend Affordable Care Act subsidies.

The "Lower Health Care Premiums for All Americans Act," sponsored by Miller-Meeks, is House Republicans' proposal to tackle rising health care costs amid growing concerns about the end of ACA enhanced tax credits at the end of the year.

Miller-Meeks said during a call with Iowa reporters that House Republicans' proposal

focuses on changes that "actually lower costs and put patients and their doctors back in charge, and back in the driver's seat."

The legislation contains multiple proposals that Miller-Meeks said would reduce premium costs, including providing funding for cost-sharing reduction payments under the ACA beginning in 2027. "Cost-sharing reductions" lower deductibles, copayments and out-of-pocket maximums for one of the ACA plans, depending on income. The bill also adds new requirements for pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) to share information on prescription drug costs and other decisions.

Additionally, the legisla-

tion would allow more access to Association Health Plans, with Miller-Meeks saying the legislation would let more employers, including self-employed workers, "get the same benefits through the Obamacare that larger companies have." It also makes changes to the definition of stop-loss insurance and codifies and makes changes to CHOICE rules that allow employers to offer defined contributions for employees purchasing their own health coverage plans.

"Simply put, this bill puts patients and their doctors over the profits of insurance companies," Miller-Meeks said. "... We want to make (all) Americans — families and patients — the CEOs of

their own health care decisions, in concert with their providers or their doctors. It's smart, common-sense policy, it's long overdue, and it's the kind of health care reform that the American people have been waiting for, and actually gets at lowering premiums and lowering health care costs."

Miller-Meeks points finger at Democrats for tax credit expiration

The ACA tax credits, created in 2021 and extended from the Inflation Reduction Act during the Biden administration, were the focus of the 43-day government shutdown as Senate Democrats sought to

**MILLER-MEEKS
pg. 8**



COUNTRY GIRL’S CORNER

Welcome 2026!

By Sheryl L. Carter
And here we are in a brand-new year! All fresh and tidy, and ready to be lived. This morning in Sunday school we talked about knowing the future and how that God most certainly does and we don't. I said that I didn't want to know the future. Why would you? I certainly prefer leaving it in God's able hands, as He really does know best, and what is best for us.

Winter is here in this part of Iowa with some very cold days and wind, such as last Monday, but it has gradually warmed up the remainder of the week. In fact, this morning, I wore a nice heavy sweater, and a shawl to church with no coat and got along fine. It's the layers.

Last Tuesday, as I write this on Sunday, January 4, Scottie, Dorothy, and I journeyed up to Sumner, Iowa, two and a half hours away, for the funeral of Loren and Gaylor's Aunt Mary Jane. She was the last member of the original Carter family to pass away, which she did at age 98, and on Christmas Day. Her life was a legacy of a life well-lived, as her family testified. We were so glad we could go and see even a few of the larger Carter family members. We were delighted to catch up with cousin John Tock and his wife, Allyn, and ate lunch with them. Later, we chatted briefly with Mary Jane's daughter, Barbara, who had brought her mother into

their home several years previous, which I am sure was a blessing to them both.

On Wednesday, December 31, New Year's Day Eve, it was 11:30 a.m. and I was just preparing to leave the house for Pella to pick up a few things for the week when the phone rang. "Where are you?" a familiar voice asked. "Right here," I said, only to be informed that a party was already forming at another friend's home in Grinnell, and why wasn't I there?

Later when I got home, I checked my emails and sure enough, the friendly invitation had come on Monday, but had been diverted to my spam emails. How or why that happened, I do not know, as I always receive her messages, but thankfully, the call came in time, and I quickly put on my jacket, and headed northeast instead of southwest, knowing I could pick up my few needs in that town just as well.

What a fun time we had! Our friend had made taco soup with all the trimmings in the way of veg and fruit munchies, little chocolates for dessert, and chai and coffee for sipping. A good old hot cup of coffee is always welcome, right? After lunch we played a few games and our hostess read off a number of jokes and funny stuff she had been saving. I guess this friend and I seem to have the most tickle spots when it comes to laughing, as it was

the two of us who had to keep wiping the tears.

Thursday was New Year's Day, and I watched part of the Rose Parade, but disliked how they kept breaking away for commercials. I remembered that HGTV never did that, but not sure I even have that on my new set, I will have to look. I especially love seeing the horses, but didn't see too many this time. It wasn't long though, before the sleepiness was taking over, and I was soon bundled in my lymph pump for a good solid nap whilst it did its thing.

Yesterday, Saturday, I bagged up the two little lighted trees, and hoisted them out to their storage place in the garage. The lighted wreath, and the glowing angel were also sacked up for storage in the basement. The other things can stay as they mostly depict winter, and we will still have that for awhile yet.

I spent most of yesterday morning glued to the TV set watching in amazement as President Trump spoke about the incredible capture of a wanted felon, fake president Maduro of Venezuela, just a few hours before. I sat transfixed wondering how all of this was going to play out, knowing those that are not for our country, but are in leadership and in the media were going to try to make mincemeat out of yet another decision he has acted on. But hey, no messing around with

this guy!

I've been doing some reading up on this whole story, and found we have 13 presidents going back to Harry Truman, who all took decisive action where they thought it was needed in the world, and all without the approval of Congress ahead of time. I also heard and read that Maduro was not elected to office in his country, and had interfered with previous elections and put himself in power each time against the will of the people, although he was not the elected choice.

The drug running sending narcotics into our country, being in cohorts with nations that are dead set against us, plus more was finally enough, and the trap was sprung.

Time will tell how this all plays out, but Venezuelans in their country, as well as those that have fled abroad for safety are rejoicing their country has been freed from this monster, a feat their own people had not been able to pull off, and I expect there will be many who will want to return to their homeland.

Well, it looks by the clock on the wall that it is kitty feeding time, so I best get that can of wet kitty food opened, and deposited in their bowls. Then I will crack the porch door open a bit, and close the kitchen door so they can hop outside for the night. See you in the morning, kitties! Until next time!



THE SUN SPOT

MAHASKA COUNTY NEWS

OFF THE VINE

By Jackie Perkins
Monday, January 4, 2026. It is 3:00 a.m. and I have yet to catch any sleep. I decided to just get up and visit you and hopefully by the time I finish Mr. Sandman will arrive.

Happy 2026! We stayed home and enjoyed "pigs in blankets" for supper. Early in the evening we heard fireworks, and at bedtime, round two were set off. I don't know where this was happening and I didn't even get up to take a look. Nothing like we used to celebrate.

In the past couple weeks I have received notice that two of the magazines that I currently subscribe to are ceasing publication. That makes me sad! I love getting magazines...paper that you can hold, read, tear pages out and make notes on. I have saved every issue of Mary Janes Farm I have received. Periodically I pull a few issues out and enjoy looking through them. I have referred back to information and will miss it.

Monday was a difficult day. We received word that Greg's sister in law had passed. Mae was the wife of Greg's brother Bruce, who has lived in Flor-

ida for many years. We were not well acquainted with Mae due to the distance – she will be missed by her friends and family.

Later that same day, we learned that Judy Witt Walker had passed at her home in Arizona. The Witt family were Cedar Folks and Judy graduated from Fremont. Her husband Larry Walker is Greg's stepbrother and we have not seen them for years as well. Families are getting spread out anymore. Not like when we grew up and most of your cousins were in a three county area.

This week continues to be busy with a few more holiday gatherings and events. I still have a couple gifts that I am working on, and then I need to concentrate on going through more boxes from the move – still!

I read today of the death of Eva Schloss at the age of 96. Eva was an Auschwitz survivor and became the stepdaughter of Otto Frank when he and her mother married. Eve and Ann Frank were the same age.

Have a great week my friends – and good morning!

Iowa officials showcase plans to celebrate America’s 250th anniversary in 2026

By Robin Opsahl, Iowa Capital Dispatch
Iowa state officials on Dec. 18 announced events and initiatives set for 2026 throughout Iowa as the state participates in national America 250 celebrations.

In addition to participation in national efforts, Iowa's America 250 Initiative co-chairs Lt. Gov. Chris Cournoyer and Agriculture Sec. Mike Naig said Iowa will be hosting several efforts throughout the next year that showcase the important role Iowa plays in the U.S. — especially in agriculture.

Thursday's event in the Iowa Capitol's rotunda was focused on unveiling Iowa's plans for the upcoming year. The Iowa Young Patriots' Club performed several songs at the event and a flag ceremony was conducted by the Civil Air Patrol Color Guard.

Each participating state is planning unique, signature events for the initiative — and Cournoyer said Iowa will be

"leaning into our DNA" with an signature event called "America's Harvest."

"Throughout 2026 we're going to lead the nation in celebrating how agriculture, gardening and horticulture have proven the very freedoms we enjoy as Americans," Cournoyer said. "We'll host webinars, share our agricultural journeys on social media, and then on about — stay tuned — Oct. 24 2026, we will gather for a massive harvest festival that celebrates Iowa's integral role in feeding and fueling the world for 250 years."

These are not the only events planned in 2026 to celebrate the nation's founding. Cournoyer highlighted other efforts like the Masons of Iowa decorating graves of Revolutionary War soldiers in Iowa, planned tea events with actors playing George and Martha Washington, and a State Historical Society program to "renew the historic John Brown trail through southern Iowa."

More on planned events can be found on the state's website for the America250 initiative.

"It's a celebration of the Iowans who built this country and the Iowans who are leading it into the next 250 years," Cournoyer said.

Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate said his office will also be hosting a "Ready, Set, Vote" initiative as part of the 250th anniversary celebration. Registering to vote is a way to celebrate the U.S. by connecting "Iowa's rich history with our collective civic future, empowering Iowans to take action today for a stronger tomorrow," he said.

