



# The Wright County Monitor

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Official newspaper of Wright County

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## Lutheran Food Pantry Brings Hope to the Table

Amanda Rink, Editor

Last Sunday morning, my day began at the red church on 1st Street in Clarion. Volunteers, of all ages, were hard at work, their hands busy packing for those in need of a Thanksgiving meal at the First Lutheran Food Pantry. This wasn't just another volunteer day at the pantry, it was the third annual Thanksgiving turkey giveaway.

According to food pantry director Missy Loux, 87 families across Wright County registered to receive a Thanksgiving turkey. The First Lutheran Food Pantry, with help from 15 donors and over 50 volunteers, provided turkeys through Clarion, Goldfield, Rowan, and Woolstock locations ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday.

With the average Thanksgiving meal now costing \$431—a 19% increase from last year—the First Lutheran Food Pantry's support meant families didn't have to choose between celebrating the holiday and meeting other financial obligations.

"Many of our turkey recipients said that without the pantry's support, they wouldn't have been able to have a Thanksgiving celebration," Loux shared with The Wright County Monitor. "We believe that Thanksgiving should be a time for all families who wish to celebrate to enjoy wonderful food and make precious memories with loved ones."

With an overwhelming amount of community support, The First Lutheran Food Pantry did just that. First Citizens Bank of Clarion took donations, gathering \$1,000 for the pantry in support of community members this holiday season. Furthermore, Centrum provided eggs and Seeded Urban Agriculture donated 60 pounds of freshly cut romaine lettuce to supplement the Thanksgiving Turkey, which also served as a regular food pantry day. For every bag filled, there was a story. Some were told, and some were left unsaid.

As families arrived, some shyly, others with wide smiles, the connection be-

tween community members was unmistakable. Boy Scouts zipped along the hallway and out the door to pack cars. Servicewomen found the right diaper sizes for new babies and checked ingredient labels for allergies while other volunteers rushed back and forth to storage to refill stock.

Once things settled down, volunteers connected after the pantry-filling morning to sit down for a spaghetti lunch. Notably, children learned the value of donating their time to those who appreciate it ahead of the giving season, and those who needed it the most got a helping hand up.

The impact of the First Lutheran Food Pantry extends beyond Thanksgiving. Individuals can support local food access efforts by volunteering, providing monetary donations, or giving physical items to the pantry. With deer season around the corner, local hunters are encouraged to contribute to the HUSH program (Help Us Stop Hunger), which allows food pantries to purchase venison at a low cost.

Looking ahead, the food pantry has another exciting event planned: On December 12th, from 5-6:30 PM, Santa and Mrs. Claus will visit the pantry, spreading holiday cheer. All families are welcome to join.

This Thanksgiving, the pantry didn't just provide meals—it gave hope, love, and a reminder that no one has to face challenges alone.



Preparing for Impact... Volunteers listen on as Food Pantry Director Missy Loux gives a run down on how the busy day of food distribution will go as assignments are given. (Photo: Amanda Rink)



Boy Scouts in Action...A local Boy Scout Troop jumped in with enthusiasm, packing cars and bringing smiles to everyone they met. For these young helpers, it was a day of learning how small acts of kindness can make a big difference. (Photo: Amanda Rink)



A Morning of Giving... On a crisp fall morning, nearly as many volunteers as turkeys, 87 in total, came together to ensure families in need could celebrate Thanksgiving with joy and gratitude. (Photo: Amanda Rink)

## City's Financial Practices Praised and Insurance Costs Rise as Budgeting Begins

Amanda Rink, Editor

The Clarion City Council met last Tuesday evening to review a variety of key issues, ranging from the city's annual financial audit to employee healthcare costs and long-term planning. Mayor Rod Heiden began the meeting with all members of the council present other than Dan Hennigar and the City Attorney, Zack Chizek. The consent agenda passed and kicked off the quick and productive meeting.

### Smooth Audit Praised by Outgoing Auditor

Larry Pump, the longtime auditor for the city, delivered his final full-scope audit for the City of Clarion. Pump praised the city's financial practices, "I'm pleased tonight to announce that I have nothing bad to say—only good things to say about the City of Clarion."

Pump noted that the city had made significant progress on past audit recommendations, reducing his findings from sixteen last year to just one. The remaining issue involved the technical handling of legal fee payments from the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) fund.

continued on page 2

## Area Headlines

### Eagle Grove

The Eagle Grove Community School District is accepting used musical instruments. They ask donations to be dropped off at any Eagle Grove School Building by December 20th to make the most impact.

### Rowan

The Iowa River Players have long faced roof leaks at the Rowan Events Center, home to their theater. The building risks closure without the repairs, which neither the theater group or the City of Rowan can afford alone. "The theater group is a huge asset to the community of Rowan," wrote Mayor Lennea Groom in the town's monthly newsletter. On Friday, December 20th, the Iowa River Players are hosting a Lip Sync Battle as a fundraiser for the theater roof upgrade.

### Belmond

The Belmond-Klemme girls' basketball team is entering the season with an experienced roster, featuring five seniors and six juniors. The Broncos finished last season with a 12-11 record.

### Goldfield

A new church, Rejoice Word and Spirit Church, led by Pastors Cris and Jennifer Decious, will open its doors on December 1st at 3320 210th St.

### Dows

The Dows Legion chapter held a chili cook-off contest on November 16th. Malia Rothman won first place with Mary Echelberger in 2nd and Dick Echelberger placing 3rd.

### Hampton

On November 19th, twenty veterans' names were added to the Franklin County Veterans Memorial at the courthouse grounds. Hampton's American Legion Post 183 sponsored ten of these names, funded through breakfast fundraisers.

## 8 Day Weather Outlook Clarion, IA.

### Thursday, November 28

Partly Cloudy 27°/11°  
NW 15 mph



### Friday, November 29

Partly Cloudy 21°/13°  
NNW 14 mph



### Saturday, November 31

Mostly Cloudy 20°/9°  
WNW 13 mph



### Sunday, December 1

Partly Cloudy 19°/9°  
NW 13 mph



### Monday, December 2

Mostly Cloudy 25°/16°  
S 13 mph



### Tuesday, December 3

Partly Cloudy 27°/15°  
WNW 14 mph



### Wednesday, December 4

Partly Cloudy 24°/15°  
WNW 13 mph



### Thursday, December 5

Mostly Cloudy 26°/13°  
NW 13 mph



## CGD Students and Volunteer Take Part in 3rd Annual Intergenerational Interviews

On Wednesday, November 13th, 7th-grade students at Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Middle School had the opportunity to interview members of the community at the Heartland Museum in Clarion, IA. They were exploring the question: What can one generation learn from another? Students were partnered up one-on-one with a citizen of the community and explored questions such as: Do you remember what you bought with your first paycheck? Did you do chores as a child? Did you have technology growing up as a kid? Etc. Then, in their partner groups, they also had an opportunity to tour the museum and see some of the

things they talked about. Overall, it was an amazing learning experience for both students and volunteers. Special thanks to all who took the time to come and help our 7th-grade students learn how one generation can learn from another. We hope you enjoyed talking individually with our students and taking a walk down memory lane. Maybe you even had an opportunity to learn from them, too! We appreciate your willingness to help and support our Clarion-Goldfield-Dows School Community. Miss Olson and Mrs. Swanson are so thankful to have opportunities like this in our community.

continued on page 2



Students shared after the interview what they felt their main takeaway was from the intergenerational interviews with one student sharing, "The biggest thing I learned yesterday was how people had to accommodate their needs before modern technology". (Photos: Ashley Olson)



Shop Local for the Best Holiday Gifts!



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Intergenerational Interviews

continued from page 1



After the interview, students were encouraged to share what sparked their interest in The Heartland Museum. One student shared, "The hat section was really cool and awesome. I liked how in each section of hats there were different colors."

The following volunteers participated in our third year of intergenerational interviews. What an amazing day of learning for all!

- |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Jane Martin        | Bud Young           |
| Donna Johnson      | Mary & Al Tesdahl   |
| Pat O'Brien        | Maurice Riley       |
| Darl & Paula Abbas | Greg & Andrea Crowl |
| Meriel Demuth      | Judy Kirstein       |
| Susan Toftey       | Denny & Jan Murphy  |
| Mike Redig         | Larry & Jan Taylor  |
| Karen Weld         | John Holmes         |
| Bob Herbst         |                     |



Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Middle School proudly continues its tradition of intergenerational interviews for the third year.

## City Council continued from page 1

"It's a technicality of how the money flows," Pump explained, emphasizing that the issue was not with the expenses themselves, but the process.

The audit, which also included a federal compliance review because of Clarion's receipt of federal funds, will be filed with the Iowa State Auditor's office and the federal clearinghouse. Mayor Heiden and the council expressed their gratitude for Pump's years of service.

### Employee Health Insurance Costs Increase

Bob Powers, a representative from the city's health insurance provider, outlined changes to employee cost of coverage for 2025. Health insurance premiums will increase by 4.7%, a figure Powers described as "reasonable given the current market".

The city employee dental plan, which Powers said faces "hardly any issues," will rise by 4%, while the voluntary vision plan will see an increase by 3%. Long-term disability coverage remains in place, covering 60% of an employee's salary after 180 days. Life insurance, fully funded by the city, will also see a 4% cost hike.

Councilmember Dave Flurer motioned to approve the updated costs, with Councilmember Nick McOllough seconding.

### Reports and Budgeting

The council also approved the fiscal year 2024 Annual Financial Report and Urban Renewal Annual Report. Both documents are critical to beginning the FY25 budgeting process, according to City Administrator Clint Middleton.

### Future Planning

The council passed a resolution allowing the submission of the Airport Capital Improvement Plan. This will allow the city to obtain grants to upgrade the City Airport. Additionally, the Finance Committee recommended renewing the CD with First Citizens Bank at a rate of 4.3%, a move council members approved.

The next city council meeting will occur on Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at 5:00 P.M.

# Wright County Supervisors Approve 1.7 Million Bridge Bid

Amanda Rink, Editor

The Wright County Supervisors met last Monday at 9:00 A.M. for a quick meeting. Officials discussed new hires, and bridge work and heard a funding request from Elder Bridge.

The Wright County Secondary Roads Department introduced Andrea Jones as its new office manager. "I live in Dows, coming over from a law office. So really excited to get started," Jones said.

### Concerns from Public

Bob Ritter, attending via Zoom, raised concerns about the planning and zoning board. "They had a scheduled meeting on May 6, but I remember Jeremy [Abbas] told me they didn't have a quorum, so they never had a meeting. Do they ever meet?" Ritter asked.

Officials shared that the board meets only when needed. Ritter pointed out a lack of minutes for the year on the website. Officials explained, "They can't put [minutes] on until they're approved at the next meeting."

### TIF Certifications & Renewal Updates

The board discussed cer-

tification of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) areas, including ReNewTrients, Agribusiness Park, and the wind farm.

"You're requesting \$1.2 million for the Agribusiness Park, \$215,000 for the Wind Farm, and the maximum amount for ReNewTrients," Finance Manager Amanda Meyer noted. It was also emphasized that employee-based rebates require actual employees, not contracted employees.

"We use TIF as a mechanism to fund our Urban Renewal projects and use it as a repayment tool for the debts that are incurred for the Urban Renewal projects," Meyer explained the point of TIF in a later conversation with The Wright County Monitor.

### Bridge Project Approval & Road Maintenance

A contract was approved for replacing the Voss Quarry Bridge on County Road C70. The project will involve a 264-foot triple-span prestressed concrete bridge. Wright County Engineer Adam Clemons reported six bids, with the lowest being \$1,737,108.61 from Peterson Contractors of Reinbeck. "That is a tremendous price,"

Clemons stated but also noted earlier estimates ranged from \$2.4 million to \$2.75 million and this shows prices are trending downwards.

Eighty percent of the project will be paid for using Federal Grant monies from the R.A.I.S.E. (Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity) Grant. The other twenty percent of the project is funded by Farm to Market dollars, which come from road use tax.

"No local tax dollars are being spent on this project," Clemons shared with The Wright County Monitor after the meeting. Clemons also shared ongoing road and culvert work in the county, two snow fence installations, and fifteen sign repairs from the secondary road crew.

### Elderbridge Funding Request

A representative from Elderbridge, a service that helps older Iowans live independently by coordinating home and community-based services, requested \$12,000 in funding from Wright County.

"Congregate and home-delivered meals are the two largest served programs in

your community," the representative shared with the board, noting increased demand.

The organization emphasized challenges stemming from stagnant funding. "Our budget this year is significantly less. We've not received any significant increase for 10 years," they explained, adding that Elderbridge provided \$29.99 in services for every dollar funded by the county. For Wright County, this year's funding request is \$12,000.

"Not a bad bang for the dollar," Supervisor Dean Kluss noted. Elderbridge also applies for grants and uses fundraisers to close gaps. "Last year, we raised \$27,000 in a fundraiser and secured \$90,000 in meal grants," the representative said. The board will consider the request during the budget process.

The next Wright County Board of Supervisors meeting will be Monday, December 2nd at 9:00 A.M. Meetings are available to watch at [www.youtube.com/WrightCountyIowaOfficial8312](http://www.youtube.com/WrightCountyIowaOfficial8312).

