

The News-Review

\$1.50

SERVING THE KEOKUK COUNTY AREA SINCE 1860

WEDNESDAY, APR. 1, 2026
NUMBER 13, 165TH YEAR

Community CALENDAR

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, coleslaw, green beans, roll and drink. For information and carryout orders, contact Mic Berg at (319) 461-3281

Sigourney Blood Drive

Wednesday, April 1, 10:30 AM - 1:15 PM at Sigourney High School Gym. To book your appointment, contact Shannon Greiner at shannon.greiner@sigourneyschools.com

Ham and Beans Supper

Thursday April 9, 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Delta Town and Country Center-Delta, Iowa. Free will offering. All Proceeds go to towards the remodeling!! Ham and Beans, Potato Soup, cornbread, Relish Tray, Desserts, and Drinks. Dine in or call 641-660-7848 for to go orders. Dine in or carry out available

NEW Homeschool Support Group Meet and Greet

April 9, 1 p.m. at Free Grace United Church, What Cheer

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

Keota Blood Drive

Thursday, April 23, 7:30 AM - 12:30 PM at Keota Junior High School Gym

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



In this issue

- Agri-View..... 6B
- Church Calendar.....5
- Classifieds6
- Local 2-3, 7
- Records 2B-3B
- The Sun Spot.....8
- Sports..... 9-10



A Personal Note to Our Readers and Community

By Katie Phillips | The News-Review

SIGOURNEY — As Mid-America Publishing prepares to cease operations, I wanted to take a moment to speak directly to the readers and community members who have meant so much to me over the past several years.

I began my journey with The News-Review in June of 2020, and from the very beginning, this newspaper has been near and dear to my heart. What started as a role in advertising quickly became so much more. Over time, I had the opportunity to contribute in many ways—helping local businesses share their stories, creating weekly “Recipe of the Week” features, publishing the Agri-Review, and writing articles that highlighted the people, events and moments that make this community special.

It has truly been an honor to be part of something that connects people in such a meaningful way.

As many of you are aware, Mid-America Publishing will cease operations effective April 1. While this marks the end of The News-Review as you have traditionally known it, efforts have been made to ensure that a version of the publication will continue moving forward.

The Iowa Newspaper Association will coordinate the printing of public notices, commonly referred to as legals, ensuring those required publications remain available to the public. In addition, the publication will include content from the Iowa Capital Dispatch, which provides statewide reporting on government and public policy.

All current subscribers will continue to receive this version of the paper, and the masthead and general style

of The News-Review will remain the same.

While this transition ensures that certain functions will continue, it does represent a significant change for local news coverage in our community.

One of the greatest joys of this role has been the relationships built along the way. Whether it was stopping into a local business, attending a community event, or simply running into someone around town, those daily interactions are what made this work so rewarding. I will deeply miss seeing and connecting with the community on a regular basis.

I also want to extend my sincere thanks to our advertisers. Your continued support has not only helped sustain this publication, but has also played a vital role in

COMMUNITY
pg. 3

Goodbye

By Casey James | The News-Review

SIGOURNEY — The masthead on this paper states that the News-Review has been in publication for 165 years. That would place this paper's founding to the same year the American Civil War began. Unfortunately, the 165th year will be our last.

Less than two weeks ago, the News-Review staff received word that Mid-America Publishing, the company that owns the News-Review and many other newspapers across the state, would be ceasing all operations due to insolvency. As a result, the entire News-Review office has been dismissed.

The News-Review will continue in a modified format. The Iowa Newspaper Association will

coordinate the printing of public notices (legals), and the publication will possibly include content from the Iowa Capital Dispatch. However, these issues will not feature local coverage. All current subscribers will continue to receive this version of the paper.

Speaking personally, I began working at this paper in 2022, right after graduating college. It has been the highest privilege, these past four years, to be allowed to share the stories of the community that raised me. This is the best job I have ever had, and I will miss it. I hope that, eventually, some form of local journalism returns to Keokuk County; this community deserves to be treated like it matters.

Thank you for the years of dedicated readership.



Keota Drama Teacher Directs Final Play

By Casey James | The News-Review

KEOTA — In two months, Jane Edwards will retire after 51 years of teaching, 30 at Keota, during which time she estimates she directed 75 different plays. On March 27 and 28, she watched the curtains raise for the final time, with her students performing in “The Princess Quest,” an adaptation of the fairy tale “The Princess and the Pea,” told from the perspective of a prince forced to go on a quest to find a princess.

“I like the story,” said Edwards. “I’ve done ‘The Princess and the Pea’ several times, but I like this point of view. I like the characters that fit the people that I had that would be doing the play,

and I have some younger kids that are involved, some Junior High kids that are going to get their feet wet. For example, I had a freshman do the entire play perfectly last Tuesday. That’s just something that doesn’t really happen...We have to pull it together in 20 rehearsals. So we have 30 hours to pull this off, because we’ve got to get between basketball and golf, soccer, track.”

When asked what her favorite play she had done was, Edwards stated “The one I’m doing right now. I mean, I just always like whatever production I’m doing, and I’ve learned sometimes it’s not good to do a show and then try and do

PLAY
pg. 3



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.





Senior Bo Latcham performing solo musical theater, "If I Can't Love Her," from Beauty and the Beast.



Seniors Tatum and Rannen Harbison during their performance of "Stepsisters' Lament"



Senior Brogan Spray performing Storytelling - "Farmer Paul" by Phil Parsons



The Pekin students. Photo Credit Pekin Panther Players Facebook Page

Pekin Students Perform in "Night of Theatre" Showcase

By Katie Phillips | The News-Review

PEKIN — Students took the stage Saturday evening for Pekin's "Night of Theatre," presenting a variety of performances that highlighted their talents in musical theatre, improv, storytelling and film.

A dessert bar was featured during the performances, with numerous community members contributing and providing treats.

The event opened with a musical theatre performance of "Screw Loose" from Cry Baby by Brinley Phillips, followed by an improv performance featuring Anna Hadley, Will Daniels, Hayden Miller and Bo Latcham. Additional first-half acts included storytelling by Brogan Spray, a public address by Natalie Hamilton, a solo musical theatre performance of "Charybdis" from Epic by Zoe Atkinson, and a short film featuring Conor Cloyd



Group Photo: Back row l to r: Jessica Carlson (Band and Choir Teacher), Anna Hadley, Rannen Harbison, Tatum Harbison, Jaxon Mefford, Dominic Cobler, Brogan Spray, Bo Latcham, Will Daniels, and Jim Eschenbrenner (Speech Coach). Front row l to r: Zoe Heisdorffer, Natalie Hamilton, Brinley Phillips, Ava Heisdorffer, and Zoe Atkinson.

(Director), Daniels, Miller, Hadley, Rannen Harbison, and Tatum Harbison.

Following an intermission, the program resumed with a reviewing performance titled; "This is Labrynth" by Tatum Harbison. Ava Heisdorffer presented two poetry pieces, followed by an acting performance by Rannen Harbison

from Shakespear's Hamlet and storytelling of "Where the Wild Things Are" by Zoe Heisdorffer.

The evening concluded with a group musical theatre performance of "Stepsisters' Lament," featuring Rannen Harbison, Tatum Harbison, Zoe Heisdorffer, Ava Heisdorffer and Zoe Atkinson.

Brinley Phillips, Zoe Heisdorffer and Tatum Harbison will next represent Pekin at the Individual All-State Speech Festival at the University of Northern Iowa on March 31

The event showcased the creativity of Pekin students while giving the community a chance to support local talent in a live performance setting.

Photos by Katie Phillips



Group improv - Senior, Anna Hadley; Senior, Will Daniels; Jaxon Mefford, Senior, Bo Latchum; and Dominic Cobler

Four Local Students Perform at All-State Individual Speech

By Casey James | The News-Review

CEDAR FALLS – The Individual Events All-State Festival was held at the University of Northern Iowa on March 30, honoring the crème de la crème of Iowa's speech students. Four local students performed at the festival, including:

- 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."
- Isaac Jones of Sigourney in Reviewing for a review of Terraria 1.4.4.

"It seemed like a simple

option that was in my wheelhouse," said Jones, when asked why he chose to compete in reviewing. "I am able to form strong opinions on things I like, and I love sharing those opinions. However, what really sold me on it was when I heard that we could review a video game. My mind bolted straight to Terraria. Terraria is my favorite game, and I have poured over 1,500 hours into playing it. It also seemed like something I could easily review because of how much I have talked about the game. You can ask my friends; they are just about sick of hearing about it...Choosing version 1.4.4 was a decision I made in response to the brand-new Terraria update. The new update just dropped on the same day I had to choose what I

reviewing. Terraria 1.4.5 had so much new content that I couldn't effectively review it with how little time I had. This was especially the case since I am in many other activities as well. It was for these reasons that I chose to review Terraria version 1.4.4 rather than just Terraria as a whole...I feel incredibly honored. My passion and hard work have finally paid off, and I am ecstatic. I am incredibly grateful to my coach, Mr. Holt, as well as the whole speech team. They helped me find the flaws in my review and gave me the confidence that I needed to succeed. Above all else, right now, I can't tell if I am more excited to go to this prestigious event or just to tell a large number of people about my favorite game!"

English Valleys History Center Begins Season With Presentation on the First Iowa Infantry

By Casey James | The News-Review

NORTH ENGLISH – The English Valleys History Center held its first program of the year on March 29, hosting author Randee Fieselmann, who talked about her book "The Union First: Community and Commitment in the First Iowa Infantry." The book recounts the experiences of the First Iowa Infantry during the early months of the American Civil War. Fieselmann based her book off the diaries of Eu-

gene Ware and George Burmeister, two young men who fought in the First Iowa Infantry. Fieselmann also drew from the writings of Franc B. Wilke, a Dubuque Herald reporter assigned to follow and report on the First Iowa.

"They were exceptional young men, exceptional writers, and they're part of an exceptional group," said Fieselmann.

The First Iowa Infantry were the first Iowa soldiers to enlist. Of the men in Burmeister and Ware's unit, there were 27 men

ages 18-20, 37 ages 21-24, and 14 over 25. These young men marched 200 miles, through rough conditions and lacking food, to face off with Confederate forces in Southwest Missouri. Fieselmann described their ramshackle uniforms, sewn by volunteers from cheap fabric that didn't match, and their decades old muskets which couldn't shoot straight.

The First Iowa is best known for Battle of Wilson's Creek, occurring on August 10, 1861. It was the first battle fought west of the Mississippi. The First Iowa's commanding officer, Brigadier General Nathaniel Lyon, launched a five a.m. ambush on the Confederates. The battle was a failure, although Fieselmann argued it should be considered a draw, with the Union forces retreating and 285 Union soldiers, including Lyon, dying in battle. Lyon was regarded as a martyr and the First Iowa received nationwide praise as heroes after the battle.

Fieselmann explained that neither Ware or Burmeister were avowed abolitionists. Although they hated slavery, believing rightfully that it was inhumane, and strongly opposed its extension, they believed that the north had abided by the compromises made with the south. She stated that they believed in a United States of America, not two opposing neighboring

EV HISTORY
pg. 5



Swing into Spring

9 MONTH CD	3.70% APY*
18 MONTH CD	3.75% APY*
36 MONTH CD	3.85% APY*

*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) accurate as of April 1, 2026 and subject to change without notice. Minimum opening balance of \$500. Early withdrawal penalties may apply. Fees may reduce earnings. Contact an employee about fees and terms of the account. 9, 18 and 36 Month also offered as IRA CD.

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Community CALENDAR

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 on Wednesdays at 1 p.m., beginning Nov. 6. No charge.

Fiddle Dee Dee

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

Keokuk County Democrats Open Meeting

First Tuesday of the Month. 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

COMMUNITY from pg. 1

supporting local journalism and strengthening our community.

While this chapter is coming to a close, I am incredibly grateful for the relationships that have been built and the trust you placed in me over the years.

Although things will look different moving forward, I

want you to know that I will not be far. I look forward to continuing to stay connected with this community in new ways and supporting the people and businesses that make it so special.

Thank you for welcoming me into your lives. It has truly meant more to me than I can put into words.

PLAY from pg. 1

again in 2022, because it's just not the same."

"I have great, great kids, like in EagleRock!," added Edwards. "I have kids that want to be here, and that makes all the difference in the world. So we're going to do the very best we can and have a good time doing it."

"I think it's going all right for the limited practices that we've had," said Luke Moeller, who starred as Prince Allistair, 10 days before showtime.

"This play is very funny," said Jason Redlinger, who played King Rodrick.

"Lot of actions, I get to shoot a bow," said Moeller.

"I get shot by a bow," said Redlinger.

The play also featured Kennedy Jackson as Queen Helene, Grayson Sprouse as Gilroy, Peyton Baughman as Princess Anabella, Brynn Conrad as Princess Edina, Rowen Horning as Duff, Dakota Dodd as Princess Brighid, Allie Galindo as Princess Purdy, Ella Greiner as Princess Petula, Vivienne Klien as Princess Betina, Madelyn Althenhofen as a herald, and Gabe Reid, Greyden Horning and Kahlan Carl as multiple minor characters.

New Keota K-12 band, vocal and music extracurricular teacher Michelle Temple is set to take over as drama director next year. Edwards stated that Temple is married to a former Keota grad and understands the system. "I think she'll do a really good job. I'm excited to have her here," said Edwards.

In addition to retiring from teaching and drama, Edwards will leave her position coaching EagleRock!, the show choir team she started

at the school thirty years ago.

"I have fabulous, fabulous kids this year, that want to be there, and they have done so much better than we've ever done before," said Edwards about the team. "It's a good note to end on...We've finished first in Class 1A. Of course, there aren't a whole lot of schools our size that still have a show choir, but they've beaten 2A schools, they've beaten pep groups. They've just done phenomenal."

Many of the drama students also participated in EagleRock! or in Edwards's previous plays. Edwards noted that seniors Kennedy Jackson and Luke Moeller had both never missed acting in one of her plays. Jackson stated that her favorite play had been "Heaven Help the Po' Taters," which she acted in back in 2024. Moeller stated his favorite was "Adventures of a Comic Book Artist," performed in 2023.

"She's very laid back," said Redlinger.

"She gets the point across pretty easy," said Moeller.

"Super chill teacher," said Jackson.

"I like the way she teaches and how she teaches it," said Vivian Kleine.

"She puts on good plays every year," said Jackson.

"She'll be missed," said Redlinger.

