

CGD Faces Budget Struggles Amid State Funding and Teacher Pay Talks

Amanda Rink, Editor

The Clarion-Goldfield-Dows School Board met Thursday, February 13 at 4 P.M. The district's financial outlook was a key topic, especially concerning impending legislation.

The board received the first proposal from the Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Education Association (CGDEA), which requested a 5% increase in the total dollar amount for teachers, with no other changes to contracts or the staff handbook. The association is open to discussion on how the increase will be distributed among licensed staff, to ensure that "everyone is taken care of from 0-25 years," according to Loren Lindaman with the CGDEA Bargaining Team.

In terms of the district's finances, Board Secretary Anita Frye provided a detailed initial budget for the board to review. The district is not expecting any new money coming in, with management funds needing to increase due to rising insurance costs. The district will need an additional \$250,000 in the management fund compared to last year in response.

The final budget will be proposed at the first public hearing on March 27 at 4:00 P.M. at the district office. With the district facing rising costs and limited new funding, the conversation turned to how pending state legislation could further impact CGD's financial outlook.

The board discussed concerns over how pending state legislation could impact the district's budget. One of the main issues is the 2.25% State Supplemental Aid (SSA) increase proposed by Iowa Legislators for fiscal year 2026 and a senate study bill that would require a base minimum pay for teachers across the state.

Frye expressed concerns that the percentage would not be enough to keep up with rising costs, including the requirements for minimum salaries.

"If the district automatically agreed to the 5% increase the CGDEA requested, the 2% SSA would leave the district almost \$200,000 short in meeting that request—just for certified staff," Frye explained to The Wright County Monitor. "There would still need to be an increase in wages for the rest of the staff for FY26. Additionally, while some one-time state funding has been allocated to help meet the new minimum salary requirements, it is not distributed equally among districts and does not provide a long-term solution for covering these higher wages in the future."

Senate Bill 1100 proposed a new minimum salary requirement for Iowa teachers. Under the bill, teachers with at least 12 years of experience would earn a minimum of \$62,000 a year. Retired teachers who are returning to the classroom after a "bona fide retirement" would earn at least \$50,000. "First-year teachers, including those under the threshold right now will make the minimum of \$50,000.00 starting July 1, 2025," Frye explained further.

While the bill aims to improve teacher retention, it raises concerns about long-term funding.

The state sends one-time payments to ensure staff are at a higher wage, but districts are then left wondering how they will sustain these salaries in the future.

Frye noted that under the current funding proposals, CGD will get \$37,470 less in state funding for the upcoming fiscal year. If the 2.25% SSA is approved, the district would still see a decrease in funding of \$19,002.

"The district does have the option to shift Categorical General Fund dollars to cover certain expenses," Frye said. "This is a local board decision, but at what point do programs that were previously funded by the legislature become less important, and those funds get repurposed? Having flexibility is great—until it starts impacting students or staff who benefit from those funds." Concerns about state funding are shared by other districts across the state.

"I know that people in my position statewide recognize that this is not enough of an increase to meet district needs," Frye stated. She pointed out that many districts have faced declining enrollment in recent years, which has led to further budget issues. In a recent newsletter, State Representative Mark Thompson outlines the state's funding approach, explaining that in 2024, K-12 education accounted for 46% of Iowa's budget. The proposed total funding increase includes a 3.93% when factoring in other budget items.

Frye said she appreciated Thompson's transparency in explaining the funding breakdown but she doesn't agree that 2% or 2.25% SSA is sufficient to meet our district's growing financial needs.

"I have learned to work with the SSA amount given each year, but I would have liked to have seen at least 3% this year," Frye said. "We need an amount that allows the district to meet all its obligations without depleting resources." Despite concerns, Frye emphasized that she respects public officials and understands the challenges they face. "They are trying to do the right thing for all involved, but they will not be able to please everyone with their decisions."

The board also reviewed the latest IASB Data Boost on English Learners (EL) for FY25. The report tracks EL student growth across Iowa, using October 1 enrollment data.

According to the report, CGD's percentage of EL learners is 24.2% in grades K-12. Frye explained that this category is overspent, and the district must request approval from the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) to recover excess spending.

In other business, the board approved purchasing a new school bus for \$148,000. The new bus includes air conditioning, making it more suitable for summer sports and activities. "A few years ago, you could buy two buses for this price," Frye remarked, highlighting the rising costs for the district across all areas.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2025, at 4 p.m. The first public hearing for the FY26 Budget Proposed Tax Rate will be held on March 27, 2025, at 4 p.m.

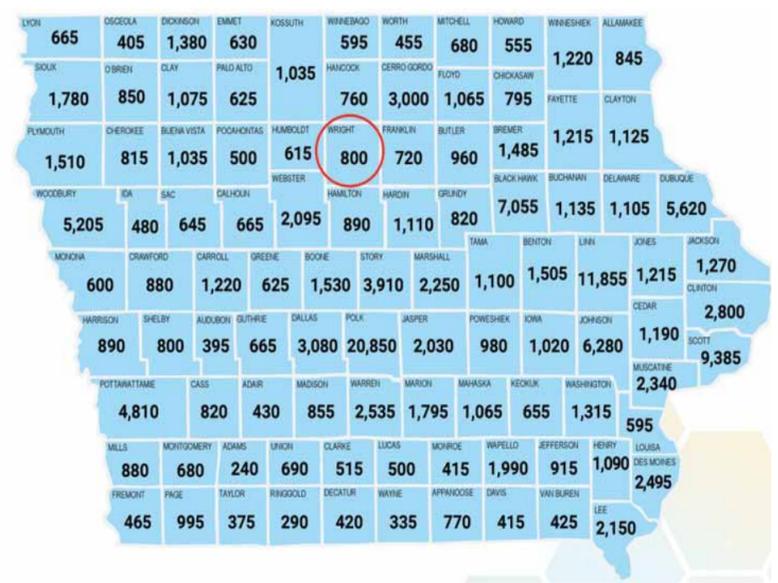
Cancer Rates in Iowa continued from page 1

highlights another significant contributor to cancer risks.

The report considers alcohol consumption as a key risk factor for cancers like oral, liver, colon, esophagus, and female breast. Iowa has a binge drinking rate of 22%, which is higher than the national average of 17%. However, not everyone in Iowa is convinced the high cancer rates can be linked only to alcohol consumption. Like much of Iowa, Wright County faces a unique environmental challenge that could be contributing to the cancer rates.

As a rural, agriculture-heavy region, residents are often exposed to pesticides and herbicides linked to risks of leukemia, lymphoma, and prostate cancers in the Agriculture Health Study. Iowa also has the highest average radon levels in the nation, making lung cancers another concern, even for non-smokers. Many homes in Wright County may unknowingly have radon levels exceeding the EPA's action threshold.

Water quality is another concern. Nitrate contamination from fertilizer runoff potentially increases colorectal cancers,



The number of cancer survivors is increasing in Iowa and across the country. The Iowa Cancer Registry has tracked the health status of more than 99% of cancer survivors diagnosed since 1973. Based on data from 1973 to 2019, there are an estimated 168,610 cancer survivors in Iowa—people who are either currently living with cancer or have had it in the past. In Wright County, there are approximately 800 cancer survivors. (Photo: Iowa Cancer Registry)

even more so for residents using private wells. Livestock operations, and industrial emissions, also pose an airborne risk while heavy metals like arsenic in the soil have been linked to bladder and lung cancers.

Public awareness of these issues is another crucial part of reducing cancer rates in our area.

Despite these concerning trends, the report offers a glimmer of hope... cancer survival rates in Iowa

are improving, thanks to advancements in treatment and early detection efforts.

There are currently 168,610 cancer survivors in Iowa with the number growing each day.

Superintendent shares student stats and a new leadership hire

Amanda Rink, Editor

At the most recent Clarion-Goldfield-Dows school board meeting, Superintendent Joseph Nelson provided important updates on the district's academic calendar, staffing changes, and student enrollment, giving board members and the community a clear picture of the most current happenings at the district level.

One of the most pressing issues Nelson addressed was the state-imposed cap on virtual learning days, which limits schools to five per school year. CGD has already used two, and the district is keeping an eye on

whether additional virtual days might be needed. The use of virtual, or e-learning, days on what would otherwise be counted as missed school days, helps the district stay on track with existing schedules for summer school and sports.

The district is waiting on guidance from the state on when the new school year can officially begin. Local districts no longer have control over the start dates, leaving uncertainty for many. But Nelson hopes to have an answer by the next board meeting.

Staffing remains a top priority, with several open positions to be filled across the district. "We're looking

for the best and brightest," Nelson said. One key hire has already been made, with Adam Vorrie stepping in as the new high school principal for the 2025/2026 school year. Meanwhile, the search for a new Activities Director is moving along.

Interviews are scheduled for Monday, and Nelson hopes to finalize an offer by Tuesday, meaning an official announcement should be made by the time this article is published in the print edition of The Wright County Monitor.

In a bit of positive news, student enrollment has seen an uptick, with eight more students joining the district compared to last month.



Adam Vorrie, who is currently employed at the middle school level as a history teacher, will replace Paul Hansch as CGD's High School Principal. (Photo: CGDCSD)

Mom Prom of Wright County Marks it's 3rd Year in March!

On Saturday, March 29th, The Red Shed Event Center in Clarion will once again be filled with Prom-goers, dancing the night away. However, it won't be your traditional high school prom; it will be a "Mom Prom!"

Originally created in Canton, MI, in 2006 by Elizabeth Crapps, Mom Prom® is a "ladies-only night out" event for charity. Since its beginning, each year women have gathered across the country for a night of dancing while wearing their old Prom dresses, bridesmaid dresses, or any other formal gown they like, all for a worthy cause. This year's event will be the third of its kind for Wright County communities.

Open to all women aged 21 and over, each ticket costs \$40. "With every ticket purchase, ladies will receive entry to this year's Mom Prom, a complimentary drink ticket, one raffle ticket, hors d'oeuvres, a night of dancing and fun, and the opportunity to support a local cause," said Nikki Conlon of Clarion, member of the Mom Prom Board. "Mom Proms were

originally designed to function as fundraising events, and ours is no different. Each year, we donate all proceeds toward a local organization or cause. We're currently accepting applications from organizations who would like to be this year's recipient."

Tickets can be purchased from Mom Prom Board Members as well as at these local retailers: in Clarion - Italics Boutique, Riveter Nutrition, Appearances Salon and Spa, Leah Jean Boutique & Salon, and Wright Community Connections; in Eagle Grove - Slay Nutrition; in Belmond - Sugarpie Bakery & Café and Studio 220 Tuxedo Rental and Sales & Bridal/Formal Gown Boutique.

Dave Stein, "The DjMan - Professional Sound and Lighting", will once again be providing nonstop dance music for the event. Photo selfie booths will be available for women to take group pictures with their friends, and delicious hors d'oeuvres will be served. Raffle prizes will be awarded, consisting of items donated by local retailers and organizations.

While each participant will receive one complimentary raffle ticket, additional raffle tickets can be purchased that night to increase the chances of winning. A cash bar will be available for additional drink purchases, and silent auction items will be up for bid throughout the evening.

Sponsorship opportunities are available for this event as well. If any individual or organization would like to sponsor this year's event at any level,

they can contact the Mom Prom Board via their Facebook page - "Mom Prom - Wright County" - or by emailing them at mompromwrightia@gmail.com.

In addition, if your organization would like to apply to be a recipient of this year's proceeds, you can email the Mom Prom Board at mompromwrightia@gmail.com as well.

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reading between the lines

with Amanda Rink

The Midwinter Freeze (of creativity)

Amanda Rink, Editor

"If you choose not to find joy in the snow you will have less joy in your life but the same amount of snow."

It turns out my creativity is directly tied to how much sunlight I get. I'm basically a plant, always stretching toward the brightest spot, twisting and turning just to soak up a little extra warmth. This winter has been mild in terms of snow, but the temperatures have been all over the place, just extreme enough to make stepping outside feel like a chore.