# Extreme Weather is Making Nitrate Pollution Worse

Edward Lynn, Eagle Grove Eagle

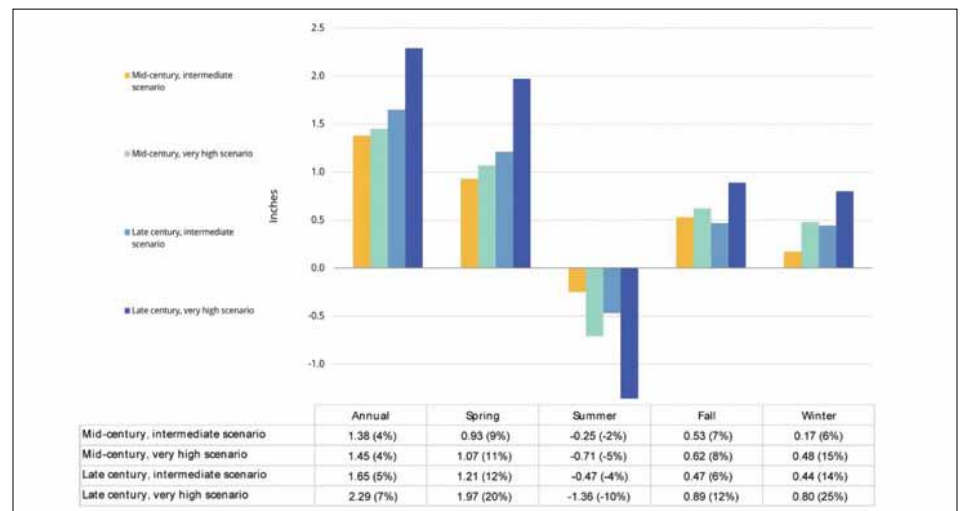
A recent study from researchers at the University of California, Davis, has revealed that nitrate contamination in agricultural regions poses a substantial risk to groundwater quality, especially after extreme weather events like droughts followed by heavy rains. The study, which involved detailed tracking of nitrate infiltration under varying weather conditions, demonstrates how nitrates can seep up to 33 feet deep in just 10 days when heavy rainfall follows a period of drought (<https://www.eurekalert.org/news-releases/1064673>).

This finding aligns with similar concerns in Iowa, where agriculture and weather variability have long influenced water quality. Researchers at Iowa State University found, in a 2022 study on water quality, that the unpredictability of precipitation patterns significantly impedes the ability to accurately assess trends in nitrate levels in water bodies (<https://www.cals.iastate.edu/news/2022/researchers-show-weather-variability-impedes-ability-assess-trends-iowas-water-quality>). The challenge of monitoring nitrate reductions is exacerbated by annual changes in rainfall, which make it difficult to distinguish between genuine improvements and natural variability.

The UC Davis study highlights how



Measuring contaminants at UC Davis: UC Davis researchers insert a device that continuously collects water samples underground, providing real-time data on nitrate contaminant movement. (Isaya Kisekka, courtesy of UC Davis)



Precipitation projections for Iowa: Yearly rainfall is likely to increase through the remainder of this century, especially in the spring. However, less rain is expected in the summers. These changes are projected to worsen late in the century, and are more extreme in the "very high" precipitation scenario than in the "intermediate" scenario. (Screenshot, USDA.gov)

nitrate levels in shallow groundwater can exceed the U.S. Environmental

Protection Agency's safe drinking water threshold of 10 milligrams per liter

after heavy rainfall. This is consistent with similar continued on page 5



## World AIDS Day is December 1

You help us keep moving forward when you **talk**, **test**, **treat**.



### talk

Talk with your partner **before** having sex.

Talk about **when** you were last tested and suggest getting tested together.

Talk to your healthcare provider about your sex life. Ask them about HIV and STI testing: including what tests you need and how often.

### test

**Get tested!** It's the only way to **know for sure** if you have an HIV or another STI.

Many STIs **don't cause any symptoms**, so you could have one and **not know**.

*If you're not comfortable asking your regular provider for an HIV or STI test, find a clinic that provides confidential testing that is free or low cost.*

### treat

All STIs, including HIV, are treatable. If you test positive for an STI, work with your healthcare provider to get the right treatment.

If you test positive for HIV, your provider or testing location will help connect you to treatment & resources!

Ask about partner services to get your partner tested and treated. Avoid having sex until you and your sex partner both complete treatment.

**STOP HIV IOWA**





# reading between the lines

with Amanda Rink

## A Slice of Thanksgiving Sentiment

Amanda Rink, Editor

*"The kitchen is the heart of every home, for the most part. It evokes memories of your family history" - Debi Mazar*

Thanksgiving is a holiday rich in tradition and probably my favorite, second only to Halloween. It's a time to cook, eat, and connect with friends and family without the pressure of extravagance that other holidays, like Christmas, hold.

While Thanksgiving has become a celebration of togetherness for many, its origins tell a more complicated story. Thanksgiving's origins are tied to colonial myths that gloss over the violent history of land theft and displacement of Native peoples. For the Indigenous Americans, it's a reminder of colonial aggression and loss, a reality that shouldn't be forgotten, even as we gather in gratitude.

Though the history of Thanksgiving is charged, its modern evolution

reminds me of what I value most: connection, tradition, and the love we share with family, especially family members lost too soon.

When I was a very young child, my favorite thing about Thanksgiving was the pumpkin pie my Grandma Betty Morris (Pals) made. She'd spend hours on the crusts and fillings of her pies, coming straight from a real pumpkin. She didn't take shortcuts in her baking and is probably cringing on her throne in heaven while I devour a store-bought pumpkin pie.

But store-bought or homemade, pumpkin pie is still my favorite. I pile it high with whipped cream and pair it with a dark cup of coffee. The smell of the pie, the smell of a home on Thanksgiving, is probably another favorite of mine. I remember telling Grandma if they made a candle from the smell of pumpkin pie, I'd buy it and smell it all the time!

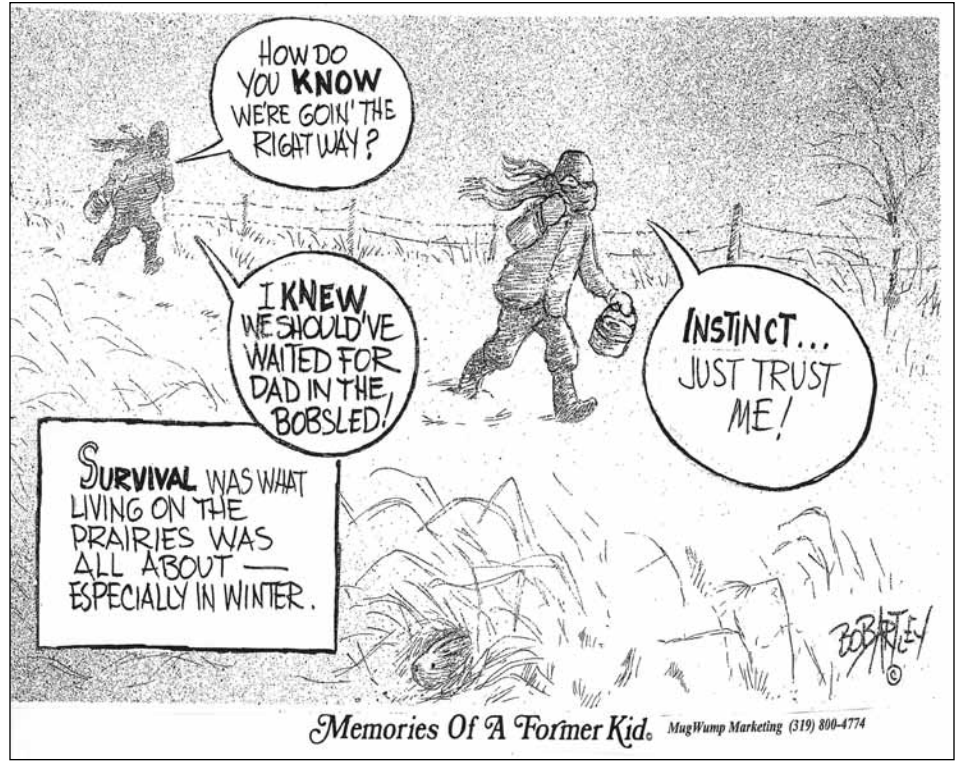
Did they have pumpkin pie-scented candles in the 90s? Maybe they did, and I just lived a sheltered, non-pumpkin pie-smelling childhood...thanks, Mom! But maybe that is why something as small as a pumpkin pie was so special

to me as a child... pumpkin pie didn't come around often, but when it did, it was served with a smile by my sweet Grandma Betty.

Grandma passed away when I was about 8 years old, after a long battle with leukemia. I didn't get a lot of time with her, but those few years are full of memories I hold on to even today. So, when the pumpkin pie is served, I get a little sentimental. But it isn't just about the pie; it is about remembering the love, effort, and connection that filled those memories.

So, as we celebrate Thanksgiving, let's savor the traditions and the joy of family, but also take time to consider the full history of our land and the people who first cared for it. Just like Grandma's pumpkin pie, our traditions are layered, sweet, and comforting, but also carry a history that deserves to be considered and respected.

Amanda Rink is the Editor of The Wright County Monitor and a Children's Book Author. When she isn't caring for her family, writing for the newspaper, or avoiding laundry, she can be found hiding in the woods with a cup of coffee and a romance novel.



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# IN THE SKY

David Voigt, Contributing Writer

## In The Sky During December\*

December will be an interesting month in the sky. Brilliant Venus will be unmistakable, shining in a fully dark sky. It will set about three hours after the Sun in early December, and it will climb even higher before it starts to descend in late January. Saturn will rule southwestern sky where there are few bright stars, but it will be drifting lower as Earth starts to leave it behind. It will set at about 11:30 as December begins and at about 9:30 by the end of the month. As Saturn prepares to leave the evening sky, it will be replaced by very bright Jupiter that will be in the eastern sky by the time it gets dark. Mars will follow Jupiter about four hours later. Mars has passed below the twin stars of Gemini (the Twins), and it will be moving eastward of them during December. Jupiter will be unmistakably bright, and it will help in tracing out the stars of Taurus (the Bull). It will be between the bull's horns and to the left of its "V" shaped face. Taurus will be nearly horizontal when it rises, but as it passes through the sky, it will change its orientation. It will be nearly vertical with its face pointing down when it sets. The tips of the bull's horns are marked by two stars, one to the lower left of Jupiter and one that is brighter to Jupiter's upper left. This star is also the corner opposite

the bright star Capella in the 5-starred constellation Auriga (the Charioteer).

The bright star Aldebaran represents the bull's reddish eye and is the lower tip of the "V," and four dimmer stars complete the bull's face. If you have a dark sky or use binoculars you will see that these four stars are the brightest stars in an open star cluster called the Hyades. An open star cluster is a group of stars that were formed from the same cloud of gas and dust, and their common gravity holds them together loosely. Through a large telescope, the Hyades cluster has about 200 stars. Aldebaran is much closer to Earth and is not a part of the cluster. The Hyades is translated as "rain maker." In some stories of Greek mythology, the Hyades were the daughters of the god Atlas and were minor goddesses. After their brother Hyas died, the weeping sisters were placed in the sky and were associated with causing rain.

Another open star cluster, called the Pleiades (or Seven Sisters), is a small prominent spot on the shoulder of Taurus. The Pleiades is translated "to sail," because when they were in the sky, the weather was good for the Greeks to go to sea. The cluster is also called the Seven Sisters because in Greek mythology they were the daughters of Atlas (and half-sisters of the Hyades). According to

one story, Europa, one of the sisters, was attracted to Zeus who was in the form of a handsome white bull. When she climbed on his back, she was abducted, perhaps joined by her sisters. The bull swam to the island of Crete, which is why only the bull's front half is in the sky. Europa became the queen of Crete, and Europe is named after her.

**Observing Highlights**  
**Dec. 4** The crescent Moon will be close below brilliant Venus. On the 5th, the moon will have moved in its orbit and will be to the upper left of Venus.

**Dec. 7** The Moon will be to the lower right of Saturn. It will be farther to the upper left of Saturn on the 8th.

**Dec. 14** The Moon will form a line with Jupiter in the middle and Aldebaran on Jupiter's right. All will be in Taurus (the Bull).

**Dec. 16** The Moon will be to the right of Pollux and Castor, above Pollux, the bright twin stars of Gemini (the Twins). Mars will be to their lower left after it rises at about 8:00.

**Dec. 17** The Moon will be above Mars.

**Dec. 21** The day of the winter solstice, marking the start of winter in the northern hemisphere. It is celebrated as the longest night of star gazing of the year.

**Dec. 24** Before dawn, the Moon will be close above Spica, the brightest star in the constellation Virgo (the Maiden).

Moon Phase	Date	Rises	Highest Point	Sets	When Visible
New Moon	Dec. 1	Sunrise	Noon	Sunset	Not visible
First quarter	Dec. 8	Noon	Sunset	Midnight	P.M.
Full moon	Dec. 15	Sunset	Midnight	Sunrise	All night
Last quarter	Dec. 22	Midnight	Sunrise	Noon	A.M.
New Moon	Dec. 30	Sunrise	Noon	Sunset	Not visible

\*Dates and times are approximate.

Sources: StarDate, Jan-Feb 2024. Vol. 52, No. 1.

Chartrand III, M. R. Nat. Audubon Soc. Field Guide to the Night Sky. A. A. Krump, Inc, NY pub. 1995. Wikipedia.org SkyandTelescope.org

## Check it Out at The Library!

Ho ho hold onto your hats! Santa's making a jolly stop at the Clarion Public Library on Monday, December 9th at 5:15! Gather your Christmas list, because the big guy is eager to check them out!

