

The News-Review

\$1.50

SERVING THE KEOKUK COUNTY AREA SINCE 1860

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 25, 2026
NUMBER 8, 165TH YEAR

Community CALENDAR

BINGO Nights Keokuk County Expo
3/4, 3/18

Knights of Columbus Harper Pepper Tournament
3/7, 3/21. 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Bingo at Keokuk County Fairgrounds
Thomas Hall
Sundays, Jan. 4 - March 22, 1-4 p.m.

Harper Knights of Columbus Weekly Fish Fry
Every Friday during Lent, 5-7:30 p.m. at Knights of Columbus Hall/Windhorst Club of Harper.

Catfish, Tilapia, Shrimp, Au Gratin and baked potatoes, cole slaw, green beans, roll and drink.
For information and carryout orders, contact Mic Berg at (319) 461-3281

Blood Drive
Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Parish Center Classroom, 109 N. Lincoln St.
Thursday, Feb. 26, 2:30-6:30 p.m.
Contact Cindy Weber @ 641-636-2116

9th Annual Freedom Rock Soup Supper
Saturday, Feb. 28, 4-7 p.m.
Memorial/Thomas Hall, Keokuk County Fairgrounds, What Cheer
Free Will Donation
The Boys will be playing at the Opera House at 7 p.m.

English Valleys Swing Show
Friday, March 6, 6:30 p.m.
Gene's Gym, English Valleys High School

Sigourney Fire Hot Beef Sundae Dinner



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Sigourney-Keota wrestler Owen Menke (back) pulls on the arms of opponent Roman Schefler (left) during the class 1A 285-pound match which Menke won in 27 seconds.



Owen Menke (top) smiles as he holds down Treynor opponent Maverick Kalb (bottom) during the fifth-place match. Menke won the match in 51 seconds and was able to finish fifth overall in the class 1A 285-pound bracket.



Owen Menke (back) covers his face with his hands after winning the fifth-place match in the class 1A 285-pound bracket.

Going out with a win

Sigourney-Keota senior, Owen Menke, finishes wrestling career with fifth-place finish at State

By Mark Schafer |
The News-Review
DES MOINES - It was al-

most too quick of an ending. Everything seemed to happen all too quickly, but as it was happening, time, at least for him, seemed to slow down.

As Sigourney-Keota's Owen Menke took the mat for his fifth-place match at the 2026 State wrestling tour-

namment, he was just focused on what had gotten him to this place. Trusting himself and what he was capable of.

Within seconds of the opening whistle, Menke looked more like a matador than a wrestler. His opponent, Treynor's Maverick Kalb, pushed Menke to the far side of the mat and then charged at him, full speed. Menke, read the move perfectly, and side-stepped the charging Kalb, who missed, and ran into his coaches.

Menke, looking calm, returned to the center of the mat as Kalb turned around. Kalb gave another charge, but this time Menke caught the junior under is left arm and was able to send him to the mat.

That was all it took. Kalb plummeted to the mat and Menke landed on top of him. After adjusting their positions, Menke had trapped Kalb on his back.



Sigourney-Keota wrestling coach Cory VanDenHeuvel (left) and senior wrestler Owen Menke (right) hug each other after Menke finished fifth in the class 1A 285-pound State wrestling tournament.

Then came the countdown. Just a few seconds later the referee tapped the mat, and just like that, Menke had claimed fifth-place in the State.

"From the whistle the kid came out aggressive and I felt like he was just trying to get something big, really early

on," Menke said. "If he didn't get something big early on then he was going to be done. Once he went to his back I think he might have just been ready to be done. You have to be ready to wrestle. I wanted

WIN
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Tri-County Moves to Four-Day Week

By Casey James |
The News-Review

THORNBURG - Next year, Tri-County Community School District will move to a four-day a week schedule, something Superintendent Chad Straight hopes will improve staff recruitment and retention and improve the morale of students and staff. The school board unanimously approved this change during the Feb. 18 board meeting, following a brief discussion. Prior to the vote, Straight brought up the fact that the switch had received 66.7% approval on an online survey the district sent out, compared to 18.5% disapproval and 14.6% unsure. He stated that he had not received any negative comments during or after the Feb. 10 special meeting they held to discuss the change with the community. Board member Jacob Edmundson stated people don't know what to think about the four-day week, but that they could try and go back to a standard schedule if it doesn't work.

Board member Derek Hall asked when the school day would start. Straight stated that this was still up for discussion and that the sample schedule, which showed the day going from 8:00 a.m. to 3:35 p.m., was just a sample. He stated that they could start

at 7:50, which staff would prefer and could help with activities at the end of the day. Hall asked if this would affect how much elementary recess time students received. Straight stated that he thought they would keep it at the current single 30 minute recess and add more educational time. Principal Jennifer Berg stated that they had considered having another ten minute recess in the past, but that due to the demands of curriculum, they didn't have a lot of wiggle room in the schedule. Board member Heather Schmidt stated that teachers would have to teach a little differently and keep kids engaged with the longer school days. Straight stated that education had changed a lot since he was a kid and that students moved around a lot more in the classroom now.

Schmidt stated that she had only heard positive or uncertain comments, nothing negative. She noted that she had heard concerns over food insecurity, which they can handle with a backpack program, daycare problems, which worked itself out at Belle Plaine, and sharing activities with HLV, which they can overcome. She stated she didn't see any reason not to move forward with a four-day week.

2026-2027 School Calendar - Aug. 24 Start
(For EXAMPLE PURPOSES ONLY, Not Final)

| Summary of Calendar: | | Student Days/Hours | |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------------------|--|
| Days/Hrs. in classroom: | | | |
| First Semester | 507.50 | | |
| Second Semester | 580 | | |
| TOTAL DAYS/HS | 1087.5 | | |

| Month | M | T | W | Th | F | Student Days/Hours |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|--------------------|
| August 2026 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | |
| | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| | 31 | | | | | 7.25 |
| September 2026 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 21.75 |
| | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 29 |
| | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 29 |
| | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | 21.75 |
| October 2026 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 29 |
| | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 29 |
| | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 29 |
| | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 29 |
| November 2026 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 29 |
| | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 29 |
| | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 29 |
| | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 21.75 |
| | 30 | | | | | 7.25 |
| December 2026 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 29 |
| | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 29 |
| | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 21.75 |
| | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |
| January 2027 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 29 |
| | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 29 |
| | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 29 |
| | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 29 |
| February 2027 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 29 |
| | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 29 |
| | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 29 |
| | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 29 |
| | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | 14.5 |
| March 2027 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 29 |
| | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 29 |
| | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 29 |
| | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 29 |
| | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | 14.5 |
| April 2027 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 29 |
| | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 29 |
| | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 29 |
| | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 29 |
| May 2027 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 29 |
| | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 29 |
| | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 29 |
| | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 7.25 |
| | 31 | | | | | |
| June 2027 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | |

A sample schedule sent out by the school district. This schedule has not been approved yet.

Print your favorite memories



The News-Review

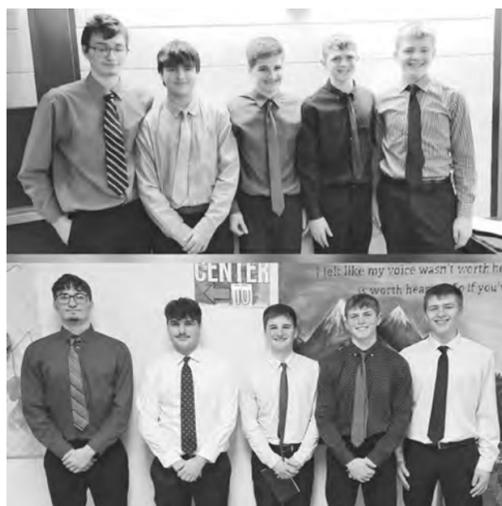
120 E Washington St.,
Sigourney, Iowa
(641) 622-3110
M-F 9 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Four Years, Five All-State Honors

By Casey Jarmes |
The News-Review

AMES — The Keota Readers Theatre “How Angel Peterson Got His Name” performed at the Large Group Speech All-State Showcase held at Iowa State University on Feb. 21. The performance, adapted from a Gary Paulson story, starred the seniors Chase Haifley, Luke Moeller, Jake Morris, Gavin Sieren and Jackson Vittetoe, and is a climax to four years of excellent acting by the five students. Each of them received five different All-State honors across their time at Keota high school.

This year, the quintet also received non-performing All-State honors for their performances in the One-Act Play “Brothers Grimm Spectaclathon,” as did fellow Keota students Emily Conner, Brynn Conrad, Reese Conrad, Aubrey Galindo, Ella Greiner, Garrett Greiner, Marlee Greiner, Cameron Haifley, Kennedy Jackson,



Freshman year. Bottom: Senior year.

Elyse Lyle, Olivia Lyle, Emily Mahan and Addison Purkypile. The Keota Group Improv team (Ayden Galindo, Jack Greiner, and Brennan McGuire) and the Tri-County TV News Broadcast (Lily McDonald, Sloane McKain,

Cole Hughes, Brylee Thompson, Aiyla Ray, Bristol Ward, Leah Triplett, Octavia Van Patten, Kayden McDonald and Amy Terwilliger) also received non-performing honors.

Keota mayor vetoes demolition vote

By Katie Phillips |
The News-Review

KEOTA — A divided vote over demolition of a property at 108 W. Keokuk Ave. ended in a mayoral veto during the Keota City Council’s Feb. 18 meeting.

The council had previously entered into a binding contract for the demolition of the structure. After that action, other individuals expressed interest in purchasing and remodeling the home. Council members debated whether to honor the existing agreement or accept a bid to rehabilitate the property.

Some members said the city has a legal obligation to follow through with the demolition contract and expressed concern about potential penalties or added costs if the agreement were canceled. Others noted the city’s long-term goal of increasing housing opportunities and attracting families to the community.

A motion to continue with the original demolition contract passed on a 3-2 roll call vote. Heath McDonald, Matt Greiner, and Keith Conrad voted in favor of the motion. Chad Greiner and John Mather voted against it.

Before the action could

take effect, Mayor Ryan Carr exercised his veto authority, saying the issue warrants additional consideration.

Carr said the situation is difficult because it involves two positive goals: honoring agreements with contractors who have consistently served the city and encouraging residents willing to invest in housing improvements.

“I vetoed this bill at this time because I think we have a legal obligation, but the promise of the future of the community is also sitting here,” Carr said. “It may be one house, but it could be one family that provides children for our community, people shopping and doing work and spending money in our community.”

He added that he does not take going back on agreements lightly.

The council will revisit the matter in two weeks and vote again on the possible demolition.

During a public forum, residents spoke about ways to strengthen community connections. One resident suggested creating a welcome package for new residents that would include information about local businesses, coupons, and a community

directory. She said similar efforts in other communities helped her family feel welcomed when they relocated.

Council members discussed the possibility of reviving welcome letters and exploring partnerships with the Keota Community Club or Keota Unlimited.

Another resident encouraged volunteer-based efforts to assist elderly or temporarily disabled residents with snow removal or yard maintenance, emphasizing neighborly support over enforcement measures.

A separate resident addressed the demolition discussion, acknowledging the difficulty of the decision and expressing appreciation for allowing additional time before final action.

Public works provided updates on a recent water main break, cleanup of a concrete waste pile and ceiling repairs needed at City Hall.

The Keota Public Library reported that its summer reading program events throughout June are filled. Fun Fridays have included a Valentine’s Day party and rock painting activities. A

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Courtesy of Metro Creative Connection

What SSB 3175 Could Mean for Local Governments and Newspapers

By: Katie Phillips |
The News-Review

DES MOINES — Senate Study Bill 3175, which addresses how local governments approve certain policies and handle public notice postings, advanced out of a Senate committee last week. The bill originated in the Senate and has not yet been considered by the full Senate or House. It is expected to be renumbered as it moves forward.

Under current Iowa law, cities, counties and school districts must designate an official newspaper for publishing legal notices. City councils and school boards adopt a resolution or ordinance naming that publication each year. State law requires certain actions, including budgets, public hearings, bid announcements and adopted ordinances, to be published in that newspaper.

Iowa law also distinguishes between legislative actions and administrative functions. Chapters 380 and 331 of the Iowa Code require cities and counties to adopt ordinances or resolutions for actions such as amending code, levying taxes, issuing debt and approving budgets. Matters not specifically required by statute to receive legislative approval are typically handled administratively by department heads,

administrators, sheriffs or superintendents.

SSB 3175 would require certain internal policies adopted by city or county departments to be approved by ordinance. Ordinances must be placed on a public agenda, voted on by elected officials and formally published or posted. Policies that may currently be implemented at the department level could instead require a full council or board vote before taking effect.

The bill also would require a public cost analysis for certain actions adopted by ordinance. That analysis would outline estimated financial impacts, such as taxpayer costs, staffing expenses, equipment needs or projected savings, and would be made publicly available before adoption. How detailed the analysis must be would depend on the final language of the bill. It could range from a brief fiscal note to a more formal breakdown similar to those prepared for state legislation.

Supporters say the proposal would increase transparency and ensure elected officials are directly accountable for policy decisions.

Some local officials have questioned how broadly the ordinance requirement would apply. If routine administrative policies were required to go through the

ordinance process, councils and boards could face additional procedural steps and longer agendas. The overall impact would depend on how narrowly the final law defines which policies require ordinance approval.

The measure also addresses public notice posting procedures. While current law requires publication in a designated newspaper, changes to posting requirements could affect how notices are delivered in the future. Supporters argue expanded online posting could reduce costs and improve access. Others say newspaper publication provides an independent public record and broader community reach.

For many community newspapers, legal notices represent consistent revenue that supports coverage of local government. The financial impact would depend on whether the final version of the legislation alters existing publication requirements or primarily modifies procedures.

Residents who wish to comment on the proposal may contact their state senator or representative or monitor the bill’s progress through the Iowa Legislature’s website. The measure must pass both chambers and be signed by the governor before becoming law.

Pipeline Explosion Near Brighton Draws Multi-Agency Response; Follow-Up Reports Detail Damage

By: Katie Phillips |
The News-Review

BRIGHTON — An underground pipeline explosion in rural Washington County on Feb. 14 sparked a large fire near the Skunk River and prompted a coordinated response from multiple fire departments, emergency agencies and law enforcement officials. No injuries were reported, and follow-up investigations detailed damage at the failure site.

At approximately 10:50 a.m., the Washington County Communications Center received multiple 911 calls reporting an explosion and large fire in the 2000 block of 325th Street north of Brighton. Flames were visible for miles, and fires were burning on both sides of the Skunk River.

The Washington Fire Department established incident command upon arrival. Fire departments and emergency medical services from surrounding communities responded through mutual aid. Law enforcement officers assisted with traffic control and scene security, while Washington County Emergency Management coordinated logistics and unified command operations.

Responders identified the fire as involving an underground pipeline owned and operated by Enterprise Products Operating LLC, a subsidiary of Enterprise Products Partners L.P. Pipeline emergency response procedures were immediately implemented, and company personnel worked alongside local responders to isolate and secure the affected section of line.

Secondary fires ignited by the explosion, including

grass and vegetation fires along both banks of the Skunk River, were brought under control by responding fire crews. The incident was declared under control at approximately 12:57 p.m. Officials reported no injuries and no damage to residential structures, and authorities stated there was no ongoing threat to the public.

Company personnel reported observing a pressure drop on the pipeline at approximately the same time the explosion was reported. The damaged section of the pipeline was later removed for evaluation.

In the days following the incident, a federal corrective action order issued by the U.S. Department of Transportation detailed preliminary findings at the failure site. The order states investigators observed a four-foot section of pipe that had been ejected from the ground and showed visible external corrosion. The two sections of pipeline that remained in the crater displayed visible signs of misalignment.

The order identified the failed segment as part of the East Leg Loop Pipeline within the Mid-America Pipeline System and noted the pipeline was originally constructed in 1972. The company estimated approximately 2,000 barrels

of liquefied petroleum gas were released as a result of the explosion.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources also responded to the site and conducted environmental assessments. The agency reported the explosion and fire had no significant environmental impact. DNR personnel determined nearby water bodies, including the Skunk River, were not impacted, and the agency’s ambient air monitoring network did not detect broader regional air quality concerns.

The Iowa Utilities Commission sent investigators to the scene as part of its oversight role, though federal authorities are leading the investigation into the cause of the pipeline failure.

Officials said monitoring and evaluation efforts continue. Additional information will be released as it becomes available.



Brighton pipeline explosion near the Skunk River. (Submitted photo)

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STIs can cause long-term health issues when left untreated.
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best step you can take to protect your own health and
help to stop HIV in Iowa!

Learn more at
stophiviowa.org

 **STOP
HIV
IOWA**

Community CALENDAR

Saturday, March 14th, 4 to 7 p.m.
Sigourney Fire Department, 219 South Main St, Sigourney
 All you can eat! Free will donation! To go orders available

Sigourney American Legion Post #19
 Meets 4:00 p.m., Third Tuesday of every month at Memorial Hall

Keswick American Legion Post #319
 Meets Monthly @ 5:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month
 At the Keswick American Legion Post

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

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

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

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

What Cheer Public Library
 Monday 12:00-6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday 8:30 a.m. -

3:30 p.m.
 Friday 12:00-5:00 p.m.
 Saturday 9:00-11:00 a.m.

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

Free Grace Recovery
 Wednesdays at 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 Christian 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

WIN from pg. 1

to go out there and push the pace. It was a quick match and it happened fast."

His final match was a quick one. He needed just 51 seconds to finish the match and claim the fifth-place spot overall in the class 1A 285-pound weight class.

After the referee ended the match, Menke stayed on the mat for a second and covered his face with his hands, letting out all of the emotions of the last four years of wrestling hit him. As he walked over to his coaches, tears streaming down his face, he knew he could walk off the mat with a lot of pride in the work he has done for himself and Sigourney-Keota wrestling.

"It kind of hit me once they raised my hand, this was my last high school match, maybe my last-ever match in wrestling," Menke said. "I don't know. Maybe. You never know what the future brings. It was a bittersweet moment. It was fun there at the end."

Just before he exited the competition floor a group of Sigourney-Keota fans called out his name. He looked up, gave his fans a hearty wave and one of his signature smiles, and then disappeared into the depths of the Cassey's Center.

"Anytime the heavyweight can be a leader it is great," Cory VanDenHeuvel, the Sigourney-Keota head wrestling coach said. "He had to put in a lot of hard work to get where he is. When you make it to the finish line like he did you have something to be proud of. He was one of our leaders for sure. He wasn't afraid to get after the kids when they needed it, but he also knew when to pump up his teammates too. A lot of good things are going to come out of him in the future."

A lot of good things have already come out of Menke, and that was on full display during the three-day long State wrestling meet.

The senior had to wait to start his tournament, as he had a first round bye. When he did finally take to the mat in the second round, he wasted little time showing what he was capable of.