"For the past 250 years, our nation has been at the forefront of civic engagement and the democratic process," Pate said. "We remain committed to championing those values, and one of the most impactful ways to do that is by registering to vote. It's the first step in making your voice heard at the ballot box and shaping the future of our

representative government."

Plans to celebrate the country's 250th anniversary have been in the works for several years, with Iowa beginning to work with the federal America250 effort in 2023. Iowa has also played a role already in some celebrations, with President Donald Trump holding an event July 3 this year at the Iowa State Fairgrounds, where he discussed events planned throughout the country leading up to July 4, 2026.

Naig said while there are multiple events and efforts already launched, the state wanted to make sure America250 celebrations were open to all.

"This is hardly a top-down type of approach," Naig said. "I think maybe what I'm even most excited about is what will come up from across the state, opportunities for communities and organizations and schools and churches, businesses and families all across Iowa to take part in their own special and unique ways."

Read more from Robin Opsahl, online at IowaCapitalDispatch.com
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Sports year in review: November

Glosser captures runner-up title at State cross country; area teams see success

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review
FORT DODGE - At first it seemed her State experience was going to be lost on the final turn of her final race.

Everyone knew how muddy the course was. A recent rain had soaked the Lakeside Golf Courses ground, but just how slippery it was showed up as the runner rounded the final turn for the home stretch.

Pekin senior Chloe Glosser knew that she wasn't going to be able to catch up to eventual race winner, Lilli Denton. Glosser did know, however, she could still finish second if the ran a smart final portion of the meet.

Coming around the final turn Glosser lost her footing and fell in the damp grass. At that moment it seemed like Glosser wasn't going to be able to finish second, or even in the top-10 of the class 1A race.



Isaac Frazier (1021) leads a pack of runners during the early portions of the class 1A State cross country meet held in Fort Dodge. Frazier finished 68th overall.

That's when Glosser dug deep.

"I got up and I just knew I needed to find that final gear, find that gear from God and give it all to him, let him use the abilities in me to trust my training and my abilities," Glosser said. "I knew I had God's strength and power behind me and I just wanted to finish hard. I knew I had two more minutes left in the race and I was going to tun as fast as I could."

Glosser would do just that. She re-passed the runner who had passed her on the

slip, and was able to finish second overall, her highest placing, ever at the State cross country meet.

Overall the State cross country meet was a successful one for the area teams. The Pekin boys cross country team qualified their whole team and they would finish 14th overall in the standings with a total of 294 points.

Cole Millikin led the way for the Panther boys with a time of 17:12.3, the 33rd fastest time.

Sigourney senior Troy Klett was able to finish 47th overall in the boys race. He finished with a time of 17:30.2 as he battled a pace that was a lot faster than he had been used to.

The English Valleys girls cross country team qualified their whole team to the State meet. They would finish eighth overall in the team standings with 207 total points. Anna Luers led the way with a 42nd place finish overall.

Isaac Fraizer qualified for his second-straight meet. The sophomore would finish 68th overall with a time of 17:49.5

Photos by Mark Schafer



Jessalyn Aller (with ball) from Keota prepares to take a shot over the defense of Sigourney's Ella Bruns. Aller finished with 16 points in the Dec. 12 game.



Cameron Haifley (front) from Keota splits past Sigourney defenders Brynn Clarah-an (back) and Addy Fineran (right) during a shot in the first half. Haifley scored 14 points in a 66-52 victory for the Eagles.

Sports year in review: December

Keota girls erase 11 years of history

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review

KEOTA - For over a decade the end result was almost a foregone conclusion.

When the Keota girls played the Sigourney girls in basketball, the Sigourney girls were going to win.

And they did for 11 years. From January 2015-December 2025, a grand total of 22 games were played between Sigourney and Keota in girls basketball. All of that changed on Dec. 12 when the Keota girls were able to grab a 66-52 victory over Sigourney.

Keota and Sigourney had played each other close

throughout the first half of the game. At the break Keota was able to hold a slight lead, 35-20.

In the second half, that's when the Eagles started to spread their wings. Keota scored 21 points in the third quarter and added another 10 points in the final frame. Sigourney battled back, scoring 32 total points in the second half but Keota was able to hold onto the lead.

"I am happy for the girls. It has been a long time," Keota Head Girls Basketball Coach, Jeff Sprouse said. "This has been a huge mental block, because Sigourney always plays us tough. We were able to play one of our best games. It feels good to get the win,

and I'm not going to lie, it has been a long time coming."

Emily Conger and Jessalyn Aller were both able to score 16 total points in the victory. Cameron Haifley would score 14 points. Karley Greiner added 10 points. Another seven points came from Kennedy Jackson. Dakota Dodd would score three points.

Not only did the win help Keota reverse recent history with the Savages it also helped the Eagles start off the season 6-0. The momentum from the win didn't carry over through the rest of the month as Keota would fall in three-straight contests to end the month.

Photos by Mark Schafer



Pekin senior Chloe Glosser (904) leads Martensdale-St. Mary's runner Karson Oberender (884) and Starmont's Lauren Krogmann (932) during the early portions of the State cross country race held at Lakeside Golf Course in Fort Dodge. Glosser finished second overall in the girls race.

Panthers pummel Huskies in Des Moines

Pekin uses 50-point second half in blowout win over Highland

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review

DES MOINES - Stopping them seemed to be nearly impossible.

Especially in the second half. The Pekin boys basketball team took a bit to find their shot on Friday afternoon, but once they were, they made sure to prove that point over and over again.

The repeated shots helped the Panthers down Highland, 80-38, in a game played at the Casey's Center.

While the Panthers roared to a comfortable win at the end of the game, it wasn't always that easy.

In the first half the Panthers led 30-17 over Highland as the grandiose stage of the Casey's Center seemed to slow down the Panther offense. After the first 16 minutes though, the bigger stage just started to feel like another game.

"It is so big and open," said Alijah Brock, a junior guard for the Panthers. "The court is so much bigger than what we are used to in high school. The shots weren't falling at first. Just a sick opportunity to play here. Especially to be able to get the win here is amazing."

Throughout the second half of the game, and especially in the third quarter the Panthers started to slow down their game and focus more on the little things. If they were able to take care of the little things then good things would hap-



Pekin's Cole Millikin lines up a layup shot during the first half of a game played Jan. 2 at the Casey's Center in Des Moines. Millikin scored 20 points in an 80-38 victory.

pen.

"We wanted to stay true to our fundamentals," senior guard Cole Millikin said after the game. "We really wanted to get ball pressure on these guys. We knew that was going to be something that was important to get into our offense that we wanted to run. We really wanted to do all of the little things right because we know that if the little things go right then the big things are going to go right as well. That's how we approach basketball as a team."

One thing the Panthers did well in the third quarter was getting defensive pressure on the Huskies.

Throughout the third quarter the Huskies would struggle to get the ball even to half court before one of the Panther players seemed to swarm all over the Huskie ball handler.

When the steals started to stack up, so did the points on the scoreboard.

"Getting steals really is like an energy feeder for us," Millikin said. "Once we are able to get one then that creates energy for us five out there on the court. If we get the steals going then it is easy to get going. Easy buckets really help us a lot."

The easy buckets started to stack up. Soon the lead started to soar for the Panthers as well. They were able to lead by 25 points after the third quarter.

Overall the Panthers were able to score 30 total points in the third quarter, their best offensive performance of the

year so far.

Things were just about to get even more lopsided as the Panthers continued to pour on the mix of offense and defense throughout the start of the fourth quarter.

For the first six minutes of the final frame the Panthers continued to control the scoreboard, and at times, the entire floor.

Pekin scored 20 unanswered points to start the final frame.

"It felt good to get the run that we had in the fourth quarter," Millikin said. "It would have been nice to get that kind of energy going even sooner in the game, but it is always something that helps us no matter the time of the game."

The Panthers were able to guide to a relatively easy victory, their sixth of the season.

One thing that playing on the biggest stage in Iowa did was just give the Panthers something more to play for by the end of the season.

"This was a great experience," Brock said. "Not just to be able to come and play here, but also get the victory here. Winning here and playing here makes it clear we are going to be back here to play again."

Unofficially the Panthers were led by Millikin who finished with 22 points. Riley Smith added 14 points. Another 12 points came off of Henry Adam. Alijah Brock had 10 points. Nolan Glick scored six points and Cal Miller finished with five points. Brogan Spray would add four points.

The win pushes Pekin into a tie for third in the Southeast Iowa Superconference's north division with WACO, improving to 8-2 overall.

Photos by Mark Schafer

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review

DES MOINES - They were a renewed team in the second half.

Throughout the first half points had been at a premium, but the Panthers continued to work their way through the slow spots and were able to keep pace with Highland.

At first, it seemed as if the second half started with the Panthers breaking through. In the first minute of the second half the Panthers were able to stop the Huskies from getting into their game plan. At the same time the Panthers were making shots.

Suddenly the five point deficit had been trimmed to just one point and it seemed like the Panthers were on the prowl for the lead.

Then it was as if something changed within the Panthers. Although they played with poise to get back into the game, when they were close to the lead, the points seemed to disappear. So did the crisp passing.

"We got within one a couple of times in the second half, and then we just seemed to get lost on where we wanted to go with the ball," said Pekin head coach, Neil Hartz. "We weren't taking the shots that we wanted to take. We just weren't taking the shots or doing the things that we wanted to do."

Throughout the third quarter the Panthers were able to rely heavily on Anna Hadley who dominated the inside lane. Highland started to adjust to that and they were able to start to guard Hadley more aggressively. Once the Huskies took away the open shots of Hadley, it seemed as if the energy from the Panthers started to disappear.

Highland was able to lead by four after three quarters.

The start of the fourth quar-

ter featured another surge for the Panthers as they scored the first three points of the quarter to once again pull within one point.