The Night We Lost Him by Laura Dave - Large Print - Liame Noone was many things to many people. To the public, he was an exacting, self-made hotel magnate fleeing his past. To his three ex-wives, he was a loving albeit distant family man who kept his finances flush and his families carefully separated. To Nora, he was a father who often loved her from afar—notably, a cliffside cottage perched on the California coast where he fell to his death.

The authorities rule the death accidental, but Nora and her estranged brother Sam have other ideas. As Nora and Sam form an uneasy alliance to unravel the mystery, they start putting together the pieces of their father's past and uncover a family secret that changes everything.

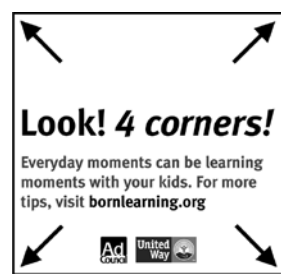
Lovely One: A Memoir by Ketanji Brown Jackson - Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson invites readers into her life and world, tracing her family's ascent from segregation to her confirmation on America's highest court within the span of one generation. Through trials and triumphs, Justice Jackson's journey will resonate with dreamers everywhere, especially those who nourish oversized ambitions and refuse to be turned aside. This moving, openhearted tale will spread hope for a more just world, for generations to come.

The Good Neighbor: The Life and Work of Fred Rogers by Maxwell King a Biography - The definitive biography of Fred Rogers, children's television pioneer and American cultural icon, an educator and entertainer who brought new empathy to television and helped children face complex issues such as divorce, discipline, mistakes, anger, and



competition. This read can spark personal reflections and interesting discussions about childhood, empathy, and kindness.

Hoopla - All you need is a Clarion Library Account and then you can access Hoopla's amazing resources. One that caught our attention was In the Kitchen with Craftsy BingePass! This will give you 65 cooking and baking classes, from basics to advanced techniques, led by renowned experts using just one borrow with the BingePass!



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Submitted News Noon Friday  
Obituaries 4:30 p.m. Monday  
Breaking News 5 p.m. Monday\*  
Event coverage requests 24 hours  
\*This news may not be published in the current issue.

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Legal notices

PUBLIC NOTICE City of Clarion 2024 Financial Report

Table with columns: STATE OF IOWA, 2024, FINANCIAL REPORT, FISCAL YEAR ENDED, JUNE 30, 2024 CITY OF CLARION, IOWA, DUE: December 1, 2024. Includes a detailed financial report table with sub-sections for ALL FUNDS, Revenues and Other Financing Sources, Expenditures and Other Financing Uses, and Indebtedness at June 30, 2024.

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs., Nov. 28, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE Wright County Supervisors Nov. 12 Minutes

November 12, 2024
The Board of Supervisors met as Drainage District Trustees. To view the minutes from the drainage meeting, see the Drainage District minutes on the County website.
Chairman Pro-Tem Kluss called the regular meeting of the Wright County Board of Supervisor to order at 9:09 a.m. Members present were Kluss with Rasmussen and Helgevoild present via Zoom.
Motion by Rasmussen and seconded by Helgevoild to approve the tentative agenda. Motion carries.
Minutes of the previous regular meeting of November 4, 2024 were read and approved.
Approved claims for payment.
Tonee Nicholas, Wright County Assessor, presented 44 new Family Farm Applications. Nicholas is recommending to allow 42 of the applications and disallow the other 2 applications. Motion by Rasmus-

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PUBLIC NOTICE Wright Co. Supervisors Nov. 13 Special Meeting

November 13, 2024 Special meeting - Canvass of Votes
The Wright County Board of Supervisors met in special session to hold the Canvass of Votes for the November 5, 2024 General Election.
Chairman Helgevoild called the special meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Members present were: Helgevoild and Kluss with Rasmussen absent.
Motion by Kluss and seconded by Helgevoild to approve the tentative agenda. Motion carried.
Auditor Ellis stated that there was one race that had an open seat which was the Woolstock Township Trustees that was a vote for two with only one name on the ballot. There was a tie in the write-ins with Heather Sterling, Camille Grandgeorge, and Bryan Dayton all receiving one vote. The board placed all the names in a container and drew one name out. Bryan Dayton was drawn to break the tie and will be on the canvass as the winner.
Auditor Ellis then explained some of the procedures that her office conducted after the election which was to verify the number of people that voted absentee (2,126) and how many voted at the polls (3,646) which was a total of 5,772 total citizens voting in Wright County. That was 72.57% of registered voters. All voters were given credit for voting in the I-Voters state software.
She also explained to the board that every county in Iowa does a post-election audit. Goldfield precinct was chosen by the state to audit. The post-election audit was held on November 7th and both the Presidential race and county Sheriff race was hand counted. Both counts came back the same as the machine tape. This was then certified to the state.
All these results from the polls were loaded into the State Election Night Reporting site and the canvass materials were generated. These canvass reports were then verified again that all votes matched with the election tapes from the election night machines.
See attached pages for the Election Summary.
Motion by Kluss and seconded by Helgevoild to approve the canvass of votes as presented. Motion carries.
Motion by Helgevoild and seconded by Kluss to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.
Karl Helgevoild, Chairman, Wright County Board of Supervisor
Betty Ellis, Wright County Auditor

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs., Nov. 28, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE Chavez CDDM003177

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR WRIGHT COUNTY
In re the Marriage of Maria Del Carmen Chavez Ayala and Sergio Javier Aragon Hernandez
Upon the Petition of MARIA DEL CARMEN CHAVEZ AYALA Petitioner, And Concerning, SERGIO JAVIER ARAGON HERNANDEZ Respondent.
NO. CDDM003177 ORIGINAL NOTICE
TO: SERGIO JAVIER ARAGON HERNANDEZ
You are notified that a petition has been filed in the office of the Clerk of this Court naming you as the Respondent in this action, which petition prays for a dissolution of marriage. The attorney for the Petitioner is Dani L. Eisenrager, whose address is P.O. Box 346, Eagle Grove, Iowa 50533. The attorney's telephone number is (515) 603-6400; and fax number is (515) 603-6401.
You must serve a motion or answer on or before the 6th day of January, 2025, with the Clerk of Court for Wright County, at the Courthouse in Clarion, Iowa. If you do not, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.
Notice to Respondent:
\*You should talk to an attorney at once to protect your interests.
\*If you choose not to have an attorney represent you in this matter, go to the Iowa Judicial Branch website for self-represented litigant information and free guided interactive interview court forms under Divorce.
\*You must register through the Iowa Judicial Branch website at www.iowacourts.state.ia.us/Efile/ and obtain a log in and password to electronically file and view court documents in your case and to receive service and notices from the court. \*For general rules and information on electronic filing, refer to the Iowa Rules of Electronic Procedure in Chapter 16 of the Iowa Court Rules.
\*For court rules on the protection of personal privacy in court filings, refer to Division VI of the Iowa Rules of Electronic Procedure in Chapter 16 of the Iowa Court Rules.

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs., Nov. 14, 21 & 28, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE City of Clarion November 19, 2024 Minutes

The Clarion City Council met in regular session Tuesday November 19th, 2024, at 5:00pm in the Council Chambers with Mayor Heiden presiding. Present were Council members Dave Flurer, Shayne Hennigar, Mike Ennis and Nick McOllough (Dan Hennigar - absent). Also, in attendance City Administrator Clint Middleton, PWD Jon DeVries, and Chief Steve TerHark.
Mayor Heiden called the meeting to order and polled the council for any conflicts of interest with the agenda, there were none. Mayor Heiden asked if there were any citizens listed to address the council, there were none. Motioned by Flurer seconded by McOllough to approve consent agenda consisting of Minutes- 2024.11.05; Financial report- approve checks; Licenses/Permits- (Building, Liquor, Tobacco, Sign, Peddler, Street Closure) (Motion passed 4-0, D. Hennigar -absent).
Larry Pump of Larry Pump CPA was in attendance and gave a report on the FY24 Audit. There were no flags of malfeasance, and there were a few items to report on that had been removed from previous years. Motioned by Flurer seconded by McOllough to approve Audit Report FY24 (Motion passed 4-0, D. Hennigar -absent).
Bob Powers of Paradigm Benefits presented the changes to the City Employee Benefits. The offerings stay the same with a 4.31% increase in premiums. Motioned by Flurer seconded by McOllough to approve employee Health Care Plan 2025 (Motion passed 4-0, D. Hennigar -absent).
Motioned by S. Hennigar seconded by Flurer to approve the FY24 Annual Financial Report (Motion passed 4-0, D. Hennigar -absent).
Motioned by McOllough seconded by S. Hennigar to approve the FY24 Urban Renewal Annual Report (Motion passed 4-0, D. Hennigar -absent).
Motioned by S. Hennigar seconded by McOllough to approve Resolution (24-60) TIF Debt (Motion passed 4-1, D. Hennigar -absent).
Motioned by Flurer seconded by McOllough to approve Resolution (23-65) authorizing submittal of Airport CIP (Motion passed 4-1, D. Hennigar -absent).
Reports from the Council or Dept heads: There were none. Fast meeting.
Motioned by McOllough seconded by Flurer to adjourn. All Ayes. (Motion passed 4-0).
Respectfully Submitted,
Clint Middleton City Administrator

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs., Nov. 28, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE Corey Speirs Probate

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT WRIGHT COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF COREY SPEIRS, Deceased.
Probate No. ESPR017655
NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS
To All Persons Interested in the Estate of COREY SPEIRS, Deceased, who died on or about July 20, 2024:
You are hereby notified that on the 15th day of November, 2024, the last will and testament of COREY SPEIRS, deceased, bearing date of the 8th day of October, 2021, was admitted to probate in the above named court and that KEVIN SPEIRS was appointed executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.
Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.
Dated this 15th day of November, 2024.
KEVIN SPEIRS
703 4 th Street, NE
Clarion, IA 50525
Executor of estate
G. A. Cady III, ICIS PIN No: AT0001386
Attorney for Executor
Cady & Rosenberg Law Firm, PLC
9 First Street, SW
PO Box 456
Hampton, IA 50441
Phone: 641-456-2555
Date of second publication
5th day of December, 2024
Probate Code Section 304
Published in the Wright County

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs., Nov. 28 & Dec. 5 2024

Legals are your right to know!

NEWSPAPER DEADLINE:
Legal Notices.....Noon Friday
Classifieds.....11:00 a.m Friday
Display Ads .....11:00 a.m. Friday
Submitted NewsNoon.....Friday
Obituaries 4:30 p.m.....Monday
The Wright County Monitor

PUBLIC NOTICE City of Clarion November 5, 2024 Claims

Table with columns: CLAIMS REPORT, VENDOR, AMOUNT, MID AMERICAN ENERGY, etc. Lists various vendors and their amounts for claims from November 5, 2024.

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs., Nov. 28, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE City of Clarion November 19, 2024 Claims

Table with columns: CLAIMS REPORT, VENDOR, AMOUNT, IDA GROVE PUBLIC LIBRARY, etc. Lists various vendors and their amounts for claims from November 19, 2024.

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs., Nov. 28, 2024

Kids: You need to talk to your parents.
Some kids think synthetic drugs, often called fake marijuana and bath salts, are safe. They are not - they can be dangerous in many ways.
Talk to your parents about the dangers of synthetic drugs.
Find out more at DrugFreeIowa.org
For Immediate Assistance, call the Iowa Substance Abuse Information Center toll-free Help Line at 866-242-4111.

©Partnership @ DrugFreeIowa.org





# Nitrate Pollution continued from page 1

findings in Iowa, where excessive nitrogen levels have also been linked to rainfall events that enhance nitrate leaching and denitrification—a biological process where nitrogen is converted into gas and lost from the soil (<https://crops.extension.iastate.edu/encyclopedia/nitrogen-losses-after-heavy-rains>).

Additional Iowa research, also from 2022, reveals that the likelihood of accurately measuring a 41% reduction in nitrate levels can vary greatly depending on weather conditions, with the probability ranging from 23% to nearly 100% over a 15-year span (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35426153/>). This variability underlines the challenges presented by fluctuating weather, which can mask the impact of conservation efforts and make long-term assessments challenging.

The implications of these findings are significant for both California and Iowa, two of the largest agricultural producers in the United States, as well as their broader regions including the corn belt. Both regions face heightened risks of nitrate contamination in their water supplies due to a combination of intensive farming practices and unpredictable weather

patterns. The Iowa Capital Dispatch recently noted, in a report this February, that Iowa is primed for a potential increase in stream pollution, particularly from agricultural runoff and fertilizer spills, further complicating the state's struggle to maintain water quality standards (<https://crops.extension.iastate.edu/encyclopedia/nitrogen-losses-after-heavy-rains>). An October report by Radio Iowa discussed the same phenomena. "As we're getting more extreme weather events, especially in the Midwest, that's liberating a lot of the things in the soil that are legacy pollutants," America's Watershed Initiative executive director Kim Lutz said. This pollution hurts fishing and tourism based industries, and costs communities a lot of money in drinking water treatment costs, Lutz pointed out. And U.S. Geological Survey hydrologist Steve Kalkhoff said "We do see that, you know, in the last three years, concentrations and loads were substantially less," adding that, "then again, in 2024 when we've had higher flow, you know, more normal rainfall, the concentrations have increased again."