He needed just 27 seconds to earn a pin in the first two rounds, the fifth-fastest fall of the first round, of all classes,

in the State wrestling meet, according to IAwrestle.com.

That sent Menke to Friday, and the quarterfinals. Although Menke had a strong start to the match, eventually his Janesville opponent pinned Menke in the third period.

The senior wasn't about to go out on back-to-back losses.

In his first consolation round match Menke suffered an early takedown, but he was able to reverse the move and get two points. In the closing seconds of the first period Menke nearly recorded a pin, but he took the lead 6-3 after the opening two minutes.

It turns out the score wouldn't matter much, for long.

In the second period Menke dominated. He was on offense the whole time, and eventually was able to get a pin 41 seconds into the second period.

That ensured that Menke was going to place at the State meet, the question was how high would he go.

In the consolation quarterfinal round Menke wrestled an MFL Marmack wrestler. In the first period Menke recorded a takedown and nearly had a pin, but he ran out of time. Neither wrestler had any offense in the second period.

In the third period Menke added two more points. Both of them off of stalling maneuvers by the MFL Marmack opponent. That gave Menke the 9-0 win, and a berth in the consolation semifinals.

In the semifinals Menke battled against an Emmetsburg wrestler. From the whistle the Emmetsburg opponent went on offense. Menke was pinned in 1:21, but would return on Saturday for the fifth-place match that he eventually won.

"I think I wrestled good," Menke said. "Not to the best of where I could have. I lost a few matches that I should have won. I could have improved positions better than I did. You have to get over them sometime. I got a medal and was able to get a win in my last-ever high school match is great."

Menke finishes his career with over 100 wins. He went 41-5 overall in his senior season.

Photos by Mark Schaefer

KEOTA MAYOR from pg. 2

princess party is scheduled for March, and the library's "Blind Date with a Book" program continues to see strong participation.

In other business, the council approved the Jamie Waterhouse quote for 302 N. Green St. in the amount of \$17,700 by roll call vote, with all members voting in favor. A \$4,000 quote from Taghon Tree Care for removal of trees in the city right of way was also approved by roll call vote.

The council approved Bridget Greiner payroll, designat-

ed the Keota Community Club as the official organizer of Keota Fun Days in June and authorized placement of a premium full-page advertisement in the 2026 Keokuk County Visitor Guide highlighting the city's amenities and businesses.

An engagement agreement with attorney Caleb Detweiler of Brennehan, Detweiler and Goertz LLP was also approved.

The meeting adjourned following mayor and council comments.

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, PO Box 285

Sigourney, IA 52591

MENUS

English Valleys

Feb. 26th
 Breakfast: Egg and Cheese Biscuit, Assorted Cereal w/ Toast, Fruit, Juice, Milk.

Lunch: Frito Pie, BBQ Rib Sandwich, Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Salad Bar w/ Focaccia Bread, Garden Salad, Fruit, Milk.

Feb. 27th
 Breakfast: Strawberry Cheesecake Parfait, Assorted Cereal w/ Cinnamon Toast, Fruit, Juice.

Lunch: Glazed Wings w/ Queso, Hot Dog, Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Broccoli, Garden Salad, Fruit, Snickerdoodle, Milk.

Mar. 2nd
 Breakfast: Apple Crisp Parfait, Assorted Cereal w/ Fruit Muffin, Fruit, Juice, Milk.

Lunch: Chicken & Waffles, Cheesy BBQ Beef on a Bun, Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Garden Salad, Fruit, Milk.

Mar. 3rd
 Breakfast: Cookies N Cream Sweet Roll, Assorted Cereal w/ Cinnamon Toast, Fruit, Juice, Milk.

Lunch: Walking Taco, Hot Dog, Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Garden Salad, Texas Pintos, Fruit, Milk.

Mar. 4th
 Breakfast: Strawberry Chocolate Chip Scone, Waffles, Fruit, Juice, Milk.

Lunch: Chicken Patty, Hot Roll, Bacon Pickle Grilled Cheese, Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Fruit, Milk.

Milestones (Sigourney & Delta)

Feb. 26th
 Cook's Choice w/Dessert.

Feb. 27th
 Open Faced Turkey Sandwich, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Roasted Brussel Sprouts, Apple Crisp.

Mar. 2nd
 Herbed Chicken Breast, Scaloped Potatoes, Green Peas, Wheat Roll, No Bake Cookies.

Mar. 3rd
 Cook's Choice w/ Dessert.

Mar. 4th
 Beef Stroganoff/Over Noodles, Roasted Brussel Sprouts, Baked Cinnamon Apples, Wheat Bread.

Pekin

Feb. 26th
 Breakfast: Pancakes, Yogurt, Fruit, Juice, Milk.

Lunch: Walking Taco, Ham & Cheese Hoagie, Mandarin Oranges, Blueberries, Mashed Potatoes, Baked Beans, Milk.

Feb. 27th
 Breakfast: WG Long John, String Cheese, Fruit, Juice, Milk.

Lunch: Pizza, Munchable, Fresh Fruit, Chilled Fruit, Baby Carrots w/Ranch, Corn, Milk.

Mar. 2nd
 Breakfast: WG Pancakes, String Cheese, Fruit, Juice.

Lunch: Chicken Bacon Ranch Pasta, Uncrustable, California Blend/ Romaine, Cinnamon Apples, Juice.

Mar. 3rd
 Breakfast: Scrambled Eggs, WG Toast, Fruit, Juice.

Lunch: Biscuits & Gravy, Munchables, Tri-Tater, Baby Carrots, Peaches, Tropical Fruit.

Keota

Feb. 26th
 Breakfast: Donut, Fresh Mixed Fruit, Juice, Milk.

Lunch: Stromboli, Garden Spinach Salad, Green Beans, Pickle Beets, Fresh Strawberries, Milk.

Feb. 27th
 No School

Mar. 2nd
 Breakfast: Breakfast Bites, Applesauce, Juice, Milk.

Lunch: Taco Soup, Fresh Broccoli, Salsa, Pears, Chips, Snickerdoodle, Milk.

Mar. 3rd
 Breakfast: Mini-Cini, Mixed Fruit, Juice, Milk.

Lunch: WG Mini Corn Dog, Tossed Salad, Yellow Peppers, Apple, Pumpkin Chocolate Chip Muffin, Milk.

Mar. 4th
 Breakfast: Cereal, String Cheese, Apples, Juice, Milk.

Lunch: Sausage Patty, Cheese Stick, Green Beans, Fresh Baby Carrots, Pineapple, French Toast, Milk.

Tri-County

Feb. 26th
 Breakfast: Bagels w/Cream Cheese.

Lunch: Italian Chicken Sandwich, Cooked Carrots, Strawberries.

Feb. 27th
 No School.

Mar. 2nd
 Breakfast: Green Eggs & Ham. Lunch: French Toast Sticks, Sausage Patty, Cheese Omelet, Tri-Tater, Apple.

Mar. 3rd
 Breakfast: Uncrustable. Lunch: Mr. Rib Sandwich, Potato Cubes, Applesauce, 9-12 Baked Chips.

Mar. 4th
 Breakfast: French Toast Sticks. Lunch: Chili w/Cheese, Corn, Crackers, pineapple, Cinnamon Roll.

Goodwin Senior Dining Center (Wellman)

Feb. 27th
 Biscuits w/ Sausage, Gravy, Scrambled Eggs, Fresh Fruit.

Mar. 2nd
 Chicken & Noodles, Mashed Potatoes, Carrots, Brownie, Ice Cream.

Mar. 4th
 Liver & Onions, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Corn Casserole, Pumpkin Bars.

Sigourney

Feb. 26th
 Breakfast: Strawberry Cheesecake Parfait, Yogurt Bar w/ Fruit Muffin, Donut, Fruit, Juice, Milk.

Lunch: Frito Pie, BBQ Rib Sandwich, Seasoned Fries, Salad Bar w/Italian Bread, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Garden Salad, Fruit, Milk.

Feb. 27th
 Breakfast: Egg & Cheese Biscuit, Assorted Cereal, Cinnamon Toast, Pancakes, Fruit, Juice, Milk.

Lunch: Glazed Wings w/ Queso w/ Focaccia Bread, Hot Dog w/Seasoned Fries, Salad Bar w/ Focaccia Bread, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Broccoli, Garden Salad, Fruit, Snickerdoodle, Milk.

Mar. 2nd
 Breakfast: N/A
 Lunch: N/A

Mar. 3rd
 Breakfast: N/A
 Lunch: N/A

Mar. 4th
 Breakfast: N/A
 Lunch: N/A

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS



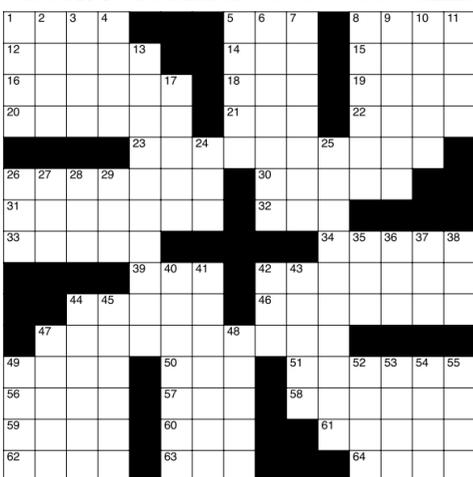
PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>MEDICAL SERVICES KEOKUK COUNTY HOSPITAL AND CLINICS MEDICAL CLINICS: SIGOURNEY CLINIC 641-622-1170 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH 641-622-1170 HEDRICK CLINIC 641-653-2437 SPECIALTY CLINICS: CARDIOLOGY 641-672-3360 DERMATOLOGY 515-348-6383 ORTHOPEDICS 641-621-2376 PODIATRY 641-622-1180 WOUND CARE 641-684-8448</p> | <p>ABSTRACT CO. 100 S. Main St. Sigourney, IA 641-622-3321</p> <p>CARE FACILITIES MANOR HOUSE CARE CENTER DEER VIEW MANOR Assisted Living, Intermediate and Skilled Care Facility 1212 S. Stuart St., Sigourney, IA 641-622-2142</p> <p>PRINTING SERVICES THE NEWS-REVIEW Envelopes, Letterheads, Forms, Register Forms, Business Cards, Posters, Banners, Invitations and More 120 E. Washington St. P.O. Box 285 Sigourney 641-622-3110</p> |
|---|--|



This week's crossword, sponsored by:
Atwood Electric, Inc.
641-622-3626

CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. What travelers must do
- 5. Calendar month
- 8. Hopefully quickly
- 12. Once more
- 14. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
- 15. "Cheers" actress Perlman
- 16. Astronomy unit
- 18. Savings vehicle
- 19. Get your ducks in this
- 20. Right away
- 21. Popular sports league
- 22. Containers
- 23. Entireties
- 26. One who wails
- 30. Turned-up position
- 31. Extreme modesty
- 32. Writing utensil
- 33. Rewards (archaic)
- 34. Ancient capital
- 39. S. American wood sorrel
- 42. General discomfort
- 44. Philippine island
- 46. A witty saying
- 47. One who summarizes
- 49. Covered in
- 50. Mimic
- 51. Henry was a notable one
- 56. Daughter of Hera and Zeus
- 57. Retired NFLer Newton
- 58. Playground equipment
- 59. Concept
- 60. Satisfaction
- 61. Fishing net

- 62. Hammer end
- 63. A father's male child
- 64. Japanese drink

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Off-Broadway figure
- 2. Gelatinous substance
- 3. Concern
- 4. "Lick It Up" rockers
- 5. Serbian river
- 6. Part of a hat
- 7. Bowl-shaped drinking vessel
- 8. Semitic language (archaic)
- 9. Utter a shrill cry
- 10. Long times
- 11. Animal parts
- 13. Causing annoyance
- 17. Amorous talker
- 24. Attempt
- 25. Harmonic effects
- 26. Cost per mile
- 27. They ___
- 28. Bitterly regret
- 29. Not even
- 35. A way to drop
- 36. Title of respect
- 37. World leader
- 38. Georgia rockers
- 40. National capital
- 41. Great Plains people
- 42. Duck-sized dinosaur genus
- 43. Architectural recesses
- 44. Member of U.S. Navy
- 45. Mountainous
- 47. Kite bird
- 48. Sweetheart (archaic)
- 49. Popular snack made of potato
- 52. 70s songsters The Bee ___
- 53. SE China port ___men
- 54. Something to fill up
- 55. League of Legends character

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS



CANNED GOODS WORD SEARCH

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

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

WORDS

- BRINE
- CAN
- CANISTER
- FERMENTATION
- FILLED
- LABEL
- LID
- LINING
- OPENER
- PACKING
- PASTEURIZE
- PICKLING
- PRESERVE
- PROCESSING
- REHYDRATE
- ROTATION
- SEALING
- SHELF
- STERILE
- STOCKPILE
- STORAGE
- SYRUP
- TIN
- VACUUM

THE HISTORICAL VIEWPOINT

One Year: 1984

By Casey Jarmes |
The News-Review

Right now, I am writing this story out, on a computer. Shocking, I know. Computers have become ubiquitous in recent decades. But, in January of 1984, they were not, to the point where the Dick de Regnier Insurance Agency in Sigourney getting a new IBM computer to use for accounting and record keeping was fascinating front page news.

On Jan. 19, John and Jill Hanchett of Sigourney had the first baby of the year, Charles William Hanchett, winning a "First Baby Contest" and receiving \$65 in cash and gift cards from local businesses.

On Feb. 1, the Savage Eye asked students "If you were granted one wish, what would it be?", resulting in some fascinating answers that deserve repeating. Sophomore Mark Bruns asked for "Heather Thomas in a pink, string bikini." Senior Amy Decker asked "To punch somebody's face in." Sophomore Hilary Wiese asked "That I could have another wish." Junior

Joni Kersey said "Well, if I had just one wish it would be not to be so airheaded. Of course, I wouldn't be so airheaded if I'd pick my friends more carefully. Or for a year's supply of bubble gum." My favorite answer came from Junior Kevin Atwell, who asked "To be sent back in time to when there were wizards, knights, dwarfs, elves and when they had elf-stones around."

The Savages had a great wrestling season, handily winning the SICL championship on Feb. 4 and winning their 60th consecutive dual meet on Feb. 7. Four Sigourney wrestlers (Dan House, Dave McLaughlin, Chris Hoffman and Paul Wiese) qualified for the state tournament. House placed fourth, while the other three failed to make the podium.

Carl Martin, who fought in the Korean War, spoke to Dan Phillips's U.S. history classes on March. 1, talking about how it was kill or be killed and how he never got any sleep, because he and his fellow soldiers were always tense. Martin claimed

that M*A*S*H was actually pretty accurate to the war, although a little over-exaggerated. He said he was fond of jet-dropped Napalm bombs, for being able to kill large numbers of Chinese soldiers hiding in caves, and that he wished the Japanese had fought alongside them, so the war would have ended sooner. "I think they should make some of these politicians fight. Then they'd see how bad war really is and wouldn't start them...The Korean War didn't really accomplish much. They still fight today," said Sergeant Martin.

On April 13, WWII veteran Roger Aldinger spoke to Phillips's students about his experience documenting the Nuremberg Trial. He discussed having to handle shrunken heads, lampshades made from human skin, and soap made from human fat, noting that he was "Pretty bitter towards the Nazis." He stated that the trial, resulting in eleven hangings, was pretty fair and that most of the Nazis deserved what they got.

On April 13 and 14, Sigourney drama students hosted a "Night of Terror," featuring three suspenseful plays: "The Hitch-Hiker" by Lucille Fletcher; "Sorry, Wrong Number" by the same author; and "The Lottery" by Brainerd Duffield, an adaptation of the Shirley Jackson short story. On Nov. 10-11, students performed the serious drama "Ordinary People," based on the novel

by Judith Guest. On May 17 and 18, Tri-County students presented "Fiddler on the Roof" by Jerry Brock, Joseph Stein and Sheldon Harnick at the What Cheer Opera House.

On April 20, local Pony Express Riders of Iowa road through the Sigourney square to raise money for handicapped children and adults. The Sigourney Easter egg hunt scheduled for April 21 was rained out, leading children to instead receive bags of goodies from the fire department.

In May, students graduated from the local schools. I'd like to note the class sizes: 66 for Sigourney, 32 for Keota, 39 for Tri-County, 14 for Hedrick, 46 for Pekin, and 39 for EV. In the fall, the schools had enrollment of 751 for Sigourney (compared to 593 in 2023), 500 for Keota (321), 436 for Tri-County (211), 210 for Hedrick (0), 591 for Pekin (642), and 398 for English Valleys (451). That's a total of 3,479 in 1984 vs 2,616 in 2023.

Four Sigourney boys track members (Larry Deitrich, Dan Myers, Eric Smith and Jeff Wallerich) and six girls members (Jean Ladeley, Michelle Strang, Tracy Stevens, Carrie Burch, Jodi Shaver and Darcy Utterback) qualified for state. Seven Sigourney students (Kenny Coble, Amy Marook, Don Schimmelpfennig, Marlin Weber, Nena Schimmelpfennig and Lori McIntre) qualified for the state Special Olympics; Coble and the Schimmelpfennigs earned silver medals in Soccer, Weber received a

VIEWPOINT
pg. 8



Aerial photo of the Souer Farm and Taylor farmsteads, near Delta, which were destroyed by the storm.

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

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

- Your Letter to the Editor must include:
- Your full name with signature
 - Your complete address
 - Your telephone number

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

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

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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.

The News-Review | 120 E Washington St, PO Box 285, Sigourney, IA 52591 | 641-622-3110 | news@sigourneynewsreview.com

The News-Review

120 E Washington
Sigourney, IA 52591
www.sigourneynewsreview.com
641-622-3110
Office Hours:
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Official newspaper for: Keokuk County, City of Barnes City, City of Delta, City of Fremont, City of Hedrick, City of Keota, City of Keswick, City of New Sharon, City of Sigourney, City of What Cheer, Keota School, Sigourney Schools, and Tri-County Schools
Member of Iowa Newspaper Assn. and National Newspaper Assn.
A Division of Mid-America Publishing Corp.
P.O. Box 29, Hampton IA 50441

Marketing Consultant and Agri-View Publisher: Katie Phillips, 641-790-1841, sales@sigourneynewsreview.com

Sports Editor: Mark Schafer sports@sigourneynewsreview.com

News Editor: Casey Jarmes news@sigourneynewsreview.com

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.

Published weekly at 120 E Washington St., PO Box 285, Sigourney, IA 52591 and Periodicals Postage paid at Sigourney, IA 52591.

Postmaster: Send address changes to: The News-Review, 120 E Washington St., PO Box 285, Sigourney, IA 52591.