"I'll miss her for the entire time, the rest of my high school career," said Peyton Bauffman.

"It's gonna be different without her, that's for sure," said Rowan Horning.

"I will miss it, and it's time," said Edwards. "When you're 73, there are parts of your body that don't want to do anything anymore."

Photo Credit Katie Phillips.

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

Supervisors Name April Child Abuse Prevention Month

By Casey Jarmes | The News-Review

SIGOURNEY - During the March 30 meeting of the Keokuk County Board of Supervisors, the board proclaimed April as Child Abuse Prevention Month, following a conversation with Tammy Wetjen-Kesterson from Early Childhood Iowa. Wetjen-Kesterson showed the board statistics on child abuse in the county, which showed an incidence rate per 1,000 children under 5 of 30 in 2023, compared to a state average of 21. Wetjen-Kesterson said that rates of abuse had universally gone up since 2020, due to family stress and financial uncertainty, and

that she thought these rates would stay this high or become higher.

Wetjen-Kesterson explained that the main program Decat and Community Partnership for Protecting Children (CPPC) fund in the county is the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, which delivers books to the homes of children under five in the county. In FY2025, the program received \$5,000 in funding and was able to give 3,544 books to 234 families and 348 children, 57% of the children under five in the county. Wetjen-Kesterson noted the county's rising kindergarten literacy scores, which had gone from 63% in

2020 to 71% in 2024.

Wetjen-Kesterson explained that a currently being discussed state bill would totally eliminate Decat and CPPC by June 30. She stated that they needed at least twelve months to find continued funding for programs and transition juvenile court service programs. Wetjen-Kesterson stated that, if Decat gets twelve months, they will put Decat money into the Dolly Parton program for one final year. If not, she will ask Early Childhood Iowa where they can cut something else to fit the program in.

Wetjen-Kesterson also noted that the social program

cuts would affect preschool scholarships and funding for SIEDA Head Start in Keokuk County. She stated that over 50 years of data showed that the program works and that children who attend preschool are more successful in school and life. Wetjen-Kesterson stated that children needed preschool to learn social emotional skills and that these programs lift families out of poverty. She stated that some of her job will be moved to the Department of Health and Human Services, but that she was worried that young families wouldn't voluntarily participate, due to not wanting to be connected to the HHS.

Keota Quarter 3 Honor Roll

High School

To be eligible, students must receive a GPA of at least 3.2. "*" denotes 4.0 GPA.

12th Grade

*Reese Conrad, *Dakota Dodd, Garrett Greiner, Chase Haifley, Kennedy Jackson, Olivia Lyle, *Emily Mahan, *Emily Moeller, *Luke Moeller, Jake Morris, Addison Purkeypille, *Gavin Sieren, *Jackson Vittetoe.

11th Grade

Porter Cave, Emily Conger, Lexus Detweiler, *Ayden Galindo, Jack Greiner, Brennan McGuire, Jaylah Redlinger, Tucker Sprouse, *Wyatt Stewart.

10th Grade

Blake Baker, Keegan Clarke, Aubrey Galindo, Aidan Greiner, Ella Greiner, Karley Greiner, Marlee Greiner, Cameron Haifley, Halle Heisdorffer, *Elyse Lyle, Tyson Osweiler, *Levin Sheetz.

9th Grade

*Jessalyn Aller, Peyton Baughman, Hadley Cave, Mia Conrad, Drew Dodd, Allie Galindo, Aspen Galindo, Emma Greiner, William Greiner, Rowen Horning, Memphis Jaeger, Vivienne Klein, Maddox Peterson, Dacin Redlinger, Zoey Sieren, *Grayson Sprouse.

Junior High

To be eligible, students must receive a GPA of at least 3.0. "*" denotes 4.0 GPA.

8th Grade

Josephine Greiner, Skylar Greiner, Greyden Horning, Xander Myers, Gabriel Reid.

7th Grade

*Madelyn Althenhofen, Nora Bayliss, Lucas Bender, Kahlan Carl, Case Fenger, Covert Greiner, Raiden Henrichson-Mattila, Iliyiah Hill, Caiden Luers, Emerson Lyle, Connor Osweiler, Daxton Redlinger, Rylee Schulte, Ryker Sheetz, Aspen Sieren.

Tri-County 3rd Quarter 2026 Honor Roll

A Honor Roll

12th Grade
Emma Lindley, Boston Rooda.

11th Grade
Nazareth Davis, Drayvon Dennis, Alyssa Hadsell.

5th Grade
Grant Sowers.

3rd Grade
Braxton Brumbaugh.

B Honor Roll
12th Grade

Ava, Brackelsberg, Hailey Brackelsberg, Tuesday Davis, Keagan MacCready.

11th Grade
Emery Hall, Sean McCulloch, Saige McKain, Aubrey Zittergruen.

10th Grade
Keira Cooper, Zoelynn Garrett, Lia Hastings, Easton

Mercer, Karley Moore, Layla Shilling, Sullivan Stanley.

9th Grade
Lillian McDonald, Sloane McKain, Leah Triplett.

8th Grade
Adam Bos Rauch, Eva Domenech, Griffin Hall, Aziah Jandrisovits, Bailey Moore.

7th Grade
Quinn Stanley.

5th Grade
Paisly Edmundson, Nora Hall, Kenneth Hartwig, Gabriel Kenyon, Leo Molyneux, Reese Moore.

4th Grade
Sofia Berg, Annabelle Callow, Alexzander Purdy.

3rd Grade
Kenzie Huber, Ellenor Winkleman.



PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

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641-622-1170
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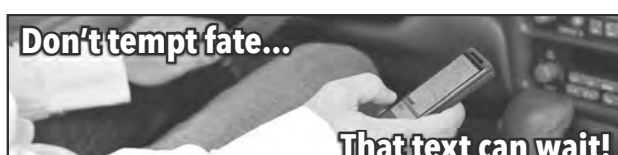
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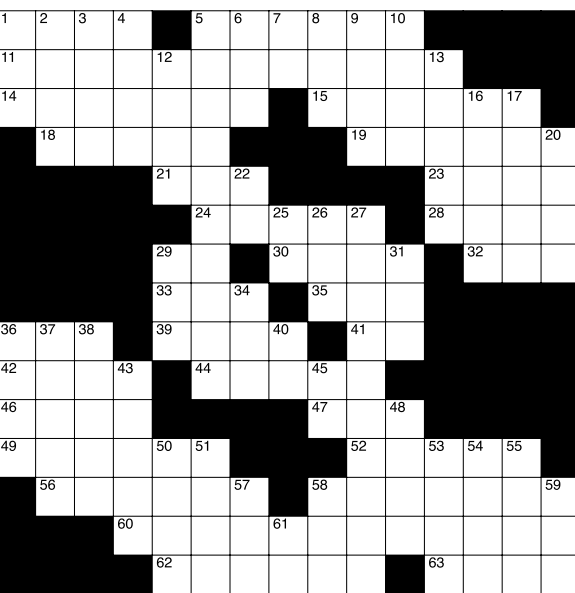
HELP A NEIGHBOR.

PAY IT FORWARD.



This week's crossword, sponsored by:
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CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

1. Absence of difficulty
5. Preserve a dead body
11. Gratitude
14. The act of coming together again
15. More cushy
18. Visionaries
19. Large fish-eating bird
21. Indicates near
23. Former CIA and CIA critic
24. Icelandic poems
28. Pop
29. Hammer is one
30. Self
32. Thyroid-stimulating hormone
33. Nowhere to be found
35. Electronic data processing
36. Drivers' licenses and passports are two
39. Snake-like fishes
41. Air Force
42. Popular personal computers
44. Stages in ecological succession
46. Wings
47. In the center
49. Pleasantly smooth
52. Jeweled head-dress
56. In slow tempo
58. ___ Falls
60. Reiterations
62. Eras
63. Hyphen

2. Mimics
3. Expel or eject (variant sp.)
4. Sea eagle
5. Taxonomic category
6. Chinese languages
7. Mr. T's "A-Team" character
8. Consumed
9. Chinese dynasty
10. NFL legend
12. Ireland
13. Palm trees with creeping roots
16. Fungal disease
17. Tall, slender-leaved plants
20. Affirmative! (slang)
22. It says who you are
25. Atlantic coast state
26. Grow older
27. Associations
29. Woman

- (French)
31. Sunscreen rating
34. Brew
36. Leader
37. Indigo bush genus
38. Burn with a hot liquid
40. Junior's father
43. Mackerel genus
45. Morning
48. Straight line from side to side (abbr.)
50. Type of molding
51. Small, thin or twisted bunch
53. Worn by exposure to the weather
54. Mars crater
55. Humanities
57. Relating to the ears
58. "To the ___ degree"
59. Residue when something is burned
61. It cools a home

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS



CLUES DOWN

1. Body part

LOVE FISHING WORD SEARCH

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

WORDS

- ANGLER
- BAG
- BAIT
- BOBBER
- CAST
- CATCH
- CHUMMING
- DRAG
- FISHING
- HOOK
- JIGGING
- LEADER
- LIMIT
- LURE
- RELEASE
- SIGHT
- SINKER
- SKUNKED
- SPAWNING
- STRIKE
- STRUCTURE
- TACKLE
- TERMINAL
- TROLLING

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

THE HISTORICAL VIEWPOINT

One Year: 2000

By Casey Jarmes |
The News-Review

"Remember all the hype last year about Y2K? Well, it turned out to be just that: a bunch of useless hype! The century change went by without a problem, proving all of the hype wrong. I thought the world was supposed to end on New Year's Eve. If it was, why are you reading this? Surprise, you're dead...NOT! Now that all of the hype is over, I can honestly say that it was the most annoying thing that I've ever seen."

That's what Ryan Craig wrote in the Jan. 12 issue of the *Savage Eye*, published in the *Sigourney News-Review*. It's a good quote to begin this week's dive into how the new millennium changed, or more often, failed to change Keokuk County. Also found in the *Savage Eye* that year were period appropriate articles on how cool the new technological innovation of burning CDs was; debating the morality of Napster; recounting the horrors of the ILOVEYOU virus; and reviewing "Toy Story 2," "Star Wars: The Phantom Menace," "Scream 3" and "Erin Brockovich."

Early in the year, Sigourney was struck by a rash of burglaries, with burglars breaking into SIEDA Head Start, Kinds Jack and Jill, the White House Lounge, Martin Feed Shed, Sigourney High School, the Christian Church of Sigourney, Bender Foundry, Greenley Office Supply in January and February, usually taking money. On Feb. 2, the Sigourney City Council shut down the zoo owned by local man Dave Finch.

On March 3 and 4, the Keota Community Theater presented the musical "Sugar," an adaptation of "Some Like It Hot." On March 31 and April 1, Sigourney High School presented "Seven Nuns at Las Vegas." On April 14 and 15, the Keokuk County Arts Council presented the play "My Son is Crazy - But Promising." On Dec. 2 and 3, Sigourney High School presented "Three Musketeers...All Swash and No Buckle." On Nov. 10 and 11, Tri-County presented "Done to Death."

On May 1, the Dumont Museum opened a new room featuring memorabilia from famed actor and musician Roy Rogers. On July 1, the room was dedi-

cated with a concert by Rogers' son Roy "Dusty" Rogers Jr. Museum owner Lyle Dumont had been fascinated by Rogers since the 50s. In 1982, he met Roy Rogers and Dale Evans while visiting the Roy Rogers Museum in California. The Dumonts befriended Rogers and Evans, going to visit them once or twice a year over the next 16 years and attending Rogers' private family funeral service in 1998.

On May 6, Midge Walker and Mary Albert opened Walk "ER" Drive-Thru. One June 1, work began to flood part of Belva Deer park, moving 400,000 yards of dirt to build a half-mile dam and create the 260 acre lake. On May 27, Jonathan Wallerich ran the 100 meter dash in just 11.20 seconds, winning the state championship.

On June 1, Enrique Ordonez Sanchez and Javier Rascon flagged down a passing truck driver near Keswick, saying they had been shot at, before running off into a field. The trucker called the sheriff's department, who found Sanchez and Rascon hiding in a brush. While investigating the incident, the police found 25 kilos of marijuana and arrested the pair for possession with intent to deliver. Arrest warrants were issued for a Jesus "Jessie" Quiroz, also for possession with intent to deliver, but I was unable to find anymore information on what happened to him or on why Sanchez and Rascon had been shot at. A drug deal gone wrong, perhaps?

Hanna Redling and Kaden Benson were the winners of the Lions Club's 4th of July Cutie Kiddie

Contest. Amber Snakenberg was the Expo Queen, while Ashley Schultz was the Fair Queen. Sapphire Gatton and Zachary Sams were crowned Little Miss and Mr. Keokuk County.

In July, Michael Murphy of Delta's sewer system became plugged. The city told him they could do nothing, because the obstruction was in his section of the sewer line. Murphy did not take this well and showed up at the July 10 city council meeting, carrying a five-gallon bucket full of urine and feces. Murphy splattered the council with the waste, earning himself 75 days in jail.

On July 31, the ribbon was cut for the opening of Sinclair Tractor. On August 21, vandals broke into and smashed up the Ike's. On September 5, Leland Heisdorffer of Heisdorffer Sales and Service saw two men breaking into his business. He rammed his car into theirs and the men fled into a field. The robbers, Jamey Don Davidson and Mark Campbell, were quickly apprehended. Chad Greiner and Amy Wells were the Sigourney Homecoming king and queen.

For the third year in a row, the Sigourney-Keota Savage Cobras made the state football semi-finals, only to lose. In 2000, their loss came at the hands of Solon, losing 21-35. Four members of the team (T.J. Greiner, J.D. Greiner, Derek Greiner and Nick Baker) were named to the All-State team. After the game, Coach Bob Howards stated "the outlook for 2001 is bright. What the outcome

VIEWPOINT
pg. 8



The Roy Rogers section of the Dumont Museum.

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TODAY

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

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

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

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

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

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

The News-Review

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Deadlines
Legal Notices Noon, Friday
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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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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.newlifefellowshippns.org
 641-637-2561
 newlifefellowshippns@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: sigourneyumc.com
 (641) 622-2641
 Pastor Brandi Meyer
 Sunday Worship Services - 11:00 a.m.
 Everyone is Welcome

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

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

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

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

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

EV HISTORY from pg. 2

states, and fought to preserve the Union.

Prior to the war, Burmeister lived on a farm in Iowa County. Fieselmann explained that he was a German immigrant who opened the first school in his community. Burmeister's great great great nephew, Morris Denson, was also in attendance, and talked about his family history.

