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'They Have Less, But Also More',

CGD Educators Return with Deeper

Compassion After Guatemala Trip







Amanda Rink, Editor

When four educators Clarion-Goldfieldfrom School District Dows packed their bags for spring break, it wasn't to chase sunshine or relaxation. Instead, they set out on a journey to Antigua, Guatemala, a historical city surrounded by volcanoes, with a mission in mind: to better understand the roots of their immigrant students and the immense culture shift they experience when arriving in rural Iowa.

"It wasn't a vacation," said Megan Fiscus, an English Language Learner (ELL) teacher. "It was a true learning experience to be immersed in the culture and language for a solid week. You start to understand how our students feel when they come here and don't understand what's going on around them."

Fiscus traveled alongside 5th-grade reading teacher Maycie Rector, 4thgrade teacher Terri Godby, and Spanish interpreter and ELL paraeducator Daisy Carrillo. Together, they left

sionate travel" experience one that provided cultural, academic, and emotional understanding.

The trip was not funded by the school. Instead, the team fundraised money, including a large donation from Versova Community Foundation, which recognized the importance of supporting the children of its workforce.

Antigua, once the capital of Spanish Central America, is considered one of the safest cities in Guatemala. Despite Antigua's charm, the country remains one of the poorest in the region, with many families living in rural areas lacking basic necessities like clean water, modern housing, and access to education.

"Seeing it firsthand changes your mind," said Carrillo. "We visited a private school that only charges \$25 to \$100 for the school year but families

still struggle to pay." The group visited classrooms that were a fraction of the size of those in Clarion. Materials were sparse, yet students were self-disciplined and remarkably responsible.

"They all brought their own containers for snacks, brushed their teeth at school, swept floors, cleaned tables, and didn't leave a mess," Rector reflected. "There were no reminders, no misbehavior. Life is harder there, and the kids have more life skills from a younger age."

Teachers in Guatemala earn about \$350 a month and often lack formal training. Still, the community fills gaps where it can. Parents work in the schools, often cooking the meals to offset tuition costs. Grandparents walk children to school. There are no clocks in the classrooms, all of these details that the visitors noticed reflect broader cultural values: time isn't rushed, life is lived slowly, and family is central.

"It made me think about my Guatemalan students here," shared Godby, who teaches seven students from Guatemala in her 4th-grade class, some of who are working hard at

learning the English language. "They've come from a place where they have more freedom, more responsibility, and a strong sense of family and community. Coming here, with all the structure, rules, and language barriers, it has to be exhausting for them."

The trip wasn't without emotional weight. The teachers found themselves exhausted at the end of the day, from the mental toll of trying to understand every-

thing in a foreign language. "One day, we had a full day of school visits and then two to three hours of Spanish lessons," said Godby. "By the end, we were exhausted. But it made us think, this is what our students feel like every day when everything is in a language they don't fully understand."

Rector agreed, "Seeing an English menu gave me a sense of relief. It reminded me how powerful it is to give our students materials in their language, to lower that stress, so they can be ready to learn."

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'Tre Strong' **Community Unites for Middle Schooler Recovering from Traumatic Accident**

Amanda Rink, Editor

Clarion-Goldfield-A Dows middle school student is making strides in recovery after surviving a traumatic car accident.

On March 29, 13-yearold Tretyn "Tre" Solis, the son of Megann and Danny Solis of Clarion, was returning from the T.A.G Science Fair at the Hilton Coliseum in Ames when a freak accident changed everything. A loose tire struck the school suburban he was riding in, smashing through the windshield and hitting Tre, who was seated in the front passenger seat. He sustained multiple skull and facial fractures, a brain bleed, and required emergency craniotomy surgery that night.

For several days, Tre remained sedated in the ICU. But day by day, the updates from his mom, Meghann, on social media grew more hopeful: walking with physical therapy, eating applesauce, charming nurses with Dragon Ball Z trivia, and slowly regaining strength. "We moved from the ICU to the Peds general floor... now it's just a matter of letting him heal, manage

his pain, and rehabilitation," Meghann wrote.

Most recently, Tre has been up and moving more, undergoing physical, occupational, and speech therapy daily. "Him having a good day and wanting me to snuggle him this afternoon was the best birthday present I could ever ask for," Meghann shared on

April 9, her birthday. As Tre continues his road to recovery, the community has rallied in extraordinary ways to support the Solis family of seven. Meghann, well known in Clarion as the owner of a busy in-home daycare, and Danny, the former owner of "Grounded" who had just started a new job, found their world turned upside down when the tragedy struck. Not only does the family have to drive back and forth often to support their other children in Clarion, they have to continue to make ends meet while the expected medical bills pile up.

The most surprising of understandings came from Tre's friends, who rallied on April 9 at Clarion's Pizza Ranch to buss tables for tips, sell frozen pizza



Pictured here just hours before the accident, 13-yearold Tretyn "Tre" Solis (circled) was returning from the T.A.G. Science Fair at Hilton Coliseum in Ames on March 29 when a loose tire struck the school suburban. Tre, seated in the front passenger seat of the school suburban, suffered multiple skull and facial fractures, a brain bleed, and underwent emergency surgery that night. (Photo: Tanja Jensen)

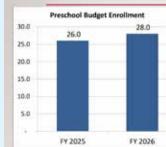
and shirts to raise funds for their friend and his family.

"Within ten minutes of the buffet opening," shared Solis family friend Courtney Morris, "there was already a line formed at the register." More support continues to pour in for the family across Wright County. A T-shirt fundraiser led by Morris and sold through Threads & Company in Belmond has taken off. All proceeds go directly to the Solis family.

A classmate of Tre, Kayleigh Marshall, who owns the bracelet business Little continued on page 2

CGD School District Adopts 2026 Budget

PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT



The Clarion-Goldfield-Dows School District's Preschool Budget Enrollment increased by 2.0 students. This is an increase of 7.7% compared to FY 2025.

Amanda Rink,

April 9, 2024 - At a recent budget hearing, the Clarion Goldfield Dows (CGD) Board of Education approved its fiscal year 2026 budget, outlining modest increases in specific funding areas despite an overall decline in enrollment and financial challenges linked to state formulas and property valuations. Board Secretary Anita Frye shared a detailed review of the budget, which this article highlights.

Enrollment & Funding Changes

Enrollment figures saw a modest dip this year, with the district's headcount dropping by 3.6 students or roughly 0.4%. This includes small declines in categories like Special Education and other supplemental programs, which are closely tied to fund formulas. However, there was a bright spot, preschool enrollment climbed by 7.7% that brings a modest boost to the program funding.

Because Iowa's school funding is based on weighted enrollment, even slight changes can carry significant funding implications. With a decrease of 6.1 weighted students and each one accounting for \$8,000 in state funding, the district stands to lose nearly \$49,000 before other adjustments. **General Fund**

The CGD General Fund, which covers the district's daily operations, showed a mix of growth and decline.

The regular program budget increased by \$124,430 (1.6%), but this was counterbalanced by the loss of \$161,900 in one-time budget guarantee funds, resulting in an overall drop of 0.5% in regular program funding. Special Education funding held steady, increasing by only \$251 due to the rigidity of state funding formulas.

The Teacher Salary Supplement (TSS) rose, by \$70550 or 9%, driven in part by state mandates to meet new minimum teachers' salary levels. Dropout prevention funding also increased by \$23,348, though, unlike last year, the district could not carry over unspent funds.

Property Tax & Levy

The General Fund levy fell sharply by \$534,470, or 8.9%, due to state-imposed limits on what local districts can levy. Yet, thanks to adjustments in the Instructional Support Levy (ISL), the district was able to collect more through that avenue—an increase of 70.6%. This wasn't exactly due to carryover changes but rather reflects a recalibrated strategy to utilize the ISL, one of the few tools available to go beyond the state's spending

As Board Secretary Anita Frye explained, the ISL gives the board flexibility to exceed the state's per-pupil maximum by up to 10%, using a blend of property taxes and income surtaxes. It's a critical mechanism to help cover costs that the state's 2% Supplemental State Aid won't fully address.

Meanwhile, the Cash Reserve Levy was reduced by nearly half (48.5%) - a drop influenced by the district's healthy cash balance carryover, which restricted further levy authority under state rules.

Overall, the total General Fund levy dropped from \$10.12 to \$9 per \$1,000 of assessed property value. This contributes to a reduced total property tax rate of \$13.17 per \$1,000, down from \$13.50. For context, the CGD portion now sits at 13.28214, while the Dows portion is at 12.73456.

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AREA HEADLINES

Belmond

Sewer rates are set to increase. Separately, a portion of the water treatment plant has broken down, with repairs expected to cost several hundred thousand dollars.

Removal of the old bar north of the Convention Center will begin soon. "This will be a big improvement for the area," shared Mayor Larry Klatt.

Eagle Grove

Milling work began on SW 1st Street, NE 2nd Street, and NW 8th Street. Residents are advised to avoid parking on these streets. Following the milling work, limited access will be provided until paving begins in mid-summer, with completion expected by August.

Hampton

The City of Hampton was recently recognized with the 2024 Tree City USA Growth Award by the Arbor Day Foundation and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources for its commitment to urban forestry. Hampton was one of 25 Iowa communities honored for demonstrating strong tree management practices and enhancing local forest resources.

Central Waste Systems of Clarion is conducting annual septic tank inspections. They have also replaced all Mort's stickers with updated labels showing the correct emergency contact number, and any septic issues should now be reported directly to Central Waste Systems.

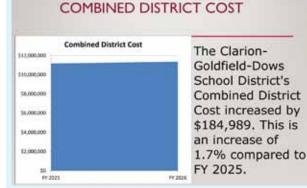






CGD School Budget

continued from page 1



Other Areas

The Management Fund ended with a \$320,327 surplus thanks to \$1.26 million in revenue and \$988,500 in expenses. These funds help cover obligations such as insurance, unemployment, and legal needs.

The PEPPEL Fund, which is used for equipment and facilities, is projected to run a deficit of \$612,088 due to significant purchases, including two new buses and a 12-passenger van. It also covers the routine upkeep of the buildings.

The Activity Fund saw a \$5,100 increase, fueled by private donations and event ticket sales, which vary year Debt Service funds—used for repaying district loans

like the one for the middle school gym or high school ballfield—saw a modest \$5,382 gain. Frye clarified to The Wright County Monitor after the

public meeting, that these repayments are funded through transfers from the Capital Projects or Sales Tax Fund. The Nutrition Fund faces challenges ahead, expecting

a \$233,200 shortfall due to rising food costs and the expiration of federal COVID relief aid. On a positive note, the Sales Tax Fund is projected

to grow by \$44,997, helping to ease the district's loan obligations for projects funded by loans. Despite a challenging fiscal landscape, which is being felt all over Iowa, the board moved forward with the

budget, even as the district braces for future changes. Editor's Note: This article was reviewed for accuracy by Board Secretary Anita Frye and photos were provided by Anita Frye from her presentation to the CGD Board of Education.

CGD Board Earns Community Praise, Shares Updates on Students and Staffing Amanda Rink,

April 9, 2025 - The Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Community School Board held its regular monthly meeting last Wednesday. Highlights ranged from public comment on school safety to district-wide initiatives in student programming and staff development.

open forum community member Alison During the Marshall publicly praised the admin's handling of recent allegations involving a student bringing a firearm to school.

Following the last school board meeting, I had sent a lengthy email to Mr. Nelson in regards to communication from the school, and I just wanted to say publicly how I really appreciated the meeting and the follow-up that my husband and I received," Marshall shared through a third party in attendance as she was unable to attend the meeting. ' definitely felt heard as parents and believe it is a priority from our district to improve and come up with the best way to keep parents informed. Mr. Patrick also took the time to follow up and listen to the concerns that we had. So thank you to our administration for quickly listening and responding.

The meeting quickly moved onto the Superintendent's report, where Joseph Nelson opened with an emotional update on student Tre Solis who is recovering from a car accident that happened during a school Talented and Gifted trip.

"Our hearts and prayers continue to be with Trey and the Solis family. We're all hoping for a full recovery," Nelson said. "It's been amazing to hear some of the good news—he's up walking, feeding himself, and having conversations.'

Nelson also shared plans for a unique educational opportunity for high school students: an FFA-sponsored trip for eight students to our sister city Kosovo next spring. The trip, aimed at studying agriculture practices in Europe, will include participation from students, parents, and staff. "What an authentic and rich experience for our kids to spend their spring break visiting farms and seeing how they produce food in Eastern Europe," he said, praising FFA instructor Angela Charlson for the idea.

On the staffing front, Nelson noted that the district continues to see a strong applicant pool for open teaching positions. He also acknowledged a statewide struggle to hire special education teachers, which CGD is also facing. "If you are an 18-year-old kid looking for job security, go into special education. You'll have a lifetime of interview opportunities," he shared.

Enrollment has dipped slightly, with 11 fewer kids since August, mostly from the high school which Nelson noted was a normal fluctuation. He ended his report with a presentation of the upcoming school calendar to the board. The first day of the 2025/2026 school is set for Monday, August 25. In other business, the board approved:

• Staff resignations, 2nd-grade teacher Jalyn Heeren, Girls Soccer Coach Miriam Meinke, Girls' Wrestling Coach Emma Gomez, and Paraprofessional Stacy Tate.

• New hires/contracts for the 2026 school year, Jessica Smock as the HS Dance Coach, Craig Warnke as the Assistant Football Coach, and a new housekeeper Adriana Lopez • First and second readings of updated district policies,

ranging from drug testing to student record access • The 2025 potential graduate list & appointees of the School

Improvement Committee • Contracts for milk and bread for the next school year

(awarded to Anderson-Erickson Dairy and Bimbo Bakery) • Board Secretary Anita Frye noted an approval of an extension request for the FY24 audit, which she shared is normal for school districts to request considering the difficulty in finding

a company to conduct the audit. • The purchase of a replacement vehicle for a recently totaled school Suburban, with costs not to exceed the insurance payout plus a \$1,000 deductible.

Looking ahead, staff appreciation events are set for May 7 at the High School at 2:30, where retirees will also be celebrated. Nelson reflected on how quickly the school year has flown by: "We're just a little over six weeks away from pomp and circumstance," he said.