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Worship Guide

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Bethel Church
 Pastor Nick Needham
 319-329-6070

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

What Cheer Methodist 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

Sigourney Pool Brings Back Season Passes

By Casey Jarmes | The News-Review
 SIGOURNEY - During the Feb. 18 meeting of the Sigourney City Council, the council approved the pool rates for the coming pool season. Season pool passes will be offered again this year, costing \$80 for an individual, \$275 for a family of up to four people, and \$25 more for each additional member added to a family pass. The ten punch cards will be sold for \$40, but the 20 punch cards will not be sold this year. The other rates will stay the same, with the daily rate staying at \$5. The council also approved hiring Brooke Garringer as pool manager; Jenny Bell, Hallie Garringer and Courtney Hemsley as assistant managers; and 15 lifeguards, 10 of whom are returning for last year. The managers and returning life-

guards were given 25 cent per hour wage increases.
 Councilman Randy Schultz gave a report on the Street and Sanitation meeting, explaining that they would be adding a \$10,000 line item to replace a storm sewer on East Pleasant Valley Street, by the elementary school. The sewer is too small and has ponding problems. Schultz noted that \$9,500 in unspent money was carried over from last year. The council approved spending \$3,854.14 to upgrade two computers at City Hall. The council approved hiring Watson Technologies as a contractor to maintain the city camera system; Watson will be prepaid \$5,000 for 50 hours of repair work, with unused hours rolling over to next year. City Clerk Ashley Fry stated that Kiwanis had asked the city for permission to place a picnic table at the pavilion.

Tri-County School Board Discusses Potential Tax Rates

By Casey Jarmes | The News-Review
 THORNBURG - During the Feb. 18 meeting of the Tri-County School Board, Superintendent Chad Straight discussed several budget options with the board. He stated that, with a 0% increase to State Supplemental Aid, the per-student funding the state gives to schools, the tax rate would likely be \$11.76 per \$1,000 of taxable property. This is in contrast to last year's rate of \$11.95. Straight said that, with an increase of 1.75%, which had been put forward by the state senate, the tax rate would be \$11.59, assuming they left the management fund the way it is. Straight discussed several more options based on different SSA and management fund rates. Straight explained that SSA had been increased by 2% or lower each year over the past decade, which was cutting into the district's unspent balance, causing it to go down by close to \$1 million over four years. He estimated that their unspent balance would be \$2.5 million next year, which the state government would say is way too high. However, he stated that if they had kept the balance under \$1 million five years ago like the state wanted, the school would now be in the negative.

Straight also mentioned the 2024 Teacher Salary Supplement bill, which increased teacher salary minimums, explaining that the state had initially given schools extra money to cover those raises, but would no longer guarantee these funds going forward. Straight stated that their budget was good, but that they were running out of different things they could do to save money and that, if funding stayed lower for three or four years, they would have to look at cutting staff. Board member Heather Schmidt stated it was hard to understand the legislature's thought process and board member Chad McKain stated that they keep fixing one problem by creating two more.
 The board decided to move their next meeting to March 25 and hold a budget hearing during that meeting. Straight stated that the tax mailers would be sent out soon, noting that they are confusing an inaccurate, because the state forces schools to send them out before SSA is decided. He stated that the legislature began requiring this mailers because they believed schools weren't transparent enough, but that now people misunderstood things. McKain noted that the state requires schools set an inaccurate budget before they set their own budget.

EV First Semester Honor Rolls

"Straight A" Honor Roll (4.0)
 HS: Kaylee Frazier, Cael Grove, Emma Neumiller, Hunter Offerman, Lydia Smith, Phoenix Sorden, Tyler Wiseman, Addison Achenbach, Aubrey Achenbach, Kane Axmear, Everett Bender, Hadyn Bender, Ava Gehrking, Sebastian Hartwig, Kaylynn Hoylman, Mallory Koehn, Kailor Lown, Jack Osborn, Jackson Overy, Elliana Patterson, Joslyn Bender, Olivia Debevec, Evan Koehn, Anna Luers, McKenna Rugg, Emily Sieren, Carly Axmear, Brooklyn Bender, Davis Burdick, Will Luers, JH: Ashton Caster, Izabella Clark, Bryker Frazier, Asher Frederick, Anna Gehrking, Brecken Hoylman, Jase Offerman, Lucas Sieren, Kinnick Axmear, Canton Caster, Beyla Debevec, Jackson Jennings, Abby Koehn, Isaiah Luers, Jolie Voss, Tenley Gent, Bristol Hebl

"A" Honor Roll (3.5-3.99)
 HS: Deshon Anderson, Kaleb Bolinger, Taylie Brecht, Landon Clarahan, Drew Fisher, Ben Flander, Adam Forbes, Sarah Frederick, Cody Garrett, Anna Gorsh, Jonathan Hoylman, Caleb McGaffee, Kaden O'Dell, Ashlynn Tillery-Knuth, Aliza Walker, Benjamin Axmear, Betty Brown, Peityn Claypool, Miley Clubb, Ean Gorsh, Ximena Hernandez Briones, Miles Krebs, Tyler Lortz, Mathew Martinez, Teagen Mast, Colton Mikesell, Helen Owen, Benjamin Sieren, Landon Van Dee, Braydon Anderson, Isaiah Baughman, Kaylynn Caster, Peyton Conrad, Isaac Frazier, Sophia Grimm, Ambryn Hoylman, Owen Mather, Madelyn Overy, Tequilla Rester-Wells, Benjamin Sheeler, Pantera Spies.

EV HONOR ROLL pg. 7



“ For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do so. ”
 Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

Filling the Gap During Lent

As the Lenten season begins and we grow closer to the celebration of Christ's Resurrection, there are numerous points for spiritual reflection to consider. Importantly, how can we prepare ourselves for this celebration? As the season is often characterized by personal sacrifice, in some form, we can also consider how to fill the "gap" this may create. Some things we can do during the season, then, are create new routines, perhaps relating to prayer or regular acts of kindness. Through this consideration of our service and prayer leading up to the celebration of Easter, we can foster a deeper spiritual connection to God through the holiday.
 -James Stone

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Elevate Scholarship Program Now Accepting Applications

DES MOINES – Elevate Iowa, a program of the Iowa Association of Business and Industry (ABI) Foundation, is now accepting applications for the Elevate Scholarship Program, which supports Iowa high school seniors pursuing education and training in advanced manufacturing at one of Iowa's 15 community colleges.

Each year, the Elevate Scholarship Program awards 15 \$500 scholarships to students who plan to attend an Iowa community college in the fall, helping reduce the financial burden of postsecondary education and training. Students pursuing training in manufacturing-related fields such as welding, CNC

machining, industrial automation, industrial maintenance, robotics, tool and die, and transportation and logistics are encouraged to apply.

In addition to supporting students, the program recognizes each participating community college and highlights the important role Iowa's community colleges play in developing a skilled manufacturing workforce across the state.

Applications for the Elevate Scholarship Program are now open and must be submitted by March 29. Students and families can find eligibility requirements, application details, and deadlines by visiting: <https://www.iowaabi.org/elevate-iowa/>



The Sigourney FFA Chapter competed at the Southwest Sub District FFA Contest in North English on Feb. 19, placing 1st in Ag Broadcasting, 1st in Parliamentary Procedure, 1st in Conduct of Meetings, 2nd in Creed Speaking, and 3rd in Public Speaking. All of these teams will move to districts.

EV HONOR ROLL from pg. 5

Christian Tripses, Whittney Walker, Elijah Wedgewood, Bailee Brendlinger, Connor Harris, Brianna Karr, Joana Martinez, Ellie McCullough, Drake Offerman, Sage Scheibe, Bella Schott, Tucker Schultz, Evelyn Snakenberg, Meika Spies, Blake Van Dee, JH: Olivia Annis, Zachary Badgley, Cooper Fisch, Noah Gent, Aidan Grimm, Lane Hebl, Isabella Holden, Hadley Husband, Allison Mather, Caralyn McGaffee, Allie Morrison, Bentley Walker, Finley Achenbach, Burkley Bair, Aram Banes, Lillian Frederick, Brynn Montross, Mylie Morrison, Elliott Overy, Pyper Pinkerton, Benjamin Schaffner, Jaxon Stutzman, Adah Van Dee, Rae Westphal, Ryan Annis, Jaci Coover, Boone Frederick, Korie Frederick, Wyatt Gray, Kynlie Keeney, Mariah Knapp, Makenna Morrison, Avery Offerman, Claire Snakenberg, Bentley White

"B" Honor Roll (3.0-3.49)

HS: Sawyer Van Dee, Kaisha Hawkins, Landon Jennings, Clara Karr, Chance McGaffee, Roeljert Patterson, Phoenix Pinkerton, Lila Shilling, Zola Voss, Vincent Westphal, Aadin Clingan, Jack Johnson, Miyah Malard, Chyar McGaffee, Karter Brecht, William McPherson, Dayne Render, JH: Natalie Armstrong, Miles Birkmeier, Kinnick Conrad, Brock Day, Hailie King, Jayvee Patterson, Analayah Servin, Tillery, Maci Brendlinger, Mackenzie Clubb, Kouper Huber, Makayla Johnson, MaKinley Van Dee, Bianca Birkmeier, Jonathan Forbes, Karlee Frazier, Brody Gorsh, Cooper Hohenshell, Alaina Husband, Kaydence Semler, Calynn Voss

Academic Bars

Cael Grove, Hunter Offerman, Lydia Smith, Phoenix Sorden-Spies, Aliza Walker, Taylie Brecht, Drew Fisher, Ben Flander, Adam Forbes, Kaylee Fraizer, Cody Garrett, Anna Gorsh, Jon Hoylman, Emma Neumiller, Tyler Wiseman, Addison Achenbach, Aubrey Achenbach, Kane Axmear, Ava Gehrkung, Sebastian Hartwig, Kaylynne Hoylman, Mallory Koehn, Kailor Lown, Jack Osborn, Jackson Ovary, Ellie Patterson, Ben Axmear, Betty Brown, Miles Krebs, Tyler

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iReady Awards

Top Performers - Reading

1st Place: Korie Frederick, Aram Banes, Isabella Holden
2nd Place: Alaina Husband, Adah Van Dee, Olivia Annis
3rd Place: Boone Frederick, Raelynn Westphal, Cooper Fisch

Top Performers - Math

1st Place: Boone Frederick, Asher Frederick, Beyla Debevec
2nd Place: Alaina Husband, Abby Koehn, Olivia Annis
3rd Place: Jaci Coover, Jackson Jennings, Lane Hebl

Gold Growth - Korie Frederick, Aram Banes, Alaina Husband, Adah Van Dee, Jaci Coover, Mylie Morrison, Jackson Jennings, Abby Koehn, Cooper Fisch, Kynlie Keeney, Brayden Langton, Wyatt Smothers, Phoenix Crawford, Jolie Voss, Finley Achenbach, Xavier Polton, Ryan Annis, Olivia Annis, Caralyn McGaffee, Lane Hebl, Izabella Clark, Keegan McPherson, Neal Rester-Wells, Wyatt Gray, Anna Gehrking, Kinnick Conrad, Bryker Frazier, Beyla Debevec, Miguel Angel Sanchez

Silver Growth - Jonathan Forbes, Abby Koehn, Brayden Langton, Jaxon Stutzman, Hadley Husband, Caiden Williams, Makenna Morrison, Brynn Montross, KeeganMcPherson, Cooper Hohenshell, Caralyn McGaffee, Maci Brendlinger, Allison Mather, Bristol Hebl, Pyper Pinkerton

Bronze Growth - Bentley White, Leilani Martinez, Tenley Gent, Claire Snakenberg, Boone Frederick, Isabella Holden, Robert Flannery, Brody Gorsh, Aidan Grimm, Mackenzie Clubb, Natalie Armstrong, Makenna Morrison, Allie Morrison, Asher Frederick, Bentley Walker, Elliott Overy, Hailie King, Burkley Bair, Maci Brendlinger

Supervisors Discuss Sheriff Salary, Bill that Would Eliminate Township Trustees

By Casey James | The News-Review

SIGOURNEY – During the Feb. 17 meeting of the Keokuk County Board of Supervisors, Auditor Christy Bates informed the supervisors of a recently proposed state bill that would eliminate township trustee boards, transferring their responsibilities and levying authority to the county level. Supervisor Mike Hadley called this a step towards doing away with county government and getting rid of the little people. Bates stated that the county government doesn't know what the different townships need like the trustees do. Hadley stated that, if this bill were to pass, they would need to set up county-wide cemetery and fire boards to take over trustee duties.

County Engineer Andy McGuire told the board that he had received a request from the City of Richland to modify their maintenance agreement, to have the county clear out snow from the outer lanes of Route W15, which the city lacks the heavy equipment needed to remove. He explained that the city had offered to take over clearing part of North Washington Street in return, but raised concerns that the city would push the rock off this unpaved road while clearing snow. McGuire also mentioned a request from the mayor of Richland to have the secondary roads department do ditching work on North Washington, to help with stormwater drainage. McGuire stated they already spend a lot of time cleaning ditches and asked for a policy decision on how much to help secondary roads should give for the small communities, who legitimately need the help. Hadley stated that the problem was they have to have the same policies for every town, and that if they clean ditches for one town they have to do them all. He stated they should be careful about setting a precedent. Supervisor Kevin Weber stated that it was a not a good idea and that the department can't get their own ditches done as is. Supervisor Daryl Wood recommended leaving the agreement the way it is and helping out if they can, but said that if they start ditching for all the towns, they won't get anything done. McGuire

stated he would talk to the Richland mayor for more information and report back.

During the board's discussion of the FY2027 county budget, Sheriff Casey Hinnah floated the idea of a 20% raise, increasing his salary by \$19,000 to \$118,000, which would bring it more in line with sheriffs from other counties with similar populations. Hadley stated that they were stuck between two legislative issues, the 2021 Back the Blue Act, which mandated increases in sheriff salaries to match other law enforcement agencies, and the limits the state government has put on the county's growth. Hadley stated that the only way to afford this raise would be to take it out of the department's current budget. Hinnah stated that, with the department currently being one deputy short, this was reasonable. Hadley stated that the problem is, sheriffs are paid based on population, but counties receive income based on property values. He stated that more industrialized counties with similar populations have more latitude than they do for sheriff salaries. Weber stated that, if they give Hinnah the raise he requested, they may have to get rid of a deputy spot.

Wood mentioned that a proposed state bill would put limits on how much money multi-county organizations are allowed to put into trusts like IPAIT. He explained that these organizations rely on the interest from these trusts to fund their operating costs and that, if they were forced to go back to putting money in local banks, it would require more money be given to these organizations by the counties.

During the Feb. 23 meeting, the supervisors approved a \$59,018.36 generator upgrade, which they plan to pay for over the current fiscal year and the next one. Bates gave the board detailed information on the proposed FY2027 budget; she stated that the budgets for most departments would stay the same, aside from a 3% budget increase. Stacy Flynn of Legacy Insurance Group requested the county change their insurance agent for helping out if they can, but said that if they start ditching for all the towns, they won't get anything done. McGuire



Bill allowing couples to opt out of no-fault divorce advances in Iowa Senate

By Kathie Obradovich, Iowa Capital Dispatch

A bill that would allow couples registering for marriage licenses to opt out of no-fault divorce advanced from an Iowa Senate subcommittee on Feb. 9.

Senate File 2172, introduced by Sen. Jesse Green, R-Harcourt, would allow couples applying for a marriage license to "jointly waive dissolution of marriage based solely on the breakdown of the marriage relationship" by filing a waiver with the county registrar.

If a waiver was in place, a person petitioning for a divorce would have to show proof on the part of the spouse of adultery, imprisonment for a felony, abandonment from the marital domicile for at least a year, physical or sexual abuse of the petitioner or a child, or a separation of two years or more.

Green, who chaired a subcommittee meeting on the bill Monday, said some of his Christian friends believe prenuptial agreements, which allow a marrying couple to agree in advance to terms of divorce and division of assets, are a violation of their conscience.

He characterized no-fault divorce as "chaos" and a "circus."

"Sure, the divorce rates have lessened, which is a great thing, but so has the marriage rates," Green said. "A lot of people are not getting married anymore because maybe in some cases, they feel the lack of support and accountability with our law."

Most of the speakers at the subcommittee meeting opposed the bill, saying the

state should not make it more difficult for a person to leave an abusive spouse by requiring proof.

"This bill largely legally enables abusive partners to keep spouses trapped in dangerous relationships by requiring domestic violence victims to prove fault," Laura Hessberg of Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence said.

Family law attorneys also pointed out the need to prove cause in divorce proceedings would further strain Iowa's court system.

Sen. Tony Bisignano, D-Des Moines, declined to sign off on the bill.

Sen. Scott Webster, R-Bettendorf, said he'd be willing to consider a bill if it were "completely rewritten" to allow the waiver only for matters of child custody and division of assets. He said he'd support a way to prevent an abusive spouse from receiving 50% of the couple's assets and joint custody of children in a divorce.

He added that while the waiver of no-fault divorce would be voluntary, "When you get married, you don't believe that anything's going to go wrong."

Green said he'd been amenable to rewriting the bill, which moved forward with a recommendation for amendment. Most legislation needs approval by a full committee by Feb. 20 to remain eligible for debate.

Read more from Obradovich online at IowaCapitalDispatch.com

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COUNTRY GIRL'S CORNER

Surprise! Cold!!

By Sheryl L. Carter

Yes, a big surprise after this month of February has given us one balmy day after another until we were lulled into complacency, and then whoop! the cold came down on us in a frigid blast. We will survive, and the sun is getting warmer day by day. Now it is moving back to the north on the top of the houses and buildings horizon I see each morning out of my kitchen window, with more brightness and intensity with each day.

Two of the babies on my list of eleven expected babies were born this week, one to my young friends who welcomed baby number three, and another to a young mom in our Wednesday Night Bible Study. Babies are popping out all over! Most of these are not expected until summer or later, but how exciting to have all of these little lives coming into being! A new baby is always so precious, especially if they are content, and will sleep! So Mom can sleep! Ha!

Thursday was my weekly trip to town for groceries and such, and I was wanting a little something special this week, so had texted a good friend if she was available for lunch, but not this time, so instead of just driving out to Walmart or the Thrift store, I parked uptown thinking I would go into Smokey Row, and get a Borgia, my favorite coffee offering that they do. They use a shot of espresso, some chocolate, whipped

cream, and garnish the top with shredded orange peel. Oh, it's so good! Yum!

Then as I stood with the menu in hand in this very old and well-preserved building on the corner of Franklin and Main, I thought, well, hey, why don't I just get some lunch, too? So that's what I did, choosing my favorite, The Row Bagel. It's also so yummy. The sweet young girl at the checkout took my order, and then as we waited struck up a conversation only to find that she was a local girl from up here in my area, and we had a delightful chat. My order was brought quickly, and I soon tucked into that delicious sandwich and chips, sipping on my hot specialty coffee.

Earlier, after I had parked my car across the street from the Row, I had passed The Work of Our Hands, an exclusive store that has been in Pella for some time, but had moved from a smaller location to this new one, and I thought I need to stop in here and look around. So, on my way back to Jazzy, I did just that. And what a surprise it was!