"George Burmeister came from Germany, and he said, 'Well over there in Germany, there is constant battles all the time.' And they fought for power, for money, to enslave people...He signed up to the Union, cause he said, this was his first opportunity, he would get to fight to set someone free," said Denson.

The First Iowa only enlisted for 90 days. After the Battle of Wilson's Creek, which serves as the climax of Fieselmann's book, Ware, Burmeister and most of the other members of the First Iowa reenlisted. Burmeister became the captain of an all German unit out of Muscatine, but was wounded in Louisiana, later dying of his wounds in while at barracks in Missouri. Ware survived the war, later moving to Kansas and becoming a well respected author, newspaper editor and politician.

"Throughout the book, I'm trying to figure out how these soldiers remained committed," said Fieselmann. "You know, they were practically starving, their clothes were wearing out, they were not supported, they didn't think Lyon had any respect for them whatsoever, and they kept really trying...This is my last paragraph: 'The First Iowa soldiers were not ordinary. They vast out-marched other

regiments and kept a sense of humor. They overcame. They sang. They made two songs famous for campfires across America. They wrote, Eugene wrote, that Lyon took dreadful chances, and never expected to route the armies of McCulloch and Price, but his raw soldiers fought, better than he expected, after Lyon discovered the inner force and dedication beneath the rags worn by the Iowa First Regiment. Perhaps their commitments to the Union contributed to his decision to stay and fight at Wilson's Creek."

Fieselmann was accompanied by Kristie and Bob Black from the band "Banjoy," who played recreations of the songs "Happy Land of Canaan" and "Hard Times," two songs popularized by the First Iowa Infantry, prior to the program. Also at the history center was Jeff McDowell, who showed off Civil War era uniforms and recreations of them.

Upcoming English Valleys History Center presentations include:

- April 26 – Roy R. Behrens: Iowa's Camouflage Experts
- June 28 – Mike Williams: Automotive History: A personal obsession
- July 19 – Allan Hogue: Farming on the Oxbow
- August 30 – Sandra Kessler Host: What Happened to the Howay?
- September 27 – Jacob Glandon: My life as a local filmmaker
- October 25 – Kirsten Kumpf-Baele: The Anne Frank Tree in Iowa City
- November 22 – Steve Miller & Scott Romine: The Iowa Project: The Mosaic



Pekin students Zoey Denison, Michelle Jacobs, Carley Clarahan, Johnathan Delaney, Autumn Coleman, and Zoe Heisdorffer played as part of the SEISC High School Honor Band



Sigourney student Grayson Jones placed second at a weld off, after competing against 43 other 1st year welding students from six other Career Academies. He won a backpack and a \$600 Indian Hills scholarship.



The Pekin Varsity Quiz Bowl team was the runner up at the conference tournament on March 24. L to R: Carley Clarahan, Will Daniels, Henry Eubanks, Hayden Miller, Conor Cloyd and Jonathan Delaney. Back: Coach Matt Hoffmann

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”
 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)

New Life in a New Season

As we move into the official beginning of Spring, we tend to feel a sense of serenity and renewal. As the days grow longer and the air gets warmer, we can reflect upon the matter of renewal in our own lives. Life can bring about circumstances which feel like a “crossroads” as we seek out a fresh start or a new path to embark upon. While standing at these turning points can feel uncertain, the changing season serves as a reminder that growth is a natural process. Just as the flowers of Spring will not bloom all at once, our own transitions take time and careful attention. As this new season begins, try to find comfort in this fact, no matter how long the winter may have felt, or how uncertain times may feel.
 –James Stone

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Iowa Senate sends bill limiting lawsuits on greenhouse gas emissions to governor

By Robin Opsahl, Iowa Capital Dispatch
The Iowa Senate sent legislation to the governor on March 24 restricting lawsuits against agricultural operations that claim their emissions of greenhouse gases impact the climate.

House File 2527, approved in the Senate 33-13, would limit the ability for individuals to sue farmers and ranchers for greenhouse gas emissions that have an "alleged actual or potential" effect on the climate.

The measure limits the liability of agricultural producers in civil and criminal actions brought on the basis of the impacts of greenhouse gas emissions on the climate. It places the "burden of proof" on people bringing these lawsuits that the entity has violated existing laws and restrictions on emissions or their permit requirements through emissions — as well as proof that their violation caused damage or injury.

During House debate on the bill in February, Rep. Derek Wulf, R-Hudson, said the measure was needed to protect farmers who could face lawsuits over climate change due to "Green New Deal policies."

Sen. Art Staed, D-Cedar Rapids, said Tuesday the bill was part of an "alarming trend" of bills attempting to "shield corporate polluters." He said the bill would make it "extraordinarily difficult" to hold polluters accountable, which he said was concerning because many of the sources of greenhouse gas emissions are also emitting other air pollution and toxic chemicals that impact Iowans' health.

Staed said the language in the Iowa bill saying lawsuits can move forward based on permit violations or other legal infractions is "simply a red herring." He noted the Trump administration moved in February to rescind the Greenhouse Gas Endangerment Finding, a 2009 requirement for regulating emissions from new vehicles and motor engines. He said permits are "a floor, not a guarantee of safety, and when you remove legal accountability beyond those, permits remove a critical layer of protection for the public."

"This bill will only contribute to the ongoing race to

GREENHOUSE pg. 8

Obituaries

Gene Baumert

1941-2026

KEOTA—Gene Baumert, age 84, of Keota, died Friday, March 27, 2026, at his home.

Gene was born September 17, 1941, in Iowa City, the son of Floyd and Pearl (Brock) Baumert. He graduated from Keota High School in 1960, then served in the United States Navy from 1963 until 1969, where he was stationed in the Philippines and Washington, D.C. Gene then returned to Iowa and graduated from Iowa Wesleyan College in 1970, with a BA. He worked as a payroll/cost accountant for American Cyanamid Company in Hannibal, Missouri, American Home Products Corp., Wyeth and Pfizer, Inc. for 24 years before retiring in 1994. Gene was a member of the United Church of Faith and the American Legion. He was dedicated to family. He lovingly cared for his mother and sister Norma Nadine at their family home in Keota. He was a brother like no other (with no children of his own.) He quickly became the adored uncle of his nieces and nephews with many grands and greats still on the way!! His stories and enduring love will be forever treasured.

Survivors include two sisters Margaret Burk of Bucklin, Missouri and Loretta Streigle of Sigourney; and two brothers Dennis Baumert of Keota and Larry Baumert of Marion. He was preceded by his parents and ten siblings Dorothy Dorsey, Donald Baumert, Howard Baumert, Harry Baumert, Marilyn Van Fleet, Darlene Streets, Duane Baumert, Norma Baumert, Glen Baumert, and Paul Baumert.

Funeral service will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, April 3, 2026, at Powell Funeral Home in Keota, with Pastor Doug Tinnes officiating. The service will also be live streamed on the Powell Funeral Home facebook page. Burial will be at Keota Cemetery, with military rites by Keota V.F.W. Post #4716. Visitation will be from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. on Friday at the funeral home.

A memorial fund has been established for the American Heart Association or the American Cancer Society. Powell Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Keota is caring for Gene and his family. Tributes may be made at www.powellfuneralhomes.com.



Gene Baumert

Obituaries

Deanne Rae Baker

1969-2026

On Friday, March 13, 2026, Deanne "DD" Rae Baker, a loving daughter, sister, aunt and friend, passed away at the age 57.

Deanne was born in Sterling, IL on January 6, 1969 to Ronald & Karen (Henke) Baker. Upon graduating from Pekin High School in Packwood, IA. Deanne enlisted into the Army and later deployed to Desert Storm, serving 4 years. After she returned home, she worked as a prison transport guard for a few years, taking prisoners all over the United States. Deanne decided later to enroll into college & graduated from IHCC in Ottumwa, IA as an Aviation Maintenance Technician. She accepted a position at Tinker Air Force Base where she has worked in Oklahoma for the past 20 years. Deanne recently received her 20 years of service certificate from Tinker Airforce Base and was looking forward to retirement where she could buy an RV and travel the US taking her mom to all the places she had never seen.

Deanne had a knack for telling jokes and relating stories about her life experiences that gravitated people towards her. Her smile was contagious and her laugh would carry over the crowd. Deanne was strong in her beliefs and willing to help others when needed.

Deanne will leave a hole in our lives and be sorely missed.

Deanne was preceded in death by her father, Ronald. She is survived by her mother, Karen and her 6 siblings, Christine (Brian) Aulwes of Guttenberg, IA, Brian (Heidi) Baker of Ollie, IA, Alisa (Jason) Tolle of Richland, IA, Terri (Daryl) Crochet of Richland, IA, Steven (Brandi) Baker of Richland, IA and Nicole (Harmon) Anderson of Grand Junction, CO.

Her nieces and nephews are Elizabeth (Andrew), Dominique (Greg), Leighton (Collin), Austin (Lanie), Cassidy (Braedyn), Kaden (Zoey), Ivy, Lathe (Danae), Kaya (Dalton), Cael (Riley), Gage, Logan, Quinnlyn, Ila, Ezra.

The great nieces and nephews are Carlie, Carter, Calvin, Avery, Rylan, Parker, Keenan, Kleo, Konlee, Benton and one on the way, Kymberly and one on the way, and Cooper.

Deanne was cremated in Oklahoma. The family will have a Requiem Mass Friday, April 10th at 2 pm at St. Joseph/Cabrini Catholic Church in East Pleasant Plain with Father Damian Ilkaba presiding. Burial following at St Joseph Catholic Cemetery with a military salute. Family will host a celebration of life at Mother Cabrini church in Richland, Iowa starting at 4 pm on April 10. In lieu of flowers, memorials have been established. Mail cards and well wishes to the Baker family PO BOX 148 Richland, IA 52585.

Please share your stories and pictures at ddbakerphoto-drop@gmail.com



Deanne "DD" Rae Baker

Celebration of Life: Apr. 10, 4 p.m.

Obituaries

Randal Lee Fisher

1961-2026

Randal Lee "Randy" Fisher, 64, of Sigourney, Iowa, passed away the morning of Tuesday, March 24, 2026, in Iowa City, Iowa, surrounded by his loving family. Born on September 24, 1961, in Sigourney, Iowa, Randy was the beloved son of Cloyd Jr. Fisher and Mabel "Reber" Fisher; both of which are still with us. He spent his life rooted in the community he loved, living in Sigourney and Keswick and building a legacy defined by hard work and unwavering devotion to those around him.



Randal Lee "Randy" Fisher

Randy attended Sigourney High School. He dedicated 40 years maintaining feed mills, where he became known for his expertise, skill, and dedication. Acquiring many friends along the way. He was a man who took pride in his work and found joy in helping others, always willing to lend a hand or share a story. Randy's life was focused around 5 "F" words: Family, Friends, Fishing, Farming, and Fixing. He would drop anything he was doing for the people he loved, he never met a stranger, and he was never afraid to strike up a conversation... especially about a tractor at the Iowa State Fair. He looked forward to his bi-annual Canadian fishing trips, but enjoyed fishing in the pond behind the house just as well. He was always proud to make the latest smoked meat creation for those around him. He thrived off hosting and providing for others. If something was broken, Randy was the one you called—because chances were, he could fix it.

To his family, he was so much more than a hardworking man—he was a source of strength and comfort. A devoted husband, father, brother, and grandfather. Randy is survived by his loving wife, Coleen "Hudson" Fisher, whom he married on September 3rd, 1999. He was previously united in marriage on June 16, 1984, to Kim Sauer from which his daughter, Amanda Lea Snakenberg (Tyler), was born; they later divorced. Through his marriage to Coleen, he gained a beloved bonus daughter, Brittany Renee Peterson (Sayer), and together they shared a daughter, Skyler Kathleen Fisher (Walter McKay). He is also survived by his cherished grandchildren, Ellie Thrapp (Colton), John Berg, Wyatt Peterson, and Maggie Peterson; and his siblings, Susan King, Amy Molyneux (Kevin), Steve Fisher, Mary Fowler (Ed), Kathleen Fisher (Fredrik Hausmann), mother in law Loretta "Synhorst Hudson, nieces and nephews Melissa Van Donselaar (Dan), Aaron Molyneux (Cindy), Joe Fowler, Josh Fowler (Haley), Sara Ackerman (Zach), Samantha Nicholson, Alexandria Nicholson and was preceded in death by his sister, Betty Fisher, brother in law David King and father in law Jerry Hudson.

Taken far too soon, Randy was a strong man who had courageously beat cancer, facing each day with determination and resilience. Even in the hardest moments, he remained willing to help others, offer advice, or simply share his time. He will be remembered as a man who made life better for everyone around him.

Visitation was held at Holm Funeral Home on Friday, March 27, 2026, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Funeral services were held at the Keokuk County Expo on Saturday, March 28, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. Private Family Burial at a later date.

In lieu of flowers the family would appreciate memorials be made out to Sigourney Pride or Tri County Dollars for Scholars to support the community.

Arrangements Holm Funeral Home.

Services: Mar. 28, 10:30 a.m.
Visitation: Mar. 27, 4-7 p.m.
HOLM FUNERAL HOME
SIGOURNEY

Services: Apr. 3, 1 p.m.
Visitation: Apr. 3, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
POWELL FUNERAL HOME
KEOTA

Obituaries

Dennis Gifford

1941-2026

KEOTA—Dennis Dean Gifford, age 84, of Keota, died Sunday, March 22, 2026, at the United Presbyterian Home in Washington.

Dennis was born June 28, 1941, in Stanley, Wisconsin, the son of Simeon and Olga "Bobbie" (Larson) Gifford. His family moved to Charles City, Iowa when he was in 4th grade and he graduated from Charles City High School. On February 2, 1963, he married Laurel Immel at St. John Lutheran Church in Charles City. Dennis attended Trade School for Journeyman Machine Repair for Oliver Corp. and also for locksmith training. He was parts person for Tadlocks Parts and Service of Keota for 12 years. Then he was in sales and public relations for Des Moines Iron and Supply for 21 years, retiring in 2007, and was owner/operator of Dennis Gifford Locksmith business for 48 years. Dennis was a member of the United Church of Faith, where he served on Session and the Church Advisory Board. He was also a member of the Lions Club, where he served as President and other offices, the Iowa Locksmith Association, Wilson Library Board and volunteered with Hays Pure Water in Washington since 2007.