And an August report

by the USDA entitled "Climate Change Impacts on Iowa Agriculture" reported an increased risk of both season flooding and drought, the two factors that lead to increased nitrate pollution. It also found that "with soils remaining above 50°F later into the fall season and potentially early in the spring, fields are prone to nitrogen loss and subsequent water quality impacts following nitrogen applications." The USDA also reported that the number of days with heavy precipitation has increased by 5% since 1979, and average annual temperatures have also risen, contributing to greater runoff and nutrient loss in agricultural regions ([https://www.climatehubs.usda.gov/sites/default/files/Climates%20Change%20Impacts%20on%20Iowa%20Agriculture\\_3.pdf](https://www.climatehubs.usda.gov/sites/default/files/Climates%20Change%20Impacts%20on%20Iowa%20Agriculture_3.pdf)).

The studies, taken as a whole, suggest that managing nitrate pollution will require more adaptive approaches that take into account the increased frequency of extreme weather events brought on by climate change. Otherwise, we will have to add groundwater and drinking water pollution to the many disastrous effects of extreme weather driven by climate change.

# Recounts requested in 3 Iowa legislative races, 1 congressional contest

*Robin Opsahl  
Iowa Capital Dispatch*

Three state legislative races are going to a recount as of Monday, the deadline for candidates to request a recount. One congressional candidate has also requested a recount.

Candidates had until 5 p.m. Nov. 18 to submit their requests for a recount – in state law, required within three days after a canvass, which was Friday for some counties.

Two of the races with contested results are for Iowa Senate seats. In Senate District 14, Republican challenger Mark Hanson announced Friday that he plans to seek a recount in his race against Sen. Sarah Trone Garriott, D-Waukee. Trone Garriott currently leads with 24 votes, and declared her victory with results canvassed Wednesday by the Dallas County Board of Supervisors.

"The canvass today reaffirmed what we saw on Election Night; our campaign has won and I am honored to have earned the votes to serve in the Iowa Senate for the next four years," Trone Garriott said in a statement. "The election is over and Dallas County residents have spoken. My

constituents have re-elected me to preserve our freedoms, make the cost of living more affordable, and fight for our public schools, and I'm ready to get back to work."

Sen. Nate Boulton, D-Des Moines, has also requested a recount in Senate District 20, where he is 44 votes behind Republican candidate Mike Pike.

In House District 98, GOP challenger Nathan Ramker requested a recount in his race against incumbent Rep. Monica Kurth, D-Davenport. Kurth currently leads with 45 votes.

The recounts requested will be conducted by a board consisting of a representative from each campaign as well as another neutral member agreed upon by both parties.

If the number votes separating the candidates is 50 votes or 1% or less than the total amount of votes cast, the state will pay for the cost of the recount. If the margin of victory is greater, the candidate requesting the recount is required to pay for the procedure.

The results of these recounts – even if seats flip from current results – will not impact control of the Legislature. Republicans maintained their trifecta in

the 2024 general election, maintaining their supermajority in the Iowa Senate and expanding to a supermajority in the Iowa House.

Bohannon seeks recount in 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District

There will also be a recount for the Iowa 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District race. Democrat Christina Bohannon announced Thursday that she was seeking a recount in all 20 counties for her race against U.S. Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks, who leads by 802 votes.

Miller-Meeks' campaign criticized the recount request, saying that "Bohannon and the Democrats remain election deniers" for not accepting the results.

"This is a delaying tactic to thwart the will of the people," Miller-Meeks' campaign said in a statement. "A recount won't meaningfully change the outcome of this race as the congresswoman's lead is mathematically impossible to overcome."

Read more from Robin Opsahl online at [IowaCapitalDispatch.com](https://IowaCapitalDispatch.com)

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## PUBLIC NOTICE CGD November 14, 2024 Claims

PUBLIC NOTICE CGD November 14, 2024 Claims		
<b>Clarion Goldfield Dows Community School District November 14 2024 Claims</b>		
Vendor Name		
Description..... Amount		
95 Percent Group LLC Virtual Training .....	360.00	
Access Systems Copier Coverage .....	5,785.61	
Ahlers & Cooney PC, Legal Services .....	167.50	
Airgas USA LLC Cylinder Rental.....	967.43	
Amazon Capital Services Books/Supplies .....	4,749.07	
Arnold Motor Supply Transport Supplies .....	446.79	
Bailey Pottery Equipment Corp. Table Pottery Wheel .....	641.85	
Brothers Market. Supplies/Snacks .....	406.64	
Business Card Bank of America Supt Travel-PLC.....	2,955.33	
C H McGuinness Company Repairs .....	998.30	
Calo Placement Tuition.....	5,175.00	
Card 3 Bank of America Custodial Parts/Supplies .....	2,548.70	
Card One Bank of America Conference/Supplies .....	475.91	
Carson-Dellosa Publishing Co., LLC Elem Supplies.....	14.94	
Central Iowa Distributing Custodial Supplies .....	3,553.00	
Central Lock Security Keys .....	76.00	
City Of Clarion Water/Sewer .....	5,209.10	
City Of Goldfield Water/Sewer .....	64.31	
Clarion Distributing Paper/Supplies .....	5,675.15	
Column Software PBC Legal Publications .....	316.50	
Comm 1 Network Inc Phones.....	853.93	
Crystal Clean Carpet Carpet Cleaning.....	504.71	
D.I.A.L./ Elevator Safety Bureau Inspections.....	835.00	
Demco, Inc. Library Supplies.....	58,553.53	
DHS Cashier 1 <sup>st</sup> FI DHS Medication .....	5,698.77	
Don's Pest Control Pest Control.....	177.00	
Donovan Group I Communications .....	2,500.00	
Eagle Building Supply, Inc Custodial Supplies.....	71.96	
Eagle Grove Community School Juv Court Officer.....	35,782.10	
Federal Fire Equipment Co. Inspections.....	189.00	
Francotyp-Postalia Postage Meter .....	59.85	
Freeze, Jay FB Official.....	130.00	
Goerish, Jon FB Official.....	150.00	
Gold-Eagle Cooperative Gasoline .....	7,543.77	
Iowa School Finance Information Services, Inc Background Checks/Workshop .....	874.00	
Iowa Specialty Hospital - Clarion - Physicals.....	1,074.00	
Jensen, Tanja Reimburse Travel .....	108.64	
Johnson, Daniel FB Official.....	150.00	
Johnstone Supply Custodial Supplies .....	38.64	
JW Pepper & Son Inc Instructional Supplies .....	993.39	
K.C. Nielsen, LTD. Equip Service .....	238.62	
Kemper, Thomas FB Official .....	130.00	
Learning Without Tears Elem Workbooks .....	353.38	
Lee, James FB Official.....	90.00	
Marni Moody Counseling and Consultation LLC SEL Professional Development.....	4,725.12	
Martin Brothers Distributing Co., Inc. Supplies/PS Snacks/Vets Meal.....	1,378.51	
Mc Graw Hill Elem Workbooks .....	173.98	
Medical Enterprises, Inc. Drug Screens/IDATP Fees.....	1,631.00	
Menards Ames Custodial Supplies .....	813.63	
Menards MC Custodial Supplies .....	715.31	
Meyers, Ken .....	FB Official	210.00
Midamerican Energy Electric .....	23,827.36	
Middleton, Amanda Reimburse PLC Travel.....	106.40	
Midwest Alarm Services Subscription Renewal .....	415.00	
Nitz, David FB Official .....	150.00	
North Central Iowa Vac Services. Custodial Services.....	1,242.50	
North Iowa Area Comm. College Bus Training .....	40.00	
Pearce, Brian FB Official.....	90.00	
Pump, Marty VB Official.....	125.00	
Quill_Corp Supplies.....	368.87	
Rasmussen, Connie VB Official.....	250.00	
Read Naturally, Inc. Elem Supplies .....	110.40	
Red River Press Inc ELLii Sub- scription.....	440.00	
RevTrak Processing Fee.....	711.10	
Rieman Music Instructional Supplies/Repairs.....	763.33	
Sam's Club MC/SYNCB Tech Supplies.....	76.70	
Scholastic Inc. Books/Supplies.....	716.09	
School Bus Sales Transport Supplies/Repairs.....	893.04	
School Specialty LLC Instructional Supplies .....	175.21	
Shred-it USA Shredding .....	208.07	
Solution Tree Inc. PLC Professional Development.....	5,680.00	
Stuck, Lisa Supplies .....	259.00	
Swanson, Lori .....	Reimburse PLC Travel.....	161.32
Sweetwater Education Technology Division. Elem Music Supplies .....	780.00	
T & S Sanitation Trash Collection.....	1,435.00	
T-Mobile Cell Phones.....	6,535.48	
Tesar, Mark VB Official.....	125.00	
Tew, Andrew Reimburse PLC Travel.....	147.58	
Timberline Billing Service LLC Medicaid Billing Service .....	588.45	
TMI Services Custodial Rental .....	642.00	
Urness Hardware Custodial/Tech/Transport Supplies.....	601.96	
VERIZON Cell Phones.....	467.86	
Visa - Card Two PLC/TAG Travel Supplies .....	642.67	
Visa Card Three PLC Travel .....	2,344.05	
Visa- AF Metro Fax.....	11.95	
Visa- Card One PLC Travel .....	4,211.77	
Vorrrie, Adam Reimburse PLC Travel.....	119.32	
W & H Cooperative Oil Co Propane .....	152.00	
Wayside Publishing HS Supplies .....	24.00	
West Music Co HS Instructional Supplies .....	62.95	
Wright Farm Services LLC Transport Repairs .....	727.60	
Yoder, Cory FB Official.....	210.00	
General Fund Total .....	\$165,479.00	
Amazon Capital Services Spanish Club Supplies.....	86.03	
ASPI Solutions, Inc. Bound Subscription.....	500.00	
Brothers Market .Concession/FFA Supplies .....	423.12	
Card One Bank of America Vocal Registration Travel .....	1,467.00	
Carder, Jared Reimburse Travel Expense .....	37.39	
CGD Music Boosters FB Concessions.....	3,668.39	
Champion Teamwear Cheer Uniforms.....	1,751.76	
Clarion Locker Concession Supplies .....	385.84	
Decker Sporting Goods FB Supplies .....	137.75	
Granzow, Joseph Hat Day Distribution.....	1,425.18	
Hawkeye State Scale Scale Certification .....	215.00	
Hewett Wholesale Inc Concession Supplies .....	698.66	
Imagine That! Homebase Tshirts .....	380.00	
Iowa HS Athletic Assoc. Student Senate Registration .....	100.00	
Iowa HS Music Assoc. All State Travel Expenses/Tickets .....	183.25	
Jostens FY25 Yearbook.....	1,977.60	
Klaver, Thomas Hat Day Distribution.....	1,425.18	
Martin Brothers Distributing Co., Inc. FFA/PH Supplies .....	428.72	
Meyer, Jeffrey Reimburse Travel Expense .....	198.24	
NCIBA Student Registration Fee.....	30.00	
Pepsi Beverages Co. Concession Supplies .....	746.65	
Pizza Ranch Concession Supplies .....	27.00	
Printing Services, Inc. Musical Posters .....	68.50	
Ryzer LLC Registration Fee .....	95.00	
Sam's Club MC/SYNCB Concession Supplies.....	72.02	
Stein, David MS Dance DJ .....	300.00	
VERIZON AD Cell Phone .....	35.01	
Visa - Card Two.Special Olympics Travel.....	187.24	
Visa Card Three FFA Travel .....	2,666.16	
Visa- Card One Student Senate Travel.....	346.35	
Wright County Humane Society MS Donation .....	250.00	
Activity Fund Total.....	\$20,313.04	
SFM Work Comp Payment .....	9,977.00	
Management Fund Total.....	\$9,977.00	
Goodwin Tucker Group Credit .....	(287.50)	
Capital Projects Fund Total .....	-\$287.50	
Access Systems Leasing Copier/Printer Lease .....	2,631.49	
Amplify Software Licenses .....	1,500.00	
Comm 1 Network Inc PRI .....	260.00	
Iowa Communications Network ICA Fee .....	11,127.89	
Iowa School Finance Information Services, Inc FY25 CFOM Renewal .....	2,000.00	
Johnstone Supply Building Repair .....	1,282.88	
K.C. Nielsen, LTD. Equip/Snow Broom.....	3,000.00	
King Construction & Overhead Door, Inc. Building Repairs .....	1,255.00	
Kluss, Dean Stump Removal.....	2,500.00	
Lexia Learning Systems LLC. Site License .....	10,500.00	
Mechanical Air Systems Company Building Repairs.....	1,025.44	
Midwest Alarm Services Alarm Service .....	765.00	
Neil Estrick Gallery MS Art Kiln.....	5,676.25	
North Central Iowa Service, LLC. Repairs .....	14,063.08	
Oldson's Inc. Service .....	7,456.00	
Rasmussen Lawn Care Spraying Service .....	2,917.50	
Savvas Learning Company LLC Student Licenses .....	169.40	
School Blocks/Website Annual Fee .....	2,457.00	
School Specialty LLC CMS Furniture .....	85.10	
Team Valley Wrestling Rental Fee .....	3,000.00	
Willey's Wood Shop Tree Removal .....	12,000.00	
PPEL Fund Total .....	\$85,672.03	
Anderson Erickson Dairy Co Dairy Products .....	7,067.96	
Bimbo Bakeries USA Bread Products.....	320.40	
Brothers Market Food.....	41.47	
Candelaria Garcia, Maria Snack Milk Reimbursement .....	45.00	
Clarion Distributing Nutrition Supplies .....	538.29	



# Church news

## CLARION AREA

**CLARION FIRST METHODIST CHURCH**  
201 3rd Ave. NE, Clarion, IA 50525  
Pastor Craig Luttrell  
515-532-2845  
website: www.clarion.church  
Church Office  
Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - Noon  
• Sunday, December 1  
No Sunday School  
10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
• Sunday, December 8  
Sunday School for all ages  
10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
• Sunday, December 15  
Sunday School for all ages  
10:00 a.m. Worship Service with Children's Christmas Program

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA**  
420 1st St NW, Clarion, IA  
Pastor Grant Woodley  
515-532-3440  
www.firstlutheranclarion.com  
"YOU are love, YOU belong, YOU are called, and YOU are gifted"  
• 9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Services

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL**  
121 3rd Avenue N.W., Clarion  
• Sunday, December 1  
9:00 a.m. Worship  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
420 North Main, Clarion  
Pastor Warren Curry  
515-532-3273  
http://clarionchurchofchrist.weebly.com  
Facebook Clarion Church of Christ  
9:00 a.m. Sunday School  
10:00 a.m. Worship, also live each Sunday on Facebook  
6:00 a.m. Tuesday Iron Man, Fellowship Hall, Church Building  
10:00 a.m. Wednesday, Weekly Prayer Time Fellowship Hall, Church Building  
Ongoing Bible Studies – times and locations vary; check for more information at the church office week.