I find myself longing for green trees, the smell of dirt, the simple joy of being outside, and feeling comfortable. Since that isn't happening anytime soon, regardless of the amount of layers I'm wearing, I've found other ways to take care of myself.

And because my creativity is running on fumes (especially when it comes to writing), I thought I'd

share a few things that help me feel a little better this time of the year, just in case you need a few ideas, too.

Move your body! Whether it is hitting the gym, chasing your kids around the kitchen island, or just putting on your favorite song and dancing, movement makes a difference.

Grab coffee with a friend. Socializing might feel like a chore when all you want to do is hibernate, but I promise that even just picking up the phone and gabbing with a friend will help you feel better.

On the flip side, get cozy. Light a candle, grab your biggest blanket, and read a book. I just finished reading *The One and The Marriage Act* by John Marrs, a science fiction thriller set in the near future. It was a good distraction. Now I'm settling down with *Deep End* by Ali Hazelwood. Books always bring me comfort.

Eat well! Fresh fruit and veggies are harder to come by in the winter, but nourishing your body makes a huge difference in how you feel. Add more extra vitamins if you need to!

Tidy up! Don't wait until spring hits to deep clean the house. Open up your windows for a half hour, bring in some fresh air, and declutter! Even though I hate folding the laundry, few things feel better than finally tackling laundry mountain. Cleaning offers an easy supply of dopamine.

If you're feeling the same mid-winter slump as me, just know you're not alone. Spring will be here before we know it and until then, take care of yourself any way that you can. 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.

Amanda Rink is the Editor of The Wright County Monitor and Author of Hoppy. 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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Teaching the Teachers

Professional Learning Is Ensuring Student Success at CGD



Amanda Rink, Editor

At the latest school board meeting Middle School Principal Aaron Patrick shared some encouraging updates about student progress and professional development efforts. "Lots of bodies just moving around, which is a good thing," he said, describing the energy and engagement happening in the school. The middle school recently wrapped up "NWA" testing, with staff considering results to track student growth. While there has been progress in English Language Arts (ELA), the biggest growth has been seen in mathematics. But it isn't just the students that are learning these days, staff have shown exceptional growth under a new commitment to growth.

To strengthen their Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), 18

middle and elementary school teachers took a trip to the Kildeer School District. Kildeer is a consolidated school district in the Lake County village of Long Grove, a suburb of Chicago Illinois. The district has seven schools, one kindergarten center, four elementary, and two middle schools. Kildeer is known as a model PLC district, offering school tours and professional development to educators nationwide.

What exactly is a "PLC" school though? PLCs focus on teachers working together in cycles of research and reflection to improve student outcomes. The idea has been around since the 1960s. "A corollary assumption is that if the organization is to become more effective in helping all students learn, the adults in the organization must also be continually learning," the

website allthingsplc states. "Therefore, structures are created to ensure staff members engage in job-embedded learning as part of their routine work practices."

But Principal Patrick broke it down the best: "The kids are changing, the system is changing, and we have to change with them." The change is a broad approach to communication among staff and equipping them with the tools to ensure student success in the classroom.

Now in its third year of implementing PLC practices, CGD continues to refine its approach to collaboration and learning among teachers.

Superintendent Nelson also highlighted the value of the Chicago trip, calling it "an authentic chance" for professional development that will directly benefit both teachers and students.

A Car Story

A Cruising Camaro and Canines

Kirk Cramer, Guest Columnist

In my previous installment, I wrote about my 1968 Convertible Camaro that was totaled out in the 2018 flood in Des Moines. I'd like to tell one more story involving my "new" 1967 Camaro.

In traveling to car shows, you never know what is waiting around the bend. Whether it's a pheasant popping up out of a ditch or a rock from a dump truck ahead of you, it's always a gamble driving our precious show cars.

I had hoped that with the 1967 Camaro, my luck would change but that was not the case. One of the first things I did with this car was to get a new paint job

to make sure it was show-worthy.

Since I am always very careful driving my car around town, watching out for other cars, kids, and bikes that might run into me, you can imagine my devastation, when showing off my new paint job cruising the four-lane in Clarion, two black labs dashed right into the side of my car.

The dogs were fine but the car suffered a dent to the front fender. To fix the dent, the front part of the car needed to be repainted. My first reaction was to sell the car and get a Prius... but I came to my senses and had it repaired so I could continue going to car shows and enjoying my car.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
Wright County Board of Supervisors Amendment of Current Budget

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - AMENDMENT OF CURRENT BUDGET
Board of Supervisors of WRIGHT COUNTY
Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

The Board of Supervisors of WRIGHT COUNTY will conduct a public hearing for the purpose of amending the current budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

Meeting Date/Time: 3/3/2025 09:30 AM		Contact: Amanda Meyer, Auditor	Phone: (515) 532-2771	
Meeting Location: Wright County Board of Supervisor Chambers				
There will be no increase in taxes. Any residents or taxpayers will be heard for or against the proposed amendment at the time and place specified above. A detailed statement of: additional receipts, cash balances on hand at the close of the preceding fiscal year, and proposed disbursements, both past and anticipated, will be available at the hearing. Budget amendments are subject to protest. If protest petition requirements are met, the State Appeal Board will hold a local hearing. For more information, consult https://dom.iowa.gov/local-gov-appeals .				
REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES		Total Budget as Certified or Last Amended	Current Amendment	Total Budget After Current Amendment
Taxes Levied on Property	1	10,767,449	0	10,767,449
Less: Uncollected Delinquent Taxes - Levy Year	2	275	0	275
Less: Credits to Taxpayers	3	350,444	0	350,444
Net Current Property Tax	4	10,416,730	0	10,416,730
Delinquent Property Tax Revenue	5	275	0	275
Penalties, Interest & Costs on Taxes	6	19,025	0	19,025
Other County Taxes/TIF Tax Revenues	7	2,183,547	0	2,183,547
Intergovernmental	8	6,515,390	-115,306	6,400,084
Licenses & Permits	9	31,700	4,000	35,700
Charges for Service	10	591,820	18,965	610,785
Use of Money & Property	11	398,781	432,580	831,361
Miscellaneous	12	224,617	35,081	259,698
Subtotal Revenue	13	20,381,885	375,320	20,757,205
Other Financing Sources:				
General Long-Term Debt Proceeds	14	49,320	0	49,320
Operating Transfers In	15	3,029,959	0	3,029,959
Proceeds of Fixed Asset Sales	16	5,000	2,050	7,050
Total Revenues & Other Sources	17	23,466,164	377,370	23,843,534
EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES				
Operating:				
Public Safety and Legal Services	18	5,669,523	55,700	5,725,223
Physical Health and Social Services	19	1,225,620	5,501	1,231,121
Mental Health, ID & DD	20	0	0	0
County Environment & Education	21	2,029,444	-255,574	1,773,870
Roads & Transportation	22	7,134,033	-46,270	7,087,763
Government Services to Residents	23	820,223	2,663	822,886
Administration	24	2,586,817	4,292	2,591,109
Nonprogram Current	25	63,400	0	63,400
Debt Service	26	2,884,905	0	2,884,905
Capital Projects	27	953,500	-299,830	653,670
Subtotal Expenditures	28	23,367,465	-533,518	22,833,947
Other Financing Uses:				
Operating Transfers Out	29	3,029,959	0	3,029,959
Refunded Debt/Payments to Escrow	30	0	0	0
Total Expenditures & Other Uses	31	26,397,424	-533,518	25,863,906
Excess of Revenues & Other Sources over (under) Expenditures & Other Uses	32	-2,931,260	910,888	-2,020,372
Beginning Fund Balance - July 1, 2024	33	9,485,063	0	9,485,063
Increase (Decrease) in Reserves (GAAP Budgeting)	34	0	0	0
Fund Balance - Nonspendable	35	0	0	0
Fund Balance - Restricted	36	3,343,922	307,896	3,651,818
Fund Balance - Committed	37	0	0	0
Fund Balance - Assigned	38	746,142	353,139	1,099,281
Fund Balance - Unassigned	39	2,463,739	249,853	2,713,592
Total Ending Fund Balance - June 30, 2025	40	6,553,803	910,888	7,464,691

Explanation of Changes: Increase in Revenues and decrease in Expenditures.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
Wright County Ag Extension Proposed Budget

Local Government Property Valuation System

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING --- PROPOSED BUDGET Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026
WRIGHT COUNTY AG EXTENSION

The Extension Council of the above named County will conduct a PUBLIC HEARING on the proposed fiscal year 2025/2026 budget as follows:

Meeting Date: 3/3/2025 Meeting Time: 06:00 PM Meeting Location: Wright County Extension Office

At the public hearing, any resident or taxpayer may present their objections to, or arguments in favor of, any part of the proposed budget. This notice represents a summary of the supporting detail of receipts and expenditures on file with the Extension Council Secretary. Copies of the Supplemental Budget Detail (Schedule 674-A) will be furnished upon request.

Contact Name: Kristy Brunsold Contact Telephone Number: (515) 291-7023

FUND	FYE June 30, 2024 Actual Expenditures	FYE June 30, 2025 Re-estimated Expenditures	FYE June 30, 2026 Budget Expenditures	Estimated Ending Fund Balance FY 2026	Estimated FY 2026 Beg. Balance	Estimated Amount To Be Raised By Taxation	Estimated Utility Tax Replacement and Property Tax Dollars
1. County Agricultural Extension Education	311,913	308,852	334,983	323,800	316,408	279,312	285,000
2. Unemployment Compensation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Tort Liability	2,725	0	0	9,245	4,045	5,097	5,200
4. TOTAL	314,638	308,852	334,983	333,045	320,453	284,409	290,200
Proposed taxation rate per \$1,000 valuation: \$							0.25722

Virtual Meeting Information:

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs. Feb. 20, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of Stormwater Discharge

Public Notice of Stormwater Discharge. Cementone Concrete Materials plans to submit a Notice of Intent to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to be covered under the NPDES General Permit No. 3 – Storm Water Discharge Associated with Industrial Activity from Asphalt Plants, Concrete Batch Plants, Rock Crushing Plants, and Construction Sand and Gravel Facilities. The Stormwater discharge will be from a concrete batch plant located in the Southwest ¼ of Township 92 North, Range 26 West, Section 34. Stormwater will be discharged from 1 point source and will be infiltrated. Comments may be submitted to the Storm Water Coordinator, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, 502 E 9th St, Des Moines IA 50319. The public may review the Notice of Intent from 8:00am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday, at the above address after it has been received by the department.