"The biggest thing that the girls need to understand is they need to have that killer instinct when you have the opponents down," Hartz said. "You need to make them make the mistakes. I thought we were just a little hesitant and started to make too many of our own mistakes when we got close to the lead."

Nothing seemed to change too much for the Panthers once they were able to close within one point of the Huskies.

The only thing that did change was how well the passes connected with teammates.

When the Panthers were trailing their passes seemed to fall right into place with the basketball easily being received by the Pekin teammates. When they were able to get close to the lead the passes seemed to fly away from the teammates and either land in the hands of a Highland player, or sail too far and land out of bounds.

"The good news is we have a lot of games to continue to improve on," Hartz said. "The bad news is we don't have a lot of time to change things because we have so many games. So we are going to have to be changing things on the fly. We just need to get better at rebounding in some situations."

Highland grew the lead to as much as six in the middle stages of the final quarter, but the Panthers were able to respond one more time, getting within a shot of the lead. However, rebounds and passes disappeared from the Panthers. At the end of the day the Huskies pulled away to a 40-31 victory.

Pekin had started the game with an early lead, but a slow scoring first quarter slowed the hot start of Pekin down. Eventually the Panthers would trail 22-17 at halftime. Although they clawed back, they weren't able to get the lead, and they suffered their fourth defeat in the last five games.

"I've told the girls that some of the teams we've lost to recently, we are much better than," Hartz said.

Carlie Gambell led the Panthers with 12 points. Abby Guise would score 11 points in the game. Hadley scored five points and Maddy Petrehn had three points in the game.

Overall, the Panthers are 4-4 on the season all against SEISC north competition.

Pekin heads to Winfield-Mount Union on Tuesday, opening a three-game week. The Panthers return home to host Wapello on Friday and Sigourney on Saturday.



Carli Gambell (left) attempts to dribble around the defense of Highland's Kate-lynn Thomann (33) during a play in the first half of a Jan. 2 game played at the Casey's Center. Photo by Mark Schafer



Alijah Brock (15) from Pekin lines up a second half layup attempt during a Jan. 2 game against Highland played at the Casey's Center in Des Moines.

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Pekin's Alijah Brock (right) reaches out to try and tag out Hillcrest Academy runner Mason Bender (left) during a play in the July 15 class 1A substate five championship game.

Sports year in review: July

Pekin baseball runs all the way to substate finals

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review
FAIRFIELD - They weren't expected to be there. In fact, many people didn't even expect them to make it out of the first round, let alone getting within a run of the class 1A State baseball tournament. Pekin seemed to defy all the odds during the class 1A substate 5 tournament. The regular season didn't quite go the way the Panthers wanted as they finished with a 9-9 overall record. Because of that they were forced to have a longer path to a potential State tournament berth.

Making things even harder, their first round opponent was one that had previously bested the Panthers. On July 5 the Panthers were seeking revenge as they played a rematch against Van Buren County. A month earlier, on June 5, the Warriors had bested Pekin 14-3. The rematch would turn things around as the Panthers were able to win 12-1 and keep their post season hopes alive. Sophomore Henry Adam would pick up the win after pitching for three and two-thirds innings, striking out seven batters and allowing just one run. The win advanced the Panthers to play against top-seeded Moravia. Once again the Panthers showed up, winning

4-0 over a 20-5 Moravia team. With that victory the Panthers moved to the substate semifinal played in Sigourney where they played New London. Like they had against Van Buren County, Pekin was searching for a revenge win. On June 2 the Panthers had been bested 2-1 by New London. The rematch was another 2-1 game as Pekin plated a run in both the first and second inning and didn't allow a run until the bottom of the sixth. That win pushed the Panthers one win away from the State tournament. On July 15 they played against Hillcrest Academy. The Ravens scored off an error in the bottom of the first inning. Despite Pekin limiting the Ravens to just one hit the entire game, Pekin fell 1-0 and so came a close to their remarkable post season run. "Baseball is one of those games where sometimes you have to get lucky and tonight we didn't have that luck," said Pekin head baseball coach James Lyman after the game. "We played hard, we had great defensive plays. We put the ball in play and made Hillcrest Academy work for every out. It just comes down to a little bit of luck, really."



Hillcrest Academy's Seth Ours (left) starts to slide into home plate as Pekin catcher Riley Smith (right) attempts to get the ball to try to make a tag on Ours. Ours was safe on the play.

Photos by Mark Schafer

Sports year in review: August

Pekin, English Valleys start football seasons with dominant wins

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review
The start of the football season is always one of hope, excitement and thrills. For two of the three area schools their first week of the football season brought renewed hope and confidence to the teams. English Valleys officially kicked off the football season with a rare Thursday night game on the road. Playing against North Tama the Bears were able to win 56-26, which would prove to be a sign of things to come. Although neither team scored in the first quarter English Valleys would score twice in both the second and third quarters to lead 30-12 going into the final quarter. They were able to cap off the game with a 26-point fourth quarter to put the game away and start the season on the right foot. Quarterback Drew Fisher was nearly un-

stoppable as he passed for 122 yards and two touchdowns. He also rushed for four touchdowns and 119 yards. Braydon Anderson would gather up 205 yards off 23 carries and a touchdown. Everett Bender caught three passes for 79 yards including two that went for a touchdown. The next day, on Aug. 29 the Pekin football team was able to stat their season with a 40-7 win over Davis County.

Henry Adam was the star of that game as he hauled in two two touchdown receptions, he also returned an interception for a touchdown as well. As if that wasn't enough the junior was also able to finish the game with 8.5 total tackles. That included him wrapping up the quarterback for three total sacks. All of that made for a very memorable first week of the football season.



Pekin's Henry Adam (with ball) dodges the would-be tackle attempt of a Davis County defender during an Aug. 29 game. The Panthers won the contest 40-7. Photo by Mark Schafer

Sports year in review: September

Klett defends home with cross country win

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review
SIGOURNEY - Everyone wants to do well at home. Running at his last home meet ever, Sigourney senior Troy Klett was able to make sure his last run at the Sigourney cross country meet would be a memorable one. As he started to round the final turn of the race it didn't look like Klett was going to be the winner of the Sigourney cross country race. He had two runners in front of him and a very large hill to maneuver. That didn't bother the senior. In fact, it only seemed to play into his strategy. "I knew it was my last time running here, and I was ready to do anything I could to get the win," Klett said after the Sept. 9 race. "I was able to catch up to (the first place runner) about midway down the hill."



Sigourney runner Troy Klett (769) sets his sights on the two runners in front of him during the running of the cross country meet held in Sigourney on Sept. 9. Klett would pass both runners for the win. Photo by Mark Schafer

Once Klett caught the runner in front of him he used the extensive knowledge of the grounds at the Sigourney golf course to his knowledge. "I've had quite a bit of experience running here since it is our home course. I've known forever that my strength is in the downhill," Klett said. "He was able to put some distance on me during the uphill, but I just knew that it was a downhill run coming to the finish line and I was going to have to use that to make up the distance."

Klett used the final downhill to pass the WACO runner in front of him. Within

sight of the finish line Klett was able to power his way past the WACO runner and finish just .33 seconds ahead of the WACO challenger. It was the first time in over a decade that a Sigourney runner had been able to win the home cross country meet.



Pekin players Nolan Glick (front) and Carson Comstock (5) celebrate after winning a 32-27 game over Danville on Oct. 10. Glick scored the game-winning touchdown. Photo by Mark Schafer

Sports year in review: October

Pekin captures district title

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review
DANVILLE - For a little bit it seemed like everything was gone. Late in the third quarter of an Oct. 10 game Danville had scored a third quarter touchdown to take a 10-point advantage. For the first time all season, Pekin was facing an uphill battle. That's when they answered the call and instead of rolling over the Panthers dug deep within themselves and fought back. "We exemplify a never give up mentality," Pekin Head Football Coach, Klynt Weber said after an Oct. 10 game against Danville. "I'll be honest, in tonight's game we were beat three times. We weren't going to let them beat us a fourth time, and when that fourth time came, players made plays, and that mantra really rang true tonight. The

guys that needed to make plays, all of them made a play at some point or another. They are playmakers and all a reason why we won tonight." The final 13 minutes of the game weren't easy, but they belonged to the Panthers, as Pekin rallied to an eventual 32-27 victory. Although the Panthers had been struggling with the passing game in the second half they never abandoned it. It was a good thing they didn't either as the Panthers used a bit of trickery to move the ball. A lateral from quarterback Riley Smith to receiver Henry Adam opened up the passing lane and Adam was able to fire the ball down field to a wide open Alijah Brock who scored, bringing the Panthers within three points. Late in the fourth quarter the Panthers seemed to be in trouble when Smith was intercepted again. However, the Danville player, who made

the interception, slipped coming out of the endzone and downed the ball at the three yard line. A few plays later Adam broke through the Danville offensive line and recorded a tackle in the endzone for a safety. The next time Danville had the ball they attempted a pass, but Nolan Glick was able to intercept the pass and return it for a touchdown which gave the Panthers the lead, which they would never give up. "Once I caught the all I was just thinking I need to get to the endzone," Glick said. "I took off and I was untouched all the way to the endzone. Being able to cross the goal line to take the lead, that was the best feeling in the world. I wouldn't trade that feeling for anything else." The Oct. 10 victory gave Pekin their first district championship under coach Weber, and assured them two home playoff games.

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COURT RECORDS

Civil
Dec. 24th
Defendants Casey Hinnah, Keokuk County, Adam Pence; Plaintiff Bryan L. Sutton; Petition Filed.

Dec. 28th
Obligor State of Iowa; Petitioners State of Iowa, Heather D. Young; Repondent Benjamin J. Baker; Modified Support Order.

Dec. 31st
Obligee State of Iowa; Petitioner State of Iowa Ex Relations; Respondents Ashley N. Cox, Tallon M. Schwantes; Motion for Continuance.

