



The News-Review

\$1.50

SERVING THE KEOKUK COUNTY AREA SINCE 1860

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 18, 2026
NUMBER 11, 165TH YEAR

Community CALENDAR

- BINGO Nights Keokuk County Expo**
3/18
- Knights of Columbus Harper Pepper Tournament**
3/21. 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
- Bingo at Keokuk County Fairgrounds**
Thomas Hall on Sundays, Jan. 4 - March 22, 1-4 p.m.
- Ham Ball Supper**
Delta Methodist Church
Saturday, March 21, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Ham balls, cheesy potatoes, salads, homemade desserts. Free will donation
- 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
- July 4th Planning Meeting**
March 19th @6:00pm
Sigourney City Hall
- English Valleys Spring Play: Game of Tiaras**
March 20 and 21
- North English Fire Supper**
4:30-7:00 p.m., March 21 at Fire Station, 210 N Main St, North English. Dine in or carry out.
- Pekin Night of Theatre**
7 p.m., Saturday, March 21 at Pekin High School Commons
- Keota Spring Play: The Princess Quest**
March 27 and 28, 7:30 p.m. at Keota High School Auditorium
- Ham and Beans Supper**
Thursday April 9, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Delta Town and Country Center- Delta, Iowa . Free will offering. All Proceeds go to towards the remodeling!! Ham and

Former Drama Director Returns for "Charlotte's Web," Brings in Massive Crowd

By Casey Jarmes |
The News-Review

SIGOURNEY – Kelly Mousel directed plays at Sigourney Schools for a decade before retiring from drama in 2016. On March 13 and 14, she returned, directing a play adaptation of the children's novel "Charlotte's Web" by E.B. White. The play, starring Isaac Jones as Wilbur and Ella Bahlmann as Charlotte, tells the story of a spider attempting to save a young pig from being eaten by writing out words of



The farm animals react to Charlotte's web



The county fair intermission

praise in her spiderwebs. The play drew in hundreds on both of its nights, with part of the massive crowd standing in the back of the gym to see the show.

"I like to do family oriented plays," said Mousel. "I like to do productions to bring the whole entire family out. It's important that parents, family-oriented people around small towns, they don't have to always leave the kids at home. You get them involved, and the earlier they see a stage, the earlier they think, 'Hey, I could do that someday.'"

Mousel returned, for one year, after being asked to re-

CHARLOTTE'S WEB
pg. 8



John Berg as Templeton



Ella Bahlmann as Charlotte



Isaac Jones as Wilbur

Easter Egg Hunt Times

<p>North English Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, March 21, 10:00 a.m. English Valleys Elementary</p>	<p>Stone Cottage Easter Egg Hunt Friday, April 3, 10:30 a.m. Stone Cottage Care Center</p>	<p>Sigourney Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 4, 10:00 a.m. Keokuk County Expo</p>	
<p>What Cheer Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, March 28, 10:00 a.m. What Cheer Fairgrounds</p>	<p>Keota Community Club Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 4, 10:00 a.m. Wilson Memorial Park</p>	<p>Richland Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 4, 10:00 a.m. Richland Town Square</p>	

Three Pekin Students, One Sigourney Student Make Individual Speech All-State

By Casey Jarmes |
The News-Review

VINTON – The Southeast Iowa High School Speech Association State contest was held at Vinton-Shellsburg on March 14. Students who previously earned "I" ratings at the district level performed before a harsher panel of three judges. The goal of every student competing at the State contests is to earn a coveted nomination to perform at the All State Festival, held on March 30 at the University of Northern Iowa. To reach the All State Festival, students must give impeccable performances and receive both a I

rating and a recommendation from at least two judges. Four local students received



The Pekin Team

- All-State nominations:
- Isaac Jones of Sigourney in Reviewing for a review of Terraria 1.4.4.
 - Brinley Phillips of Pekin in Solo Musical Theatre for "Screw Loose" from "Cry Baby."
 - Zoe Heisdorffer of Pekin in Storytelling for "Where the Wild Things Are" by Maurice Sendak.
 - Tatum Harbison of Pekin in Reviewing for "So This is Basically Labyrinth."
- All four of these acts received perfect scores from judges. Harbison also re-

SPEECH
pg. 8

2026
Award Winning Newspaper

In this issue

Agri-View..... 8B

Church Calendar.....5

Classifieds6

Local 2-3, 7

Records2B-4B

The Sun Spot.....8

Sports..... 9-10

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.



North English Fire Department Receives New Tanker Truck

By Casey Jarmes | The News-Review
NORTH ENGLISH – The North English Volunteer Fire Department received a new tanker truck recently, replacing their old tanker truck, which was cobbled together

er out of a milk truck and a garbage truck. The department spent two years and called forty dealers in three states to try and find a new tanker, eventually finding one nearby in Williamsburg. The truck was built in 2004,

has 16,300 miles, and holds 3,400 gallons. Firefighter Dan Strohman stated that this was the first time in the 49 years he'd been with the department that they'd had a truck actually built to be a tanker.

Grant Ranch Named Small Business of the Week

By Casey Jarmes | The News-Review
SIGOURNEY – On March 9, Grant Ranch Grub & Pub was recognized as Senator Joni Ernst's Small Business of the Week. "Grant Ranch Grub & Pub is a shining example of how Iowa hospitality, family tradition, and entrepreneurial perseverance can be sandwiched together to make a big impact," Ernst said in a press release. "Through exceptional service, Danette Meyer and her team are serving up hometown flavor one plate at a time." "I'm actually very honored, because Keokuk County has a lot of great small businesses to choose

from," said owner Danette Meyer. Grant Ranch Grub & Pub, a bar and grill on the square in Sigourney, was opened by Meyer in 2020. It shares its name with several restaurants owned by Meyer's family in the past, the first being opened by her grandparents Duane and Mary Grant in Marengo. "Business has been wonderful. The community

has been awesome with supporting my dream of owning my own restaurant...It's in the family genes. I'm a third generation, my grandparents started in the 60s, and then my mom also had her own place, and now I have mine, and one of my teenagers is learning the ropes also, and possibly can carry on the tradition," said Meyer.



Ollie Man Pleads Not Guilty To Alleged Altercation With Protester

By Casey Jarmes | The News-Review
SIGOURNEY – For months now, Sigourney resident Mathew Lentz has been standing on the corner of Highway 92 and Main Street, holding a variety of provocative signs. These signs usually criticize President Donald Trump and Sigourney's Republican voters. Often, these signs have contained profanity, something that has angered many in this community. On Jan. 21, the News-Review published a Letter to the Editor sent to us by

George Snakenberg of Ollie titled "Our First Amendment Rights While Protecting the Innocence of Our Youth," which admonished the use of curse words in Lentz's signs. In this letter, Snakenberg wrote "It is my belief that our words are not merely words, but seeds that are being planted in the virgin soil of our children's minds. These seeds will take root and grow into hatred. Most altercations will start out with a certain word."

language displayed on the victim's sign and initiated a verbal altercation with the victim. During the argument, the defendant attempted to rip the sign out of the victim's arms. While doing so, the defendant grabbed the victim's left arm, causing the victim to overextend his arm. The defendant was unable to take the victim's sign and continued to engage in a verbal altercation, disturbing the victim while he was peacefully protesting."

According to a criminal complaint, at around 3:40 p.m. on Dec. 17, Snakenberg "became upset with the

Snakenberg was charged with Disorderly Conduct, a simple misdemeanor. He plead Not Guilty on March 9.

Sigourney School Board Discusses Weight Room Improvements, Replacing Fire Alarms

By Casey Jarmes | The News-Review
SIGOURNEY – The Sigourney Jr/Sr High School has applied for a \$140,000 matching funds grant to expand the weight room, adding 625 square feet and connecting it to the school building. During the March 11 meeting of the Sigourney School Board, High School Principal Shannon Webb stated they could add more equipment and have the weight room open to everyone during study halls. Superintendent Kevin Hatfield explained that the grant would cover around half of the cost of a roughly \$300,000 project. He stated that they had received \$25,000 from a person interested in the wellness benefits and were looking into other grants to help cover the costs. The \$140,000 grant will be decided on in May. Board member Adam Clark stated that the \$300,000 price tag seemed expensive, for the size of the expansion. Also at the Wednesday meeting, Hatfield showed

the board two bids, one from ESCO Group and one from Atwood Electric, to replace the secondary building's fire alarm system. One bid is for \$230,000 and the other is for \$273,663. Replacing the fire alarms was originally planned to be done as part of the infrastructure bond project, which failed to pass in November. Hatfield explained that the system's panels are old and frequently have false alarms or sensors go out. Worse, repairmen struggle to find replacement parts for the old system. Hatfield stated that one repairman might be able to find parts from an old fire alarm system that was taken out of a school, but that he wasn't sure. Board member Steven Seeley stated it would be cheaper and simpler to replace the fire alarms when the ceilings are down during a bigger infrastructure project. Board member Tim Bruns stated he was torn, because it would be terrible if something happened, but he didn't want to

spend more in the event the bond passes. Board member Mike Bensmiller stated that the next bond vote might not pass. Clark stated that the system works currently and suggested trying to get old parts. Bensmiller stated that he didn't want to take a chance with safety. Discussion was tabled.

The board approved a 28e agreement with the Sigourney Public Library for librarian services, which will give the school more librarian days at a lower cost than the current services purchased through the AEA. Hatfield brought up controversies other Iowa schools had been embroiled in for allowing students to use their school ID at the public library; he explained that the 28e specified that the librarian will follow all codes relating to school libraries.

The district will have a public hearing on the new tax rate at 4:30 on March 25, at the district office. The board has proposed for this rate to be \$11.49381 per \$1,000 of taxable property.

South English Planning Water Line Overhaul

By Casey Jarmes | The News-Review
SOUTH ENGLISH – For years, South English has had problems with the city's water main system, which frequently has had leaks that went months without being found. The city council is now looking into a massive project to replace nearly all of the city's water lines. During the March 10 meeting, the council spoke with Richard Teed from the engineering firm Garden & Associates, who informed them that they could receive \$900,000 in loan forgiveness SRF funding for this project. He stated that the likelihood of receiving this funding is high, but that it would require spending \$150,000 upfront in design and loan closing costs, paid off over a 20-year low interest Planning and Design Loan.

plus an additional \$10,000. Councilman Cameron Miller stated there had been months where they lost a million gallons from leaks. Mayor Ed Shafranek stated that the two-inch mains were close to fifty years old and that most of the service lines were replaced 23-years-ago.

night they discuss the tax levy. The council approved not increasing employee wages, with Hope Frazier explaining that they lost a bunch of money this year on water, had a big project coming, and also need to redo the roads. She brought up a quote from ION Water for \$1,450 a month, which would do everything they needed for cheaper than giving the two water employees raises. Shafranek stated that, if they approved this, they would need to eliminate the water employee positions and give them 60 day warnings. City Clerk Stephanie Lown asked if ION would do water shutoffs and Hope Frazier said that, worst case scenario, the council could shut off water lines.

Also at the Tuesday meeting, the council discussed increasing the city's water rates. Hope Frazier suggested waiting until they were further along with Gardener & Associates before raising rates. Miller stated they were going to continue losing money no matter what and that they had lost money on water each of the last five years. Shafranek stated there was no way to not raise rates, with the project they were looking at. Councilman Nick Frazier stated the public would be more accepting if they raised rates after the project got going. Hope Frazier noted that a lot of people in town were on fixed incomes. Shafranek stated it was better to raise rates now than to do a huge jump like North English did a few years ago. The council decided to discuss this more during a March 24 special meeting, the same

Nick Frazier brought up the old hotel, which has become less structurally sound after its porch was removed. Councilman Roger Murphy noted that there was a hole in the hotel's foundation, with a six-foot drop into the basement. Shafranek stated they should at least rope the hole off, to keep kids from falling in. The council voted to have their lawyer send a letter to the property owner.

Keota School Board reviews counseling program, discusses community trail project, and approves purchases

By: Katie Phillips | The News-Review
KEOTA – The Keota School Board reviewed the district's counseling program, discussed a potential community trail project and approved several purchases and facility improvements during its meeting Thursday,

March 12. Elementary school counselor Marnie Schrader presented an overview of the district's school counseling program, which serves all 177 elementary students through classroom guidance lessons, small group instruction, and individual counseling ses-

sions. Each grade receives about 20 classroom counseling lessons each year. The program has also hosted nine small groups this school year, each with two to six students, serv-

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Community CALENDAR

Beans, Potato Soup, cornbread, Relish Tray, Desserts, and Drinks. Dine in or call 641-660-7848 for to go orders.

Richland Women's Club Paint Party

Monday, April 13th 6-9PM. Call Sandy Eidahl at 641-919-9835 or Candy Pfeifer at 641-919-8384

Sigourney American Legion Post #19

Meets 7:00 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 7 p.m. at Free Grace United at 107 E Broadway St. What Cheer. For: All Addictions: any hurt, habit or hang up. Come as you are. Childcare provided. Everyone is welcome. freegrace.tv/recovery

Old Keota Business

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

Keota Food Pantry

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

Richland Community Food Bank

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

City of Keota Public Meeting

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

Keota School Board

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

Keota VFW Auxiliary

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

Keokuk County Historical Society

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

Keokuk County Supervisors

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

Alcoholics Anonymous Sigourney

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

Narcotics Anonymous-Sigourney

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

Food Pantry-Sigourney

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

Keokuk County Public Health

Keokuk County Public Health is here to serve you. We offer an array of services such as: home health services, immunizations, education, diabetic care, foot care, partner's program, etc.

We have walkers, wheelchairs, shower chairs, canes, etc. to loan out free of cost. Please call us if you or a loved one is in need. For more information, call (641) 622-3575.

Alcoholics Anonymous-Keota

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

Alzheimer's Support

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

Take Off Pounds Sensibly

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

Grief Share

Sigourney 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

Pekin Panther Players To Host Night of Theatre

The Pekin Panther Players will host their annual Night of Theatre fundraising event at 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 21, 2026 in the Pekin High School Commons. The event features a dessert buffet as well as student speech and music performances. Admission is FREE, but do-

nations are requested to help fund contest entry fees and their fall drama production.

If you have questions or would like more information or want to donate a dessert, please contact Jim Eschenbrenner at Jim.Esch@pekincsd.org or call the school office at (319) 695-3705.

Pekin to Offer Four-Day-A-Week Preschool

PACKWOOD – Next year, Pekin will begin offering four-day-a-week preschool, operating Monday through Thursday. According to a press release, this is being done "to better serve families and meet growing demand, the district will provide two Preschool classrooms, allowing more children to access a high-quality early learning experience within the district."

"Our goal is to ensure every young learner has a strong start," said Elementary Principal Aaron Deutsch. "Expanding to a four-day model strengthens school readiness, supports consistent routines for students, and provides families with increased access to early childhood education."

The press release recommends contacting the Pekin Elementary office for any questions.

Richland Council Changes Yield Signs to Stop Signs

By Casey Jarmes | The News-Review

RICHLAND – During the March 9 meeting of the Richland City Council, the council approved changing the yield signs at the intersection of Richland Street and Stroup Street and at the intersection of Richland Street and South Street to stop signs, due to problems with drivers not slowing down at the intersections. Councilwoman Cyndia Crafton stated that her husband had been hit at the intersection and that she herself had almost been hit five times.

The council debated the specifics of a food truck ordinance, discussing how often they would be allowed to come to town, cost of permits, and having trucks provide the city with their food license and proof of insurance before tabling the discussion

Also at the Monday meeting, Councilman Steve Pfeifer relayed complaints he'd heard about food trucks coming to Richland during the supper hour, taking business away from local restaurants that pay property taxes. Mayor John Capps stated that one truck he'd seen had come all the way from Sheridan. Pfeifer stated that it was not fair to the local restaurants and that he didn't want to lose either one of them to food

The council also discussed the 2026 Keokuk County Visitor Guide and voted to approve purchasing a quarter-page advertisement in the publication. The guide promotes communities, attractions, and events throughout the county and is distributed regionally and state wide to encourage tourism and community engagement.

The council approved donating the old gun to the Keokuk County Historical Society. City Employee Jason Rebling stated that the DNR had retracted one of their violations after he explained things to them and that ION had begun taking samples for the city. The council will have a public hearing on the proposed tax levy rate on March 24.

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

Keota

March 19th
Breakfast: Donut, Fresh Mixed Fruit, Juice Choice, Milk Choice.
Lunch: Bosco Sticks, Iceberg Lettuce Blend, Green Beans, Marinara Sauce, Pears, Milk.
March 20th
Breakfast: No School.
Lunch: No School.
March 23rd
Breakfast: Breakfast Bites, Applesauce, Juice Choice, Milk Choice.
Lunch: Pig in a Blanket, Potato Wedges, Steamed Broccoli, Cucumbers, Peaches, Milk.
March 24th
Breakfast: Mini-Cini, Mixed Fruit, Juice Choice, Milk Choice.
Lunch: Chicken Wrap, Romaine Lettuce, Tomato Slices, Steamed Carrots, Tropical Fruit, Rice Pudding, Milk.
March 25th
Breakfast: Cereal, String Cheese, Apples, Juice Choice, Milk Choice.
Lunch: Spaghetti/Meat Sauce, Garden Spinach Salad, Green Beans, Grapes, French Garlic Bread, Milk.

Pekin

March 19th
Breakfast: Waffles, GoGurt, Fruit Choice/Juice Choice.
Lunch: Mini Corndogs, Munchable, Baked Beans/Cucumbers, Applesauce/Tropical Fruit.
March 20th
Breakfast: No School
Lunch: No School
March 23rd
Breakfast: Strawberry Bagels, Cheese Stick, Fruit Choice/Juice Choice.
Lunch: Sloppy Joe, Uncrustable, Corn/Baby Carrots, Pears/Oranges.
March 24th
Breakfast: WG Cereal Bar, GoGurt, Fruit Choice/Juice Choice.
Lunch: Breakfast Sandwich, Munchable, Tater Tots/Sliced Peppers, Mixed Fruit/Apples.
March 25th
Breakfast: Breakfast Sandwich, Fruit Choice/Juice Choice.
Lunch: Chicken Patty, Ham Sandwich, Pacific Blend/Romaine, Rasiels.