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs. Feb. 20, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE
CGD February 13, 2025 Claims

<p>Clarion Goldfield Dows Community School District February 13 2025 Claims</p> <p>Vendor Name.....Vendor Description.....Amount Access Systems Copier Fees..... 572.30 Airgas USA LLC Cylinder Rental..... 1,011.29 Alden CSD OE Tuition .. 12,543.78 Amazon Capital Services TAG/ Instructional Supplies 2,733.24 Ardorfer, Michael Basketball Official 150.00 Arnold Motor Supply Transport Supplies 1,424.42 Auto-Jet Muffler Corp Transport Supplies 538.60 Belmond-Klemme Comm School OE Tuition 5,986.80 Bethke, Matt Basketball Official 150.00 Blackhawk Sprinklers, Inc. Sprinkler Inspection 360.00 Bomgaars Supplies..... 463.92 Brothers Market FCS Supplies 163.21 Business Card Bank of America..... 1,013.97 C H McGuiness Company 865.83 Calo Placemnt Tuition 9,450.00 CAM Community School District OE Tuition 8,641.56 Card 3 Bank of America. Custodial Supplies 1,132.63 Card One Bank of America Registrations/Training/Supplies..... 1,964.75 Central Iowa Distributing Custodial Supplies 3,138.00 Central Iowa Water, Inc. Water Testing 450.00 City Of Clarion Water/Sewer 2,679.13 City Of Goldfield Water/Sewer 64.31 Clarion Distributing Custodial Supplies 7,616.38 Clarion Goldfield Dows PayPal Tech Subscriptions 52.78 Column Software PBC Legal Publications 331.52 Comm 1 Network Inc Phone Lines 848.06 Crystal Clean Carpet Carpet Cleaning 1,634.42 Dehrkoop, Mike Basketball Official 150.00 Department of Education Vehicle</p>	<p>Inspections..... 1,250.00 DHS Cashier 1st Fl. Medicaid State Share 8,439.37 Don's Pest Control Pest Control.... 182.00 Donovan Group I Communications 2,500.00 Eagle Building Supply, Inc MS Supplies 210.30 Eagle Grove Community School OE Tuition 178,322.19 EIFFLER, JUSTIN Basketball Official 150.00 Finn Scientific Inc. HS Instructional Supplies 64.95 Francotyp-Postalia Postage 59.85 Gold-Eagle Cooperative Fuel..... 14,161.94 Hampton - Dumont Community Schools OE Tuition 16,506.40 Hanson & Sons Service..... 160.89 Health Education Center CPR Cards 161.00 Hennigar's Construction LLC Service 660.00 Hicok, Rodney . Basketball Official 90.00 Hoffert, Casey Basketball Official 150.00 Houghton Mifflin Company HS Sp Ed Supplies 69.60 Iowa Association of School Boards ISFLC December Conference 350.00 Iowa Central Community College.. HS Laptop Fee 50.00 Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals & Licensing Boiler Inspections..... 320.00 Iowa Falls Community Schools OE Tuition 10,871.28 Iowa School Finance Information Services, Inc Budget Workshop Background Checks 570.00 Iowa Specialty Hospital - Clarion Physicals 231.00 Johnstone Supply Custodial Supplies 142.32 Jostens Graduation Supplies 525.95 JW Pepper & Son Inc Instructional Supplies 68.75 Kadner, James Basketball Official 150.00 Kalvig, Michael Basketball Official 150.00 L & L Service Inc Custodial Repairs..... 32.99 Martin Brothers Distributing Co., Inc. PS Snacks/Instructional Sup-</p>	<p>plies 783.17 Mason City Community Schools Placement Tuition 174.72 Mechanical Air Systems Company HS Repairs 540.00 Medical Enterprises, Inc. Drug Screens 108.00 Menards Ames Custodial Supplies 343.84 Menards FD Custodial Supplies.... 174.80 Midamerican Energy Electric 16,805.48 Moore, Samuel Basketball Official 765.00 Mourlam, Drew Basketball Official 245.00 Nee, David Basketball Official 300.00 O'Hern, Ryan Basketball Official... 80.00 Pearce, Brian Basketball Official... 150.00 Pearson, Alex Wrestling Official... 275.00 Perkins, Fred Basketball Official 150.00 Perkins, Guy Basketball Official 150.00 Quill Corp Office Supplies. 238.53 Read Naturally, Inc. Subscriptions 445.50 Reicks, Quinten .Wrestling Official 275.00 RevTrak Processing Fee..... 829.88 Rieman Music Instrument Repairs 228.98 Rothman, Carey Reimburse Travel Expense 36.30 Scholastic Inc. Elem Books 395.96 School Bus Sales Transport Supplies 157.44 School Specialty LLC Instructional Supplies 415.71 Schumacher Elevator Company Elevator Service..... 1,604.69 Sesker, Matt Wrestling Official 175.00 SIMMONS, SCOTT Basketball Official 600.00 Slater, Jason Basketball Official 150.00 Solution Tree Inc. PLC Conference Fees 4,415.01 South Hamilton Comm School OE Tuition 8,362.52 Spencer Steel LLC Transport Repairs 56.00 Stuck, Lisa Meeting Supplies 130.00</p>	<p>T & S Sanitation Garbage 1,515.00 T-MobileCell Phones/Ipad Cellular 6,535.48 TapSPACE PE Instructional Supplies 79.10 Timberline Billing Service LLC Medicaid Billing Services ... 871.49 Tokheim, Dale . Basketball Official 150.00 Urness Hardware Custodial/ Transport Supplies 978.31 Van Diest Medical Center Testing . 50.00 VERIZON District Cell Phones 517.85 Visa - Card Two Instructional Travel..... 549.12 Visa Card Three TAG Meals 647.87 Visa- AF Metor Fax/Fees..... 32.95 Visa- Card One . Supplies/Traning Meals 213.07 Vrieze, Jon Wrestling Official..... 275.00 W & H Cooperative Oil Co LP Contract Payment..... 152.00 West Hancock Community School OE Tuition 4,181.26 Woodley, Grant Travel Reimbursement 869.12 Woodridge, Karl Basketball Official 150.00 Wright Farm Services LLC Transport Repairs 1,516.38 General Fund Total\$361,577.21 ArmCare.com Athletic Subscription..... 2,803.75 Black Dahlia Winterfest Supplies .. 189.00 Brothers Market. FFA Concession Supplies 741.54 Card One Bank of America Vocal/ Softball/Wrestling Travel ... 866.50 Charlson, Angie . Reimburse FFA Concession Supplies 329.14 Clarion-Goldfield-Dows CSD Concession Supplies 71.06 Decker Sporting Goods Athletic Supplies 2,439.10 Hewlett Wholesale Inc Concession Supplies 2,631.58 Iowa Department of Revenue Raffle Tax 31.99 Iowa HS Athletic Assoc. Wrestling Fees 60.00 Iowa HS Speech Assoc. Speech Entry Fees..... 50.00 J & J Sports Softball Supplies 300.00 JW Pepper & Son Inc Vocal Sup-</p>	<p>Products 6,339.30 Brothers Market Food/Supplies..... 33.38 Clarion Distributing Nutrition Supplies 554.00 Comm 1 Network Inc Kitchen Phone 29.95 Goodwin Tucker Group Equipment Repair 582.00 Martin Brothers Distributing Co., Inc. Food/FFV/Supplies 52,252.96 Rapids Nutrition Supplies 467.00 VERIZON Nutrition Director Cell Phone..... 51.59 Nutrition Total \$60,310.18 Total Claims \$535,682.69 Fund 71 \$478,575.81 Auxiant Claims Medical Claims/ Premium 475,641.34 Clarion Health & Fitness Monthly Fee 700.00 Reliance Life Standard Premium... 2,234.47 Fund 71 Total \$478,575.81 Fund 72 \$2,100.00 Fund 72 Total \$2,100.00 Auxiant Claims HRA Claims 353.46 Fund 74 Total \$353.46 January 17 2025 Payroll \$387.56 AFLAC January 17 2025 Payroll ... \$387.56 Clarion-Goldfield-Dows CSD Flex Account .. January 17 2025 Payroll \$2,100.00 Clarion-Goldfield-Dows CSD HRA January 17 2025 Payroll \$2,925.00 EFTPS- Form 941 January 17 2025 Payroll \$157,416.84 First Citizens Bank January 17 2025 H.S.A. \$25,957.05 First Citizens Bank 403B January 17 2025 Payroll \$930.00 Group Benefit Fund January 17 2025 Payroll \$235,312.31 Iowa Dept of Revenue January 17 2025 State WH \$16,242.86 IPERS. January 17 2025 Ipers WH \$11,255.60 New York Life Insurance Co. January 17 2025 Payroll \$50.00 Total Payroll \$552,577.22 Anita Frye - Board Secretary</p>
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Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs. Feb. 20, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE
CGD February 5, 2025 Minutes

The Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Board of Directors held a Work Session – Closed Meeting (Iowa Code 21.5(1)(i)) on Wednesday, February 5, 2025. After conducting group interviews with three candidates for High School Principal from 1:00 to 4:30, the group of Superintendent Joseph Nelson, Elem Principal Jared Carder, MS Principal Aaron Patrick, Board Members Craig Warnke and Troy Seaba and Board Secretary Anita Frye met with Trent Grundmeyer from Grundmeyer Leader Search. Elizabeth Severson did not attend in person due to weather conditions. Trent Grundmeyer gave the attendees an overview of the feedback that was collected after each candidate's interview. This meeting ended at 5:41 P.M. Anita Frye, Board Secretary

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs. Feb. 20, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE
CGD February 13, 2025 Minutes

The Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Board of Directors held their Regular meeting on Thursday, February 13, 2025. In attendance was Troy Seaba, Elizabeth Severson, Craig Warnke, Loren Lienemann, Jenny Smith, Aaron Patrick, Wright County Monitor Editor Amanda Rink, Supt. Joe Nelson, and Board Secretary Anita Frye.

President Seaba Called the Meeting to Order at 4:03 P.M., he then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Open Forum: No one addressed the board.

Motion by Severson to Approve the Agenda. Second by Warnke. Motion carried 3-0.

CGDEA Initial Proposal: Loren Lienemann representing the CGDEA presented the board with their Initial Proposal of a 5% increase in salaries with a one-year contract.

The next Open Negotiations meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, February 25 th, 2025, at 1:00 P.M., with exempt sessions to follow. Lienemann and Smith

Education Report: Middle School Principal Aaron Patrick updated the board on Friday's Guiding Coalition trip to a PLC school in Twin Grove Middle School in Illinois. He felt this was a very productive trip for his team, along with the Elementary Team that visited an Elementary PLC School. Testing in Middle School is wrapping up, and he feels the interventions that his staff has in place have been helping students prepare for the tests.

Old Business: Supt. Nelson gave the board an update on the Virtual Learning Days. The district has utilized two Virtual Learning Days so far this school year. He has distributed two different FY26 calendars, both to be presented next month for approval. It will depend on changes made at the state house during this session as to which calendar the district will follow. We have several teaching positions that are currently advertised on Iowa Works and Teach Iowa. Interviews will be held on Monday, February 17th for the AD position.

New Business: Motion by Severson to Approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Warnke. Approve Minutes of Meeting held on January 9, 2025, and Work Session held on February 5, 2025; Approve Payment of Bills Between Meetings; Approve Payment of Monthly Bills; Approve FY26 High School Principal Contract for Adam Vorie – 12 month contract, at \$110,000.00, use of district cell phone, laptop, family insurance and 10 days of vacation; Approve Lane Movement Requests from Jeannette Corrow – MA to MA+10, Laura Odland MA to MA+10; Patricia Tegland MA to MA+10; Taylor Katz MA+20 to PHD; Approve Resignations from Tom Klave – MS Band effective March 31, 2025; Gale Draves – FT Nutrition effective February 28, 2025; Ruth Katz – Yerbook Sponsor end of FY25; Patty Stockman-Sann – Concession Coordinator effective end of FY25; Jill Stanton – HS Math effective end of FY25; Joseph Granzow – MS/HS Vocal end of FY25; Approve Review of Policies 102=Equal Educational Opportunity; 401.01=Equal Employment Opportunity; 401.06- Limitations to Employees References; 501.09-Chronic Absenteeism and

Board Secretary Anita Frye met with Trent Grundmeyer from Grundmeyer Leader Search. Elizabeth Severson did not attend in person due to weather conditions. Trent Grundmeyer gave the attendees an overview of the feedback that was collected after each candidate's interview. This meeting ended at 5:41 P.M. Anita Frye, Board Secretary

Facility Report: Supt. Nelson will set up a meeting with Jeff Friesleben and board committee members to compile a list of projects.

Transportation: Motion by Warnke to Approve the Purchase of 2026 65-Passenger Bus from School Bus Sales in the amount of \$148,433.00. Second by Severson. Motion carried 3-0.

Finance Report: FY25 Reports to Date may be viewed at the district office during normal business hours. FY26 Proposed Tax Notice needs to be submitted to the Department of Management by 4:00 P.M. on March 5, 2025.

Communications: The Thompson Times was shared with the board – a weekly report from Mark Thompson.

Next Regular Board Meeting and FY26 Calendar Hearing are scheduled for March 13 th, 2025, at 4:00 P.M. The FY26 Budget Proposed Tax Rate Public Hearing is scheduled to be held on March 27 th, 2025, at 4:00 P.M.

Motion by Severson to Adjourn. Second by Warnke. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 5:01 P.M. Anita Frye, Board Secretary

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs. Feb. 20, 2024

Legals are your right to know!!!!