Criminal
Dec. 24th
Defendant Nathan Allen

Draper; Payor Linda Marie Smith; Plaintiff State of Iowa; Criminal Complaint.

Defendant Tyler Joseph M. Ellis; Payee's Lisa Ann Hirschy, Keokuk County; Payor Lisa Ann Hirschy; Plaintiff State of Iowa; Hearing for Initial Appearance.

Dec. 26th
Defendant Nathan Allen Draper; Payor Linda Marie Smith; Plaintiff State of Iowa; Hearing for Initial Appearance.

Dec. 29th
Defendant Passion Matia Collins; Payee Keokuk County; Plaintiff State of Iowa; Written Plea of Guilty

Defendant Michael James Stoner; Plaintiff State of Iowa;

Order for Arraignment, Trial Information.

Defendant Courtney Ann Jacob; Plaintiff State of Iowa; Hearing for Initial Appearance. Defendant Sheffiney Shae Thomas; Plaintiff State of Iowa; Motion for Continuance.

Dec. 30th
Defendant Mason Jay Breeding; Plaintiff State of Iowa; Criminal Complaint.

Small Claims
Dec. 26th
Defendant Cody Young; Plaintiff Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC; Dismissed w/o Prejudice.

Dec. 29th
Defendants Cristy Lea Burdock, Kevin Lee Burdock;

Plaintiff Credit Bureau Services of IA INC; Order for Judgment.

Dec. 30th
Defendants Lankford Contracting LLC, Camron Lee Lankford; Plaintiff Underwood Family Farms LLC; Small Claims Original Notice.

Dec. 31st
Defendant Tara Olsen; Plaintiff LVNV Funding LLC; Small Claims Original Notice.

Scheduled Traffic
Dec. 26th
Defendant Henry P. Miller; Restriction on Taking Game-Deer and Turkey.

Defendant Melvin W. Yoder; Restrictions on Taking Game-Deer and Turkey.

Dec. 28th
Defendant Sherri Lynn Greiner; No Valid Drivers License, Speeding 55 or Under Zone (6-10 Over).

Defendant Ahmed Abdi Bishaar; Speeding 55 or Under Zone (6-10 Over).

Defendant Trevor Primmer; Speeding 55 or Under Zone (6-10 Over).

Defendant Sahlynn Josephine Adrian; Failure to Maintain Control.

Dec. 29th
Defendant Herbert Clubb; Failure to Maintain or Use Safety Belts- Adult.

Defendant Avarie Jaclyn Smith; No Valid Drivers License.

Defendant Paule Michael Bradford; Speeding 55 or Under Zone (11-15 Over).

Dec. 30th
Defendant Elizabeth Grace Powell; Speeding 55 or Under Zone (6-10 Over).

Dec. 31st
Defendant Jason Eugene Morgan; No Deer License or Tag.

Defendant Donald Gerard Boeck; Speeding 55 or Under Zone (6-10 Over).

Non- Scheduled Traffic
Dec. 29th
Defendant Courtney Mykel Lockard; Payee Keokuk County; Plaintiff State of Iowa; Failure to Stop In assured Clear Distance.

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

Dec. 22nd
Deed Name Change: Maryclare Strobel to Maryclare Hogan; NW SW 31-75-11 Parcel: AUD PAR B, PLAT B279 P150.

Deed Quit Claim: Myron C. Greiner, Myron Greiner, Karen S. Greiner to Myron C. Greiner Trustee, Karen S. Greiner Trust, Myron C and Karen S Greiner Trust, Myron C Greiner Trust, Karen S. Greiner; NE SE 21-74-11 Parcel: AUD PAR A, SE SE 21-74-11 Parcel: AUD PARA, PLAT 2010-1047, SE SW 27-74-10 Parcel: AUD PAR A, PLAT 2007-0500, Lot: 10 SW SE 27-74-10, PLAT B4 P95, SD01 PT Lot: 11 SW SE 27-74-10, EXCEPT B419 P319, EXCEPT 2015-1565.

Affidavit of Death: Karen A. Weldon Life Estate, Karen A. Weldon Deceased to Kendra L. Heaton; SE NW 26-77-11, SW NW 26-77-11.

Deed Quit Claim: Kendra L. Heaton, Steven T. Heaton to Kendra L. Heaton, Steven T. Heaton; SE NW 26-77-11, SW NW 26-77-11.

Warranty Deed: Steven H. Pfeifer, Candance S. Pfeifer to Caryl D. Cavnar Jr.; Lot: 06 SE

NW 27-74-10.

Warranty Deed: Ronnie E. Brubaker to Grice Family Farms LLC; NE NE 27-77-11, SE NE 27-77-11, NW NE 27-77-11, SW NE 27-77-11, PT NE NW 27-77-11, PT SE NW 27-77-11, PT NW SE 27-77-11, EXCEPT PLAT 2025-1632.

Deed Quit Claim: Michael C. Hadley, Pamela Hadley to Michael Hadley Revocable Trust, Michael Hadley 2025 Revocable Trust; NE SW 21-74-10, SW NW 21-74-10, PT NW NW 21-74-10, EXCEPT PLAT B322 P118.

Deed Quit Claim: Michael C. Hadley, Pamela Hadley to Michael Hadley Revocable Trust, Michael Hadley 2025 Revocable Trust; NE NE 21-74-10 Parcel: AUD PAR C, SE SE 21-74-10 Parcel: AUD PAR C, PLAT 2008-0620.

Deed Quit Claim: Michael C. Hadley, Pamela Hadley to Michael Hadley Revocable Trust, Michael Hadley 2025 Revocable Trust; PT SW SW 27-74-10.

Deed Quit Claim: Michael C. Hadley, Pamela Hadley to Michael Hadley Revocable Trust, Michael Hadley 2025 Revoca-

ble Trust; PT SW SE 28-74-10.

Deed Quit Claim: Michael C. Hadley, Pamela Hadley to Michael Hadley Revocable Trust, Michael Hadley 2025 Revocable Trust; ROAD RECORD 345 BOOK B P354 AND P357, 310TH AVE PT 21-74-10, 310TH AVE PT 22-74-10.

Deed Quit Claim: Michael C. Hadley, Pamela Hadley to Michael Hadley Revocable Trust, Michael Hadley 2025 Revocable Trust; PT SW SE 32-74-10, PT NW SE 32-74-10.

Deed Quit Claim: Michael C. Hadley, Pamela Hadley to Michael Hadley Revocable Trust, Michael Hadley 2025 Revocable Trust; PT NE SE 32-74-10, PT SE SE 32-74-10, PT SE SE 32-74-10, SW SW 33-74-10, PT SE SW 33-74-10.

Trustee Warranty Deed: Michael D. Conrad Co Trustee, Nathan Chalupa Co Trustee, Dennis B Conrad Revocable Trust to Michael D. Conrad; PT SE NE 24-76-10.

Special Warranty Deed: I A T 111 LLC to Old Grove Investments LLC; SOUTH ENGLISH J F WHITES ADDITION (SOUTH ENGLISH) Lot: 18 Block: 07, SOUTH

ENGLISH J F WHITES ADDITION (SOUTH ENGLISH) Lot: 19 Block: 07 SOUTH ENGLISH J F WHITES ADDITION (SOUTH ENGLISH) Lot: 20 Block: 07.

Survivor Spouse: Howard L. Linder Deceased to Betty L. Linder, Betty Lou Linder; NW 33-76-11, PT NE SW 33-76-11, EXCEPT PLAT 2007-2026, NW SW 33-76-11, SE NE 33-76-11, SW NE 33-76-11, PT NW SE 33-76-11, PT Lot: 02 NW 34-76-11, PLAT B2 P129, PLAT B2 P128.

Warranty Deed: Gregory M. Gent, Georgia A. Gent to Randall L. Martin, Dana R. Martin; NE 11-77-10 Parcel: AUD PAR B, NW NW 12-77-10 Parcel: AUD PAR B, PLAT B337 P230, EXCEPT PLAT 2012-0502.

Deed Quit Claim: Joseph Egdorf, Joseph Michael Egdors, Cynthia Egdorf, Cynthis Kaye Egdorf to Ware A. Gasper, Heidi J. Gasper; PT SE NW 14-75-13.

Warranty Deed: Joseph Egdorf, Joseph Michael Egdors, Cynthia Egdorf, Cynthis Kaye Egdorf to Ware A. Gasper,

Heidi J. Gasper; PT SE NW 14-75-13.

Warranty Deed: Nicholas F. Hammes, Elaine M. Hammes to Kelly S. Denny, Diane M. Denny

PT NW SW 30-76-12, PT SW SW 30-76-12, EXCEPT PLAT 2006-2017, NE SE 25-76-13.

Trustee Warranty Deed: Mark P. Greiner Successor Trustee, Bonita K. Greiner to Derek Greiner; UNDIVIDED ONE HALF INTEREST IN, PT NW NE 15-75-10, PT NW NE 15-75-10, PT SE SW 36-76-10, SW SW 36-76-10, NW NW 35-76-10, SW NW 35-76-10.

Trustee Warranty Deed: Mark P. Greiner Successor Trustee, Bonita K. Greiner to Derek Greiner; PT NW SW 01-75-10, PT SE NW 01-75-10, EXCEPT LAND DEED B79 P525, UNDIVIDED 49% INTEREST IN, PT NW NE 15-75-10, PT NW NE 15-75-10, PT SE SW 36-76-10, SW SW 36-76-10, UNDIVIDED ONE HALF INTEREST IN, NW NW 35-76-10, SW NW 35-76-10.

Deed Quit Claim; Sandra L. Shettler to Brad Shettler, Lora Lee Fisher, Crystal Stoner;

Lot: 13 SE NE 23-77-11, Lot: 14 SE NE 23-77-11, Lot: 19 SE NE 23-77-11, Lot: 01 SW NW 24-77-11.