**ST. JOHN CATHOLIC**  
608 2nd Ave. N.E., Clarion  
Father Jerry W. Blake, Pastor  
515-532-3586  
• Wednesday, November 27  
No Youth Faith Formation Classes  
7:40 a.m. Rosary at St. Francis, Belmont  
8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Francis, Belmont  
9:30 a.m. Sewing at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove  
• Thursday, November 28  
Thanksgiving  
Cluster Office Closed  
8:00 a.m. Mass at St. John, Clarion  
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Community Thanksgiving Dinner at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove  
• Friday, November 29  
No Weekday Mass  
• Saturday, November 30  
3:15 p.m. Rosary, A/B at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove  
4:00 p.m. Mass at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove  
7:15 p.m. A/B at St. John, Clarion  
8:00 p.m. Spanish Mass at St. John, Clarion  
Sunday, December 1  
7:15 a.m. A/B at St. John, Clarion  
8:00 a.m. Mass at St. John, Clarion  
9:45 a.m. A/B at St. Francis, Belmont  
10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Francis, Belmont  
7:00 p.m. Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena at St. John, Clarion  
• Monday, December 2

8:15 a.m. Rosary at St. Francis, Belmont  
12:00 p.m. Altar Society  
Christmas Potluck at St. John, Clarion  
• Tuesday, December 3  
5:00 p.m. Evening Prayer at ST. Francis, Belmont  
7:00 p.m. Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena at St. Francis, and Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove  
7:30 p.m. Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena at St. John, Clarion  
• Wednesday, December 4  
Youth Faith Formation  
7:40 a.m. Rosary at St. Francis, Belmont  
8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Francis, Belmont  
2:00 p.m. Mass at Rotary Senior Living, Eagle Grove  
6:30 p.m. Christmas Program at St. John, Clarion  
6:30 p.m. Adoration at St. Francis, Belmont and Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove  
7:00 p.m. Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena at St. Francis, Belmont and Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove  
7:30 p.m. Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena at St. John, Clarion

**UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
219 First Street N.W. Clarion  
515-532-2709  
• Sunday 9:00 a.m.  
• Sunday 10:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class  
• Wednesdays 6:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study  
• Saturdays 8:00 a.m. Men's Group

**THE LIGHTHOUSE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
Dana Wendel, Pastor  
1010 2nd Street SW; Clarion  
515-293-3003  
FREE Dinner will be on the first Sunday of the month.  
• Sunday  
9:30 a.m. Coffee Time  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
10:45 a.m. Worship  
• Tuesday  
11:00 a.m. Prayer Time  
• Iglesia del Nazareno  
6:00 p.m. Sabado  
6:00 p.m. Domingo  
Lay Minister Mynor  
515-851-9699  
Bienvenidos

**THE DWELLING PLACE**  
Pastor Greg Kinzle  
1204 Central Ave East  
515-532-0100 • www.thedwellingplaceiowa.com  
• Sunday  
10:00 a.m. Church Services  
• Wednesday  
No Wednesday evening Services

## GOLDFIELD AREA

**Rejoice Church: A Word and Spirit Church**  
Pastors Cris and Jennifer Decious  
Sunday worship 10:30 am  
www.Rejoicechurchiowa.com or watch us on facebook  
NEW LOCATION! We will begin IN PERSON WORSHIP services starting on DECEMBER 1, 2024 in our home worship room at 3320 210th St. Goldfield, IA 50542

**UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
220 E. Oak St., Goldfield, IA 50542  
515-825-3581  
goldfield.ups@gmail.com  
Facebook@goldpres  
"A Church for the Community"  
Office M-F 7:30 - 11:30 a.m.  
• Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.  
**LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Goldfield  
Pastor Ron Rasmussen  
• Sunday, December 1  
10:00 a.m. Worship Service and Fellowship Coffee in the

Fellowship Room.  
No Sunday School  
**GOLDFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
P.O. Box 214  
515-825-3754  
New Pastor: Pastor Laurene Banza  
We welcome all!  
Pastor Laurene is from the Democratic Republic of Congo Africa.  
• Sunday Services  
11:00 a.m. Worship time

**HOLMES EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Pastor George Lautner  
412-874-9878  
• Sunday, December 1  
9:30 a.m. Worship and Communion

**HOLMES BAPTIST CHURCH**  
2137 Hancock Avenue  
Pastor Cody Huber  
515-825-3110  
• Sundays  
9:30 a.m. Sunday school, 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, 5 p.m. Evening Service  
• Wednesdays  
Prayer Meeting, youth group, kids club (1st-6th grades - during school year)

**WRIGHT CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**  
1730 130th Street, Kanawha  
641-762-3947  
• Sunday, November 24  
9:30 a.m. Morning Worship, 10:30 a.m. Fellowship, 11 a.m. Sunday School, 6 p.m. Evening Worship

## ROWAN AREA

**UNITED CHURCH OF ROWAN**  
Pastor Nancy Hofmeister  
811 Pesch St., Box 38, Rowan  
• Sundays  
10:00 a.m. Worship  
• Thursday, December 12  
2:00 p.m. Women meet a week earlier than usual  
• Sunday, December 15  
All Committee reports are due, put in the office  
• Wednesday, December 18  
10:00 a.m. Council  
11:00 a.m. Property Maintenance and Memorial  
• Tuesday, December 24  
5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service with the Christmas Story, Carols, and Communion  
• Sunday, January 5  
Take down decorations after worship  
• Sunday, January 12  
Annual Meeting

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Missouri Synod  
Jct. Highway 69 & 3  
Pastor Mark Eichler  
• Sunday, December 1  
10:30 a.m. Divine Services, 11:45 a.m. Bible Study



## DOWS AREA

**SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH**  
109 N. Eskridge St., Dows  
Dows / www.sgcdows.com  
Doug Holmes, Pastor  
• Sunday, December 1  
10:15 a.m. Sunday school, Coffee, 11:15 a.m. Worship at First Presbyterian in Dows

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Dows, IA  
Masking is option  
• Sunday, December 1  
9:00 a.m. Conf/SS/Coffee  
10:00 a.m. Worship  
• Tuesday, December 3  
1:00 p.m. FLCW Quilters  
• Wednesday, December 4  
6:00 p.m. Council Meeting

**UNITED METHODIST & PRESBYTERIAN**  
Dows  
• Sunday, December 1  
10 a.m. Dows Joint Worship at Untied Methodist

**FIRST REFORMED**  
214 Brown St., Alexander  
• Sundays  
9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship

**IMMANUEL U.C.C.**  
204 E. South St., Latimer  
Joe Dunnwald  
• Sunday, December 1  
10:30 a.m. Worship

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN**  
304 W. Main, Latimer  
Travis Berg, Pastor  
• Sunday, December 1  
9 a.m. Worship, 10:15 a.m. ABC/Sunday School

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
Morgan, Lee Center, Bradford  
Erling Shultz, Pastor  
• Sunday, December 1  
8:30 a.m. Worship (B), 9:30 a.m. Worship (LC), 10:30 a.m. Worship (M)

**MISSIONARY ALLIANCE CHURCH**  
3rd & Lake Streets, Blairsburg, IA 50034  
• Sundays  
8:45 - 9:45 a.m. Café is open serving donuts, smoothies and coffee beverages  
9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
10:00 a.m. Nursery available for children up to age 2  
10:00 a.m. Kids Church for children 2 years to grade 5  
• Wednesday  
5:45 - 6:15 p.m. Café Open  
6:30 p.m. Youth  
6:30 p.m. Kids Club for children grades 1-5

**NAZARETH LUTHERAN**  
Coulter  
Pastors Tom Dettmer and Stanley Peterson  
• Sunday, December 1  
9:30a.m. Joint Sunday Worship Service with Holy Communion, Coffee to follow  
• Dinner is the first Sunday of the month

# The Clarion Wire

**\*\* HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**  
\*\* Look for changes in business hours for the next few days!  
\*\* What are you doing for Thanksgiving this year? Add a community Thanksgiving dinner (Thursday, November 28) in to your plans! First Lutheran Church in Clarion is hosting the community meal from 11 a.m. until noon. Committee is looking for help beginning at 10:30 a.m. until noon to be a greeter, pour coffee/milk/water, cut and serve desserts and pick up from the tables. Any questions contact Angela Charlson at patersondbla@hotmail.com .  
\*\* Clarion BLACK FRIDAY shopping on Friday, November 29, supported by the CDA; SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY is November 30!  
\*\* Buy a REAL Christmas tree from Aldrich Christmas Tree Farm between Rowan and Belmont! (Or maybe a wreath or porch pail !). Starting the day after Thanksgiving until Christmas Day from noon until dark. Vendor fair in the barn on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday - November 29, 30. and December 1! Lots of fun!  
\*\* Belmont's annual Parade of Lights is set for Friday, November 29, at 6:30 p.m. starting on Main Street. Theme is a 'Merry Musical Christmas', Pick your favorite Christmas song and join the fun!  
\*\* Dows Lions Soup Supper and vendors with Santa Claus is Saturday, November 30 soup 5 to 7 p.m. Santa at 6 p.m. Variety of Soups and sandwiches and dessert  
\*\* Clarion's Senior Citizens Center, Play '500 cards', the first and third Wednesday of each month; next ones are December 4 & 18; from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.  
\*\* CGD MS Holiday concert is on Thursday, December 5, 5th and 6th graders will perform at 6:30 p.m.; 7-8th graders at 7:30 p.m.. Both performances are in the new MS gym. Free to the public.  
\*\* Play BINGO every Friday at the Senior Citizens Center from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.  
\*\* Clarion retailers are putting together another "Jingle Jam" for Saturday, December 7. At the Heartland Museum 9 a.m. - noon. Retailers are setting up tables of \$5 items. Kids shop for their family. They get a gift bag to decorate for each gift. Santa will be there for pictures and hot cocoa.  
\*\* Help Rowan celebrate its Christmas on Saturday evening, December 7 - Christmas tree lighting, caroling, Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus, soup and hot dog meal!  
\*\* CGD After Prom Fundraiser on Sunday, December 8 at CGD High School. Lasagna Lunch 11 a.m.-1 p.m. (Free Will Donation). Professional Santa Pictures 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. (\$10 per pose). All the proceeds will

help fund the CGD After Prom event.  
\*\* First State Bank & Town & Country Insurance are conducting a FOOD DRIVE until Sunday, December 8! Bring non-perishable food items into the bank! Items will be given to the local food pantry!  
\*\* Grab your family, friends and neighbors and join Clarion First Methodist Church for 'Carols and Cocoa' on Sunday, December 8 at 6 p.m.. Let's join together as one and sing for all the world to hear!  
\*\* CGD HS Holiday Concert is on Monday, December 9 at 7 p.m. at the HS; music from the HS band and Choirs. Free to the public.  
\*\* First Lutheran Church FOOD PANTRY in Clarion is normally open on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month, which would be December 12 & 26. (Check to see if the pantry actually is open the day after Christmas!)

\*\* Breakfast with Santa event on Saturday, December 14 from 8:30-9:30 a.m. at Belmont's Jacobson elementary school lunch room; kids can meet Santa, eat some pancakes and make a ton of fun crafts.  
\*\* From Ali: "Get your tickets now for the 2024 Clarion Tour of Homes on Saturday, December 14; a fundraiser hosted by the Clarion Parks & Recreation committee. Begin at Casa del Taco for cocktails from 4-4:45 p.m. Home tours from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.. Afterwards, reconvene at Casa del Taco for the silent auction, home voting, and prizes!! Tickets are \$45 each and include the tour and appetizers provided at each home. Purchase tickets via cash or check at First State Bank or Italics Boutique or online via credit card at https://www.italicsboutique.com/products/clarion-tour-of-homes-tickets.  
\*\* Friday, December 20 join friends for the "Battle of Lip Sync Contest" at Iowa River Players theatre in Rowan, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Prizes and Fun! Tickets are \$17 in advance; \$20 at the door. For tickets or to participate, contact LuAnn at 319-231-7838!  
\*\* SANTA will be at Hard-ree on Saturday, December 21 from 9 - 11 a.m.  
\*\* AT THE CLARION THEATRE: Showing "Moana 2" (PG) on Friday - Sunday, November 29 - December 1 @ 7 p.m.; Sunday matinee, December 1 @ 2:30 p.m. (First of 2 weeks.)  
\*\* THANK YOU: To everyone who helped, or has helped make Holmes Christmas Club's annual auction a success! An event which has spanned parts of nine decades!