PUBLIC NOTICE
Wright County Supervisors Feb. 3, 2025 Minutes

February 3, 2025
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 Rasmussen called the regular meeting of the Wright County Board of Supervisors to order at 9:03 a.m. Members present were Rasmussen, Kluss, Bosch, Loux and Ellis.
Motion by Kluss and seconded by Loux to approve the tentative agenda. Motion carries.
Minutes of the previous regular meeting of January 27, 2025 were read and approved.
Motion by Ellis and seconded by Kluss to approve claims for payment with a correction to the ven-

dor on claim number 38005. Motion carries.
In open forum for public input, Julie Glade asked the board for an update on their discussion with the Planning and Zoning Director. Jeremy Abbas, P&Z Director stated that there is a draft ordinance that all the counties have. The board would like to review the draft ordinance and then decide whether or not to enact the ordinance.
Motion by Kluss and seconded by Ellis to receive the semiannual report from the Wright County Treasurer. Motion carries.
Jeremy Abbas, Assistant to the Wright County Engineer, gave an update on the current bridge construction and Secondary Roads department.

The Board gave updates about meetings they had attended. Three Supervisors attended the Statewide Supervisor meeting in Des Moines. Dean Kluss will be hosting the IDDA meeting this week.
Sandy McGrath, Wright County Public Health Administrator, gave an update on Influenza A, stating that they are seeing a rise in Influenza A. She continued to say that flu shots are available at Public Health.
Motion by Kluss and seconded by Bosch to adjourn the meeting. Motion carries.
Rick Rasmussen, Chairman Wright County Board of Supervisors Deb Lukes, Wright County Deputy Auditor

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs. Feb. 20, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE
Estate of Pauline M. Turner

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR WRIGHT COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF PAULINE M. TURNER ESPR017677 NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS
To all persons interested in the Estate of Pauline M. Turner, deceased, who died on or about January 1, 2025: You are hereby notified that on 01/28/2025, the undersigned was appointed Administrator of the es-

tate.
Notice is hereby given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the Clerk of the above-named District Court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the date of 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 28th day of January, 2025.
Attorney for the Administrator THE JOHNSON LAW FIRM, PLC BY: Philip M. Johnson Attorney for Estate 216 N Commercial Ave, PO Box 109 Eagle Grove, Iowa 50533 Mary Janek 34 Blair Park Rd., Ste 104 #185 Williston, VT 05495 Date of Second Publication 27th day of February, 2025

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs. Feb. 20 & 27, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Clarion Notice

NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Clarion, Iowa, will meet in a regular session at the Council Chambers, on the 4th of March, 2025, at 5:05 P.M. at which meeting the Council will consider the disposal of real estate owned by the City of Clarion, Iowa,

at 118 1st Street SW, Clarion, Iowa, and legally described as follows:
Lot 10 in Block 1 of Railroad Addition to the Town of Clarion, Wright County, Iowa.
At the above time and date the Council proposes to dispose of said real estate to Narber Properties, LLC, in accordance with the previ-

ously entered into Development Agreement between the parties.
The Public Hearing on this sale will be held at the time and place stated above at which time written and oral objections will be heard.
CITY OF CLARION, IOWA Clint Middleton, City Administrator

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs. Feb. 20, 2024

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.

The View From Here

Senator Dennis Guth, R-Klemme

Week five in the Senate included our first day of floor debate. We passed some uncontroversial bills and K-12 school funding.

SF 152 deals with making it easier for members of the military to get their commercial driver's license. Driving experience in the military would replace the driving portion of the requirements for an Iowa license.

SF 146 prohibits the creation of bots to purchase tickets online. Sometimes people are unable to purchase tickets to an event because bots have bought and hoarded an abundance of the tickets. They then attempt to resell the tickets at an increased price. The passage of SF 146 should give Iowans better access to high-demand tickets and keep competition for them fair.

The biggest bill we passed this week was SF 167, setting the increase in school funding at \$235 million. That means schools will receive \$7,983 per student from the state. If you add in the funding from local and federal sources the total cost to taxpayers will amount to an average of \$18,722 per student. Iowa's total amount of state aid is \$4.2 billion out of our \$9 billion budget.

I have had some complaints that education savings accounts takes money away from public education. Actually, it just takes the state dollars that are assigned to each student and has them follow the student. The public school that lost the student still gets \$1,200 for the student that doesn't attend their school.

The bill that I was most interested in this week was SF 138. This bill would cause standards to be established for an elective course in grades nine through twelve covering Hebrew scriptures and the Bible. The purpose of the course is to show their influence on our culture, art, mores and public policy. It's hard to understand the early history of our country if we don't understand how it was influenced by the Bible.

Professor William Jaynes of California State University testified that similar bills have been passed in 14 states. Every school that has included this elective has seen an increase in grade point averages. Professor Jaynes indicated that the Bible has outsold every other book in the world for a long time. It provides the background for understanding many things in our government,

literature and art. He mentioned that Shakespeare quoted the Bible over 1300 times. A study of the writings we have of the United States Founding Fathers shows that the Bible was quoted far more than any other source.

It is my contention that many of the social ills we encounter today can be traced back to the expulsion of prayer and the Bible from our schools in 1962 and '63. SF 138 is an attempt to reverse that trend.

Benjamin Rush, a signer of the Declaration of Independence said it this way:

"The only foundation for a useful education in a republic is to be laid in religion. Without this there can be no virtue, and without virtue there can be no liberty, and liberty is the object and life of all republican governments."

More recently, President Ronald Reagan said, "If we ever forget that we are One Nation Under God, then we will be a nation gone under."

Due to the threat of inclement weather, the forum in Webster City scheduled for Feb. 15 has been rescheduled to March 1. It will be held at the Central College Campus at 11:00.

The Thompson Times

Representative Mark Thompson, House District 56
School Funding Review

As was mentioned here last week, the school budget is being worked on. The legislators put this at the top of the list and priority to allow schools time to prepare for the upcoming school year's budget. We recognize that our 30-day deadline to settle an SSA number is past the thirty days. We are hopeful that this delay will be worth it as we work to secure adequate funding for our public schools. We will continue to work to reach a resolution. The House passed what was written in our newsletter last week and we await Senate action.

Altogether, the increases the House passed equate to a 3.93% increase in state funding to public schools. These increases represent the many specific funding issues we hear from our school districts. While each line item may not affect each individual school district equally, one line item may have a big impact.
How Does This Compare to ESA Funding?

I have read claims that we are increasing ESA funding by 44% while increasing public school funding by 2.25%. This inaccurate assertion claims the state is spending more on private schools than on public schools. Those figures are false. The cost of ESAs increases each year at the same rate as the number we set for SSA. The cost of the ESA program does not come close to the amount we spend each year on public schools. In the FY 2025 budget, state aid to public schools accounts

for 43.62% (grades K-12) of the entire state budget. ESAs, meanwhile, account for 2.01% of the total state budget.

Doctors Needed

This week, the Health and Human Services Committee moved forward three bills to help address the doctor shortage in the long term.

Two of these bills aim to ensure the medical schools in Iowa prioritize students with an Iowa connection. This will increase the chances of having those students stay in Iowa to practice after they complete their training. HF 12 requires the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics to offer interviews for medical residencies to applicants with an Iowa connection. This can mean they grew up in Iowa or went to undergraduate school in Iowa. HF137 would require that at least 80% of students accepted in University of Iowa's College of Medicine, Nursing and Dentistry are Iowa residents or were enrolled in a university or community college in Iowa. Similarly, the HHS committee passed HF 301 last week that codifies language to require medical residencies at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinic to give priority to applicants that have an Iowa connection. It also requires primary care residencies like family medicine, OB, psych and internal medicine at UIHC to provide the opportunity to participate in a rural rotation.

House Ag Subcommittee Signs Off on Grain Indemnity Modernization Measure

On Tuesday, February 11, 2025, a House Agriculture Committee Subcommittee for House Study Bill 131 met to discuss legislation to modernize Iowa's 40-year-old grain indemnity fund and program. The measure expands and updates the Iowa fund

that covers farmers' losses when a buyer goes bankrupt.

Higher Education Committee Approves Civics Graduation Requirement

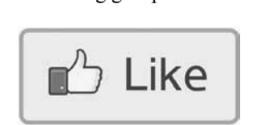
The House's new committee on Higher Education is working to comprehensively review Iowa's higher education institutions and what the institutions are using taxpayer dollars to teach. This week a bill passed out of committee to require classes to teach American History and government. No requirement currently exists at Iowa's three regents institutions or community colleges which requires students to be competent in American history, civics or government. Yet Iowa, ISU, UNI each require students to take a course on diversity or DEI.

Bills I Have Submitted

I have submitted five bills and cosigned several others. Those include legislation which would:

- Enhance our fight against human trafficking,
- Remittance for money leaving the state
- Restitution in the aftermath of violent crimes
- Expungement of a human trafficking victim's criminal record when the victim was caught up in crimes she/he had no control over while being trafficked
- Developing standardized examinations to evaluate sexual assault victims to ensure prosecutions are not overturned.

I spoke to four iJAG classes in Eagle Grove High School this past Friday. The Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates has a significant impact on the futures of our high school students. The teachers who are dedicated to this task truly make a difference. Jeremy Frisbey leads the EGHS iJag group.



Informed citizens build stronger communities

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IOWA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

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BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

<p>Town Country Realty "A WINNING COMBINATION" for Real Estate Success! Carol Haupt • Broker/Owner 104 North Main St. • Clarion, IA 51532-2150 www.clarionrealestate.com</p>	<p>A.D. TECH SOLUTIONS Computer and Network Repair. Virus Removal Mon - Fri 9am-5pm City 207 North Main Street (515) 532-2157 andrew@ad4techsolutions.com</p>	<p>Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078</p>	<p>TIMOTHY M. ANDERSON ATTORNEY AT LAW KNOBHAUG ANDERSON LAW OFFICE 218 1st Street SW P.O. Box 111 Clarion, Iowa 50525 CLARION 515-332-2821 11805 DR. HWY 209 N 52821 ESQ. CL. 515-332-2821 Gwert Inc. 515-364-9255</p>
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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, February 23
9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
• Sunday, March 2
9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
10:00 a.m. Worship Service

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA
420 1st St NW, Clarion, IA 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, February 23
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, February 19
Youth Faith Formation
7:40 a.m. Rosary at St. Francis, Belmont
8:00 a.m. Mass A/B at St. Francis, Belmont
10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting at St. John, Clarion (Office Closed)
6:30 p.m. First Reconciliation at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove
6:30 p.m. Youth Faith Formation at all Parishes
• Thursday, February 20
11:40 a.m. Rosary at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove
12:00 p.m. Mass at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove
• Friday, February 21
7:40 a.m. Rosary at St. John, Clarion
8:00 a.m. Mass at St. John, Clarion
• Saturday, February 22
Haiti Collection
3:15 p.m. A/B at St. Francis, Belmont
4:00 p.m. Mass at St. Francis, Belmont
7:15 p.m. Rosary, A/B at St. John, Clarion
8:00 p.m. Spanish Mass at St. John, Clarion
Sunday, February 23
Haiti Collection
7:15 a.m. A/B at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove
8:00 a.m. Mass at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove
9:45 a.m. A/B at St. John, Clarion
10:30 a.m. Mass 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

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.upc@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, February 16
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, February 23
9:30 a.m. Praise and Worship

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, February 23
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
• Wednesdays
1:30 p.m. Bible Study

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod
Jct. Highway 69 & 3
Pastor Mark Eichler
• Sunday, February 23
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, February 23
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, February 23
9:00 a.m. Conf/SS/Coffee
10:30 a.m. Worship

UNITED METHODIST & PRESBYTERIAN
Dows February 23
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, February 23
10:30 a.m. Worship

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN
304 W. Main, Latimer
Travis Berg, Pastor
• Sunday, February 23
9 a.m. Worship, 10:15 a.m. ABC/Sunday School

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Morgan, Lee Center, Bradford
Erling Shultz, Pastor
• Sunday, February 23
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, February 23
9:30a.m. Joint Sunday Worship Service with Holy Communion, Coffee to follow
• Dinner is the first Sunday of the month



Reconnect

With Your Church Community

Our Last Chance to Choose: Heaven or Hell?