Sigourney

March 19th
Breakfast: Egg, Bacon, and Cheese Bagel, Assorted Cereal with Mozzarella Cheese Stick, Donut, Chilled Fruit, Assorted Fruit Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Chili, Mango Habanero Chicken Bites with Garlic Toast, Garden Fresh Salad Bar, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Fresh Garden Salad, Tater Tots, Fresh Fruit, Chilled Fruit, Combread, Milk.
March 20th
Breakfast: Biscuits & Peppared Gravy with Sausage Patty, Assorted Cereal with Toast with Margarine, Pancakes, Chilled Fruit, Assorted Fruit Juice, Milk.
Lunch: General Tso with Rice, Tenders with Garlic Toast, Garden Fresh Salad Bar, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Fresh Garden Salad, Fresh Broccoli, Seasoned Fries, Fresh Fruit, Chilled Fruit, Focaccia Bread, Milk.
March 23rd
Breakfast: Western Egg 'N' Bacon Sandwich, Assorted Cereal with Cinnamon Toast, French Toast Sticks, Chilled Fruit, Assorted Fruit Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Chicken Alfredo, Jalapeño Popper Grilled Cheese, Garden Fresh Salad Bar, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Fresh Garden Salad, Cheesy Cauliflower Popcorn, Seasoned Fries, Fresh Fruit, Chilled Fruit, Italian Bread, Milk.
March 24th
Breakfast: Lemon Roll, Assorted Cereal with Yogurt, Donut, Chilled Fruit, Assorted Fruit Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Smothered Burrito, Buffalo Chicken Bites with Garlic Toast, Garden Fresh Salad Bar, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Fresh Garden Salad, Baked Beans, Seasoned Fries, Fresh Fruit, Chilled Fruit, Italian Bread, Milk.
March 25th
Breakfast: Cheesy Ham and Egg Casserole with Toast with Margarine, Assorted Cereal with Toast with Margarine, Waffles, Tater Tots, Chilled Fruit, Milk.
Lunch: Chicken Patty, Sloppy Joe, Garden Fresh Salad Bar, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Sweet Potato Fries, Fresh Fruit, Chilled Fruit, Hot Roll, Milk.

Goodwin Senior Dining Center (Wellman)

March 13th
Salmon Loaf, Creamed Potatoes & Peas, Chocolate Cake.
March 16th
Hot Dog, Baked Beans, Macaroni Salad, Shamrock Cookie.
March 18th
Chicken Breast, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Green Bean Casserole, Cup Cakes.

Milestones (Sigourney & Delta)

March 12th
Chili Soup, Carrots, Mixed Fruit, Corn Bread.
March 13th
Liver and Onions, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans with Onions, Fruited Gelatin, Wheat Roll.
March 16th
BBQ Pulled Chicken on Bun, Broccoli, Cinnamon Baked Pears.
March 17th
Tuna Noodle Casserole, Buttered Carrots, Fruit, WW Bread.
March 18th
Cook's Choice with Dessert

Tri-County

March 19th
Breakfast: Long John.
Lunch: Pepperoni Pizza, Broccoli/Cauliflower, Apple, Cookie.
March 20th
Breakfast: Biscuits & Gravy.
Lunch: Sloppy Joe, Green Beans, Strawberries.
March 23rd
Breakfast: Uncrustable.
Lunch: Spaghetti & Meatballs, Green Beans, Garlic Bread, Diced Pears.
March 24th
Breakfast: Breakfast Burrito.
Lunch: Hot Ham & Cheese, FF, Baked Beans, Pineapple.
March 25th
Breakfast: French Toast Sticks.
Lunch: Orange Chicken, Rice, Peas, Egg Roll, Mandarin Oranges.

English Valleys

March 19th
Breakfast: Egg, Bacon, and Cheese Bagel, Assorted Cereal with Mozzarella Cheese Stick, Chilled Fruit, Assorted Fruit Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Chili with Combread, Mango Habanero Chicken Bites with Garlic Toast, with Tater Tots, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Fresh Garden Salad, Fresh Fruit, Chilled Fruit, Milk.
March 20th
Breakfast: Biscuits & Peppared Gravy with Sausage Patty, Assorted Cereal with Toast with Margarine, Chilled Fruit, Assorted Fruit Juice, Milk.
Lunch: General Tso with Rice, Tenders with Garlic Toast OR Fish Patty with Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Fresh Garden Salad, Fresh Broccoli, Fresh Fruit, Chilled Fruit, Milk.
March 23rd
Breakfast: French Toast Sticks, Assorted Cereal with Cinnamon Toast, Chilled Fruit, Assorted Fruit Juice.
Lunch: Chicken Alfredo with Italian Bread, Jalapeño Popper Grilled Cheese with Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Fresh Garden Salad, Cheesy Cauliflower Popcorn, Fresh Fruit, Chilled Fruit, Milk.
March 24th
Breakfast: Donut, Assorted Cereal with Yogurt, Chilled Fruit, Assorted Fruit Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Smothered Burrito, Buffalo Chicken Bites with Garlic Toast with Seasoned Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Fresh Garden Salad, Baked Beans, Fresh Fruit, Chilled Fruit, Milk.
March 25th
Breakfast: Waffles, Assorted Cereal with Toast with Margarine, Chilled Fruit, Milk.
Lunch: Chicken Patty with Hot Roll, Sloppy Joe with Sweet Potato Fries, Pizza Bar, Sub Bar, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Fresh Fruit, Chilled Fruit, Milk.

Pekin School Board Raises Substitute Pay

By Casey Jarmes | The News-Review

PACKWOOD – During the March 9 meeting of the Pekin School Board, the board approved raising the daily pay rate for substitute teachers from \$130 to \$150, in hopes that this will help with the district's difficulty finding substitute teachers. Board member Kourtney Baumberger stated this could help alleviate the problem of teachers needing to give up their prep time to cover other classes. Board member Ray Fear asked Superintendent Dave Harper to look into if they could increase the \$25 they give to teachers who cover for other teachers. The board did not change the \$200 rate for long-term subs.

there had been five open-enrollments that month and stated that he anticipates seeing more because of the homeschool assistance program. Harper gave the board specs for two different buses, to be voted on next month; he estimated that one new bus would cost \$130-150,000. He stated that the student laptops were up for replacement, which would cost \$285,000, but could be split up over two years; this will be voted on next month. Harper mentioned they would be selling old cameras the yearbook class no longer used.

The board approved a service agreement with Relay to manage medicaid reimburse-

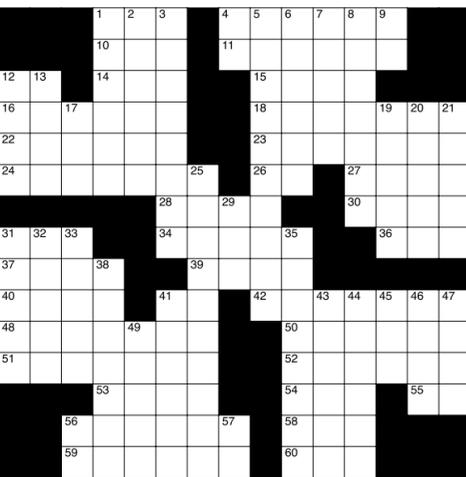
PEKIN pg. 7

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>ABSTRACTING SERVICES KEOKUK COUNTY</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>
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This week's crossword, sponsored by:
Atwood Electric, Inc.
641-622-3626

CROSSWORD



- CLUES ACROSS**
- Inclined to do
 - Sketches
 - Book of Chronicles (abbr.)
 - Atomic #58
 - Dorm official
 - Small Eurasian deer
 - Southern constellation
 - Workers' groups
 - Former
 - Excellent
 - Romance language related to Spanish
 - Reference
 - Equally
 - Dirty towels
 - A cargo (abbr.)
 - Ammunition
 - You get one in summer
 - Slang for trucks with trailers
 - Swiss river
 - Exchange rate
 - British School
 - College teacher
 - Foreign Service
 - Horse gear
 - Cost to fly
 - A salt or ester of boric acid
 - Mocking
 - One who bird-watches
 - Concluding passage
 - A major division of geological time
 - Sodium
 - A way to produce
 - Soak
 - Laughed loudly

- CLUES DOWN**
- Moth species phalonia ___
 - Quantum of energy
 - Break the law
 - Location of White House
 - Official cancellation of a decision
 - Where rockers work
 - Cut of beef: ___ mignon
 - Nocturnal burrowing reptile
 - Atomic #62
 - Genus of evergreen shrubs
 - Flowering plant of the legume family
 - Inches per minute (abbr.)
 - Tropical fruit
 - Hot fluid

- beneath the earth's crust
- James ___, painter
 - Popular dessert
 - Payment (abbr.)
 - Cuisine style
 - Genus of true flies
 - City in western France
 - Arrogance
 - One holding a position of command
 - Weekday
 - An evening party
 - Print errors
 - Not good
 - Egyptian Sun god
 - East German town
 - Olfactory property
 - Atomic #37
 - "Pollock" actor Harris

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS



SPRING CLEANING **WORD SEARCH**

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

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

WORDS

- AIRING
- DECLUTTER
- DEEP-CLEAN
- DETOXIFY
- DISINFECT
- DONATIONS
- DUSTING
- FRESH
- HOME
- LABELING
- LAUNDRY
- MAINTENANCE
- MINIMALISM
- MOPPING
- ORGANIZE
- POLISH
- PURGE
- RECYCLING
- RENEWAL
- SANITIZE
- SCRUBBING
- SORTING
- STORAGE
- VACUUM

THE HISTORICAL VIEWPOINT

Velna's World and the Great Depression

By Casey Jarmes |
The News-Review

This week is the third and penultimate column covering Velna's World, the memoirs of Velna Utterback (born Velna Robertson, later known as Velna Adams). As a reminder, Velna was born in 1901 and grew up on her grandparents' farm outside Hayesville. She worked as a teacher for several years, leaving after marrying farmer Leo Adams in 1924. Their first child, Beryl, was born in 1925.

Velna and Leo's second son, Paul, was born on Nov. 17, 1929. He weighed ten pounds, and seemed to be a healthy baby, but when he was a few days old, he had bronchitis and almost choked. Velna pulled a string of phlegm out of his throat, which allowed him to breathe. Paul couldn't keep any formula or water down; he lost weight and cried almost constantly. On Christmas Eve, Velna took her son to the children's hospital in Iowa City. By then, Paul weighed between five and six pounds; the doctors said that he was the most dehydrated patient they ever saw. In the evening, nurses fed him formula with an eyedropper. That night, Paul stopped breathing, and the veins on his forehead turned blue. Velna screamed for help. The doctors rushed in and worked with him until he started breathing again. One doctor told Velna that Paul only had a 50-50 chance of survival.

The day after Christmas,

the doctors realized Paul had an infection from his sinuses, which required surgery. Velna demanded she be allowed to follow her baby into the operating room, and the doctor, seeing her determination, let her go. There was not one drop of blood during the surgery due to Paul's dehydration. After the surgery, he began to improve.

There was a heavy snow storm as they drove Paul home from the hospital. The Adams's were forced to stop in Washington to warm up formula to feed him. Then, the gas pedal came off the car, forcing them to stop in Sigourney to have Velna's uncle Hughie repair it. The snow drifts forced them to stop, half a mile from home. Leo and a neighbor pushed the car out of the snow drift, and Velna finally brought her son home.

In 1931 or 1932, the Adams's moved from Leo's grandmother's farm to a farm southwest of Hayesville. The road north of their house had a railroad running beside it. Her sons really enjoyed watching the freight trains ride past. Velna noted that, one day, during the height of the Great Depression, she saw 42 different men riding in the open box cars. Quite often these men, who had lost their jobs and were going place to place, looking for work, waved to the Adamses. One evening, Velna put some kindling in the cook stove before going out to do chores. As she came out of the hog house, she noticed

flames shooting out of the chimney and blowing down onto the roof. Velna ran to the garage, grabbing a ladder and bucket of stock salt, and climbed onto the roof to put the fire out with the salt. As she did, a passenger train rode by. Seeing her on the roof, they tooted their whistle all the way to Hayesville.

1934 was a drought year, made worse by an infestation of cinch bugs. They came by millions from the wheat fields of Kansas and Nebraska to devour Iowan crops. At first, farmers like the Adamses tried to save their fields by digging ditches between rows of corn and filling them with oil. But, if a spear of grass or blade of corn fell across the ditch, the cinch bugs would use it as a bridge and engulf the field. They even crossed over the dead bodies of other cinch bugs that had fallen into the oil. "It was a losing fight and the farmers gave up," wrote Velna.

That year, the hay crop was almost a complete failure. Lee and Velna were forced to sell most of their cattle. The next year was very wet, with rain almost every day, which made it most difficult to get crops planted or harvest hay. Velna wrote that she loved feed sacks. They came in plain white, unbleached and prints, and she made everything out of them, including bed sheets, pajamas, dresses, and tablecloths. Farm women would trade sacks with each other to have matching prints to use.

One night, during the late thirties, Velna and Leo were invited to participate in square dancing at a fundraiser hosted by the Delta Methodist Church; this surprised Velna, because Methodists traditionally forbade dancing. The dancing went well, and the Adamses were invited to another dance program in Ottumwa. That night, they left their sons at the neighbor's house. When they returned home at 2:00 a.m., they saw a light in their house. Velna rushed in and found ten-year-old Paul, asleep in his bed. When Velna asked about this in the morning, Paul explained that there was only enough chocolate syrup in the fridge for one glass of chocolate milk and that he'd been afraid his brother would get to it first.

In the thirties and forties, there were free outdoor movies every Friday in Hayesville, sponsored by 12 or 13 of the town's businesses. Older people sat on wooden planks, placed on cement blocks, while the younger ones stood or sat on blankets on the grass. One year, Beryl and his friend Wilmer "Spike" Cook presented steers at the Iowa State Fair. On the final day, after selling their cattle, the boys were anxious to leave so they could see a free movie in Hayesville. Velna bribed them into staying until the afternoon by giving them money for a long hot dog and an ice cream sandwich.

Next week, I'll finish telling the story of Velna's life.

ENCOURAGE KINDNESS TODAY

PUT A SMILE IN SOMEONE'S DAY

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Bill Van Dee
Trenching and Backhoeing
North English, IA
319-664-3516

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

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

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

Your Letter to the Editor must include:

- Your full name with signature
- Your complete address
- Your telephone number

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

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

Correction and Retraction Policy

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

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

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

The News-Review

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641-622-3110
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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.

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

Worship Guide

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.newlifefellowshipns.org
 641-637-2561
 newlifefellowshipns@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; 10:30 a.m. Sunday School
 Sundays and Wednesdays: 5 p.m. Book Study
 Sunday, Mar. 22: 9 a.m. Sunday Worship, followed by fellowship; 10:30 a.m. Sunday School; 5 p.m. Book Study at the parsonage
 Monday, Mar. 23: 8 a.m. Prayer Group at parsonage
 Tuesday, Mar. 24: 10 a.m. Bible Study
 Wednesday, Mar. 25: 7 p.m. Church Council & Finance
 Sunday, Mar. 29: 7:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Breakfast fundraiser for Missions; 9 a.m. Palm Sunday Worship, followed by fellowship

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Bethel Church
 Pastor Nick Needham
 319-329-6070
 6 miles East of Sigourney on

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sigourney United Methodist Church
 Website: 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

Obituaries

Alice Patterson

1924-2026

Alice Ruth Wilson McArtor Patterson, age 101 years 255 days, of Keota, Iowa was born July 1, 1924, at Washington, Iowa, to Hubert Leroy and Minetta (Tracy) Wilson. She passed away in her home surrounded by family on March 13, 2026. Alice was a very loving mother of 11 children, 2 step sons, grandmother to 56 grandchildren, 116 great - grandchildren, 77 great - great - grandchildren and 2 great - great - great - grand children, and many nieces and nephews.



Alice Ruth Wilson McArtor Patterson

Alice was a stay at home mom. She went to school to the 8th grade. She was famous for her popcorn balls at Halloween by many generations in a family. Her homemade sugar cookies were a favorite. Alice made cookies to send to her 5 sons while they were in the military. She was a great cook. Alice was a member of the Moose Lodge the Ladies VFW Auxiliary of Keota, and a Girl Scout leader. She also owned Alice's Craft Hobbies & was a Watkins dealer, she set up at many craft shows. In her spare time she did laundry and ironing for other people in town. She cleaned the funeral home for several years. She made memories for all the family by making home-made Christmas ornaments, which we still put on our Christmas trees. She always sent out Birthday cards, get well cards, anniversary cards and thank-you cards to always brighten up others days. She made her annual Christmas candy trays she shared with neighbors, special Valentine cake, Missionary cake in the shape of a Christmas tree, Christmas coffee cakes. She held her annual Easter egg hunt for ages 0-60. She taught her children and other people how to can food for those winter days. She was a special mother and grandmother to many in the community including Bruce and Lorraine Hardt and family, Kathy Ewald, and spread her love and kindness throughout Keota.

Alice was married to Walter Everett McArtor July 31, 1940 they had 4 sons Walter, Donald, Hubert and David McArtor, later divorced and married Homer Edward (Pat) Patterson in Kahoka Mo. on May 25, 1947. They had 7 children Sandra, William, John, Dennis, Susan, Linda and Mary.

Survivors include 5 sons Donald (Sandi) McArtor, of Cedar Rapids, Hubert McArtor Knoxville, TN, David (Judy) McArtor of West Chester, William (Linda) Patterson of Oxford, John (Penny) Patterson of Washington, 3 daughters Sandra Shafer, of West Chester, Susan (Michael) McDonald, of Keota, Mary (James) Long, of South English. 1 step son Jerry Patterson, 1 daughter-in-law Claretta McArtor, of East Moline, IL, 1 Brother Joseph (Setsuko) Wilson, of Palo IL, 1 Sister-in-law Lucky Wilson, of Fox Lake, IL, and many, many nieces and nephews.

Preceded in death by her parents Hubert and Minetta Wilson, 4 brothers Hubert, Frederick, Charles, Bobby, 2 sisters, Gladys, and Violet, 2 husbands Walter Everett McArtor 1991 and Homer Edward Patterson 1989, 2 sons Dennis Alan in 1978, Walter in 2009, daughter Linda Sanders in 2024, 1 step son Junior Edward Patterson in 2016, sons in-law Kenwood Sanders 2014, Don Shafer 2016, Wayne Chalupa 2021, Daughters in-law Cheryl McArtor 2025, and Shirley Patterson 2026, 1 sister-in-law Rose Wilson Mahoney 2024, grandchildren Cindy Patterson 1961, Steven Long 1986, Eddie Patterson 1993, Cindy Chalupa 2006, James Long 2006, Jeff Chalupa 2020, Joe Chalupa 2023, Michael McArtor 2023, Blain Petersen 2025, great grand children Lily Null 2015, and Cody McArtor 1990.

Funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 21, 2026, at Powell Funeral Home in Keota, with Pastor Doug Tinnis officiating. Burial will be at Elm Grove Cemetery in Washington. Visitation will be from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Friday, March 20, 2026, at the funeral home.

A general memorial has been established. Powell Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Keota is caring for Alice and her family. Tributes may be made at www.powellfuneralhomes.com.