<p><b>Office:</b> <b>(563) 864-3333</b> <b>Cell:</b> <b>(563) 605-1078</b></p>	<p><b>Office:</b> <b>(563) 864-3333</b> <b>Cell:</b> <b>(563) 605-1078</b></p>		<p><b>Thanksgiving</b> As we celebrate Thanksgiving we should call to mind all that we have to be thankful for: our health, our friends and family, the food and drink that nature so bountifully provides, and perhaps even to be thankful for our material resources. Cars and houses make our lives more comfortable and it's also okay to be thankful for the money we have in the bank and our other resources. But we should also be thankful for what we don't have. Sometimes our possessions can be too much. The bigger house and our investments can become like albatrosses around our neck that do more to cause anxiety than to make us comfortable. Having a good job is something to be thankful for, but often we can be thankful for not having the boss's job. So this Thanksgiving, reflect on what you have to be thankful for, but also on the things that you are thankful for not having. -Christopher Simon</p> <p>Thurs. Nov. 28, 2024 First Reading: Hosea 2:14-20 Psalm: Psalm 103:1-13, 22 Epistle: 2 Corinthians 3:14 Gospel: Mark 2:13-22</p>	<p><b>Wright Choice</b> Chiropractic 920 Central Ave E Clarion 515-532-2425 www.mywrightchoice.com</p>	<p><b>Office:</b> <b>(563) 864-3333</b> <b>Cell:</b> <b>(563) 605-1078</b></p>	<p><b>BRIDGESTONE</b> <b>HANSON &amp; SONS</b> Tire and Auto Service 1407 Central Ave. East Clarion, IA 50525 Phone 515-532-2444 Fax 515-532-2299 www.hansontire.net Email: che_hanson72@yahoo.com</p>
<p><b>Office:</b> <b>(563) 864-3333</b> <b>Cell:</b> <b>(563) 605-1078</b></p>	<p><b>Office:</b> <b>(563) 864-3333</b> <b>Cell:</b> <b>(563) 605-1078</b></p>	<p><b>Office:</b> <b>(563) 864-3333</b> <b>Cell:</b> <b>(563) 605-1078</b></p>		<p><b>CAELH</b> Building Supply 204 E. Broadway St. Eagle Grove, IA.</p>	<p><b>Office:</b> <b>(563) 864-3333</b> <b>Cell:</b> <b>(563) 605-1078</b></p>	<p><b>FIRST CITIZENS</b> First Citizens Bank myfcb.bank</p>
<p><b>Office:</b> <b>(563) 864-3333</b> <b>Cell:</b> <b>(563) 605-1078</b></p>	<p><b>CLARION</b> WELLNESS &amp; REHABILITATION CENTER Caring Staff... Quality Rehabilitation 515-532-2893 110 13th Avenue SW Clarion, Iowa 50525</p>	<p><b>THRIFTY WHITE PHARMACY</b> Committed to Healthy Outcomes 210 North Main • Clarion 515-532-6626 Laura Phillips Pharmacy Manager</p>		<p><b>FIRST BANK</b> Serving You First www.firstiowa.bank Member FDIC</p>	<p><b>Iowa Specialty Hospital</b> Family Practice Clinic Clarion • 532-2836</p>	<p><b>Office:</b> <b>(563) 864-3333</b> <b>Cell:</b> <b>(563) 605-1078</b></p>
<p><b>Iowa Specialty PHARMACY</b> 215 13th Ave SW Clarion, IA 50525 515-532-2801</p>	<p><b>Office:</b> <b>(563) 864-3333</b> <b>Cell:</b> <b>(563) 605-1078</b></p>	<p><b>EWING</b> EMERGENCY DENTAL &amp; ORTHODONTIC CLINIC Michael Ewing Britt - 641-843-3839 Kanawha - 641-762-3211 Clarion &amp; Dows - 515-532-2233 Belmond - 641-444-3248 www.ewingfh.com</p>		<p><b>Stevenson Insurance Services</b> ABENS-MARTY-CURRAN AGENCY Trusted Choice Goldfield 515-825-3476</p>		<p><b>Comm1</b> The Local www.comm1net.net Phone, Video &amp; High Speed Internet All on a Fiber Optic Network! 641-762-3772   Kanawha, Iowa</p>



## Words of Wisdom

Last week's trivia questions:  
The movie "Planes, Trains and Automobiles" stars what two comedy actors trying to get home for the Thanksgiving holiday? Answer:  
Steve Martin and John Candy.



In the comic strip "Peanuts," what is the name of Lucy's younger brother and Charlie Brown's best friend, who often holds his security blanket and sucks his thumb, and believes the Great Pumpkin will appear every Halloween? Answer: Linus.

\*\*\*\*\*

This week's trivia questions:  
What U.S. state produces the most turkeys?  
What state consumes the most turkey every Thanksgiving?  
\*\*\*\*\*

Nov. 27 is National Jukebox Day, and Turtle Adoption Day; Nov. 28 is Thanksgiving, and National French Toast Day; Nov. 29 is Black Friday, and National Lemon Cream Pie Day; Nov. 30 is National Mason Jar Day, and Small Business Saturday; Dec. 1 is National Christmas Lights Day, and National Pie Day; Dec. 2 is World Pollution Prevention Day, and Special Education Day; Dec. 3 is Giving Tuesday, and World Pear Day.  
\*\*\*\*\*

This week is National Bible Week, and National Game & Puzzle Week.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Funny acceptance speeches from award winners Will Ferrell, after dropping and shattering his comedy award - "As I stare at this magnificent bust of Mark Twain, I am reminded of how humbled I am to receive such an honor and how I vow very much to take very special care of it."

Adam Sandler thanks his teachers - "While I might not remember all of your names, teachers, I remember you, because you're forever in my heart. Thank you so much, to the nice, short teacher with the weird glasses from kindergarten. Thank you to the librarian Mrs. Rotten Breath, to Mr. Big Bald Spot On the Side of Your Head, and to Mrs. Really Old Lady with the Bad Wig Who Died Halfway Through the Second Grade." Bill Murray refuses to thank anyone - "There are so many people trying to take credit for this, I wouldn't know where to begin."

Foreign actor Roberto Benigni, who speaks very little English - "Grazi, America, land of a lot of things." Jack Nicholson - "I'd like to thank my first acting coach, who told me I should try a different career."  
\*\*\*\*\*

The tradition of a football game being played on Thanksgiving began in 1876 with Princeton and Yale. The Detroit Lions pro football team has played almost every Thanksgiving since 1934, and the Dallas Cowboys have played almost every Thanksgiving since 1966.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Female turkeys cackle. Only male turkeys actually gobble, which is why they are aptly named "gobblers."  
\*\*\*\*\*

## Frasier/Canaan Fir, White Pine

**59.99** Open 1:00 to 5:00 AFTER Thanksgiving

Every Tree, Up To 9 Footers!  
Craft Fair First weekend • 8 exhibitors!

**ALDRICH**  
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sales@wrightcountymonitor.com

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**GET \$50**  
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**NOTICE**  
Please kindly note that the main staff of The Wright County Monitor works remotely and does not operate an office in Clarion.  
For direct communication, please contact Newspaper Editor and Writer Amanda Rink by phone/text at 515.364.2344 or by email at news@wrightcountymonitor.com.

## Obituaries

### Velma Irene Backes Butt 1934 - 2024

Velma Irene Backes Butt, a beloved mother, wife, sister and friend, passed away peacefully on November 20, 2024, at the age of 90. Funeral service was held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, November 23, 2024 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Alden with burial in Union Cemetery on the family farm southeast of Dows. Visitation was an hour before the service. Funeral arrangements were under the guidance of the Surls Funeral Home in Iowa Falls.

Velma was born on February 14, 1934, in the family home northeast of Luzerne IA, to Edward & Emma Backes. Velma was baptized and confirmed at St. John Lutheran Church in Keystone. She graduated from Blairstown High School in 1951.

In January 1961, mutual friends set her up on a blind date with Ivan Butt from Dows. They were engaged on New Years Eve 1961 and were married on September 22, 1962, in Keystone. They lived and farmed southeast of Dows until 2014 when they moved to Iowa Falls. In 2020 they moved to Brio of Johnston to be closer to their family. Together, they raised two children, instilling in them the same faith in God that guided their own life. Velma took pride in her family, always finding joy in family gatherings, holiday traditions, and the milestones of her children and family members.

Velma was an active member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Alden and the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. She enjoyed traveling to the annual conventions and retreats. Velma was known for her gentle spirit, warm smile, and boundless compassion. Throughout her life, she touched countless lives with her generosity and unwavering support. She was the heart of her family and community, always ready to lend a helping hand or offer a comforting word.

Velma was also very community minded. Throughout her life she gave her time to Franklin



County Pork Producers, Franklin County Cattlemen, Franklin County Farm Bureau Women, Franklin County 4-H and the Dows Historical Society. She spent many hours volunteering at the Dows Depot Welcome Center and enjoyed meeting and visiting with travelers from all 50 states, and many foreign countries that made their way to Dows each year.

Velma is survived by her loving husband of 62 years Ivan, her son, Brian and his wife Nan Boland of Polk City, her sisters, Alice Heitshusen of Williamsburg, Luella Scott of Mechanicsville, Frances Magdefrau of Belle Plaine, sister-in-law Ruth Noelck of Hampton and her nieces and nephews and their families, and her many friends. Preceding her in death were her parents, Edward & Emma Backes, sister Martha Lehrman, brother Franklin Backes, brother-in-laws, LaVern Meinberg, William Noelck, Melvin Lehrman, Edgar Heitshusen, John D. Scott and Don Magdefrau, nieces Gayle Lehrman and Jan Magdefrau, nephews Dean and Mark Heitshusen and her beloved son Jerry.

Velma leaves behind a legacy of faith, love and kindness. She will be deeply missed but fondly remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

The family is grateful to all of Velma's caregivers, especially the Brio of Johnston family who cared for Velma so graciously.

I have put my trust in the Lord God... Psalms 73-28b

In lieu of flowers the family kindly requests memorials be made to St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Alden, IA in her memory.

## Obituaries

### James "Jim" Redemske 1947 - 2024

James "Jim" Redemske, age 77 of Clarion, passed away on Saturday, November 16, 2024 at the Israel Family Hospice House in Ames, Iowa. Memorial service for Jim was held 11:00 AM Friday, November 22, 2024 at Immanuel Lutheran Church of rural Rowan, Iowa. Service were livestreamed via Lentz Funeral Home's website. Visitation was from 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM on Thursday, November 21, at Immanuel Lutheran Church of rural Rowan, Iowa. Services have been entrusted to Lentz Funeral Home of Algona.



James Howard Redemske, the son of Howard James and Leatha (Adams) Redemske, was born on November 11, 1947 in Algona, Iowa. Jim graduated from Burt High School in 1966. On August 20, 1966 Jim was united in marriage to the love of his life Loreli "Bootsie" Lavrenz at St. John's Lutheran Church in Burt. Jim had worked at Snap-On Tools and Hormel before becoming a licensed electrician and starting his own business, Jim's Electric. Later, Jim worked for the City of Burt before becoming the Public Works Director for the City of Clarion. Jim retired but still needed something to do, so he worked part time as a parts runner for Haggie Manufacturing.

Jim was a past member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Burt. After moving to Clarion he became a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Rowan, serving as an Elder. Jim was a Past President for the Iowa Rural Water Association, he was in the Lions Club, was a volunteer fireman and former Chief and a past member of the Burt Community School Board. He enjoyed being active in the communities he lived in and serving numerous Foster children with Bootsie. He was an Avid Hawkeye, Dallas Cowboy and Pittsburg Pirates fan. Jim loved attending his grandchildren

and great grandchildren's school activities and athletic events. He enjoyed playing slow pitch softball, bowling league, golf, hunting, fishing, watching Micah and the General race at the Kossuth County Speedway and tinkering in his man cave. One of his greatest accomplishments is achieving and maintaining 46 contented years of sobriety and a dedicated member of AA. Jim treasured spending time with his family - our family didn't always have it all together but together we had it all.

Left to cherish Jim's memory is his wife of 58 years, Loreli "Bootsie"; daughters, Angie (Brad) Rekward of Mitchellville and Annette (Rick Remus) Foertsch of Altoona; seven grandchildren, Chelsie, Billy, Jake, Brandon, Harlie, Ashley and Austin; six great grandchildren, Kash, Emme, Stormie, Bryor, Xzazier and Hayden; brothers, Chuck (Linda) Redemske of Algona and Donald (Jodi) Redemske of Kissimee, FL; a sister, Lee Ann Wolters of Holland, MI; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; a great grandson, Roland James Behle; and in-laws, Marge and Roland (Swede) Lavrenz.



## Monitor Memories

FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE WRIGHT COUNTY MONITOR  
1982 and 1947

### 44 Years Ago December 2, 1982

The Iowa Department of Social services announced the tenth distribution of cheese in a 14 county area around Mason City and Fort Dodge. Available for distribution are 99,360 pounds of cheese. The distribution will occur on Thursday, December 16. In Clarion, the distribution will be held from noon to 4 p.m. at the St. John's Catholic School. In Dows, the cheese may be obtained at the Community Building, and in Rowan, the distribution will be held at City Hall.

As temperatures continue to drop toward what some weather prognosticators say will be one of the coldest winters in many years, parents and children will find themselves locked in a battle with a familiar winter nemesis—cabin fever. But now parents and their children can rest assured—The Spinning Wheels is just one way that area families can battle the annual case of cabin fever.