The next CGD Board of Education will be held on May 8th at 4:30 P.M. at the district office. For detailed financial reports and policy changes, please visit the CGD website at clargold.org.

'They Have Less, But Also More' continued from page 1







The teachers were left with powerful empathy for immigrant students who face similar challenges when coming to Clarion. But among the challenges they faced during the week from home, there were also moments of pure clarity.

Teachers shared that the classrooms had no tech, only computer labs. "They had Apple desktops in the computer lab, but most of the teaching tools were basic. Still, the kids got straight to work. No questions asked," Rector said.

The kids cleaned up themselves and brushed their teeth and face at school after a meal or snack. This was an idea all of the education professionals agreed wouldn't be a bad one to implement at our schools. The kids also managed themselves without a lot of

redirection from the adults around them. The teachers visiting felt the traits were born out of necessity and "just expected".

One vivid memory came after lunch one day. Children had made a makeshift pool table from cardboard and egg cartons. "It was a reminder that kids don't need much to play," said Fiscus. "They were laughing, playing games, using pencils and straws as cue sticks. They had less, but they also had more."

Beyond the classroom, the teachers encountered a reality that many immigrant students rarely discuss: danger. In many areas of Guatemala, education is only free through sixth grade. After that, families must pay, and safety concerns often force older students, especially girls, to drop out.

"At a certain age, some

just stop going," Fiscus said.

Carrillo shared insight from a student she teaches in Clarion, "It becomes unsafe for them to walk to school, especially if their commute is long or isolated. One of our high school students explained that's part of why their family left, it just wasn't safe anymore." It isn't just girls who feel unsafe, boys often stay close to home to avoid being recruited into gangs.

This awareness hit the teachers hard. "It's not just that they're coming here for something better — they're also leaving because they can't stay," Carrillo added.
"They don't always have a choice."

Though the contrast between life in Guatemala and rural Iowa might seem striking, the teachers left with a deep admiration for

"They may come here for better opportunities, for education, healthcare, and safety, but they're also leaving behind something beautiful," Fiscus reflected. "It's a culture rich in tradition, slower living, and tight-knit family."

Although they could recognize the beautiful culture and life their students and their families may be leaving behind, the group was happy to be back in Iowa. The educators hope to visit a public school in Guatemala soon, believing that it will better reflect the circumstances where the majority of our students come from.

In the end, the trip reinforced a simple truth, understanding leads compassion. And compassion can shape a better classroom, which leads to a rich community.

'Tre Strong' continued from page 2

Bit of Sunshine, sold signature green and black bracelets as a fundraiser for the family. She fulfilled orders the night of the Pizza Ranch Fundraiser. Meghann shared after the event at Pizza Ranch her thanks sharing, "We appreciate it more than you'll ever know!"

The campaigns are much more about solidarity as a community that cares for its children than it is about financial support.

"The Solis family has the biggest hearts of anyone I know," Morris shared. "They have been there for me and my kids countless times... This is just one small way to show them how much they mean to all of us."

In a moment of profound crisis, what could have been just another news story has become a testament to the spirit of our tight-knit community. And for Tre, whose journey has really just started, that spirit may be one of the most powerful medicines of all.

The Solis family asks community members to "please keep the prayers coming for our little warrior." If you missed the most recent Pizza Ranch fundraiser, the kids are hosting another one on April 23 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.





All proceeds from each shirt sold will go directly to Tre Solis and his family. TO ORDER CONTACT COURTNEY MORRIS

> Threads & Company (Belmond) Courtney Morris (515) 368-0555 Courtneybeth1987@gmail.com

Tre's classmates stepped up in a big way at Clarion's Pizza Ranch on April 9, bussing tables, selling frozen pizzas and #TRESTRONG T-shirts, to raise \$1,263.82 for the Solis family. Donations can be made to the Solis family via Venmo (@Meghann-Solis), at First Citizens Bank, or by ordering T-shirts through Morris at 515-368-0555 or courtneybeth1987@gmail.com. (Photos: Courtney Morris/Graphic: Amanda

Deep Roots, Bold Vision

Clarion Leaders Reflect on Community's Growing Impact

Amanda Rink, Editor

Local Melinda Anderson paused to notice a commonly overlooked scene in Clarion last week - a Hagie sprayer ready for global export, an Ennis truck ready for travel across our country, and a local farmer gearing up to feed the world - and snapped a photo.

To her, it wasn't just another rural moment; it was a reminder of the deep roots and big impact of life in our "itty-bitty" town.

"Fun view tonight of the roots our community is blessed to have," she wrote, sharing the photo online which quickly resonated with many. "Agriculture is vital to our community. To see a Hagie sprayer sold around the world from Clarion, Ennis trucks traveling around the country, and a farmer getting ready to feed the world, right here in the heart of our community. We are blessed to be rooted here."

Anderson, who serves as president of the Clarion Development Alliance

(CDA) board, personifies "rooted" optimism. That same spirit was present later in the week when she joined CDA Director Sam Strumpf and fellow board member Lisa Hanson, of Hanson and Son Tire, at the Rural Iowa Development

The goal of the trip was to "learn from regional experts on economic development in rural Iowa," according to CDA Director Strumpf. "We are energized and full of so many ideas to bring back to Clarion," Strumpf

shared on social media. "When a small town is headed in the right direction, you can feel it," Anderson added. "Energetic towns have a vision, take risks, and are open to new ideas. They invest, care, and believe! Why not us? We believe-let's do this together."

In a time when rural communities often face challenges to grow, Clarion is growing as tall as the corn which surrounds it...rooted in the past, but boldly looking ahead.



Members of the Clarion Development Alliance Board attended the Rural Iowa Development on April 10. (Photo: Melinda Anderson)



A local paused to notice a commonly overlooked sight in Clarion, and snapped a photo which is resonating with others in the community. (Photo: Melinda Anderson)

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Linda Lloyd, Clarion Public Library Director

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Want to start a small business? We have books to start you down the right path

Boss Up! This Ain't Your Mama's Business Book by Lindsay Teague Moreno. Moreno tells her story of going from stay-at-home

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mom to multimillion-dollar business owner. She shares stories that will make you laugh, cry, blush (probably all three). Moreno shares the lessons she has learned.

The Ugly Truth About Small Business: 50 Things That Can Go Wrong and What You Can Do About It by Ruth King. Through stories and lessons from entrepreneurs who have been there, and you can discover how to handle such situations.

The Small Business Start-Up Guide: A Surefire Blueprint to Successfully Launch Your Own Business by Hal Root and Steve Koenig. Save time, effort, and money with this book. It covers everything you need to know to start successfully.

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New books:

Fern Michaels book Fight or Flight is described as a gripping new pageturner. I'm putting this book down on my "To Read" list.

As seen on TikTok; one TikTok reviewer said Yarrow had them in a choke hold through this book and it's a great read for 2025, The Last Letter by Rebecca Yarrow.

The Texas Murders by James Patterson's is the 3rd book of the Rory Yates series. Yates is a Texas Ranger when a new investigation comes forth. It's the disappearance of an Indigenous woman and is showing clues pointing to a cold case.

Library Book Club will be meeting Monday, April 28th at 4:30. Our April book pick is The Last Word by Gerri Lewis, a Cozy Mystery. Books available at the front desk and also on Hoopla.

Iowa Republicans release updated property tax legislation

Robin Opsahl Iowa Capital Dispatch

An overhaul of Iowa's property tax system would begin sooner and allow local governments to collect more revenue in times of high inflation under updated legislation released Wednesday by the Republican chairmen of

the Legislature's tax-writing

committees.

Senate Study Bill 1227, and its companion House Study Bill 328, make changes to House Study Bill 313 and Senate Study Bill 1208, the companion bills introduced in early March by Rep. Bobby Kaufmann, R-Wilton and Sen. Dan Dawson, R-Council Bluffs, the chairs of the Ways and Means committees in the House and

The original legislation, as well as the updated version, would repeal Iowa's "roll-back" system for calculating property taxes, in which only a portion of residential property taxes are taxable. The taxable portion is a percentage of the property's market value, calculated each year growth of statewide taxable properties and limited by an aggregate value growth of

The legislation replaces the rollback with a "revenue-restricted" system by allowing taxation of the full assessed value of a property, but limiting the amount of new tax revenues local governments can collect. Most property tax levy rates could increase each year by no more than 2% under the bill, with exceptions for new con-

struction. While the initial proposal phased out the rollback system over five years, the new bill proposes eliminating this system of calculation immediately, in fiscal year 2027. The new version of the legislation also allows local governments to exceed the 2% limit — allowing up to 5% increases for most property tax levy rates — during times of high inflation, as determined by increases in the consumer price index (CPI).

In a news release, Dawson and Kaufmann stated the property tax proposal includes a "minimum budget guarantee to provide small communities certainty in their budgeting process." The measure also includes an increase to the homestead property tax exemption benefit from a proposed \$25,000 in the initial bill to \$50,000.

Some of these changes — like allowing for greater levy rate increases during inflationary periods — were brought up during subcommittee meetings on the legislation by advocates representing local governments. Dawson said the new version of the legislation came out of discussions and suggestions on the original bill.

"When we filed our original bill, we were looking to get it out to the public so we

could start receiving feedback and input, and the bill filed today is a result of that feedback," Dawson said in the release. "... These updated proposals continue our goal of rebuilding the property tax system to bring relief, and bring more predictability and transparency to taxpayers, local governments and businesses."

Concerns about other portions of the proposal raised by local government representatives, like changes to tax increment financing (TIF) revenues and the shift of \$426 million in K-12 schools from property taxes to the state, were not addressed by the amendment, remaining the same in the new legislation.

The new property tax bill has not been scheduled for a subcommittee as of Wednesday. In interviews with reporters and at meetings, Kaufmann has repeatedly stated that his goal is for the measure to pass during the 2025 legislative session, while giving time for feedback and alterations as needed. Republican leaders have echoed this sentiment, while saying that they want to ensure the bill will have its intended impact of lowering property taxes while allowing local governments to continue providing needed

Services.

Senate President Amy
Sinclair told reporters earlier
in August that "we want it

done right, rather than fast."

"For me, it's a priority to get done this session," Sinclair said. "But if it doesn't get done this session, it's because ... we didn't have all the details in place to get it

done right.

Kaufmann said in a statement on the updated property tax bill that the measure will provide needed relief from rising property tax costs.

"With assessment letters coming out, Iowans have been louder than ever with their concerns about property taxes," Kaufmann said. "Iowans have expressed their concern, rage, and fear about unpredictable increases and their ability to afford staying in their homes. We are working to provide real relief to Iowans and their families, make Iowa a competitive state to live, and deliver a property tax overhaul that focuses on property taxpay-

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The Historical Viewpoint

The Hindenburg and Airship Disasters

Casey Jarmes, The News-Review (Sigourney)

The steerable, first powered airship was created by French inventor Henri Giffard in 1852. Giffard's dirigible consisted of a steam engine powered propeller and a 144-foot-long balloon filled with hydrogen. It was able to travel for seventeen miles at the blistering speed of five miles per hour before landing. Throughout the 19th century, airships were slowly improved over by various inventors, most notably by Count Ferdinand von Zeppelin of Germany.

Zeppelin began building airships in 1891. In 1900, Zeppelin completed the LZ-1, a 420-foot-long cylindrical rigid airship. Unlike earlier airships, the LZ-1 had an internal frame made of aluminum girders, allowing it to be far bigger. Zeppelin's airships were improved throughout WWI, where they were used to drop bombs on Paris and London. In 1928 Zeppelin's company, Luftschiffbau Zeppelin, began offering transatlantic airship flights. In 1936, it created the most famous airship in history, the LZ-129, christened the Hindenburg.

The Hindenburg was a 778-foot-long airship, the largest in history, designed to be like a floating luxury ocean liner. It contained 25 cabins, a large dining room, silk wallpaper, a custommade ultralight aluminum piano, a lounge, a bar, and a writing room. The Hindenburg even contained a smoking room, separated from the rest of the ship via an airlock; the smoking room only contained one electric lighter and crew were instructed to search passengers to ensure they didn't carry cigarettes or pipes out of the room, for obvious reasons.

The Hindenburg was named after recently deceased German President Paul von Hindenburg. Paul von Hindenburg is remembered for having the great idea of making Adolf Hitler chancellor, curtailing civil liberties and massively inflating Hitler's political power via the Enabling Act, and then dying of lung cancer, leaving Hitler with full control of the country. Although the Hindenburg was designed for civilian flights, it was co-owned by the German government and used extensively by the Nazis.

Hindenburg's first

public flight was over the Rhineland, a region on the border of France and Germany. The Rhineland was occupied by the Allies following WWI, with the German military forbidden from entering the area. In March, 1936, Nazis remilitarized the Rhineland, the first step in their conquering of Europe. A few weeks later, the Hindenburg flew over the Rhineland, blaring patriotic music and political speeches from loudspeakers, dropping swastika flags propaganda leaflets. Later that year, the Hindenburg flew over the Berlin Olympics, painted with swastikas and Olympic The rings. greatest airship ever built was a useful symbol for Nazi propaganda.

The Hindenburg was designed to be filled with helium. However, the United States owned nearly all of the world's helium supply. The U.S. government banned the exportation of helium in 1927, rightfully fearing it could be used for military purposes. Unable to fill their airship with helium, the Germans turned to the next best thing: hydrogen. Hydrogen is even lighter than helium, allowing the designers to add extra cabins to the ship. Unfortunately, hydrogen is also very, very flammable.

On May 6, 1937, the Hindenburg flew across the Atlantic, carrying 36 passengers and 61 crew members. As it moored at the Lakehurst Navy Air Base in New Jersey,

the Hindenburg suddenly caught on fire. The fire engulfed the hydrogen filled airship, transforming it into a blazing inferno. The exact cause of the fire is unknown, but the generally accepted theory is that the Hindenburg had a hydrogen leak which was ignited by static electricity as it passed through storm clouds.

people passengers, 22 crewmen, and one unlucky soul on the ground) died, either from the fire or from falling from the 200-foothigh airship. Surprisingly, people managed to survive the disaster. One passenger, an acrobat named Joseph Späh, broke a window and jumped out when the crashing ship was only 20 feet off the ground, landing safely. One survivor, eight years old during the disaster, lived until 2019.