Services: Mar. 21, 10 a.m.
 Visitation: Mar. 20, 4-7 p.m.
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 KEOTA

Donna May Knipfer

†2026

Donna May Knipfer, 78, died March 13, 2026, at Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines. Visitation: Wednesday, March 18, 2026 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Holm Funeral Home. Funeral Service: Thursday, March 19, 2026 10:30 a.m. Holm Funeral Home. Burial: Pleasant Hill Cemetery - Sigourney. Arrangements Holm Funeral Home

Services: Mar. 19, 10:30 a.m.
 Visitation: Mar. 18, 4-7 p.m.
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Sigourney Jr./Sr. High School Trimester 2 Honor Roll

A Honor Roll:
(To be eligible, students must receive a GPA of 3.5. * Denotes 4.0 GPA)

7th Grade
Zoey Dehne, Jocelyn Green, Graciela Herrera, Maddyn Hinnah, *Claire Jones, Brentley Kephart, Jaxsen Thompson, Neela Thompson

8th Grade
Kathryn Anderson, Adalee Chittick, Rylann Clubb, Maleigh Eiben, Taylor Goldman, Monroe Hammes, Tristen Heisdorffer, *Harpyr Hinnah, Baylor Kerr, London Linder, Brody Seeley, Chloe Smith, Brooklyn Snakenberg, *Jayden Snakenberg, Charlize Striegel, Julia Striegel, Kellen Webb, Kinley Weber.

9th Grade
Nevaeh Beinhart, Kiley Cavin, *Isabella deOliveira, Jasey Ingle, *Cole Klett, Keira Nettles, Collyns O'Rourke, Shelby Pfannebecker, Ameilia Phillips, Emerson Snakenberg, *Levi Weber.

10th Grade
*Jordan Anderson, *Ella Bruns, Carmelita Cave, *Dayne Chittick, Brynn Clarahan, Carson Davis, Ella Fineran, Landon Fisch, Brody Gabel, Isabella Green, Becca Gretter, Eden Hahn, *Braden Hemsley, *Isaac Jones, Gracelen Karian, Cason Kerr, Keaton Leathers, Abyl McCulley, Cooper Moore, Devyn Smallwood, *Emily Snedigar, Gabriel Thompson,

Ashtyn Tish, Jordan Tremmel, *Ryker Vos, Lance Walden.

11th Grade
*Ella Bahlmann, Brianna Belvel, Owen Clark, Caylee Corbin, Rex Flynn, Grace Garringer, *Bailey Gretter, Cooper Hammes, *Clara Hanselman, Grayson Jones, Chloe Martin, *Ike Molyneux, Carson O'Rourke, Adalynne Tremmel, Kensley Walker, Cole Wilson.

12th Grade
Cora Bernhardt, *Hiley Brisse, *Janielle Carrier, Jade Dodd, Kaitlynn Dupree, Ty Goldman, Tierney Greiner, *Blake Gretter, Cael Jaeger, Cason Jaeger, Gavin Khali, *Troy Klett, Ava Kopp, Bailey Pfannebecker, *Kayla Renner, Shawn Stout, Kenzi Van Den Heuvel, Jolie Wehr, *Wyatt Wehr, Hannah Williams, Cale Wilson, *Brayden Wood, Joshua Wyatt, *Addison Yates, *Elle Yates, *Maxwell Young.

B Honor Roll:
(To be eligible, students must receive a GPA of 3.0)

7th Grade
Cory Clark, Jorja Davis, Karynn Draper, Annie Heinrichs, Piper Hewitt, Tate Jones, Cooper Kephart, Lorelai Klett, Tristen Martinez, Andrew McLennan, Berkly Moore, Charles Nikkel, Blakeleigh Northup, Tyler Pfannebecker, Bryker Snakenberg, Patrick Stangl, Miles Wehr, Taylor Woods.

8th Grade
Clara Bahlmann, Mad-

doux Bell, Sawyer Cason, Isaac Dehne, Olivia deOliveira, Izaak Echelberry, Deven Foster, Gamble Fry, Riley Gann, Jayden Jensen, Jolee Mouser, Matthew Randall-Blaske, Bentlee Rush, Drake Seeley, Nile Sellers, Konner Stevens, Skye Stevens.

9th Grade
Nash Baker, Luke Flynn, Kearney Greiner, Isabel Heisdorffer, Emerie McCulley, Maci Morrison, Jacob Randall-Blaske, Emily Short, Brayden Sines, Aubrey Utterback, Ryker Van Den Heuvel, Brentley Weldon-Kyle.

10th Grade
Karma Coble, Ember Dunham, Madison Fry, Aathan Kitzman, Charles Knowler, Gram Mitchell, Kaylie Montgomery, Levi Myers, Carver Russell, Hunter Sellers, Paxton Wehr, Kayleana Woodsmall.

11th Grade
Atticus Boorman, Chase Clarahan, Mercedes Clarahan, Landon Conrad, Gwenth Gattton, Lilly Glandon, Yuan Marasigan, Joseph Mwangi, Raymon Popelka, Aslan Sanchez, Hattie Shilling, Eli Snakenberg, Cooper Strand, Makayla Tinnis, Klayton Wehr.

12th Grade
John Berg, Wells Clark, Toby Doane, Ellie Ireland, Owen Menke, Colt Reed, Charli Smothers, Solan Yates.

KEOTA from pg. 2

ing 27 students in total. In addition, 23 students currently receive individual counseling sessions that may range from one to eight meetings depending on need.

The counseling curriculum follows Iowa social-emotional learning standards and guidance from the American School Counselor Association. Students also participate in the district's Caring School Community program, which focuses on building relationships and directly teaching social skills while integrating social-emotional learning with academics.

Components of the program include morning meetings, class discussions, closing circles, cross-age buddy activities and school-wide celebrations throughout the year. Students demonstrating strong character and effort are recognized as "Elite Eagles."

The district also uses the SAEBS screening tool to evaluate students' social and emotional well-being.

Staff members recently participated in professional de-

velopment based on the work of behavior specialist Brian Mendler, whose approach emphasizes understanding behavior as communication and identifying underlying student needs while reflecting on adult responses.

Board members also heard discussion about the proposed community trail project near the school. Levi Lyle said the idea developed after learning about funding available through the state's Transportation Alternatives Program, which could provide approximately \$280,000 but requires a 20% local match.

Stephen Pedrick of French-Reneker-Associates joined the meeting remotely to discuss early design concepts. Preliminary plans include a trail section on school property that could require an easement agreement with the city. A portion of the trail on the south side of the school could include a 3-4 foot retaining wall cut into the hillside.

Officials said additional funding sources such as a

REAP grant could be pursued, though that option would require a conservation easement. Board members also discussed signage that could limit public trail use near the school during school hours.

In other business, the board approved consent items including meeting minutes, financial reports, bills, open enrollment requests, fundraising requests, and a personnel report that included hiring a new science teacher.

The board also approved several action items including a three-year auditing contract, security camera installation, Dell computers for the district's extended learning program, seeding work around the school's solar panels, epoxy flooring improvements, tuckpointing repairs, a Blue Bird propane school bus purchase, new math curriculum and parking lot seal coating.

The board scheduled a public hearing on the proposed property tax levy at 6 p.m. March 26. The next regular meeting is set for April 9.

PEKIN from pg. 3

ments. The board approved a quote from Anderson, Larkin & Co. for the next three years of audits, costing \$15,750 in 2026, \$16,000 in 2027, and \$16,250 in 2028; the previous audit cost \$15,500.

The board approved a \$19,872 quote from MCG for six new exterior cameras, to replace old cameras by the playground and add new ones to cover blind spots. The board approved a \$5,981.25 quote from NWEA for MAP testing growth tracking. The board approved a \$5380.50 quote from Edmentum for credit recovery for students who fall behind. The board approved an \$8,000 quote from Edmentum for online courses, which Harper stat-

ed he hopes will bring back students who left for online schools.

The board approved a \$4,573 quote from Johnson Controls for new wrestling room heaters. The board approved spending up to \$7,000 to seed grass around the solar panels. The board approved a \$7,000 quote from Bill Slaney Construction to put a gravel lot near the shop to be used for FFA parking. The board approved \$17,180 quote from H3 Masonry for tuckpointing. The board approved a \$12,250 bid from IXL Learning for intervention services. The board approved spending \$8,613 for one physical copy and one digital copy of Pre-K curriculum from Teaching-

Strategies.

Harper stated that there was \$69,000 in the hot lunch account, with faced a \$9,000 budget shortfall earlier in the year. Salaries are currently not being paid out of the account, to allow the district to build up the account and pay off the \$20,000 inter-fund loan given to the lunch program. Harper stated that he would give the board a recommendation on whether they should switch to a food service company at the April meeting. Harper also stated that a few rooms had elevated radon levels during their first tests; he said they would do second tests and, if they are elevated, doing mitigation measures, possibly over the summer.



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The Sigourney Volunteer Fire Department held a "Hot Beef Sundae" dinner on March 14, serving bowls of mashed potatoes, beef and gravy, to raise funds for new equipment.

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COUNTRY GIRL'S CORNER

Spring—Whoops!

By Sheryl L. Carter

Such lovely warm days these last few March days, the sun shining so brightly—when it was out—the robins vigorously hopping around, and the tulips and daffodils shooting up slender spears here beside my house, but now today—whoops! Blizzard! At least that is what the forecast says, and there is some snow out there on the ground, and more being blown in by the brisk north wind, but it will have to get a lot worse before I would call it a full-fledged blizzard. But still, our church is cancelled for tonight.

Let's take a look at this week and see what has been happening up here in Sully, in Jasper County, at the Carter Homestead. For one thing, all the cats are well and healthy, and I can tell by the depressions in the straw boxes in the kitty shed, that they have been using those cozy accommodations.

Last Monday, I attended the visitation and funeral of a long-time church member in his nineties, the father of six daughters, whose wife, he and their family had just laid to rest a brief six weeks ago. So it was a double whammy for this tight-knit family, but they rose to the occasion, with all the grandchildren singing one of their granddad's favorite hymns, a special rendition by Alan Jackson, of "Small Town Southern Man"—a real winner, that was; and one of the grandsons conducting the entire funeral/celebration, as that is what it really was—a celebration, with lots of laughter, many special memories shared from various family members, and more music. It was a lovely homegoing that this good man would have been pleased with. Now he is in heaven with his wife of 70

years, to rejoice at the throne of God.

On Tuesday I got my hair cut up here at AllyCuts, then on to Pella for a very few groceries, and a good visit with my physical therapist for my sore knees. And she really kicked it into high gear, focusing on the problems in my legs and knees, and giving me a series of exercises to do that actually made them feel better and stronger after the first go round! I could hardly believe it. Why not try PT? It works so beautifully!

Wednesday was the dreaded tooth extraction, and I hopped in Jazzy and drove over, to Grinnell, praying all the while, and thanking Him for the opportunity to see Him work. And work He did! Firstly, in my prayers the previous few days, I took out the word "surgery", even though Dr Chris said that is what he would have to do, plus splitting the big molar in two to get it out. Ok. But I just began praying for a good tooth pulling, which was much more calming.

They got me in the chair, and Dr. Chris pumped probably half a gallon of painkiller in my jaw and around that sore tooth—it had had an abscess, for which I took week's worth of antibiotics, so I said, it feels better now, maybe it will be alright? No, came the answer, the tooth is dead. Ok, carry on. So, the pain meds kicked in, and I was numb as a piece of cardboard, or so I thought, when the dentist came back in, tested the site for numbness, and proceeded with the deed. He grabbed his plier-type tool, latched onto my tooth, and said, "I'm going to take the crown off, and wiggle it a bit..." Which he did, then gave a big hefty yank—which I felt, by the way—and he said, "It's out!!" What? "It's out!" said his competent assistant, whose

hands were nearly numb from me squeezing them so hard during the med application. "The whole thing??" Yep! I sat there just stunned. I looked at the clock. It had taken him about five seconds to get that thing out. Wow. I no time, he had smoothed the jaw bone, inserted a bone graft, and stitched up the hole. All done! And because he didn't have to do such an extensive procedure, my bill was even less! Oh, wow, I was praising God, I can tell you. Hugs, and I was out the door and on my way home.

Now comes the other tricky part, be very careful not to dislodge the clot that forms, don't get food in that area, rinse with very warm salt water, etc, etc. I really felt pretty good, but kept the Tylenol and Ibuprofen coming every six to eight hours, because yes, ma'am, it was and still is plenty sore. Thankfully, I have a very knowledgeable friend who lives right here in town, and is a dental hygienist who willingly gave me plenty of help in answering any questions. Friday was the worst day of pain, and yesterday morning I woke up with my jaw swollen even more, but I took it easy, had two healing naps, and was feeling much better by last night and today. Just think of how it was in the old days with no painkiller! I don't know how people stood it.

Thursday morning was our monthly Book Club up at the Coffee Cup back dining room, where we discussed my first novel, The Quiet Road. There were some good comments, but I wished we could have gone into the whole thing a bit more, as I really wanted to see what each one thought about it—the construction, the characters, any problems they saw, etc. One of our members did speak well of it, and I was most con-

cerned about her opinion, as she is also a writer and has taken actual classes, etc, so I thought she might have some real criticism, but she gave a very positive report. I was just glad I was able to go!

Friday, my boy Scottie came up in the afternoon and did a few odd jobs for me, the main one being removing the old torn up screen on my beautiful outside porch door and putting on all new cat proof screen. Because that cat, Miss Pippi, thinks she has to hang on that screen, look in at me with big eyes, and meow her messages, and as a result, the entire screen was a shambles, until she could no longer hang on it, so she just threw her body at it. I tell you, that girl can twang on my last nerve. But Scottie did his usual superb job, then I plied him with a rich cup of hot chocolate, and then we drove out to peruse Many Treasures. Nothing there for us this time.

Yesterday I took it easy except for folding the wash and doing some dishes, and loving on the cats. Today was Sunday school and church and back home for lunch and a leisurely afternoon. Time to feed the kitties out in their shed, and then they can cuddle down for the evening.

Welp, that's about it for this time, take care, and sorry your still have to get out your snowshoes!

OH!! I must add a little comment here: Our nice restaurant, the Coffee Cup, a long-time staple here in our community, and well-known far and wide—in fact, at times a flying club would have a fly-in on Saturday mornings, and then walk up town for breakfast there. It has always enjoyed a good reputation. Well, the Coffee Cup is for sale. Yes, and we need a good buyer to take it over and give it the love and care

THE SUN SPOT

MAHASKA COUNTY NEWS

OFF THE VINE

By Jackie Perkins

Sunday, March 15, 2026...A dreary day with rain in the morning. Looks like a good day to just stay put! We had snow coming down on Wednesday the 11th, but those flakes did not last. They say we are in for a do-see tonight. I really don't think this winter was all that bad, but I am so ready for Spring!

This afternoon, I happened upon a movie, "Little Women." I have seen several versions with my favorite being the one made in 1949. The March sisters, "Meg" played by Janet Leigh, "Amy" by Elizabeth Taylor, "Beth" by Margaret O'Brien and "Jo" by June Allyson. The first film was made in 1933 and Katherine Hepburn played Jon. This afternoon's version was made in 2019 and I did enjoy it. The clothing, scenery and furnishing were beautiful. And guess who played Aunt March? Meryl Streep!

I am also looking forward to next Sunday the 22nd when Season 15 of Call the

Midwife airs. I have watched it for years and so enjoyed it set following World War II in England.

Since I sent to be on a nostalgic road, Barbie is now 67! She was introduced in 1959 and I always envied those who had one, which I did not. But for those like me, there is now a Silver Edition and she is "Senior Citizen Barbie"!

We motored over to Harper Friday evening for the Fish Fry. There were cars parked everywhere! Other than two relatives, Dan and Ellen, we were strangers. But, I did meet Brian Eakins and enjoyed that. It is always fun to meet someone who associates me with this paper. I send greetings to Mr. Green Beans as I have missed him.

I am looking forward to Thursday when some of the Sieren cousins will be together for the afternoon. It will be good to see them and hopefully we will learn more of our clan.

My...the wind is wild tonight!

SPEECH from pg. 1

ceived one I and two IIs in Storytelling for "We All Ignore the Pit" from "The Magnus Archives." Results for other students include:

Sigourney

Eden Hahn received three Is in Poetry for the Poe poem "Annabel Lee." Chloe Martin received one I and two IIs in Spontaneous Speaking and two Is and one II in Prose for "Brave New World" by Aldous Huxley and "Rhinceros" by Eugène Ionesco. Chris McLennan received one I and two IIs in Solo Improvisation and two Is and one II in Reviewing for a review of the 2018 PS4 Spider-Man game. Tierney Greiner received three IIs in Poetry for "The Orchard" by Larry Lewis. Jacob Randall-Blaske received two Is and one I in Solo Improvisation and three Is in Reviewing for his review of "Batman: Arkham City." Levi Weber received two Is and one II in Expository Address for "Y is for Yeast" and two Is and one II in Reviewing for his review "The Best Design Company," about the graphic design suite Canva.

Tri-County

Leah Tripplett received three Is in Prose for "Boys" by Annabel Erwin. Lily McDonald received one I and two IIs in Literature Program for "English Teacher?" Paisley Allee received a three IIs in Solo Musical Theatre for the song "Dead Mom" from the musical "Beetlejuice." Drayvon Dennis received three IIs in Radio News Announcing and one I and two IIs in Prose for an excerpt of "The Murderbot Diaries" by Martha Wells. Alyssa Hadsell received a three IIs in Prose for an excerpt of the book "Forget Me Not" by Alyson Derrick. Cooper Vermillion received a three IIs in Prose for "Girls." Grace Lindley received one I and two IIs in Poetry for "Please Hear What I'm Not Saying" by Cardinal Dearden. Nathan McDonald received three IIs in Video-Casting. Sloane McKain received three IIs in Prose for

"Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day" by Judith Viorst.

English Valleys

Aliza Walker received three IIs in Original Oratory for "Choosing Our Own Futures." Phoenix Sorden received one I and two IIs in Original Oratory for "Protecting Life on the Brink." McKenna Rugg received one I and two IIs in Radio News Announcing. Jack Osborn received three IIs in Radio News Announcing. Ambryn Hoylman received a three IIs in Prose for "The Diamond D and the Dreadful Dragon." Miley Clubb received two Is and one II in Prose for "The Elevator Ride." Ellie Patterson received three IIs in Literature Program for "Don't ask Me/Backward Fall/Long Goodbye" and three Is in Poetry for "Cinderella." Kaylee Frazier received two Is and one II in Poetry for "Passing the Dream" and three IIs for Spontaneous Speaking. Tyler Wiseman received three IVs in Radio News Announcing. Kaylynn Hoylman received a two Is and one II in Prose for "A Letter to the Depressed Artists" and one I and two IIs in Solo Musical Theater for "Dead Mom" from the musical "Beetlejuice." Betsy Wells received two Is and one II in Poetry for her self-written piece "I Talk a Lot." Davis Burdick received three IIs in Video Casting for "The Stacked Deck."

Pekin

Rannen Harbison received a two Is and a II in Acting for "Hamlet's First Soliloquy" by William Shakespeare. Bo Latham received two Is and a II in Solo Musical for "If I Can't Love Her" from "Beauty and the Beast." Brogan Spray received one I and two IIs in Storytelling for his performance of "Farmer Paul" by Phil Parsons. Natalie Hamilton received three Is I in Public Address for "Commencement Address" by Anna Q and three Is in Prose for "The Fall" by Isabella Earnest.