Warranty Deed: Martin Construction LLC to Douglas L. Martin, Linda J. Martin; A 54.67% INTEREST IN, PT NE NW 05-74-12, EXCEPT PLAT 2017-1519, PT NW NE 05-74-12, EXCEPT PLAT 2017-1519, PT NW SE 32-75-12, PT SW SE 32-75-12, EXCEPT PLAT 2017-1518, RR ROW PT NW SE 32-75-12, RR ROW PT SW SE 32-75-12.

Dec. 23rd
Sheriff's Deed: Keokuk County, Keokuk County Sheriff, Chief Investments LLC David W. Brown, Lisa M. Brown to Hill Bank & Trust Co; SE SE 35-76-11 Parcel: AUD PAR A, PLAT B331 P59.

Trustee Warranty Deed: Carol Ann Huffman Trustee, Carol Ann Huffman Family Trust, C D Huffman Family Trust, C D and Carol Ann Huffman Family Trust to Troy Hammes, Shelby Hammes; SIGOURNEY COVEYS ADDITION Lot: 04.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
Keokuk Co Emergency Management Commission • Proposed Budget

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING — PROPOSED BUDGET Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027
Keokuk County Emergency Management Commission

The Emergency Management Commission of the above-named County will conduct a public hearing on the proposed fiscal year 2026/2027 budget as follows:
Meeting Date: 1/21/2026 Meeting Time: 07:00 PM Meeting Location: Keokuk County Emergency Operations Center 1303 200th Ave Sigourney, IA 52591
At the public hearing any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of, any part of the proposed budget. This notice represents a summary of the supporting detail of receipts and expenditures on file with the County Coordinator.

	Actual FYE June 30, 2025	Estimated FYE June 30, 2026	Proposed FYE June 30, 2027
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE:	1	58,772	37,545
REVENUES:			
County Contribution	2	40,210	69,310
Other Revenues	3	12,826	17,920
Total Revenues (2+3)	4	53,036	87,230
EXPENDITURES:			
Administration and Operations	5	70,009	85,441
Capital Outlays	6	4,254	3,300
Total Expenditures (5+6)	7	74,263	88,741
Total Ending Fund Balance	8	37,545	36,034

Published in The News-Review on January 7, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of Petition • Case No. JVVJ005988

TO: ALL PUTATIVE
BIOLOGICAL FATHERS OF
B.A., A CHILD BORN ON JULY
2, 2017, IN POLK COUNTY,
IOWA

You are notified that there is now on file in the office of the Clerk of Court for Keokuk County, a Petition in Case Number JVVJ005988 which prays the child in interest, B.A., be found to be a child in need of assistance. For further details, contact the Keokuk County Clerk of Court Office at (641)622-2210. The petitioner's attorney is Terri A. Menninga, Assistant Mahaska

County Attorney, whose address is 106 S. 1st Street, Oskaloosa, Iowa 52577, and whose telephone number is (641) 673-9819.

You are notified that the next hearing in this matter is scheduled to be held in the Iowa District Court for Keokuk County, at the Courthouse in Sigourney, Iowa, at 1:30 o'clock P.M. on March 11, 2026

Sara Oden, Clerk
Kim Andeway, designee
CLERK OF THE ABOVE COURT
Published in The News-Review on
December 24 and 31, 2025, and
January 7, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
Keokuk Co BOS • Minutes and Claims 12.15.2025

KEOKUK COUNTY BOARD
PROCEEDINGS
DECEMBER 15, 2025

The Keokuk County Board of Supervisors met in regular session, Monday, December 15, 2025, in the Board Room of the Courthouse. Present were Michael C. Hadley, Daryl Wood, Kevin Weber and Christy Bates, County Auditor. was absent.

Weber moved, Wood seconded to approve the agenda as submitted. All ayes and motion carried. Also present was Casey James, News-Review; Darin Hite, IT; Christine Long, Treasurer and Pie Reighard, Conservation.

Wood moved, Weber seconded to approve the minutes of December 8, 2025 as submitted. Hadley abstained due to being absent from said meeting. All ayes and motion carried.

Met with Engineer McGuire regarding the Keokuk County Highway Department as follows: notification was received stating no grant funding has been awarded to date; discussed the disgruntled Meadowbrook resident issue, noting the established homeowner's policy that prohibits street parking; McGuire will be attending the Engineers Highway Research Board meeting in January and National Engineers Association meeting in February and no communication regarding union negotiations to date.

Weber moved, Wood seconded

approval of December 15, 2025 claims listing as submitted. All ayes and motion carried.

Manual Checks: December 4, 2025

VISA (JAIL)..... 9.19
VISA (KC EM MGMT).....530.71
VISA (PH).....424.83
VISA (RECORDER).....300.00
TOTAL.....\$1,264.73

CLAIM DATE: December 15, 2025

ADKINS & SON8,153.00
AGRILAND FS20,862.03
AHLERS & COONEY800.00
ALL AM PEST CONTROL ..195.00
ALLIANT ENERGY994.24
ALTORFER MACHINERY6,216.83
AMAZON CAPITAL SERV..326.93
ANDERSON LARKIN10,500.00
ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY1,184.93
ATWOOD ELECTRIC.....443.41
AXMEAR FABRICATING SERV ...50.00
BAILEY OFFICE.....546.64
BC INVESTMENTS500.00
BROTHERS MARKET.....1,213.38
BUCH, LAURA115.72
CALHOUN-BURNS & ASSOC6,724.80
CCL SUPPLY1,017.55
CLOUDBURST9604.45
CLUBB, BONNIE99.84
COX SANITATION & RECY.....7,108.60
DELTA, CITY OF.....2,434.39
DENISE'S ALTERATIONS ..30.00
DESIGN HOUSE PLUS.....439.00
DOUDS STONE11,730.89

ELLIOTT BULK SERV6,010.37
ELLIOTT OIL CO18.95
FARMERS COOP ASSOC3,045.00
FORCE AMERICA.....1,597.60
GALLS LLC101.49
GIBSON, CITY OF.....1,016.44
GREATERAMERICA FINANCIAL SERV225.25
GREENLEYS CORP195.60
H & M FARM & HOME.....518.23
HELMUTH, ALLIE.....26.00
HICKENBOTTOM INC397.14
HOLIDAY INN DM AIRPORT268.80
I M W C A3,260.00
IDEAL READY MIX2,293.75
IA CO ATTY ASSOC370.00
IA LAW ENFORCEMENT ACDMY300.00
IA PRISON IND1,051.40
IA PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOC300.00
IA'S CO CONSERVATION SYS405.00
ISAC1,475.00
JIM ELWOOD IMPLEMENT.....1,255.59
KASEYA US4,047.38
KEOKUK CO ATTY50.00
KEOKUK CO HWY DEPT ..830.14
KEOKUK CO RECORDER1.32
KESWICK, CITY OF2,533.40
KINROSS, CITY OF369.10
L L PELLING12,533.40
LIGHTEDGE SOLUTIONS5,093.29
LISCO/LTDS393.49
MAIL SERVICES438.08
MARTINS FLAG CO.....741.55
MARTINSBURG, CITY OF.....

1,069.01
MCFALL, LAURA D686.00
MESSERSCHMITT, LAVADA92.56
MID-AMERICA PUB CO221.46
MIKE'S PARTS & SERVICE149.52
MITCHELL LAW OFFICE1,500.00
MOD COOP TELEPHONE346.80
MULTI-COUNTY OIL.....9,509.16
NAVITAS CREDIT CORP3,465.64
NET2PHONE1,142.87
NEXTRAN TRUCK CTRS2,580.76
NO ENGLISH TELEPHONE1,650.64
OLLIE, CITY OF1,315.20
PHELPS AUTO SUPPLY364.00
POMP'S TIRE SERV8,400.00
RACOM CORP3,112.54
RENNER CONSTRUCTION5,800.00
RIVER PRODUCTS.....8,685.29
SADLER POWER TRAIN ..259.64
SANITY SOLUTIONS10.97
SELLERS, MICHAEL326.00
SIACC JUVENILE PROJECT586.18
SIGOURNEY LUMBER CO1,541.38
SIGOURNEY, CITY OF669.02
SINCLAIR NAPA20.25
STIVERS FORD LINCOLN50,570.07
STOREY KENWORTHY100.18
STREICHERS200.00
STROBELS595.00
T I P REC813.26

THE DEPT OF RADIOLOGY50.00
THOMSON REUTERS-WEST352.51
TIFCO INDUSTRIES930.30
TRUCK CENTER INC29.35
TUSING, STEPHANIE225.68
US CELLULAR303.62
USFIRST LLC15.00
VERIZON WIRELESS374.88
VISA (SEC RD)13.00
VISA (CONSERV)365.93
WAPELLO RURAL WATER184.21
WASTE MANAGEMENT ..1,384.70
WEBB, JESSICA450.00
WEBSTER, CITY OF515.44
WEX BANK68.69
WINDSTREAM94.07
TOTAL\$244,595.17
Wood moved, Weber seconded approval of the CEO Shared Liability Agreement of the New Eastern Iowa Workforce Development Board as submitted. All ayes and motion carried. Weber sits on said board and informed of the verbiage additions, N. Withdrawal and P. Amendments, to the agreement as the reason for revision.
Various Board and Committee reports were held. Wood attended Pathfinders and RUSS meetings. Hadley attended an Emergency Management. All members attended the 5th District meeting last week.
Discussion of old/new business and public comment was held. Bates informed payment was received for half of Keokuk Coun-

ty's balance from the ISAC Unemployment Pool in the amount of \$39,383.33 with the remaining balance to be paid once all current claims have been paid. Hite and Bates informed of an enhanced Keokuk County website development plan, initial set up fee and annual fee thereafter. Board consensus to allow further investigation of said project. Inquiries arose regarding additional closure for the Christmas holiday, noting support would not be available from Tyler Technology, Department of Management and Department of Transportation due to closure from December 24-26, 2025. This matter will be discussed during the upcoming department head meeting to gage what plans are for each department.