Survivors include his wife: Laurel of Keota; daughter: Crystal (E.J. Jones) Gifford of Blue Grass; granddaughter: Zoey Wroth; foster granddaughter: Christina Hulme; brothers-in-law: Jack (Muriel) Immel, Leroy Reuscher; sister-in-law: Virginia "Ginny" Gifford; nieces and nephews: Dan Ferch, Joyce Mead, Ron Gifford, Cindy (John) Van, Lorna Immel, Jay Immel, Anne (Jeff) Cheramy, Brian (Carolyn) Immel, and several great-nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; son: Keith; brother: Les Gifford; two sisters: Diane Reuscher and one in infancy; 3 brothers-in-law and 2 sisters-in-law: Bill (Loretta) Immel, Dick (Vivian) Immel and Ray Immel; foster son: Richard Hartson; foster daughter: Rose Streff; nephew: Michael Immel and foster grandson: Eric Streff.

Memorial service was held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 28, 2026, at the United Church of Faith, with Pastor Vince Homan officiating. The service was also live streamed on the Powell Funeral Home facebook page. Burial will be at Keota Cemetery at a later date. Visitation was from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. on Saturday at the church.

A memorial fund has been established for the Wilson Memorial Library, Iowa Lions Eye Bank or the United Church of Faith. Powell Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Keota is caring for Dennis and his family. Tributes may be made at www.powellfuneralhomes.com.



Dennis Dean Gifford

Services: Mar. 28, 11 a.m.
Visitation: Mar. 28, 9-11 a.m.
POWELL FUNERAL HOME
KEOTA

Obituaries

Peggy Ann Cassens

1942-2026

June 5, 1942 – March 25, 2026

Peggy Cassens, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and sister passed away peacefully on March 25, 2026, in Sigourney, Iowa at the age of 83. Born in Iowa City, Iowa to Victor and Lucy Hesselstine, and having been raised in Wayland, Iowa, Peggy lived a full and rewarding life that left an indelible mark on everyone she loved.



Peggy Ann Cassens

Peggy graduated from high school in 1960. She met Lee W. Cassens of Sigourney, Iowa, whom she married on August 23, 1963. After their wedding, they made a home together on their family farm in Sigourney and had three beautiful children, Bret, Damon, and Molly. Peggy's tireless ability to care for others made her a wonderful mother and grandmother. It also made her a particularly valued nurse at the Iowa City VA Hospital, where she worked for many years. She was lovely inside and out. Calm and steady, she was the foundation of the home.

Peggy was a long-time parishioner of Sigourney United Methodist Church, where she served in various capacities throughout her life. She enjoyed gardening, boating, reading, an occasional late-night snack, and most importantly to her, spending time with her five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. She treasured her time with them and even their friends who thought of her as their grandmother, too. Peggy made the world a better place. Her spirit lives on in the lives of those she loved, and all of those who loved her.

Peggy was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Lee in 2005, brothers Thomas Hesselstine, Joe Hesselstine, Harry Hesselstine, and sister Mary Hooley.

She is survived by her children Bret Cassens of Sigourney, Damon Cassens (wife Carleigh Fite) of Colorado Springs, Colorado, Molly Cassens of Fairfield, her five grandchildren, Jacob Cassens (wife Tarrah) of South Amana, Jessie Firkins (husband Michael) of Nevada, Iowa, Chloe Cassens of Wagingen, Netherlands, Brooklynn Cassens of North Liberty, Kobe Cassens-Navesse of North Liberty, her sisters Jerry Sanchez (husband Bruce) of Rockport, Texas, Sarah Piper of Des Moines, great-grandson Milo Cassens of South Amana, and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

The family held a private service at the Sigourney United Methodist Church on March 27, 2026.

Services: Mar. 27

WE APPRECIATE YOUR READERSHIP.

ASK SOMEONE, HOW CAN I HELP?

COUNTRY GIRL'S CORNER

April Fool's Day!

By Sheryl L. Carter

And I bet it felt like April Fool's Day when the news got around last week that Mid-American Publishing was shutting down, leaving 18 newspapers, and four shoppers in the lurch. It was totally shocking to hear. I hope some of those papers can be revived or saved in some way, as so many rely on their local newspaper for all the news from their particular town and county.

It looks like I still have one more column to write for this week's paper, Casey assures me, so I will do that.

This past week I gave my house a good going-over, something that hadn't happened in awhile, as I was expecting guests for lunch on Thursday. With just me and my kitties, the place doesn't need a cleaning every week like I used to do. So, on Monday found me doing up a big wash, plus couch blankets and rugs. That evening early, my local faithful repairman stopped by to fix my leaky kitchen faucet and the shower head system. He did his usual fine job for which I was very grateful.

Tuesday I was all in doing the heavy-duty cleaning of dusting, vacuuming, plus scrubbing three floors. I kept at it until all was done, and I could put fresh clean rugs back down. I don't use as many rugs as I used to, as I dislike picking them all up and shaking them out. So, several years ago, I eliminated a bath and kitchen rug, and don't miss them at all. I still keep a pretty hand loomed one in front of the kitchen sink; a blue and white one for spring summer, and a cream and rust one for fall and winter. These are both done by an older fellow who lives in Monroe or Prairie City, I forget which, and does the most beautiful hand loomed rugs. I always wished I could have a loom. I just think that would be so fun to do.

Wednesday, I didn't work quite so hard, but cleaned the bathroom, did up a batch of dishes and cleaned a batch of strawberries for our dessert for Thursday.

Thursday was our monthly Lunch & Prayer and my turn, so I put together a sausage rigatoni casserole, a big green salad with nuts and seeds on

top, and strawberry shortcake for dessert. We also had a pot of peppermint tea, and in the afternoon, I made up mocha coffee drinks for us. They were yummy.

Friday, I had an appointment with my good chiropractor uptown and a good long visit with a dear family member.

Saturday was a little housework and caring for the kitties—which happens every day. And on Sunday our whole church enjoyed seeing five people baptized, including one 80-year-old lady! That was a special joy, no doubt for her, and also for us.

Sunday school and church was a blessing as always, and in the afternoon, I enjoyed a good long nap. I also got the news that a friend had gotten engaged, and was looking forward to a summer wedding. Good for them.

This morning, I did up my dishes, fed the kitties, then drove up to Newton to assist a friend who wants to do some down-sizing, and needed some help. Don't we all? We had a productive three hours before I headed back home, and she had an appointment.

Saturday, April 11, is Sully Garage Sales, so mark your calendar, Jackie! We plan to be open Friday afternoon from 3-6 pm, and Saturday morning from 8-noon. It will be here in my garage and we are praying for good weather! I only have a one-car garage, but if the weather is good, we can spill out onto the driveway.

These items are mostly from a friend who has exquisite taste in everything from dishes to housewares, to stamping and scrapbooking supplies. We haven't even begun to go through those last two items, but she has a large variety, so if someone would like to nab some high-quality crafting items, we hope to have an assortment available for you by April 10-11!

Welp, this is it—boy, I never saw this coming at all, but here it is, and I am totally grateful for the years I have been able to write for these newspapers.

Y'all take care now, ya hear?!

And God bless you, everyone.



MAHASKA COUNTY NEWS

OFF THE VINE

By Jackie Perkins

Sunday, March 29, 2026...A quiet day for us in University Park. We were happy to have our grandson, Bryce, pop in for a little visit. He brought some frozen chicken drumsticks so I think he would like some fried up one of these times. A while back, one of my friends told me that her grandchildren were not aware that chicken had bones! evidently many eat chicken tenders or something like that -- no bones! I suppose fish would be in the same boat.

We observed Alicia's birthday with a trip to Des Moines on Friday. We used to so enjoy those shopping trips, looking for the latest fashion at the malls. How things change! This year out time was spent exploring Costco, Sam's Club and Trader Joe's. What's that tell you? Birthday cake will come on Easter.

Saturday, a friend and I motored to Sigourney to the library to hear Tyler Sullivan, Iowa Scenic Views by Foot. We were taken on a visual adventure from each corner of our state. It was so great to see a young person so interested in what we have right here in our state. I so enjoy presentations as this and have learned so much history presented in this way. Thank you to the library and Tyler for inviting us.

I am excited to be taking a little out of state trip on Tuesday...even leaving Iowa! My friend Karlen moved to Maryville, MO a few years ago, and we are going for her birthday! Returning home we will get prepared for Easter and I am excited to hear that the younger generation are planning on attending. That seems to be difficult anymore. Happy Birthday to my friend Bunny over in Harper! She was born on Easter Sunday. How appropriate!

And now for the sad news I heard last week regarding this publication. Many of you know how I feel about newspapers. At one time, almost all towns, regardless of size, had a newspaper. Back in the 1970s, when I worked for the Dinsmores, they owned several weekly papers -- Fremont Gazette, Hedrick Journal, Eddyville Tribune, New Sharon Star, Baravia Beacon, Eldon Forum, Mora-

via Union, North English Record, Marion County News, and a couple I can not think of right now! There were twelve papers in all. Not only that, but there was a huge newspaper press where these papers along with several others from other communities were printed. I so loved my work there! What began as advertising billing took me to learning how to set type, build ads and even some work with the huge camera and backroom.

When I began my adventure with The Village Vine, I still pasted up the paper rather than using a computer for layout. I enjoyed putting it together like a puzzle. And most of all, I enjoyed meeting people who seemed thrilled to have an old fashioned newspaper. The folks that brought you their daily life news, like engagements, weddings, anniversaries, births, achievements and death announcements. They shared recipes, what they did over the weekend, club news and what was coming up.

It was a great couple years, having fun -- but then Greg had a heart attack, and I realized I needed a job with some benefits, just in case. Thankfully I was able to join Mahaska Health Partnership and continued putting out the paper for several months, until I realized that was not going to work for long. I wrote my final column and announced the end of my dream. I heard from so many, including my mentor, Chuck Dunham of What Cheer. He said I could not do this! He told me he would find some money and he would buy the Vine! I told him if he would honor my subscribers, I would give him the paper. In a few days he came to Fremont where several from the community gathered to welcome and support him. He have me a dollar and I turned the paper over to him. He was quite a guy!

So, I am sad to hear the news and I know many folks will miss receiving their paper each week. I am hopeful that some sort of solution will come to keep the community informed. I have so enjoyed visiting through the News-Review and have met some interesting people. I hope we can keep in touch!

Iowa House sends 'medical conscience' bill to governor

By Robin Opsahl, Iowa Capital Dispatch

The Iowa House approved a bill on March 23 allowing medical practitioners and health care organizations to refuse to participate in or pay for a health care service that goes against their conscience or religious beliefs.

House File 571, which passed in a 63-27 vote, had passed the House already in 2025 — “actually, 362 days ago,” Rep. Bill Gustoff, R-Des Moines, noted.

As passed, the bill would allow medical professionals and providers like hospitals and clinics the right to refuse services that go against their conscience, with exceptions made for emergency medical services. These entities could not be held civilly, criminally or administratively liable for not providing or paying for a service, if the denial is based on the practitioner or organization's “ethical, moral or religious beliefs or principles.”

Gustoff said the measure is a way to help address Iowa's health care workforce shortage.

“Nine out of ten doctors, nurses, and other medical professors who identify as religious or faith-based say they

would rather stop practicing medicine than to violate their ethical, moral, or religious beliefs,” Gustoff said. “We've done some great things in this chamber on a bipartisan basis to help address the difficulties of recruiting and retaining medical professionals in our great state. At a time when we face such challenges, this is one more step we can take to ensure people can still receive the care they need, while not driving them from the medical fields for fear of (or) actual persecution just for exercising the reasonable right of conscience.”

The measure returned to the House Monday with a Senate amendment that removed language dealing with health care payors — health insurance providers — from the bill. House lawmakers also approved a change to require a medical practitioner to inform their employer “of the nature of the practitioner's objection based on conscience” when they decide not to provide a health care service.

During 2025 discussions on the bill, some advocates spoke against the inclusion of insurers in the bill. Keenan Crow with One Iowa said at a subcommittee meeting,

“it strains credulity to think that insurance companies aren't going to suddenly acquire new moral beliefs about expensive things that they would rather not pay for should this pass.” While this component of the bill was removed, other speakers had objected to the bill as it relates to providers, saying patients' access to care could be restricted, which could impact their health and wellbeing.

Rep. Austin Baeth, D-Des Moines, an internal medicine physician, said he was “thankful” for the Senate amendment removing health care payors from the bill, but still saw problems with the bill. He said there is not language under the bill requiring a doctor who refuses to provide a health care service inform a patient of the situation or refer them to another provider who is willing to perform the service.

Baeth said health care providers' rights to practice medicine in alignment with their religious beliefs are already protected under the federal 1973 Church Amendments, which deals with discrimination for being willing or unwilling to perform abortion procedures.

“Not only is this unnec-

essary, because doctors are already protected, but it's harmful,” Baeth said. “This bill legalizes discrimination in the medical field. Every single doctor, when they get their white coat, there's a ceremony, and they give this pledge, the Hippocratic oath, to take care of every single person in front of them. Every single person in front of them. And if they are unable to, they find somebody who can. There is nothing in this bill that requires them to find somebody who can.”

He also said there is nothing in the bill “that puts guardrails on what is ‘conscience,’” saying the measure could allow medical providers to discriminate against patients on the basis of race or being a Medicaid recipient.

With approval from both chambers, the measure goes to Gov. Kim Reynolds desk.

Read more from Opsahl online at IowaCapitalDispatch.com

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VIEWPOINT from pg. 4

will actually be will be determined by how hard our kids work in the off-season, how disciplined they are and how well they can put the good of the team ahead of their own interests. Those are the challenges every year and it will be nine short months and we will see the results." Howard's prediction of a bright season ahead ended up coming true, with the team winning the state championship the following year.

GREENHOUSE from pg. 7

On Nov. 11, a special ceremony was held at Sigourney High School, where eleven men who had left high school prior to graduation to fight in World War II received diplomas. Men receiving diplomas included Forrest Clubb, Dean Linder, Bernard Peiffer, Arthur Peiffer, William Malloy, Rovert F. Kelly, Ray Ewald, Roy Hauschild, William Snodgrass, Charles Martin and Donald Sterrett.

the bottom, as far as climate protections are concerned,” Staed said. “The real threat to Iowa's agriculture is not lawsuits, it's climate change, with dangerous droughts, record-shattering heat waves and torrential rains destroying crops across America's heartland. This bill takes us in the opposite direction of where we should be headed.”