Nobody can rightly accuse the Clarion Cowboys of carefully wading into their 1982-83 wrestling campaign. The highly touted Cowboys take a big plunge Saturday when they make their debut in the Eagle Grove invitational.

### 77 Years Ago November 27, 1947

Clarion Public library observed national Book week last week, during which many new books were on display, consisting of books about aviation, travel, stories of other countries and fiction. Two hundred children visited the library during the week. Miss Alice Moore of Des Moines, formerly of Dows, has been hired as Wright county public health nurse. She will begin her duties January 1. She fills the vacancy when Miss Wilma Soehren resigned and left for Minnesota in August. Miss Moore is now employed in the city health department in Des Moines.

Winter weather has had tight grip on Wright county the past week, with the mercury dropping down near-zero Saturday night, and more snow falling Friday and Sunday nights. The snow which fell the previous week disappeared rapidly under Thursday's rain, so that the ground was practically clear Friday. But another snowy period set in Friday night, resulting in a fall of about three inches of wet snow. This packed on streets and at some points on highways, making travel precarious in places.



## Obituaries

### Dennis Wesenberg

Dennis Wesenberg, 82, of Dows, passed away on Sunday, November 24, 2024 at Scenic Manor in Iowa Falls. Funeral services will be 1:30 p.m. on Friday, November 29, 2024 at the First Lutheran Church in

Dows with a time of fellowship to follow. Visitation will be an hour before the service. Funeral arrangements are under the guidance of the Surls Funeral Home in Iowa Falls.



### Protect Your Family and You from the Flu!

**Influenza (flu)** is an illness that infects the nose, throat and lungs.

**Children younger than 5, people 65 and older,** and those with certain chronic conditions are at higher risk of flu complications.

**Protect yourself** from the flu by washing your hands and avoiding close contact with those who are sick. There are also several flu vaccines available, including shots and nasal sprays.



Ask your family's healthcare providers about flu prevention



**Opinion:**

**Securing Disaster Relief for Iowa**

Randy Feenstra,  
Representative IA-04

Earlier this year, our communities were hit by severe floods and powerful tornadoes that

devastated homes, farms, businesses, hospitals, and schools. Crops were damaged, personal property was destroyed, and vehicles were totaled. Months later, families are still picking up the pieces and working to rebuild. But, even amid unthinkable tragedy, Iowans rallied around our neighbors to lend a helping hand because that's just how we do things in Iowa. We help where we can and support our fellow Iowans when they need it most.

Of course, cleanup after major disasters is not only time-consuming and physically and emotionally draining, but it is also costly. This year alone, more than 5,500 homes were impacted by tornadoes and floods in Iowa, approximately \$343 million in infrastructure-related damage was reported, and we experienced a 1,000-year rainfall event and the most tornadoes ever registered in a single year in our state. Shortly after the storms, I surveyed damage from the floods and the tornadoes with Governor Reynolds to assess the immediate needs of our communities. As a result, I called on

President Biden to approve major disaster declarations for many impacted counties in our district so that vital funding could be unlocked, and our communities could begin the process of recovering and rebuilding. However, due to destructive hurricanes in the Southeast and fires out West, funds dedicated for disaster relief have since been depleted, which has stalled recovery efforts.

President Biden recently requested nearly \$100 billion from Congress to address ongoing recovery needs nationwide, and I will be working day and night to ensure that Iowa receives its fair share of the pie. As the situation stands now, about \$24 billion has been requested for the USDA so that our farmers who suffered crop losses and other damage can get back on their feet and maintain some semblance of financial stability. The other chunk of funding would help rebuild vital infrastructure, support low-interest loans for small businesses, offer homeowners and renters financial support, and provide our local communities with the resources that they need to make important repairs and other investments. A few months back, I also helped send a letter to the Biden administra-

tion urging for funding to be fully replenished for disaster loans administered through the Small Business Administration so that our main-street businesses can keep their doors open and employees on payroll. As negotiations begin, I will do everything in my power to deliver relief to Iowa and support our communities that were crushed by recent storms.

Iowans who need assistance with disaster recovery or have any questions can visit my Natural Disaster Resource Center on my website at Feenstra.House.Gov to find more information or call my office at 202-225-4426 to speak directly with a member of my staff. I also encourage people to contact FEMA directly by phone at 1-800-621-3362 or online at www.disasterassistance.gov to get their questions answered.

Iowans are no strangers to severe weather. When we get knocked down, we get back up stronger than before, and we move forward. My promise to Iowa and the 4th Congressional District is that I will work to secure the disaster funding that our families, farmers, businesses, and local communities need. Just like we've done time and time before, we will recover and rebuild together.

**Thune, Grassley, and Ernst hold the power to stop Trump's Problematic Nominations**

Robert Leonard, *Deep Midwest: Politics and Culture* and Andrew Green, *American Politics: Views from the Upper Midwest*

The election of South Dakota's Senator John Thune as Senate majority leader is one of the few bright spots for our democracy as we move into the second presidency of Donald Trump.

Trump will have vast powers as he takes over in January, with Republicans holding the House, the Senate, and a compliant Supreme Court that recently granted him immunity from crimes he might commit while in power.

But that's not enough for Trump. He's nominating people for cabinet positions that are not only unqualified, they could prove to be a danger to the health and safety of the American people, our alliances abroad, and our democracy. Their only qualification is loyalty to Trump the man, not the Constitution of the United States.

Matt Gaetz, nominated to lead the Department of Justice, was recently investigated by that department, and remains under investigation for allegedly having sex with a 17-year-old girl, as well as facing allegations of illegal drug use.

Tulsi Gabbard, nominated to be the director for National Intelligence, has no intelligence experience and has suspect relationships with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, among other issues.

Robert F. Kennedy Jr., nominated to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, is a vaccine denier. Fox News Weekend host Pete Hegseth, nominated to be the Secretary of Defense, has no experience in any administrative role and would be asked to administer the largest and most complex organization in the world — the Pentagon. He also has tattoos linked to white nationalism, and says the military is "woke" and women shouldn't serve in combat.

This is just the tip of the iceberg of problems with these nominees. It's unlikely any of them could pass a standard FBI background check, which is precisely why Trump doesn't want the background checks to happen.

These nominations should be troubling to Americans regardless of ideological worldview or party identification. However, pushback against the incoming administration is primarily coming from politicians in the Democratic Party and progressive activists. Republicans in the Senate, including incoming Leader Thune and our senators, Chuck Grassley and Joni Ernst, should also feel the need to challenge actions that run counter to the Constitution and accepted political norms in Washington.

In fact, what Eliot Cohen, professor emeritus at Johns Hopkins and former counselor to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, wrote in *The Atlantic* in the early days of the first Trump administra-

tion is still applicable today: "For the community of conservative thinkers and experts, and more importantly, conservative politicians, this is a testing time. Either you stand up for your principles and for what you know is decent behavior, or you go down, if not now, then years from now, as a coward or opportunist."

While a few courageous Republicans will likely stand up and publicly oppose the president-elect, it is time for Republicans who oppose government overreach and political cronyism to take a stand and ask our Republican elected officials to use the institutions of government to check the president-elect.

When the Constitution was drafted in 1787, the delegates in Philadelphia grappled with the issue of a chief executive. The framers desired to create an independent executive that would not evolve into an authoritarian presidency. As a result, they created an executive with limited enumerated powers that was subject to checks and balances bestowed upon the Congress and the federal courts, including the advice and consent powers over presidential appointments.

As James Madison wrote in *Federalist #51* in 1788, "In framing a government which is to be administered by men over men, the great difficulty lies in this: you must first enable the government to control the governed; and in the next place oblige it to control itself."

The structural checks in the proposed Constitution, as Madison argued, were the institutions that would serve to prevent one branch of the government from usurping the power of the other branches, including the president from the legislative or judicial branches. The issue today is one of implementation of the framer's vision. Our Constitution is not a self-executing document but relies upon elected and appointed officials at the federal and state level to execute its provisions. In other words, if the Congress or the courts fail to check the president, who will?

So why do Republicans who fundamentally disagree with abdicating their advice and consent powers need to act now? The answer is grounded in changes to the Senate rules over the last decade or so. Opposition Democrats make up a minority in both houses of Congress, including in the Senate where Republicans will hold 53 seats. Historically, the minority party could use the filibuster as leverage to formally object to presidential appointments. However, in the absence of the filibuster, four Republicans would need to vote with the entire Democratic caucus to stall an executive appointment or prevent recess appointments from being made.

Leader Thune can and should, for the sake of the health and safety of our people, and our democracy, do what the Constitution demands. Hopefully, he will find allies in Sens. Chuck Grassley and Joni Ernst. Grassley, incoming chair of the Judiciary Committee,

likely won't abide someone like Matt Gaetz. We suspect neither of them will want to put the public health in danger with a Kennedy appointment, or our national security at risk with the Gabbard and Hegseth appointments. And we suspect that Ernst, a combat veteran and member of the Armed Services Committee, might want to have a word or two with Hegseth about the important roles women play in combat in the modern world.

The framers of the Constitution never intended for recess appointments to be used as a way to bypass the advice and consent powers granted to the Senate. Recess appointments were intended to be a temporary way in which a president could fill vacancies in the executive branch when the Senate was in recess and the logistics of traveling to the Capitol were far more complicated than they are today. Even so, Thune has said he would agree to recess appointments. Ernst has said recess appointments should be considered. However, Grassley opposed recess appointments made by President Obama.

By choosing to rubber stamp these unqualified and potentially dangerous nominees either through regular order or by deferring to Trump and allowing recess appointments, Thune, Grassley, Ernst, and the rest of the Republican members of the Senate would be choosing to treat the appointment of these problematic nominees as the only path forward as they work to implement Trump's agenda. But they are not mutually exclusive. There are certainly plenty of conservative Republicans out there who would bring significant experience to the executive branch who could advance the Trump agenda while not posing a potential danger to our democracy and political system.

So ultimately, Thune, Grassley, and Ernst have a choice to make. Is their loyalty to one man, Donald Trump, or is it to the Constitution, the American people, and our democracy? And as to their legacy — do they want to be remembered as "cowards or opportunists" who sold us all out in their quest to maintain favor with the incoming president? Or do they want to be remembered as heroes who adhered to the Constitution and protected the separation of powers and prerogatives of the Senate?

Our nation and our allies are watching.

*Robert Leonard's column appeared originally in "Deep Midwest: Politics and Culture." It is republished here through the Iowa Writers' Collaborative. Editor's note: Please consider subscribing to the collaborative and its member writers to support their work. Andrew Green's blog, American Politics: Views from the Upper Midwest, is on Substack.*

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**CGD SPORTS**

(Photos: Taylor Smith)


**SENIOR SPORTS SPOTLIGHTS**



**Jordyce Duncalf**  
**Favorite memory:** winning two trophies at state dance last year  
**Future plans:** either study psychology or secondary education at UNI or Buena Vista  
**Other sports/hobbies:** golf, softball, student council, TAG, NHS, wrestling cheer, studio dance, Spanish Club, FFA



**Shelby Warnke**  
**Favorite memory:** Dane Friesleben opening the gym door with his head after falling in P.E.  
**Future plans:** go to ISU for early childhood education  
**Other sports/hobbies:** volleyball, softball, FFA, Spanish Club



**Elliot Ennis**  
**Favorite memory:** Playing basketball at Wells Fargo Arena.  
**Future plans:** attend college with a math major  
**Other sports/hobbies:** basketball, track, Spanish Club, NHS  
 Ennis also qualified for the Iowa Girls Coaches' Association Academic All-State Volleyball Award. To qualify, a player must be a senior with at least a 3.85 GPA and a minimum ACT Score of 27. Elliot holds a 4.0 GPA and scored a 31 on her ACT.

**North Central Conference Marks 100 Years**

In November of 1924, Superintendents from Algona, Clarion, Eagle Grove, Hampton, Humboldt, and Webster City met in Eagle Grove where an official agreement was reached to form a new athletic activity conference, initially called the "North Central Six". Although the first trophies awarded were engraved "North Central Six", over the following months, the word "Six" was occasionally omitted, leading to the permanent name becoming simply the "North Central Conference".

The idea of a new competitive grouping appears to have been hatched a month earlier, in October of 1924, when the Northern Iowa Electric Company of Humboldt offered to present a championship trophy to the school whose basketball team earned the "highest standard" in the upcoming 1924-25 season. Five of the six original NCC members were included in this challenge, with only Hampton omitted. A month later, Hampton was included in the Superintendent's

November gathering at Eagle Grove where the conference was officially formed. Interestingly, one of the first decisions made was to issue a football championship trophy, retroactively, to the school with the highest winning percentage in the then all-but-completed 1924 season.

Initial activities sponsored by the NCC in 1924-25 were football, boys basketball, and boys track and field. Over the years, fifteen other sports have been added, with Girls Wrestling becoming

a new conference sport this year. NCC champions are now crowned in Volleyball, Softball, and Baseball, along with Girls and Boys Cross Country, Wrestling, Basketball, Track, Golf, Tennis, and Soccer. Current NCC members are: Algona, Clarion-Goldfield-Dows, Clear Lake (joined in 1936), Hampton-Dumont-CAL, Humboldt, Iowa Falls-Alden (joined in 1934), St. Edmond (joined in 1993), and Webster City. Charles City will become a transitional member of the NCC in 25-26.