CHARLOTTE'S WEB from pg. 1

build Sigourney's drama program. Assisting in directing was Kaitlyn Murphy, who plans to take over the drama program next year. When asked why she agreed to help direct, Murphy stated "Because Kelly is phenomenal, and I wanted to learn from the best."

Mousel stated that she decided to pass the baton to Murphy due to having seen Murphy star in speech and drama at Keota while in high school. This was Murphy's first play as a director.

"I was in this play in high school, and I was actually Templeton the Rat, so that was why we chose this play, because I kind of knew what was going on. But otherwise, challenges, there's just a lot of kids involved. Which is great, because we're trying to build up the program," said Murphy.

The play featured a massive ensemble featuring 61 different junior high and high school students. "Never ever have we had a practice with everybody here," Mousel said a few days before opening night. "At least two, three people have been gone every single time."

"We're all really excited that we heard that Ms. Mousel is coming back, so it's awesome to kind of experience this, and we're really excited to show the community...I mean, everyone talks about how great (Mousel) was. I also just thought it'd just be a great experience to carry

on with me for life too," said Brynn Clarahan, who played Fern Arable.

Rounding out the cast were Kayla Renner as Martha Arable, Jacob Randall-Blaske as Avery Arable, Brayden Wood as Homer Zuckerman, Devyn Smallwood as Edith Zuckerman, Hayden Bensmiller as Lurvy, Sadie Clarahan as Goose, Cooper Hammes as Gander, Ella Fineran as Sheep, Ella Bruns as Lamb, John Berg as Templeton, Drew Bahlman as Uncle, and Atticus Boorman, Lance Walden, Hunter Sellers, Aidyn Parker, Andrew McLennan and Tierney Greiner in various minor roles.

The play also featured a Narration/Ensemble consisting of Carmelita Cave, Jasey Ingle, Karma Coble, Aidyn Parker, Chris McLennan, Aiden Knepper, Adalynne Tremmel, Brayden Sines, Emerie McCulley, Abyl McCulley, Emerson Snakenberg, Bella deOliveira, Kenzi VanDenHeuvel and Paxton Wehr; Kinley Weber, Quinton Wehr, Jayde Snakenberg, Bentlee Rush, Jayden Jensen, Taylor Goldman, Nile Sellers, Deven Foset, Maddoux Bell, Brody Seeley, Drake Seeley, Tristen Heisdorffer, Lee Walden and Kellen Webb as Fair Attendees; and Piper Hewitt, Zoey Dehne and Jayde Snakenberg as Charlotte's daughters. Chloe Martin, Cooper Moore, Gram Mitchell, Gabe Thompson, Blake Brown and Ellie Ireland worked backstage. The

tech team consisted of Ashlyn Tish, Cole Klett, Eden Hahn, Levi Weber, Wyatt Wehr, Ellie Yates, Addy Yates and Emily Snedigar.

"It's different than what I'm used to," said Devyn Smallwood. "I'm used to sports, but this is a different perspective for me, a different way to get involved...I thought it would be a lot of fun. My sisters were involved in the play, and I figured, why not?" said Smallwood.

"Especially the role I'm playing, I feel like it fits me well, and I felt like it would be fun to get a lot of laughs," said John Berg.

"I think it's fun because we're all actually very similar to the characters that we play, and I think that it's fun like seeing that and having that on display," said Smallwood.

"I think the directors did a great job picking honestly what would be easiest for us to do, and it's very comparable to like who we're playing. So I think that's awesome," said Clarahan.

Especially charming about the play was its production design, with the stage transformed into a barn and Ella Bahlman crawling across barn beams set up by Bill Tremmel, in front of a projected image of a spider-web. The main set was created by Mousel and several sophomore boys, while Murphy, her family, junior high kids, and Melissa Bird of Celebration Rentals creating a mini-county fair by the gym's

bleachers. During intermission, the county fair stands were opened, allowing attendees to purchase fair food and enter prize raffles.

"I mean, there's definitely a lot of hard hours that we've put into this," said Clarahan. "We've been doing it since after Christmas break, and we know that our directors have also been doing it. I mean, it's like, you look around here, it's crazy the amount of work, time and effort that they've put into this."

"There's a lot of unnoticed work that goes in and I think that just needs to be recognized," said Smallwood.

"I like when they run around. Lurvy, Mrs. Zuckerman, Homer, they're all running around chasing Wilbur, and that's pretty funny," said Berg, referencing a scene where Wilbur runs away from the farm, through the crowd, while chased by the farmers.

"It kind of gets the crowd involved. He's running around the gym, and everyone's going to be watching. It's pretty funny," said Clarahan.

"I think that's the comedic relief we need," said Smallwood.

"We've been working really hard on it, and it's all going to come together. So we're excited to show the community, and hopefully they come out and support us," said Clarahan, a few days before the show.



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North English Student Makes Upper Iowa Dean's List

Edward Burgess, an Elementary Education major from North English, made the Upper Iowa University

Fall 2025 Dean's List. To be eligible, students must receive a GPA of at least 3.5.

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Seven area athletes named to All-SICL teams

Three players earn first team selections, four players land on second-team list

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review

Another winter in the South Iowa Cedar League proved to be a success for all three area teams.

All three teams that play in the league were able to finish with a winning record. On top of that, a total of seven players were named to either the first or second team All-Conference list.

On the first-team All-Conference list there were two Sigourney players named as seniors John Berg and Solon Yates were both honored. Keota senior Chase Haifley was also named to the first-team All-Conference list.

Making the second team All-Conference list was Keota senior Jackson Vittoe. English Valleys juniors Everett Bender and Kane Axmear were also on the second-team All-Conference list. Sigourney senior Brayden Wood was also a second-team All-Conference member.

Throughout the season the Sigourney boys basketball team was one of the best in the SICL and the area. They finished the year with an 18-5 overall record, as their season was disrupted by a district semifinal game against Montezuma.

In his senior year Berg was, simply put, a menace on the floor. Not only did he lead his team with 323 points scored this winter, he had the sixth-most points scored in all of the SICL. Berg seemed to be unable to miss this year as he shot 65 percent from the field. Amazingly, Berg was perfect in his three point shooting this year, not missing a single three pointer (he also only attempted one). Berg made 32 of his 47 free throws to finish the season with a free throw percentage of 68.

Berg was the conference leader in rebounds this season with 211. He didn't favor one side of the glass either. The senior had 104 offensive rebounds and 107 rebounds on defense. He would add 37 blocks, 36 steals and six assists to his totals this year.

The second part of the first-team All-Conference selections for the Savages was senior Solon Yates. Once again, Yates proved to be an all-around player for the Savages. He finished the season with 297 total points. Overall he shot 42 percent from the field. Known as a long-range shooter, Yates proved that again this year. He made 42 percent of the threes he took. At the free throw line he made five of his nine attempts.

Yates was able to do much more than shoot the ball. He also had 66 rebounds, 31 assists, 21 steals and 16 blocks this season.

As the season went on Chase Haifley, the senior for Keota, seemed to just continue to get better and better.

Overall, Haifley would finish with 333 total points, leading his team, and finishing with the fifth-most points scored in conference play. Haifley finished the season shooting 36 percent from the floor. He made 50 three pointers this year. From the free throw line Haifley made 27 of his 41 attempts, to finish with a free throw percentage of 66.

Haifley was a solid, all-around player for the Eagles. He had 118 rebounds with 87 of those coming on the defensive end. Overall, he had 109 assists, which

was the second-most in conference play, 57 steals, 23 total blocks.

After a breakout season as a sophomore, English Valleys junior Everett Bender seemed to have an even better junior campaign. Bender was able to lead his team in points this year with 306. He shot 45 percent from the floor and was able to knock down 50 of his 75 free throws to finish the year with a free throw percentage of 68 percent.

Bender was an all-around player for the Bears. He led his team with 66 assists. He had 34 steals, 20 blocks and 106 total rebounds with 72 of those coming on the defensive side of the glass.

Another junior second-teamer for the Bears was Kane Axmear. Axmear was able to score 242 total points this season. He was also a leader on his team with 132 total rebounds, that included 76 rebounds on the defensive end of the floor and 56 on offense.

Throughout the winter Axmear was able to add 28 assists, 18 steals and nine blocks, which all helped the Bears finish with double-digit wins for the first time since the 2021-2022 basketball season.

Jackson Vittoe finished his senior season for the Eagles as a part of the second-team All-Conference list. The senior wrapped up the year with 294 total points. Vittoe was able to shoot 49 percent from the field and 32 percent from the three point line.

The senior had 156 rebounds with 113 of those coming on the defensive side of the board. He had 107 assists, 36 steals and 22 total blocks.

Sigourney senior Brayden Wood was named to the second team All-Conference list. In his senior year Wood finished with 242 total points scored. Wood was a threat to score from anywhere on the floor. He shot 48 percent from the field and made 20 of his 65 attempted three pointers. Overall he shot 77 percent from the free throw line this year.

Wood also was an all-around player. He finished with 105 rebounds, 66 assists, 25 steals and nine total blocks.

Making the honorable mention list for English Valleys were Ben Axmear and Christian Tripses.

As a junior, Ben Axmear finished with 154 points. He had 157 rebounds, to lead his team. He also had 41 assists, 37 steals and 27 blocks.

Tripses had a successful sophomore year. Overall he scored 225 points, with 92 assists, 71 rebounds, 40 steals and a block.

Keota named two players to the honorable mention list as well. For the Eagles Porter Cave and Ayden Galindo were both honorable mention selections.

Cave was able to score 239 total points this year. He had 49 rebounds, 42 assists and 47 steals.

Galindo finished the season with 193 points scored. He had a team-leading 187 rebounds. He also added 24 assists, 24 steals and 12 blocks.

For Sigourney they had two players make the honorable mention list. Ike Molyneux and Landon Conrad.

Molyneux finished his junior season with 172 total points. He added 107 assists, 62 rebounds, 47 steals and two blocks.

Conrad finished the year with 93 points. He had 68 rebounds, 61 assists, 30 steals and four blocks.



Keota sophomore Cameron Haifley (2) dribbles the ball towards the hoop during a playoff game against Hillcrest Academy played this year. In her sophomore season Haifley was named to the first-team All-Conference team as a unanimous selection.



Anna Luers, the sophomore from English Valleys dribbles down the court during a game against Pekin. Luers was a first-team All-Conference selection after leading the Bears in points scored this winter.

Three area athletes named to first team All-SICL list

A total of five girls basketball players named to All-Conference first or second team

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review

This winter was a year full of broken records, and some history being rewritten in the South Iowa Cedar League.

Just among the area schools one team spent part of the year ranked. Another team played only seven girls and still advanced to the regional semifinals. Every area team that played in the SICL this winter broke some type of record.

Because of the success the three area schools were well recognized on the SICL All-Conference lists this year.

On the first-team list was Sigourney sophomore, Brynn Clarahan. Keota's Cameron Haifley and English Valleys Anna Luers

Making the second-team All-Conference list were Addison Achenbach from English Valleys and Keota's Emily Conger.

For Sigourney, their sophomore do-everything guard, Brynn Clarahan earned a unanimous selection to the All-Conference first team by having another outstanding season. She played and started in all 24 games for the Savages and racked up a conference-leading 573 points this winter. She shot 42 percent from the field. She made 47 three pointers and was lethal at the free throw line making 112 of the 153 free throws she attempted, shooting 73 percent from the stripe.

She was more than just an offensive player. Overall she grabbed a team-leading 176 rebounds (131 on defense). She had 176 steals (leading the conference). She also finished with 87 assists and three blocks. Simply put, if Sigourney needed something done it was usually Clarahan who ended up with the ball.

Clarahan wasn't the only unanimous player from the area selected to the list.

Keota sophomore Cameron Haifley was also named to the first-team All-Conference list without hesitation. Haifley scored 418 points this winter, which was the second-most in conference play. She finished the year making 35 percent of her field goals. Overall, she sank 45 three pointers. At the line she made 89 of her 125 free throws to finish the season shooting 71 percent. Haifley also proved to be a well-rounded player. She pulled in 78 rebounds, 53 assists, 73 steals and she collected 30 blocks on the year. Her 30 blocks were the third-most amongst all SICL players this season.

English Valleys sophomore Anna Luers was also named to the first-team All-Conference list. The Bears asked a lot from their players this winter as they finished with only seven players on their roster. That didn't seem to hold back the Bears, or especially, Luers.

The sophomore would up scoring 293 total points this season. She shot 36 percent from the field, and went to the free throw line 130 times, making 87 shots and finishing the year shooting 67 percent from the line.

Luers proved she could do just about anything on the court. She led her team with 194 rebounds, grabbing 127 boards on defense. She also had 107 steals, the third most in conference play this year. She also had 48 assists and 38 blocks.

On the second team All-Conference list was English Valleys junior Addison Achenbach. Achenbach played in all 24 games and wound up scoring 275 points by the end of the year. She shot 31 percent from the field, and would make 69 percent of the free throws she attempted, as 89 of her 130 free throws counted for points. Overall Achenbach was able to see the floor well. She finished the season with 96 rebounds, 52 of those coming on the defensive end. She also had 60 assists, 54 steals and five blocks.

Emily Conger was a solid player for the Eagles this year. She would finish the season with 219 total points. Conger was able to shoot the ball from anywhere as she made 40 percent of her field goals and was shooting 39 percent from three point land. She was almost automatic at the free throw line shooting 82 percent.

Conger added 73 rebounds, 41 assists, 64 steals and a block

throughout the year. A number of local athletes were also named to the All-Conference honorable mention list.

For Sigourney Bailey Gretter and Ella Bruns were both named to the honorable mention list.

Gretter finished her junior season with 224 points scored. She had 98 rebounds, with 50 of those coming on the offensive side of the floor. She also had 56 steals, 38 assists and three blocks.

Brun would score 75 points. She had 73 rebounds with 28 assists, 27 steals and a block to cap off her sophomore year.

Freshman Jessalyn Aller and senior Kennedy Jackson were both named to the honorable mention list for Keota.

Aller had an outstanding freshman season as she finished with 174 total points. She also had 163 total rebounds with 104 of those on defense. This winter Aller had 24 assists, 22 steals and nine blocks.

Jackson was a strong player for the Eagles throughout the season. She had 126 total points. She added 102 rebounds, 27 steals, 26 assists and 11 blocks.

English Valleys named Kaylynn Caster and Aubrey Achenbach to the honorable mention list.

Caster finished the season with 195 points. She had 183 rebounds, 49 steals, 21 assists and 11 blocks.

Aubrey Achenbach scored 205 points this season. She pulled in 87 rebounds, 39 steals, 28 assists and four blocks.

Photos by Mark Schafer



Sigourney sophomore Brynn Clarahan (10) dribbles down court during a game against Pekin played this winter. Clarahan was a unanimous selection to the first-team All-Conference team after leading the SICL in points and steals.



Keota junior Emily Conger (20) lines up a shot despite the heavy defense of a Hillcrest Academy defender. Conger was a second-team All-Conference selection this year.

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Think you have what it takes to predict this year's NCAA Tournament outcomes? Join The News-Review's March Mania Bracket Challenge, proudly sponsored by Grant Ranch Grub & Pub and Helmuth Ford, and com-

pete for fantastic prizes! The women's bracket winner will receive a gift card and some Grant Ranch swag, while the men's bracket winner will be awarded a complimentary oil change and Helmuth Ford swag. To participate, complete

your bracket(s)—men's, women's, or both—and submit them to The News-Review by 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 19. Submissions can be dropped off in person at 120 E. Washington St., Sigourney, or emailed to Sports Editor

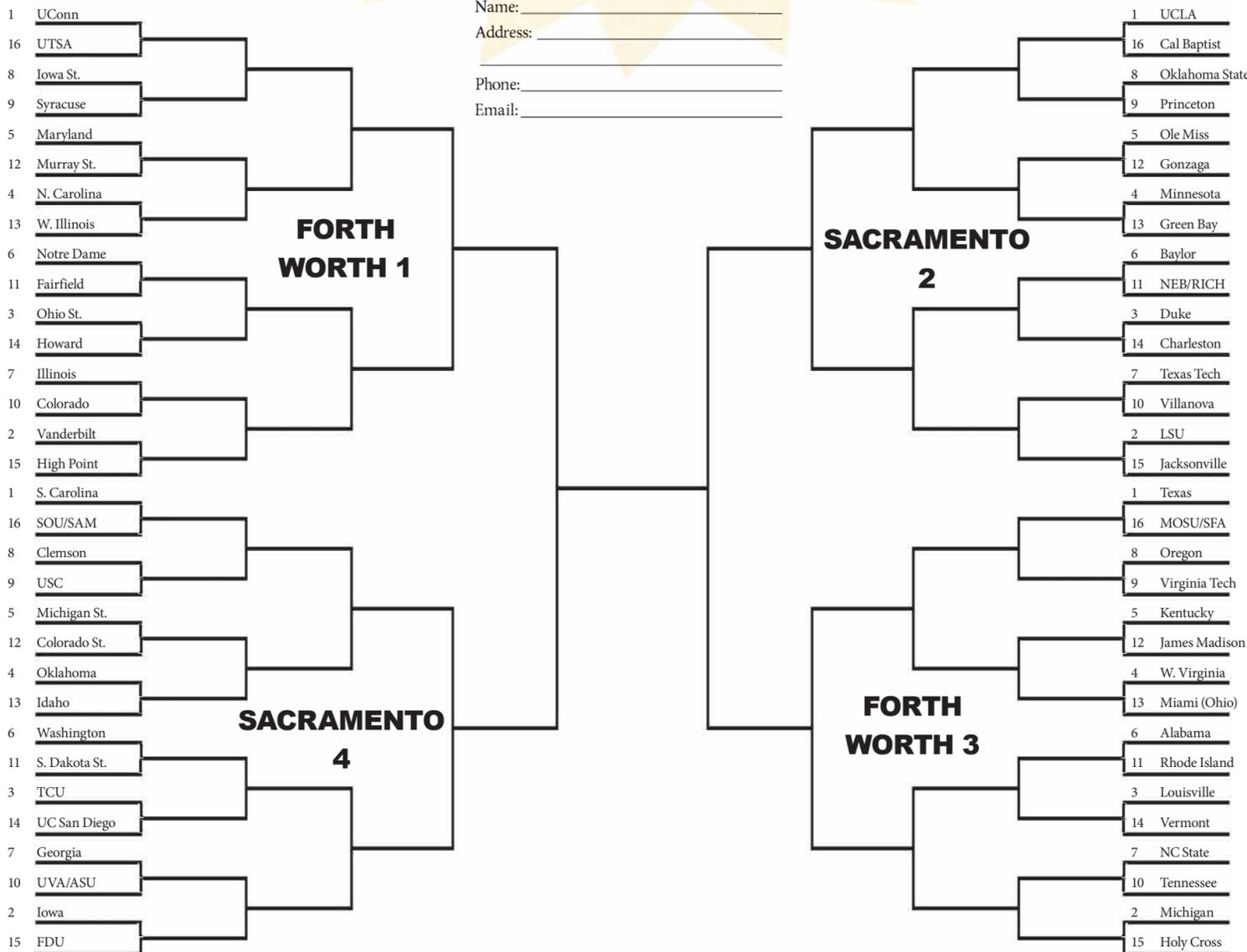
Mark Schafer at sports@sigourneynewsreview.com. Each tournament will have a separate winner, determined by the highest accumulated points from correct picks throughout the bracket. In the event of a tie, the winner will be determined by

whose predicted total points comes closest to the actual combined score of the championship game. Please note that employees, contractors, or agents of The News-Review, Mid-America Publishing, Helmuth Ford, and Grant Ranch Grub &

Pub are not eligible to participate. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to showcase your basketball knowledge and win amazing prizes. Submit your brackets today, and may the best predictions prevail!