Everything in this much larger store is all from artisans from other countries, that they market in our country, and perhaps others, not sure, with this new store having way more items than I had seen in the old one. As I browsed around, I became more and more excited as this was right down my alley, and would be with another person that I know of as well!

Such interesting handmade crafts of every kind that you can imagine, from children's toys to winter hats, gloves and scarves, to things made with that softest of soft, alpaca wool, to shawls, even a few dresses, to bags, jewelry, organic teas, oh, just so much to take in. Boy, if you want a neat and unique gift that is out of the ordinary, Work of Our Hands is the place to go, and I certainly intend to come back.

As I was checking out, I struck up a conversation with the friendly clerk, and found out we had met at the big fall Pella Craft Show where she had bought two of my books! She said I had even invited her up to my house for tea! Pretty fun.

This week has been the usual daily work around here, watching a lot of the Olympics, especially my favorite, figure skating. Last night, Saturday, as I write this on Sunday afternoon, February 22, was to be the big figure skating gala. Yes, I have watched it before where all the medal winners come out, and participate in the exhibition skate. I expected this to take place around 8 p.m. like usual, but no, we saw bobsled racing, cross-country skiing—which was an amazing thing as it was 30 miles long! So that was interesting. And I kept sitting there thinking, now? Is it now?

Finally, at 9:30, they showed a tiny portion of the promised "gala"—a total of four skaters, one was an ice dancing pair, Bates and Chock who are

just excellent, and that was it! What?! I watched two and a half hours for 20 minutes? I was robbed!

Today was the last day and the closing ceremony of the Olympics, the flame was extinguished, not to be relit for another four years when the winter games will be held in Nice, France and the French Alps. But the summer games will be in Los Angeles in two years. That's always fun, too, with swimming, gymnastics, etc.

Italy did a prime job in preparing for these Winter Games, and as I watched the downhill skiing, the half-pipe—I missed some of that, and really enjoy it, as man, what they do!! The bobsled race track, the 30-mile cross-country skiing journey through the countryside, and the huge main coliseum where the opening and closing ceremonies were held—all of the preparation, the enormous amount of money that had to be spent, the lodging and food for the athletes and their families and others who came, what a huge amazing task to get everything together, and with safety in mind, as well. All over for another four years.

It's hard to believe this coming week is the last of February already! I know I always say this, but where did it go?? We just had Christmas, and now two months of 2026 are done. Sigh.

Welp, signing off for now, so stay warm, don't get sick, and see you next time!

THE SUN SPOT

MAHASKA COUNTY NEWS

OFF THE VINE

By Jackie Perkins

Sunday, February 22, 2026. Chilly today, but the sun is shining. We had a little snow this week, but those north of us had a lot! We were in Ottumwa on Monday and had ice cream cones at Grahams! Yes, they are open for 2026 and they had a steady line at their window. I so enjoy long time experiences and this is one of them that still looks the same – featured flavor was lemon.

We visited Greg's Aunt Martha Perkins and so enjoyed that. Martha will observe 109th birthday on March 4. Her amazing spirit was great and we talked about "old times...good times." I once asked her about pie, and she told me gooseberry was one of her favorites. Learning that, and having gooseberries in the freezer, I baked her a pie for her 100th birthday and have done that since. So, the 9th pie will be delivered in a couple weeks.

Thinking of gooseberries, I find myself sadly missing my bush in Fremont. I dug up a couple starts and will see if they take. Even so, it will take several years to produce. I may have to search for other sources.

I am anxious for spring and to figure out what we will work on outside here. Hopefully the contractor will return to build the new front stoop and back deck. A few weeks ago the gutters were installed on the garage, so that is done! This week flooring in the breezeway should be installed, and then to tackle the boxes and the flower beds. Plenty to do!

I am enjoying another stitching group here in Oskaloosa on Thursday afternoons. Two of the ladies, I happen to have worked with in the past. Joyce Huyser at Ma & Pa Stores (remember them?) and Donna Barner at the hospital. Judy Green-dyk has graciously invited the group to use space in her store, Brushed by Jude. If you haven't stopped by there, you should...it is delightful!

Yesterday I was off the Keokuk County for one of my most favorite events...Sit 'n Stitch at Fiddle Dee Dee in Keota. We had so much fun and I always come away learning something so interesting. As always we enjoyed our lunches, and this week there was Cherry Fluff! And Gail shared one of her fabulous homemade Angel Food Cakes! This one was flavored orange, lemon and lime – not only delicious, but beautiful.

The week also brought sad news of the passing of Mike Terpstra in a farm accident. Years ago, when country and line dancing was popular, we danced with Mike and Marsha. They would teach us new dances in the garage at Jeron and Kay Blanchards, and boy could they dance! Our dancing days ended when the old knees were replaced – but they continued. My sympathy to Mike's family and many friends.

Today has been a nice quiet day of watching ballgames, stitching and rest. And a thought: "It's amazing how lovely common things become if only one knows how to look at them." -Louisa May Alcott

VIEWPOINT from pg. 4

bronze in bowling, and Mather received a bronze in frisbee. The Sigourney Middle School seventh grade girls team won first place at the state track meet.

The biggest story of the year came on June 7, when a tornado tore through Keokuk County, devastating the town of Delta. The tornado damaged nearly every home in the small town, causing \$25 million in damage. Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Rice of Delta, who were driving during the storm, were killed by the tornado.

A "Krazy Day" festival was held in Sigourney on July 14, featuring a pet contest, 10k race, parade, big wheel

race, water fight, and more. The Keota/Harper Catholic school closed over the summer, due to declining enrollment and cost increases; its 90 elementary students went to Keota in the fall. Mary Horras of Richland was named Keokuk County Queen at the Expo on July 18. On July 24, the Sigourney girls softball team missed the state tournament by a single run, losing 8-7 to Cardinal of Eldon and ending their season with a 21-11 record. Players Twyla Greene, Stacy Kerr and Carol Jones received All-State honors. Dr. Anatoly F. Masyukov, an assistant to the agricultural attaché at the U.S.S.R embassy in D.C., vis-

ited Iowa on Aug. 4, touring the Noeller-Frank farm west of Sigourney and the McDowell farm near Keota. On Aug. 12 and 13, T.J. Thomas of Delta helped Duffy Lyons make the famed Iowa State Fair Butter Cow. Brian Holt and Lara McAdams were named Sigourney Homecoming King and Queen respectively on Oct. 12.

The Sigourney Savages football team had an excellent year, going undefeated in the regular season and earning a ticket to the state tournament. On Oct. 21, the team played Louisa-Muscataine in a game right after a heavy rainstorm that turned the field into a swamp. The

Savages ran through ankle-deep water, beating L-M 22-15. But, five days later, the season ended in defeat at the hands of Mount Vernon, 13-17. Sigourney players Phil Dumont, John Roach, Tony Pitsch, Pat Marget, Brian Streihle, Dave McLaughlin, Brian Holt, Mike Miletich, Jode Hollingsworth and Ken Hollingsworth were named to the first All-State team. Bryan Woods and Jeff Noller were named to the second team, while Paul Wiese and Jeff Moore received honorable mentions and Charles Sellers received the Golden Award, for players who could have made All-State if they did not get injured.

Obituaries

Joseph Kleinmeyer 1967-2026

Joseph Kleinmeyer, 58, died February 18, 2026, in Casey, Iowa. He was born March 29, 1967, to Robert and Ardeth (Stanley) Kleinmeyer in New Hampton. He attended Sigourney High School. In 1989 he married Tina Paul and they later divorced. Joe worked at Wagler Motors and later Firestone. In 2014 he moved to Casey, Iowa.



Joseph Kleinmeyer

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother Robert Kleinmeyer and stepfather John Floden.

He is survived children Brandon (Brittany) Kleinmeyer, Joseph (Katy) Kleinmeyer, Matthew Kleinmeyer, 6 grandchildren, sister Beth (Mike) Bridges of Oskaloosa, sister-in-law Elaina Kleinmeyer and his significant other Diane Scholl and her family and many nieces and nephews and extended family.

Visitation February 26, 2026 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Holm Funeral Home with Graveside service to follow at South English Cemetery.

Arrangements Holm Funeral Home

Services: Feb. 26, 1:30 p.m.
Visitation: Feb. 26, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
HOLM FUNERAL HOME
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Martha Perkins to Observe 109th

By Jackie Perkins

On Sunday, March 4, 1917, the second inauguration of Woodrow Wilson as President of the United States was held privately at the Capitol in Washington D.C. Life was labor intensive with 55 hour work weeks and an average annual salary of \$687. Education beyond eighth grade was limited and communication was by mail or telegram. Cars did not exist, but horses were mainly used. And, in Webster, Iowa, Sara Martha took her first breath. The daughter of Ralph and Lula Higgins, she was named after her two grandmothers, Sara and Martha. She had two sisters, Maxine (Milliken) and Marcia (Kadel).

She attended Central #3 through the eighth grade. Martha was fortunate to attend high school at Hedrick when the family lived in rural Martinsburg. Following graduation, she attended college at William Penn in Oskaloosa and lived in the dormitory.

Her first teaching opportunity was at the rural White Oak School. During that time, women teachers could not be married, so her marriage to Paul Perkins in 1946 was in secret to keep her position.

Thankfully that law soon was lifted and Miss Higgins suddenly became known as Mrs. Perkins. Martha so enjoyed her teaching time, recalling her early arrival each day to light the fire in the stove, check the mouse traps, and fetch the water.

The Perkins family made their home on a farm southwest of Fremont and welcomed a son, Allan, in 1945. Martha enjoyed her home and her neighborhood clubs, White Oak

and Sew and So Clubs. The garden, chickens, milking and canning along with daily household chores made for busy days.

Her favorite pie is mince-meat, but gooseberry will do. She enjoyed making and sharing homemade candy during the holidays. Learning the crochet early in her early years led to a lifetime enjoying the craft and also provided many gifts as well as her love of ceramics later.

She and Paul enjoyed horses and were involved with the Fremont Saddle Club and participated in club trail rides and horse shows. They traveled and loved staying at the Iowa State Fair for the week. Branson, Mo. was a favorite vacation destination. She also recalled the years when she would fly to California to visit an aunt. This aunt had no children and they would attend estate sales where they bought several pieces of furniture, which are still family pieces.

Martha now resides in Ottumwa and enjoys visiting, watching football and basketball games on television. Cards may be sent to Martha Perkins, 1 Pennsylvania Place, Ottumwa, Iowa, 52501

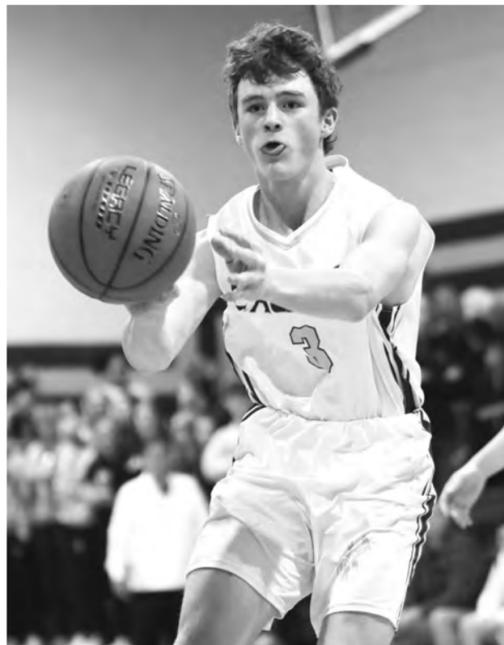




A referee raises the arm of Dillon Menke after he won his second round consolation match in the class 1A 165-pound bracket.



Sigourney-Keota sophomore Dillon Menke (right) attempts to take down his opponent during a match in the class 1A 165-pound bracket.



Junior Porter Cave from Keota prepares to pass the ball to a teammate during a game played earlier this season in Keota. Cave scored 16 points in the pair of games played last week for Keota. Photo by Mark Schafer

Dillon Menke gains experience at State wrestling meet

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review

DES MOINES - It isn't always about how far up the podium they make it.

Some of the best lessons can be learned from the wrestlers that don't even make the podium. For Sigourney-Keota sophomore, Dillon Menke, he is wanting to use the lessons from his State experience to fuel him for future seasons.

Dillon Menke entered the class 1A 165-pound tournament as the 20th seeded wrestler. He didn't want the moment to get too big for

him, although he did admit that the nerves were working overtime as he entered the mat for his opening match.

"That first match I was pretty nervous for it, but that's alright," Menke said. "You got to just work through it."

Menke battled through the nerves the best he could, but he was bested in a 7-3 decision. That sent the sophomore to the consolation side of the bracket where he had to win at three more times to keep his season alive, and finish on the podium.

In the second round consolation match Menke was able to take on a Manson-Nort-

west Webster opponent, and won the match handily with a 16-7 major decision win.

"I was able to bounce back in that second match. I felt really good for that one and was able to get the win," Menke said. "I just wanted to go out there and let it fly, because I knew I didn't have anything to lose. I won with a lot of points. I was happy to get into the next day. I felt really good going into the third round."

After a night spent with his teammates, Menke came back to the Casey's Center ready to wrestle the next day.

Facing off against a Lisbon opponent, Menke had

a strong match, but his opponent would eventually pin him in the third period, bringing an end to the State tournament for Menke.

"I didn't wrestle bad in the third round, but it was just a tough opponent," Menke said. "It wasn't fun losing that one, but it was just a good State tournament for me. It's alright I didn't quite make it to the podium I still have time to do that."

Menke finishes the year 30-12 and was one of three Sigourney-Keota wrestlers to qualify for the State tournament.

Photos by Mark Schafer

Keota boys end season against Hillcrest Academy

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review

KEOTA - Every now and then revenge comes around to serve both sides.

That was the case for the Keota Eagles as their boys basketball season ended on the road against Hillcrest Academy in the second round of the class 1A district playoffs.

For Hillcrest Academy it was a bit of revenge as the Eagles had previously bested Hillcrest Academy during the regular season.

Before the Eagles would square off against Hillcrest Academy they were able to start their post season with a first round win at home over Twin Cedars, 78-48.

The Eagles poured on the offense early on in the game. They led 22-15 after the first quarter. Keota would add another 19 points in the second quarter, while holding Twin Cedars to just 12 points.

Offense continued to pour in for the Eagles in the third quarter as they added 23 more points, and held Twin Cedars to just 13 points. By the fourth quarter the Eagles scored just 14 points and they held Twin Cedars to just eight points.

The 30-point first round victory was led by Chase

Haifley who poured in 35 points in the victory. He had eight steals, five assists and four rebounds. Jackson Vitetoe had a double-double with 10 points and 10 assists. He also had nine rebounds, three steals and three blocks. Porter Cave added 11 points with two rebounds. Brennan McGuire and Ayden Galindo both finished with six points each. Blake Baker came off the bench to score six points as well.

On Feb. 19 the Eagles fell on the road to Hillcrest Academy, 70-55.

The Eagles held the lead, 22-20 after the first quarter. Hillcrest Academy would double up the Eagles in the second quarter. The Ravens went to halftime with a 40-32 advantage over the Eagles.

Throughout the second half the Ravens continued to pull slightly ahead. The Ravens scored seven more points than Keota in the second half.

Chase Haifley was able to lead his team with 23 total points. He had nine rebounds and five assists. Ayden Galindo had 13 points and eight rebounds. Jackson Vitetoe scored eight points. Brennan McGuire had six points while Porter Cave finished with five points.

Overall the Eagles finish the season 15-7 overall.



Sigourney senior Solon Yates (left) looks for an open teammate to pass the ball to during a Feb. 16 game played in Sigourney. Yates scored 31 points in the Feb. 16 game.



Sigourney's Hunter Sellers (30) blocks the shot attempt of Moulton-Udell's Colton Campbell (left) during a Feb. 16 game played in Sigourney. Sellers scored six points in an 80-31 victory.

Sigourney flies past Eagles, falls to Monte in second round

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review

SIGOURNEY - They got to experience both ends of the pendulum last week.

On Monday night they were celebrating one of their most lopsided wins of the season. By Thursday night they driving home in silence as their season came to an end.

The Sigourney boys basketball season came to an abrupt halt last week in the class 1A district semifinals.

Monday night the Savages were all smiles as they were able to make their first round game look easy. The Savages started their post season with a contest against Moulton-Udell, winning that game 80-31.

That contest, largely, was over after the opening 10 minutes.

The post season start seemed to jar something awake for the Sigourney players, especially Solon Yates as he came out and scored 20 points in the first eight minutes of the game against Moulton-Udell. He started off by scoring a pair of inside

layups. Then he hit his first three. After that the shots seemed to fall from everywhere, and Moulton-Udell changed their defensive strategy to keep Yates from scoring again.

The shift in the defense by Moulton-Udell just kept the rest of the Sigourney offense fueled.

By halftime the Savages were leading 56-19 and they were able to rest a majority of their starters for most of the second half.

"Anytime you start the tournament with good shooting you are going to be happy with that," said Mitch Eslick, the head coach for the Sigourney boys basketball team. "Especially when you're the favorite in a tournament game, you want to come out and shoot the ball well and don't let the other team feel like they have a chance."

Although the Savages would score only 24 points in the second half, they limited the Eagles to just 12 points as the Savages were able to pull away with the 80-31 victory.

"Solon has had a great senior year, he has shot the ball

well the entire year, but he really came into his own the last few nights," Eslick said. "He had a heyday tonight and he could have easily set a new personal record, if not a school record if we would have kept him out there for longer."

It was a completely dominant night by the Savages. Their varsity roster features 13 players, with 11 of those players recording at least one point in the opening round game.

Yates had 31 points with four rebounds, three blocks, an assist and a steal. Hunter Sellers scored eight points in the game. John Berg and Carson O'Rourke both finished with seven points each.

Ike Molyneux scored five points. Landon Conrad, Chase Clarahan, Jordan Tremmel and Ty Goldman all scored four points each in the game. Brayden Wood finished with three points.

The Savages advanced into the district semifinals where they would take on Montezuma for a chance to move on in the tournament.

Things started off well for the Savages in the second

round as well. The Savages were able to lead 11-10 after the first quarter against Montezuma.

The second quarter would prove to be the downfall. Sigourney scored just four points while giving up 15 to Montezuma.

That allowed the Braves to take the lead, and they wouldn't give it up for the rest of the game.

Both teams scored 26 points in the second half, but the Savages weren't able to make up for their slow second quarter.

The Savages season ended with a 51-41 defeat at the hands of Montezuma.

Ike Molyneux led the Savages with 15 points in the game. He also had two rebounds and four steals.

Brayden Wood added another 11 points. John Berg had a double-double with 14 rebounds and 10 points. Solon Yates was limited to three points and three rebounds. He added five blocks in the game.

The Savages finish the season with an 18-5 overall record.

Sigourney girls best EBF, fall to Pleasantville

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review

SIGOURNEY - The second quarter was the one that sent them on to the next round.