Recently read a book about purgatory entitled "The Amazing Secret of the Souls in Purgatory," subtitled "An Interview with Maria Simma." Maria Simma was a Catholic mystic who lived in the mountains of Austria and began having "visits" from the souls in purgatory around the age of 25. I was given this book by my brother, who is more apt to believe these kinds of stories than I, and thus I was quite skeptical of its contents until I read the entire book. She had her first visit from one of these souls while she was living in a convent, and the only thing that the spirit asked was that she have three masses said for him, so that he might be delivered from purgatory. What followed was a long period of visits from other souls who asked for similar things, and with whom she was able to communicate. I take reports like these with a grain of salt, but there were two things that really struck me in this book. First, Maria claimed that we will see God—albeit obscurely—after our death and will have an opportunity to regret our sins and turn towards God in contrition. Secondly, Maria claimed that many souls came to her asking her to go to their families asking to have ill-gotten goods returned to their rightful owner, many of which were previously unknown to the families themselves (e.g. property which may have been stolen by the spirit who visited her). The idea that we will have a chance to accept God and choose heaven over hell is quite beautiful and accords with the idea of a loving God who wishes for everyone to be saved.
— Christopher Simson

Sunday, Feb. 25, 2024 First Reading: Genesis 22:1-7, 15-18 Psalm: Psalm 22:23-31 Epistle: Romans 4:13-25 Gospel: Mark 8:13-18

The Clarion Wire

** Congratulations to the CGD wrestlers for their fine showing at last Saturday's districts! And good luck at the state wrestling meet!
** "Easy Going Senior Exercises" at the Clarion Senior Citizens Center every Monday and Thursday afternoon, beginning at 1:30 p.m.
** Spaghetti Dinner at Dows Legion on Dows Main Street on Sunday, February 23, serving from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Freewill. (Rescheduled from last Sunday!)
** Community Impact nights at Pizza Ranch: from Tim Hamilton: Bussing tables all 4 Mondays in February which is Scout month. Last one, the 24th, is Bears (3rd grade). Purchasing pinewood derby items and cast iron cookware with the proceeds. The group the raises the most gets bragging rights and a traveling trophy for the year. Eat pizza or carry some out during Mondays in February!
** "Blind Date with a Book! Check out an adult fiction book without looking at the cover. From Clarion Public Library (checked out!). Each 'book' has a couple of clues about the book are about, as they are wrapped with a couple of prizes readers can keep. Not interested in a book? There are a couple of puzzles to choose from as well!
Library is in the process making up some for "Play Dates" with a book for ages 8 and up!
** First Lutheran Church FOOD PANTRY in Clarion, 420 - First Street N.W., is open on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month, from 5 - 7 p.m. Next event is February 27! (may visit ONE of its four locations once a week per

household).
** Goldfield United Methodist Church will be having a Chili Fundraiser on Saturday, March 1st from 5 - 7 pm. Dine in only. Free will offering.
** Celebrate "Mardi Gras with Friends & Music" with Iowa River Players on Saturday, March 1; at its playhouse in Rowan. Social begins at 6:30 p.m.; live music begins at 7:30 p.m. Freewill donations accepted!
** Clarion's Senior Citizens Center, Play '500 cards', the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Next ones are on Wednesday, March 5 and 19 from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
** From Hagie Manufacturing: Please join us for a come-and-go retirement party honoring Bill Speirs, who is celebrating an incredible 54 years of dedicated service at Hagie Manufacturing! On Thursday, March 6 from 1:30 to 3:30 .m. at The Red Shed Event Center, 908 2nd Street NW, Clarion.
** Wright County Farm Bureau hosts a Town Hall meeting on Saturday, March 8 at the Clarion library. Senator Dennis Guth and Representatives Mark Thompson and Shannon Latham have been invited to meet with citizens at 10 a.m.
** AT THE CLARION THEATRE: Showing "Captain America: A Brave New World" on Friday - Sunday, February 21 - 23 @ 7 p.m.; Sunday matinee, February 23 @ 2:30 p.m. (2nd of two weeks!)
** THANK YOU: To our local CDA, their volunteers and leaders. For all the things they are doing to make Clarion a great place to live!! Let's support their efforts the best ways we know how!!



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	Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078		<p>HELL</p> <p>HEAVEN</p> <p>Our Last Chance to Choose: Heaven or Hell?</p> <p>Recently read a book about purgatory entitled "The Amazing Secret of the Souls in Purgatory," subtitled "An Interview with Maria Simma." Maria Simma was a Catholic mystic who lived in the mountains of Austria and began having "visits" from the souls in purgatory around the age of 25. I was given this book by my brother, who is more apt to believe these kinds of stories than I, and thus I was quite skeptical of its contents until I read the entire book. She had her first visit from one of these souls while she was living in a convent, and the only thing that the spirit asked was that she have three masses said for him, so that he might be delivered from purgatory. What followed was a long period of visits from other souls who asked for similar things, and with whom she was able to communicate. I take reports like these with a grain of salt, but there were two things that really struck me in this book. First, Maria claimed that we will see God—albeit obscurely—after our death and will have an opportunity to regret our sins and turn towards God in contrition. Secondly, Maria claimed that many souls came to her asking her to go to their families asking to have ill-gotten goods returned to their rightful owner, many of which were previously unknown to the families themselves (e.g. property which may have been stolen by the spirit who visited her). The idea that we will have a chance to accept God and choose heaven over hell is quite beautiful and accords with the idea of a loving God who wishes for everyone to be saved. — Christopher Simson</p> <p>Sunday, Feb. 25, 2024 First Reading: Genesis 22:1-7, 15-18 Psalm: Psalm 22:23-31 Epistle: Romans 4:13-25 Gospel: Mark 8:13-18</p>	Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078	Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078	 HANSON & SONS 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
Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078	Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078	Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078		 204 E. Broadway St. Eagle Grove, IA.	Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078	 First Citizens Bank myfcb.bank
Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078	 110 13th Avenue SW Clarion, Iowa 50525	 210 North Main • Clarion 515-532-6626 Laura Phillips Pharmacy Manager		 www.firstiowa.bank Member FDIC	Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078	Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078
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Monitor Memories

FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE WRIGHT COUNTY MONITOR
1983 - 1948

42 Years Ago February 24, 1984

The community of Clarion has already started making preparations to host thousands of bikers in July, when RAGBRAI makes an overnight stop here. This undertaking is a gigantic one for any community, as it must prepare to host as many as 7,000 people on the night of July 27. While it will mean a lot of work and cooperation, the Register's Annual Great Bike Ride Across Iowa can do immediate wonders for the economy of a community.

More than 1200 people from 13 Iowa communities were on hand for the Clarion Area Chamber of Commerce's Auction Bucks Auction held last Sunday at the Clarion High School Gym. While not all of the 1200 auction goers entered bids in the afternoon event, a total of 414 bidding numbers were given out during the course of the afternoon, and 129 of these individuals walked away with an item.

A pep rally for the Clarion delegation heading to the State Wrestling Tournament will be held at the high school at 12:30 p.m. Thursday. This send-off pep rally is open to the public.

77 Years Ago February 19, 1948

How many people in Clarion and vicinity have February 29 birthday anniversaries? The Monitor would like to know. Believing that those people in that rare group who celebrate their anniversaries only once every four years are entitled to something a little extra special, the Monitor is offering a free admission to the Clarion theatre for information leading to the identity of each and every one.

Twenty-five members of the Clarion Camera club attended the February meeting held at the American Legion hall Tuesday night. The club voted to cooperate with the Clarion Chamber of Commerce in assembling a group of local pictures of people, buildings and scenic spots. Mrs. Hill and Rev. W. B. Gamble were appointed on this committee.

Binkard's drug store was filled with smoke about 9 o'clock Monday night when a motor on the refrigeration equipment at the soda fountain burned out. The alarm was turned in by Masons meeting in their lodge room on the second floor when they began to smell smoke. There was no damage aside from the burned-out motor.

Minnesota State Mankato Announces 2024 Fall Semester Dean's List

The Academic Honor and Honor lists (Dean's lists) for the past fall semester at Minnesota State University, Mankato have been announced by Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs David Hood.

Among 4,404 students, a total of 1,354 students qualified for the High Honor List by achieving a 4.0 straight "A" average, while 3,050 students earned a 3.5 to 3.99 average to qualify for the Honor List.

To qualify for academic honors, undergraduate students must be enrolled for at least 12 credit hours

for the semester.

For additional information, please visit: <https://mankato.mnsu.edu/academics/course-planning-and-registration/registration-and-academic-records/current-students-registration-resources/grades/deans-list/>

Minnesota State Mankato, a comprehensive university with 15,251 students, is part of the Minnesota State system, which includes 26 colleges and seven universities.

Clarion, IA
Madyson Hennigar, Honor List

Words of Wisdom

Last week's trivia questions:
What popular website made its debut on Valentine's Day in 2005?

Answer: YouTube.

What state produces most of America's red roses?

Answer: California (The state produces over 60 percent of all roses grown in this country).



This week's trivia questions:
What NASCAR driver, nicknamed "the King," won a record 200 races during his career, including seven wins at the Daytona 500?

What NASCAR driver, nicknamed "the Intimidator" for his aggressive driving style, is the only driver to win races in four consecutive decades (70s, 80s, 90s, and 2000)?

Feb. 19 is Iwo Jima Day, U.S. Coast Guard Reserve Birthday; Feb. 20 is Clean Out Your Bookcase Day, Cherry Pie Day, and National Leadership Day; Feb. 21 is National Caregivers Day; Feb. 22 is Recreational Sports and Fitness Day, and Supermarket Employee Day; Feb. 23 is National Tootsie Roll Day, and National Banana Bread Day; Feb. 24 is National Trading Card Day, and National Tortilla Chip Day; Feb. 25 is National Chocolate Covered Nuts Day.

This week is National Engineer's Week, National Pancake Week, National FFA Week, and National Entrepreneurship Week.

"I love being married. It's so great to find that one special person you want to annoy for the rest of your life."
- Rita Rudner

"It's just a job. Grass grows, birds fly, waves pound the sand. I beat people up."
- Muhammad Ali

"I'm so conflicted when my husband does the laundry. On one hand, he did the laundry. On the other hand, my clothes can now be sold at Gap kids."
- Molly McNearney

"I can go right, I can go left, I'm amphibious."
- basketball player Charles Shackleford

"I owe a lot to my parents, especially my mother and father."
- golfer Greg Norman

"I had to overcome a lot of diversity."
- Drew Gooden

NASCAR drivers can lose as much as 5-10 pounds during a race from sweat alone.

(Not only that, a NASCAR driver's heartbeat averages around 120-150 beats per minute throughout the entire race. To put that in perspective, a marathon runner will boast the same heart rate during a three-hour race.)

Long before Danica Patrick, another female was breaking boundaries in NASCAR.

(Janet Guthrie caused quite a stir when she became the first woman to compete in a Winston Cup event back in 1976. Guthrie also made history by qualifying for both the Daytona 500 and the Indianapolis 500 in the same year, 1977.)

Interestingly, NASCAR racers are not required to have a valid driver's license. (They are required to pass drug tests and physicals, however.)

Dmacc's Fall Semester Dean's List

Des Moines Area Community College President Rob Denson recently released the names of students eligible for the Fall Semester Dean's List. To be eligible, a student must have completed a minimum of six credits and earned a 3.5 to 3.99 grade point average for that semester. Those recognized from

your area include:
• Elizabeth Hodson, Elementary Education-Transfer, Clarion
• Reid Huntley, Network Technology-Telecommunications/Data Communications, Goldfield
• Navy Whetstone, Human/Family Services-Transfer, Goldfield

Iowa State University announces fall 2024 Deans List

More than 11,500 Iowa State University students have been recognized for outstanding academic achievement by being named to the fall semester 2024 Dean's List. Students named to the Dean's List must earn a grade point average of at least 3.50 on a 4.00 scale while carrying a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded course work.