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The News-Review

SERVING THE KEOKUK COUNTY AREA SINCE 1860 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2026 SECTION B, NUMBER 11, 165th YEAR

COURT RECORDS

Civil
March 6th
Defendant: Nichole Garringer, Plaintiff: Credit Acceptance Corporation, Order of Judgement.
Self-Represented Litigant: Misty Renee Wurster, Respondent: Misty Renee Wurster, Petitioner: State of Iowa, Petitioner: Mark Lee Ruggles, Payee: State of Iowa, Payee: Keokuk County.
March 9th
Defendant: Bryant Luers, Plaintiff: Bank of America, Petition Filed.
March 11th
Defendant: Mickayla Polton, Plaintiff: Marine Credit Union, Order for Judgement.
Scheduled Traffic
March 5th
Defendant: Tiffany Marie Reber, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Speeding 55 or under (1 thru 5 over).
Defendant: Patsy Ruth Vos, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Speeding or under Zone (11 thru 15 over).
Defendant: Cassandra Lynn Williams, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Speeding 55 or under Zone (16 thru 20 over).
Defendant: Larry Edward Drafahl, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Speeding 55 or under Zone (16 thru 20 over).
Defendant: Kathy Blaylock, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Speeding 55 or under Zone (11 thru 15 over).
March 7th
Defendant: Ahjanane Lashae Byrd, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Fail to Obey Stop Sign and Yield Right Away.
March 8th
Defendant: Astrid Aruana Garcia, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Registration Violation.
Defendant: Cael Michael Ashman, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Dark Window or Windshield.
March 9th
Defendant: Andrew J. Hansen, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Dark Window or Windshield.
Defendant: Samantha Jo Hervey, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, No Valid Drivers License.
Defendant: Conner James Michael Yeoman, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Operation without Registration Card or Plate.
Defendant: Holdon Jerold Westfall, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Speeding 55 or under Zone (16 thru 20 over).
March 10th
Defendant: Erin Elizabeth Wear, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Dark Window or Windshield.
Domestic
Defendant: Jerry D. Munn, Plaintiff: Jane Munn.
Criminal
March 5th
Defendant: Dalton Robert Hanson, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Motion for Continuance.
Defendant: Nathan Allen Draper, Payor: Linda Marie Smith, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Motion for Continuance.
Defendant: Avarie Jaclyn Smith, Payee: Keokuk County, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Written Plea of Guilty.
Defendant: Marcell Haunani Drake, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Motion for Continuance.
Defendant: Kelby Wayne Nernes, Payee: Keokuk County, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Motion for Continuance.
March 6th
Defendant: Jacob Dale Fleming, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Written Plea of Guilty.
Defendant: Avarie Jaclyn Smith, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Order of Disposition.
March 9th
Defendant: Andrew Michael Decker, Payor: Leland Robert Decker, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Criminal Complaint.
Defendant: Avarie Jaclyn Smith, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Hearing for Initial Appearance.
Defendant: Tyler Joseph M. Ellis, Payee: Keokuk County, Payor: Lisa Ann Hirschy, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Order for Judgment.
Defendant: George Emory Snakenberg, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Hearing for Initial Appearance.
Defendant: Michael Lee Maschmann, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Criminal Complaint.
Defendant: Jakeb Roy Van Patten, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Order of Arraignment.
Defendant: Tyler Joseph M. Ellis, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Order for Judgement.
Defendant: Joshua John Rice, Respondent: Cassy J. Shy, Plaintiff: Child Support Services.
March 10th
Defendant: Michael Lee Maschmann, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Hearing for Initial Appearance.
March 11th
Interested Party: Izabella Kay Hernandez, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Search Warrant.
March 12th
Defendant: Michael Lee Maschmann, Payee: Keokuk County, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Arrest Warrant.
OWI
March 7th
Defendant: Kevin Stephen King, Payee: Keokuk County, Payor: Statewide Cash Bonds LLC, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Hearing for Initial Appearance.

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

March 2nd
Warranty Deed; Mark T. Seaton, Sherri R. Seaton, Kimberly Denise Bodkins, Phillip Dean Bodkins, Lot: 02 SE SW 23-77 Parcel AUD PAR A, PLAT 2026-0160.
Trustee Warranty Deed; Ronald Dearborn Trustee, Linda Dearborn, Trustee, R & L Family Trust, Ronald E Dearborn Trustee, Shelly Elaine Miller, PT Ollie Original Plat Ollie Lot: 03 Block: 09, Ollie Original Plat Ollie Lot: 05 Block: 09, Ollie Original Plat Ollie Lot: 06 Block: 09, Ollie Original Plat Ollie Lot: 07 Block: 09, Ollie Original Plat Ollie Lot: 08 Block: 09, EXCEPT plat 2009-1585.
Warranty Deed; William G. Schwartz, deceased, Survivor Spouse, Carolyn Louise Schwartz, Carolyn Schwatz PT Hedrick Original Plat Hedrick Lot: 14 Block: 14, Hedrick Original Plat Hedrick Lot: 15 Block: 14, Hedrick Original Plat Hedrick Lot: 16 Block: 14, PT Hedrick Original Plat Hedrick Lot: 17, Block: 14.
Warranty deed; Samule E. Conger, Zackary A. Conger, SW NE 28-74-11 Parcel: AUD PAR B, Plat B316 P267.
Warranty deed, Marjorie Colleen Deitrich, Stanley Knipfer, Donna Knipfer, Unit 112 D Sigourney Prairie View Subdivision Lot: 01, PLAT 2006-2685.
March 3rd
Warranty deed; Joseph C. Aschoff, Angela M. Aschoff, Gerald F. Wordehoff, Debra L. Wordehoff, PT SE SW 22-74-13, SE SE 22-74-13, PT SW SE 22-74-13.
Warranty deed; Kate Duello, Benjamin Duello, Jeffery B. Miller, Julie A. Miller, NE NE 14-77-10, Parcel: AUD PAR A.
Jeffery L. Covington, Jeffery Lee Covington, Thomas Coulter Keota J Ramseys Subdivision Lot: 07 Block: 06, Keota J Ramseys Subdivision Lot: 08 Block: 06.
Warranty Deed, Barbara J. Fisher, Trisha Fisher Delta Original Plat Delta Lot: 09 Block: 08.
March 4th
Survivor Spouse Ralph E. Conger, deceased, Colleen F. Conger NE SW 19-74-11 Parcel: AUD PAR A, SE SW 19-74-11 Parcel: AUD PAR A, PLAT B234 P 25.
Deed Quit Claim, Jesse R. Hammes, Megan A. Hammes, Jesse R. Hammes, Trustee, Megan A. Hammes, Trustee, Jesse and Megan Hammes Trust, Grantors Undivided 56.66% Interest in PT SE NW 35-76-11.
Warranty Deed, Conner Five LLC, Christopher E. Webb, Shannon M. Webb, SW NW 11-75-12, PT SE NW 11-75-12, PT Lot: 01 NW SE 11-75-12, PT NE SE 11-75-12, SE SE 11-75-12, PT NE SE 11-75-12, PT SW 12-75-12, NW SE 12-75-12, Lot: 01 SW SE 12-75-12, Lot: 01 NW NW 13-75-12, Lot: 01 NE NW 13-75-12, PLAT B3 P367, LOT B Lot: 01 NE SE 11-75-12, Lot: 02 NW SW 12-75-12, PLAT B4 P82, PT NW SW 11-75-12, PT SW SW 11-75-12, EXCEPT PLAT 2025-1871, SW SW 11-75-12, Lot: 01 NE SW 11-75-12, PLAT B2 P76, Lot: 03 SE SW 11-75-12, PLAT B3 P534, Lot: 01 NW NW 14-75-12, PLAT B1 P 263, Lot: 01 NE NE 15-75-12, PLAT B3 P346, PT Lot: 01 NE NW 14-75-12, PLAT B2 P40.
Warranty Deed, Leann Williams, Leann Voyles, Ryan Voyles, William E. JR. Patterson, Karnet L. Patterson, PT SE NE 29-75-12.
March 5th
Earl Mefford, Joan Mefford, Michael J. Mefford Lot: 11 SE SE 26-74-23, Lot: 12 SE SE 26-74-13, PLAT B3 P19.
March 6th
Deed Quit Claim, Allen S. Denny, Maddison A. E. Denny, PT SW NW 06-75-12.
Deed Quit Claim, Anthony John Pitsch, Yvonne R. Pitsch, Zebulen Christopher Webb, Makenzie E. Webb, Lot: 08 NE NW 33-75-12, Lot: 09 33-75-12, Lot: 12 NE NW 33-75-12.
Warranty Deed, Capitol LLC R 4 2 0, William Crile, What Cheer Lortschers 3rd Addition Lot: 09, What Cheer Lortschers 3rd Addition Lot: 10, Alley PT What Cheer Lortschers 3rd Addition, Buckeye St.. PT What Cheer Lortschers 3rd Addition, Willow St. PT What Cheer Lortschers 3rd Addition.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Richland • PH Proposed Property Tax Levy

CITY NAME: NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - CITY OF RICHLAND - PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY **CITY #:** 54-511
RICHLAND Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027

The City Council will conduct a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year City property tax levy as follows:
Meeting Date: 3/24/2026 Meeting Time: 06:00 PM Meeting Location: City Hall

At the public hearing any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of the proposed tax levy. After the hearing of the proposed tax levy, the City Council will publish notice and hold a hearing on the proposed city budget.

City Website (if available)

City Telephone Number
(319) 456-2511

Iowa Department of Management	Current Year Certified Property Tax 2025 - 2026	Budget Year Effective Property Tax 2026 - 2027	Budget Year Proposed Property Tax 2026 - 2027
Taxable Valuations for Non-Debt Service	15,396,817	17,078,771	17,078,771
Consolidated General Fund	133,028	133,028	143,263
Operation & Maintenance of Public Transit	0	0	0
Aviation Authority	0	0	0
Liability, Property & Self Insurance	27,678	27,678	27,711
Support of Local Emergency Mgmt. Comm.	0	0	0
Unified Law Enforcement	0	0	0
Police & Fire Retirement	0	0	0
FICA & IPERS (If at General Fund Limit)	9,885	9,885	9,897
Other Employee Benefits	3,954	3,954	3,959
Capital Projects (Capital Improv. Reserve)	0	0	0
Taxable Value for Debt Service	15,396,817	17,078,771	17,078,771
Debt Service	0	0	0
CITY REGULAR TOTAL PROPERTY TAX	174,545	174,545	184,830
CITY REGULAR TAX RATE	11.33651	10.22000	10.82215
Taxable Value for City Ag Land	522,431	533,188	533,188
Ag Land	1,570	1,570	1,602
CITY AG LAND TAX RATE	3.00375	2.94455	3.00375
Tax Rate Comparison-Current VS. Proposed			
Residential property with an Actual/Assessed Valuation of \$100,000/\$110,000	Current Year Certified 2025/2026	Budget Year Proposed 2026/2027	Percent Change
City Regular Residential	538	530	-1.49
Commercial property with an Actual/Assessed Valuation of \$300,000/\$330,000	Current Year Certified 2025/2026	Budget Year Proposed 2026/2027	Percent Change
City Regular Commercial	2,337	2,476	5.95

Note: Actual/Assessed Valuation is multiplied by a Rollback Percentage to get to the Taxable Valuation to calculate Property Taxes. Residential and commercial properties have the same rollback percentage through \$150,000 of actual/assessed valuation.

Reasons for tax increase if proposed exceeds the current:
No increase.

Published in The News-Review on March 18, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Sigourney • PH Proposed Property Tax Levy

CITY NAME: NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - CITY OF SIGOURNEY - PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY **CITY #:** 54-512
SIGOURNEY Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027

The City Council will conduct a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year City property tax levy as follows:
Meeting Date: 4/1/2026 Meeting Time: 06:00 PM Meeting Location: City Hall

At the public hearing any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of the proposed tax levy. After the hearing of the proposed tax levy, the City Council will publish notice and hold a hearing on the proposed city budget.

City Website (if available)
www.sigourney.com

City Telephone Number
(641) 622-3080

Iowa Department of Management	Current Year Certified Property Tax 2025 - 2026	Budget Year Effective Property Tax 2026 - 2027	Budget Year Proposed Property Tax 2026 - 2027
Taxable Valuations for Non-Debt Service	69,744,216	77,722,672	77,722,672
Consolidated General Fund	621,604	621,604	672,537
Operation & Maintenance of Public Transit	0	0	0
Aviation Authority	0	0	0
Liability, Property & Self Insurance	93,892	93,892	98,008
Support of Local Emergency Mgmt. Comm.	0	0	0
Unified Law Enforcement	0	0	0
Police & Fire Retirement	0	0	0
FICA & IPERS (If at General Fund Limit)	48,902	48,902	50,352
Other Employee Benefits	48,902	48,902	50,352
Capital Projects (Capital Improv. Reserve)	0	0	0
Taxable Value for Debt Service	70,160,361	79,922,567	79,922,567
Debt Service	305,146	305,146	319,002
CITY REGULAR TOTAL PROPERTY TAX	1,118,446	1,118,446	1,190,251
CITY REGULAR TAX RATE	16.01045	14.28215	15.20111
Taxable Value for City Ag Land	455,126	364,241	364,241
Ag Land	1,368	1,368	1,095
CITY AG LAND TAX RATE	3.00375	3.75576	3.00375
Tax Rate Comparison-Current VS. Proposed			
Residential property with an Actual/Assessed Valuation of \$100,000/\$110,000	Current Year Certified 2025/2026	Budget Year Proposed 2026/2027	Percent Change
City Regular Residential	759	745	-1.84
Commercial property with an Actual/Assessed Valuation of \$300,000/\$330,000	Current Year Certified 2025/2026	Budget Year Proposed 2026/2027	Percent Change
City Regular Commercial	3,301	3,478	5.36

Note: Actual/Assessed Valuation is multiplied by a Rollback Percentage to get to the Taxable Valuation to calculate Property Taxes. Residential and commercial properties have the same rollback percentage through \$150,000 of actual/assessed valuation.

Reasons for tax increase if proposed exceeds the current:
With price increase across the board we had to adjust as budget accordingly. One of the main increases is going to be health, auto and property insurance.

Published in The News-Review on March 18, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Keota • PH Proposed Property Tax Levy

CITY NAME: NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - CITY OF KEOTA - PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY **CITY #:** 54-506
KEOTA Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027

The City Council will conduct a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year City property tax levy as follows:
Meeting Date: 4/6/2026 Meeting Time: 06:00 PM Meeting Location: 225 E Broadway Ave - Community Room

At the public hearing any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of the proposed tax levy. After the hearing of the proposed tax levy, the City Council will publish notice and hold a hearing on the proposed city budget.

City Website (if available)
https://www.keotaiowa.org/gov/

City Telephone Number
(641) 636-2266

Iowa Department of Management	Current Year Certified Property Tax 2025 - 2026	Budget Year Effective Property Tax 2026 - 2027	Budget Year Proposed Property Tax 2026 - 2027
Taxable Valuations for Non-Debt Service	29,200,609	32,897,725	32,897,725
Consolidated General Fund	237,292	237,292	259,550
Operation & Maintenance of Public Transit	0	0	0
Aviation Authority	0	0	0
Liability, Property & Self Insurance	56,634	56,634	74,839
Support of Local Emergency Mgmt. Comm.	0	0	0
Unified Law Enforcement	0	0	0
Police & Fire Retirement	5,654	5,654	0
FICA & IPERS (If at General Fund Limit)	46,745	46,745	45,989
Other Employee Benefits	83,867	83,867	17,990
Capital Projects (Capital Improv. Reserve)	19,710	19,710	22,206
Taxable Value for Debt Service	29,200,609	32,897,725	32,897,725
Debt Service	14,591	14,591	13,941
CITY REGULAR TOTAL PROPERTY TAX	464,493	464,493	434,515
CITY REGULAR TAX RATE	15.90697	13.52018	13.20808
Taxable Value for City Ag Land	162,022	172,966	172,966
Ag Land	465	465	520
CITY AG LAND TAX RATE	2.86998	2.68839	3.00375
Tax Rate Comparison-Current VS. Proposed			
Residential property with an Actual/Assessed Valuation of \$100,000/\$110,000	Current Year Certified 2025/2026	Budget Year Proposed 2026/2027	Percent Change
City Regular Residential	754	647	-14.19
Commercial property with an Actual/Assessed Valuation of \$300,000/\$330,000	Current Year Certified 2025/2026	Budget Year Proposed 2026/2027	Percent Change
City Regular Commercial	3,279	3,022	-7.84

Note: Actual/Assessed Valuation is multiplied by a Rollback Percentage to get to the Taxable Valuation to calculate Property Taxes. Residential and commercial properties have the same rollback percentage through \$150,000 of actual/assessed valuation.

Reasons for tax increase if proposed exceeds the current:
Assistant City Clerk is working more hours, Sick Leave at Library resulted in a part time employee working more hours, hiring of 2 summer public works interns

Published in The News-Review on March 18, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
Sigourney CSD • Bid for Concrete

SIGOURNEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT - SIGOURNEY, IOWA ADVERTISING FOR BIDS- NOTICE OF LETTING

Three-Phase (3 Section) Jr. Sr High Parking Lot Pavement Improvements
Full Bid document can be found on our website: www.sigourney-schools.com, under Bids/Equip Sales.

Project Identification: Jr. Sr High School (back) Parking Lot Areas, Itemized Bids for Concrete Replacement and Alternate Bids.
Phase I (Section 1): June - July, 2026 (Back of lot with Weight Rm Expansion)

Phase II: (Section 2) June - July, 2027 (Middle Section)
Phase III: (Section 3) June - July, 2028 Entry and North near Building Alternate Bid - Entire Lot (July 31, 2026)

All bidders must have proper equipment and staff power to complete any and all sections within a 30-day time span. Upon completion of Phase I the District will accept modified (updated) bids from the awarded bidder for the remaining sections to accommodate cost increases experienced in the market. Project Map also provided upon request.