On vote and motion Hadley adjourned the meeting at 9:40 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.

Approved _____
Disapproved _____
Michael C. Hadley, Daryl Wood,
Kevin Weber
Published in The News-Review on
January 7, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Keswick • Minute and Claims 10.13.2025

KESWICK CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 13, 2025 MAYOR

The Keswick City Council met in a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday October 13, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

The Mayor called the meeting to order. Roll Call: R. Leer, K. Leer, Schmidt. Watts Absent: Sieren. Approve the Agenda. Motion: Watts, 2nd K. Leer Previous months Minutes read, Motion to Approve . R. Leer 2nd, Watts. All Ayes. Financial Report: Will be presented at next meeting. Motion to Approve Financial: 2nd by , All Ayes Claims 2nd by , All Ayes.

Reports and Communication. Sigourney News Review, request to be the paper for the City for year 2026. Motion to accept the Sigourney Review as the City's paper by K. Leer, 2nd by R. Leer, All Ayes.

OLD BUSINESS. It was reported that the Keokuk Co. Endowment Grant stated we could not change our grant money and would need to be returned. We had designated it for a new siren project but could not obtain other grants and due to

the cost have tabled it for the future project.

NEW BUSINESS: Halloween Begger's Night will be on Friday October 31, 2025 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Motion by R. Leer, 2nd by Watts, All Ayes. Elections will be held next month on Tuesday November 4, 2025, at the Thomas Hall – What Cheer Fairgrounds. Open at 7:00 am Close at 8:00 pm.

Motion to adjourn: R. Leer, 2nd Watts. All Ayes. Next meeting, November 3, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.
Committees are as follows: Fire Board: K. Leer, Zittergruen and Sieren; Sewer: Sieren and R. Leer; Sanitation: Watts, Sieren, and K. Leer; Streets: Schmidt, R. Leer, Zittergruen; Mayor Protem: R. Leer; Keokuk County Endowment: Schmidt, R. Leer; Emergency Management: Zittergruen and Watts.

FINANCIAL REPORT SEPTEMBER

DATE, CK#, DESCRIPTION, AMOUNT, FUND
09/04/2025, Residents, \$700.96..... W/S/G
09/19/2025, Residents, \$120.00..... W/S/G
09/19/2025, Residents, \$150.00..... W/S/G
09/19/2025, Residents, \$280.00..... W/S/G
09/19/2025, Residents, \$460.00..... W/S/G
09/19/2025, Residents, \$600.00..... W/S/G
09/23/2025, Residents, \$613.87..... W/S/G
09/23/2025, Residents, \$1,975.66..... W/S/G
09/23/2025, Residents, \$2,057.69..... W/S/G
09/23/2025, Residents, \$2,920.83..... W/S/G
09/24/2025, Residents, \$1,367.54..... W/S/G
09/25/2025, Residents, \$1,563.48..... W/S/G
09/29/2025, Residents, \$767.42..... W/S/G
09/29/2025, Residents, \$2,235.94..... W/S/G
09/30/2025, Residents, \$252.37..... W/S/G
SUB-TOTAL, \$16,065.76..... W/S/G
09/19/2025, Residents, \$120.00.....

W/S/G
09/19/2025, Residents, \$150.00..... W/S/G
09/19/2025, Residents, \$280.00..... W/S/G
09/19/2025, Residents, \$460.00..... W/S/G
09/19/2025, Residents, \$600.00..... W/S/G
09/23/2025, Residents, \$613.87..... W/S/G
09/23/2025, Residents, \$1,975.66..... W/S/G
09/23/2025, Residents, \$2,057.69..... W/S/G
09/23/2025, Residents, \$2,920.83..... W/S/G
09/24/2025, Residents, \$1,367.54..... W/S/G
09/25/2025, Residents, \$1,563.48..... W/S/G
09/29/2025, Residents, \$767.42..... W/S/G
09/29/2025, Residents, \$2,235.94..... W/S/G
09/30/2025, Residents, \$252.37..... W/S/G
SUB-TOTAL\$16,065.76
W/S/G, 09/10/2025, Keokuk County Treasurer (May), \$3,801.88.....

General
09/16/2025, State of Iowa (Road), \$2,582.94 Road
09/23/2025, State of Iowa (Road), \$113.03 W/S/G
09/22/2025, State of Iowa (1% tax), \$2,069.62 General
SUB-TOTAL\$8,567.47
08/31/2025, Interest, \$31.13 General
SUB-TOTAL\$31.13
TOTAL-DEBITS.....\$24,664.36
DISTRIBUTION AUGUST
DATE, CK#, DESCRIPTION, AMOUNT, FUND
09/24/2025, EFT, ipers, \$268.95..... W/G
SUB-TOTAL, \$268.95..... W/G
09/25/2025, 3396, Blake Johnston (Salary), \$283.99..... G/W/R
09/25/2025, 3416, Blake Johnston (Salary), \$180.72..... G/W/R
09/25/2025, 3427, Blake Johnston (Salary), \$283.99..... G/W/R
09/16/2025, 3430, Denise Fry (Salary), \$144.15 Water
09/03/2025, 3433, N & N Sanitation (August), \$2,442.69..... Garbage
09/16/2025, 3435, Farmers Lumber Co., \$12.60..... General

09/03/2025, 3436, Gardner & Associates, \$11,643.20 Road
09/09/2025, 3440 VOID
09/09/2025, 3441, I CAP (Insurance), \$223.50 General
09/04/2025, 3443, IDP Solutions (Billing Forms), \$462.14 Water
09/05/2025, 3444, Multi-County Oil (Diesel), \$95.04 Road
09/03/2025, 3445, Alliant Energy (August St. Lights), \$588.47 Road
09/03/2025, 3446, Alliant Energy (August), \$269.33 General
City Hall \$70.73/Shop \$56.04/Park \$107.10/Sign \$35.46
09/15/2025, 3448, Brooke Zittergren (Aubrey's mowing), \$240.00 General
09/12/2025, 3449, Joy Denison (Salary), \$602.42 General
09/15/2025, 3450, Tim Garrett (Salary), \$215.15 Water
09/16/2025, 3451, Denise Fry (Salary), \$144.15 Water
09/25/2025, 3452, Blake Johnston (Salary), \$283.99..... G/W/R
09/12/2025, 3453, RUSS (Sewer), \$7,617.90 Sewer
09/16/2025, 3454, Wapello Rural

Water (Water), \$2,490.02... Water
09/15/2025, 3455, Modern Coop. Tele. Co., \$34.60 General
09/19/2025, 3456, N & N Sanitation (September), \$2,520.00 Garbage
09/17/2025, 3457, ION, \$16.50..... Water
09/15/2025, 3458, Alliant Energy (Sept. St. Lights), \$590.46 .. Road
09/15/2025, 3459, Alliant Energy (September), \$251.76 General
Park \$104.95/City Hall \$60.78/Shop \$53.59/Sign \$32.44
09/20/2025, 3460, Herer Construction Co., \$15,598.41 Road
09/26/2025, 3461, ICAP (Insurance), \$8,472.00 General
09/30/2025, 3462, LL Pelling (road patch), \$1,120.00 Road
SUB- TOTAL\$56,827.18
TOTAL\$57,096.13
Beginning Balance.....\$375,226.49
Credits\$24,664.36
Debits\$57,096.13
Ending Balance.....\$342,794.72
Published in The News-Review on
January 7, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Keswick • Minutes and Claims 11.3.2025

KESWICK CITY COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 3, 2025 MAYOR

The Keswick City Council met in a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday November 3, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

The Mayor called the meeting to order. Roll Call: K. Leer, Schmidt. Watts Absent:

R. Leer, Sieren. Approve the Agenda. Motion: , Schmidt 2nd Watts. Previous months Minutes read, Motion to Approve . Watts 2nd, K. Leer. All Ayes. Financial Report September: Motion to Approve Schmidt. 2nd by Watts, All Ayes. Claims September: Motion to Approve Schmidt. 2nd by Watts, All Ayes. Claims October: Motion to Approve K. Leer, 2nd by Watts, All Ayes.

Reports and Communication. None.

OLD BUSINESS. Update on road repairs. Elections will be held tomorrow on Tuesday November 4, 2025, at Thomas Hall – What Cheer Fairgrounds. Open at 7:00 a.m. Close at 8:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor report. Contractor's Application for Payment No. 4 for street work on S. Irons St. payment request of \$9,056.99. Motion to approve payment by Schmidt, 2nd by Watts, All Ayes. Iowa DOT claim for reimbursement of project costs, signed by the mayor, will be submitted for payment.

Motion to adjourn: Watts, 2nd Schmidt. All Ayes. Next meeting, December 1, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

Committees are as follows: Fire Board: K. Leer, Zittergruen and Sieren; Sewer: Sieren and R. Leer. Sanitation: Watts, Sieren, and K. Leer; Streets: Schmidt, R. Leer, Zittergruen; Mayor Protem: R. Leer; Keokuk County Endowment: Schmidt, R. Leer; Emergency Management: Zittergruen and Watts.