Belmond, Iowa

Shea Sopher, Senior, Biology, B.S. (LAS)

Clarion, Iowa

Ady Askelsen, Sophomore, Agricultural Studies, B.S.

Austin Bierl, Sophomore, Horticulture, B.S.

Alaina Friesleben, English, B.A.

Thane Jackson, Senior, Biology, B.S. (LAS)

Emma Keller, First Year (Vet Med), Veterinary Medicine, D.V.M.

Colin Kirstein, Sophomore, Agricultural Studies, B.S.

Shea Whaley, Senior, Agricultural Communication, B.S.

Delia Swanson, Senior, Agricultural Business, B.S.

Olivia Andersen, Senior, Industrial Engineering, B.S.

Tylon Chapman, Senior, Journalism and Mass Communication, B.S.

Natalie Kirstein, Elementary Education, B.S.

Sawyer Morriscal, Sophomore, Animal Science, B.S.

Destini Phetxoumphone, Accounting, B.S.

Adam Herrington, Senior, Kinesiology and Health, B.S.

Casey Jergens, Sophomore, Cyber Security Engineering, B.S.

Evan Thul, Sophomore, Business Analytics, B.S.

Senior, Agricultural Communication, B.S.

Delia Swanson, Senior, Agricultural Business, B.S.

Olivia Andersen, Senior, Industrial Engineering, B.S.

Tylon Chapman, Senior, Journalism and Mass Communication, B.S.

Local Students Named to President's and Dean's Lists at Drake University

The following local students have been named to the Dean's and President's Lists at Drake University.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, students must have earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher during the Fall 2024 semester at Drake.

To be eligible for the President's List, students must have earned a perfect 4.0 GPA during the Fall 2024 semester at Drake.

Drake University is recognized as one of the finest national liberal arts universities. A distinctive and distinguished private university in Des Moines, Iowa, Drake enrolls nearly 3,000 undergraduate and more than 1,800 graduate students. Students choose from more than 70 majors, minors, and concentrations and 20 graduate degrees offered through seven

colleges and schools. In addition, Drake offers a range of continuing education programs serving working professionals, community members, and area businesses. Drake recognizes the importance of its location in Iowa's capital city and seeks to connect its teaching and learning to the wealth of cultural, recreational, and business resources it provides. At the same time, it weaves global thinking and intercultural learning into everything it does, preparing students to lead in an increasingly interconnected world.

Belmond, IA

Aldo Martinez, Zimpleman College of Business, Dean's List

Eagle Grove, IA

Alecia Anderson, Pharmacy & Health Sciences, Dean's List

SUDOKU

		9	7	3				
7	3							4
	2	1						
								9
					1	5	6	
	9	8					2	
			2					3
	5	2	8			4		
8		6	5					

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

1	6	2	3	4	5	9	7	8
9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	9
7	6	5	4	3	2	1	9	8
6	5	4	3	2	1	9	8	7
5	4	3	2	1	9	8	7	6
4	3	2	1	9	8	7	6	5
3	2	1	9	8	7	6	5	4
2	1	9	8	7	6	5	4	3

ANSWER:

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

ECC Announces Fall 2024 Graduates

Twenty students have completed all requirements of their respective degree programs as of the end of the Fall 2024 semester and are now graduates of Ellsworth Community College in Iowa Falls. These graduates will be honored with their peers at the commencement ceremony in May.

All ECC FY25 graduates are listed by their hometown, followed by the

degree/diploma awarded (AA is Associate of Arts, AS is Associate of Science, APS is Associate of Professional Studies, AAS is Associate of Applied Science, and DPL is Diploma), and the students' majors. Symbols following the names signify the following Honors: ** = 4.0 GPA, * = 3.5 cumulative GPA or higher.

Clarion, IA - Marlene Johana Hernandez Matul*, AA (Fine Arts)

www.clarionnewsonline.com



Ben Detwiler hoped to make the world a better place. That hope died when he was killed by a drunk driver.

What should you do to stop a friend from driving drunk? Whatever you have to. Friends don't let friends drive drunk.





**Morning Coffee.
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**The Wright County
Monitor**

Look, a square!
Squares have four equal sides.
Daddy's kind of a square too,
but that's another story.

Everyday moments can be learning moments with your kids. For more tips, visit bornlearning.org

Classifieds

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NOTICE: Garage door sales, service and repairs. Farm, home and commercial garage doors and operators. For prompt service, phone Mike Sampson in Kanawha at 641-762-3330

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**The Wright County
Monitor**

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THE CLASSIFIEDS!

Iowa lawmakers try again to pass anti-SLAPP bill expediting First Amendment cases

Robin Opsahl
Iowa Capital Dispatch

Rep. Steven Holt, R-Denison, said he has high hopes for the Iowa Legislature to pass an anti-SLAPP bill this session after several years of the measure stalling.

SLAPP, or “strategic lawsuits against public participation,” is a term used for civil lawsuits filed to intimidate a person or news organization from speaking publicly about certain issues. The individuals or organizations bringing these suits do not necessarily think they can win in court, but aim to stop reporting or public speech on a subject by threatening a drawn-out, expensive legal battle.

House Study Bill 116 is this year’s run at passing anti-SLAPP legislation in Iowa — one of 15 states that does not have a state measure protecting against these lawsuits. The bill has been passed by the House in previous sessions, but has yet to clear the Senate.

But this year, Holt said he believes the bill has “outstanding chance this year to advance to the Senate.” The Senate Judiciary Committee passed Senate File 47, the companion bill to the House measure, earlier Tuesday.

“I think this year we’re going to get it done,” Holt said.

Holt said his interest in passing anti-SLAPP legislation began in 2018 when a Carroll police officer sued

the Carroll Times Herald for libel after the paper reported he was having sexual relationships with teenagers, an act he admitted to. The court case cost the paper over \$100,000 and took more than a year to conclude.

The legislation, Holt said, would help prevent these situations by allowing for an expedited relief in court on actions that involve freedom of speech and of the press, as well as the rights to assemble, petition and of association.

“What this legislation allows is a sort of an expedited judgment up front, if the lawsuit is that way, is trying and attempting to silence speech,” Holt said. “Obviously, if there’s slander something there, the judge would determine, ‘no, it doesn’t fit,’ it would move forward. But it does allow that expedited relief and also reasonable attorney fees to the individual who’s targeted.”

David Walker, a member of the Uniform Law Commission of Iowa, said the legislation is an important step toward protecting constitutional rights of Iowans.

“This is bipartisan legislation — really crucial to our democracy, in protecting public expression against the kind of intimidation that is real, and that has effect without the protection of this act,” Walker said. “... I would say that it broadly protects all First Amendment rights which are replicated at the Iowa

Constitution.”

Several speakers supported the bill on behalf of news organizations, saying the measure will help prevent the judiciary from being used to restrict First Amendment rights. The bill was also supported by multiple speakers who said they had faced threats of legal action for their comments about the construction of Summit Carbon Solutions’ proposed pipeline.

Rep. Megan Srinivas, D-Des Moines, said though she has not been working on the legislation as long as Holt, she has “very vehemently” supported the measure for the past two years.

“I’m eager to do so again, for all of the reasons that each of you have stated, from trying to protect just our constitutional rights to freedom of speech — the very basics of what we should all be standing upon — and the good work that so many in the newspaper industry and journalism industry have done for our state,” Srinivas said.

The House bill is now available for consideration by the House Judiciary Committee. The Senate measure will be available for floor debate after being placed on the calendar.

Read more from Robin Opsahl online at IowaCapitalDispatch.com ©Copyright 2025, Iowa Capital Dispatch. Published under a Creative Commons license, CC BY-NC-ND 4.0. Read more at iowacapitaldispatch.com

Iowa puppy mills again ranked among the biggest violators

Only two other states had more violators in late 2024

Clark Kauffman
Iowa Capital Dispatch

Eight Iowa dog breeders were cited for regulatory violations in the fourth quarter of 2023, with Iowa again ranked as one of the states with the highest number of violators.

Between Oct. 1, 2024, and Dec. 31, 2024, the U.S. Department of Agriculture cited eight Iowa breeders for violations of federal regulations, according to data compiled and analyzed by the Iowa animal-welfare organization Bailing Out Benji.

The number of violators resulted in Iowa placing third among the states — behind Ohio and Wisconsin — that had the highest number of violators in the fourth quarter.

According to the analysis by Bailing Out Benji, the No. 1 violation cited by USDA inspections, nationally, in the fourth quarter of 2024 pertained to veterinary care for dogs, which accounted for 48% of all violations cited.

Among the 50 states, Iowa has the fourth-highest number of USDA-licensed pet breeders and brokers, with 263 such businesses now operating in the state.

The Iowa breeders cited for violations in the fourth quarter of 2024 include:

John and Orla Nisley of Rolling Organic Acres in Edgewood: This business was cited for a violation related to an attempted inspection on Oct. 30, 2024. The inspector arrived at the kennel at 10:45 a.m. and “spoke to the licensee who stated they are not available for inspection today and no other facility representative is available. Failure to provide access to the facility, animals, and records for inspection is a serious violation of the Animal Welfare Act and regulations,” the inspector’s report states.

The inspector was able to gain entry on Nov. 12, 2024, after which Rolling Organic Acres was cited for four additional violations pertaining to records; cleaning, sanitizing, housekeeping and pest control, and veterinary care. At the time, the kennel’s paperwork indicated it had 42 adult dogs on hand, but a count of the animals showed there were only 13 adult dogs, creating some uncertainty as to the whereabouts of the other 29 dogs.

The inspector also noted that enclosures used to house 12 adult dogs had an excessive accumulation of hair and “brown, dusty organic debris” coating the top of the enclosures, and two of the enclosures had a heavy buildup of cobwebs. The inspector also reported the kennel’s attending veterinarian had not been to the kennel in the previous six months, as required, and was overdue for an on-site visit. In addition, six adult dogs did not have a complete physical examination by the attending veterinarian every 12 months as required. The dogs had last been examined in September 2023.

At the time, the kennel had 13 dogs on hand. Rolling Organic Acres recently canceled its USDA license and has, to date, not procured another license. This same kennel was cited for violations in the first quarter of 2023.

According to Bailing Out Benji, Rolling Organic Acres sells to a pet store in New Jersey.

Wuanita and Glen Swedlund of Farmington: This kennel was cited for three noncritical violations during a routine inspection on Dec. 19, 2024. The violations were related to the attending veterinarian and inadequate veterinary care; watering of animals; and cleaning, sanitization, housekeeping and pest control.

The inspector reported the kennel did not have the equipment on hand that was necessary to groom a recently acquired female bichon and stated that “the dog has heavily matted fur on all four legs and tail ... This breed of dog requires regular grooming, and although recently acquired by the licensee, the dog appears to not have been groomed for several months.”

In one enclosure that was being used to house three

adult dogs, there was an overturned water bowl and the dogs had no access to potable water. The inspector also reported that the sheltered portion of one animal enclosure was “heavily contaminated with fecal material” covering 80% of the floor.

At the time, the kennel had eight adult dogs on hand.

The Swedlunds have a history of violations dating back to her licensing in 2023, including violations in the first quarter of 2024 and the fourth quarter of 2023.

In December 2023, a USDA inspector visited a dog-breeding kennel located in the Van Buren County town of Cantril. The business was operating on property owned by Steve Kruse, one of Iowa’s larger dog breeders, but was doing business under a license held by Wuanita Swedlund.

The inspector reported that in November 2023, a French bulldog named Bethany gave birth to four puppies, three of which were found dead within days. Swedlund allegedly indicated to the inspector that “the puppies must have gotten too cold and passed away.” Three other puppies, born to a rottweiler, were also found dead at the kennel, with Swedlund allegedly telling inspectors “they must have gotten too cold and died.”