Sen. Tom Shipley, R-Nodaway, the bill's floor manager in the Senate, said the bill still requires agriculture producers abide by permits and other regulations, but just ensures that lawsuits are based in specific claims.

“Many of these places op-

erate with air emissions permits, and as long as they're within the bounds of their permit, they are good to operate,” Shipley said. “The issue becomes, if someone accuses them of going beyond it, the onus is on them to prove it.”

The bill goes to Gov. Kim Reynolds for final approval.

Read more from Opsahl online at IowaCapitalDispatch.com

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Athletes of the Week

By Mark Schafer

Sponsored by



Nolan Glick

In every race he ran in, it seemed that he was always one of the fastest runners on the track.

At the March 26 track meet held in Davis County, Pekin senior Nolan Glick was able to finish no worse than second in any of the events he ran in.

Glick was able to win two events at the season opening outdoor track meet. He was the anchor leg of the 800 sprint medley relay race which brought home a first place medal.

Glick was also the third

runner in the 4x200 meter relay race. That team also were able to win the race.

In the only event that he ran solo, Glick was the second fastest runner in the 100 meter dash with a time of 11.65.

In the 4x400 relay race Glick was the opening leg runner, and his team finished second overall.

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



Chloe Glosser

Already she has proven she is more than fast.

At the first outdoor track meet of the season, Pekin senior Chloe Glosser was able to stride her ways to several wins. The start of the outdoor portion of the track meet was a strong one for Glosser.

The senior started off by winning the 3,000 meter run. Not only did she win, she was able to run away with a win by more than 30 seconds. That win wasn't enough.

She would also go on to win the 800 meter run as well.

Later, Glosser would anchor the distance medley relay team. Her 800 meter time in that race helped lead the Panthers to another win.

The News-Review would like to congratulate Chloe Glosser on her wins at the track meet, and for being named this week's Athlete of the Week.



Keep the good things going

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review

I understand the unique and sad irony about this. It is April 1st and this all seems like a pretty elaborate April Fools Day prank.

Unfortunately, the sad reality is that this is the last issue of the News-Review, unless a new buyer emerges and continues the over century-long tradition that the newspaper has built.

I am a relative newcomer to Sigourney, having accepted this job in the fall of 2024. However, my sadly brief time covering the schools of Sigourney, Keota (and of course Sigourney-Keota), English Valleys, Tri-County and Pekin has been entirely wonderful.

The past year and a half have provided me with memories of great games that will stick with me. From Pekin winning their first playoff football game in over a decade, to the dominance that was Isaac Bruns running up and down the Sigourney football field.

From watching Reanah Utterbeck capture her second-straight state wrestling title. To watching the success and record breaking basketball season of 2024-25.

Last year, watching the track stars of Gage Heyne, Ava Gehrking, Chloe Glosser and Anna Hadley dominate at the Blue Oval in Des Moines, was one of the highlights of the season. Witnessing the Sigourney boys golf team return to the State meet, and set some records along the way was another highlight I won't forget.

This past summer I witnessed as Sigourney's baseball team win a high-pressure game against Lynnville-Sully. Then, as playoffs rolled along, the surprising emergence of Pekin's baseball team as they came two runs shy of the State tournament.

In softball, Keota had a strong season as they turned some heads.

Sigourney came within a few outs of returning to the State tournament. Both teams showing that this summer could be strong ones for them.

The fall seemed to fly by as Pekin stayed undefeated for the regular season, winning their district with a high-emotional come-from-behind win over Danville on a foggy Friday night. Sigourney-Keota rallied from a rough start to their year, to make it to the second round of the playoffs.

The cross country season featured the next generation of runners as the English Valleys girls team returned to the State meet, and Pekin's boys made a return trip as well.

In wrestling Sigourney-Keota's girls continued to build their program, and Pekin's girls also showed the consistency that is sure to carry on.

The English Valleys girls basketball team surprised many as they played with seven girls, but still managed to get within two games of the State tournament. Keota's girls continued their strong turnaround as well.

The Pekin boys basketball team was one of the toughest teams in the area this winter, before their season came to an unexpected end, two games too early.

In boys wrestling Sigourney-Keota proved that they are still strong with three wrestlers making the State tournament.

While I don't know what the future holds for the newspaper, or the athletics of the area schools, I do know that I was blessed for my time here, getting to know the schools, the athletes and the school administrators.

I plan to stay in the area, and hope to see you all and continue to tell your stories in the future. Thank you for the incredible memories.

Mark Schafer, The News-Review sports editor

Panthers finish second at Iowa-Missouri border war

By Mark Schafer | The News-Review

BLOOMFIELD - The battle of the border was more or less a skirmish. One that the Iowa teams very much dominated.

Thursday night the outdoor section of the track season started for Pekin as they competed at the annual border war between Iowa and Missouri at Davis County High School. The Iowa schools won nearly every event and Pekin took second in both in the boys and girls team races.

In the boys team scores Pekin finished with 146.5 points. Davis County was the winner with 157.5 points. Putnam County finished third with 108 points.

Davis County also won the girls meet with 178 total points. Pekin was second with 166 points while Centerville took third with 141 points, finishing a complete sweep for Iowa of the track meet.

Pekin took home a number of wins in the meet.

For the girls one of the early wins was from Paislee Coleman who won the 100 meter hurdles with a time of 17.55. She bested her nearest competition by over half a second. Teammate Aleigha Sieren was ninth.

Chloe Glosser swept her events with wins. The senior won the 800 meter run with a time of 2:29.96. She was more than 15 seconds ahead of the nearest competition. Teammate Emerson Porter finished fourth with a time of 2:58.21. Callie Deuschle was seventh in the race.

Glosser was dominant in the 3,000 meter run. She finished with a time of 10:23.96. Second

place Gabi McGregor of Davis County finished with a time of 13 minutes.

Another win was added in the shuttle hurdle relay where the team of Reese Brisby, Abby Guise, Carlie Gambell and Paislee Coleman won with a time of 1:12.65.

The Pekin girls also were winners in the distance medley relay race where the team of Addison Smith, Brin Auderman, Maddy Petrehn and Chloe Glosser won with a time of 4:39.58.

The Panthers took the top two spots in the discus event. Senior Anna Hadley threw the disc 124-feet-5-inches to win. Sophomore Taylor Moore finished second with a throw of 97-feet-8-inches.

Hadley, and the Panthers, finished with a near sweep of the shot put event. Hadley won the event with a winning throw of 42-feet-1-inch. Moore was third with a throw of 31-feet-3.5-inches. Kendra Schultz was fourth with a throw of 30-feet-7-inches.

Samuel Loper was able to win the 200 meter dash for the Pekin boys. The freshman finished with a time of 23.44.

Cole Millikin won the 1,600 meter event with a time of 5:04.65. He bested his nearest competition by more than 14 seconds.

In the sprint medley event the team of Alijah Brock, Aliyas Brock, Riley Smith and Nolan Glick won with a time of 1:36.78.

In the 4x100 relay the Panther team of Henry Adam, Alijah and Aliyas Brock and Cody Silvers took the win with a time of 48.3.

The 4x200 relay team of Aliyas Brock, Riley Smith, Nolan Glick and Alijah Brock won with a time of 1:33.78.

In the 4x800 relay the team of Mason Dahlstrom, Cole Millikin, Brody Sobaski and Lane Fariss won with a time of 5:56.83.

a time of 8:43.63.

The distance medley team of Henry Adam, Alijah Brock, Aliyas Brock and Lane Fariss won the distance medley relay with a time of 4:05.24.

Other results for the Pekin boys:

Nolan Glick was second for the Panthers in the 100 meter dash with a time of 11.65. He did that despite running in the second heat.

Brody Sobaski was second in the 400 meter dash with a time of 55.68. Teammate Cody Silvers was fourth with a time of 56.96.

Riley Smith was second in the 400 hurdles with a time of 58.52. Jaxon Mefford was fourth in the same race with a time of 1:05.63.

Landon Fariss was third in the 3,200 meter run with a time of 12:53.73. Garrett Greiner was fourth in the same race with a time of 13:22.47.

Pekin's 4x110 shuttle hurdle relay team of Ryann Hammes, Ethan Porter, Keegan Dickey and Jaxon Mefford was second with a time of 1:21.79.

Another second place finish came from the Pekin 4x400 team of Nolan Glick, Lane Fariss, Mason Dahlstrom and Riley Smith, who had a time of 3:38.83.

Brody Sobaski was second in the high jump with a leap of 5-feet-8-inches.

Henry Adam finished third in the long jump with a leap that cleared 18-feet-7-inches.

Keegan Dickey was seventh in the 110 hurdles with a time of 19.98. Teammate Ryann Hammes was ninth overall.

Cody Silvers was eighth in the 800 meter run with a time of 2:27.16. In the discus Cowen Weaver finished eighth with a throw of 90-feet-6-inches.

Brantyn Sieren was fifth in the shot put with a throw that totaled 37-feet-6.5-inches.

Other results for the Pekin



Pekin's Alijah Brock (left) takes the baton from teammate Aliyas Brock (right) during the running of the sprint medley relay race held March 26 in Bloomfield. They were joined by Riley Smith and Nolan Glick in the race which they won with a time of 1:36.78.

girls:

Carlie Gambell finished second in the 400 meter hurdles with a time of 1:18.15.

The 4x800 team of Maddy Petrehn, Callie Deuschle, Ashlynn Adrian and Harper Guise finished second with a time of 11:48.71.

Brin Auderman finished second in the high jump after clearing 4-feet-8-inches. Paislee Coleman was third overall with a jump of 4-feet-6-inches.

Emerson Porter ran in the 1,500 meter with a fifth place finish of 6:17.43. Harper Guise had a personal best time of 6:33.2 to finish eighth.

In the girls 100 meter dash the Panthers were led by Kendra Schultz who finished 12th. Addison Smith was 13th.

Mya Glick led the Panthers in the 200 meter dash with a 10th place time of 31.30. Breanna Drish was 12th.

In the 400 meter dash Callie Deuschle was seventh and Harper Guise finished eighth.

The sprint medley relay team of Addison Smith, Gambell, Auderman and Petrehn finished third with a time of 2:09.

In the 4x100 meter race the Pekin team of Smith, Auderman, Drish and Coleman finished fourth with a time of 57 seconds. The Panther 4x200 team of Glick, Brooks, Drish and Guise finished fourth with a time of 2:04.48.

In the 4x400 relay the team of Glick, Guise, Gambell and Petrehn finished with a time of 4:57.83.

Glick finished third in the long jump with a leap of 14-feet-4.5-inches.

Photos by Mark Schafer



Save the date: April 15th
 Where: Holy Trinity Hall in Keota
 Time: 5:15 doors open 6:00 meal begins
 Hope to see you there!

For Fun, Food & Fellowship!
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MARCH MANIA CHALLENGE



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

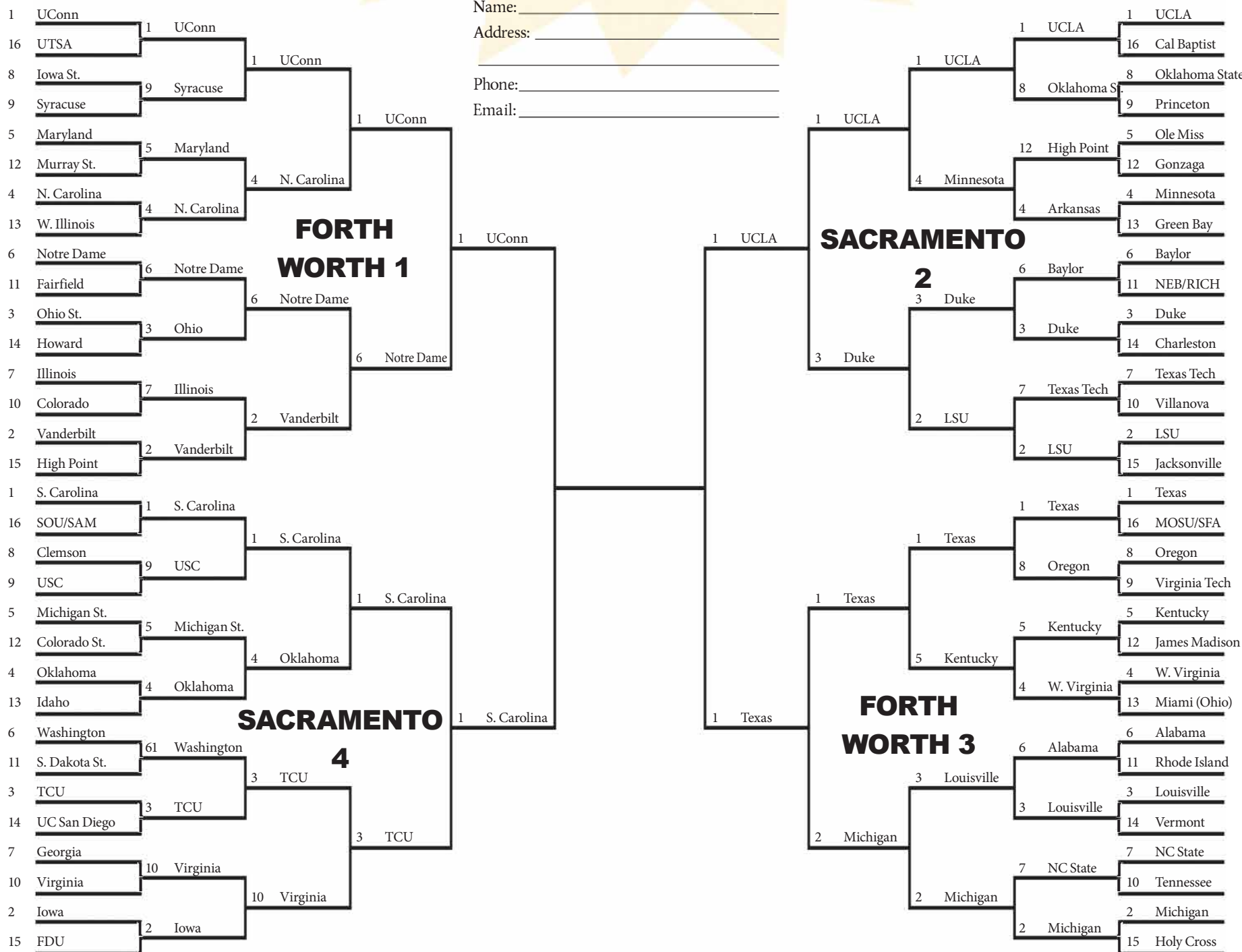
Mark Schafer at sports@sigourneynewsreview.com. Each tournament will have a separate winner, determined by the highest accumulated points from correct picks throughout the bracket. In the event of a tie, the winner will be determined by

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!