Project Location: Sigourney Jr. Sr High School (back parking lot

areas) 907 East Pleasant Valley Street, Sigourney, Iowa 52591
Bids To: SCSB District Office, 909 East Pleasant Valley Street, Sigourney, Iowa 52591

Primary Contract: Kevin Hatfield, Superintendent of School, 641-622-2025 kevin.hatfield@sigourney-schools.com
Submission Deadline: Thursday, March 26, 2026, 3:30 PM
Submissions include: Digital documentation (via email and attachments) and paper copies of all products, warranties, and licensure
Type of Bid: Concrete Flatwork - Only Licensed, Insured, Bonded, Experienced Concrete - experienced, full equipped Pavement

Company Bids will be accepted.
District Visit (Required): Contact Mr. Kevin Hatfield, Superintendent of Schools, or Mr. Jason Shifflett, Director of Buildings and Grounds to coordinate a physical inspection, walkthrough, and question process.

The District will consider sealed lump sum bids for the prescribed parking lot itemized bids (sections)
Bid Opening Date: Friday, March 27, 2026 Bid Time: 3:30 PM
Location: District Office, 909 E. Pleasant Valley Street, Sigourney, IA.

Published in The News-Review on March 11, 18 and 25, 2026

DON'T BE LATE!
Deadline for next week's paper is Friday.



PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Richland • Minutes 3.9.2026

CITY OF RICHLAND MINUTES OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
March 9, 2026

The Richland City Council met on Monday, March 9, 2026, in regular session. Mayor John Capps called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Council members Michael Hadley, Steve Pfeifer, Joe Adrian, Cyndia Crafton and Jim Gaines were present. Also present: City Clerk Sarah Claeys.
Hadley moved and Gaines 2nd to approve the consent agenda including the minutes from the February 9th special meeting, public hearing and regular council meeting, claims and building permits for 306 W Stroup St and 402 S Oak St: 5 ayes, motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS
Public Works Supervisor Calder Bender submitted a report stating the new flow meter has been installed and is working well. He also installed a solar panel to charge the flow meter. The new bleachers for the ballfields have been delivered but are not assembled yet. Affidavit operator Jason Rebling said he will be ordering test supplies soon and ION picking up samples is working great. He stated the DNR retracted the minor violation after proper documentation was submitted.
City Clerk Sarah Claeys said the city is still waiting on reimbursement from the DNR for the derelict building grant. There is mediation scheduled for March 23rd for the TN garbage truck case, with another hearing scheduled for April 6 if the mediation is unsuccessful.

PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN COMMENTS - No action to be taken:
No comments.
The library board president, Mike Adrian, is talking to a few candidates regarding the library board vacancy. No action taken.
Katie Phillips presented advertising options for the 2026 Keokuk County Visitor's Guide. Adrian moved and Crafton 2nd for the city to purchase a quarter page advertisement in the guide: roll call vote, 5 ayes, motion carried.

The council discussed the yield signs being ineffective at the intersection of S Richland St and W Stroup St and the intersection of S Richland St and W South St. Crafton moved and Gaines 2nd to change the yield signs to stop signs at both intersections: 5 ayes, motion carried.

Crafton moved and Gaines 2nd to approve Resolution 03-09-26 (1): Establishing a stop sign on S Richland Street at the intersection of S Richland Street and W Stroup Street: roll call vote, 5 ayes, motion carried.

Crafton moved and Gaines 2nd to approve Resolution 03-09-26 (2): Establishing a stop sign on S Richland Street at the intersection of S Richland Street and W South Street: roll call vote, 5 ayes, motion carried.

Pfeifer moved and Adrian 2nd to proceed with the petition for 657A for the property at 400 N Richland St: 5 ayes, motion carried.

The council considered food truck operations in city limits and the lack of application/permit required. Hadley moved and Crafton 2nd to table the discussion: 5 ayes, motion carried.

Hadley moved and Pfeifer 2nd to donate the city firearm to the Keokuk County Historical Society: 5 ayes, motion carried.

The council members briefly discussed the vacant lot at 121/123 N Richland St. No action taken.
Mayor Capps adjourned the meeting at 7:59pm.

Mayor John Capps
City Clerk Sarah Claeys
Published in The News-Review on March 18, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
English Valleys CSD • Special Meeting 3.4.2026

ENGLISH VALLEYS COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD 3.4.2026

Members present: Board President Susan Schaefer, Tom Voss, Katie Taukei, Trent Forrest, Wendy Ayers, Board Secretary

Members present: Bobbi Miller, Ellen O'Rourke, Dan Slaymaker, Jillisa Chvala, Tiffany Kriegel, Shane Ehresman, Tim Grieves
Call to Order

President Schaefer called the meeting to order at 2:01pm
Approval of Agenda
Motion made by Taukei,
Motion seconded by Voss to approve the agenda.

Voting: Unanimously Approved.
4-0 Motion carried.
The board entered into a Joint Board Meeting with the Iowa Valley Board of Directors.

Superintendent Interviews:
Jason Lampe - 2pm
Dr. Kimberly Graven - 3:15pm
Derek Phillips - 4:30pm

A motion was made by Forrest, seconded by Taukei to enter into closed session under Chap-

ter 21.5(1)(i) of the Iowa Code to Evaluate the Professional Competency of an individual Whose Appointment, Hiring, Performance, or Discharge is Being Considered when a closed session is necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session at 2:04pm. Roll call vote. Voss aye, Forrest aye, Taukei aye, Schaefer aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Voss, seconded by Taukei to return to open session at 7:29pm. Roll call vote. Voss aye, Forrest aye, Taukei aye, Schaefer aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Taukei, seconded by Voss to approve to direct Grundmeyer Leader Services to offer the Superintendent's contract to the preferred candidate as discussed in closed session. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Forrest, seconded by Taukei to adjourn at 7:46pm. Unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Wendy Ayers, Board Secretary
Published in The News-Review on March 18, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Sigourney • Minutes 3.4.2026

SIGOURNEY CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

The following are summarized minutes of the regular city council meeting on March 4, 2026.

The Sigourney City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Wednesday, March 4, 2026, with Mayor or Pro-Tem McLaughlin presiding and the following Council members answering roll call: Schultz, McLaughlin, Hannam, Chmelar, Goldman and Conrad. Others present were: Steve Shettler, with Steve Shettler Media; Brent Gilliland, Public Works Director II; Jerry Wohler, Kadie Conrad, Deputy City Clerk; and Ashley Fry, City Clerk.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Schultz moved, seconded by Hannam, to approve the tentative agenda. Roll call vote Ayes: 6
Goldman moved, seconded by Conrad, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: Minutes of Regular Council Meeting of February 18, 2026; Council Account Payable Claims in the amount of \$20,354.17; February Library Claims; Resolution No. 2026-03-06 providing for the temporary closing of Downtown Streets for KCED Farmers Market; Resolution No. 2026-03-07 providing for the Temporary Closing of Downtown Streets for Car Show; Class C Liquor License Application for Barn Wired; Class C Liquor License for Toby's Pizza; Class B Liquor Li-

cense for Dollar General; Letter of support to Keokuk County for a grant to Pave Keswick Road; Credit Card Report and Set time and place for the March 18, 2026 Regular Council Meeting at 6:00 PM at City Hall. Roll call Vote Ayes: 6
Conrad moved seconded by Hannam to approve a 3-year contract with CINTAS for 2 AED Zoll Plus. Roll call Votes Ayes:6
Conrad moved seconded by Goldman to approve Donald Northup and Brent Gilliland to attend IA-AWWA Training on March 26, 2026 in Washington, Iowa at the cost of \$55 per attendee. Roll call Vote Ayes: 6
Goldman moved seconded by Conrad to approve setting date and time for Proposed Tax Notice Hearing for April 1, 2026 at 6:00 PM at City Hall. Roll call vote Ayes: 6
Schultz moved seconded by Conrad to approve closing City Hall April 16, 2026 for Ashley Fry and Kadie Conrad to attend IMFOA Spring Conference in Des Moines at a cost of \$150 per attendee. Roll call vote Ayes: 6
Conrad moved, seconded by Hannam, to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote Ayes: 6
The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.
Connie McLaughlin, Mayor Pro Tem
Ashley Fry, City Clerk
Published in The News-Review on March 18, 2026

PROBATE
Robert L. Ellis ESPR038670

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR KEOKUK COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Robert L. Ellis, Deceased CASE NO. ESPR038670 NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Robert L. Ellis, Deceased, who died on or about February 9, 2026:

You are hereby notified that on March 5, 2026, the undersigned was appointed administrator of the estate.

Notice is hereby 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 the mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.
Dated on March 6, 2026.
Tammie Ellis, Administrator of the Estate
29036 240th Ave
Ollie, IA 52576
Jeff L. Ellis, Administrator of the Estate
23521 290th St
Ollie, IA 52576
John N. Wehr, ICIS#: 0008299 Attorney for the Administrator
John N. Wehr, Attorney at Law
116 E Washington
PO Box 245
Sigourney, IA 52591
Date of second publication
March 18, 2026
Probate Code Section 230
Published in The News-Review on March 11 and 18, 2026

Send us your new address *before* you move...
...so your subscription isn't interrupted.



PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Keswick • Mowing Bid

NOTICE – CITY OF KESWICK
The City of Keswick is currently taking bids for the spring/summer 2026 mowing of the city park and lot.
Please submit your bids before Wednesday March 31, 2026, 5:00 p.m. in the drop box at City Hall.

We reserve the right to refuse and all bids.
(Any questions please contact the Mayor Mark Zittergruen 641-891-2782)
Published in The News-Review on March 18, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Delta • Notice of Sale

CITY OF DELTA PUBLIC NOTICE OF SALE OF PROPERTY
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the City of Delta will offer the following property for sale via sealed bid beginning Wednesday, March 18th, 2026 and ending April 18th, 2026. Full property description can be found on the Beacon-Schneider website.
Property: 408 N. Center St.
Buyer will be responsible for the

winning bid price and the legal fees for property transfer upon completion of legal documentation. The property is being sold as is. Purchaser will be responsible for any back financial obligations associated with the property including but not limited to property tax, city assessments, etc.
Published in The News-Review on March 18 and 25, and April 1 and 8, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Delta • Public Hearing

DELTA CITY PUBLIC HEARING WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11TH, 2026 – 6PM
DELTA CITY HALL
The Delta City Council held a public hearing on Wednesday, March 11th, 2026 at the Delta City Hall with Mayor James Ahlberg presiding.
Council present: Barb Fisher, Dolores Carey, Nathan Slagter, and Shannon Kleinschmidt.
Also present: Faye Carey, Michelle and Deal Keasling, Justin and Patricia Hulbert, Jordan Hartwig, Ronald Price, Cheryl and Tony Giese.
Mayor Ahlberg called the meeting to order at 5:50pm.

Council reviewed Iowa Code 2026, Section 364.7 concerning the proposed sale of property located at 408 N. Center St. Council does not see any value to hold property and discussed the advantages of opening the property to be sold to the public.
Mayor Ahlberg opened the floor to public comment, but none was made.
Slagter made a motion to adjourn. Fisher 2nd. Roll call: all ayes. Motion carried.
Adjournment at 5:56pm.
Published in The News-Review on March 18, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Richland • Claims 3.9.2026

CLAIMS LIST FOR MARCH 9, 2026

Vendor, Expense, Amount	Library expenses	Fire Dept expenses	Payroll expenses	City expenses	Funds-Expenses	Funds-Revenue
Alliant Energy, electricity...\$637.40	Quill, envelopes.....\$21.22	Alliant Energy, electricity...\$122.44	Employee net pay, wages.....\$8,012.61	Alliant Energy, electricity.....\$3,085.83	General.....\$10,091.15	General.....\$1,768.24
Natel, telephone.....\$72.70	SE IA Clerk Assoc., membership dues.....\$20.00	Farmers Coop, propane...\$292.14	Dept of Revenue, Fed WH/FICA...\$1,746.36	Adrian Dist., hauling rock...\$100.00	Road Use Tax.....\$2,041.24	Road Use Taxes.....\$4,922.75
US Bank, library collection/supplies.....\$236.90	Semco, landfill fees.....\$453.15	Payroll expenses	Treasurer, State of IA, State W/H.....\$147.07	Calder Bender, insurance stipend.....\$400.00	Water.....\$7,938.79	Employee Benefits.....\$108.13
	State Hygienic Lab, water/ww testing fees.....\$15.50		IPERS, Retirement.....\$1,518.13	City of Ottumwa, recycle fees.....\$58.50	Sewer.....\$2,832.11	Emergency Fund.....\$-
	Straight Up Doors, maint. garage door repair.....\$810.47			Douds Stone, rock.....\$351.61	Landfill/Garbage.....\$3,565.82	Local Option Sales Tax...\$4,444.98
	US Bank - Maint., pump/solar panel.....\$469.49			Elliott Oil Company, fuel...\$246.81	Total.....\$26,469.11	Water.....\$10,506.83
	US Bank, technology fees.....\$169.93			Farmers Coop, softener salt/propane.....\$980.00		Sewer.....\$4,772.78
	US Cellular, maint. ipad & plan.....\$108.98			IA Dept of Revenue, WET taxes/sales tax.....\$614.37		Landfill/Garbage.....\$2,358.50
	Water Solutions Unltd., oracle.....\$758.00			ION Environ. Solutions, water/ww testing fees.....\$40.00		Total.....\$28,882.21
	Windstream, monthly bill-phone/email.....\$132.36			Jason Rebling, contractor labor.....\$1,600.00		<i>Published in The News-Review on March 18, 2026</i>
	Total Expenses.....\$26,469.11			KCTC, internet.....\$91.71		
				Lynch Dallas Legal, legal fees.....\$1,012.50		
				Midwest Water Assoc., curb stop valve/repair.....\$1,385.52		

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Keota • FY2025 Financial Report

STATE OF IOWA 2025 FISCAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025 CITY OF KEOTA, IOWA DUE: December 1, 2025	16205400600000 CITY OF KEOTA 225 E. Broadway Ave KEOTA IA 52248-9700 POPULATION: 897			
NOTE - The information supplied in this report will be shared by the Iowa State Auditor's Office, the U.S. Census Bureau, various public interest groups, and State and federal agencies.				
ALL FUNDS				
	Governmental (a)	Proprietary (b)	Total Actual (c)	Budget (d)
Revenues and Other Financing Sources				
Taxes Levied on Property	470,984		470,984	464,958
Less: Uncollected Property Taxes-Levy Year	0		0	0
Net Current Property Taxes	470,984		470,984	464,958
Delinquent Property Taxes	0		0	0
TIF Revenues	0		0	0
Other City Taxes	98,726	0	98,726	113,090
Licenses and Permits	2,057	0	2,057	825
Use of Money and Property	14,625	0	14,625	13,555
Intergovernmental	280,043	0	280,043	136,225
Charges for Fees and Service	139,990	704,552	844,542	860,300
Special Assessments	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	12,048	5,000	17,048	1,750
Other Financing Sources, Including Transfers in	37,527	0	37,527	454,585
Total Revenues and Other Sources	1,056,000	709,552	1,765,552	2,045,288
Expenditures and Other Financing Uses				
Public Safety	86,767		86,767	109,250
Public Works	186,333		186,333	237,660
Health and Social Services	0		0	0
Culture and Recreation	474,366		474,366	308,293
Community and Economic Development	57,963		57,963	100,000
General Government	157,865		157,865	173,275
Debt Service	0		0	14,840
Capital Projects	0		0	100,000
Total Governmental Activities Expenditures	963,294	0	963,294	1,043,318
Business type activities		551,022	551,022	808,368
Total All Expenditures	963,294	551,022	1,514,316	1,851,686
Other Financing Uses, Including Transfers Out	0	0	0	454,585
Total All Expenditures/and Other Financing Uses	963,294	551,022	1,514,316	2,306,271
Excess Revenues and Other Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	92,706	158,530	251,236	-260,983
Beginning Fund Balance July 1, 2024	1,490,153	-485,815	1,004,338	2,493,680
Ending Fund Balance June 30, 2025	1,582,859	-327,285	1,255,574	2,232,697

NOTE - These balances do not include the following, which were not budgeted and are not available for city operations:
Non-budgeted Internal Service Funds Pension Trust Funds
Private Purpose Trust Funds Agency Funds

Indebtedness at June 30, 2025		Indebtedness at June 30, 2025	
	Amount		Amount
General Obligation Debt	-4,940	Other Long-Term Debt	0
Revenue Debt	-145,420	Short-Term Debt	0
TIF Revenue Debt	0		
		General Obligation Debt Limit	3,195,815

Published in The News-Review on March 18, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of What Cheer • PH Proposed Property Tax Levy

CITY NAME: NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - CITY OF WHAT CHEER - PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY CITY #: 54-516
WHAT CHEER Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027

The City Council will conduct a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year City property tax levy as follows:
Meeting Date: 3/24/2026 Meeting Time: 07:00 PM Meeting Location: WHAT CHEER CITY HALL 308 S. BARNES ST. WHAT CHEER, IA. 50268
At the public hearing any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of the proposed tax levy. After the hearing of the proposed tax levy, the City Council will publish notice and hold a hearing on the proposed city budget.

Iowa Department of Management	Current Year Certified Property Tax 2025 - 2026	Budget Year Effective Property Tax 2026 - 2027	Budget Year Proposed Property Tax 2026 - 2027
Taxable Valuations for Non-Debt Service	8,253,641	9,222,794	9,222,794
Consolidated General Fund	66,854	66,854	72,529
Operation & Maintenance of Public Transit	0	0	0
Aviation Authority	0	0	0
Liability, Property & Self Insurance	8,170	8,170	8,193
Support of Local Emergency Mgmt. Comm.	0	0	0
Unified Law Enforcement	0	0	0
Police & Fire Retirement	0	0	0
FICA & IPERS (If at General Fund Limit)	16,170	16,170	11,567
Other Employee Benefits	0	0	0
Capital Projects (Capital Improv. Reserve)	0	0	0
Taxable Value for Debt Service	8,253,641	9,222,794	9,222,794
Debt Service	0	0	0
CITY REGULAR TOTAL PROPERTY TAX	91,194	91,194	92,289
CITY REGULAR TAX RATE	11,04899	9,88789	10,00662
Taxable Value for City Ag Land	380,652	396,886	396,886
Ag Land	1,143	1,143	1,193
CITY AG LAND TAX RATE	3,00274	2,87992	3,00375
Tax Rate Comparison-Current VS. Proposed			
Residential property with an Actual/Assessed Valuation of \$100,000/\$110,000	Current Year Certified 2025/2026	Budget Year Proposed 2026/2027	Percent Change
City Regular Residential	524	490	-6.49
Commercial property with an Actual/Assessed Valuation of \$300,000/\$330,000	Current Year Certified 2025/2026	Budget Year Proposed 2026/2027	Percent Change
City Regular Commercial	2,278	2,290	0.53

Note: Actual/Assessed Valuation is multiplied by a Rollback Percentage to get to the Taxable Valuation to calculate Property Taxes. Residential and commercial properties have the same rollback percentage through \$150,000 of actual/assessed valuation.