In addition, a puppy born to Megan, a sheepdog, had to be euthanized after a dog in a nearby enclosure chewed through the wall into the puppy’s enclosure and tore the flesh from one leg, leaving the bone exposed. A short time later, a sheepdog puppy from the same litter was determined to be missing. “The licensee states they did find a single bone and assumed Megan ate her puppy,” the inspector reported.

In February 2024, a state inspector from the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship visited the facility and found additional violations related to inadequate veterinary care. A state inspector wrote in her report: “Discussed the need to go down in dog numbers to adequately care for dogs on property.”

Wuanita Swedlund and IDALS later reached an agreement whereby she agreed to downsize her Cantril operation to no more than 30 adult dogs.

Bailing Out Benji reports that it has records of the Swedlunds selling animals to pet stores in New York and Oregon.

Heath Meyers of Century Farm Puppies in Grundy Center: At the time of this Oct. 22, 2024, inspection, Meyers was cited for a direct violation related to dog enclosures and for one noncritical violation pertaining to the method of identification of animals. The inspector identified one adult female bichon, named Frisky Snowball, that had two toes on her right rear foot stuck in the flooring of her cage.

“The dog was panting with tail wagging, the tail wagging stopped when the facility representative was removing the stuck toes,” the inspector reported. “The dog was freed from the flooring by a facility representative approximately two minutes later. When the inspector examined the toes, the dog pulled back from the inspector’s touch, likely due to tenderness... The dog had a mild limp and was bearing some weight on that foot.” A worker at the kennel told the inspector incidents of that kind occurred “about two times a year,” with dogs’ toes becoming trapped in the flooring.

At the time of the inspection, Century Farm had 154 dogs and puppies on hand. Century Farm was also cited for violations in the first three quarters of 2024 and throughout 2023.

Eli Schrock of Hillview Kennels in Drakesville: This kennel was cited for two noncritical violations during a routine inspection that took place on Oct. 24, 2024. The violations were tied to incompatible groupings of dogs and cleaning, sanitizing,

housekeeping and pest control. The inspector reported that the indoor portion of two separate dog enclosures was “heavily contaminated with fecal material.” In both enclosures, the fecal matter had been “flattened and smeared across the floor when the dogs walked through it,” and the material was covering roughly half the floor in one enclosure and 80% of the floor in the other.

At the time, Hillview Kennels had 40 dogs and puppies on hand. Hillview Kennels was last cited for violations in 2022.

Floyd and Lisa Klocke of Floyd Klocke Farm in Coon Rapids: This kennel was cited for one noncritical violation during a Dec. 3, 2024, inspection. The inspector reported that five 10-week-old yellow labs had no water available to them in their enclosure. The puppies were reportedly given water at 9:30 a.m. that day, and at 1:30 p.m., the water bowl was observed to be upside down. The puppies were immediately given water, the inspector reported, adding that “some did not drink while others drank normally.”

At the time, Floyd Klocke Farms had 14 dogs and puppies on hand.

Judy and Gale Dorothy of Stockport: This kennel was cited for one noncritical violation during a routine inspection on Nov. 21, 2024, pertaining to records that indicated a litter of kittens was sold in August 2024, despite there being no record of an adult cat on the premises at that time. There were 46 dogs and puppies on hand at the time of the inspection.

Julie Krause of Buttercream Ranch in Algona: On Oct. 23, 2024, this kennel was cited for five noncritical violations during an inspection. The violations were tied to minimum-age requirements for animals sold, veterinary care and animal enclosures. The inspector reported that Buttercream Ranch sold 17 puppies from five litters and sent them home with their new owners before the puppies were eight weeks old, placing them at risk of health problems.

Also, the kennel’s attending veterinarian had not performed the required on-site visits, with the kennel having no record of any such visit since at least August 2023. In addition, 14 adult dogs had not had their required annual physical examination by the attending veterinarian, and Buttercream Ranch could not provide medical records for three dogs named Lottie, Otis and Dexter.

At the time, the kennel had 19 dogs and puppies on hand.

Ross and Valorie Craig of Dunroven Farms in Newell: On Oct. 2, 2024, this kennel was cited for four noncritical violations during a routine inspection. The violations were related to the attending veterinarian and inadequate veterinary care, dog enclosures, and cleaning, sanitization, housekeeping, and pest control. The inspector reported that a female cat named Poppysed had a coat that was matted with fecal matter along her lower back, across her spine and around her tail.

The inspector also reported that the staff at Dunroven Farms was checking on some of the cats every other day rather than a minimum of once daily. A cat named Snowy exhibited signs of a “mild head tilt” — a potential sign of an underlying health issue that could result in the pain or distress — that had not been reported to the attending veterinarian. In addition, litter boxes were not being spot cleaned on a daily basis to remove excrement. At the time, the kennel had 36 cats and kittens on hand.

Dunroven Farms was also cited for violations in the second quarter of 2024.

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Unniversity of Iowa graduate student union begins bargaining with Iowa Board of Regents team

Brooklyn Draisey
Iowa Capital Dispatch

The University of Iowa graduate student union is seeking a 25% increase in wages over the next two years, leaving the union’s president and members dissatisfied at the Iowa Board of Regents bargaining team’s offer of annual 3% increases.

The Campaign to Organize Graduate Students, or COGS, met with the Iowa Board of Regents bargaining team Thursday to start negotiations for its 2025-2027 contract. Both groups brought initial proposals forward, with COGS expected to send a formal response signaling their dissatisfaction with the board team’s offering in the near future.

Union President Cary Stough said the board bargaining team’s suggested annual 3% increase in base salaries for the next two years for graduate students working as teaching and research assistants across campus is nowhere near the COGS request for a 25% increase over two years.

“We were not totally surprised, but we were disappointed,” Stough said. “The crowd, at least when

it was announced to them, were mixed with feelings of shame, anger, indignation, and we laughed because we knew that even after ... presenting our months and months of research and data collecting, that they weren’t going to listen to it at all.”

According to the union’s current contract, the base salary rate for the 2024-2025 fiscal year is \$21,969 for a 50% academic year appointment and \$26,841 for 50% fiscal year appointment.

Comparing the two organizations’ initial proposals, Stough said the COGS contract was more than 25 pages compared to the less-than-five page document from the board bargaining team.

In addition to the salary increases, which Stough said reflect rising costs of living in Iowa City, the union is seeking to move the first day they receive a paycheck from Sept. 1 to Aug. 1 to help pay for moving costs, university fees and more, and putting language about paid time off back into the contract. Stough said information on paid time off was removed from the union contract in 2017 and put in the university’s Student Employment

Standards.

COGS included these topics in the proposed contract based on data from a bargaining survey the union sent to its members, Stough said.

Board of regents spokesperson Josh Lehman said in an email COGS members are valued by both the board and the university, and they recognize that graduate education is a vital part of both the university’s work and mission and higher education in general.

“The university recognizes it must maintain the competitiveness of the UI’s graduate assistantships, in order to continue to attract and retain excellent graduate students,” Lehman said in his email. “In addition to the contract proposal, the university covers all or most of the tuition and health benefits for graduate assistant employees with an appointment of 25 percent or greater.”

About 100 union members and their supporters showed up for the bargaining session, Stough said, in order to show both the board and the state that they are an “organizing force” that can coordinate quickly. Even with this showing, Stough said the union doesn’t have faith in the board coming back with a proposal that meets all of their wants and needs.

Stough said the union will send a formal response to the board bargaining team early next week, and the next closed bargaining session is set for Feb. 20. They will also follow up with questions from union members who couldn’t be in the room during bargaining and send them to the bargaining team.

“We will be satisfied when we have our meeting on the 20th and they come back to us with a robust, more than two-page contract with a lot of stuff we asked to put back in,” Stough said.

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SPORTS

(Photos: Taylor Smith)

Cowboys Celebrate Senior Night With Comeback Win



Chaz Lane has the fifth highest point total (378) in the North Central Conference.

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

On Tuesday of last week, the Clarion-Goldfield-Dows boys basketball team played the season's final conference game at home against the 4-15 Hampton-Dumont-CAL Bulldogs. Six Cowboy seniors and their loved ones were recognized before tip off, and per Senior Night tradition, Coach Berning's starting lineup consisted of five seniors.

The packed home bleachers applauded loudly as senior Christopher Revolorio's floater

bounced around the rim before finally falling in to give C-G-D their first two points. H-D-C wasted no time pounding the ball inside to 6'7" forward Brady Harr, and the Cowboys quickly brought in their usual starters.

Chaz Lane scored 14 off the bench in the 1st half and had a pretty assist to an open Bryce Lindaman. Ethan Hasty would nail a contested three early in the 2nd quarter, but Harr and the Bulldogs led 30-27 at halftime.

Hampton-Dumont-CAL opened the 3rd quarter



Bryce Lindaman averages 6 rebounds a game for C-G-D.

with three consecutive three pointers. Hasty hit from deep again, but the Cowboys trailed by six with just eight minutes to play.

Midway into the 4th, Lane had a 9-0 personal scoring run highlighted by an athletic scoop layup and a steal that was followed by an old-fashioned three-point play. The usually reserved forward pumped his fist as the Cowboys took a 54-51 lead.

Down the stretch, Huxley Lingenfelter blocked a Harr shot attempt and the Cowboys turned it into

a layup on the other end. Harr drilled a deep three to bring H-D-C within two, but Johnny Lomeli's two clutch free throws served as the nail in the Bulldogs' coffin as the Cowboys prevailed 62-58.

Lane finished with a career-high 36 points on 68% shooting from the field. He also pulled down 13 rebounds and dished out five assists.

Lindaman added 10 points, seven boards, and two steals, and Hasty and Lingenfelter had six points apiece.



Ethan Russell (11) and Ethan Hasty (5) take a break during a free throw.



Young basketball players provided halftime entertainment at last Tuesday's game.



Bryce Lindaman



Cesar Rosales



Christopher Revolorio



Ethan Russell



Owen Sweeney



Tate Jackson

Wrestlers On Cloud Nine After Impressive Showing

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

On Saturday, the Cowboys continued their historic season by sending a school record nine wrestlers to Wells Fargo Arena. Nine individuals brought home district titles or runner-ups at the Class 2A, District 11 meet held at Webster City High School.

At 106-pounds, freshman Paxton Redenius had a fall and a decision before facing third-ranked Coy Mehler in the finals. Mehler won the first place match by technical fall, but Redenius still earned a trip to state in his first year of high school wrestling.

Next, junior Angel Cortes pinned his way to the first place match and stamped his first ticket to state after finishing runner-up at 113.

Top ranked 120-pounder Linden Phetxoumphone is now a three-time state qualifier after his silver

medal performance in Hamilton County. Linden was defeated 4-1 in the finals by two-time state champion Brayden Bohnsack of Union.

Adrian Phetxoumphone captured an automatic bid after placing first at 126. The fifth-ranked sophomore won by fall, technical fall, and decision to improve his season record to 39-2.

Colin Sesker won a district title at 144 after delivering a 9-2 decision in the finals. Sesker is a freshman phenom currently ranked fifth in all of 2A.

Caleb Seaba (157) will enjoy one last trip to the Well after securing two pins and a technical fall for his second straight district title. The senior placed 8th at state last year at 165 and is now a three-time qualifier.

Ryland Morgan was the third Cowboy freshman to advance. He had two pins and a technical fall for the



Ryland Morgan (26-18) was district champion at 165.

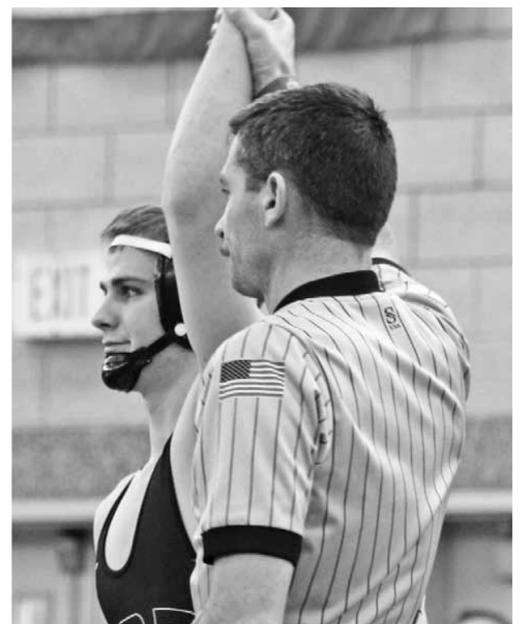
district title at 165.