Contestant Information

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The News-Review

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2026
SERVING THE KEOKUK COUNTY AREA SINCE 1860 SECTION B, NUMBER 13, 165th YEAR

COURT RECORDS

Civil
March 19th
Counter Defendant: Benjamin Duello, Counter Defendant: Kate Elizabeth Duello, Counter Plaintiff: Jeffrey B. Miller, Counter Plaintiff: Julie A. Miller, Defendant: Jeffrey B. Miller, Defendant: Julie A. Miller, Defendant: Unknown Party, Plaintiff: Benjamin Duello, Plaintiff: Katie Elizabeth Duello, Motion to Dismiss.
March 20th
Petitioner: Ashley Nicole Cox, Respondent: Tallon Murray Schwantes, Temporary Support Order.
March 24th
Defendant: Unknown Spouse, Petitioner: City of

Richland, Iowa, Respondent: Mohammed Gameal Elmatary, Respondent: Keokuk County Treasurer, Petition Filed.
March 25th
Petitioner: State of Iowa EX REL, Respondent: Joshua Rice, Respondent: Cassy Shy, Decree or Final Support.
Criminal
March 20th
Defendant: Jasmine Jean Van Patten, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Written Plea of Guilty.
Defendant: Courtney Ann Jacob, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Order Setting Trial.
Defendant: Robert Allen Lothridge, Payee: Keokuk County, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Or-

der of Disposition.
Defendant: Robert Allen Lothridge, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Order Setting Trial.
March 21st
Defendant: Jerry D. Munn, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Criminal Complaint.
March 23rd
Defendant: Jerry D. Munn, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Hearing for Initial Appearance.
Defendant: Dalton Robert Hansen, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Order of Disposition.
Defendant: Andrew Michael Decker, Payor: Leland Robert Decker, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Motion for Continuance.
Defendant: David Vincent Weldon, Plaintiff: State of

Iowa, Criminal Complaint, Hearing for Initial Appearance.
Defendant: Michael Lee Maschmann, Payee: Keokuk County, Plaintiff: State of Iowa.
Defendant: David Vincent Weldon, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Criminal Complaint, Hearing for Initial Appearance.
March 24th
Defendant: Roberta May Gillam, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Criminal Complaint.
March 25th
Defendant: Robert Allen Lothridge, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Written Plea of Guilty.
Defendant: Shawn Casey Yates, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Written Plea of Guilty.

Domestic
March 19th
Defendant: Dru Austin Glandon, Plaintiff: Misty Lynn Glandon, Motion for Continuance.
OWI
March 19th
Defendant: Jerry Lavern Moffit, Payee: Keokuk County, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Written Plea of Guilty.
Scheduled Traffic
March 18th
Defendant: Paul Lamon Klassy, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Speeding 55 or UND Zone (6 thru 10 over).
March 22nd
Defendant: Christian Ray Williams, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, No Deer License or Tag.

Defendant: Jersharius Treyvon Lawrence, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Speeding 55 or UND Zone (21 or Over).
Defendant: Jersharius Treyvon Lawrence, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Failure to Yield to Emergency Vehicle.
March 23rd
Defendant: Patrick Glen Smith, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Operation without Registration Card or Plate.
Defendant: Patrick Glen Smith, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Failure to Provide Proof of Financial Liability.
March 24th
Defendant: Duane Lee Boer, Plaintiff: State of Iowa, Dark Window or Windshield.

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

Tax Deed, Keokuk County Treasurer, Scott Anthony Rivet, City of What Cheer, Keokuk County Auditor, Keokuk County Attorney, Iowa Attorney General, Luxemburg Holdings LLC, What Cheer Lortschers 2nd Addition Lot: 06 Block: 09, Tax Sale.
Deed Quit Claim Catherine Elizabeth Herman, Lionshare LLC SE SW 20-76-12, SW SE 20-76-12.

Deed Quit Claim Linnie f. Southard, Demar Southard Delta Original Plat Delta Lot: 07 Block: 05, Delta Original Plat Delta Lot: 08 Block: 05, Delta Original Plat Delta Lot: 09 Block: 05.
Deed Quit Claim Daniel J. Schuster, Tamara L. Schuster, Daniel John Schuster Trustee, Daniel John Schuster Living Trust, Tamara Lynne Schuster Trustee, Tamara Lynna

Schuster Living Trust, Sigourney Woodin-Kelley Addition Lot: 01 Block: 09, Sigourney Woodin-Kelley Addition Lot: 02 Block: 09, Sigourney Woodin-Kelley Addition Lot: 03 Block: 09, Sigourney Woodin-Kelley Addition Lot: 04 Block: 09.
Deed Quit Claim, Harold L. Moore, John F. Moore, John F. Moore Estate, John F. Moore Deceased, Carrington Mort-

gage Services LLC, PT Lot: 03 SW NW 01-75-12.
Special Warranty Deed, Carrington Mortgage Services LLC, Federal National Mortgage Assn, PT Lot: 03 SW NW 01-75-12.
Deed Quit Claim, Mercedes Z. Kessler, M Kessler LLC, NE SE 27-74-11.
Warranty Deed, Larry Cameron Administrator, Patricia A. Cameron, Johnny Roberts,

NE SE 21-76-13, PARCEL AUD PAR A, SE SE 21-76-13, PARCEL AUD PAR A, PLAT B222 P294.
Warranty Deed, Brady A. Brown, Ginger A. Brown, Brad Brown, Nathan Clarahan, Penny Clarahan, PT Sigourney Jacksons 3rd Addition Block: 08.
Court Officer Deed, Peggy S. Mathias Administrator, Daren D. Mathias Estate, Peg-

gy S. Mathias, SD09 Lot: 01 NW NE 27-74-10, SD10 Lot: 01 NW NE 27-74-10, SD11 PT Lot: 01 NW NE 27-74-10, PLAT B3 P492, Except Land Deed Record B77 P535.
Real Estate Contracts, Marvin J. Greiner, Deborah K. Greiner, Trenton P. Greiner, Madison M. Greiner, SE NE 26-75-10 Parcel: AUD PAR A, PLAT B334 P86.

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Ben Detwiler hoped to make the world a better place. That hope died when he was killed by a drunk driver. What should you do to stop a friend from driving drunk? Whatever you have to. Friends don't let friends drive drunk.



PUBLIC NOTICE
Tri-County CSD • PH Amendment of Current Budget

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - AMENDMENT OF CURRENT BUDGET
TRI-COUNTY School District
Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

The TRI-COUNTY School District will conduct a public hearing for the purpose of amending the current budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2026

Meeting Date/Time: 4/15/2026 05:30 PM **Contact:** Chad Straight, Superintendent **Phone:** (641) 634-2636

Meeting Location: Board room of the Tri-County Community School District, 3003 Hwy 22, Thornburg, IA

There will be no increase in taxes. Any residents or taxpayers will be heard for or against the proposed amendment at the time and place specified above. A detailed statement of additional receipts, cash balances on hand at the close of the preceding fiscal year, and proposed disbursements, both past and anticipated, will be available at the hearing. Budget amendments are subject to protest. If protest petition requirements are met, the State Appeal Board will hold a local hearing. For more information, consult <https://dom.iowa.gov/local-gov-appeals>.

EXPENDITURES	Total Budget as Certified or Last Amended	Amendment Increase	Total Budget After Current Amendment	Reason
Instruction	3,456,000	250,000	3,706,000	Increased expenditures
Total Support Services	1,455,800	150,000	1,605,800	Increased expenditures
Noninstructional Programs	193,800	250,000	443,800	Increased expenditures
Total Other Expenditures	95,497	100,000	195,497	Increased expenditures
Total	5,201,097	750,000	5,951,097	

Published in The News-Review on April 1, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
Pekin CSD • PH School Budget Summary

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Proposed PEKIN School Budget Summary
Fiscal Year 2026 - 2027

Location of Public Hearing: Pekin Community School District Media Center 1062 Birch Avenue, Packwood, IA 52580
Date of Hearing: 04/13/2026
Time of Hearing: 06:00 PM

The Board of Directors will conduct a public hearing on the proposed 26/27 school budget at the above noted location and time. At the hearing, any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of, any part of the proposed budget. This notice represents a summary of the supporting detail of the revenues and expenditures on file with the district secretary. A copy of the details will be furnished upon request.

	Budget 2027	Re-est. 2026	Actual 2025	Avg % 25-27	
Taxes Levied on Property	1	4,648,276	4,520,795	4,398,472	% 2.8
Utility Replacement Excise Tax	2	70,715	71,484	71,709	% -0.7
Income Surtaxes	3	399,181	220,011	223,204	% 33.7
Tuition/Transportation Received	4	980,000	900,000	960,983	
Earnings on Investments	5	200,550	152,100	225,332	
Nutrition Program Sales	6	158,000	130,000	128,002	
Student Activities and Sales	7	345,000	250,000	354,248	
Other Revenues from Local Sources	8	487,060	416,500	404,189	
Revenue from Intermediary Sources	9	0	0	0	
State Foundation Aid	10	3,918,069	3,644,839	3,504,194	
Instructional Support State Aid	11	9,974	0	0	
Other State Sources	12	1,028,060	652,250	1,195,309	
Two Tier Assessment Limitation Replacement	13	46,475	46,475	46,895	
Title I Grants	14	125,000	125,000	117,589	
IDEA and Other Federal Sources	15	483,000	490,000	558,111	
Total Revenues	16	12,899,360	11,619,454	12,188,237	
General Long-Term Debt Proceeds	17	0	0	0	
Transfers In	18	62,500	62,000	61,244	
Proceeds of Fixed Asset Dispositions	19	0	0	0	
Special Items/Upward Adjustments	20	0	0	0	
Total Revenues & Other Sources	21	12,961,860	11,681,454	12,249,481	
Beginning Fund Balance	22	5,878,366	6,269,272	5,748,270	
Total Resources	23	18,840,226	17,950,726	17,997,751	
*Instruction	24	7,511,500	6,946,000	6,549,457	% 7.1
Student Support Services	25	235,800	229,000	186,397	
Instructional Staff Support Services	26	377,300	310,500	346,669	
General Administration	27	427,500	470,000	403,131	
School Administration	28	482,000	488,500	452,697	
Business & Central Administration	29	287,750	176,000	164,440	
Plant Operation and Maintenance	30	1,338,000	1,010,000	937,109	
Student Transportation	31	669,000	567,000	542,447	
*Total Support Services (lines 25-31)	31A	3,817,350	3,251,000	3,032,890	% 12.2
*Noninstructional Programs	32	951,500	912,500	854,225	% 5.5
Facilities Acquisition and Construction	33	750,000	0	449,552	
Debt Service (Principal, interest, fiscal charges)	34	452,000	782,000	556,669	
AEA Support - Direct to AEA	35	206,499	180,860	224,442	
*Total Other Expenditures (lines 33-35)	35A	1,408,499	962,860	1,230,663	% 7.0
Total Expenditures	36	13,688,849	12,072,360	11,667,235	
Transfers Out	37	65,000	0	61,244	
Other Uses	38	0	0	0	
Total Expenditures, Transfers Out & Other Uses	39	13,753,849	12,072,360	11,728,479	
Ending Fund Balance	40	5,086,377	5,878,366	6,269,272	
Total Requirements	41	18,840,226	17,950,726	17,997,751	
Proposed Property Tax Rates (per \$1,000 taxable valuation)		12.82427			

Published in The News-Review on April 1, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
Keokuk Co BOS • Minutes and Claims 3.17.2026

KEOKUK COUNTY BOARD PROCEEDINGS MARCH 17, 2026	1,032.97	PITNEY BOWES GLOBAL FIN SERV	254.55
ATWOOD ELECTRIC	110.00	POS PROFESSIONAL OFC SERV	8.78
BAILEY OFFICE	691.34	QUINN, DR BRIAN	50.00
BAYCOM	2,028.00	REIGHARD, CURTIS	23.91
BRAMSCHREIBER, TYLER	171.19	ROQUET, IVAN	100.00
BROTHERS MARKET	2,417.64	SADLER POWER TRAIN	259.01
C J COOPER & ASSOC	55.00	SCHNEIDER GEOSPATIAL	16,371.00
CDW GOVERNMENT	1,730.84	SHETTLER MEDIA	100.00
CLUBB, BONNIE	77.48	SIGOURNEY BODY SHOP	250.00
CLUBB, BONNIE (MEI)	209.00	SIGOURNEY LUMBER CO	472.57
COX SAN & RECYCLING	7,012.00	SIGOURNEY, CITY OF	724.82
CUNNINGHAM INC	2,218.77	SINCLAIR NAPA	329.47
DELTA, CITY OF	2,143.86	SINCLAIR TRACTOR	6,575.67
DESIGN HOUSE PLUS	146.00	SPOUSE, DUANE	184.60
DOBBINS, ALLEN	50.00	STATE HYGIENIC LAB	86.00
DOUDS STONE	44,255.07	STEINHART, ZACH	154.08
DUMONT, CARLA	50.00	STROBELS INC	18.00
DUMONT, JOHN	50.00	T I P REC	755.16
E CENT DIST IA ASSESSOR'S ASOC	100.00	THOMSON REUTERS-WEST	472.57
ELLIOTT BULK SERV	1,578.35	TIFCO INDUSTRIES	124.47
FARMERS COOP ASSOC	528.69	TRUCK CENTER	2,677.62
FORCE AMERICA	1,778.96	TUSING, STEPHANIE	100.88
GARDEN GATE	46.00	TUVERA, THERESA	175.00
GIBSON, CITY OF	895.13	ULINE	399.40
GREATAMERICA FIN SERV	225.25	US CELLULAR	303.60
H & M FARM & HOME	369.81	USFIRST	141.00
HADLEY, MICHAEL C	340.50	VERIZON WIRELESS	492.28
HELMUTH, CLINTON D	129.25	VISA (SEC RD)	633.33
HUBER, LARRY	40.00	VISA (CONSERV)	104.99
HUBER, TANNA	188.50	VISA (CRTHSE)	5,253.00
ICEOO	30.00	WAPELLO CO AUDITOR	506.31
IA PRISON IND	1,756.70	WAPELLO RURAL WATER	144.98
IA SEC OF STATE	30.00	WASTE MANAGEMENT	143.08
IA'S CO CONSERV SYS	45.00	WEBB, ED	102.00
ISACA/SEAT	250.00	WEBB, JESSICA	300.00
JACK'S CORNER DRUG	33.98	WEBSTER, CITY OF	453.92
KASEYA US	4,047.38	WELLINGTON TOOL SALES	286.00
KEOKUK CO HWY DEPT	192.45	WEX BANK	81.71
KESWICK, CITY OF	2,231.04	WILKENING, RICH	102.00
KINROSS, CITY OF	325.05	WILLIAMS, MICHAEL	204.50
KLEIN, DAVID	50.00	WINDSTREAM	81.19
LISCO/ILDS	526.49	WITTHOFT FARM SUPPLY	70.00
LYNCH TRAVEL	25.00	WOOD, DARYL K	218.00
MARTIN, GARY	103.00	TOTAL	164,238.48
MARTIN, JANET	103.00	Wood moved, Weber seconded approval of lowa Governmental Health Care Plan (IGHCP) insurance renewals (health, dental, life and voluntary vision) for fiscal year 2027 as presented. All ayes and motion carried.	
MARTINS FLAG CO	1,720.10	NET2PHONE	1,960.00
MARTINSBURG, CITY OF	941.43	NETSMART TECH	1,953.22
MCGUIRE, ANDREW	60.00	NEXTRON TRUCK CTRS	1,324.98
METAL CULVERTS	7,670.00	NW IA ASSESSOR'S ASSOC	550.00
MID-AMERICA PUB CO	380.72	OLLIE, CITY OF	1,158.23
MIDWEST WHEEL CO	64.66	PHELPS AUTO SUPPLY	180.00
MILLIKIN, DONALD	100.00		
MUSCATINE CO SHERIFF	1,960.00		
	1,141.79		
	1,953.22		
	1,324.98		
	550.00		
	1,158.23		
	180.00		