The Hindenburg disaster was not the deadliest airship accident in history. In 1944, the USS Akron, a U.S. Navy airship, crashed over the ocean during a thunderstorm, killing 73 people. But, unlike the Akron, the Hindenburg disaster was caught on film. Four newsreel teams were at Lakehurst to film the Hindenburg's arrival and were able to film the terrible crash. The famous words of Herbert Morrison, a radio journalist recording audio at the time of the disaster, are permanently tied to the disaster in public memory: "Oh, the humanity!"

The newsreel footage made the disaster infamous. Airship popularity was already declining, due to other disasters like that of the USS Akron and the invention of the airplane, but Hindenburg was the final nail in the coffin. Airplanes took over as the primary method of flight and were used throughout the second world war. The aluminum alloy framework of the Hindenburg was shipped back to Germany, where it was recycled into military aircraft.

UDMO Is Preparing for Spring Planting!

Upper Des Moines Opportunity, Inc. preparing for spring planting through our Annual Garden Program. This program offers seeds, plants, garden tools to eligible individuals and families living in Wright County. Our Garden Program is an inexpensive, healthy and nutritious way people can add to their own source of food. We

would love for your help to continue to offer such a nutritious program.

There are two ways the community can get involved in helping us with the Garden Program. First we are in need of monetary donations to help purchase items for the program. The second way is to donate garden seeds, tomato and pepper plants, onion sets and new garden tools such

as gloves, trowels, watering cans, foam kneeling pads,

Donations can be mailed or dropped off at our office located at 221 W. Broadway, Eagle Grove, IA. 50533. Our office hours are: Monday-Thursday 8-12:30pm and 1-4pm. Closed on Fridays.

If you have questions about the Garden Program please feel free to contact Chris at the Wright County UDMO office at (515) 448-3704.

Thank you in advance for helping to make a difference in our community.





Heartland Museum is hosting

Coffee & Sweets

for past volunteers and anyone

interested in volunteering.

This will be in the Community Room at

the Museum (119 9th St, Clarion)

from 9:00 am - 11:00 am on April 26.

As we celebrate our 25th Anniversary,

we honor our past volunteers.

Legal notices

Access Systems, Copier cor	1133.94 413.01 titions 327.00 921.70 035.59 169.18 6625.00 1204.25 8581.26 1579.33 \$34.26 267.73 erDiem/ 1599.54 500.00
3 Jon Ahrendsen, Med. exam	327.00
Amazon, Off. supp	921.70 035.59 169.18 6625.00 1204.25 \$581.26 5579.33 138.00 \$34.26 267.73 erDiem/ 599.54 500.00
Arnold's, Filter/Battery	169.18 625.00 204.25 5581.26 5579.33 138.00 \$34.26 267.73 erDiem/ 5599.54 500.00
Auxiant, Insurance	204.25 581.26 579.33
Blue Ribbon Pelham, Water Bob Barker, Supplies Bomgaars, Post/Tape etc. Sahley Bosch, Lodging/Pe etc. Brookshire Co., Dues\$2 Brothers Market, Coffee/Wa Sahley Bosch, Lodging/Pe etc. \$3 Broakshire Co., Dues\$2 Brothers Market, Coffee/Wa Sahley Bosch, Lodging/Pe etc. \$3 Bryan Russell Constr., Repa \$8 BOA, Credit Card. \$1 Darrel Carlyle, Mileage/Mea \$2 CDW-G, Elect. distr. \$3 Central lowa Detention, Dete \$3 Central lowa Dist., Cust. sup \$1 Charm-Tex, Supplies \$1 City of Clarion, Water & sew	3138.00 \$34.26 \$267.73 erDiem/ 5599.54 500.00 er
Bob Barker, Supplies	138.00 \$34.26 267.73 erDiem/ 5599.54 500.00 eer 504.46
Bomgaars, Post/Tape	267.73 erDiem/ 5599.54 500.00 er 504.46
Brookshire Co., Dues \$2 Brothers Market, Coffee/Wa	500.00 er 504.46
Brothers Market, Coffee/Wa \$3 Bryan Russell Constr., Repa \$8 BOA, Credit Card	er 504.46
Bryan Russell Constr., Repa \$8 BOA, Credit Card\$1 Darrel Carlyle, Mileage/Mea \$2 CDW-G, Elect. distr\$3 Central Iowa Detention, Determine Sa Central Iowa Dist., Cust. sup \$1 Charm-Tex, Supplies\$1 City of Clarion, Water & sew	
BOA, Credit Card\$1 Darrel Carlyle, Mileage/Mea	648.20
CDW-G, Elect. distr	,356.47 s
Central Iowa Dist., Cust. sup. \$1 Charm-Tex, Supplies \$ City of Clarion, Water & sew	371.59
Charm-Tex, Supplies	161.08
City of Clarion, Water & sew	525.00
Column Bublication 61	er
Comm1, Phone\$1	306.61
Sheila Cordero, Mileage S Greg Crowl, Contract carrier	132.44
Culligan, Water \$ Eagle Building Supply, Lumb	148.65
EG Pharmacy, Meds	,
Betty Ellis, Lodging/PerDiem	348.36 \$4.80
Fidlar Technologies, Forms	\$4.80 /etc

Andy Flagge, Decals/Maint	
\$221.69 Friesleben H & C, Repair \$360.00	
Frontier, Phone listing \$368.00	
FUEL, Meals\$73.38	
Gardiner + Co., Audit Fee	
\$11,200.00	
Gold-Eagle Coop, Fuel\$166.05	
GreatAmerica, Copier contract	
\$316.92	
GRP, Recycle	
Hanson & Sons, Tires \$1,172.72	
Hawkeye West, Pest control	
\$313.00	
Health Ed. Center, Training\$22.00	
Hennigar's Wrecker, Tow\$225.00	
Hewett, Meals/Comm \$438.91	
Holiday Inn, Lodging \$806.40	
Humboldt Co Sheriff, Fee \$37.00	
ICAA, Dues\$449.00	
ILEA, Training\$750.00	
ISAC, Registration\$420.00	
ISACA, Dues\$250.00	
ISSDA, Training\$525.00	
K.C. Nielsen, Equipment \$79.25	
Dean Kluss, Lodging/PerDiem	
\$723.70	
Language Link, Interpreter\$37.73	
LexisNexis, Online research	
\$406.00	
Lynn Loux, Lodging/Mileage	
\$442.21	
Mail Services, Print/postage	
\$552.09	
Sandra McGrath, Mileage \$19.60	
Menards - Ames, Plumb parts	
\$100.83	
Menards - FD, Supplies\$192.82	
Mid America Subscription \$225.00	

Primary Products, Gloves	\$207.27
Pritchard's MC, Repairs	\$3,273.74
Rick Rasmussen, PerD	
age	
Revize, Service	
Doug Riley, Contract carri	
	\$475.00
Roto-Rooter, Labor	\$1 030 00
James Russell, Mileage	
Katie Schlichting, Med. ex.	
Jason Schluttenhofer, Per	
- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Peggy Schluttenhofer, Mil	eane/Per.
Diem	
Schumacher Elevator	Mainta.
Schumacher Elevator, nance	\$105.8F
SEAT Treasurer, Training.	2260 00
Secure Shred, Recycle	\$170 OC
Solutions, Backup	
Spencer, Steel	\$1 846 68
State Hygienic Lab, Testing	\$375.00 \$375.00
DAS, Fee	Ψ150.00
T & D, Vehicle maint	\$ 130.00 \$1 021 30
T & S, Disposal	\$1,021.30 \$354.30
T-Mobile, Phone	\$33 4 .30
Tiffini Toliver, Med. Ex	
True Value, Salt/LP	
Urness, Cust. supp	ΦΩ44 40
US Cellular, Phone	
Verizon, Phone	
VISA, Credit Card	
Visual Edge, Copier contr	0CL
\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	\$349.10
Wr. Co. Aud., Postage	\$770.61
Wr. Co. Fair, Apport	\$∠,500.00
Wr. Co. Eng., Veh. maint	
Public Health Basic	runa

15 Cellular, Phone \$129.79
/erizon, Phone\$1,888.69
/ISA, Credit Card \$3,810.22
/isual Edge, Copier contract
\$549.18
Vr. Co. Aud., Postage \$770.61
Vr. Co. Fair, Apport \$2,500.00
Vr. Co. Eng., Veh. maint\$580.37
Public Health Basic Fund
Elizabeth Bernal, Mileage \$270.90
Carrie Covington, Mileage\$179.90
Culligan, Water \$97.10
areway, Snacks\$8.63
Monica Figueroa, Mileage \$63.00
SH-Clarion, Pre-natal \$560.80
Sandra McGrath, Mileage \$29.40
Naomi Rothman, Mileage \$145.60
Denise Schumacher, Mileage
\$333.90
Secure Shred, Recycle\$54.00
JS Cellular, Phone \$109.58
JS Celiulai, Filorie \$109.56
5.11.1.11.11.11.11.11.11.11.11.11.11.11.
Published in the Wright County

VISA, Credit Card \$210.29
WCED, Chart edits \$14.70
Wells Fargo Fin., Copier \$525.28
Angela Wesselink, Mileage \$495.60
American Rescue Plan of 2021
Ahlers & Cooney, Labor relations
\$512.17
Menards - FD, Mail room \$329.55

WRIGHT COUNTY MARCH 2025 CLAIMS

General Supplemental Cittendon, Foster Family Home

SEAT Treasurer. Dues.. .\$200.00 Wr. Co. Aud., Postage Wr. Co. Employees Side Fund Auxiant, Insurance...... \$59.801.23 Belmond Fitness, Memberships Clarion Health, Memberships.

Hartford, Insurance.. .. \$1,053.79 ISAC Group Benefits, Insurance \$171,328.85 Rotary Senior Living, Memberships

.. \$105.00

Jail Commissary BOA, Credit Card..... Hewett, Meals/Comm. \$214.90 Reliance, Phone Cards..... \$500.00 Smart Vending, Nicotine \$169.59 Rural Services Basic Fund

Belmond Library, Apport....\$2,683.67 Clarion Library, Apport. ... \$2,571.83 Dows Library, Apport. \$1,229.92 EG Library, Apport. \$3,019.08 Rowan Library, Apport. .. K-9 Fund

BOA, Credit Card... .\$450.00 Secondary Road Fund ADS, Tiling supp. \$8,860.28 AgVantage, Fuel \$21,905.88 Airgas, Welding supp...... \$844.34 Alliant Energy, Utilities \$2,957.65 Amazon, Sakrete \$25.00 .\$2,763.68 Arnold's, Parts Ascendance, Parts \$783.95 Bomgaars, Supplies \$1,371.65 Boot Barn, Boots \$199.74 Calhoun-Burns, Inspection.

CINTAS, Coveralls. City of Belmond, Utilities.... \$182.03 City of Clarion, Utilities ... \$1,021.80 City of Eagle Grove, Utilities...\$78.44 Clarion Distributing, Shop supp.....

Comm1, Phone...... \$558.80 Culligan, Water and rent.... \$159.00 Eagle Building Supply, Supplies.

Force America, Parts/Supplies .. \$37.66 Force Fitters, Apparel. .\$377.60 Hawkeye West, Insect control \$60.00 HRS, LLC, Survey. . \$3,500.00 IA Env. Serv., Lead samples...... . \$1.550.00

ICEOO District II, Registration. .\$40.00 Interstate Battery, Batteries ... \$431.85 ISH-Clarion, Drug test \$161.00 ISU, Training..... Kimball Midwest, Parts.... .\$647.01 Kinzler Constr., Repair.... \$1,806.00 Lawson Products, Paint and parts..

.. \$1,508.47 Menards - FD, Lights/etc.....\$512.36 Mid-Am Research, Degreaser.........\$911.00

MidAmerican, Utilities .. .\$8,839.35 Northland Products, Oil....\$2,813.30 Prairie Energy, Utilities\$351.66 Rees Truck, Parts...... .\$835.79 Spencer, Steel\$2,190.15 Steenblock Plumbing, Repair.. . \$1,400.17 T & S, Disposal... \$323.00 T-Mobile. Phone\$234.18 Truck Center, Parts..... .\$4,971.20 Urness, Supplies US Cellular, Phone \$258.65 \$1 677 96

Visual Edge, Copier contract... \$75.44\$2.212.16 W & H. Fuel Wr. Co. Aud., Postage .. Sanitary Landfill, Disposal ... \$60.00 Ziegler, Parts

\$450.35

VISA, Credit Card

FmHA Int. Relending Loan

Eagle Grove CDC, Loan.. **Emergency Medical Service**

Belmond Ambulance, EMS. . \$11,655.00

E911 Surcharge Fund Alliant Energy, Utilities \$408.96 AT&T, Phone......\$52.51 Independent, Publication....\$96.00 CenturyLink, Circuit Pay \$243.04 Frontier Comm., E911 Circuits ..

Goldfield Telephone, Phone \$119.12 Language Link, Interpreter \$1.65 MidAmerican, Utilities \$189.98 Prairie Energy, Utilities .. VISA, Credit Card Windstream, Phone. .. \$164.86 **Local Emergency Management** Comm1, Phone..... VISA, Credit Card\$261.09

Wright Co. Communications Mid-America, Publications....\$180.60 Visual Edge, Copier contract.

Co. Assessor Agency Fund Independent, Publication \$46.80 Culligan, Water Tonee Nicholas, Mileage ... \$200.20 US Cellular, Phone \$183.33 VISA, Credit Card Visual Edge, Copier contract... \$61.96 Wells Fargo Fin., Copier Contract. Wr. Co. Aud., Postage\$25.01
Agribusiness Park Water Supply

Thomas Ford, Operator Serv... Hawkins, Azone \$169.82 Prairie Energy, Utilities \$311.92 Grant Total \$493,133.16

ty Monitor on Thurs. April 17, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE Wright County Supervisors March 31, 2025 Minutes

March 31, 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 9:04 a.m. Members present were Kluss, Bosch, Rasmussen, Loux

Motion by Kluss and seconded by Bosch to approve the tentative agenda with removal of item 11-d to consider reducing setback distance for seismic testing. Motion carries.