Sophomore stud Charlie Campbell was the individual champion at 175. Campbell is ranked fifth in the state and holds a 40-3 record. He won 19-4 over Max Dalton in the first place bout.

JT Kelso had two pins at heavyweight for yet another Cowboy district title. Kelso is also a fifth-

ranked sophomore and now sits at 37-5 ahead of state wrestling.

The Cowboys won the district championship handily with a team score of 213.5 points. Second and third place went to Union (170) and Woodward-Granger (150.5). Webster City settled for fourth at home with 114.5 points.



Eleventh-ranked Caleb Seaba will look to improve on his 8th place finish from last year.

Hoopers Claim Victory Over Jaguars

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

Last Thursday, the Clarion-Goldfield-Dows boys basketball team competed in their final regular season contest of 2024-25 against the 11-9 Southeast Valley Jaguars.

The Cowboy defense forced Southeast Valley into bad shots, and the offense poured in 28 points in the

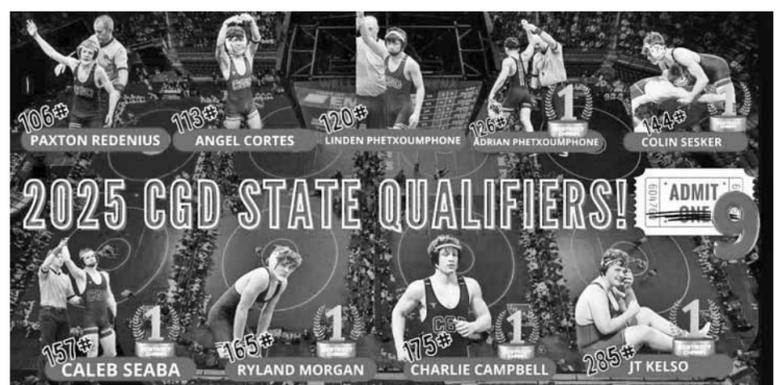
1st quarter alone. C-G-D slowed down a bit in the 2nd quarter, but they still walked away with a 69-58 home victory.

Chaz Lane had 24 points and three assists on the night. Over half of Lane's 13 rebounds were on the offensive end. Huxley Lingenfelter scored nine and secured six boards. The sophomore forward was also

a menace on the defensive end with three steals and two blocked shots.

JD Morral finished with five points and four assists, and Johnny Lomeli added seven points and eight rebounds.

Bryce Lindaman shot 50% from the field for 14 points and grabbed seven rebounds in the non-conference win.



(Photo: Crystal Engstrom)

National FFA Week



The newly elected CGD FFA officer team traveled to Osage for an officer training retreat, where they collaborated with other chapter officer teams and participated in team-building activities. CGD stood out, winning the "Most Involved Chapter" challenge.



The Wright County Fair is always a major summer event for most CGD FFA members. From showing animals and assisting with fairground cleanup to proudly having all three queen candidates represent the chapter, FFA members played a large role in the fair's success last year.



The August kickoff meeting is a highly anticipated event for CGD FFA and draws strong attendance each year. The tradition is inviting the State FFA Officer Team to lead chapter members through team-building activities. Their visit provides a great opportunity to educate and engage new and returning members.



Five CGD FFA members took the trip of a lifetime during spring break 2024, traveling to Scotland and Ireland after months of fundraising and preparation. Leading up to their departure, they held meetings to sharpen travel skills, pack efficiently, and learn what it takes to be a savvy traveler. The adventure created memories the kids (and FFA Teacher) will carry for a lifetime.



CGD FFA had an outstanding presence at the Iowa FFA State Leadership Conference, with members participating in a variety of state-level activities. From Iowa Degree recipients and chorus members to delegates and the Chapter Program contest, the CGD Chapter showed its excellence.



Their journey began in Dublin and Belfast, Ireland before taking a ferry to Scotland. There, they explored the cities of Glasgow and Edinburgh, discovering the rich history of the region. One highlight of the trip was visiting a museum in Edinburgh, where they saw Dolly, the world's first cloned sheep!

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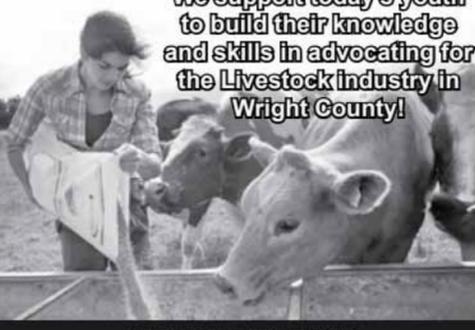
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February Clover Kids Focuses on Heart Health

This month's Clover Kids was about Heart Health! February is American Heart Month, a time when all people are encouraged to focus on their cardiovascular health. Clover Kids learned about heart rate and the importance of taking care of their hearts. Each Clover Kid learned how to measure their heart rate, and that exercise increases their heart rate. They practiced increasing their heart rate through a series of games and activities! Clover Kids exercised their body and mind during the Blood Cell Relay race to learn the job responsibilities of red blood cells, white blood cells, and platelets. Each Clover Kid left the meeting with a Heart Healthy Trackers to encourage physical activity during the month of February in celebration of American Heart Month.



"February is Heart Month when we show love to those in our lives and is a great month to remind us to take care of our heart. The Clover Kids encourage all

Wright County residents to join them in improving their heart health during the month of February!" - K-12 Program Coordinator Paige Roberts.

positive relationships and builds valuable life skills through a variety of hands-on activities. Clover Kids is free to youth in Wright County thanks to the Wright County 4-H Endowment.

WCCT presents "Of Men and Cars"

"If you want to have a meaningful conversation with a man, you have to do it in a car. A Ford. It's dependable. Gets you home."

Webster City Community Theatre invites you to take a road trip down life's path in its upcoming production, "Of Men and Cars." The semi-autobiographical comedy tells the story of Dad, a WWII bomber pilot, and his son Jim. Fords play an important part in their relationship. Cars of one kind or another are integral characters in this play that covers almost three decades.

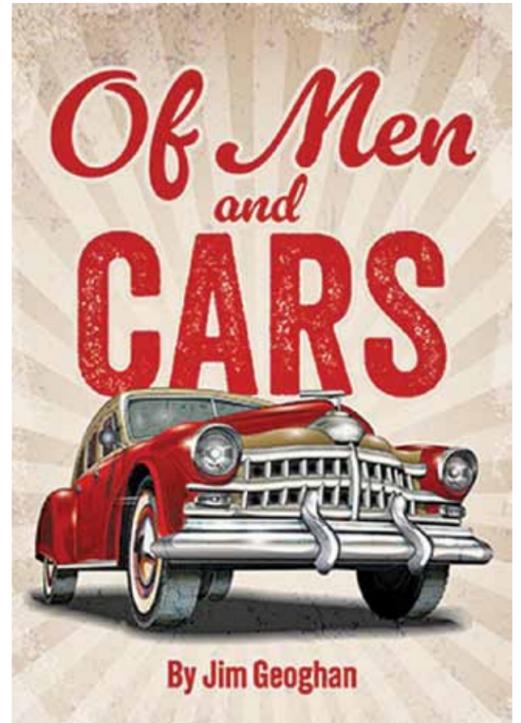
Production dates are February 28, March 1, 7 & 8 at 7 pm and March 2 & 9 at 2 pm. All tickets are \$15 plus tax and fees. Tickets are on sale now.

To reserve seats, go online to www.webstercitycommunitytheatre.com or call 515-832-4456 and leave a message. Box office hours are February 19 and 26 from 5 to 7 pm and February 22 from 10 am to noon.

This play is recommended for adults due to language and references to drugs.

Kevin Sharp of Duncombe as Jim and Dale Arends of Rowan as Dad tell much of the story from the front seat of their car. The father-son relationship changes from Jim's childhood years through his teens, early 20's and into his 30's. Jim was amazed by his father when he was a child. Later he wasn't as amazed and told him so. As a young adult, Jim realized he wasn't so amazing himself.

An assortment of characters come and go in the lives of Jim and his dad. There's Mom played by Sylvia Vust of Ellsworth. Portraying several characters each are Trese Arends of Rowan as Anna, Dorothy, and L.A. Woman; Rachel Derrig of Webster City as The Girl Next



Door, N.Y. Woman, and the BMW Saleswoman, and Katie Hildal as the College Girl.

Webster Citizens sharing the roles of the Used Car Salesman, Warren, and Jack are Dane Barner and Eric Heckert. Mike Kroona portrays Frankie Two Fingers, Pothead, and an Army Shrink and KeVon Edwards appears as Dominic. Dean Evans of Alden appears as Russo, a N.Y. Man, and the Montauk Man.

The play is under the direction of Loween Getter. Katie Hildal serves as production manager. Trese Arends serves as assistant director and Jeanette Tempel is stage manager. Patrick O'Loughlin created the car that is the centerpiece of the story and the set which was built by Alan Yungclas. Carol Zills

added artistic touches. The tech crew responsibilities for light and sound effects is in the capable hands of Sam Ose, Anne Blankenship, Ann McLaughlin, Dane Barner, and Sally Evans.

Also working behind the scenes are Mark Dohms, Tami Hejlik and KeVon Edwards, props; Annie Barner, costumes; Wil Groves, house manager; and Ann McLaughlin, box office manager.

The script by Jim Geoghan was a winner of the American Association of Community Theatres AACT NewPlayFest in 2022 and premiered at the Midland Community Theatre in Midland, TX. It is produced with special arrangements with Publishing Company, Inc. of Woodstock, IL.



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Iowa River Players are lettin' the good times roll at an upcoming concert!

The official motto of New Orleans is "Let the good times roll" and that philosophy is reflected in the traditional NOLA Christmas trees decorated in purple, green, and gold to start the Mardi Gras season at Christmastime, which we Iowans would call "early." IRP's March 1 concert is the Saturday evening just before the literal "Fat Tuesday," (a bit early.)

Socializing starts at 6:30 with live music set for 7:30. King & Queen Cakes will be featured on the buffet table with other complimentary snacks and drinks. No need to reserve tickets, the Rowan Events Center can seat 199 guests. Come one, come all to the Mardi Gras Ball! Admission is free but any "Roof Raising" donations will be graciously accepted! A word about authenticity: in researching the customs of the South, IRP folks found that seasonal parties can be elegant and formal or relaxed to the max. Some may choose "head to toe" glitter, or it's just as proper to pull on one's favorite jeans and some plastic beads. And for a donation, fancy eye masks will be available at the door!



(Pandemic masks are still free.)

You may have heard that IRP has had an increasingly leaky roof since Nature insisted upon invading the building in 2020, after a series of futile human attempts at repairs. After some minor setbacks (Covid, among others) the conviction grew that the still useful and beloved performance venue should not perish from neglect and lack of funds. It has old-style dignity and it will be spared from becoming a roofless eyesore that would be a danger for anyone curious enough to go near it.

In November some of

the individuals pictured in the above poster generously became partners in the IRP fundraising roof project. Audiences and performers alike deeply appreciated the gift of music in an auditorium where the music deserved center stage.

The audience said, "When can we do this again?" And the musicians said, "Set the date."

Terri Avery and Rob Arnold have joined Brad Revland, Mark Havens, and Caleb Avery in making music happen again. All are preparing for a full house, so everyone you know is being invited to "laissez les bons temps rouler" and bring a friend!

Menu

Monday, February 24, join the Dows Senior Citizens for a delicious meal at noon. The cost is \$10.00. Everyone is welcome. Carry-outs are available. The Dows Senior Citizens are meeting at the Dows Community Center. Menu: Scalloped Potatoes w/ Ham, Green Beans, Salads, Dessert.

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