On Feb. 17 the Sigourney girls were able to extend their season with a 58-47 victory over EBF. That game was benefited by a 25-point second quarter by the Savages.

Sigourney had started the second quarter with a 19-17 lead, but soon both teams were tied at 22. That is when sophomore Brynn Clarahan seemed to get her game jumpstarted.

Clarahan stepped up her defense and started to use her defense to generate offense throughout the second quarter.

Steals led to non-contested shots for the Savages and they were able to pull ahead with the lead.

"We just started to run EBF out of the gym," said Kaylee

Weber, the head basketball coach for the Sigourney girls. "We don't want to let any team compete with us at home. The girls have a lot of fun when they are able to get their defense going and especially when that leads to offense. We were able to box out, we were able to get the steals, and we also got EBF to be a little more physical and get the fouls that all helped us."

With Clarahan's defense pushing the pace of the defense, and offense for the Savages, they were able to pull ahead to a 44-28 lead at halftime. Which, at first, seemed like it was going to be a comfortable lead.

The lead was able to get a little more comfortable in the second half. Although the offense slowed down, both teams scored eight points in the third quarter and the lead was preserved for the Savag-

es. "We just started to settle in the second half," Weber said. "It felt like the 10 minute break really helped EBF get recharged, and for whatever reason, we weren't playing with the same intensity throughout the second half that we had ended the first half with."

The fourth quarter was an uneasy one for the Savages as both teams were chained down by foul after foul. Although the Rockets used their renewed second half energy to pull closer and closer, the Savages kept the lead just out of reach and eventually to an 11-point victory.

"It is nice to beat a team that made State multiple years in a row, yes, I know they lost a lot of girls from those teams, but it is still the same coaching," Weber said of EBF, who had made the State basketball tournament the last two sea-

sons. "We just need to keep the confidence up as we head into the next round."

Brynn Clarahan led the Savages with 27 points in the win. Bailey Gretter added 10 points. Another eight points were scored by Addy Fineran. Charli Smothers and Adalynne Tremmel both had five points each.

The second round game for the Savages was moved to Pleasantville. Although the Savages battled throughout the game they fell to the Trojans, 64-55. Pleasantville led 14-9 after the first quarter, but Sigourney would battle back to trail 26-25 at halftime.

Both teams kept the pace up in the third quarter with Sigourney leading by two. The fourth quarter had Pleasantville score 24 points while Sigourney was limited to 17.

The Savages end the season with a 15-9 overall record.

Panthers upended by Holy Trinity Catholic in second round

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review

PACKWOOD - Things had started off so well.

In the opening round of the Class 1A district 10 playoffs the Panthers were playing like they had all year. They spread the scoring around, and at times looked almost unstoppable as they were able to gain a 79-43 victory over Seymour.

The Panthers controlled that game from the start as they led 21-8 after the first quarter and 41-13 at halftime.

In the second half the Panthers continued to pour on the offense as they were able to score a total of 38 points, while limiting Seymour to 30 points. That allowed the Panthers to gain a 36-point win and move on in the tournament.

Cole Millikin led the Panthers in scoring in the game against Seymour as the senior scored 25 points. He added six rebounds and four assists with three steals. Another 21 points were added by Nolan Glick. He added three rebounds and three steals.

Carson Comstock had eight points. Henry Adam finished with seven points

and Alijah Brock added six points in the game. Henry Eubanks scored six points.

Jaxon Mefford, Brogan Spray and Cal Miller all scored two points each in the game.

In the second round of the playoffs the Panthers season came to an end as Holy Trinity Catholic was able to gain a 46-38 victory.

The first half was a close one as Pekin held the lead late in the second quarter, but Holy Trinity made a shot to tie the game 22-22 at halftime.

The end of the third quarter featured Holy Trinity Catholic leading 35-32 over the Panthers.

The fourth quarter was a slow one for both teams, but Holy Trinity was able to gain the slight edge.

With a minute left in the game Alijah Brock was able to get a pass from Millikin inside the key. He turned around and sunk the midrange shot, pulling the Panthers within 43-38 with just 59 seconds left in the game.

Holy Trinity would score three points over the final minute of the game, while none of the Panther shots would fall.

That ended the Panthers season with a 19-4 overall record.

Athletes of the Week

By Mark Schafer

Sponsored by



Chase Haifley

Although his season came to an end, in his last two games he was seemingly unstoppable.

Keota senior Chase Haifley made sure to showcase his skills in the two playoff games last week. Although the Eagles ultimately had their season come to an end, Haifley finished the week with 58 total points scored.

Haifley started off his strong week with a 35-point effort in a win over Twin Cedars. Haifley also had eight steals, five

assists and four rebounds in the first round victory over Twin Cedars.

In the second round against Hillcrest Academy, the senior had another strong game.

He added 23 points with nine rebounds, five assists and four steals in the game against the Ravens.

The News-Review would like to congratulate Haifley on his outstanding week of play, and for being named this week's Athlete of the Week.



Owen Menke

Every wrestler wants to leave Des Moines with a winning record.

For Sigourney-Keota senior, Owen Menke he was able to leave the class 1A State tournament with not just a winning record, but a medal and a some personal history.

At the class 1A State meet this past weekend Owen Menke was able to finish fifth overall in the 285-pound weight bracket. Overall Menke went

4-2 at the State meet. That included three wins by a pin, and his fourth win came off a 9-0 decision.

The senior finished his season with an overall record of 41-5 this season.

The News-Review would like to congratulate Owen Menke on his fifth-place finish at the State wrestling meet, and for being named this week's Athlete of the Week.



Ryker VanDenHeuvel (right) and his dad, and coach, Cory VanDenHeuvel (left) share a hug during the class 1A State wrestling tournament. Ryker finished the tournament in eighth place.



Sigourney-Keota freshman Ryker VanDenHeuvel locks the arm of Woodbury Central opponent, Gavin Wiig (front) during their consolation quarterfinal match held at the State wrestling meet.



Sigourney-Keota bowling brothers Owen and Wells Clark pose with the class 1A State qualifying banner after both were able to qualify for the State meet. Photo submitted

VanDenHeuvel debuts with 8th place finish at State

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review

DES MOINES - Much like his season, the State tournament was full of ups and downs.

Wrestling at the Casey's Center wasn't a new experience for Ryker VanDenHeuvel. Prior to wrestling in high school the freshman had made the AAU State tournament and wrestled on the floor of the Casey's Center.

However, as VanDenHeuvel quickly learned, the IH-SAA State wrestling tournament is unlike any other.

VanDenHeuvel qualified to the class 1A State tournament as a freshman wrestler in the 138-pound class. The freshman worked his way through adversity and triumph to an eventual eighth-place finish.

"He showed a lot of resilience," Sigourney-Keota head coach, Cory VanDenHeuvel said about Ryker, who is his son. "No one will know what that kid did and had to do to come here today and make it to today. He wants to come back, and God willing, we will have three more years for him to make a great name for himself."

In his debut match at the State tournament VanDenHeuvel showed little fear. He wrestled a senior wrestler from Emmetsburg, and was able to gain a major decision, 10-0 win to make it to the

second round of the championship side of the bracket.

In his next match, things weren't quite as easy. He took on Gavin Wiig from Woodbury Central and, despite giving up a takedown early on, VanDenHeuvel was able to get an escape, and trail 3-1 after the first period. In the second period, VanDenHeuvel gave up four points.

The third period belonged to the freshman as he was able to get an escape, a takedown, two points off a reversal, and two more points off a nearfall at the end of the third period.

Despite the narrow 9-8 de-

feat, VanDenHeuvel's tournament was still alive.

He would win his first consolation round match with a second period pin, advancing the freshman to the second day of competition.

The first match of the second day was a nail-biter for the freshman.

After building up a 9-1 lead the first two periods, VanDenHeuvel went up 12-2 early in the third period. In the closing seconds of the match his opponent scored nine points in the final 28 seconds as time ran out, and VanDenHeuvel survived with a 12-11 victory.

In the next round, VanDenHeuvel made sure there was little doubt. He started the match off with a takedown in the first period. He then recorded another takedown in the third period, and he was able to win the match 6-3, ensuring that he was going to place at the State wrestling tournament.

In the consolation quarterfinals VanDenHeuvel had a rematch with Woodbury Central's Gavin Wiig. This time Wiig took control of the match early on and won with a 16-5 major decision.

That sent VanDenHeuvel to the seventh place match. There he wrestled a Saint Ansgar opponent Trace Huisman. After a good battle, Huisman pinned VanDenHeuvel in the second period, allowing the freshman to place eighth at the State tournament.

"He had a gutsy performance out there," Coach VanDenHeuvel said about Ryker. "He had a lot of struggles throughout the year and before the state tournament. To even make it to the State tournament was a testament to him and how much he worked. He found a gut check and to wrestle several matches up here against tough kids."

Overall the freshman finishes with a record of 30-7 in his freshman campaign.

Photos by Mark Schafer



Freshman Ryker VanDenHeuvel (left) wraps up his Wapsie Valley opponent during their Friday match at the class 1A State wrestling tournament. VanDenHeuvel would win the match and place eighth overall in the class 1A 138-pound bracket.

Bowling brothers set destination for Waterloo

Owen and Wells Clark both qualify for class 1A bowling tournament

The Sigourney-Keota boys bowling team delivered a robust performance at the State qualifier meet on Monday, Feb. 16 at Arrowhead Lanes in Keokuk. The qualifier meet involves eight Class 1A boys' teams from around the area with only the top team advancing, and includes 46 individual bowlers, with only the top four individuals moving on to state.

Overall, S-K had a powerful showing, finishing second overall in a tightly contested match-up. S-K posted a total of 2,983 pins, finishing just 28 pins behind first-place Louisa-Muscataine's 3,011. Louisa-Muscataine and S-K dominated the meet with all other teams falling over 300 pins behind them.

The standout story came

on the individual side, where brothers Owen Clark and Wells Clark earned State berths. This marks senior Wells Clark's second time qualifying for State, having also earned a state spot as a sophomore in 2024. Owen Clark, a junior, led SK with a high game of 245 and a dominant performance, pacing the team and earning his first trip to the State tournament.

With the state qualifier complete, Owen and Wells Clark will represent Sigourney-Keota at the Class 1A State Bowling Championships on Tuesday, Feb. 24, at Cadillac XBC in Waterloo, competing as two of 32 top Class 1A individual bowlers from across the state.

"Wells' experience and Owen's determination make them a strong duo" said Coach Austin Bruns. "It should be exciting to see what they can do at state."

Bears basketball season closes on the road

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review

Optimism was met with harsh reality this past week for the English Valleys basketball teams.

Both the boys and girls basketball teams entered the post season with high hopes and some lofty goals.

For the boys basketball team they faced off against Iowa Valley in the first round. Despite a strong battle the Bears fell just short, 65-63 of advancing in the tournament.

Both teams started off strong in the first quarter. Iowa Valley led 20-17 after the opening frame. The Bears would answer back as they scored 12 points, and held Iowa Valley to just eight points.

That gave the Bears a slim 29-28 lead at halftime.

The lead grew in the third quarter as the Bears added 16 points to their side of the scoreboard, and holding Iowa Valley to just 14.

Iowa Valley stormed back and would score 16 points in the fourth quarter. English Valleys matched the pace, scoring 13 points, which tied the game at 58 at the end of regulation.

In the extra quarter the Bears battled, but were held one shot shy of tying the Tigers, or extending their season.

The Bears were able to end the season 10-12.

On the girls side of the court

the Bears were able to win one game, but fell in their next.

In the Feb. 17 game the Bears were able to best Montezuma 52-49. That game was close from the beginning as both teams were tied at eight after the first quarter.

The Bears were able to pull ahead by seven points at halftime.

Montezuma answered back in the third quarter, pulling within one.

The Bears battled through the fourth quarter, scoring 11 points, but Montezuma was able to score 12 points, which tied the game at 40 at the end of the fourth quarter.

Both teams were able to turn on the offense for the overtime period. English Valleys was able to score 12 points, while holding Montezuma to nine points, which gave the Bears a 52-49 victory.

That game was led by Aubrey Achenbach who scored 18 points in the victory. Addison Achenbach would add 16 points with 19 rebounds. Kailor Lown added five points and Anna Luers added four points.

The Bears girls season ended on Feb. 20 as the Bears fell 72-33 against Gladbrook-Reinbeck. The Rebels led 44-21 at halftime. They would add another 28 points in the second half while the Bears scored 12 points.

The Bears finished the season with an overall record of 18-6.

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The News-Review

SERVING THE KEOKUK COUNTY AREA SINCE 1860

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026
SECTION B, NUMBER 8, 165th YEAR

COURT RECORDS

Civil
Feb. 13th
Defendant Jennifer Rose Leer; Plaintiff Capital One, NA, Successor by Merger to Discover; Order for Judgment.
Defendant Raymond G. Clarke; Plaintiff Capital One, NA Successor by Merger to Discover; Petition Filed.
Feb. 17th
Defendants Nathan Patrick Ford, Shannon June Ford, Parties in Possession, State of Iowa; Plaintiff Community 1st Credit Union; Order Setting Trial.
Defendants Harbison Fencing, LLC, Erin R. Harbison, Parties in Possession; Plaintiff Libertyville Savings Bank; Pe-

titution Filed.
Defendants Keokuk Hills Beef Company LLC/D/B/A Thunder Ridge; Responsible Transportation LLC; Plaintiffs Jason Stephen Shifflett, Melanie Ranae Shifflett; Motion for Continuance.
Defendant Stephanie Lynn Beinhart; Plaintiff Capital One, NA, Successor by merger to Discover; Order Setting Trial.
Defendant Kyler Warren; Plaintiff Veridian Credit Union; Dismissed w/o Prejudice.
Feb. 18th
Defendants American Family Insurance, Lisa Lynn Brackelsberg, Norris Asphalt Paving, Jarek Thompson, Tori Thompson; Plaintiff Shanon

Ray Brackelsberg; Motion to Dismiss.
Criminal
Feb. 16th
Defendant Scott Anthony Castaneda; Payee Keokuk County; State of Iowa; Order of Disposition.
Defendant Dustin Michael Breckenridge; Plaintiff State of Iowa; Order of Disposition.
Defendant Shane Randy Ellis; Plaintiff State of Iowa; Order of Disposition.
Defendant Christopher Clubb; Wapello County Sheriff's Office; Plaintiff State of Iowa; Motion for Continuance.
Defendant Derek Lee Hiller; Plaintiff State of Iowa; Order of Disposition.

Feb. 18th
Defendant Michael James Stoner; Payee Keokuk County; Plaintiff State of Iowa; Written Plea of Guilty.
Defendant Michael James Stoner; Payee Keokuk County; Beatrice L. Mango; Plaintiff State of Iowa; Written Plea of Guilty.
OVI
Feb. 16th
Defendant Marcus Crilo Galindo; Plaintiff State of Iowa; Order of Disposition.
Scheduled Traffic
Feb. 13th
Defendant Israel Tur Abad; Dark Window or Windshield.
Feb. 15th
Defendant Terri Jo Stiles;

Failure to Provide Proof of Financial Liability.
Feb. 16th
Defendant Shane Randy Ellis; Speeding 55 or Under Zone (11-15 Over).
Defendant Daniel Lee Duwa; Open Container- Driver 21 years Old and Older.
Defendant Daniel Lee Duwa; Fraudulent Use of Registration.
Feb. 17th
Defendant Johnny Remilien; Speeding 55 or Under Zone (1-5 Over).
Feb. 19th
Defendant Joseph Magregor Hunt; Speeding 55 or Under Zone (6-10 Over).
Small Claims

Feb. 16th
Defendant Jeane Marie Maschmann; Plaintiff LVNV Funding LLC; Order for Judgment.
Feb. 17th
Defendant Kathryn M. Littrell; Plaintiff Merrick Bank; Small Claims Original Notice.
Feb. 18th
Defendant Michael Dennis Gent; Plaintiff Capital One, NA; Motion for Continuance.
Defendant Hilary A. Lanman; Plaintiff Midland Credit Management, INC; Small Claims Original Notice.

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

Feb. 9th
Trustee Warranty Deed; Brenda J. Workman Trustee, Dennis I. Workman and Brenda J. Workman Revocable Trust, Dennis I. Workman Revocable Trust, Brenda J. Workman Revocable Trust; to Heidi Powers, Jeffrey Powers; SE SE 34-76-13 Parcel: AUD PAR A, PLAT 2025-1766.
Deed Quit Claim; Matthew Wickenkamp to Vance E. Ellis; WHAT CHEER 1ST RAILROAD ADDITION Lot:

07 Block: 12, WHAT CHEER 1ST RAILROAD ADDITION Lot: 08 Block: 12, WHAT CHEER 1ST RAILROAD ADDITION Lot: 09 Block: 12, WHAT CHEER 1ST RAILROAD ADDITION Lot: 10 Block: 12, WHAT CHEER 1ST RAILROAD ADDITION Lot: 11 Block: 12, WHAT CHEER 1ST RAILROAD ADDITION Lot: 12 Block: 12, PT ALLEY WHAT CHEER 1ST RAILROAD ADDITION Block: 12.
Deed Quit Claim; Donald

Klein, Allison R. Klein to Donald RayKlein Trustee, Allison Rae Klein Trustee, ADK Trust; NE SE 30-75-11, SE SE 30-75-11.
Feb. 10th
Warranty Deed; Melanie Mapes, Joseph Mapes to Jeremy Ingle, Paige Ingle; SE SW 22-74-12, PT NE NW 27-74-12, PT SE NW 27-74-12, EXCEPT PLAT 2013-1791, RR ROW PT SE NW 27-74-12.
Feb. 11th

Warranty Deed; Grant M. Gillam to Grant M. Gillam, Cynthia F. Gillam; L14 Lot: 10 NW SW 27-74-10, PLAT B4 P144.
Feb. 13th
Warranty Deed; Grant M. Gillam, Cynthia F. Gillam to Grant M. Gillam, Cynthia F. Gillam; L14 Lot: 10 NW SW 27-74-10, PLAT B4 P144.
Deed Quit Claim; Jon Schaffner, John Schaffner, Morgan Weeks, Morgan Schaffner to Jon Schaffner; SE NW 05-77-11, PLAT 2006-1292.
Warranty Deed; Michael C. Hadley, Michael Chris Hadley, Pamela A. Hadley to Michael T. Hadley, Amanda K. Hadley; NE NW 34-74-10.
Warranty Deed; Michael Hadley, Michael C. Hadley, Pamela A. Hadley; Michael

Hadley Trustee, Michael Hadley Revocable Trust; Michael Hadley 2025 Revocable Trust PT SW SW 27-74-10, PT SW SW 27-74-10, SE SW 28-74-10, SE SE 28-74-10, SW SE 28-74-10, PT SW SE 28-74-10.
Trustee Warranty Deed; Michael Hadley Trustee, Michael Hadley Revocable Trust, Michael Hadley 2025 Revocable Trust to Michael C. Hadley, Pamela A. Hadley; SW SW 27-74-10 Parcel: AUD PAR A, SW SW 27-74-10 Parcel: AUD PAR B.
Warranty Deed; Kovacegovich Holdings LLC to Charles A. Campbell Trustee, Charles A. Campbell Revocable Trust; SW SW 27-74-10 Parcel: AUD PAR A, SW SW 27-74-10 Parcel: AUD PAR B.
Contract Assignment or

Amendment; Yahron Gene Mills, Yahron Gene Mills Deceased, Yahron Gene Mills Estate, Pauline Johnson Executor, Pauline Johnson to Josua Dee Slatton; THORNBURG BARNES 1ST ADDITION (THORNBURG) Lot: 01 Block: 20, THORNBURG BARNES 1ST ADDITION (THORNBURG) Lot: 02 Block: 20, THORNBURG BARNES 1ST ADDITION (THORNBURG) Lot: 03 Block: 20, THORNBURG BARNES 1ST ADDITION (THORNBURG) Lot: 04 Block: 20, THORNBURG BARNES 1ST ADDITION (THORNBURG) Lot: 05 Block: 20, THORNBURG BARNES 1ST ADDITION (THORNBURG) Lot: 06 Block: 20.