Reasons for tax increase if proposed exceeds the current:
Does not exceed the current

Published in The News-Review on March 18, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Delta • Minutes 3.11.2026

DELTA CITY COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11TH, 2026
6PM AT DELTA CITY HALL
The Delta City Council met in regular session Wednesday, March 11th, 2026 at the Delta City Hall with Mayor James Ahlberg presiding.
Council present: Barb Fisher, Dolores Carey, Melvin Lambert, Nathan Slagter, Shannon Kleinschmidt
Also present: Faye Carey, Deal and Michelle Keasling, Jordan Hartwig, Tony & Cheryl Giese, Justin & Patricia Hulbert, Matt Graham, Ronald Price, Blint Roberts
Mayor Ahlberg called the meeting to order at 6pm.
Council reviewed the agenda, treasurer's report, and water billing. Slagter made a motion for approval. Fisher 2nd. Roll call: all ayes. Motion carried.

Council opened the floor to Matt Graham with Windstream. Windstream has asked the council to review their proposed plans to install Fiber optic aerial lines as well as bore lines in select areas. The proposed project is to tentatively be completed later this year. Graham discussed the procedures, benefits to citizens, and any associated risks. Resolution 2026-3.2 granting the permission was proposed. Kleinschmidt made a motion to approve. Slagter 2nd. Roll call: all ayes. Motion carried.
Ronald Price addressed concerns with the council of his neighbor's chickens destroying his property and digging holes in his yard. He has spoken with the neighbor but nothing has been done. Council discussed the violation of Ordinance 4-1-10. Council requests a certified letter be served demanding the chickens be placed in a pen,

or removed from city limits effective immediately. Slagter made motion to approve. Fisher 2nd. Roll call: all ayes. Motion carried.
Blint Roberts addressed concerns regarding the water bill associated with his property. At this time, he is unable to pay the entire past due balance left by the previous property owners. He requests the council to allow him to make monthly payments towards the balance until paid in full. Council has agreed to allow Roberts to make monthly payments of \$200 towards the past balance as well as the monthly bill. If a payment is missed, the agreement will be revoked. Lambert made motion of approval. Slagter 2nd. Roll call: all ayes. Motion carried.
Keasling presented the maintenance report. He informed the council that the repairs to the maintainer would be costly, but necessary to make it operational but that it is fixable. They also discussed the overall hours of the maintenance department and what the council felt was appropriate for the two employees.
Council was presented with numerous complaints regarding three dogs in town who have been at large and killing other animals. Video from security cameras were presented confirming the identity of the dogs and the owners were identified. It is confirmed that Ordinance 4-1-4, 4-1-5, 4-1-8, and 4-1-9 are all in violation. The council discussed sending a certified letter to the owner's demanding the dogs be removed from city limits within 3 days. Slagter made motion of approval. Lambert 2nd. Roll call: all ayes. Motion carried.
Council discussed the state audit results presented by Denman CPA, LLP. Carey addressed the

concerns of needing accounting software due to the new electronic filing requirements imposed by the state and the findings of the audit. She presented an estimate from a company recommended from other municipalities in the county similar in size and requirements. Council will reconvene once an estimate is produced.
Council was informed there will be a Public Hearing on April 8th, 2026 at 5:50pm for the Proposed Property Tax Levy for the 26-27 Fiscal Year.
Council proposed Resolution 2026-3.1 regarding the sale of the property at 408 N. Center St. with an opening bid of \$1,000.00. Citizens will have until April 15th, 2026 to submit a sealed bid to city hall for the property. Slagter made a motion of approval. Fisher 2nd. Roll call: all ayes. Motion carried.
Slagter made a motion to adjourn.

Kleinschmidt 2nd. Roll call: all ayes. Motion carried.
Adjournment at 7:29pm.
SLUSH-\$60,451.95
GENERAL-\$53,887.63
Intuit:\$207.58
Key Coop:\$722.90
F. Carey: \$ 1,716.13
D. Keasling: \$ 580.08
Nationwide:\$389.00
JD Financial: \$560.01
Alliant: \$235.34
Elliot Oil: \$30.00
WATER-\$12,705.19
B. Gilliland: - \$250.14
WRWA: \$1,810.70
IA 1 Call: - \$10.80
Alliant Energy: - \$98.72
SEWER-\$16,314.30
D. Northrup: - \$580.08
Garden & Associates: - \$472.00
Alliant: - \$2,009.19
Published in The News-Review on March 18, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
Keokuk Co BOS • Minutes and Claims 3.2.2026

KEOKUK COUNTY BOARD PROCEEDINGS MARCH 2, 2026
The Keokuk County Board of Supervisors met in regular session, Monday, March 2, 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 minutes of February 23, 2026 as submitted. All ayes and motion carried.
Met with the Keokuk County Highway Department was held with Casey Clarahan, Engineer's Assistant. The importance of letters of

support was discussed regarding possible grant funding for V45 resurfacing.
Weber moved, Wood seconded approval of Linda Heisdorffer, part-time office help, personnel report resignation as submitted. All ayes and motion carried.
Wood moved, Weber seconded approval of March 2, 2026 claims listing as submitted. All ayes and motion carried.
CLAIM DATE: March 2, 2026
AED BRANDS.....146.00
AGRILAND FS.....404.83
AHLERS & COONEY.....923.25
AIRGAS USA.....1,026.53
ALLIANT ENERGY.....10,623.77
ALTORFER MACHINERY.....
.....5,246.08
AMAZON CAPITAL SERV.....394.90
AM HOME FINDING ASSOC.....
.....559.80

ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY.....	1,122.54	MID-AMERICA PUBLISHING.....	237.70
ASCENDANCE TRUCK MID-WEST.....	276.40	MMIT.....	161.22
BAILEY OFFICE.....	284.74	MOD COOP TELEPHONE.....	347.80
BOND, RICHARD.....	36.53	MUSCO CORPORATION.....	361.05
CALHOUN-BURNS & ASSOC.....	3,523.25	NETSMART TECHNOLOGIES.....	1,970.50
CENTRAL IA DIST.....	153.00	NEXTRAN TRUCK CTRS.....	244.32
ELLIOTT BULK SERV.....	2,757.15	NORRIS ASPHALT PAVING.....	606.21
FORCE AMERICA.....	83.89	NORSOLV SYS ENVIRON.....	75.15
GALLS LLC.....	187.84	NO ENGLISH TELEPHONE.....	1,650.64
H & M FARM & HOME.....	319.17	RANDALL, WILLIAM J.....	219.17
HERMAN, MICHELLE.....	138.66	SADLER POWER TRAIN.....	88.48
HOLM FUNERAL HOME.....	2,000.00	SANITY SOLUTIONS INC.....	48.51
IA PRISON IND.....	2,415.20	SCHROEDER FR/ALIGN.....	983.00
ISACA/SEAT.....	350.00	SINCLAIR NAPA.....	52.90
JASPER CO SHERIFF.....	58.25	SMITH, TOMMY.....	36.30
LEE, BRYAN.....	8.00	SE DIST IA ASSESSORS.....	400.00
MAHASKA CO ENVIRON.....	3,975.00	STROBELS INC.....	34.00
MAHASKA COMM GROUP.....	97.99	SUMMIT FIRE PROTECTION.....	149.44

and public comment was held. Tuckpointing companies were contacted last week regarding the clock tower structural maintenance, scheduling site visits with anticipated project estimates to be included in the historical grant application.
On vote and motion Hadley adjourned the meeting at 9:30 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 _____
Michael C. Hadley, Daryl Wood, Kevin Weber
Published in The News-Review on March 18, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of North English • PH Proposed Property Tax Levy

CITY NAME: NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - CITY OF NORTH ENGLISH - PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY CITY #: 48-444
NORTH ENGLISH Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027

The City Council will conduct a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year City property tax levy as follows:
Meeting Date: 4/1/2026 Meeting Time: 06:30 PM Meeting Location: North English City Hall

City Website (if available)
www.northenglishia.org

City Telephone Number
(319) 664-3810

Table with 4 columns: Iowa Department of Management, Current Year Certified Property Tax 2025 - 2026, Budget Year Effective Property Tax 2026 - 2027, Budget Year Proposed Property Tax 2026 - 2027. Rows include Taxable Valuations for Non-Debt Service, Consolidated General Fund, Operation & Maintenance of Public Transit, etc.

Note: Actual/Assessed Valuation is multiplied by a Rollback Percentage to get to the Taxable Valuation to calculate Property Taxes. Residential and commercial properties have the same rollback percentage through \$150,000 of actual/assessed valuation.

Reasons for tax increase if proposed exceeds the current:
Using the CGFL Max Rate of 8.1, which is the same as last year's rate.

Published in The News-Review on March 18, 2026

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PROBATE
Naoma Fern Houser ESPR038671

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR KEOKUK COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Naoma Fern Houser, Deceased CASE NO. ESPR038671 NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Naoma Fern Houser, Deceased, who died on or about January 30, 2026:

You are hereby notified that on March 10, 2026, the Last Will and Testament of Naoma Fern Houser, deceased, bearing date of October 18, 2002, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and that Mariea L. Greenlee was appointed Executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

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

Dated March 11, 2026.
Mariea L. Greenlee, Executor of Estate
853 Basswood Lane
Iowa City, IA 52246
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 25, 2026
Probate Code Section 304
Published in The News-Review on
March 18 and 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Keswick • Minutes and Claims 2.2.2026

KEWKICK CITY COUNCIL FEBRUARY 2, 2026, MAYOR
The Keswick City Council met in a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday February 2, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
The City Clerk issued the oath of office to the Mayor and the Council Members. The Mayor called the meeting to order. Roll Call: R. Leer, K. Leer, Lundy, Watts Absent: Schmidt. Approve the Agenda. Motion: Approve R. Leer. All Ayes. Financial Report: Motion to Approve: Watts, R. Leer 2nd by Lundy. All Ayes. Claims: Motion to Approve: R. Leer, 2nd by Watts, All Ayes.

on Taggart's water issue.
NEW BUSINESS: See about posting for mowing bids next month. No other new business.
Motion to adjourn: R. Leer 2nd. Watts All Ayes. Next meeting, March 2, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
Committees are as follows: Fire Board: K. Leer, Zittergruen and Lundy; Sewer: Lundy and R. Leer. Sanitation: Watts, Lundy, and K. Leer; Streets: Schmidt, R. Leer, Zittergruen; Mayor Protem: R. Leer; Keokuk County Endowment: Schmidt, R. Leer; Emergency Management: Zittergruen and Watts.
FINANCIAL REPORT JANUARY DATE, CK#, DESCRIPTION, AMOUNT, FUND
1/05/2026, Deposit, \$8.39 General
1/05/2026, Deposit, \$300.00 W/S/G
1/05/2026, Deposit, \$1,521.82 W/S/G
1/05/2026, Deposit, \$2,163.58

1/22/2026, Deposit, \$2,842.90 W/S/G
1/26/2026, Deposit, \$150.00 W
1/26/2026, Deposit, \$722.94 W/S/G
1/26/2026, Deposit, \$2,406.42 W/S/G
1/26/2026, Deposit, \$2,622.83 W/S/G
1/26/2026, Deposit, \$2,966.29 W/S/G
1/26/2026, Deposit, \$1,778.41 W/S/G
SUB-TOTAL, \$17,483.58 W/S/G
11/10/2025, EFT, Keokuk County Treasurer (Dec.), \$86.81 General
11/18/2025, EFT, State of Iowa, \$2,464.77 General
SUB-TOTAL, \$2,551.58 General
11/28/2025, EFT, Interest, \$30.66 General
SUB-TOTAL, \$30.66 General
DISTRIBUTION JANUARY DATE, CK#, DESCRIPTION, AMOUNT, FUND

01/02/2026, EFT, ipers, \$270.96 General
01/20/2026, EFT, Safe Deposit Box Rent, \$40.00 General
01/29/2026, EFT, IA Dept of Revenue, \$41.51 Water
01/29/2026, EFT, Deluxe Bus Sys Bus Products, \$238.08 General
01/29/2026, EFT, IA Dept of Revenue, \$249.06 Water
01/29/2026, EFT, IA Dept of Revenue, \$264.80 Water
SUB-TOTAL, \$1,1041.41 W/G
01/28/2026, EFT, Garnishment/levy fee, \$25.00 Water
01/28/2026, EFT, IA Dept of Revenue Levy, \$3,063.94 Water
SUB-TOTAL, \$3,088.94 General
01/07/2026, 3499, Rebecca Leer (Salary), \$236.66 General
01/09/2026, 3500, Kyle Leer (Salary), \$253.96 General
01/09/2026, 3501, Ike Schmidt (Salary), \$230.87 General
01/08/2026, 3502, Nick Watts (Salary), \$138.52 General

01/05/2026, 3511, Alliant Energy (Dec. St. Lights), \$565.30 Road
01/05/2026, 3512, Alliant Energy (Dec.), \$271.63 General
City Hall \$82.82 / Sign \$31.12 / Park \$ 97.38 / Shop\$60.31 \$
01/06/2026, 3513, Multi County Oil Co., \$530.73 Road
01/21/2026, 3514, Ethan Bair (Snow Removal), \$295.75 Road
01/08/2026, 3515, Joy Denison (Salary), \$602.42 General
01/13/2026, 3516, Tim Garrett (Salary), \$215.15 Water
01/13/2026, 3519, RUSS, \$7,617.90 Sewer
01/12/2026, 3520, Wapello Rural Water Assoc., \$1,949.94 Water
01/15/2026, 3521, Farmers Lumber Co., \$3.59 Water
01/16/2026, 3522, N&N Sanitation, \$2,520.00 General
01/28/2026, 3523, Larry Bair (Yearly Salary), \$923.50 Water
01/28/2026, 3524, Larry Bair (Road/Water), \$244.73 W/R

01/30/2026, 3527, ION (water testing), \$16.50 Water
01/30/2026, 3529, Modern Coop Tele. Co., \$34.60 General
01/30/2026, 3531, Alliant Energy (Jan. St. Lights), \$566.53 Road
01/30/2026, 3532, Alliant Energy (Jan.), \$201.85 General
Shop \$64.90/Park \$100.94/Sign \$36.01
01/30/2026, 3534, Iowa Dept. Revenue, \$1,890.11 Water
01/30/2026, 3536, Alliant Energy (City Hall), \$138.33 General
SUB-TOTAL, \$19,448.57 G/W/R/S
TOTAL \$23,641.92
Beginning Balance.....\$377,865.33
Credits.....\$20,065.82
Debits.....\$23,641.92
Ending Balance.....\$374,289.23
Published in The News-Review on
March 18, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Keswick • Minutes and Claims 1.5.2026

KEWKICK CITY COUNCIL JANUARY 5, 2026, MAYOR
The Keswick City Council met in a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday January 5, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
The City Clerk issued the oath of office to the Mayor and the Council Members.
The Mayor called the meeting to order. Roll Call: R. Leer, K. Leer, Lundy, Schmidt, Watts Absent: None. Approve the Agenda. Motion: R. Leer, 2nd Schmidt. All Ayes. Previous months Minutes read, Motion to Approve: K. Leer 2nd, Watts. All Ayes. Financial Report: Motion to Approve: Watts, 2nd by R. Leer. All Ayes. Claims: Motion to Approve: K. Leer, 2nd by Schmidt, All Ayes.

Kenny to see when we can start the process of applying for grant to move forward on more work on main street.
NEW BUSINESS: Committee assignments were made, all kept their committees and Lundy was assigned to Sieren's committees. It was tabled to decide on streets at a later date.
Motion to adjourn: R. Leer 2nd. Watts All Ayes.
Next meeting, February 2, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
Committees are as follows: Fire Board: K. Leer, Zittergruen and Lundy; Sewer: Lundy and R. Leer. Sanitation: Watts, Lundy, and K. Leer; Streets: Schmidt, R. Leer, Zittergruen; Mayor Protem: R. Leer; Keokuk County Endowment: Schmidt, R. Leer; Emergency Management: Zittergruen and Watts.
FINANCIAL REPORT DECEMBER DATE, CK#, DESCRIPTION, AMOUNT, FUND
12/01/2025, Deposit, \$150.00W
12/01/2025, Deposit, \$226.36 W/S/G
12/01/2025, Deposit, \$1,634.47

12/01/2025, Deposit, \$2,291.11 W/S/G
12/01/2025, Deposit, \$2,499.88 W/S/G
12/01/2025, Deposit, \$2,500.37 W/S/G
12/01/2025, Deposit, \$2,832.97 W/S/G
12/10/2025, Deposit, \$1,866.58 W/S/G
12/22/2025, Deposit, \$63.27 W/S/G
12/22/2025, Deposit, \$150.00W
12/22/2025, Deposit, \$180.00 W/S/G
12/22/2025, Deposit, \$200.00 W/S/G
12/22/2025, Deposit, \$600.00 W/S/G
12/22/2025, Deposit, \$1,247.37 W/S/G
12/22/2025, Deposit, \$1,976.18 W/S/G
12/22/2025, Deposit, \$2,298.30 W/S/G
12/22/2025, Deposit, \$2,533.40 W/S/G
12/22/2025, Deposit, \$2,818.48 W/S/G
SUB-TOTAL, \$26,068.74 W/S/G

12/01/2025, EFT, State of Iowa, \$2,141.17 General
12/11/2021, EFT, Keokuk County Treasurer (Nov.), \$3,944.49 General
12/26/2025, EFT, State of Iowa, \$2,526.27 General
SUB-TOTAL, \$8,611.93 General
12/31/2025, EFT, Interest, \$34.33 General
SUB-TOTAL, \$34.33 General
TOTAL DEPOSITS \$34,715.00
DISTRIBUTION DECEMBER DATE, CK#, DESCRIPTION, AMOUNT, FUND
11/01/2025, EFT, IA Finance Aut Payment, \$2,450.00 Water
12/02/2025, EFT, ICAP Web pay, \$91.00 Ins.
12/02/2025, EFT, ipers, \$180.51 General
12/09/2025, EFT, IA Dept of Revenue, \$46 Water
12/09/2025, EFT, IA Dept of Revenue, \$274.89 Water
12/09/2025, EFT, IA Dept of Revenue, \$3,274.05 W/G
12/02/2025, EFT, Charge Back Iten Check 1121, \$175.00. W/G/S
12/02/2025, EFT, Charge Back

Fee, \$8.00 W/G/S
12/02/2025, EFT, Sales Tax, \$0.48 W/S/G
12/31/2025, EFT, Service Charge, \$0.90 W/G/S
12/31/2025, EFT, Sales Tax, \$0.05 W/S/G
SUB-TOTAL \$184.43
12/15/2025, 3467, Blake Johnston (Salary) \$309.82 W/R/G
12/12/2025 3484 Denise Fry (Salary), \$144.15 Water
12/05/2025, 3489, Alliant Energy (Nov. St. Lights), \$573.91 Road
12/05/2025, 3490, Alliant Energy, \$227.12 General
City Hall \$41.24/ Sign \$32.57/Park \$100.52/Shop \$52.79
12/08/2025, 3491, Multi County Oil (propane gas) \$577.92
12/08/2025, 3492, Garden & Associates (Nov. Inv.), \$474.25 Road
12/08/2025, 3493, Keokuk Count Auditor (election), \$503.83 General
12/08/2025, 3494, Wapello Rural Water Assoc., \$1,890.28 Water
12/16/2025, 3495, Joy Dennison (Salary), \$602.42 General
12/29/2025, 3496, Tim Garrett (Salary), \$215.15 Water

12/03/2025, 3497, Denise Fry (Salary), \$144.15 Water
12/03/2025, 3498, Mark Zittergruen (Salary), \$378.63 General
12/15/2025, 3503, RUSS, \$7,617.90 Sewer
12/15/2025, 3504, Eldorado/Creative Technologies, \$595.00 Water
12/15/2025, 3505, ION (Water Testing), \$16.50 Water
12/23/2025, 3506, N&N Satiation (Nov./Dec.), \$5,040.00 General
12/12/2025, 3507, B&L Welding Inc. (repairs), \$615.18 Road
12/12/2025, 3508, Modern Coop Tele Co (Nov/Dec), \$69.20 General
12/29/2025, 3510, Garden & Associates (Aug. Inv.), \$8,835.70 Road
SUB-TOTAL, \$28,831.11 G/W/R
TOTAL DEBITS.....\$32,289.59
Beginning Balance.....\$375,439.92
Credits.....\$34,715.00
Debits.....\$32,289.59
Ending Balance.....\$377,865.33
Published in The News-Review on
March 18, 2026

Advertisement for Mid-America Publishing & Printing. Features three owls and text: 'Guess WHOOO does Custom Printing?', 'Your local newspaper!', 'Make the WISE decision: SHOP LOCAL!'. Includes 'Free Quotes • Fast Service • Free Local Delivery'.