Published in The News-Review on April 1, 2026

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PUBLIC NOTICE
Sigourney CSD • Special Session 3.25.2026

SIGOURNEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2026
The Board of Directors of the Sigourney Community School District met in special session on Wednesday, March 25, 2026 in the Sigourney District Office Conference Room. Board members present included: Mike Bensmiller, Amy Wilcox, Cody Branstad, Tim Bruns, Adam Clark, Steven Seeley, and Adam Sellers. Also present were Kevin Hatfield and Jessica Meier.
Call to Order: President Bensmiller called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM and acknowledged a quorum of the board.

Approval of Agenda: Director Seeley moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Director Wilcox. Motion carried 7-0.
Public Hearing: President Bensmiller opened the public hearing regarding the Proposed Property Tax Levy. No oral or written comments were received. President Bensmiller closed the public hearing at 4:32 PM.
Adjournment: Director Seeley moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:33 PM. Seconded by Director Bruns. Motion carried 7-0.
Steven Seeley, Board President
Jessica Meier, Secretary Pro-Tem
Published in The News-Review on April 1, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Richland • PH Property Tax Notice

CITY OF RICHLAND MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING - PROPERTY TAX NOTICE
March 24, 2026
The Richland City Council met on Tuesday, March 24, 2026, for a public hearing regarding the Property Tax Notice for FYE27. Mayor Pro Tem Steve Pfeifer called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Council members Joe Adrian, Cyndia Crafton and Jim Gaines were present. Council member Michael T. Hadley was absent. Also present: City Clerk Sarah Claeys.

Hadley was absent. Also present: City Clerk Sarah Claeys. Gaines moved and Crafton 2nd to approve the agenda: 4 ayes, motion carried.
There were no comments or public input on the Property Tax Notice. Mayor Pro Tem Pfeifer adjourned the meeting at 6:02pm.
ATTEST: Mayor Pro Tem Steve Pfeifer
City Clerk Sarah Claeys
Published in The News-Review on April 1, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Richland • Special Meeting 3.24.2026

CITY OF RICHLAND MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
March 24, 2026
The Richland City Council met on Tuesday, March 24, 2026, for a special council meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Steve Pfeifer called the meeting to order at 6:06pm. Council members Joe Adrian, Cyndia Crafton and Jim Gaines were present. Council member Michael T. Hadley was absent. Also present: City Clerk Sarah Claeys.

Adrian moved and Gaines 2nd to approve the agenda: 4 ayes, motion carried.
Gaines moved and Crafton 2nd to set the public hearing date for April 13th at 6:45pm for the FYE27 City Budget: 4 ayes, motion carried.
Mayor Pro Tem Pfeifer adjourned the meeting at 6:08pm.
ATTEST: Mayor Pro Tem Steve Pfeifer
City Clerk Sarah Claeys
Published in The News-Review on April 1, 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, 2026

GABBY'S GROUND RULES

Hey folks, CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!

IOWA ONE CALL

If you plan to landscape or do any home improvements that require digging, please follow Gabby's Ground Rules. Call Iowa One Call at least 48 hours in advance to have your underground utilities marked. Then avoid digging within 18" on either side of flags or paint markings. Know what's below – call Iowa One Call. It's fast. It's free. It's the law.

800-292-8989
www.iowaonecall.com

811
Know what's below. Call before you dig.

A public service announcement of Iowa One Call.

Look, a big rectangle!

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

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

Ad Council **United Way**

GAP **JGTV**

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

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

KNOW VAPE

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

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

HOW ARE YOUR LOCAL TAXES SPENT?

IOWA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

WITHOUT PUBLIC NOTICES, YOU'RE LEFT GUESSING.
You have a right to know how state and local governments spend your hard-earned tax dollars -- and it's your responsibility to find out. Without public notice, you're left to guess how elected officials are spending your money.

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PUBLIC NOTICE Tri-County CSD • PH Proposed School Budget Summary

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Proposed TRI-COUNTY SCHOOL Budget Summary
Fiscal Year 2026 - 2027

Location of Public Hearing: Board room, Tri-County Community School District, 3003 Hwy 22, Thornburg, IA | Date of Hearing: 04/15/2026 | Time of Hearing: 05:30 PM
The Board of Directors will conduct a public hearing on the proposed 26/27 school budget at the above noted location and time. At the hearing, any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of, any part of the proposed budget. This notice represents a summary of the supporting detail of the revenues and expenditures on file with the district secretary. A copy of the details will be furnished upon request.

	Budget 2027	Re-est. 2026	Actual 2025	Avg % 25-27	
Taxes Levied on Property	1	1,894,940	1,797,966	1,663,907	% 6.7
Utility Replacement Excise Tax	2	38,864	38,037	16,550	% 53.2
Income Surtaxes	3	24,956	23,530	27,204	% -4.2
Tuition/Transportation Received	4	265,000	260,000	240,086	
Earnings on Investments	5	7,800	7,600	7,094	
Nutrition Program Sales	6	48,000	46,000	42,769	
Student Activities and Sales	7	148,200	142,900	136,271	
Other Revenues from Local Sources	8	78,350	76,360	70,058	
Revenue from Intermediary Sources	9	0	0	0	
State Foundation Aid	10	1,862,040	1,902,220	2,011,868	
Instructional Support State Aid	11	4,565	0	0	
Other State Sources	12	516,500	499,200	479,230	
Two Tier Assessment Limitation Replacement	13	19,163	19,163	6,300	
Title I Grants	14	95,000	89,000	83,999	
IDEA and Other Federal Sources	15	198,000	183,000	178,826	
Total Revenues	16	5,201,378	5,084,976	4,964,162	
General Long-Term Debt Proceeds	17	0	0	0	
Transfers In	18	0	0	0	
Proceeds of Fixed Asset Dispositions	19	0	0	0	
Special Items/Upward Adjustments	20	16,000	15,000	14,611	
Total Revenues & Other Sources	21	5,217,378	5,099,976	4,978,773	
Beginning Fund Balance	22	3,092,254	3,471,812	3,892,380	
Total Resources	23	8,309,632	8,571,788	8,871,153	
*Instruction	24	3,802,900	3,793,500	3,728,068	% 1.0
Student Support Services	25	2,800	2,800	2,685	
Instructional Staff Support Services	26	16,000	14,200	13,992	
General Administration	27	132,000	129,000	125,995	
School Administration	28	149,000	145,000	141,731	
Business & Central Administration	29	35,000	31,000	29,596	
Plant Operation and Maintenance	30	653,758	647,600	631,586	
Student Transportation	31	371,750	368,000	361,492	
*Total Support Services (lines 25-31)	31A	1,360,308	1,337,600	1,307,077	% 2.0
*Noninstructional Programs	32	194,000	190,000	188,797	% 1.4
Facilities Acquisition and Construction	33	75,000	73,000	69,246	
Debt Service (Principal, interest, fiscal charges)	34	0	0	0	
AEA Support - Direct to AEA	35	95,741	85,434	105,676	
*Total Other Expenditures (lines 33-35)	35A	170,741	158,434	174,922	% -1.2
Total Expenditures	36	5,527,949	5,479,534	5,398,864	
Transfers Out	37	0	0	0	
Other Uses	38	500	0	477	
Total Expenditures, Transfers Out & Other Uses	39	5,528,449	5,479,534	5,399,341	
Ending Fund Balance	40	2,781,183	3,092,254	3,471,812	
Total Requirements	41	8,309,632	8,571,788	8,871,153	
Proposed Property Tax Rate (per \$1,000 taxable valuation)		11.90703			

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Thank you for not driving buzzed last night. You saved my life.

Liz Osaki

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

Ad Council **U.S. Department of Transportation**

PUBLIC NOTICE City of Richland • PH Proposed Budget

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - PROPOSED BUDGET
Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027

City of: **RICHLAND**
The City Council will conduct a public hearing on the proposed Budget at: **City Hall Meeting Date: 4/13/2026 Meeting Time: 06:45 PM**
At the public hearing any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of, any part of the proposed budget. This notice represents a summary of the supporting detail of revenues and expenditures on file with the City Clerk and County Auditor.
City budgets are subject to protest. If protest petition requirements are met, the State Appeal Board will hold a local hearing. For more information, consult <https://dom.iowa.gov/local-budget-appeals>.

The Budget Estimate Summary of proposed receipts and expenditures is shown below. Copies of the the detailed proposed Budget may be obtained or viewed at the offices of the Mayor, City Clerk, and at the Library.

The estimated Total tax levy rate per \$1000 valuation on regular property 10.82215
The estimated tax levy rate per \$1000 valuation on Agricultural property is 3.00375

At the public hearing, any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of, any part of the proposed budget.

Phone Number (319) 456-2511 City Clerk/Finance Officer's NAME Sarah Claeys

	Budget FY 2027	Re-estimated FY 2026	Actual FY 2025	
Revenues & Other Financing Sources				
Taxes Levied on Property	1	186,432	147,644	180,572
Less: Uncollected Property Taxes-Levy Year	2	0	0	0
Net Current Property Taxes	3	186,432	147,644	180,572
Delinquent Property Taxes	4	0	0	0
TIF Revenues	5	0	0	0
Other City Taxes	6	51,928	50,000	58,120
Licenses & Permits	7	875	855	640
Use of Money and Property	8	3,700	1,400	9,744
Intergovernmental	9	75,000	75,000	89,593
Charges for Fees & Service	10	220,950	210,190	238,680
Special Assessments	11	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	12	6,000	1,000	10,056
Other Financing Sources	13	0	0	121
Transfers In	14	40,000	0	35,000
Total Revenues and Other Sources	15	584,885	486,089	622,526
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses				
Public Safety	16	28,250	14,950	9,456
Public Works	17	118,000	113,000	60,837
Health and Social Services	18	0	0	0
Culture and Recreation	19	55,450	99,850	58,065
Community and Economic Development	20	12,000	76,000	9,805
General Government	21	129,000	139,100	124,725
Debt Service	22	0	0	0
Capital Projects	23	55,000	0	0
Total Government Activities Expenditures	24	397,700	442,900	262,888
Business Type / Enterprises	25	252,100	221,150	200,048
Total ALL Expenditures	26	649,800	664,050	462,936
Transfers Out	27	40,000	0	35,000
Total ALL Expenditures/Transfers Out	28	689,800	664,050	497,936
Excess Revenues & Other Sources Over (Under) Expenditures/Transfers Out	29	-104,915	-177,961	124,590
Beginning Fund Balance July 1	30	725,130	903,091	778,501
Ending Fund Balance June 30	31	620,215	725,130	903,091

Published in The News-Review on April 1, 2026



English Valleys Bearometer

April 1, 2026

www.facebook.com/Bearometer

Issue: 30

The EV Drama Department Delivers Laughter and Drama with “Game of Tiaras”

The English Valleys Drama Department took the stage March 20–21 with its production of *Game of Tiaras*, directed by Carrie Burdick. The cast delivered an entertaining performance filled with humor, chaos, and a hilariously tragic ending that kept audiences engaged throughout.

Game of Tiaras draws inspiration from William Shakespeare’s *King Lear*, combined with modern fantasy elements and classic fairy tale characters. The story follows a group of princesses competing for the throne, with plenty of twists along the way. Some characters survive, while others meet an untimely fate.

Familiar fairy tale figures made their appearance on stage, including Snow White, played by McKenna Rugg; the Little Mermaid, portrayed by Peyton Corad; Cinderella, played by Olivia Debevec; and Belle, brought to life by Kaylynn Hoyleman. The cast also featured an additional princess, Ellie, the Snow Queen, played by Kaylee Frazier.

The weekend marked a bittersweet final performance for several seniors, including Adam Forbs, Tyler Wiseman, Kaylee Frazier, Phoenix Sorden, and Lydia Smith. For these students, the production was especially meaningful as it was the last time they would take the stage as part of the English Valleys Drama Department. Their dedication and hard work over the years were evident in a memorable final performance.

The cast and crew expressed their appreciation to everyone who attended and supported the drama department. They look forward to welcoming audiences back next year for the school musical.



From Tractors to Traditions: FFA Week Showcases Dedication, Competition, and Community

By: Cael Grove

We are thrilled to share the highlights from our recent FFA Week, a time filled with enthusiasm as we celebrated agriculture and our dedicated chapter. Agriculture is an integral part of our daily lives, and this week served as a meaningful reminder of its importance within our community.

FFA Week kicked off the day before spring break with the much-anticipated Ag Olympics. This exciting relay competition featured six challenging events for students to complete. The senior team delivered an outstanding performance, finishing with a perfect record and earning the title of four-time champions. Tuesday marked “Opening Day,” with students wearing their hunting gear to school. It was also “Drive Your Truck to School Day,” and the church parking lot was filled with trucks and a strong sense of pride.