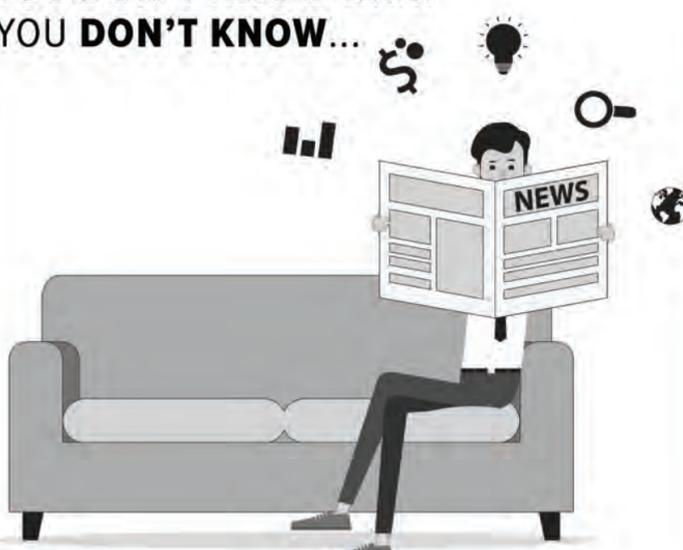
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PUBLIC NOTICE

City of Sigourney • Claims 2.18.2026

| | |
|--|--|
| CITY OF SIGOURNEY FEBRUARY 18, 2026 |\$229.49 |
| Access Systems- Services- | H&M Supply- Supplies-\$141.08 |
|\$1,641.38 | Iowa One Call- Services- ...\$16.40 |
| Access Systems Leasing- Ser- | Mid-American Publishing - Ser- |
|\$131.33 |\$117.60 |
| All American Pest Control- Ser- | Mid-American Chemical- Sup- |
|\$248.00 |\$540.75 |
| Alliant Energy- Services-..... | Phelps Auto Supply- Services-..... |
|\$18,211.13 |\$1,308.00 |
| Arnold Motor Supply- Supplies- | SEMCO- Services-.....\$1,859.85 |
|\$3.57 | Shettler Media LLC- Services-..... |
| Atwood Electric- Services-..... |\$500.00 |
|\$752.44 | Sinclair Napa- Supplies-.....\$48.01 |
| Bailey Office Outfitters- Supplies- | Sinclair Tractor- Services-..... |
|\$68.57 | Sines Plumbing- Services-..... |
| Column Software PBC- Services- |\$317.24 |
|\$65.92 | USA BlueBook- Supplies- ..\$43.59 |
| Cummins Sales and Service- Sup- | Windstream- Services-.....\$5.99 |
|\$285.61 | Total.....\$30,215.01 |
| Dakota Supply Group- Supplies-... | <i>Published in The News-Review on</i> |
|\$270.00 | <i>February 25, 2026</i> |
| Elliott Equipment Co.- Supplies- ... | |

PUBLIC NOTICE

Keokuk Co BOS • Minutes 2.9.2026

KEOKUK COUNTY BOARD PROCEEDINGS FEBRUARY 9, 2026

The Keokuk County Board of Supervisors met in regular session, Monday, February 9, 2026, in the Board Room of the Courthouse. Present were: Michael C. Hadley, Daryl Wood, Kevin Weber, and Christy Bates, County Auditor.

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

Wood moved, Weber seconded to approve the minutes of February 2, 2026, as submitted. All ayes and motion carried.

Weber moved, Wood seconded approval of re-appointment of Tom Hotchkiss to the Keokuk County Conservation Board for a five-year term as submitted. All ayes and motion carried. Also present was Pie Reighard, Conservation Director.

Wood moved, Weber seconded approval to ratify re-appointment of Allan Glandon to the Keokuk County Conservation Board for a five-year term beginning January 1, 2024 as submitted. All ayes and motion carried. Also present was Pie Reighard, Conservation Director.

Wood moved, Weber seconded approval of Keokuk County Bowl Class C liquor license (LC) application as submitted. All ayes and mo-

tion carried.

Wood moved, Weber seconded acknowledgement of personnel report terminating Johnathon Klett, Field Assistant, Assessor's Office as submitted. All ayes and motion carried.

Various Board and Committee reports were held. Wood attended a Pathfinders meeting and met with Engineer McGuire and Marionette Miller-Meeks regarding acceptance of grant funding for the west half of the Pigeon Road. Weber attended a Decat meeting. Hadley had no scheduled meetings last week.

Discussion of old/new business and public comment was held. The FY27 budget was discussed, including the county contribution amount for Emergency Management.

On vote and motion Hadley adjourned the meeting at 9:25 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 February 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

City of What Cheer • Claims 2.10.2026

| | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| BILLS PRESENTED AT FEBRUARY 10TH 2026 MEETING | WINDSTREAM339.06 |
| WHAT CHEER FIRE DEPT | JV SEPTIC SERVICE.....400.00 |
|417.84 | THE BUG MAN45.00 |
| ALLIANT ENERGY4219.31 | IOWA ONE CALL.....30.80 |
| WATER EX TAX.....552.17 | GLOBAL LIFE.....539.70 |
| 941 TAX3056.12 | H&M FARM AND HOME362.23 |
| IPERS2152.65 | HELMUTH FORD108.01 |
| WAPELLO RURAL WATER | CASEYS172.00 |
|3450.86 | HESLINGA LAW1180.00 |
| DJ DAVIS TRUCKING532.20 | MICROBAG LAB.....242.25 |
| WASTE MANAGEMENT ..6541.01 | USPO339.00 |

Published in The News-Review on February 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

City of What Cheer • Receipts & Disbursements

| | |
|--|--|
| CITY OF WHAT CHEER RECEIPTSDISBURSMENTS |\$6754.43 |
| GENERAL FUND, \$5474.21 | SEWER FUND, \$5310.72..... |
|\$10182.97 |\$3964.43 |
| ROAD FUND, \$7222.37- \$2562.24 | LOCAL OP SALES TAX, |
| DEBT SERVICE, \$0.00\$0.00 | \$5344.88\$4098.52 |
| TRUST & AG, \$1689.88- \$2424.67 | LIBRARY, \$268.65\$1601.39 |
| GARBAGE FUND, \$6432.00 | TOTAL, \$39619.85.....\$38594.47 |
|\$7005.82 | <i>Published in The News-Review on</i> |
| WATER FUND, \$7877.04 | <i>February 25, 2026</i> |

PUBLIC NOTICE

City of What Cheer • Minutes 2.10.2026

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday February 10th 2026

The What Cheer City Council met in regular session at City Hall, Tuesday February 10th 2026. Mayor Darrell Wilkening called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Council Members answering roll call were: Sandra VanPatten, Dwight Danner, Donna Rogers, Frank Calvert, and Lisa Brackelsberg. Also, present was Carl Hampton, Gary J. Van Patten, April Dumermuth, Brandon Bell, City Clerk Melanie Vermillion.

Van Patten motioned to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Rogers. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Mayor Darrell Wilkening gave his Mayors Report. No action by the council.

No audience comments

Dwight Danner made a motion to appoint Sandy Van Patten as the city's representative for the Keokuk County Endowment foundation. Seconded by Donna Rogers. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Frank Calvert made a motion to appoint Darrell Wilkening as the city's representative for Keokuk County Emergency Management. Seconded by Dwight Danner seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion Carried.

After a presentation from Charlie Sterige about the upcoming What Cheer Historical Walk, Donna Rogers motioned to have the committee proceed with the project as planned. Lisa Brackelsberg seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Calvert motioned to table the interest of a purchase of an alley until adjoining property owners of said alley are notified. Van Patten seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Brackelsberg made a motion to continue using service provided from Calhoun Burns for the city bridge inspections. Danner seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Brackelsberg motioned to donate \$500.00 to What Cheer Fire and Rescue for the 2026 Bike and Car Show fundraiser. Van Patten seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Water and Sewer rates were discussed, no action taken by the Council

Van Patten motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:50, seconded by Danner.

Darrell Wilkening, Mayor
Melanie Vermillion, City Clerk
Published in The News-Review on February 25, 2026

PROBATE

Laurel Amelia Streigle ESPR038664

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR KEOKUK COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Laurel Amelia Streigle, Deceased CASE NO. ESPR038664
NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Laurel Amelia Streigle, Deceased, who died on or about January 24, 2026:

You are hereby notified that on February 10, 2026, the Last Will and Testament of Laurel Amelia Streigle, deceased, bearing date of February 2, 1991, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and that Forrest Leon Streigle was appointed Executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

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

Dated February 10, 2026.
Forrest Leon Streigle, Executor of Estate
24432 112th Ave
Delta, IA 52550
John N. Wehr, ICIS#: 0008299
Attorney for Executor
John N. Wehr, Attorney at Law
116 E Washington
PO Box 245
Sigourney, IA 52591
Date of second publication
February 25, 2026
Probate Code Section 304
Published in The News-Review on February 18 and 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

Tri-County CSD • Special Meeting 2.10.2026

TRI-COUNTY CSD BOARD OF EDUCATION
Special Meeting
February 10, 2026 - 6:00 pm
Tri-County CSD Gymnasium
3003 Hwy 22
Thornburg, IA 50255
MEETING MINUTES
Board President Chad McKain called the special meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Beckie Appleget, Board Secretary, acknowledged a quorum of the board by roll call.

Board members present: Chad McKain, Derek Hall, Jacob Edmundson, Heather Schmidt, and Ben Molyneux.

Board members absent: None.

Also Present: Superintendent, Chad Straight; Principal, Jennifer Berg; Athletic Director, Amanda Sowers; and Board Secretary, Beckie Appleget.

Approval of Agenda: Hall moved,

seconded by Schmidt, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 5/0.

New Business
Action/Discussion 4-Day School Week: There was discussion with families, staff, and community members regarding the possibility of moving to a four-day school week. The discussion was focused on understanding the potential benefits as well as addressing any concerns. The district is carefully considering whether this change would best support students and the long-term success of the school district.

Adjournment: Edmundson moved, seconded by Hall, to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 p.m. Motion carried 5/0.

President, Chad McKain
Board Secretary, Beckie Appleget
Published in The News-Review on February 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

City of Sigourney • January 2026 Claims

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| REVENUES: | Water Excise Tax -\$2,696.38 |
| General -\$12,576.42 | Visa-City-\$587.79 |
| Memorial Hall -\$2,084.00 | gWorks - Absorbed Fees-.....\$5.00 |
| Library-\$10,178.81 | gWorks - ACH Fee-.....\$165.50 |
| Road Use-\$23,075.23 | Brent Gilliland - Cell Phone-..... |
| Employee Benefits-.....\$474.92 |\$40.00 |
| LOSST-.....\$21,411.35 | Randy Hemsley - Cell Phone-..... |
| Lewis Memorial Fountain - |\$40.00 |
|\$180.00 | Don Northup - Cell Phone-.....\$40.00 |
| Restricted Gifts-.....\$2,848.00 | Logan Northup - Cell Phone-..... |
| Debt Service-.....\$1,472.95 |\$40.00 |
| Water Utility-.....\$48,965.40 | Jonathon Utterback - Cell Phone-..... |
| Water Sinking-.....\$6,750.00 |\$40.00 |
| Water Improvement-.....\$3,000.00 | US Postmaster - Utility Bills-..... |
| Water Project-.....\$5,658.38 |\$481.07 |
| Utility Deposit-.....\$650.00 | Transfers / Expenses-..\$52,419.00 |
| Sewer Utility-.....\$57,887.07 | Payroll(12/22/2025-1/4/2026)- |
| Sewer Sinking-.....\$29,485.00 |\$24,044.70 |
| Sewer Improvement.....\$1,000.00 | Payroll(1/5/2026-1/18/2026)..... |
| Sewer Surcharge-.....\$3,665.79 |\$39,322.15 |
| Sanitation\$22,615.66 | Medical Partial Self – Fund -..... |
| Medical Partial Self Funding-..... |\$751.00 |
|\$1,600.00 | January 2026 Other Checks Issued |
| January 2026 Revenue Total-..... | Total\$121,835.55 |
|\$255,578.98 | <i>Published in The News-Review on</i> |
| Other Checks Issued: | <i>February 25, 2026</i> |
| Excise Sales Tax -\$1,162.96 | |

PROBATE

VICKIE L. FLYNN ESPR008513

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF VICKIE L. FLYNN, Deceased.
PROBATE NO.: ESPR008513
NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL; OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To all persons interested in the estate of Vickie L. Flynn, deceased, who died on or about December 3, 2025:

You are hereby notified that on February 17, 2026, the Last Will and Testament of Vickie L. Flynn, deceased, bearing the date of January 11, 2001, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and that the undersigned were appointed as Co-Executors of the estate. Any action to set aside the Will must be brought in the District Court of the above county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this Notice or one month from the date of mailing of this Notice to the surviving spouse and all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the Will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

Dated this _ day of February, 2025.

Matthew John Flynn, Co-Executor
2050 Keokuk-Washington Rd.
Keota, IA 52248
Brett Andrew Flynn, Co-Executor
435 W Diversey Prkw #2
Chicago, IL 60614
Scott D. Flynn, Attorney for Executor
204 E Broadway Ave
PO Box 47
Keota, IA 52248
Date of Second Publication
4th day of March, 2026.
Published in The News-Review on February 25, and March 4, 2026

PROBATE

William E. Rasplicka ESPR038667

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR KEOKUK COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF William E. Rasplicka, Deceased CASE NO. ESPR038667
NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of William E. Rasplicka, Deceased, who died on or about January 16, 2026:

You are hereby notified that on February 19, 2026, the Last Will and Testament of William E. Rasplicka, deceased, bearing date of March 25, 2016, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and that Gregory W. Rasplicka was appointed Executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

Dated February 19, 2026.
Gregory W. Rasplicka, Executor of Estate
17223 230th Ave
Sigourney, IA 52591
John N. Wehr, ICIS#: 0008299
Attorney for Executor
John N. Wehr, Attorney at Law
116 E Washington
PO Box 245
Sigourney, IA 52591
Date of second publication
March 4, 2026
Probate Code Section 304
Published in The News-Review on February 25, and March 4, 2026

PROBATE

Margaret Jean Appleget ESPR038603

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR KEOKUK COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Margaret Jean Appleget, Deceased CASE NO. ESPR038603
NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Margaret Jean Appleget, Deceased, who died on or about November 10, 2024:

You are hereby notified that on February 13, 2026, the Last Will and Testament of Margaret Jean Appleget, deceased, bearing date of October 30, 2017, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and that Donna Strand was appointed Executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

Dated February 17, 2026.
Donna Strand
Donna Strand, Executor of Estate
2614 Fargo Blvd
Geneva, IL 60134
Washington Law Office, LLP
Washington Law Office, LLP
Craig A. Davis, Attorney for Executor
211 W Washington St – PO Box 867
Washington, IA 52353
Date of second publication:
March 4, 2026
Probate Code Section 304
Published in The News-Review on February 25, and March 4, 2026

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Sigourney CSD • Special Meeting 1.26.2026

SIGOURNEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
KEOKUK COUNTY CAREER ACADEMY
MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2026
SPECIAL MEETING
President Bensmiller opened the special meeting at 5:00 PM and acknowledged a quorum of the board.

Board Present: Steven Seeley, Adam Sellers, Mike Bensmiller, Adam Clark, Tim Bruns, Cody Branstad, Amy Wilcox

Also Present: Angela Lamberson, Candidate #1, Candidate #2

Approval of Agenda
Director Wilcox moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Director Clark. Motion carried 7-0.

Closed Session for Interviews
Director Wilcox moved to enter closed session pursuant to Iowa Code section 21.5(1)(i) to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session. Seconded by Director Clark. Motion carried 7-0.

The time was 5:10 PM
Roll Call Vote--AYES: Seeley, Sellers, Bensmiller, Branstad, Bruns, Clark, Wilcox;
NAYS: None

By general consensus the board went out of closed session at 8:44 PM.

Adjournment
Director Clark moved to adjourn the special meeting at 8:45 PM. Seconded by Director Branstad. Motion carried 7-0.

Mike Bensmiller, Board President
Angela Lamberson, Board Secretary
Published in The News-Review on February 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

English Valleys CSD • Work Session 2.11.2026

THE MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE ENGLISH VALLEYS BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON FEBRUARY 11TH, 2026.

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

Others present: Superintendent Curt Rheingans, Amber Gent, Brennen Grimm, Carrie Burdick, Marty Baker, Amy Harger, Ashley Dickey, Tami Marsh, Zach Weillbacher, Melinda Semler, Renee Alison

The work session was called to order at 5pm.

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

Trent Forrest arrived at 5:03pm.

Amber Gent addressed the board and discussed a quote she received from Americlean to clean the HS stage curtains in the cafeteria for \$13,472 and another quote from Americlean to clean the Elementary gym stage curtains for \$16,240.

The board discussed how much new ones would cost. The board directed Mrs. Gent to get a quote for cleaning the curtains, with the district bringing them down and delivering them to Americlean to dry clean.

The board discussed the construction of a new baseball field shed. The board discussed with baseball coach Brennen Grimm and Marty Baker the dimensions, specifications, and a rough quote of \$3,900 to construct.

The board discussed whiteboards. The district received one bid from Premiere for the inserts for \$49,806.78. This would be the delivered price and district employees would unload them from the truck.

Administration discussed with the board that they will now have to find someone to install the whiteboards, if approved. We are currently having problems finding a company to do that.

A motion was made by Axmear, seconded by Forrest to adjourn at 5:58pm. Motion carried.
Published in The News-Review on February 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

English Valleys CSD • PH 2026-2027 School Calendar

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PROPOSED CALENDAR SCHOOL YEAR 2026-2027

The Board of Directors of English Valleys will conduct a public hearing on the proposed 2026-2027 calendar at the English Valleys Elementary, on March 11th, 2026, beginning at 6p.m. At the public hearing, any resident may present objections to, or arguments in favor of, any part of the proposed calendar. A copy of the proposed calendar will be furnished upon request.