Advertisement for Mid-America Publishing & Printing. Text: 'Business Cards • Posters/Banners • Invites • Envelopes • Brochures/Flyers Newsletters/Postcards • Calendars • Tickets • Punch Cards Logos . . . and so much more! Reliable Service • Outstanding Quality CALL KATIE AT 641-790-1841 SALES@SIGOURNEYNEWSREVIEW.COM'.

Advertisement for The News-Review newspaper. Shows a copy of the paper with headlines: 'Homecoming Kings and Queens', 'Chevelle Best in Show, 1980 Trans Am', 'Keswick Harvet Day'. Includes a subscription form.

Large advertisement for The News-Review. Text: 'The News-Review No matter how you like to get your news, THE NEWS-REVIEW HAS YOU COVERED! Subscribe to News-Review and you won't miss current local news about people, places and events.' Includes a subscription form with fields for Name, Address, City, State, Zip, User Name, Password, Email, and Exp. Date. Price: \$77 one year, \$35 for 3 months, \$9.99 monthly. LOCAL RATES. Mail to: PO Box 285, Sigourney, IA 52591 or Drop Off at: The News-Review, 120 E. Washington St., Sigourney, IA 52591 • 641-622-3110 • M-F 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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English Valleys Bearometer

March 18, 2026

www.facebook.com/Bearometer

Issue: XXVIII

Songs, Stories, and Spotlight: Inside the 2026 Swing Show

What a wonderful concert! The Swing Show is always one of the highlights of the year, and the 2026 show certainly did not disappoint. Our community is incredibly fortunate to have such dedicated music directors and so many talented students who bring their passion and creativity to the stage.

The Swing Show took place on March 6th in Gene's Gymnasium, where family, friends, and community members gathered to enjoy an evening filled with music and storytelling. This year's theme, "Storytellers," guided the performances and showcased how music can capture emotion, memories, and powerful moments.

The show opened with outstanding performances from several of the school's major ensembles. The high school band, high school jazz band, mixed choir, and Chamber Choir all took the stage, delivering energetic and expressive pieces that set the tone for the evening. These ensembles were led by band director Nile Dusdieker and choir director Noah Cornelius. Their dedication and leadership help make performances like the Swing Show possible each year.

After a brief intermission, the concert continued with a variety of small group and solo performances, highlighting the individual talents of many student musicians.

One of the featured pieces was "Absolute Zero," performed by a small group band consisting of J. Hoylman, E. Sieren, J. Osborne, B. Sieren, H. Offerman, M. Rugg, I. Frazier, B. Wells, K. Hoylman, M. Clubb, J. Johnson, and S. Scheibe. Their performance brought strong energy and musicianship to the stage.

A beautiful string performance followed, featuring Anna and Will Luers alongside Kayynn and Ashton Caster, showcasing the elegance and harmony of their instruments.

Vocal performances also shined throughout the night. Kaylee Frazier and Phoenix Sorden delivered a memorable rendition of "Stepsisters' Lament." Kaylynne Hoylman performed "Vienna," accompanied on piano by McKenna Rugg, creating a heartfelt moment in the program. Miley Clubb brought her own style and confidence to the classic "Ring of Fire."

Another standout performance featured "December 1963," played by McKenna Rugg, Olivia Debevec, Connor Harris, and Sage Scheibe, with Betsy Wells on vocals. The group captured the smooth, nostalgic feel of the song and delivered a performance that the audience clearly enjoyed.

The song "Monkey Wrench" featured vocals by Tyler Wiseman, accompanied by Dayne Render, Connor Harris, and Sage Scheibe, adding a rock-inspired sound to the evening's diverse program.

To close out the night, the audience was treated to a dance duet by Pantera Spies and Madelyn Overy, ending the show on a high note and bringing the evening's theme of storytelling full circle through movement and expression.

The 2026 Swing Show was truly a celebration of talent, hard work, and creativity. From full ensemble performances to intimate solos and small groups, the night highlighted the incredible abilities of our students. Thank you again to the performers, directors, and everyone behind the scenes who helped make this year's Swing Show such a fantastic success.



EV Welcomes New National Honor Society Members

On Friday, February 27, English Valleys High School proudly welcomed a new group of exceptional students into our chapter of the National Honor Society during a special induction ceremony.

The evening was a celebration of scholarship, leadership, service, and character: the four pillars that define NHS membership. Families, staff members, and friends gathered to recognize students who have demonstrated outstanding dedication in the classroom and a strong commitment to making a positive impact within our school and community.



The 2026 inductees are: Addison Achenbach, Aubrey Achenbach, Benjamin Axmear, Kane Axmear, Ben Flander, Ava Gehrking, Anna Gorsh, Sebastian Hartwig, Kaylynne Hoylman, Mallory Koehn, Miles Krebs, Tyler Lortz, Kailor Lown, Teagen Mast, Colton Mikesell, Jack Osborn, Jackson Overy, Elliana Patterson, and Roejert Patterson.

We also recognize our current NHS members who continue to uphold the high standards of our chapter: Deshon Anderson, Taylie Brecht, Drew Fisher, Kaylee Frazier, Cael Grove, Hunter Offerman, Lydia Smith, Phoenix Sorden, Aliza Walker, and Tyler Wiseman.

These students exemplify integrity, perseverance, and a dedication to excellence that strengthen our school community. We are incredibly proud of their achievements and look forward to the continued leadership and service they will provide.

A special thank you to Mrs. Davidson, our NHS advisor, for her leadership, guidance, and unwavering commitment to supporting our students and maintaining the high standards of our English Valleys chapter.



GAME OF TIARAS
 March 20 - 21, 2026
 7:00 pm (doors open at 6:30 pm)
 Genes Gymnasium
 Tickets: Adults \$6 • Students \$4
 Produced by Special Arrangement with Playscripts, Inc.

SIGOURNEY ARTS CORNER

By Becky Shaw

Artist of the Month:

Emerson Snakenberg is Miss March, our Artist of the Month! Emerson's favorite type of art to create are paintings or colored pencils. She uses Pinterest or her own ideas for her projects. She doesn't have any particular artists that inspire her, but she does really like the Youtube artists. Emerson's words of wisdom are, "No act of Kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."--Aesop's Fables.

Great work, Emerson! You are an amazing artist and student!



Events coming up:

• Events coming up: The Elementary Art Show is Mar. 19, from 5:30-7 p.m.! I hope to see lots of little artists and their families there!
 • Contact rebecca.shaw@sigourneyschools.com for more information! Want to help? We always accept art and craft supplies and monetary donations! This helps our art rooms run amazing!



Charles Knowler and Blake Brown show off their sculptures from 3D Art Class. They both took their time and created a truck and a semi!



The High School Painting Class created Mini Masterpieces on wood or pieces of glass. Each student chose a different artist and created a mini masterpiece based on one of their art pieces. Bentley Ingles, Aven Chitwood, Riley Westermeyer, Raymon Popelka, Katie Dupee, Bryce Ingles, Easton Olson, and Brianna Belvel.

Sigourney Artists Kindergarten - 12th Grade

Elementary Art Room



1st grade Castles. Both classes got to create their own style of castles using paint and sparkles.



2nd grade Dragons created into puppets with sticks and strings. Very cool!



3rd grade Mardi Gras Masks were started on Fat Tuesday, and will be finished in the next week!



6th grade got an outside art day! The ladies painted portraits of each other using watercolors! Great work, girls!



4th grade Native American Sand Art. The kids created their ideas based on Native American symbols and styles.



Kindergarten Crowns and rainbows. So much fun!





Water Line Management Guide for Swine Production Published by Iowa State University Extension and Outreach

By: Marta Grant
 AMES – A new publication from the Iowa Pork Industry Center at Iowa State University helps producers evaluate water quality and manage water line systems in swine barns.

water diagnostic testing "Water Line System Management for Swine Production" is available for download at no cost from the ISU Extension Store. The guide outlines water line system design, water quality diagnostics, cleaning and disinfection protocols and best practices for administering medications.

Several authors contributed to this publication, including Chris Rademacher, Gabi Doughan and Locke Karkker with the College of Veterinary Medicine at ISU; Ashley Englin, swine field specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach; and Becca Walthart, former master's student with the Swine Medicine Education Center at ISU.

"Water is a physiological need for pigs, regulating growth, temperature control and overall behavioral needs," stated Doughan. "Without regular cleaning and disinfection, biofilms can accumulate within water line systems and impact health, production and water-administered medication."

Producers will find step-by-step instructions for cleaning and disinfecting water systems and water sample col-

lection protocol within the publication. Water quality assessments should evaluate the physical, chemical and microbiological characteristics of water by testing pH, trace minerals and coliforms at minimum, and should be collected at least once per year.

"In a recent survey of Midwest production sites, only 20% of farms had a water line cleaning standard operating procedure (SOP) that was regularly implemented," said Englin.

Standardized protocols can help producers reduce biofilms and ensure animals regularly have access to high-quality water, leading to improved performance and better animal health.

"Water lines are one of the main routes for antimicrobial and vaccine administration," said Doughan. "By improving water quality and water line maintenance, producers can more effectively treat their livestock, resulting in less days off feed and reduced production costs."

The guide also includes protocols for water medication administration and explains how water quality can affect medication efficacy. There are also instructions for how to set up and calibrate flow-activated pump, piston and diaphragm medication.

For more information, access the publication or contact Doughan at wilsong2@iastate.edu.

Iowa's popular spring turkey hunting seasons only a few weeks away

By: Jim Coffey, Forest Wildlife Research Biologist, Iowa Department of Natural Resources,

Once easily visible in large winter flocks scratching in picked crop fields along timber edges for waste grain, Iowa's wild turkeys will seemingly disappear into the landscape as the days lengthen and temperatures warm.

Driven by instinct, males will begin calling, displaying and competing against other males for the attention of the hens as part of the annual breeding season.

In this arena, steps the turkey hunter – who tries to mimic the hens and frustrate the toms (mature) and jakes (one-year old male's) to the point of investigating why she is not responding to his calls.

"Turkey hunting is an intimate experience, calling the birds close, making it go against instinct, using your experience and skills learned from time spent in the woods to try to trick that bird to coming to you," said Jim Coffey, forest wildlife biologist with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR). "And if everything goes right, only around 22-25 percent of our tags get filled. Even the most experienced turkey hunters make mistakes."

Last year, more than 50,000 tags were sold and hunters



Turkeys (photo courtesy of Metro Creative Connection)

reporting harvesting more than 15,000 birds; the second highest total since mandatory harvest began in 2006.

"We had a good turkey hatch in 2025, and that was on top of a good hatch in 2024, so we should have a good number of jakes and young toms available this spring," Coffey said.

Considered a woodland species, turkeys can be found in grasslands, field edges and other places you don't expect to see them. Birds were harvested in all of Iowa's 99 counties in the 2025 spring season.

Iowa's spring turkey hunting offers four split seasons, where hunters may choose up to two seasons, with at least one being season four. Seasons spread out hunting pressure to provide positive experience. Surveys indicate that hunter satisfaction is

highest when they do not run into another hunter while hunting and when they hear a lot of gobbling.

With a few weeks to go till the season starts, now is a good time to go through the equipment and gear to make sure it still works and fits, and to practice calling.

"Spring weather could be finicky – it could be in the 70s or snowing," he said. "And just a reminder, it will be tick season."

Hunting safety reminder

Hunters should write out their hunting plan that identifies the hunt location, who's on the hunt and outlines their role, describes how the hunt will unfold and when the hunters are expected to return home. Hunters are encouraged to leave a copy of the plan with someone or somewhere easy to find, in the event of an emergency.

Hunters are reminded to avoid wearing patriotic colors – red, white and blue – that are colors found on a male turkey head and waddle, and to not shoot at movement. Identify the target and what's beyond it, especially with the new loads that have increased range.

If another hunter walks in to your area, Coffey said remain still and say in a clear voice 'Hunter over here.' "The person should turn and walk directly away," he said.

Those who harvest a bird are required to report their harvest through the harvest reporting system. It is essential and mandatory to report the bird, which helps the DNR with management.

"There are plenty of birds – be mindful of other hunters out there – they're out there to have fun too," he said.

Youth Season
 Youth season is designed to be a mentoring experience, teaching the youth about turkey hunting and building skills, like learning how to call.

SEASONS
 Youth-only – residents only, age 15 and younger - April 10-12
 Season 1 – April 13-16
 Season 2 – April 17-21
 Season 3 – April 22-28
 Season 4 – April 29 – May 17
 Resident Archery Only – April 13 – May 17

Course on chronic wasting disease set for March and April in Ames

Chronic Wasting Disease Ambassadors is a collaborative education program between the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Iowa State University (ISU) Extension and Outreach that seeks to help Iowans address the challenge of chronic wasting disease.

The goal of the program is to develop a small, connected, and well-educated network of local leaders to effectively communicate about the management and mitigation of chronic wasting disease. Registration is open for an offering of the program in Ames this

spring. The course will be offered over three nights at the ISU Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, 1937 Christensen Drive, in Ames, on March 26, April 2, and April 9, from 6-8 p.m. Dinner is included.

Class size is between 12-25 participants. There is a link to the online registration at https://iastate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b2y-DYRFJKWISJAG

Graduates of the three-week training program become "ambassadors" for the science-based management of chronic wasting disease. Ambassadors are

knowledgeable in the management, prevention, and testing for the disease and equipped with communication skills and resources to help educate others within their community.

Participants can include hunters and non-hunters, community members, and anyone interested in white-tailed deer conservation and management.

A 2025 graduate of the program from Black Hawk County remarked, "I enjoyed the program and learned several things about CWD that I had not known. It was good to meet some individuals that share a

common concern about the disease and the health of deer in our state."

The course is taught through in-person instructions, demonstration, and networking, and in short online lessons between class sessions that allow ambassadors to learn at their own pace. It covers everything from the basics of chronic wasting disease ecology to the science of science communication. The program comprises about eight hours of learning and networking with ISU and DNR educators and other concerned community members.

Secretary Naig, Iowa 4-H, Iowa FFA Announce Statewide Tree Planting Initiative in Honor of America250

DES MOINES - Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig, in collaboration with Iowa 4-H and Iowa FFA, today announced a statewide tree planting initiative in honor of America's 250th birthday.

The youth-driven initiative aims to plant 250 trees across Iowa in 2026, connecting students with the state's agricultural heritage and a commitment to stewardship and service. The initiative encourages Iowa youth to take an active role in conserving the land that has sustained generations of farmers while celebrating the values that have shaped our nation and our communities.

"Planting a tree is a simple act that benefits future generations," said Secretary Naig. "Through this initiative, Iowa 4-Hers and FFA members have an opportunity to honor our nation's history while strengthening their communities. I encourage chapters and clubs across the state to join us in celebrating this milestone moment in our nation's history by planting an official A250 tree in their communities that will live on for generations."

A kickoff event will be held at the Iowa State Fairgrounds on Friday, April 24, in celebration of Arbor Day. Secretary Naig will be joined by Iowa 4-Hers and Iowa FFA members to plant a Burr Oak, the state tree, as the official

Iowa America250 tree on the fairgrounds.

"Iowa 4-H members have a long and proud history of service to communities and stewardship of natural resources," said Mitch Hoyer, Director and State 4-H Program Leader. "Participating in the Iowa America250 tree planting initiative is a way for 4-H clubs to practice the 4-H pledge and use their hands in larger service. We're pleased to support this initiative and having 4-H clubs across Iowa partner with local leaders on community projects."

"Iowa FFA members take pride in growing leaders, building communities, and strengthening agriculture," said Scott Johnson, Executive Director of the Iowa FFA Association. "Through the Iowa America250 tree planting initiative, FFA chapters are putting those values into action by improving our environment and investing in the future of rural communities. Iowa FFA is proud to support this effort as part of our com-

mitment to leadership, service, and sustainability."

4-H clubs and FFA chapters are encouraged to: Plan and host a tree planting activity or dedication ceremony in collaboration with FFA advisors and 4-H club leaders.

Plant trees on Friday, April 24, 2026, in celebration of Arbor Day.

Invite community leaders, organizations and residents to participate.

Share events and photos on social media using the hashtag #IowaAmerica250.

Help track the initiative's statewide impact by registering local events at: <https://bit.ly/A250-IowaAg-Tree-Planting-Initiative>

The initiative is sponsored and supported by The Coalition to Support Iowa Farm-

ers (CSIF) along with Frazier Nursery of Benton County. Frazier Nursery will provide free regional delivery of trees purchased through their nursery. Chapters and clubs may also choose to support local nurseries in their communities when securing a tree for their planting event.

Groups interested in ordering trees through Frazier Nursery can visit www.Iowa250Trees.com and place their order by April 10. Regional delivery will be offered April 20-23, and each tree ordered through Frazier Nursery will include a commemorative IowaAmerica250 plaque.

For more information on Iowa's America250 celebration and ideas to celebrate in your community, visit America250.Iowa.Gov.



Planting a tree. (photo courtesy of Metro Creative Connection)

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