**Festive After Prom Fundraiser!**



**What: Lasagna Lunch & Pictures with Santa**  
**When: Sunday, December 8, 2024 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**  
**Where: CGD High School**

Support CGD's After Prom while enjoying a delicious lasagna lunch and capturing magical holiday moments with Santa! This family-friendly fundraiser is the perfect way to kick off the holiday season while contributing to a great cause.

**Middle Schoolers Battle In Hampton**

On Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, Cowboy wrestlers had their first matches of the year in Hampton. Five other North Central Conference schools were in attendance, and Clarion-Goldfield-Dows edged out the competition by a score of 154-98.

In Round 1, Kendrick Phetxoumphone won a 6-5 decision for CGD. Blaine Thompson won by fall over a Clear Lake wrestler, and Dracyn Morgan won by fall in 21 seconds. Ryan Nolan and Tate Jass also won by fall in less than a minute, and Zane Kiefer won by technical fall. Tucker Morrical won a 17-9 major decision, and

Jared Hernandez won by fall. Jackson Baldwin and Preston Gnieddecki both won their matches by fall.

Cael Butler, Paxton Lingenfelter, Jackson Sly, Ryan Nolan, Blaine Thompson, Booker Lingenfelter, Easton Buhr, Reed Campbell, Paxton Lingenfelter, Jared Hernandez, Josh Haunstein, Jackson Baldwin, and Maverick Corrow all picked up victories for the Cowboys in their Round 2 bouts.

In the final round, Kendrick Phetxoumphone won by fall over a Webster City wrestler. Booker Lingenfelter won by fall in 27 seconds, and Dracyn Morgan won by fall in 1:51. Jackson Baldwin, Kohen

Langfitt both won by fall, and Reed Campbell came out victorious in a 1-0 decision. Easton Buhr picked up his second win of the day after pinning a Hampton-Dumont-CAL wrestler.



**Wright County Farm Bureau announces scholarships for graduating seniors**

The Wright County Farm Bureau board of directors is pleased to announce the availability of three \$500 scholarships for graduating seniors who plan to pursue higher education in the fall of 2025. These scholarships are open to students regardless of their chosen college or area of study. However, eligibility requires that the students' parents be members of the Wright County Farm Bureau.

In addition to the local scholarships, one application will be selected to advance to the Iowa Farm Bureau for consideration for one of 27 \$2,500 renewable scholarships. Interested students should apply through the online Iowa Farm Bureau portal at [www.iowafarmbureau.com](http://www.iowafarmbureau.com) under the Member Benefits section. For any questions regarding the application process and requirements,

please email [wright.county@ifbf.org](mailto:wright.county@ifbf.org) or call 515-532-3280.

The application deadline is Wednesday, January 29, 2025. Please note that applications will only be accepted online through the Iowa Farm Bureau portal.

For more information, please contact: Wright County Farm Bureau email: [wright.county@ifbf.org](mailto:wright.county@ifbf.org) or call 515-532-3280

**City of Eagle Grove Approves Rec Center Lease**

Edward Lynn, Eagle Grove Eagle

The City Council approved a resolution to execute a lease agreement for space in the Eagle Grove Recreation Center, in an amount not to exceed \$360,000 over ten years. This decision sparked debate among council members. Councilmember Tony Axtel raised concerns, stating, "Financially, for the people of Eagle Grove, there is a cheaper way to go." He argued that other facilities, like the city's current buildings, could suffice for storage needs.

Councilmember Denny Vandewater supported the lease, emphasizing the need to finish the recreation center and pointing out the significant investment already made by the city. "I want to give them every opportunity we can to make a go of it," Vandewater said, adding that he would not support additional city

funds going into the project in the future.

One resident, Richard Cahalan, spoke at length to express his consternation with the Rec Center process. "There's been no notice of any plans for free use of the facility by anybody," Cahalan said, expressing his view that the reliance on paid memberships and other costs may make the rec center inaccessible for some local families. Cahalan also expressed his concern that there were other things, like streets, that should be spent on instead.

Councilman Vandewater spoke to Cahalan's concerns, saying, "I do respect what Dick said about streets aren't good, maybe the sewers, this and that, but then we're working on it every year. We're doing infrastructure and we're doing street improvements, but it just doesn't happen to be necessarily on those spots. And you mentioned,

it's a big city, we can only use so much at a time, so we're not neglecting those things in place of supporting the Rec Center."

City Provides Limited Guarantee for Rec Center Loan

The council approved a credit backstop agreement involving a limited guarantee of \$350,000 for a \$1.2 million loan to complete the recreation center. City Administrator Bryce Davis clarified that this agreement is a pledge rather than a direct payment, intended to support the center if they are unable to meet loan payments.

"This is only a pledge. If there's ever a notice to cure from the bank, they will have the ability to draw on this line of credit," Davis said. The intent is to create financial stability for the rec center while ensuring no immediate outflow of funds from the city.

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## Iowa's busiest deer seasons are almost here

Iowa's most popular deer hunting seasons are just around the corner, when roughly 100,000 hunters take to the timber for the long-awaited gun seasons.

Iowa's first gun season is Dec. 7-11. Second gun season is Dec. 14-22.

Last year, hunters reported around 60,000 deer during these two seasons, which is more than half of the total deer harvested for all seasons, and wildlife experts are forecasting a similar harvest.

So far this fall, youth, disabled hunter, early muzzleloader and archery hunters have reported more than 25,000 deer through the harvest reporting system, which is about the five-year average.

"We've had a strong harvest in Eastern Iowa, but the declining populations in Western Iowa has impacted hunting opportunity and led to an overall lower harvest," said Jace Elliott, state deer biologist with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The 2024 harvest to date is about six percent behind the 2023 harvest.

Archery season got off to a slow start due to summer temperatures extending into early October but harvest has been strong as the calendar turned to November. The long-range forecast calls for above normal temperatures extending into middle December.

"More hunters participate in cooler temperatures," Elliott said. "Cold weather puts deer on their feet and hunters in the woods."

The gun seasons have been traditionally associated with groups of hunters walking through the timber, pushing deer towards other members of the hunting group, but results of the recently completed deer hunter survey found that gun season hunters are divided evenly in how they pursue the deer.

About half participate in traditional deer drives, while the other half prefer to hunt from stationary position. The deer hunter survey found that overall, 80 percent of respondents indicated they are satisfied with the overall deer hunting experience, citing the social aspect of the hunting groups and the opportunity to put deer meat in the freezer as two reasons they hunt.

### Main beam antler measurement

This is the second year the Iowa DNR is requiring



hunters to include the main beam antler measurement when reporting their deer.

"Last year, for the first time, we could estimate the percentage of yearling bucks as part of the harvest based on the antler measurement. There was a strong variation across counties in Iowa where some counties had 50 percent of their harvest consisting of yearling bucks, compared to other counties where they were 20 percent," Elliott said.

Statewide, yearling bucks made up 38 percent of the total buck harvest.

### Hemorrhagic disease

Iowa experienced another outbreak of hemorrhagic disease with 93 counties reporting deer mortality. Hemorrhagic disease tends to affect deer in Iowa between late summer and early fall, though outbreak severity can vary from year to year. Hunters and landowners may discover multiple deer carcasses on a property, specifically near a water source, during these months as a result of hemorrhagic disease.

### There is no effective treatment or known prevention for wild deer.

"Central Iowa has been the most impacted to date, with Guthrie County reporting the highest deer mortality," Elliott said. Western Iowa from Lyon County to Monona County have also reported high deer mortality, along with a few Eastern Iowa counties.

"The disease doesn't impact counties equally, and local deer harvest often lags slightly following outbreaks due to loss of opportunity," he said. "Populations often recover a few years following the disease, however, in Western Iowa, it may take more time due to an already

limited population. As we continue to monitor the effects of this year's outbreak on county deer populations, hunters in some areas may see responsive regulatory changes in the next hunting season. However, hunters should always remember that the decision to pull a trigger is their own and populations are sensitive to doe harvest."

In Western Iowa, the DNR has taken steps to recover the deer herd by reducing or eliminating county specific antlerless only deer licenses, and adding six counties to the list where hunters in the first gun season are limited to bucks only.

"We've had almost 2,000 dead deer reported across the state with nearly 900 entries coming through the new online reporting option," Elliott said.

The DNR rolled out a webpage that allowed Iowans to report finding dead deer to provide a better picture of the extent that hemorrhagic disease has impacted the deer in a given year. Go to <https://www.iowadnr.gov/Hunting/Deer-Hunting/Deer-Health> then click on Seasonal Diseases.

Identifying hemorrhagic disease is pretty straightforward: mortalities occur between July and September, sometimes later during unseasonably warm weather; more than one deer carcass is found, and carcasses are found near a water source.

### Virtual meeting updating status of chronic wasting disease

The Iowa DNR is holding a virtual public meeting on chronic wasting disease at 7 p.m., on Dec. 5. There is no cost to attend. To register, visit: <https://bit.ly/CWD120524>.

Staff with the Wildlife Bureau will provide an update on the science of chronic wasting disease, status in Iowa, and current management efforts. Participants have the opportunity to ask questions live or in the chat. Staff will answer as many questions as time allows.

Media Contact: Jace Elliott, State Deer Biologist, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, 515-249-7056.

## Wright County 4-H Awards Night Highlights



The Wright County 4-H program celebrated its annual awards night in recognition of outstanding achievements.

### County Council Awards

- Rookie of the Year Award: Keegan Eientrager
- Butterfly Award: Kali Wharton
- Wise Owl Award: Harley Charlson
- Cheerleader Award: Belle Wharton
- Yes Man Award: Owen Sweeney
- Big Brother Award: Quinn Whaley
- Handy Helper Award: Hannah Wharton
- Silly Goose Award: Logan Legleiter
- Most Competitive Award: Ethan Schreiber
- Always 100% Award: Lea Charlson
- Record Book Completion Award

Recipients: Lea Charlson, Harley Charlson, Ethan Schreiber, Olivia Holmes, Ciaran Holmes, Hannah Wharton, Samantha Seaba, Ember Howell, Jack Schreiber, Logan Legleiter, Owen Sweeney, Tate Jackson, Robert Nastruz, Jacob Wharton, Caleb Seaba, Lola Melendrez, Gracyn Schmelling, Zion Marshall, Kayleigh Marshall, Belle Wharton, Kali Wharton, Adelynn Howell.

### Star Award

Awarded to: Lola Melendez-Zeiger, Hannah Wharton, Jacob Wharton, Zion Marshall, Robert Nastruz, Ciaran Holmes.

### Achievement Award

Recipients: Kayleigh Marshall, Caleb Seaba, Samantha Seaba, Lea Charlson, Harley Charlson, Owen Sweeney, Logan Legleiter, Gracyn Schmeling, Ethan

Schreiber, Kali Wharton, Belle Wharton, Ember Howell, Adelynn Howell, Olivia Holmes, Tate Jackson, Jack Schreiber.

### Project Awards

- Junior Project Awards
- Olivia Holmes: Rabbit, Beef, Visual Arts, Food & Nutrition, Poultry, Sewing & Needle Arts, Clothing & Fashion, Horticulture, Communications
- Ciaran Holmes: Rabbit, Visual Arts, Food & Nutrition, Clothing & Fashion, Woodworking
- Lola Zeiger: Rabbit, Beef, Visual Arts, Food & Nutrition, Pets
- Zion Marshall: Beef, Horticulture
- Kayleigh Marshall: Beef, Clothing & Fashion, Horticulture
- Jack Schreiber: Photography, Food & Nutrition
- Gracyn Schmeling: Communications
- Intermediate Project Awards

Recipients: Lea Charlson: Rabbit, Food & Nutrition, Dog, Animal Science

Ethan Schreiber: Beef, Food & Nutrition, Photography, Crop Production, Horticulture

Samantha Seaba: Communications

### Senior Project Awards

- Harley Charlson: Clothing & Fashion, Communication, Photography, Swine, Animal Science
- Logan Legleiter: Rabbit
- Owen Sweeney: Rabbit
- Kali Wharton: Clothing & Fashion, Rabbit, Visual Arts, Woodworking
- Club Awards
- Lake Clovers
- Outstanding Junior: Kayleigh Marshall, Gracyn Schmeling
- Club Leadership Award:

Lea Charlson, Belle Wharton

Northeast Wright (N.E.W)

• Outstanding Junior: India Ostendorf

Wright County P.I.G.

• Outstanding Junior:

Avyn Morgan

• Club Leadership Award:

Randi Rae Anderson, JD

Morrical, Ashlynn Smith,

Cooper Noshush

Wright Warriors

• Outstanding Junior:

Jack Schreiber

• Club Leadership Award:

Ethan Schreiber, Reece De-

muth, Quinn Whaley

Special Honors

• Honorary 4-H Member:

Leroy Jensen

• Alumni 4-H Member:

Lillian Swanson

Senior Awards

• Agriculture Award:

Owen Sweeney

• Achievement Award:

Logan Legleiter

• Long-Term Record

Keeping: Harley Charlson

Graduating 4-H Members

Congratulations to: Belle

Wharton, Harley Charlson,

Owen Sweeney, Madison

Ingebritson, Jacob Whar-

ton, Randi Rae Anderson,

Makayla Beisel, Tate

Jackson, Kira Ricke, Caleb

Seaba.

A special thank you to our

guests:

• Summer Intern: Bailey

Heuton

• Wright County Fair

Manager: Trish Rosandal

• State Council Representa-

tative: Sophia Niebe

Lastly, thank you to the

County Teen Council for

presenting the program

and Gracyn Schmeling for

leading the 4-H pledge.

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Several soups, desserts, and refreshments. This is a Freewill Donation event. Also, there will be some local vendors.



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