Wendy L. Ayers
Board Secretary/Treasurer
Published in The News-Review on February 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

City of Sigourney • Minutes 2.18.2026

SIGOURNEY CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

The following are summarized minutes of the regular city council meeting on February 18, 2026

The Sigourney City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Wednesday, February 18, 2026, with Mayor Pro-Tem McLaughlin presiding and the following Council members answering roll call: Schultz, McLaughlin, Hannam, Chmelar and Goldman. Others present were: Steve Shettler, with Steve Shettler Media; Don Northup, Public Works Director I; Brent Gilliland, Public Works Director II; and Ashley Fry, City Clerk.

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

Hannam moved, seconded by Chmelar, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: Minutes of Regular Council Meeting of February 4, 2026; Council Account Payable Claims in the amount of \$30,215.01; City Clerk Financial Reports, Payroll Expenses, Miscellaneous Expenses, ACH and Monthly Transfer for January 2026; Credit Card Report and Set

hearing, any resident may present objections to, or arguments in favor of, any part of the proposed calendar. A copy of the proposed calendar will be furnished upon request.

Wendy L. Ayers
Board Secretary/Treasurer
Published in The News-Review on February 25, 2026

time and place for the March 4, 2026 Regular Council Meeting at 6:00 PM at City Hall. Roll call vote Ayes: 5

Chmelar moved seconded by Hannam to approve Resolution #2026-02-04 to establish City Pool Rates and Information for calendar year 2026. Roll call vote Ayes: 5

Schultz moved seconded by Hannam to approve Resolution #2026-02-05 approving Pool Personnel for 2026 Swimming Season. Roll call vote Ayes: 5

Chmelar moved seconded by Schultz to approve the upgrading 2 computers at City Hall at the cost of \$3854.14. Roll call vote Ayes: 5

Schultz moved seconded by Hannam to approve hiring Watson Technologies as a contractor for the maintenance of the cameras. Roll call vote Ayes: 5

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

Connie McLaughlin, Mayor Pro Tem
Ashley Fry, City Clerk
Published in The News-Review on February 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

English Valleys CSD • Notice of Board Appointment

ENGLISH VALLEYS COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Pursuant to Iowa Code 279.6, the English Valleys School Board publishes this notice of its intent to appoint a person to fill a vacancy for the Board.

The board will be accepting applications for the open seat. Interested individuals will be asked to fill out a short questionnaire. Please notify Wendy Ayers, Board Secretary, for the document. Deadline to submit the questionnaire is 03/9/2026 at 3:00pm, firm deadline. Please submit these to Wendy Ayers, Board Secretary, either by email or by USPS.

Send to: English Valleys Community Schools
PO Box 490
North English IA 52316
wayers@english-valleys.k12.ia.us
319-664-3634

Eligible electors of the English Valleys School District have the right to file a petition requiring that this vacancy be filled by special election. Petitions must be received by the board secretary within 14 days after the publication of this notice. For details and signatory requirements, contact the board secretary.

Wendy Ayers
English Valleys Community School District
Board Secretary
Published in The News-Review on February 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

Sigourney CSD • Minutes 2.11.2026

SIGOURNEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2026
The Board of Directors of the Sigourney Community School District met in regular session on Wednesday, February 11, 2026 in the Sigourney Jr/Sr High Library. Board members present included: Mike Bensmiller, Amy Wilcox, Cody Branstad (left 7:11), Adam Sellers, Steven Seeley, Adam Clark, and Tim Bruns. Also present were Kevin Hatfield, Jessica Meier, Missy Sellers, Deanna Spence, Shannon Webb, Nathan Wood, Jenny Gay, Casey James, Connor Sorenson, and Heather Jonas.

Call to Order/Determination of Quorum: President Bensmiller called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM, and acknowledged a quorum of the board.

Approve/Amend Agenda: Director Seeley moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Director Wilcox. Motion carried 7-0.

Welcome Visitors: None
Non-Action Items: Connor Sorenson and Heather Jonas (OPAAI) presented on the district's food service program. Jessica Meier gave dates and deadlines in regards to the FY27 budget process. Kevin Hatfield reviewed the building and grounds committee notes. Hatfield also provided updates on the superintendent hiring process, city librarian services, and TrueNorth Insurance. Deanna Spence and Shannon Webb presented their principal reports. Other admin reports were provided.

Consent Agenda: Director Wilcox moved to approve the following consent agenda items as presented:

Minutes from 1-14-26, 1-26-26, and 1-28-26 meetings.
Financial Reports from January 2026.

Payment of Bills: General \$160,050.01; Activity \$25,490.72; PPEL \$21,657.30; Nutrition \$42,206.35

Open Enrollment: OUT to Mid-Prairie-C Carey Personnel:

Resignations: Connie Flanagan, Associate-effective end of 25-26 school year
New Hires: Justin Moeller, K-12 Counselor-effective 26-27 school year

Volunteers: Luke Kyle, HS B Wr-effective 25-26 school year
Fundraisers: After Prom-Sign painting with The Country Mile; B. Fehr-DonorsChoose (elem musical

costumes)
Seconded by Director Seeley. Motion carried 7-0.
Action Items

1. Director Seeley moved to approve the conflict waiver from Ahlers & Cooney, P.C. as presented. Seconded by Director Bruns. Motion carried 7-0.
2. Director Clark moved to approve the superintendent sharing agreement as presented. Seconded by Director Sellers. Motion carried 6-0, Director Seeley abstained.

Director Branstad left the meeting.
3. Director Seeley moved to approve the extracurricular sharing agreement with Keota CSD as presented. Seconded by Director Bruns. Motion carried 6-0.

4. Director Wilcox moved to approve the FY25 district audit as presented. Seconded by Director Bruns. Motion carried 6-0.

5. Director Wilcox moved to approve the second reading of the 900 policy series. Seconded by Director Seeley. Motion carried 6-0.

6. Director Seeley moved to approve the second reading of the 100 policy series. Seconded by Director Wilcox. Motion carried 6-0.

7. Director Clark moved to approve the second reading of the 200 policy series. Seconded by Director Seeley. Motion carried 6-0.

8. Director Clark moved to approve the second reading of policy 504.06. Seconded by Director Bruns. Motion carried 6-0.

9. Director Wilcox moved to approve the first reading of the following policies: 406.05, 406.06, 407.05, 501.15, and 802.02 as presented. Seconded by Director Seeley. Motion carried 6-0.

10. Director Bruns moved to approve the GPAEA Service Agreement for 2026-27 as presented. Seconded by Director Sellers. Motion carried 5-0, Director Seeley abstained.

11. Director Seeley moved to set the FY25 Proposed Tax Notice Hearing for March 25, 2026 at 4:30 PM in the District Office. Seconded by Director Wilcox. Motion carried 6-0.

12. Director Seeley moved to set the FY25 Proposed Budget Hearing for April 8, 2026 at 6:00 PM in the Jr/Sr Library. Seconded by Director Wilcox. Motion carried 6-0.

Adjournment: Director Seeley moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 PM. Seconded by Director Sellers. Motion carried 6-0.

Mike Bensmiller, Board President
Jessica Meier, Secretary Pro-Tem
Published in The News-Review on February 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

Sigourney CSD • Work Session 2.11.2026

SIGOURNEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2026
The Board of Directors of the Sigourney Community School District met for a work session on Wednesday, February 11, 2026 in the Sigourney Jr/Sr High Library. Board members present included: Mike Bensmiller, Amy Wilcox, Cody Branstad, Adam Sellers, Steven Seeley, Adam Clark (arrived 5:01), and Tim Bruns (arrived 5:45). Also present were Kevin Hatfield, Jessica Meier, Missy Sellers, Nathan Wood, and Levi Lyle.

President Bensmiller opened the work session at 5:00 PM and acknowledged a quorum of the board.
Work Session: Levi Lyle (Keokuk County Childcare Network) spoke to the board regarding the experience opening the childcare center in Keota. Kevin Hatfield discussed facility projects for the upcoming summer, projects that would be 1-3 years out, and projects that are 4+ years away.

Adjournment: By general consensus the board ended the work session at 6:05 PM.

Mike Bensmiller, Board President
Jessica Meier, Secretary Pro-Tem
Published in The News-Review on February 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

Sigourney CSD • Special Meeting 1.28.2026

SIGOURNEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

KEOKUK COUNTY CAREER ACADEMY
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2026
SPECIAL MEETING
President Bensmiller opened the special meeting at 5:00 PM and acknowledged a quorum of the board.
Board Present: Steven Seeley (Via phone call), Adam Sellers, Mike Bensmiller, Adam Clark, Tim Bruns, Cody Branstad, Amy Wilcox
Also Present: Kevin Hatfield, Angela Lamberson, Candidate A and Board Member for Candidate A
Approval of Agenda
Director Seeley moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Director Clark. Motion carried 7-0.
Closed Session
Director Wilcox moved to enter closed session pursuant to Iowa Code section 21.5(1)(i) To evaluate

the professional competency of an individual whole appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session. Seconded by Director Clark. Motion carried 7-0.
The time was 5:05 PM
Roll Call Vote--AYES: Seeley, Sellers, Bensmiller, Branstad, Bruns, Clark, Wilcox;
NAYS: None
By general consensus the board went out of closed session at 5:57 PM.
Adjournment
Director Seeley moved to adjourn the special meeting at 5:57 PM. Seconded by Director Sellers. Motion carried 7-0.
Mike Bensmiller, Board President
Angela Lamberson, Board Secretary
Published in The News-Review on February 25, 2026

Published in The News-Review on February 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

Sigourney CSD • Claims 2.11.2026

SIGOURNEY CSD FEBRUARY 11, 2026
GENERAL FUND
ACCESS ELEVATOR & LIFTS INC.....521.00
AGRI LAND FS, INC.....1,931.55
AHLERS & COONEY, P.C.....806.00
ALL AMERICAN PEST CONTROL.....180.00
ALLIANT ENERGY.....6,884.13
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES.....1,026.06
ATWOOD ELECTRIC, INC.....288.64
AUDITOR OF STATE.....625.00
BROTHERS MARKET.....114.71
CAM CSD.....16,374.31
CARDMEMBER SERVICE.....908.83
CENTRAL IOWA DISTRIBUTING, INC.....1,535.20
CITY OF SIGOURNEY.....2,352.28
CULLIGAN WATER TECH.....232.21
EDMENTUM.....2,500.00
ELAN FINANCIAL SERVICES.....256.78
FCCLA.....1,275.00
FOLLETT CONTENT SOLUTIONS LLC.....219.04
GREAT PRAIRIE AEA...10,633.85

H & M FARM & HOME SUPPLY CO.....518.51
INDIAN HILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE.....6,632.56
INDIAN HILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE.....70,365.86
IOWA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS.....75.00
IOWA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BUSINESS OFFICIALS.....290.00
ISFIS, INC.....418.50
ISOLVED BENEFIT SERVICES.....89.30
JOHNSON CONTROLS BUILDING SOLUTIONS LLC...2,522.00
KCII RADIO.....99.00
KEOKUK COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPT.....508.96
KEOTA CSD.....155.77
MAHASKA COMMUNICATION GROUP.....1,947.53
MARK'S PLUMBING PARTS.....352.80
MIDWEST ALARM SERVICES.....498.58
PAPER CORPORATION, THE.....1,418.80
POPPLERS MUSIC, INC.....228.98
PRESTWICK HOUSE INC...57.75
QUADIENT, INC.....175.75

RELAYHUB, LLC.....950.34
RIDEHELL ALL AMERICAN SPORTS.....2,631.96
SCHOLASTIC, INC.....574.33
SCHOOL BUS SALES.....508.12
SCHOOL SPECIALTY LLC.....540.10
SINCLAIR NAPA.....504.64
TEACHER SYNERGY, LLC..16.79
TRI-COUNTY CSD.....18,217.12
TRUCK CENTER COMPANIES.....18.60
U.S. CELLULAR.....196.91
VISA.....419.53
Fund Number 10.....160,050.01
ACTIVITY
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES.....1,007.45
BGM CSD.....100.00
BOX, MARTY.....270.00
BROTHERS MARKET.....302.39
BUTLER, TERRY.....270.00
CAMPBELL, WYNDELL.....160.00
CARDMEMBER SERVICE..919.21
CHANCE, BLAKE.....160.00
CHARITON CSD.....285.00
CHRISTNER, MICHAEL.....260.00
COLFAX-MINGO CSD.....150.00
CRAFF, CODY.....90.00
DAVIES, GREG.....160.00
DECKER SPORTING GOODS.....1,122.05

DERLEIN SCALE, INC.....690.00
DONELTS, TODD.....160.00
FIELDS, DAN.....160.00
FORT MADISON CSD.....100.00
FRESE, JAY.....160.00
FRESE, JEFF.....160.00
FRESH START DISTRIBUTORS LLC.....628.90
GEORGE, ROGER.....160.00
H & M FARM & HOME SUPPLY CO.....708.58
HILLCREST ACADEMY.....150.00
HUDSON CSD.....110.00
IOWA HIGH SCHOOL GOLF COACHES ASSOCIATION..45.00
IOWA HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER COACHES ASSOCIATION..40.00
IOWA HIGH SCHOOL SPEECH ASSOCIATION.....55.00
JAMISON, SAMANTHA.....360.00
JOLLY FARMER.....926.31
KADNER, JIM.....160.00
KINGPINS.....100.00
KOEHN, JOHN.....160.00
LUCY'S SOIL SOURCE INC.....2,324.82
LYNNVILLE-SULLY CSD..200.00
MAHASKA BOTTLING.....531.90
MCLENDON, ANTHONY.....300.00
MCWHIRTER, SHANNON..160.00

METZ, SCOTT.....100.00
MOHR, DIEDRA.....160.00
MONTEZUMA CSD.....100.00
MORGAN, RYAN.....100.00
NELSON, JON.....160.00
NEWTON HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC DEPT.....175.00
NORTH TAMA COUNTY CSD.....150.00
OBERMANN, BEN.....320.00
OTTUMWA CSD.....150.00
PARKER, TODD.....160.00
PCM COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT.....75.00
PEKIN CSD.....100.00
PLECKER, MIKE.....100.00
REGINA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS.....110.00
RIESEBIETER, JASON.....160.00
RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE GLOBAL.....530.21
RUDACILLE, JAMES.....160.00
SCHAEFER, JOSH.....160.00
SCHROEDER GRAPHICS & SIGNS.....200.00
SEAGREN, SCOTT.....160.00
SIGOURNEY LUMBER.....321.57
STOAKES, JAMES.....160.00
SULLIVAN, BRENDAN.....160.00
SWENSON, TANNER.....160.00
THEATRE AVENUE.....799.00

THIESSEN, TIFFANY.....190.00
TOWN & COUNTRY WHOLESALE.....2,378.96
VANDEGRIF, TONY.....160.00
VISA.....285.37
WAPELLO CSD.....200.00
WATTS, MARK.....320.00
WAUKEE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS.....150.00
WEBER, KLYNT.....200.00
WILKENS ATHLETICS.....2,549.00
WOODWARD, JOHN.....160.00
WUESTEWALD, ADAM.....160.00
Fund Number 21.....25,490.72
PPEL
A-ONE GEOTHERMAL.....20,700.00
ACCESS SYSTEMS LEASING.....957.30
Fund Number 36.....21,657.30
NUTRITION
OPAAI FOOD MANAGEMENT, INC.....42,206.35
Fund Number 61.....42,206.35
TOTAL ALL FUNDS.....249,404.38
Published in The News-Review on February 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

English Valleys CSD • Special Meeting 2.16.2026

ment to discuss agenda item #4, not approve and to add the pledge of allegiance.
Voting: Unanimously Approved.
5-0 Motion carried.

The board said the Pledge of Allegiance.
Board President Susan Schaefer read a letter to the attendees:
I would like to take a moment to read this letter to ensure that we clearly communicate our shared understanding that nothing overlooked. After speaking with our board members, I want to begin by emphasizing that all board members and the district administration truly value our positive working relationship with Compass Memorial. We are grateful for the partnership we share and for the professionalism and care consistently provided. Over the past few days, I have

taken the opportunity to review our district's procedures and policies. Our currently policy, 510, which is mandated by the State of Iowa, requires that we follow Iowa Code 280.13C regarding concussion protocol under the Iowa High School Athletic Association and the Iowa Girls Athletic Union guidelines. The Compass policy that was presented last Wednesday outlines these exact same requirements and expectations. I firmly believe that all district leaders fully support Compass Medical's athletic trainer and deeply appreciate the expertise and dedication brought to our students. We are very fortunate to have such a strong and collaborative partnership with Compass. Please know that district leadership will never compromise the health and safety of a student for any reason.