Minutes of the previous regular meeting of March 24, 2025 were read and approved. Approved claims for payment. Motion by Kluss and seconded

by Ellis to approve the Retirement Agreement for Colleen Meier. Wright County Communications Director. Motion carries. Motion by Kluss and seconded by Loux to approve the quote for a

spare pump head for the chlorine pumps at the Agribusiness Park. Motion carries. Motion by Kluss and seconded by Bosch to approve Resolution 2025-

15 Awarding Contract for Project STP-S-C099(107) - - 5E-99 to Heartland Asphalt out of Mason City in the amount of \$2,874,239.78. By roll call vote: ayes - Kluss, Bosch, Rasmussen, Loux and Ellis: navs - none. Resolution 2025-15 duly passes and reads as follows: RESOLUTION NO. 2025-15

AWARDING CONTRACT FOR PROJECT

STP-S-C099(107)--5E-99
WHEREAS, the Wright County Board of Supervisors, hereafter referred to as "the Board" believes STP-S-C099(107)--5E-99 hereafter referred to as "the project" is in the best interest of Wright County, Iowa, and the residents

The project is defined as STP-S-C099(107)--5E-99 consisting of HMA RESURFACING WITH MILL-ING: and

WHEREAS, the Board has sought appropriate professional guidance for the concept and planning for the project and followed the steps as required by the Code of Iowa for notifications, hearings, and bidding/

WHEREAS, The Board finds this resolution appropriate and necessary to protect, preserve, and improve the rights, privileges, property, peace, safety, health, welfare, comfort, and convenience of Wright County and its citizens, all as provided for in and permitted by section 331.301 of the Code of lowa;

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED by Board to accept the bid from **HEARTLAND ASPHALT, INC.** in

Dust Control Notice

To Wright County Rural Residents

Any person desiring to have dust

control on a section of road under

county jurisdiction shall be responsible for hiring an approved contrac-

The normal treatment available

will be 400 linear feet X 18 feet in

width, with treatment being ap-

plied in two separate applications. Scheduling of these applications

will be the responsibility of the con-

tractor selected by the resident. Wright County will prepare the site

prior to the application by the cho-

Contractors approved by Wright

County are listed below. Payment

for the dust control applications will

be made directly to the chosen con-

Deano's Dust Control

641-421-8622

sen contractor.

the amount of \$2,874,239.78 and awards the associated contract(s) to the same: and

Mid-America, Subscription ... \$335.00

MidAmerican, Utilities \$5,050.62

MIDAS, Comp. plan...... \$1,250.00

Deb Nesheim, Notary stamp... \$29.95 Oldson's, Repair\$405.10 Christine Oliver, Donuts.....\$172.40

Overhead Door Co., Test... \$220.00 P&P Electric, Repair \$360.00

Pitney Bowes, Postage... \$6,000.00

Prairie Energy, Utilities ... \$1,392.36

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all other resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed. If any part of this resolution is adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the resolution or action of The Board as a whole or any part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional. This resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Wright County, Iowa, that after receiving the necessary contract documents, including but not limited to, the contractor's bond and certificate of insurance, Adam W. Clemons, P.E., the Engineer for Wright County lowa, be and is hereby designated authorized, and empowered on behalf of the Board of Supervisors of said County to execute the contracts in connection with the afore awarded construction project let through the DOT for this county. Dated at Wright County, Iowa, this

Motion by Kluss and seconded by Bosch to table Resolution 2025-16 Awarding Contract for Project BROS-C099(105) - 5F-99 until Monday, April 7, 2025. Motion car-

31st day of March 2025

Motion by Kluss and seconded by Bosch approve the Federal Aid Agreement for project BROS-

C099(108) - - 8J-99. Motion carries. Adam Clemons, Wright County Engineer, gave an update on Secondary Roads department. Tonee Nicholas, Wright County

Assessor, presented the annual Slough Bill applications for allow or disallow. There were 305 applications consuming over 2,800 acres Motion by Ellis and seconded by Kluss to approve the Slough Bill applications as presented to be signed by the Board of Supervisors Chairman. Motion carries.

Under Old Business, Supervisor Ellis explained that Building and Grounds Director, Andy Yackle approached her regarding unused APRA funds. He believes there is approximately \$26,000 left. He said he does have projects he can use those funds on.

Under New Business, Supervisor Ellis asked the Handbook Committee if a Supervisor could sit in on the meeting. Supervisor Loux will attend the next meeting.

Motion by Rasmussen and seconded by Kluss to adjourn the meeting. Motion carries. Rick Rasmussen, Chairman, Wright County Board of Supervisors Deb Nesheim, Wright County Deputy Auditor

Using Chloride products

EnviroTech Services

218-735-8717

Using Magnesium Chloride Kist Snow & More Services

515-293-3055

Using Magnesium Chloride

All questions regarding dust con-

trol and material used should be directed to the contractor at the phone numbers shown above.

Wright County will not guarantee

the effectiveness of the dust control

treatment. Any complaints concern-

ing the quality will be handled be-

tween the resident and the contrac-

Wright County reserves the right to perform normal maintenance (such as blading and granular re-

surfacing) through areas of dust

control to level uneven or rough

areas, without liability for the cost

Wright County Engineer

tor they selected.

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs. April 17, 2025 **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Dust Control Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE City of Dows April 7, 2025 Minutes and Claims

DOWS CITY COUNCIL

APRIL 7, 2025
The Dows City Council met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on April 7, 2025 at Dows City Hall with the following present: Council Members Echelberger, Plendl, Russell, Worden, Lienemann and Mayor Klatt. Also present: Sam Solis-City Main-

Motion by Russell, seconded by Echelberger to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2025 and two council

meetings on March 24, 2025. Motion carried. All ayes. Motion by Lienemann, seconded by Plendl to approve the payment of

the following bills: PUBLIC SAFETY City of Clarion \$2,340.00 (police-code enforcement quarterly payment)
 CULTURE AND RECREATION 1. Iowa Regulatory Licensing \$70.00

(pool-license renewal)
2. Woolstock Telephone \$120.00 (library-internet-two months)

3. KMDE LLC \$694.41 (community)

center, pool-electric expense)
4. Culligan \$80.00 (community cen-

ter-supplies-two months)
5. SheRee Wharton \$210.00 (community center-cleaning)
6. Windstream \$283.42 (library, poolphone expense-two months)

7. Chase Credit Card \$675.04 (library-books) 8. Regina Russell \$196.80 (librarygross salary) 9. Judy Kessel \$82.40 (library-gross

salary) 10. Deb Olson \$1,093.75 (library-

gross salary)
11. Deb Olson \$37.92 (library-DVD's)
12. Demco \$57.55 (library-supplies)
13. Times Citizens \$75.00 (library-supplies) 14. Dows Comm. Grocery \$46.45

(community center-supplies)
15. IRS \$250.04 (library-March Federal, FICA-Medicare tax) 16. Iowa Dept. of Revenue \$127.86 (library-1st quarter state tax withhold-

ing) 17. IPERS \$185.01 (library-March 18. Iowa Workforce Dev. \$4.52 (li-

brary-1st quarter dues)

19. W&H Coop \$979.47 (community center-LP)
GENERAL GOVERNMENT

1. Iowa Workforce Dev. \$14.35 (city hall-1st quarter dues)
2. IPERS \$727.36 (city hall-Clerk and

Council March IPERS)
3. Dept of Revenue \$475.00 (city hall-1st quarter state withholding)
4. IRS \$1,274.44 (city hall-clerk, mayor, council-March Federal FICA-

Medicare tax) 5. Windstream \$170.00 (city hallphone expense-two months)
6. Jeanette Wenzel \$2,011.97 (city

hall-gross salary)
7. Column Software \$392.69 (city hall-publishing-two months)
8. Larry Klatt \$775.00 (city hall-Mayor

quarterly salary)

9. Craig Russell \$300.00 (city hallcouncil quarterly salary)

10. Margaret Worden \$300.00 (city hall-council quarterly salary)
11. Loren Lienemann \$300.00 (city

hall-council quarterly salary)
12. Nancy Plendl \$300.00 (city hallcouncil quarterly salary)
13. Richard Echelberger \$300.00

(city hall-council quarterly salary)
14. Jeanette Wenzel \$2,011.97 (city hall-gross salary)
15. Wellmark BCBS \$1,363.41 (city

hall-health insurance)
16. Quill \$158.34 (city hall-office supplies)
17. Office of the Auditor of State

\$1,200.00 (city hall-exam fee)
18. Copy Systems \$44.62 (city hall-19. Woolstock Telephone \$100.00 (city hall-internet) PUBLIC WORKS

 Pro Repair and Performance \$170.00 (road use-repairs) 2. O'Reilly's \$55.61 (road use-re-

pairs)
3. Alliant Energy \$1,757.69 (road use-shop electric expense and street

4. Casev's Mastercard \$564.27 (road 5. Dows Comm. Grocery \$174.18

(road use-supplies)

6. W&H Coop \$1,958.67 (road use-BUSINESS ACTIVITIES 1. Windstream \$600.00 (water and wastewater-phone

months)
2. KMDE LLC \$479.07 (water-electric-two months)
3. USA Blue Book \$124.02 (water-

4. AqSource Labs \$599.00 (wastewa-5. Carlos Balderas \$100.00 (waterdeposit refund)

Sam Solis \$40.00 (water-cell phone expense)
7. IAMU \$721.00 (water-safety group

8. Sam Solis \$1,943.93 (water-gross 9. Dows Post Office \$219.00 (water-10. Wellmark BCBS \$1,413.84 (wa-

ter-health insurance)
11. Alliant Energy \$795.92 (water and wastewater-electric expense)
12. IRS \$954.84 (water-March Fed-

eral, FICA-Medicare tax)

13. Dept. of Revenue \$444.00 (water-1st quarter state withholding)

14. IPERS \$611.55 (water-March

15. Iowa Workforce Development \$11.66 (water-1st quarter dues) 16. Iowa Dept. of Revenue \$260.56 Motion carried, All aves.

Motion by Lienemann, seconded by Echelberger to approve the Clerk's Report for February 2025. Motion carried All aves Revenues for February 2025-\$30,997.40. Expenses for Feb ruary 2025-\$40.509.21.

Motion by Lienemann, seconded by Russell to open the public hearing for the budget amendment for the fis-cal year ending 2025. Roll Call vote: Ayes-Lienemann, Worden, Plendl, Echelberger, Russell, Navs-none,

There being no objections heard and no written objections received, motion by Lienemann, seconded by Worden to close the public hearing for the budget amendment for the fiscal year ending 2025. Roll Call vote: Aves-Lienemann, Worden, Plendl, Echelberger, Russell. Nays-none. Motion carried Motion by Lienemann, seconded

by Echelberger to adopt Resolution No. 2025-2 adopting the amendment to the fiscal year ending budget 2025. Roll Call vote: Ayes-Lienemann, Wor den, Plendl, Echelberger, Russell. Nays-none. Motion carried. Motion by Plendl, seconded by

Worden to open the public hearing for the fiscal year ending 2026. Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Lienemann, Worden, Plendl, Echelberger, Russell. Motion There being no objections heard

and no written objections received, motion by Lienemann, seconded by Echelberger to close the public hear ing for the fiscal year ending 2026. Roll Call vote: Ayes-Lienemann, Worden, Plendl, Echelberger, Russell. Motion carried

Motion by Worden, seconded by Plendl to adopt Resolution 25-1 a resolution adopting the City of Dows Annual budget for fiscal year July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026. Roll Call vote: Ayes-Lienemann, Worden, Plendl, Echelberger, Russell. Nays-none.

Pavement Dr. left a quote of \$400.00 a ton for patch this year. Motion by Worden, seconded by Lienemann to do one truck load of patch from Pavement Dr. for 2025. Motion

carried. All ayes.
A pool shade was discussed. No one brought any prices or pictures of ideas so motion by Lienemann, seconded by Worden to table until next meeting when more information could be obtained. Motion carried. All ayes Mayor Klatt said he had complaints

of roosters on W. Forest Ave. Council Member Echelberger said that they did not have a rooster. The only other person with chickens in that area is Bradley Barz. Motion by Lienemann, seconded by Russell to send a letter to Mr. Barz requesting that they remove the rooster from the City Limits. Motion carried. All ayes.

Motion by Echelberger, seconded by Lienemann to approve the building permit for Nathan Stuck for a fence at 504 W. Ellsworth St. Motion carried.

Motion by Lienemann, seconded by Plendl to approve a building permit for Lynn Worden for an 8 ft x 16 ft shed at 508 W. Ellsworth St. Motin carried. All ayes.

Motion by Lienemann, seconded by Plendl to have second reading of Ordinance No. 217 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDI-NANCES OF THE CITY OF DOWS, IOWA, 2021, BY AMENDING PRO-VISIONS PERTAINING TO WATER

RATES FOR WATER SERVICE.
Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Lienemann, Worden, Plendl, Echelberger, Russell. Nays-none. Motion carried.

Motion by Worden, seconded by Plendl to have the second reading of Ordinance No. 218 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDI-NANCES OF THE CITY OF DOWS, IOWA, 2021, BY AMENDING PRO-VISIONS PERTAINING TO WATER DEPOSITS. Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Lienemann, Worden, Plendl, Echelberger, Russell, Navs-none,

There being no further business, Mayor Klatt declared the meeting ad-

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs. April 17, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE Estate of Norman Dean Helmick the will must be brought in the dis-

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR Wright COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Norman Dean Helmick, Deceased

CASE NO. ESPR017696 NOTICE OF PROOF OF WILL WITHOUT ADMINISTRATION To All Persons Interested in the

Estate of Norman Dean Helmick. Deceased, who died on or about on October 16, 2024:

You are hereby notified that on 3/26/2025, the last will and testament of Norman Dean Helmick, deceased, bearing date of April 6, 2022, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and there will be no present administration of

the estate. Any action to set aside

trict court of the county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred. Dated on 3/26/2025. Dirk Helmick, Proponent Attorney for estate: Philip M. Johnson 216 North Commercial Ave PO Box 109 Eagle Grove, IA 50533 Phil@Johnsonslawfirm.com

Date of second publication April

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs. April 17 & 24, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

24, 2025.