On Wednesday, students took part in “Battle of the Brands,” showcasing their camo clothing to determine which brand was most popular. The day also included the traditional “Drive Your Tractor to School Day.” While there were seven tractors this year, it still made for a memorable sight.

Thursday featured the annual FFA Breakfast held in the bus barn, a cherished event that brings together teachers and community members. The chapter expressed gratitude for the continued support, using the breakfast as a small way to give back. Adding to the fun, students dressed up as staff members for the day. To wrap up the week, Friday was celebrated as “Blue and Gold Day,” followed by a pork loin supper that brought the community together once again.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of FFA Week. The participation and enthusiasm made this celebration truly memorable.



Prom Planning Underway as Big Night Approaches

By: Aliza Walker

With prom season approaching, excitement is building as students begin preparing for one of the most anticipated events of the year. From dress shopping and spray tans to dinner plans and dates, prom quickly becomes a major topic of conversation throughout the school.

Students approach prom in different ways and on different timelines. Some begin shopping for dresses shortly after the previous year’s prom, while others wait until just weeks or even days before the event. The same goes for dinner plans, with some making reservations well in advance and others deciding on the night of. Despite these differences, one thing remains constant: finding the perfect dress is always a top priority.

There are many options when it comes to dress shopping. Students may choose to shop online, visit local boutiques, or purchase gently used dresses from others. Popular shops include Windsor, Dream Dress, and Hope’s Bridal, offering a variety of styles for every preference.

This year’s trends feature statement gowns, corset bodices, and bold colors like emerald green and cobalt blue. However, personal style continues to be the most important factor. No matter how or when students prepare, prom remains a memorable night that reflects individuality and celebration.





THE EAGLE'S WING

Keota Jr./Sr. High School Student Newspaper



Issue No. 15

Senior Spotlight

GARRETT GREINER

This year will be Garrett Greiner's last year roaming the halls of Keota High School. Garrett is the son of Ted and Wendy Greiner. Ted is a graduate of Keota High School and now holds an occupation as the owner and operator of his club lamb company Greiner Club Lambs. Wendy is a graduate of Highland High School and takes up an occupation as a hairdresser. Garrett also has a sister named Ella, who also attends Keota as a 14 year old sophomore. Garrett says all seniors should have fun and do their work. Garrett says the three words that describe him are dedicated, outgoing, and funny. Garrett has participated in many activities throughout his years at Keota, including basketball, 4-H, FFA, speech, and Dare role model. When Garrett was in his younger years, he dreamed of being a power ranger and a farmer. Garrett says he wants to be remembered by students when he is gone as a benign, good and nonchalant person. Garrett's favorite memory from his time at Keota was attending all state speech during his freshman year. Garrett also stated his favorite activity to participate in was TP-ing during homecoming and the meal at the Roost Tavern that followed the pep rally during homecoming. Garrett's favorite class was Mr. Jamison's Ag construction class and his favorite teacher is between Mr. Weeks and Mr. Jamison. Garrett says his biggest pet peeve is when people are late and do not take a priority in showing up on time. Garrett's plan after graduation is to attend Black Hawk Community College to participate in livestock judging and then transfer to Oklahoma State to pursue an animal science degree, which he plans to use to assist him in taking over his family farm and club lamb operation. Garrett will be missed by faculty and friends, and everyone is excited to see Garrett grow as an individual.



By: Jack Greiner

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Keota has an 8th grader named Issac Flynn who has participated in basketball and many other extra curricular activities. He has 3 siblings, Josh, Annadell, and Zachary, that he spends a lot of quality time with. He states his favorite things to do are hang out with friends while riding bikes and walking around town making memories. He also enjoys fishing. His dad is Travis Flynn and his mom is Brandy Tusing. His favorite class is social studies with Mrs. Swanson, who is his favorite teacher.



By: David Sherman

ISASP TESTING

The high school participated in the statewide testing known as ISASP tests. Students were tested on a variety of subjects like science, math, reading, and writing. Students started the tests on Tuesday, March 10, and finished tests on March 12. Those who were absent during the testing days were required to make up the tests throughout this week. To give students the energy required to perform effectively on the tests, students were given baked goods, string cheese, and an orange or apple juice to snack on during the tests. Overall students feel very strongly about their performance on the tests and are eager to see the results.

By: Jack Greiner

SPRING PLAY

On March 25, Keota held a play for the elementary kids grades 3-6 as a practice play. The actual play will be held on Friday, of march 27, and Saturday of march 28. The whole play cast did a phenomenal job at acting in the play. The cast put on a very good show for the elementary kids, and they were so captivated by it. The play's name is The Princess Quest. It is about a prince going on a quest to find a bride, and he finds the most unexpected bride, an unknown princess from a lost family.

By: Forrest Bonebrake



EVENTS

- 2 Boys Track @ Belle Plain, 4:15
- S/K Soccer @ WACO, 5:00
- 3-6 Spring Break, No School
- 3 KC Fish Fry @ Harper, 4:30-7:00 PM
- 4 S/K Trap @ Oskey (Mahaska Co Ikes)
- 5 Easter Sunday
- 7 Student Council Mtg @ 12:45
- HS Track @ WACO, 4:30
- S/K Soccer vs Highland, 5:00
- 8 NHS Officers Mtg, 8th Hour
- 9 Golf @ BGM, 4:15
- Boys Track @ Pekin, 4:30
- School Board Mtg @ 6:00

EAGLE'S WING STAFF 2025-2026

JACK GREINER
DAVID SHERMAN
FORREST BONEBRAKE

ADVISER: Dr CULLETT

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



MR. JAMISON STAFF



"Long Island University, go Sharks!"

EMMY MOELLER 12TH



"U Conn"

JACK GREINER 11TH



"Chicago Bulls"

STEVE BIRD 10TH



"Arkansas Razorbacks"

ADYSON MILLER 9TH



"Iowa or U Conn"

JOSIE GREINER 8TH



"Iowa State"

ASPEN SIEREN 7TH



"Iowa State"



Farm ground with windbreak.

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach to Host Windbreak School on April 8

By Rebecca Vittetoe,
Billy Beck

AMES – Farmers, rural landowners and natural resource professionals can attend the in-field and hands-on Windbreak School on Wednesday, April 8, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Southeast Research and Demonstration Farm near Crawfordville. The workshop is hosted by Iowa State University Extension and Outreach and aims to provide the knowledge and skills needed to effectively plan, implement, maintain and renovate windbreaks. Check-in will begin at 9:30 a.m.

windbreak “Windbreaks and shelter belts act as critical farm infrastructure. They provide energy savings, livestock growth gains, timber and non-timber forest products, wildlife habitat, odor and dust control, aesthetics, privacy and mental health benefits,” said Billy Beck, extension forestry specialist and assistant professor at Iowa State. “However, Iowa’s aging windbreaks are simply not functioning as they should be due to general decline, storm damage, and in-

sect and disease issues.”

The Windbreak School will cover windbreak planning and design, including a discussion on species selection, site preparation, identifying site characteristics, incorporating pollinators, and disease management. Because the Southeast Research and Demonstration Farm is establishing a new windbreak, there will be a field demonstration on how to plant and establish one.

Featured speakers include representatives from ISU Extension and Outreach, the ISU Plant and Insect Diagnostic Clinic, Iowa Department of Natural Resources district foresters and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

To attend, online pre-registration is required by April 3. The registration fee is \$30, which covers lunch, refreshments, and course materials. This fee, payable by cash or check, is due to ISU Extension and Outreach Washington County by April 5.

For more information, contact the Washington County Extension Office at 319-653-4811 or email Holly Beinhardt at hollyb1@iastate.edu.

2026 Iowa Farm Custom Rate Survey Offers Planning Guidance for Iowa Producers

Newly released survey includes averages and ranges for common farming tasks and machinery rent in Iowa

By Ann Johanns

AMES – Farmers who depend on custom work or provide custom services can review rates reported by others across the state in the latest Iowa Farm Custom Rate Survey.

For over 50 years, the survey, conducted by Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, has provided guidance for Iowans who hire custom work and those who do custom work for others. According to the most recent Iowa Farmland and Tenure Survey, only 3% of Iowa farmland is fully operated under custom farming agreements. A much greater proportion of farm operations within the state utilize custom work for occasional operations throughout the year.

The 2026 Farm Custom Rate Survey is based on 205 responses and 4,698 custom rates provided by Iowa farmers, custom operators and farm managers. Thirty-two percent of respondents perform custom work, 20% hire work done, 47% indicated doing both and 2% did not indicate whether they perform or hire custom work.

Farm tasks in the report range from field preparation to planting to harvest, with cost data that reflects the average, median and range for each task. Rental rates for select machinery, grain bins and hourly machinery operating wages are also included. New operations surveyed in 2026 include drone spraying and side-dressing



Spring Planting

anhydrous ammonia.

Ann Johanns, program specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach and editor of Ag Decision Maker, said this report is a valuable resource for custom operators and those who hire custom work done.

“This survey report is heavily used by Iowans and across the Midwest, as the 116,000 downloads in the past year show,” she said. “The 2026 survey report shows increases across all categories of operations surveyed, ranging from 0.3% for bin and machinery rental rates to 8.5% for pre-harvest operations, which include tillage, spraying, fertilizer application and planting.”

The custom rate survey is intended to serve as a guide. Actual custom rates may vary according to the availability of machinery in a given area, timeliness, operator skill, field size and shape, crop conditions and the performance characteristics of the machine being used.

Fuel Diesel fuel was estimat-

ed at \$2.89 per gallon when invitations to complete the custom rate survey were sent in early February. However, fuel prices have increased since then; as reported by the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service Iowa Production Cost Report (Bi-Weekly), No. 2 Diesel (farm) went from an average of \$2.59 in January to \$3.12 in the most recent March 2026 report.

A \$0.50-per-gallon increase in fuel prices will raise total machinery costs by approximately 5%. Another way to adjust custom rates is to use Fuel Required for Field Operations, which contains estimated fuel consumption values per acre for many common operations. Multiplying the fuel used per acre by the change in fuel price since the survey was conducted can provide an estimate of the most recent cost increase per acre.

Estimate machinery costs Custom work rates should account for all ownership and operating costs associated with the equipment being used. Custom operators

and those who hire custom work done are encouraged to utilize additional resources, such as Estimating Farm Machinery Costs, for specific operations. New web-based calculators and downloadable decision tools are included to allow users to enter their own estimates and calculate machinery and implement costs.

A price comparison series for fuel, fertilizer and crop prices is updated regularly on the Ag Decision Maker website.

The information available in the 2026 Iowa Farm Custom Rate Survey is only possible due to the responses provided each year. If you are interested in joining the 2027 Iowa Farm Custom Rate Survey mailing list, send your mailing or email address to Ann Johanns at Iowa State University, Borlaug Learning Center, 3327 290th Street, Nashua, IA 50658 or aholste@iastate.edu.

For more information, contact Johanns at aholste@iastate.edu.

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Trump EPA to ease restrictions on summer ethanol-blend sales as gas prices soar

By: Jacob Fischler

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will allow gas stations to sell a blended fuel containing 15% ethanol into the summer season in an effort to lower gas prices, Administrator Lee Zeldin said Wednesday.

The blend, known as E15, is usually barred in many Midwest states over the summer to reduce smog, though the federal government has routinely in recent years issued waivers to allow summer sales. The move, which ethanol producers applauded, could prevent a spike in prices at the pump during the war with Iran that has scrambled oil markets.

“EPA is working with our federal partners to reduce unnecessary costs and uncertainty and ensure that gas prices remain affordable for all Americans through the summer,” Zeldin said in a statement. “This emergency action will provide American families with relief by increasing fuel supply and

consumer choice.”

Bipartisan officials in corn-producing states had sought the waiver, and continue to push for year-round availability of the product. Ethanol is manufactured from corn and other plant materials.

Move wins praise from industry, officials

Seven Midwest governors — Republicans Kim Reynolds of Iowa, Mike Kehoe of Missouri, Jim Pillen of Nebraska and Larry Rhoden of South Dakota and Democrats Tim Walz of Minnesota, JB Pritzker of Illinois and Tony Evers of Wisconsin — signed a March 6 letter to Zeldin requesting the waiver.

More recently, the top Democrat on the U.S. Senate Agriculture Committee also endorsed the move.

“With gas prices spiking, now’s the time to make E15 available year-round,” Minnesota U.S. Sen. Amy Klobuchar, said in a March 19 statement. “It will help lower costs and decrease our dependence

on foreign oil.”

U.S. Rep. Adrian Smith, a Nebraska Republican, also applauded Wednesday’s announcement, and called on Congress to make the policy permanent.

Ethanol industry groups also approved of the waiver. Geoff Cooper, the president and CEO of the national ethanol advocacy group Renewable Fuels Association, said the move was “exactly what the supply chain needs right now.”

“President Trump and Administrator Zeldin understand that year-round E15 is a solution that can extend domestic fuel supplies and reduce pump prices for hard-working American families,” Cooper said. “With geopolitical conflict roiling energy markets worldwide, we applaud President Trump and Administrator Zeldin for acting quickly and decisively to combat potential fuel shortages and help keep a lid on gas prices this summer.”

Iowa Renewable Fuels As-

sociation Executive Director Monte Shaw also thanked the administration in a statement.

“With rising fuel prices and a war in the Middle East, this is the worst time to force retailers to bag E15 pumps. E15 adds home-grown supply and reduces prices for consumers,” he said.

Iran war disrupts oil market

Gas prices have risen since President Donald Trump launched strikes against Iran on Feb. 28. Transport through the Strait of Hormuz has been limited due to threats from Iran during the conflict.

White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt noted at Wednesday’s press briefing the waiver was a part of the administration’s response to rising fuel costs during the war.

“Obviously the administration is coming up with creative new solutions by the day to keep the price of oil stable, something the president wants to see,” she said.

Trump will also welcome nearly 1,000 farmers to the White House for a National Agriculture Day event on Friday, where the president plans to promote his record on the issue, Leavitt said.

The E15 waiver will be in effect May 1 through May 20. Twenty days is the longest period a single waiver can be applied under the Clean Air Act, the EPA said in the press release. The move signals the administration views further waivers as an option as restrictions ramp up over the summer.

Shauneen Miranda contributed to this report.



Tassels emerge from corn in central Iowa on Aug. 4, 2025. (Photo by Cami Koons/Iowa Capital Dispatch)