The well-being of our students will always remain our highest priority.
Board member Steve Axmear apologized for his words in the previous meeting. Mr. Rheingans also apologized to Compass representatives and expressed that English Valleys does value the relationship. Compass representatives expressed that they also value the partnership and will continue to do what's best for students. Trent Forrest thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

A motion was made by Voss, seconded by Forrest to adjourn at 2:40pm. Unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Wendy Ayers, Board Secretary
Published in The News-Review on February 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

English Valleys CSD • January 2026 Claims

Entry Fees.....200.00
Wartburg College,festival fees,.....307.00
Activity Account,** BANK ACCOUNT TOTAL **8809.15
Class Construction Account, January ~ 2026,
Grimm Real Estate,insurance - student,.....630.00
Class Construction Account,** BANK ACCOUNT TOTAL **630.00
General Account, January ~ 2026,
Access Systems,copier fees,.....724.45
Ace Refrigeration,equipment repair,.....1510.00
Adventure Lighting,Custodial Supplies,.....288.57
Ahlers Law Firm,Legal Fees,.....137.50
AIG Retirement,Tsa/Ira/Annuities,.....435.00
Alliant Energy,Electricity,.....2660.70
Amazon Business,vocational ag suppli,.....1559.85
Arnold Motor Supply,vehicle repair parts,.....98.79
Wendy Ayers,travel reimb.,.....53.00
B & L Transmission Inc.,transmission repair,.....5440.84
Baker Paper & Supply,Custodial Supplies,.....302.81
BMO Harris Commercial Card,clinic fees,.....60.00
Carquest Auto Parts,vehicle repair parts,.....745.94
CDW Government INC.,software fees,.....2202.55
Central Iowa Distributing Inc,custodial supplies,.....217.00
Collection Services Center,Other Deducts W/H,.....456.42
Combustion Control Company,boiler repair,.....2283.50
Comfort Inn & Suites - Des Moines,Board Lodging fees,.....694.40
Compass Memorial,physical,.....150.00
Cox Sanitation Service,garbage collection,.....781.85
Department of Inspections Appeals & Licensing,boiler inspection fee,.....320.00
DHS Cashier 1st Fl.,medicaid,.....5870.77
Empower,Tsa/Ira/Annuities,.....1805.00
English Valleys Activity Fund,transfer to activity,.....236.71
English Valleys CSD,Medical Insurance,.....119610.71
Eocene Environmental Group Inc.,workshop fees,.....1225.00
Equitable,Tsa/Ira/Annuities,.....485.00
Freeman Foods,FCS Supplies,.....562.91
Grant Wood AEA,special education fe,.....13665.80
Great Prairie Area Education Agency,shared librarian,.....1750.00
Green Top Lawn Care,snow removal,.....2100.00
HD Supply Formerly Home Depot Pro,Custodial Supplies,.....129.66
Horace Mann,Tsa/Ira/Annuities,.....1540.00
Infrastructure Technology solutions,tech support,.....65.00
ING USA Annuity & Life Ins,Tsa/Ira/Annuities,.....820.00
Iowa Assc Of School Boards,Convention Fee,.....1050.00
Iowa Communications Network,ICN Fees,.....1102.32
Iowa Public Employee Ret Sys.,IPERS,.....45506.19
ISFIS,Background Check fee,.....63.00
J B Repair,vehicle repair,.....1457.75
Jaytech Inc.,Maintenance fees,.....269.57
Johnson Controls,heater repair,.....2790.59
Kirkwood Community College,Postsecondary Tuitio,.....2954.96
Tami Marsh,tech maintenance fee,.....5250.00
McCloud Services,pest control,.....66.13
MCI,phone,.....113.41
Medical Enterprises,test kits,.....60.00
Menards - Iowa City,Industrial Tech Supp,.....290.44
Midwest Alarm System,fire alarm monitorin,.....689.54
Multi County Oil,gas,diesel,.....1804.56
New Century,LP,.....1735.47

North English Co-Op Tele Co., Phone,.....695.03
City Of North English,Water/Sewer,.....970.33
thyssenkrupp Elevator Corp.,elevator maintenance,.....314.59
Opaa! Food Management,Elem fees,.....78.30
Polk County Sheriff's Office,Other Deducts W/H,.....1008.97
Poweshiek County Auditor,elec-tion fees,.....78.30
RevTrack,revtrack fees,.....305.15
School Bus Sales,bus repair parts,.....1558.14
Superior Sheet Metal LLC,heater unit replacem,.....16300.00
T I P Rural Electric Coop,electricity,.....3987.07
The Joy of Music,sp ed services,.....160.00
The News-Review,Legal Notice fees,.....267.81
Treasure State Of Iowa,State Income Tax,.....6545.00
Tri-County CSD,shared art teacher,.....19794.67
Tri-State Automatic Sprinkler,inspection fees,.....318.00
Verizon Business,phone,.....44.87
Vista Software LLC,software fees,.....2590.00
Voya,Tsa/Ira/Annuities,.....2795.00
Woodman Controls,tech support fees,.....457.12
General Account,** BANK ACCOUNT TOTAL **294449.51
Insurance Account, January ~ 2026,
Seabury & Smith INC IA Fiduciary,premiums,.....60801.51
TASC,premiums,.....1874.98
Insurance Account,** BANK ACCOUNT TOTAL **62676.49
Nutrition & Food Service Act, January ~ 2026,
English Valleys CSD,p/r transfer, ..1443.57
Opaa! Food Management,Con-tract Services,.....24342.63
Nutrition & Food Service Act,** BANK ACCOUNT TOTAL **25786.20
**** DISTRICT TOTAL ****392351.35
Published in The News-Review on February 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

English Valleys CSD • Minutes 2.11.2026

THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENGLISH VALLEYS BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON FEBRUARY 11TH, 2026.
English Valleys members present: Susan Schaefer, Tom Voss, Trent Forrest, Katie Taukei, Steve Axmear, Board Secretary Wendy Ayers
Others present: Superintendent Curt Rheingans, Amy Harger, Zach Weibacher, Tami Marsh, Carrie Burdick, Melinda Semler, Renee Allison, Ashley Dickey
The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm.
A motion was made by Forrest, seconded by Taukei to approve the agenda, with the addition for discussion on changes to concussion protocol. Motion carried.
Steve Axmear read the Mission Statement.
1. Regular Business- Consent Agenda
A. Approve Minutes of Meetings Held January 14, 2026 and January 21st, 2026
B. Approve Payment of Activity Bills
C. Approve Payment of Bills
D. Receive Secretary/Treasurer's Financial Report for the Month Ending 1/31/26
E. Receive and Take Action on Resignations – Brianna Polton – Elementary Para
F. Receive and Take Action on Staff Contracts - Emily Allison- Elementary Para
A motion was made by Forrest, seconded by Taukei to approve the consent agenda, with edit changes to the work session minutes. Roll call vote. Schaefer aye, Voss aye, Forrest aye, Axmear aye, Taukei aye. Motion carried.

and making that their next goal to increase attendance rates.
The board discussed the presented calendar. Administration informed the board that the calendar was presented to the teachers and they support it. A motion was made by Forrest, seconded by Axmear to set the public hearing for the FY27 calendar for March 11th, 2026 at 6pm. Motion carried.
The board discussed the work session discussion items and, specifically, the bid for purchasing whiteboards. A motion was made by Taukei, seconded by Forrest to approve the proposal to purchase from Premiere new whiteboards at the high school and elementary, to not exceed \$59,860.78. Roll call vote. Axmear aye, Taukei aye, Voss nay, Forrest aye, Schaefer aye. Motion carried.
A motion was made by Axmear, seconded by Voss, to approve the NE Celebration committee's request to use the baseball field out-field for the celebration in July. Motion carried.
The board received the fundrais-er requests:
Drama – Carnival tshirts
Drama/Speech – Poster Raffle
NHS – Carnival Mini Golf/Cake Walk/Fishing Pond
Cheer – Carnival activities
EV elementary school – Kids Heart Challenge
Student Council – St Patrick's Day boxes
Girls Basketball – Free throw a thon
FCCLA Fundraiser – Carnival Food
A motion was made by Voss, seconded by Taukei to approve the presented fundraisers. Motion carried.

Information and Discussion Items:
Steve Axmear informed the board that he donated his batting cage for the youth league to use in the gym. He informed the board that frame will need to be built.
The board also heard that Noah Gent, Kinnick Axmear, and Lucas Sieren all made youth state wrestling.
Trent Forrest discussed that the Iowa County Community Foundation is opening up their application for grants on March 1st.
Open Enrollment Out Acknowledgements: Mya Densmore, to Mid Prairie Virtual, Abe Axmear to Williamsburg, and Sam Schaefer to Williamsburg.
Open Enrollment In Acknowledgement
Superintendent/Board Communication
Mr. Rheingans gave the board a legislative update.
Mr. Rheingans discussed summer work and now putting the whiteboards on the schedule. He also spoke about getting painting bids, new countertop bids, new sink bids, and presenting the flooring bids in March.
Administration discussed with the board an announcement on better sportsmanship from fans.
The agreed on having another work session on March 11th at 5pm.
Next Regular Meeting: March 11th, 2026
A motion was made by Forrest, seconded by Axmear to adjourn at 8:20 pm. Motion carried.
Wendy Ayers, Board Secretary
Published in The News-Review on February 25, 2026

Dr. Harger and Mr. Weibacher both spoke to the board about winter testing and scores are increasing. Both Dr. Harger and Mr. Weibacher spoke about concerns on attendance in both their buildings

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English Valleys Bearometer

February 25, 2026

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Issue: XXV

EV Student Council Grows as Leaders at District Conference

By: Aliza Walker

The English Valleys Student Council is always looking to improve! On February 17th, they took a trip to Oskaloosa for their District Conference to learn more about leadership and to see how other schools run their student councils. While at the conference, our EV Student Council officers, district officer, and Jack Osborn all presented their ideas for putting the “pep” in pep rallies. They also learned how to be better leaders by working through tough situations and maintaining a growth mindset from the keynote speaker, Tom Hicks.

At the Southeast District Conference, about 250 students attended from fourteen different schools. They started the morning by meeting in the auditorium, participating in icebreaker activities, and reviewing the agenda for the day. Tom Hicks then came out and gave them a powerful lesson about juggling, both literally and figuratively. He helped show students that they can fail at something but still remain positive and grow from the experience. Once he finished, everyone headed to their breakout sessions.

There were twelve different breakout sessions focused on leadership and ways to include more students in school activities. Our student council led a breakout session during the first two rotations. Their session highlighted the different pep rally games that students know and love. After presenting, they demonstrated some of the games, including tug-of-war, rock-paper-scissors, “What’s in Your Pocket?”, and hula hoops. They also encouraged participants to ask questions and suggest additional game ideas for our pep rallies.

After the breakout sessions concluded, everyone returned to the auditorium for a final message about an upcoming camp. Throughout the day, participants played a giant game of rock-paper-scissors using bracelets. Students competed against one another for bracelets; if you lost, you gave your bracelets to the winner. At the end of the conference, the four students with the most bracelets competed for first place, and the winner received a prize. Afterward, everyone was dismissed to grab lunch and return to their schools, taking their new leadership skills and ideas back to their communities to share with fellow students.



English Valleys High School Swing Show Set for March 6

By: Hunter Offerman

The English Valleys High School Swing Show will take place Friday, March 6, at 6:30 PM in Gene’s Gym. The show will feature performances by both the high school band and choir.

The band’s program includes pieces such as The Great Locomotive Chase and the Marches of John Williams, along with a high-energy jazz set that continues a long-standing school tradition. The choir will offer a mix of group and solo performances, providing a variety of musical styles throughout the evening.

This year’s theme, storytelling, allows students to showcase their talents in a relaxed, fun, and energetic setting. The event is open to the public, and everyone is invited to enjoy an evening of live music.



Bears Give It Their All at State Qualifying Meet

On Saturday, February 14, the English Valleys Bears traveled to Colfax-Mingo High School for the state qualifying district wrestling meet. The team fought hard all day, showing grit and determination, but came up just short of sending wrestlers to the IHSSA State Wrestling Tournament.

Senior Cael Grove and Kaleb Bolinger both finished third in their weight classes, with Grove going 2-1 and earning two pins, and Bolinger finishing 3-1 with pins as well. Freshman Dayne Render had a strong showing, taking fourth place.

Junior Mat Martinez, sophomore Noah Armstrong, and freshman Will McPherson all gave tremendous effort throughout the day.

Although the Bears fell short of their season goal, the team hopes this near miss will fuel their drive for next year, aiming to send multiple wrestlers to the state tournament. Coaches and teammates celebrated the dedication and determination of all the athletes.



Upcoming Activities:

February 27:
NHS Ceremony 6:00

February 28:
District Speech Contest, Individual Events



THE EAGLE'S WING

Keota Jr./Sr. High School Student Newspaper



Issue No. 12

Senior Spotlight

JAKE MORRIS

Jake Morris is the son of John Morris, who has been a piper fitter for years after retiring from the military. Jake's mother is Andrea Bennett, who works as a C.N.A. Jake has one brother, Owen Morris, who is serving in the military like their father. Jake when he was young, jake dreamed of being an F.B.I agent. Now he is going to college at Kirkwood for precision agriculture, to hopefully run a farm some day. He wants to be known as a easy going guy who likes to take leadership, shown in his years of EagleRock! and speech, where he helps with more than just performing. He would also like to be remembered as a good peer, shown by constantly doing not just extracurricular activities, but he's also seen going to Mexican and hanging out in general with his peers. Jake's favorite memories are with Zach Jamison doing most of his agriculture classes, but he really enjoys senior shop class where they are building things and learning basic building skills. Jake has always taken great pride in the school; he rarely misses a sports game or school event and is often described as the life of the party at these events. Jake's favorite memory is TP-ing with his peers for homecoming. His favorite tradition is the Eagle Olympics. He always loves dressing up and competing. His favorite activity was dodge ball. Jake has had a past in sports competing in football, basketball, golf, and track. He has performed at the all state speech festival twice in his high school career. He says he will miss socializing the most with students and the staff.



By: David Sherman

BOWLING

The Sigourney-Keota boys bowling team finished as team runners-up at the Class 1A State meet at Keokuk on February 16. The Savages rolled a team score 2983, narrowly missing the top spot behind Louisa-Muscatine's 3011. Sigourney-Keota was led by individual Qualifier Meet Champ Owen Clark and his 668 series, which included a high game 245. Other SK scores were Wells Clark, third overall with a 643 and high game 227; Aidan Greiner with a 565 and high game 204; Liam VanVoltenburg 546, with a high game 201; Caden Meyer with a 416 and high game 160 and Easton Olsen 378, with a high game 151. Based on their Monday performance, both Owen and Wells Clark will make it to the state meet. The Class 1A State Bowling Championships will be held Tuesday, February 24 at XBC in Waterloo.



By: David Sherman

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Aspen Galindo is a freshman at Keota High School. Aspen says he wants to be a professional golfer when he grows up. Aspen is involved in basketball, bFA, Baseball and golf, In his free time, Aspen enjoys playing golf with his family and friends and also enjoys playing video games. Aspen's nickname is Nacho and goes by this nickname because that is his username on his xbox. Aspen has 2 sisters Lexus and Amelia and also has 2 dogs named Rizzo and Finch.



By: Jack Greiner

EAGLEROCK! SOARS

The EagleRock season has been very successful this season so far. Mrs. Edwards has said EagleRock has competed in 2 contests so far and have received a good rating at one competition and won another contest this past weekend. Edwards says she enjoys this group as they are very dedicated to EagleRock and work hard at every practice and competition. Edwards says another reason she enjoys this group is because they have a great attitude and are very easy to work with. Edwards said the group is preparing to travel to Florida to perform with schools from across the nation. The EagleRock season will finish up on the 29th of April.

By: Jack Greiner

EVENTS

- 25 Girls Regular Basketball TBA
- Boys State Bowling
- 26 JH Girls Wrestling @ HLV 4:30
- 27 No School
- 28 EagleRock! @ Central Lee, Donnelson
- Boys Sub-State Basketball TBA
- Mar 1 Large Group Speech Awards Potluck
- 2-7 Girls' State Basketball Tourney @ Des Moines
- 3 JH Track Mtg
- 4 FFA Mtg @ 7:30
- Audit
- 5 KEF Applications
- Due
- 6 No School
- ACT Registration
- Deadline
- 7 FFA District Contest @ Cedar Rapids
- EagleRock! @ West Des Moines



Eagle Advisories made Valentine's Day cards, which Student Council delivered to the nursing home

EAGLE'S WING STAFF

2025-2026

JACK GREINER
DAVID SHERMAN
FORREST BONEBRAKE

ADVISER: Dr CULLETT

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



MS.SANCHEZ STAFF



"Lil Wayne"

JACOB LIBE 12TH



"Eminem"

AYDEN GALINDO 11TH



"Lynryd Skynyrd"

HALEE HEISDORFFER 10TH



"Ella Langley"

DREW DODD 9TH



"Drake"

LANDON BEINHART 8TH



"Treaty Oak Revival"

CONNOR OSWEILER 7TH



"Skillet"

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Applications Open for 2026 Landowner Program: Balancing Profitability, Stewardship and Legacy

Southeast Iowa Agricultural Research Association to Hold Annual Meeting March 5

By: Rebecca Vittetoe
 AMES, Iowa – The Southeast Iowa Agricultural Research Association will host its annual meeting on Thursday, March 5, at the Southeast Research and Demonstration Farm, located at 3115 Louisa-Washington Road, Crawfordsville. The association, in partnership with Iowa State University, oversees the Southeast Research and Demonstration Farm. The annual meeting will feature the following topics and Iowa State speakers:

The Future of Crop Disease Management with Alison Robertson, professor and extension crop plant pathologist
No Easy Button for Rootworms: A Sustainable Plan for the Billion Dollar Pest with Erin Hodgson, professor and extension entomologist
Artificial Intelligence in Agriculture: What it is, What it can do, and What Iowa State University is working on with Karl Kerns, assistant professor of animal science
Additionally, a local research farm update will be given by Cody Schneider, farm superintendent, followed by an update from the Iowa State campus from Tim Goode, research farms manager, and Kendall Lamkey, associate dean for facil-

ities and operations for Iowa State's research farms. Registration and refreshments will begin at 9:30 a.m., with the meeting starting at 10 a.m. and concluding at 3 p.m. After the meeting, the Southeast Iowa Agricultural Research Association board of directors will meet. Lunch will be served during the meeting and is offered at no cost to association members and at \$10 for those who are not association members. For those interested in becoming a member or renewing their membership with the association, the dues are \$25, and membership lasts five years. Checks can be made out to SEIARA and

sent to the ISU Extension and Outreach Johnson County office (3109 Old Highway 218 S., Iowa City, IA 52246), or they can be paid at the meeting. Anyone interested in attending is encouraged to pre-register online by March 2 or by calling the Johnson County office at 319-337-2145. Registration is not required but helps provide a headcount for lunch. This meeting is supported by local sponsors. Certified Crop Advisors can earn Continuing Education Units for attending. For more information, please email seiar@iastate.edu or call 319-337-2145.

Late Winter Gardening Tips presentation

OSKALOOSA – Gardening season hasn't start yet – or has it? There are plenty of things for gardeners to do in the late winter! A presentation featuring several Mahaska County Master Gardeners will cover gardening tasks to do in late winter (late February & March) for Fruits, Trees & Shrubs, Flowers, Herbs, Houseplants, and Vegetables. Presentation will be at the Mahaska County Extension office (212 North I Street, Oskaloosa) Tuesday March 10 at 7 pm.

This presentation is open to the public for anyone wishing to learn about the topic; both adults and youth. There is no fee to attend due to Iowa State University Extension and Outreach–Mahaska County and Mahaska County Master Gardener support. Registration is not required, but appreciated. To register, or for additional information about horticulture programming please contact Suzette Striegel, Mahaska County Extension Horticulture and Education Program Coordinator by phone 641-673-5841 or email striegel@iastate.edu. Inclement weather will postpone the presentation. If in doubt, please check local media, ISU Extension Outreach – Mahaska County office, website or Facebook

page, or Mahaska County Master Gardeners Facebook pages. Mahaska County Master Gardeners are celebrating their twenty-third year. The local program organized in 2003 after the county held their first county training. The educational volunteer program, sponsored by Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, provides current, research based, home horticulture information and education to the citizens of Iowa through programs and projects. Master Gardeners receive horticulture training, and volunteer to promote a mission of education

and service. The program is open to anyone 16 or older with an interest in gardening and a willingness to use their knowledge, experience and enthusiasm to make a positive impact on their local community. In 2020 the training went online and continues as hybrid (both online and in-person). More information about this event, Master Gardener training and other horticulture events can be found at the Mahaska County Extension Office; 212 North I Street; Oskaloosa Phone 641-673-5841; and www.extension.iastate.edu/mahaska/yardgarden.htm.

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