Norman Dean Helmick Trust TRUST NOTICE IN THE MATTER OF THE TRUST: The Norman Dean Helmick **Revocable Trust Agreement** Dated April 6, 2022

To all persons regarding Norman Dean Helmick, deceased, who died are hereby notified that the trustee listed below is the trustee of the The Norman Dean Helmick Revocable Trust Agreement Dated April 6. 2022. Any action to contest the validity of the trust must be brought in the District Court of Wright County, lowa, within the later to occur of four (4) months from the date of second publication of this notice or thirty (30) days from the date of mailing this notice to the spouse of the decedent settlor, and to all heirs of the decedent settlor whose identities are reasonably ascertainable. Any

suit not filed within this period shall

be forever barred. Notice is further given that any person or entity possessing a claim against the trust must mail proof of the claim to the trustee at the address listed below via certified mail. return receipt requested, by the latthe second publication of this notice or thirty (30) days from the date of mailing this notice if required or the claim shall be forever barred unless paid or otherwise satisfied. Dated on 3/26/2025. Dirk Helmick

16 Spruce Drive Eagle Grove, IA 50533 Philip M. Johnson #AT0014857, Attorney for Trustee The Johnson Law Firm, PLC 216 North Commercial Ave. PO Box 109, Eagle Grove, Iowa 50533 Date of second publication: April 24, 2025.

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs. April 17 & 24, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE Estate of Randy Lynn Ellwood

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR WRIGHT COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF RANDY LYNN ELWOOD, Deceased, CASE NO. ESPR017678
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR

AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS To All Persons Interested in the Estate of RANDY LYNN ELWOOD, Deceased, who died on or about December 12, 2024:

You are hereby notified that on February 4, 2025, the undersigned was appointed administrator of the

Notice is hereby given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and credi-

tors 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 four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of the mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred. Dated on 3/18/25

Kaitlyn Marie De La Torre, Administrator of the Estate Alesha Sigmeth Roberts, ICIS PIN No: ATAT0009741 Attorney for executor Sigmeth Roberts Law, PLC 101 1 st Ave NE - P.O. Box 402 Clarion, Iowa 50525

Date of second publication April

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs. April 17 & 24, 2025

Put All Your Faith In YeHoVaH! Please Watch LindellTV.com



Informed citizens build



KEER JIOWA Beautiful

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs. April 10, 17 & 24, 2025

Trustees Address Tile Failures and Landowner Concerns at **Drainage District Meeting**

Amanda Rink,

Editor **April 14, 2025 -** At Monday morning's Wright County Drainage District meeting, County Supervisors gathered as Drainage District Trustees to address a few issues.

The meeting opened at 9:00 a.m. with Trustees reviewing current drainage work orders. Among immediate concerns were a broken flood tile in Iowa Township and a major 36inch tile failure in Woolstock

Supervisor Betty Ellis raised concerns over a drainage

ditch that continues to frustrate landowners. She notes that the ditch has grown from a modest five feet to a steep twenty feet, and residents are frustrated by costs. Supervisor Rick Rasmussen countered that costs aren't increasing at this time and agreed to visit the site with Ellis to see the situation firsthand.

Another issue brought up by Ellis involved the removal of a natural gas pipeline north of Clarion last year. A local farmer, while using his manure spreader, fell into the area where the pipeline had been removed.

The farmer, along with Ellis, worried the ground wasn't packed correctly.

Drainage Administrator Courtney Morris confirmed that she is working with the drainage district's attorney to send a formal letter to the company, reminding them they're accountable for any resulting damage of their work. The Drainage District meets on an as-needed basis. To view this meeting, and past ones, please visit youtube.com/@ wrightcountyiowaofficial8312.

Wright County Dispatchers to See a Raise in July

Amanda Rink,

Editor April 15, 2025 - The Wright County Board of Supervisors met for their regular meeting to review county business, including wage adjustments, economic development updates, and ground use requests. Land Access and Testing **Clarification -** Supervisor Dean Kluss shared an update from Kyle Handy, land representative for Twin Rivers, who had concerns over the county's denial of reducing the seismic testing distance from 250 feet to 50 feet from county assets. Handy believes this restriction will ultimately prevent Twin Rivers from exploring the possibility of

hydrogen underground. Kluss clarified the Board's stance in an email reply to Handy: "The Board did not feel that we were precluding any testing," Kluss said. "It would require Twin Rivers to get permission from individual landowners to go onto their property. Therefore, they would assume the risk for any damage."

Kluss advised that if the company chose that route, they should contact Drainage Administrator Courtney Morris to avoid conflicts with existing drainage systems on private

Center Communication Wage Adjustments - The Board discussed wage adjustments the Communication Center, effective July 1, 2025. Director Communications Tiffon Pohlman requested a starting wage of \$23.50 an hour, and increased for two current

Eric Rector emphasized the value of dispatchers: "As an officer, I want the most competent person in that seat. They don't get paid near enough. You're quibbling over \$4 a day at a 50-cent increase. This interview process was terrible, and the emotional stress they endure is significant."

A motion was made to set the starting wage at a flat \$23.50, with exceptions for experienced hire's wages to be reviewed by the Board. The motion also authorized wage increases for

two current employees. **Economic Development and Events-** Economic Development Director Darrel Steven Carlyle recommended appointing Kate Garner to the Wright County Development Economic Commission to replace Todd Foss. Her term will run through December 31, 2026. The Board

approved the appointment. Courthouse grounds use was also addressed. The Board approved two events:

• June 13, 2025: Family Fun Night, 4:00-8:00 PM • June 14, 2025: Festival Kid's

Zone, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM A decision on the "Market on Main" events, scheduled

for May through August, was Supervisor tabled Bosch tabled the event following the recommendation of Building and Grounds Director Andrew Yackle, citing the lawn's incomplete regrowth.

Allocation Cost Reimbursements - The Wright County Central Service Cost Allocation Plan was reviewed

by the board. Supervisor Kluss explained the importance of the service for securing federal and

state grant reimbursements. "We're spending a small amount of dollars (\$4,450) to be compensated for the time that we actually spend," Kluss said.

The county stands to be reimbursed \$12,077. The Public Health Department reported \$91,244 in indirect costs related to Title 19, potentially qualifying for substantial reimbursement.

Secondary Roads Update-Jeremy Abbas, Assistant to the Wright County Engineer, provided updates from the Secondary Roads Department. Crews assisted with a fire at a decommissioned bridge in southern Wright County. Burnt debris is being removed to prevent it from sitting in the creek. Abbas reported that crews completed 39 work orders last week and returned to ten-hour shifts with Fridays off. "We're in full blade mode," Abbas shared of the crew's work on gravel

In other updates:

The Board discussed removing outdated law library books to allow for space for the County Attorney and received the quarterly report from the County Recorder's office.

A public meeting on property taxes is scheduled for Friday, April 18 at 10:00 AM in Council Chambers with Mark

The next meeting of the Wright County Board of Supervisors will be held on Monday, April 21, 2025. Meetings can be viewed online at YouTube.com/@

"Tienen Menos, Pero También Más": Las Maestras de CGD Regresan con Mayor Compasión Tras Viaje a Guatemala

Amanda Rink, Editora

Cuando cuatro maestras del Distrito Escolar de Clarion-Goldfield-Dows empacaron sus maletas para las vacaciones de primavera, no lo hicieron para buscar sol ni descanso. En su lugar, emprendieron un viaje a Antigua, Guatemala, una ciudad histórica rodeada de volcanes, con una misión clara: comprender meior las raíces de sus estudiantes inmigrantes y el gran cambio cultural que experimentan al llegar al área rural de Iowa.

'No fue unas vacaciones," dijo Megan Fiscus, maestra de estudiantes de inglés como segundo idioma (ELL, por sus siglas en inglés). "Fue una verdadera experiencia de aprendizaje, al estar totalmente inmersos en la cultura v el idioma durante una semana entera. Uno empieza a entender cómo se sienten nuestros estudiantes cuando llegan aquí v no entienden lo que pasa a su alrededor."

Fiscus viajó junto a Maycie Rector, maestra de lectura de quinto grado: Terri Godby. maestra de cuarto grado; y Daisy Carrillo, intérprete de español y paraeducadora de ELL. Juntas, dejaron Estados Unidos para vivir una experiencia de "viaje compasivo", que les brindó comprensión cultural, académica y emo-

cional. El viaje no fue financiado por el distrito escolar. En cambio, el grupo recaudó fondos, incluyendo una generosa donación de la Fundación Comunitaria Versova, que reconoció la importancia de apoyar a los hijos de su fuerza laboral.

Antigua, que fue en su momento la capital de la América Central española, es considerada una de las ciudades más seguras de Guatemala. A pesar del encanto de Antigua, el país sigue siendo uno de los más pobres de la región, y muchas familias que viven en áreas rurales carecen de necesidades básicas como agua potable, vivienda digna y acceso a la educación.

"Verlo con tus propios ojos cambia tu forma de pensar," comentó Carrillo. "Visitamos una escuela privada que solo cobra entre \$25 y \$100 por todo el año escolar, pero aún

así, a las familias se les hace difícil pagar."

El grupo visitó aulas mucho más pequeñas que las de Clarion. Los materiales eran escasos, pero los estudiantes eran disciplinados y notablemente responsables.

"Todos llevaban sus propios recipientes para los refrigerios, se lavaban los dientes en la escuela, barrían los pisos, limpiaban las mesas y no dejaban desorden," recordó Rector. "Nadie les tenía que recordar nada, no había mala conducta. La vida allá es más difícil, y los niños adquieren habilidades para la vida desde muy pequeños."

Los maestros en Guatemala ganan alrededor de 350 dólares estadounidenses al mes v muchas veces no tienen una formación formal. Aun así, la comunidad busca llenar los vacíos. Los padres colaboran cocinando para reducir el costo de matrícula, los abuelos llevan a los niños a la escuela. En las aulas no hay relojes, y estos pequeños detalles reflejan valores culturales más amplios: el tiempo no se apresura, la vida se vive con calma v la familia es el centro de todo.

"Me hizo pensar en mis estudiantes guatemaltecos aquí," compartió Godby, quien tiene siete estudiantes de Guatemala en su clase de cuarto grado, algunos de los cuales están esforzándose mucho para aprender inglés. "Vienen de un lugar donde tienen más libertad, más responsabilidad, y un fuerte sentido de familia y comunidad. Al llegar aquí, con tanta estructura, reglas y barreras del idioma, debe ser agotador para ellos."

El viaje también tuvo un peso emocional. Las maestras se sentían exhaustas al final de cada día, por el esfuerzo mental de tratar de entender todo en otro idioma.

"Un día, tuvimos clases todo el día y luego dos o tres horas de lecciones de español," dijo Godby. "Al final, estábamos agotadas. Pero eso nos hizo pensar: así se sienten nuestros estudiantes todos los días cuando todo está en un idioma que no entienden del

Rector estuvo de acuerdo: "Ver un menú en inglés me dio un gran alivio. Me recordó lo importante que es ofrecerles materiales en su idioma, para reducir ese estrés, y que así puedan estar listos para aprender."

Las maestras regresaron con una profunda empatía por los estudiantes inmigrantes que enfrentan desafíos similares al llegar a Clarion. Pero, además de los desafíos, también vivieron momentos de claridad total.

Contaron que las aulas no tenían tecnología, solo laboratorios de computación. "Tenían computadoras Apple en el laboratorio, pero la mayoría de los recursos eran muy básicos. Aun así, los niños se ponían a trabajar de inmediato, sin preguntar nada," comentó Rector.

Los estudiantes se lim-

Bristow Fun Day Saturday July 30

piaban solos, se cepillaban los dientes y la cara después de comer. Todas coincidieron en que sería buena idea implementar algo similar en sus propias escuelas. Los niños se manejaban sin que los adultos tuvieran que intervenir mucho. Para ellas, esas actitudes son

producto de la necesidad, y se

consideran "algo normal". Un recuerdo especialmente vívido fue después del almuerzo. Los niños habían armado una mesa de billar improvisada con cartón y cartones de huevos. "Fue un recordatorio de que los niños no necesitan mucho para jugar," dijo Fiscus. "Estaban riéndose, iugando, usando lápices v pajillas como tacos. Tenían menos, pero también tenían más."

Fuera del aula, las maestras enfrentaron una realidad que muchos estudiantes inmigrantes rara vez mencionan: el peligro. En muchas áreas de Guatemala, la educación solo es gratuita hasta sexto grado. Después de eso, las familias deben pagar, y los problemas de seguridad muchas veces obligan a los estudiantes mayores, especialmente a las niñas, a abandonar la escuela.

"A cierta edad, algunas niñas simplemente dejan de ir," comentó Fiscus.

Carrillo compartió lo que le contó una estudiante en Clarion: "Se vuelve peligroso caminar a la escuela, especialmente si el trayecto es largo o solitario. Una de nuestras estudiantes de secundaria explicó que por eso su familia se fue, ya no era seguro quedarse." Y no son solo las niñas: muchos niños se quedan cerca de casa para evitar ser reclutados por pandillas.

Esta conciencia impactó profundamente a las maestras. "No es solo que vienen aquí buscando algo mejor – también se van porque ya no pueden quedarse," agregó Carrillo. "No siempre tienen opción.

Aunque el contraste entre la vida en Guatemala y la vida en el Iowa rural puede parecer grande, las maestras regresaron con una profunda admiración por ambas.

"Puede que vengan aquí por mejores oportunidades, por educación, salud y seguridad, pero también están dejando atrás algo muy hermoso reflexionó Fiscus. "Es una cultura rica en tradiciones, una vida más tranquila, y familias muy unidas."

Aunque reconocen la belleza de la cultura y la vida que sus estudiantes y sus familias pueden estar dejando atrás, el grupo también se sintió feliz de regresar a Iowa. Esperan poder visitar próximamente una escuela pública en Guatemala, creyendo que eso reflejará mejor las condiciones de las que proviene la mayoría de sus estudiantes.