FINANCIAL REPORT SEPTEMBER

DATE, CK#, DESCRIPTION, AMOUNT, FUND
09/04/2025, Residents, \$700.96..... W/S/G
09/19/2025, Residents, \$120.00..... W/S/G
09/19/2025, Residents, \$150.00..... W/S/G
09/19/2025, Residents, \$280.00..... W/S/G
09/19/2025, Residents, \$460.00..... W/S/G
09/19/2025, Residents, \$600.00..... W/S/G
09/23/2025, Residents, \$613.87..... W/S/G
09/23/2025, Residents, \$1,975.66..... W/S/G
09/23/2025, Residents, \$2,057.69..... W/S/G
09/23/2025, Residents, \$2,920.83..... W/S/G
09/24/2025, Residents, \$1,367.54..... W/S/G
09/25/2025, Residents, \$1,563.48..... W/S/G
09/29/2025, Residents, \$767.42..... W/S/G
09/29/2025, Residents, \$2,235.94..... W/S/G
09/30/2025, Residents, \$252.37..... W/S/G
SUB-TOTAL, \$16,065.76..... W/S/G

09/10/2025, Keokuk County Treasurer (May), \$3,801.88..... General
09/16/2025, State of Iowa (Road), \$2,582.94 Road
09/23/2025, State of Iowa (Road), \$113.03 W/S/G
09/22/2025, State of Iowa (1% tax), \$2,069.62 General
SUB-TOTAL\$8,567.47
08/31/2025, Interest, \$31.13 General
SUB-TOTAL\$31.13
TOTAL-CREDITS.....\$24,664.36
FINANCIAL REPORT SEPTEMBER
DATE, CK#, DESCRIPTION, AMOUNT, FUND
09/04/2025, Residents, \$700.96..... W/S/G
09/19/2025, Residents, \$120.00..... W/S/G
09/19/2025, Residents, \$150.00..... W/S/G
09/19/2025, Residents, \$280.00..... W/S/G
09/19/2025, Residents, \$460.00..... W/S/G
09/19/2025, Residents, \$600.00..... W/S/G
09/23/2025, Residents, \$613.87..... W/S/G
09/23/2025, Residents, \$1,975.66..... W/S/G
09/23/2025, Residents, \$2,057.69..... W/S/G
09/23/2025, Residents, \$2,920.83..... W/S/G
09/24/2025, Residents, \$1,367.54..... W/S/G
09/25/2025, Residents, \$1,563.48..... W/S/G
09/29/2025, Residents, \$767.42..... W/S/G
09/29/2025, Residents, \$2,235.94..... W/S/G
09/30/2025, Residents, \$252.37..... W/S/G
SUB-TOTAL, \$16,065.76..... W/S/G

09/03/2025, 3446, Alliant Energy (August), \$269.33 General
City Hall \$70.73/Shop \$56.04/Park \$107.10/Sign \$34.48
09/15/2025, 3448, Brooke Zittergren (Aubrey's mowing), 35.46, \$240.00 General
09/12/2025, 3449, Joy Denison (Salary), \$602.42 General
09/15/2025, 3450, Tim Garrett (Salary), \$215.15 Water
09/16/2025, 3451, Denise Fry (Salary), \$144.15 Water
09/25/2025, 3452, Blake Johnston (Salary), \$283.99..... G/W/R
09/12/2025, 3453, RUSS (Sewer), \$7,617.90 Sewer
09/16/2025, 3454, Wapello Rural Water (Water), \$2,490.02... Water
09/15/2025, 3455, Modern Coop. Tele. Co., \$34.60 General
09/19/2025, 3456, N & N Sanitation (September), \$2,520.00 Garbage
09/17/2025, 3457, ION, \$16.50 Water
09/20/2025, 3460, Herer Construction Co., \$15,598.41 Road
09/26/2025, 3461, ICAP (Insurance), \$8,472.00 General
09/30/2025, 3462, LL Pelling (road patch), \$1,120.00 Road
SUB- TOTAL\$56,827.18
TOTAL\$57,096.13
Beginning Balance.....\$375,226.49
Credits\$24,664.36
Debits\$57,096.13
Ending Balance.....\$342,794.72

FINANCIAL REPORT OCTOBER

DATE, CK#, DESCRIPTION, AMOUNT, FUND
10/21/2025, Residents, \$373.86 W/S/G
10/21/2025, Residents, \$1,436.31..... W/S/G
10/21/2025, Residents, \$1,932.81..... W/S/G
10/21/2025, Residents, \$2,082.16..... W/S/G
10/21/2025, Residents, \$2,798.99..... W/S/G
10/21/2025, Residents, \$3,141.05..... W/S/G
10/27/2025, Residents, \$1,182.42..... W/S/G
10/27/2025, Residents, \$2,420.74..... W/S/G
SUB-TOTAL, \$15,368.34..... W/S/G
10/15/2025, Keokuk County Treasurer (Sept.), \$15,112.61..... General
10/22/2025, State of Iowa (Road), \$1,875.10 Road
10/29/2025, State of Iowa (1% tax), \$2,199.97 General
SUB-TOTAL\$19,187.68
08/31/2025, Interest, \$29.47 General
SUB-TOTAL\$29.47
TOTAL\$23,578.97
DISTRIBUTION OCTOBER
DATE, CK#, DESCRIPTION, AMOUNT, FUND
10/14/2025, EFT, ipers, \$191.16..... W/G
10/21/2025, EFT, la Dept of Revenue (water taxes), \$265.24. Water
10/21/2025, EFT, la Dept of Revenue (water taxes), \$267.89. Water
10/21/2025, EFT, la Dept of Revenue (water taxes), \$283.48. Water
10/21/2025, EFT, la Dept of Revenue (water taxes), \$288.94. Water

10/21/2025, EFT, la Dept of Revenue (water taxes), \$295.21. Water
SUB-TOTAL, \$1,591.92 W/G
10/27/2025, Deposit Correction\$150.00
SUB-TOTAL\$150.00
10/03/2025, 3463, Garden & Associates, \$2,580.30 Road
10/16/2025, 3464, Joy Denison (Salary), \$602.42..... General
10/17/2025, 3468, Russ, \$7,617.90 Sewer
10/20/2025, 3469, Wapello Rural Water, \$2,157.18 Water
10/21/2025, 3470, Modern Coop. Tele. Co., \$34.60 Water
10/22/2025, 3471, N&N Sanitation October, \$2,520.00 Garbage
10/22/2025, 3472, ION (water testing/supplies), \$219.50 Water
10/23/2025, 3473, Mirah Long (Water Refund, \$248.82..... Water
10/20/2025, 3474, Alliant Energy (St. Lights), \$584.12 Road
10/31/2025, 3476, Keokuk Co. Endowment Fund, \$5,000.00 General
10/24/2025, 3477, Alliant Energy, \$246.02 General
City Hall \$53.13/Sign \$33.23/Park \$104.87/Shop \$54.79
10/30/2025, 3478, Farmers Lumber Co., \$20.50..... General
10/27/2025, 3479, US Postal Service (Postage Due), \$5.69 General
SUB- TOTAL\$21,837.05
TOTAL CREDITS\$34,585.49
Beginning Balance.....\$342,794.72
Credits\$34,585.49
Debits\$23,578.97
Ending Balance.....\$35,801.24
Published in The News-Review on
January 7, 2026

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English Valleys Bearometer

January 7, 2026

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Issue: XVIII

English Valleys Christmas Concert Brings Music, Cheer, and Talent Together

By: Hunter Offerman

On December 18, English Valleys hosted its annual Christmas program in Gene's Gymnasium, bringing holiday cheer to the community through an evening of music performed by students in grades 6-12. The concert showcased the talent and dedication of the EV Music Department and featured a wide variety of ensembles, including the junior high band, high school band, junior high jazz band, high school jazz band, junior high chorus, High School Mixed Choir, and High School Chamber Choir.

Each group performed a selection of traditional and modern Christmas music, as well as upbeat and jazzy holiday favorites. The following were highlights of the songs performed, as many of the groups played multiple other pieces throughout the evening. The junior high band performed *African Noel* and *Let It Go*, while the junior high chorus sang *Sweet Silent Night*. The junior high jazz band played *Swing We Now of Christmas*, marking the first time the junior high jazz band has ever performed at the Christmas Concert.

The high school band performed well-known pieces such as *Carol of the Bells* and *Greensleeves*, highlighting the students' hard work and musical growth throughout the season. Also performing for the first time at the Christmas Concert was the High School Chamber Choir, which sang *Mary Sat-A-Rockin*. The High School Mixed Choir performed *Tidings of Joy* and *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas*, while the high school jazz band energized the crowd with *Swingle Bells*.

One of the most memorable moments of the night was the crowd-favorite performance of *One Bright Star*, during which the combined 6-12 choirs lit candles, creating a powerful and meaningful holiday atmosphere.

The evening was a great success and a wonderful way to celebrate the Christmas season. The English Valleys Music Department once again delivered an outstanding concert. A special thank-you goes to the incredibly talented students and to Dr. Dusdieker (accompanist), Mr. Dusdieker (band director), and Mr. Cornelius (choir director) for providing an unforgettable night filled with music, joy, and Christmas spirit.



Festive Fun and Tradition Return with the EV Christmas Tea



On Thursday, December 18, English Valleys proudly welcomed back a cherished tradition with the return of the Christmas Tea, hosted by FCCLA, Mr. Hain, and the Foods students. The event provided an opportunity for students to showcase meaningful learning, teamwork, and real-world skills, all while highlighting their impressive culinary talents.

Staff and faculty from both buildings, administration, and even school board members were invited to enjoy the event, which featured punch, friendship tea, cookies, and other small treats. The students also decorated the space to create a warm and festive environment, adding to the holiday spirit. Attendees were treated to a professional and memorable experience as students put their knowledge into practice in a setting that combined hands-on education with celebration.

The revival of the Christmas Tea not only honored a long-standing English Valleys tradition but also offered a chance for the school community to come together and celebrate the season. It was inspiring to see students embracing both the educational and celebratory aspects of the event, making this return of the Christmas Tea a highlight of the holiday season at English Valleys.

What Is Your New Year's Resolution?

Cael Grove
Senior



"My New Year's resolution is to grow closer to God and excel in sports."