Al final, el viaje reforzó una verdad sencilla: la comprensión genera compasión. Y la compasión puede transformar el aula y, con ello, construir una comunidad más

The Wright County Monitor

DEADLINE: Legal Notices.....Noon Friday Classifieds.....11 a.m. Friday Display Ads.....11a.m. Friday Submitted News......Noon Friday

..4:30 p.m. Monday

BUSINESS CARDS

Obituaries.

Legal notices

PUBLIC NOTICE Wright County Proposed Budget

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

County Name: WRIGHT COUNTY County Number: 99

The County Board of Supervisors will conduct a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year County budget as follows:

Meeting Date: 4/28/2025 Meeting Time: 09:30 AM Meeting Location: Wright County Board of Supervisors Chambers At the public hearing any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of, any part of the proposed budget. This notice represents a summary of the supporting detail of revenues and expenditures on file with the County Auditor. A copy of the supporting detail will be furnished upon request. County budgets are subject to protest. If protest petition requirements are met, the State Appeal Board will hold a local hearing. For more information, consultation dom.iowa.gov/local-budget-appeals

Average annual percentage changes between "Actual" and "Budget" amounts for "Taxes Levied on Property", "Other County Taxes/TIF Tax Revenues", and for each of the ten "Expenditure Classes" must be published. Expenditure classes proposing "Budget" amounts, but having no "Actual" amounts, are designated "NEW".

County Website (if available) County Telephone Number (515) 532-2771 https://www.wrightcounty.iowa.gov/

		Budget 2025/2026	Re-Est 2024/2025	Actual 2023/2024	AVG Annual % CHG
REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES					
Taxes Levied on Property	1	11,006,491	10,767,449	9,879,465	5.55
Less: Uncollected Delinquent Taxes - Levy Year	2	275	275	761	
Less: Credits to Taxpayers	3	345,892	467,823	359,880	
Net Current Property Taxes	4	10,660,324	10,299,351	9,518,824	
Delinquent Property Tax Revenue	5	0	0	4,213	
Penalties, Interest & Costs on Taxes	6	41,075	41,075	60,066	
Other County Taxes/TIF Tax Revenues	7	2,201,867	2,183,352	3,772,437	-23.6
Intergovernmental	8	6,823,775	6,424,613	6,142,805	
Licenses & Permits	9	31,650	35,700	59,221	
Charges for Service	10	689,430	615,687	624,519	
Use of Money & Property	11	373,422	827,643	904,104	
Miscellaneous	12	281,050	266,395	256,456	
Subtotal Revenues	13	21,102,593	20,693,816	21,342,645	
Other Financing Sources:	12	21,102,000	20,072,070	21,0.2,0.0	
General Long-Term Debt Proceeds	14	101,520	82,320	50,800	
Operating Transfers In	15	2,747,435	2,904,959	2,590,720	
Proceeds of Fixed Asset Sales	16	5,000	7,050	118,129	
Total Revenues & Other Sources	17	23,956,548	23,688,145	24,102,294	
EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES	- 11	20,00,010	25,000,145	21,102,271	
Operating:	-+				
Public Safety and Legal Services	18	5,982,061	5,850,511	4,960,744	9.8
Physical Health and Social Services	19	1,228,847	1,163,161	1,020,350	9.74
County Environment and Education	21	1,800,117	1,720,732	1,293,612	17.9
Roads & Transportation	22	7,623,512	7,075,763	6,300,072	10.0
Government Services to Residents	23	808,377	761,871	686,589	8.5
Administration	24	2,703,524	2,756,165	2,674,127	0.5
	25	91,030	96,778	60,946	22.2
Nonprogram Current Debt Service	26	2,198,490	2,792,227	3,031,107	-14.83
Capital Projects	27	1,208,842	653,767	73,595	305.29
	28				303.23
Subtotal Expenditures	28	23,644,800	22,870,975	20,101,142	
Other Financing Uses:	29	2 747 425	2 004 050	2,590,720	
Operating Transfers Out	30	2,747,435	2,904,959		
Refunded Debt/Payments to Escrow		26 202 225		0	
Total Expenditures & Other Uses	31	26,392,235	25,775,934	22,691,862	
Excess of Revenues & Other Sources		2 425 607	2 007 700	1 410 422	
over (under) Expenditures & Other Uses	32	-2,435,687	-2,087,789	1,410,432	
Beginning Fund Balance - July 1,	33	9,945,699	12,033,488	10,623,056	
Increase (Decrease) in Reserves (GAAP Budgeting)		0	0	0	
Fund Balance - Nonspendable	35	2.422.554	5 220 456		
Fund Balance - Restricted	36	3,423,554	5,229,456	7,333,046	
Fund Balance - Committed	37	0	0		
Fund Balance - Assigned	38	704,809	996,896	969,906	
Fund Balance - Unassigned	39	3,381,649	3,719,347	3,730,536	
Total Ending Fund Balance - June 30,	40	7,510,012	9,945,699	12,033,488	
Proposed property taxation by type:		Proposed tax rates p	er \$1,000 taxable valuati	on:	
Countywide Levies*:	8,126,96	50			
Rural Only Levies*:	2,879,53	Urban Areas:			
Special District Levies*:	2,017,0	Rural Areas:			7.33003
TIF Tax Revenues:		Any special district	tax rates not included.		10.97081
Utility Replacement Excise Tax:	1,501,47	4	and rates not included.		
	221,71	8			

FREE QUOTES • FREE LOCAL DELIVERY • FAST SERVICE

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, April 20 Easter Sunday

8:30 a.m. Worship Service No Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service Sunday, April 27

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all

10:00 a.m. Worship Service Sunday, May 4 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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, April 20 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 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, April 16

Youth Faith Formation 7:40 a.m. Rosary at St. Francis, Belmond

8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Francis,

Belmond 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

Cluster Office Closed Thursday, April 17 Holy Thursday (Cluster Office

7:00 p.m. Mass Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove

• Friday, April 18 Good Friday

2:00 p.m. rosary a Divine Mercy Novena Begins Lived Stream at Sacred Heart, Eagle

5:30 p.m. Liturgy at St. Francis

Xavier, Belmond 7:30 p.m. Novena a la Divina

Misericordia at St. John, Clarion • Saturday, April 198

Holy Saturday (2nd Collection for Haiti) 2:00 p.m. Rosary and Divine

Mercy Novena Live Streamed at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove 7:30 p.m. Novena a la Divina

Misericordia at St. John, Clarion 8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil at St. John, Clarion

• Sunday, April 20 Easter Sunday 8:00 a.m. Mass at Francis, Belmond

9:00 a.m. KC omelet Breakfast at St. Francis, Belmond 10:30 a.m. Mass at Sacred

Heart, Eagle Grove Monday, April 21

Easter Monday (Cluster Office Closed)

8:15 a.m. Rosary at St. Francis, Belmond 2:00 p.m. Rosary and Divine

Mercy Novena Live Streamed at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove 7:30 p.m. Novena a la Divina Misericordia 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

Saturdays 8:00 a.m. Men's

THE LIGHTHOUSE CHURCH OF THE **NAZARENE**

Bible Study

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, April 20 10:00 a.m. Worship Service and Fellowship Coffee in the Fellowship Room.

GOLDFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

No Sunday School

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, April 20 9:30 a.m. Worship and Communion

HOLMES BAPTIST CHURCH

2137 Hancock Avenue Pastor Cody Huber

515-825-3110 Sundays

9:30 a.m. Sunday school, 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, 5 p.m. **Evening Service**

Wednesdays

Prayer Meeting, youth group, kids club (1st - 6th grades - during school year)

WRIGHT CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

1730 130th Street, Kanawha 641-762-3947

· Sunday, April 20 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 Sunday, April 13 Palm Sunday

• Sunday April 20

7:00 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service followed by breakfast 10:00 a.m. Easter Worship

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

CHURCH Missouri Synod Jct. Highway 69 & 3 Pastor Mark Eichler

• Sunday, April 20 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, April 20 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 • Thursday, April 17

6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship/Communion • Friday, April 18

6:30 p.m. Good Friday Worship Sunday, April 20 8:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast 9:00 a.m. Easter Worship with

Communion

UNITED METHODIST

& PRESBYTERIAN Sunday, April 20 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.

IMMANUEL U.C.C. 204 E. South St., Latimer Joe Dunnwald

Coffee Fellowship

• Sunday, April 20 10:30 a.m. Worship

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN 304 W. Main, Latimer Travis Berg, Pastor

• Sunday, April 20 9 a.m. Worship, 10:15 a.m.

ABC/Sunday School UNITED METHODIST

CHURCH Morgan, Lee Center, Bradford Erling Shultz, Pastor

 Sunday, April 20 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

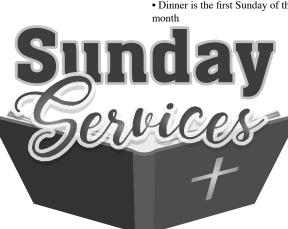
children 2 years to grade 5 · Wednesday 5:45 - 6:15 p.m. Café Open 6:30 p.m. Youth 6:30 p.m. Kids Club for children grades 1-5

NAZARETH LUTHERAN

Coulter Pastors Tom Dettmer and Stanley

Peterson • Sunday, April 20 9:30a.m. Joint Sunday Worship Service with Holy Communion,

Coffee to follow · Dinner is the first Sunday of the





Baby Girl

Aryanna Albright and Xavian Sheka of Northwood, IA would like to announce the birth of their daughter Annabella Lanette. She was born Sunday, April 6, 2025 at the

Iowa Specialty Hospital in Clarion, IA. She weighed 7 pounds 2 ounces. Proud Grandparents are: Glenn Sheka of Grafton, IA and Satta Cheka of Cedar Rapids, IA.

The Clarion Wire

** Clarion VFW hosts a GOOD FRIDAY FISH FRY on April 18 at Heartland Museum!! Serving from 5 - 7 p.m. Tickets adults \$12; children - \$5; and under 5 are FREE!

** Clarion Church of Christ Good Friday service, April 18 at 6 p.m. Easter - Sunday, April 20 - breakfast at 8:30 a.m.; worship at 10 a.m.

** Easter Services: Good Friday Service, Friday, April 18 at the First Lutheran Church in Clarion, joining with Congregational Church and Goldfield Presbyterian Church. Easter Worship at the Lutheran Church with Congregational Church on Sunday,- 9 a.m. Presbyterian Church in Goldfield - 10:30 a.m.

** Good Friday service at First Methodist Church in Clarion, April 18 at 7 p.m. Sunday, April 20 at 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. Sunday. ** Annual EASTER EGG HUNT - Saturday, April 19

at 10 a.m. Tornado Park in Clarion! ** Rowan's EASTER EGG HUNT is Saturday, April 19 at 10 a.m. Playground

on Main Street. For kids up to sixth grade! Add candy? Drop off at the Rowan Church or Library! ** Saturday, April 19 - at

St. John's Catholic Church with an Easter Vigil at 8 p.m. Sunday, April 20 -Easter Worship - 8 a.m. - St Francis Catholic Church in Belmond; and 10:30 a.m. Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Eagle Grove.

** Join Clarion's Presbyterian Church for Easter worship on Sunday, April 20 at 9 a.m.; brunch to follow!

** Easter Brunch Buffet at Clarmond on Sunday, April 20; serving from 10 a.m.- 1 p.m. Currently taking reservations. Open to the public. Call or text 515-532-2911. ** "Easy Going Senior Ex-

nior Citizens Center every Monday and Thursday afternoon, beginning at 1:30 ** Know of a family who could use a family pool pass for the upcoming sum-

mer season contact Karen

ercises" at the Clarion Se-

Weld at karenweld@outlook.com. ** "IRON MEN" meet at the Clarion Church of Christ, every Tuesday a.m. at 6! Join them as your schedule allows - 420 North

** "Bingo at the BRU" the 4th of each Tuesday. Next one is Tuesday, April 22 at 6 p.m. \$20 for 3 cards and 10 rounds of Bingo; \$ for community fundraising!

Main.

** Thinking of Tre Solis and his family; it's the 2nd

of two Community Impact Nights at Clarion's Pizza Ranch is set for Wednesday, April 23 from 5 - 8 p.m. Also 'Bake At Home Pizzas'. The first impact night raised over \$1,250 for the Solis family!

** 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 April 24!

** Volunteer Appreciation Coffee at Heartland Museum in southwest Clarion - Saturday, April 26 from 9 - 11 a.m. Always looking for more volunteers! The Museum is celebrating its

25th anniversary in 2025! ** CGD Prom is set for Saturday, April 26!

** CGD Class of 2025 Baccalaureate will be held at the First Methodist Church in Clarion on Sunday, April 27 at 7 p.m.

** Iowa Specialty Hospital Clarion will once again have free garden plots available. Community Garden is located north of the cement parking lot by The Meadows Assisted Living (1302 South Main Street - Clarion). The land will be plowed and tilled in advance. It is up to the participant to maintain the plot once they have signed the agreement. Sign up deadline is April 28th. Contact Duane Asbe at 515-532-9315 to reserve your garden plot.

** Next "MEET AND EAT", community meal at the Clarion Church of Christ, 420 North Main, is Wednesday, April 30 at 6 p.m. Entree: Scalloped Potatoes and Ham!

** Clarion's Senior Citizens Center, Play '500 cards', the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Next ones are on Wednesdays, May 7 and 21 from 1:30 -3:30 p.m.

** Beginning next month: 2025 Farmers' Markets in Clarion; west side of Courthouse Square beginning weekly on Saturday, May 26 from 9 - 11 a.m. Always looking for new vendors - \$3 for each week or 11 punch care for \$20. For information, contact Billie at 515-851-0567. Garden produce; crafts; whatever you can think of selling!!

** AT THE CLARION THEATRE: Showing "King of Kings" on Friday - Sunday, April 18 - 20 @ 7 p.m.; No Sunday matinee for Easter!

** THANK YOU: Everyone praying for. caring, and contributing to the Solis family, as Tre continues to heal!

Bridgestone

HANSON & SONS Call Call us to Call us to Call us to Che Hansen **Nicolle Miller** 1407 Central Ave. East advertise advertise advertise Clarion, IA 50525 515-293-2329 920 Central Ave E Phone 515-532-2444 532-2871 to advertise! 532-2871 532-2871 Clarion Fax 515-532-2299 515-532-2425 www.hansontire.net Email: www.mywrightchoice.com che_hanson72@yahoo.com Call us to Call Call us to **Nicolle Miller** advertise advertise 515-293-2329 532-2871 532-2871 Goldfield, IA to advertise! 204 E. Broadway St. **First Citizens Bank** 50542 Eagle Grove, IA. Jesus replied, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.' myfcb.bank 515.825.3181 CLARION THRIFTY' Office: Office: Office: CENTER WHITE Reflections on the (563) 864-3333 (563) 864-3333 FIRST (563) 864-3333 PHARMACY Meaning of Easter Cell: As Easter approaches I am always drawn to the parallels between Jesus' resurrection and the rebirth that we see in nature during the Spring season. In the same way that trees and other plants enter a state of suspended animation or apparent death in the winter, only to re-animate in the Spring, Jesus died in order to be reborn or resurrected three days after his death. This is a great mystery which cannot be explained scientifically, any more than science can really explain how life keeps coming back every Spring. But just as the buds on the trees and the flowers starting to peak out gives us hope that life goes on, so too does Easter give us hope that our lives go on. Easter reminds us that there is a springtime of the soul. Death is not the end for us, but merely a new beginning where we are transformed into something greater. Jesus lives, and so do we. --Christopher Simon BANK Serving You First Cell: Cell: (563) 605-1078 210 North Main • Clarior (563) 605-1078 (563) 605-1078 515-532-2893 www.firstiowa.bank Member 515-532-6626 110 13th Avenue SW Laura Phillips Pharmacy Manager Clarion, Iowa 50525 **Stevenson Insurance** Office: Office: Services ABENS-MARTY-CURRAN AGENCY (563) 864-3333 (563) 864-3333 -Christopher Simon Cell: Cell: (563) 605-1078 (563) 605-1078 Goldfield 515-825-3476

Words of Wisdom

Last week's trivia questions: What singer's greatest hit songs include "Don't Come Around Here No More", "Runnin' Down a Dream", and 'The Waiting (Is the Hardest Part)"? Answer: Tom Petty.

What singer's greatest hit songs include "R.O.C.K. in the U.S.A."

"Pink Houses", and "Jack and Diane"? Answer: John Mellencamp.

This week's trivia questions: What actress has starred in movies including "The Blind Side", "Speed", and "Miss Congeniality"? What actress has starred in movies including "Legally Blonde", "Sweet Home Alabama", and "Walk the Line"?

April 16 is National Banana Day, National Librarian Day, and National Orchid Day; April 17 is Holy Thursday, and World Circus Day; April 18 is Good Friday, National Newspaper Columnists Day, and National Exercise Day; April 19 is National Poker Day; April 20 is Easter; April 21 is National Kindergarten Day, and National Tea Day; April 22 is Earth Day, and National Jellybean Day.

This week is Holy Week, and National Public Safety Telecommunications Week.

Funny quotes from the world of sports "If lessons are learned in defeat, our team is getting

a great education."

- Coach Murray Warmath "These are my new shoes. They won't make you rich like me, they won't make you rebound like me, they definitely won't make you handsome like me.

They'll only make you have shoes like me.' Basketball player Charles Barkley "Son, looks to me like you're spending too much time on one subject."

 Coach Shelby Metcalf, in response to a player saying he had four F's and one D.

"I'm not allowed to comment on lousy officiating." – New Orleans Saints general manager Jim Fink

Bats save the U.S. agriculture industry an estimated \$3.7 to \$53 billion annually by eating pest insects.

A single strand of spider silk is thinner than a human hair, but also five times stronger than steel of the same width.

Norwegian-Americans to Converge at Lake Mills

Rodger Tveiten

The perilous voyage of the first boatload of Norwegians to the United States will come alive on Monday, May 5th, at the Salem Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall in Lake Mills. Dale Goodman of the speakers' bureau of Vesterheim Museum will share the story of the wind-powered, singlemasted sloop, which left Stavanger for the Port of New York on July 4, 1825.

This year is the 200th anniversary of the start of the mass migration of Norwegians to the America.



This bi-centennial will commemorated hundreds of communities and especially in the Lefse Belt stretching from Lake Michigan to the Pacific Northwest.

Lake The celebration is organized by the Nordic Lodge of the Sons of Norway. Each May, the lodge hosts a banquet honoring the history and culture of Norway. One hundred lodge members, family members and friends are expected for the 2025 gala. Serving for the catered Swedish meatball buffet will start at 6:00 p.m. Two tables of Scandinavian desserts will follow the meal.

For reservations, contact Kermit Singelstad, lodge president. Those attending are welcome to wear their folk costumes. Norwegian and Icelandic sweaters are also welcome.



Monitor Memories

FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE WRIGHT COUNTY MONITOR 1983 - 1948

42 Years Ago April 21, 1983

Area residents now have "A Time to Sew," with the opening of a new shop in Clarion, which is owned and operated by Rob and Donna Miller. The store. which is located at the corner of North Main St. and First Ave., has fabrics, patterns and notions available for any project that a seamstress would want to undertake.

group of Wright County residents, representing severe weather spotter groups from Clarion, Dows, Eagle Grove and Goldfield met with Bob Shaw, the Coordinator for the Wright County Joint Count/Municipal Disaster Services, last Wednesday evening, and agreed to form an official Wright county Skywarn system. The Skywarn system, which is used to help law enforcement agencies and local residents be warned in the event of impeding severe weather, is run completely by volunteers.

All the Clarion Cowboys have been asking for is a chance to show what they can do in competition. The weather finally gave them a break Tuesday, and they showed some talent and promise while finishing fourth in the Bronco Relays in Belmond.

77 Years Ago **April 15, 1948**

When Mrs. Esther Olson, Clarion fourth grade teacher, composed a jingle two weeks ago, she almost completely dismissed the matter from her mind, until a letter came in the mail Thursday morning of last week, saying she had won a trip to Hollywood with "all the trimmings." The contest was conducted by Des Moines theatres.

Hans and Pete Peterson, brothers, returned to their farm home two miles south of Clarion March 21 after a three months trip to Norway where they visited three brothers and a sister as well as many other relatives. On their return trip they were accompanied by Theodore M. Petterson, 20, who plans to be a permanent resident of this country. He reads and writes English fairly well as he had learned it in school in Norway, and is now learning to speak it.

Lay-offs employees of the Chicago Great Western railroad, caused by the month long coal miners strike, has been pinching Clarion personnel harder and harder as the time stretches out. Today the Office of Defense Transportation issued an order cutting the service in half.

Coffee and Sweets at the Heartland Museum

Heartland Museum is hosting Coffee & Sweets for past volunteers and anyone interested volunteering. This will be in the community room at the museum (119 9th St, Clarion) from 9:00 am 11:00 am on April 26 As we celebrate our 25th anniversary, we honor our past volunteers.

This a free event everyone. Volunteers are needed Wednesday thru Saturday, 10:00 am -1:00 pm starting May 28. Volunteers need to be age 14 or older, and can volunteer for one day, or multiple days! During summer open hours, volunteers staff the greeter's desk. During the closed season, volunteers



can utilize their talents on refreshing displays.

Heartland Museum is open by appointment for tours. Over 90 restored tractors, some unique, are part of the tour along with store fronts, hats, and teddy bears. Call 515-602-6000 information. more Heartland is located at 119 9th St. SW in Clarion.

VFW Clarion Fish Fry Friday, April 18

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.



At the Heartland Museum Clarion, IA. All you can eat Fish, Fries, **Coleslaw and Drink!**



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Clarion Easter Egg Hunt

Wright Words Yard Cards

and Blown Away Balloon

ment Alliance is proud to

bring family events to our

community," said Sam

Stumpf, executive director

of the Clarion Development

Alliance "The Easter Egg

Hunt is a wonderful way to

create lasting memories for

the kids in our community."

possible without the gen-

erosity of businesses and

individuals throughout the

community. Thank you to

the following sponsors of

This event would not be

"The Clarion Develop-

The Clarion Development Alliance is excited to announce the annual Easter Egg Hunt located at Tornado Park in Clarion on April 19th. The event will start at 10 am and is open to children aged 0-10 years.

This year's event will be a fun-filled day for the family! Kids will enjoy the traditional egg hunt with candy-filled eggs, filled by Peer Helpers. There will also be special prizes such as bikes, trikes and scooters. With various age groups, each child will have an equal opportunity to find eggs. Photo opportunities will be provided by

Amanda Carpenter - Scentsy Appearances **Art U Creative** The Branded Bombshell **Central Waste Solutions Clarion Distributing Clarion Locker Cramer Chiropractic** Dean & Lisa Kluss First Rank **First Citizens Bank First Steps Early Learning Center**

Fuel Gift of Giving **Glow Beauty Bar Gold Eagle Cooperative** Hanson & Sons Tire **Holmes Christmas Club** John and Candy Sheehan Meghann's Munchkins Meyer Ag Services, Inc Mom Prom North Iowa Real Estate **Peer Helper** Pizza Ranch **Preppy Farmer**

Richard E. Bordwell Law, PLC Sally's Sewing Room **Scott Anderson Trucking Sigmeth Roberts Law Sumners Insurance** Trail to Serenity Massage and Bodywork

Urness Hardware Wright Community Connections Wright County Family Dental

Farmer's Market Planning for April



April showers bring..... gardens! Finally all of your pre-planning will kick into high gear as soon as it is dry enough (in other words, mud clumps don't form when you work the ground). If you have an established garden - rake off all the old stuff so you can till it up, and burn it or take it to trash. If it is new space - tilling will be a bit of work! We highly recommend tilling as opposed to shovels or hoes. If you don't own a tiller, watch the ads for people who will till for you.

You may want to till a couple of times. Add compost or other needed nutrients as you work up the dirt. Once this is done, rake over your garden to create a smooth bed. Some people say Good Friday is the day to plant potatoes. The rest of your planting begins very soon, often revolving around the last frost date for your region.

So what is first? according Plant your seed packet recommendations. It is a good idea to "lay out"

your plan on paper so you can track what you planted and when. Early planting includes peas, lettuce, potatoes, onions, radishes. These are followed by the rest of your seeds and end up transplanting your indoor starts (or purchased plants) last. Make the most of your garden space. For instance, radishes and lettuce are harvested early and can be planted in between other crops. Peas should have a fence or strings to climb vertically. Give plenty of room for zucchini, melons, and cucumbers to spread out. Recently, planting cucumbers with a fence to climb has been a way to save space!

Clarion Farmer's Market encourages vendors to join them when the market opens on May 31 this year. All vendors who sell produce should sign up for the Farmer's Market Nutritional Program - it's a free course & easy to do. Contact the Farmer's Market Managers thru bzeiger82@gmail. email



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The View From Here

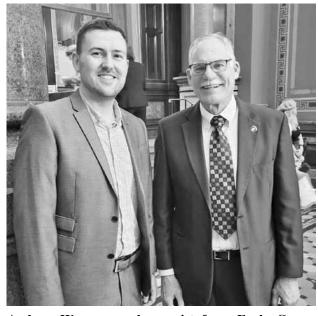
Iowa Senator Dennis Guth R-Klemme

We have finished week thirteen of the legislative session when most of our time was spent on floor debate. We have also started turning our attention to the budget and working through the details of each department's budget.

This week we passed Senate File 167, which sets funding for K-12 education. The legislature increased funding for schools by \$240 million, bringing total state funding to over \$4.2 billion. The state is investing \$7,988 per pupil and continues the teacher pay increase from last year. This puts Iowa among the top ten states for teacher salaries.

Since education funding is by far the biggest budget item for the state, we set that budget first and will now be working on every other item in state government. Our target for the total budget is \$9.411 billion, which is up 5.2 percent from last year. With the tax cuts made in past years, it is important that we budget conservatively and prioritize our investments.

prioritize our investments. Since we legalized fireworks in Iowa several years ago, it has been necessary to make some adjustments. This week we passed SF 303 which allows consumer fireworks: July 3 between 9:00 am and 10:00 pm; July 4 between 9:00am and 11:00 pm; and December 31 from 9:00 am until 12:30 am January 1. The use of fireworks allows Iowans and citizens around the country to celebrate these important holidays in a patriotic manner and the way Iowans desire. I always enjoy sharing fireworks as a family, especially when the youngest members can be frightened by the big



Andrew Wagner, a pharmacist from Eagle Grove, visited to promote PBM reform. He is well supported in his community, with over 50 of his clients emailing me to pass legislation to help keep rural pharmacies open.

community display. It's one of those things Iowans do to celebrate our freedoms.

I've heard of some disturbing increases in property taxes this week. We are working to make the process more transparent so that taxpayers know why their taxes are going up. The proposal, Senate Study Bill 1227, increases the homestead exemption to \$50,000 to help bring real relief to residential property taxpayers. also immediately removes the rollback for all classifications except agriculture. Additionally, it implements a consumer price index (CPI) adjustment alongside the 2% revenue restriction to help local entities manage times of high inflation. Lastly, it provides a cushion to help small communities that may not be growing

The House passed two bills dealing with CO2 your pripelines that I appreciated.

bans eminent domain for carbon pipelines, did not make it out of committee. HF 639 would narrow the definition of common carrier so that private companies could not use eminent domain, increases the insurance requirements of the company owning the pipeline, and requires IUC board members to attend meetings. This bill was amended so that almost all of the good parts were eliminated and several items were added that would make it easier for Summit to prevail in their effort to force the pipeline through land when property owners don't want it. I will

However HF 943, which

As a busy senator and farmer this spring, I affirm a statement I recently ran across

continue to work for real

protection of our God-

given rights.

across.

If you don't schedule your priorities someone

The Second Funnel Closes

Jennifer Konfrst Iowa House Democratic Leader

Last Friday, April 4, 2025, marked the end of Week 12 for the 2025 legislative session, and, with it, the end of the second legis-

lative funnel.