Kane Axmear
Junior



"I want to spend less time on my phone."

Brodey Flander
Sophomore



"My goal for the new year is to focus on farming and spend more time outdoors."

Davis Burdick
Freshman



"My goal is to run more and train harder for cross-country."

Aidan Grimm
8th Grade



"I want to improve my grades in the new year."

Izabella Clark
7th Grade



"This year, I want to improve at track."

Avery Offerman
6th Grade



"This year, I want to do my work early instead of waiting."

Upcoming Activities:

January 8:

HS Girls Wrestling @ Pella - 5:00 pm
HS Girls Basketball @ Albia - 5:00/6:15 pm
HS Boys Wrestling @ Baxter - 6:00 pm
HS Boys Basketball vs Valley Lutheran - 6:00 pm

January 9:

HS Girls Wrestling @ Highland - 4:30 pm
HS Basketball vs Colfax-Mingo - 6:00 pm

January 10:

HS Boys Wrestling @ Highland - 10:00 am

January 12:

JH Boys Basketball vs HLV - 4:15 pm
JV Boys Basketball @ Lone Tree - 4:15 pm
HS V Basketball @ Lone Tree - 6:00 pm

January 13:

JV Boys Basketball @ Belle Plaine - 4:30 pm
HS V Basketball @ Belle Plaine - 6:00 pm



Chronic Wasting Disease in Iowa (Part Four of Four)

Importance of Deer Hunting

Iowa's deer resource is estimated to generate nearly \$200 million in annual economic activity, much of which is spent on gas, hotels, meals, gear, supplies and more in rural communities.

Deer hunting is one of the events throughout the year that can bring together friends and family from across the state and around the country. For many, it is a tradition where experiences are shared and skills are passed on from one generation to the next.

"The true value of Iowa's deer is likely so much greater, especially if we could account for intangible benefits, like enjoying seeing deer on the landscape, and the positive impacts our deer population has on recreational property value," said Jace Elliott, state deer biologist with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Other hard-to-quantify values include connecting with nature and the mental and physical benefits that come with time spent outdoors, as well as reducing screen time. Additionally, venison is a high quality, lean, locally sourced, delicious protein.

Improving the quality of timber and prairie when managing deer habitat provides benefits to other wildlife species, like turkeys, squirrels, grassland birds, woodland birds, butterflies, and more, as well as increases property values.

Iowa is renowned for quality deer hunting experiences, largely due to a comprehensive regulatory strategy that prioritizes residents and encourages a strong population of large-antlered, mature bucks on the landscape. Given Iowa's fragmented landscape, the Iowa DNR recognizes the importance of safeguarding the world-class quality achieved through common-sense regulations and hunter engagement.

"We have a great relationship with our hunters, who prioritize their free time and vacation days to pursue deer," Elliott said. "They are our most important partner because, at the end of the day, we can't manage a balanced, quality deer herd without them."

Iowa has more than 160,000 deer hunters who harvest over 100,000 deer each year. For more information about deer and deer health in Iowa, visit <https://www.iowadnr.gov/deer>.



The progression of mealworms dining on food waste and agricultural residue, which is being used as feed for animal production and fertilizer. (Photos by Midwest Mealworms, LLC)

The Value of Insect Droppings in Agriculture

FAYETTEVILLE, AR -- ARS researchers in Fayetteville, AR, are helping farmers by studying the value of insect droppings in agriculture. About 30 to 40% of food produced in agriculture is wasted in the U.S., which results in about \$161 billion in losses each year. Insect meal from insects fed waste is one solution to address agricultural waste. Farmers raise and breed insects to be an alternative protein source for animal feed. The insect farming industry is projected to grow 28% annually and have an estimated market value of \$8 billion by 2030.

ARS researchers at the Poultry Production and Product Safety Research Unit

in Fayetteville are helping insect farmers by studying the benefits of insects as well as their droppings, commonly known as insect "frass." Researchers found that insect meal produced from insects who feed on waste can serve as a high protein animal feed. Insects can also produce a high value manure, which can provide a valuable organic fertilizer and create a circular economy for rural U.S. Insect production and the associated products, including frass, may represent an underutilized opportunity for organic manure and contribute to improved soil health in agricultural production systems.

Winter community trout stockings start Jan. 10

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will release rainbow trout in nine locations across Iowa this winter in areas that would not support them during warmer months.

Winter trout stockings are a great place to take kids to catch their first fish. A family-friendly event is paired with some stockings to help anglers have success and fun while fishing.

The popular program is supported by the sales of the trout fee. Anglers need a valid fishing license and pay the trout fee to fish for or possess trout. The daily limit is five trout per licensed angler with a possession limit of 10.

Children age 15 or younger can fish for trout with a properly licensed adult, but together, they can only keep one daily limit. Children can pay the trout fee, allowing them to keep their own daily limit.

2026 Winter Community Trout Stocking Schedule

Jan. 10, Blue Pit, Mason City, at 11 a.m.
Jan. 22, Bacon Creek Lake, Sioux City, at 1 p.m.
Jan. 23, Big Lake, Council Bluffs, at 3 p.m.
Jan. 23, Moorland Pond, Fort Dodge, at Noon
Feb. 7, Scharnberg Pond, Spencer, at Noon
Ada Hayden Heritage Park Lake (Ames), Lake Petocka (Bondurant), and Triumph Park West and Triumph Park East (Waukee) will also be stocked this winter. These stocking dates will not be announced until ice conditions are suitable.

Winter trout stocking events are dependent on favorable weather and ice conditions. Check the DNR Trout Fishing website at www.iowadnr.gov/trout for possible changes to the schedule.

Trout will be stocked in several other locations later this spring. Dates and locations will be announced in February.

New Resource Helps Farmers and Landowners Test Nitrate Levels

Nitrate test strips and kits are a practical way to determine nitrate concentration in water

By: Kay Stefanik, Alaina Friesleben

AMES – To help farmers and landowners better understand and monitor nitrate levels in surface and tile drainage water, the Iowa State University Iowa Nutrient Research Center has released a new publication, Guide to Water Quality Testing for Nitrate. The publication is available for download at no cost from the ISU Extension Store.

This practical resource outlines the importance of nitrate monitoring and provides basic instructions for testing water using nitrate test strips or test kits. The guide also explains how to interpret results, including the difference between nitrate and nitrate-nitrogen, and highlights average nitrate concentrations commonly observed in Iowa.

"Nitrate levels in Iowa's water can be influenced by a number of different factors, such as fertilizer and manure application in a watershed, conservation practices on the landscape and precipitation events," said Kay Stefanik, assistant director of the Iowa Nutrient Research Center

and co-author of the publication. "Testing for nitrate in water in agricultural areas can help farmers and landowners better understand how much, and potentially where, nitrate is lost from their farm operations. This knowledge can be used to make more informed decisions when choosing which conservation practices to adopt."

The publication also includes recommendations on when and how often to sample, tips for collecting accurate water samples and guidance on sending samples to a laboratory, such as the State Hygienic Laboratory, for precise analysis.

An additional publication, Iowa Water Monitoring Data Resources, supplements the guide by providing a list of federal, state and local agencies and organizations that can offer data on water quality and stream-flow conditions.

The new resources are now available through ISU Extension and Outreach and aim to support informed decision-making, promote environmental stewardship and safeguard Iowa's water resources.

For more information, review the Guide to Water Quality Testing for Nitrate publication or contact Stefanik at kcstefan@iastate.edu.

Ice fishing not advised across much of Iowa

Iowa's stretch of unseasonably warm temperatures has deteriorated the quality of ice across much of the state south of Iowa Hwy. 3, to the point where any remaining ice is considered unsafe and ice fishing is discouraged.

"Ice fishing in central and southern Iowa, is not advised," said Colonel Craig Cutts, chief of law enforcement for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR). "We will return to more seasonable weather next week and that should put down a fresh layer of ice, but we have to give it some time to freeze."

"It's better for the quality of ice to restart from open water, than to grow ice thickness over bad ice conditions."

North of Iowa Hwy. 3, anglers are encouraged to check the ice as they go and to avoid any dark or discolored ice as these are signs of deteriorating conditions. The Iowa DNR recommends a minimum of four inches of quality ice for ice fishing. The weekly Iowa Fishing Report will have the latest information on ice conditions across the state.

Iowa Biodiesel Board Welcomes California's Decision to Sunset Outdated Biodiesel Restrictions

Move expected to increase market access for B20, but federal uncertainty remains perilous

ANKENY -- The Iowa Biodiesel Board welcomed this past week's decision by the California Air Resources Board to sunset an outdated NOx mitigation requirement for biodiesel blends.

Grant Kimberley, executive director of the Iowa Biodiesel Board, said this ruling, based on CARB's own emissions data, removes an unnecessary regulatory barrier that has artificially suppressed biodiesel blend levels in California—the nation's largest diesel market. He issued the following statement:

"The state's decision to align its regulations with current science opens the door for increased biodiesel demand, particularly at least 20 percent biodiesel (B20), providing much-needed market access for Iowa's biodiesel industry and soybean farmers. This comes at a critical time

as we continue to face headwinds due to a challenging environment in both federal energy policy and trade.

"This move by CARB demonstrates what happens when regulators base decisions on current data rather than outdated assumptions. The evidence clearly supports biodiesel's role in helping the state achieve its climate objectives under the Low Carbon Fuel Standard, and this will open up more opportunities for B20 to become the gold standard in California, as it should be."

Kimberley reiterated that despite the positive development, the real key to market certainty remains the finalization of guidance on the 45Z federal tax incentive as well as volumes under the federal Renewable Fuel Standard. As noted in a recent statement on EPA's proposed RFS volumes, finalizing strong RFS standards by Jan. 31 is absolutely critical for Iowa's biodiesel industry and the farmers who depend on these markets, he said.



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