Funnel weeks are self-imposed deadlines designed to narrow the pool of legislation up for consideration during a given year. By setting a deadline for policy bills, the idea is that the Legislature can quickly pivot to finalizing the budget before the session closes

for the year. While most of the bills proposed by Senate Democrats failed to advance beyond the funnel deadlines, there are some good bipartisan bills still alive. And though there are many bad GOP bills still alive, we've managed to help defeat quite a few terrible pieces of legislation. Here's a brief rundown of where we stand after the second funnel (this list is not comprehensive): Bipartisan Bills Still Alive

- Ban cell phone usage in schools (HF 782)
- Expanded cancer and health care coverage for firefighters (HF 969)
- Helping individuals with disabilities to work and keep their healthcare (HF 905)
- Expanding parental leave for adoptive parents & state employees (HF 889/HF 248)
 New tools to address hu-
- man trafficking (HF 649, HF 908)
 Prohibiting the use of bots
- for ticket purchases (SF 146)
 Lead service lines dis-
- closed at selling (SF 425/ HF 876)
 • Health Care coverage for
- spouses and children of workers killed on the job (HF 913)
- Radon protections and

free radon tests (HF 707)
• Increased privacy protections for victims of domestics of the MF 207 (SF 457)

- tic assault (HF 397/SF 457)
 Expand services available in the Veterans Trust Fund (SF 617/HF 534)
- Provides recovery funding and strengthens protections against out-of-state predators during a natural disaster (HF 982/SF 619)
- Cryptocurrency Fraud Transaction Protections (SF 449)
- Bad GOP Bills Still Alive
 Low public school funding that reduces opportunities (SF 167)
- Allow unlicensed chaplain services in public schools (HF 884)

• State encouragement for

- elective high school courses on the Bible (SF 510/HF 845)
 Ending Diversity, Equity,
- & Inclusion in Iowa (HF 856)

 \$1 billion in new tax
- breaks for corporations at the expense of workers (SF 607/HF 980)
- Make it easier to fire employees (HF 767/SF 110)
- Voter Suppression (HF 954)
- Limit food options for hungry children (HF 970)
 Puts health care for
- Puts health care for 182,000 Iowans at risk (SF 615)
 Creates a new offense
- for smuggling persons that could criminalize nonprofits and religious organizations helping people (HF 572)
- Allow doctors to refuse treatment based on political beliefs (HF 571/SF 220) Good News: These Bad GOP Bills are Dead
- Immunity for pesticide companies giving people cancer (SF 394)
- Gives the Governor a \$100,000 pay raise (SF 544)
 Funding diversion to charter schools affecting school district teacher salaries (HF 789)
- Make it harder to access vaccines (HF 712)
- Expands the ability to carry a gun into a school (HF 621)
- Ties the hands of DNR to acquire public land (SF 553)
- Cuts funding to libraries based on affiliation (HF 880)
- Vitamins and light therapeutics for at-risk students (HF 522)
- Conspiracy theory on

chemicals in the air (HF 927)

School Funding Finally Advances

This week, after nearly two months of delays, Republicans in the House and Senate have finally come together to advance a school funding proposal – just days before the deadline at which school districts are required to submit their annual budgets.

The deal negotiated between the Republican factions in both chambers – without input from legislative Democrats – is still woefully inadequate.

At the agreed-upon amount (2%), nearly half of Iowa's school districts would be forced to raise property taxes or enact deep budget or staffing cuts. The funding rate fails to keep pace with rising costs and will continue the years-long trend of underfunding our public schools.

Earlier in the legislative session, Senate Democrats offered an amendment that would have altered the school funding increase to 5%, providing schools some breathing room and beginning to make up ground on the funding gaps enacted under the Republican trifecta. That proposal was rejected in February. Quick Updates

- Cancer Coverage for Firefighters, finally: This week, the Senate finally passed HF 969, expanding cancer healthcare coverage for Iowa's firefighters. This bill endured more hurdles than it should have, but Senate Democrats are proud to have supported it all the way through. Iowa's firefighters deserve healthcare coverage that respects their service and the risks they take to keep the rest of us safe.
- Nursing home legislation rejected: During debate this week on HF 309, Democrats offered four amendments that would more clearly improve the safety and security of Iowa nursing home residents: increasing nursing home oversight, expanding opportunities for residents to comment on safety inspections, allowing cameras in nursing home rooms, and banning private equity from taking over Iowa nursing homes. Each amendment was defeated.

The Thompson Times

Representative Mark Thompson,

House District 56 As the second funnel passed, the pace slows the appropriations process begins. There are several bills that are "funnel proof" in ways and means committee that are still being voted out of committee and will be eligible for a floor debate and vote. This week the House finished their work sent over from the Senate by Tuesday. I stayed at the Capitol to follow bills I brought forward to make sure they got through committee. The one large bill passed was the school budgets. It is always a struggle to get both chambers to agree on this very complex issue. Below

is a brief summary.

SSA Final Agreement
(School Budget)

This week, we passed a final SSA agreement after months of negotiations. While our original proposal included more money for schools, this final agreement includes a couple of key wins secured by Iowa House.

This final agreement includes:

- A 2% increase in SSA for Fiscal Year 2026 plus an additional \$5 per student. This results in more than \$105 million more in school aid.
- This year also brings phase two of the teacher salary increase. This will include almost \$35 million additional dollars for public schools.
 The State Cost Per Pupil
- amount increases to \$7,988 per student which includes an additional \$5 for per pupil equity, which was a key component fought for by the House. This is an increase of \$162 per pupil.

 The operational sharing
- cap increases from 21 to 25, an additional \$942,087 for public schools.

 An additional 3% increase in transportation equity, in
- This equates to \$1,554,938 more for public schools. Altogether, these increases equate to a 2.8% increase in state funding to public

addition to the 2% increase.

schools. The House secured more than \$4.7 million in additional investments for public schools through our negotiations.

These increases represent many of the 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 on addressing the issue a specific district is facing. The House is working to respond to the specific concerns we're hearing from our schools in a responsible manner.

Is ESA being audited?

I have been asked if the ESA is being audited and the funds monitored. There is a long list of the categories in which the schools are monitored. being Department of Iowa Education has contracted with Odyssey, a third-party administrator, to manage the ESA program. Odyssey handles applications, financial transactions, compliance, and fraud prevention. This external oversight helps ensure that funds are securely administered and that payments are processed only for verified, eligible

expenses. Odyssey handles day-today operations, including processing payments, verifying expenses, and monitoring for fraud. As part of its contract, Odyssey is required to maintain auditable records of all transactions and compliance activities. The Department of Education has the authority to audit Odyssey's performance to ensure it adheres to state guidelines, such as approving only qualified educational expenses and safeguarding against

improper expenditures.

The DOE as a state agency managing public funds, it is subject to audits by the Iowa State Auditor's Office. The State Auditor has the authority to examine state programs, including the ESA, to verify that funds are being spent appropriately and in

accordance with Iowa law.
Pharmacy Benefit
Mangers (PBM's)

Earlier this week Dr. Wagner from Eagle Grove posted on his Facebook page the plight of small pharmacist and pharmacies regarding what Pharmacv Benefit Managers (PBM's) are doing to our small but essential pharmacies. In our rural area several small, independent pharmacies are struggling due to these PBM directives. Since entering the legislature several years ago, I have been working with Dr. Wagner and his predecessor, Dr. Mickey Cooper, on how I can support their efforts to fix this financially detrimental process. The PBM bill from the House survived and was placed on the House calendar for a vote. If we pass it in the house (I'm hopeful) I will lobby the Senate to pass it as well.

HF 852 – Pharmacy Benefit Managers - This bill includes the following additional regulations of PBMs in Iowa:

Prohibits a PBM or insurer from discriminating against a pharmacy if the pharmacy is acting within its license and all laws.

Prohibits the removal of pharmacy choice or imposing any monetary advantages or penalties that result in removing pharmacy choice (including unnecessary specialty drug designations and requiring use of mail order pharmacies)

Prohibits additional cost-sharing on the insured based on where they choose to have their prescription filled

Requires all rebates to benefit the insured

Requires any amount paid by the insured for the prescription drug to be applied to their deductible Requires PBMs to

Requires PBMs to reimburse pharmacies based on acquisition cost Prohibits spread pricing

unless all cost differential

is provided to the insured
Requires pharmacies
have an appeals process
if not reimbursed at
acquisition cost

House Study Bill 328: Updates to the Property Tax Overhaul Bill

Last month. introduced a major property tax overhaul bill to kickstart a broad conversation about property tax reform. In the time since, we have been taking feedback from Iowans and different entities to gain a complete understanding of how any change we make to the system would affect Iowans across the state. As a result of this feedback, Iowa House Ways and Means Chairman Bobby Kaufmann and his counterpart in the Senate have introduced legislation, updating the bill proposed several weeks ago. Iowans have been loud and clear about their complaints with property taxes and their fear that they may be priced out of their homes. Based on the feedback we hear from Iowans; the current system is disliked by both taxpayers and taxing entities. We should not be afraid of big changes to the system.

House Study Bill 328 would make the following changes to the original proposal:

- Increases the homestead exemption benefit to \$50,000 to help bring relief to residential property taxpayers
- Removes the rollback for all classifications except agriculture, effective for the FY27 budget
- Implements a CPI (consumer price index) adjustment alongside the 2% revenue restriction to help local entities manage times of high inflation
- Provides a minimum budget guarantee to provide small communities certainty in their budgeting process

Once again it is time to get additional feedback from Iowans on this legislation. I have scheduled a meeting this week with city and county leaders and office holders to come share their thoughts on this updated property tax proposal.

Classifieds

NOTICES

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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1&2 BD Apartments in Goldfield. 62 and older or disabled/handicapped at any age. Income Based, rental assistance if qualified. Contact Connor Management & Real Estate, LLC 641-435-4788/lkconnor@connormgt.com Equal Housing Opportunity Provider.

The Wright County Sheriff's Office Is currently seeking applicants for Deputy Sheriff position.

Original complete application, cover letter and resume must be received No later than May 12th, 2025.
Applications can be picked up 8:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday at the Wright County

Sheriff's Office,
719 2nd Street S.W.
Clarion IA 50525
Or by emailing
jhogrefe@wrightco.iowa.gov
Wright County is an Equal
Opportunity Employer.



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.



SPORTS

(Photos: Taylor Smith)

Lane Takes Bronze At Umstead Relays

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

On April 8, the CGDHS boys track and field squad competed in Wright County at the 65th annual Umstead Relays hosted by Eagle Grove. Athletes contended with a 15 mph wind late in the afternoon, but spectators from Algona, Eagle Grove, Forest City, Iowa Falls, Humboldt, Webster City, Belmond-Klemme, Central Springs, Lake

Mills, Manson Northwest Newman Webster, Catholic, St. Edmond, and West Hancock still packed the stands to watch their schools go head to head.

The Cowboys finished 6th in Class A with 23 team points. Algona (145), Humboldt (131), and Webster City (99) all placed in the top-3.





Bryce Lindaman heaves the shot put at the Umstead Relays.



Charlie Campbell looks to pass an Eagle Grove runner in the 4x200.



(L to R): Jallen Stewart and Logan Legleiter get out of the blocks fast in the quarter mile.

ad Helays
100m Dash -
8 – Charlie Campbell
11 – Selvin Gonzalez
200m Dash –
10 – Ethan Boots
14 – Henry Holmes
400m Dash –
10 – Logan Legleiter
12 – Jallen Stewart
800m Run –
13 – Dietrich Woodley2:37.4
14 – Calvin Barrett
1600m Run –
5 – Christopher Greenfield5:13.35
3200m Run –
5 – Tate Jackson
110m Hurdles –
3 – Chaz Lane
5 – Chaz Lane 10.89 5 – Daven Duncalf 17.84
400m Hurdles –
8 – Eduardo Rivera
9 – Daven Duncalf
4x100 –
6 – Lindaman, Campbell
Lingenfelter, Gonzalez
4x200 -
6 – Lindaman, Lingenfelter1:40.01
Gonzalez, Campbell
4x400 -
7 – Ruba, Legleiter,
Hoang, Sweeney
4x800 -
7 – Torsell, Barrett
Woodley, Greenfield
Sprint Medley –
6 – Matul, Holmes, Boots, Rivera1:53.55
Distance Medley –
7 – Boots, Holmes, Ruba, Jackson
Shuttle Hurdle –
4 – Lane, Rivera
Duncalf, Lindaman
High Jump –
5 – Chaz Lane5'8"
Long Jump –
11 – Jallen Stewart
13 – Roy Hoang
Shot Put –
9 – Huxley Lingenfelter40'2"
10 – Bryce Lindaman
Discus –
5 – Huxley Lingenfelter 126'7"

Charlson Cruises To 4th In EG



Sophomore Yaquelin Bobadilla runs into a 25 mph

wind in Eagle Grove.

MaKavla Beisel cleared 5'0" in the high jump for a share of 1st place. The the CGDHS girls track and senior then went on to take field team competed at silver in the long jump the Lady Eagle Relays (16'6"), the 100m hurdles in Eagle Grove against (16.63) and the 400m Webster City, Algona, hurdles (1:15.67).

Harley Charlson took 4th place in the open 800 with a time of 2:55.84.

C-G-D's 4x800 team placed 5th with a time of 12:48.93.



MaKayla Beisel took silver in the 100m hurdles with a time of 16.63.



Sophomore Aleena Schaffer sprints the 100.



Johanna Perez glides past the competition at the Lady Eagle Relays.



Harley Charlson cruises in the open 800.

Tux Coc Leads United Against Bulldogs

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

team points.

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

On

Thursday,

Bishop Garrigan, Fort Dodge, Garner-Hayfield-

Ventura, St. Edmond, and

West Hancock. The ladies

finished 7th overall with 46

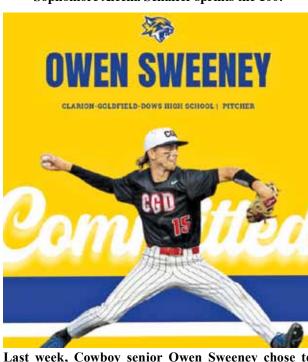
After a tie and two losses in their second week of action, Wright County United's record now sits at 1-3-2.

First, Wright County would go head to head with Hampton-Dumont-CAL in a Monday night road contest. With less than ten minutes to play, the Bulldogs scored the first goal of the game, but Wright County junior Byron Tux Coc responded with his team-high third goal of the season to tie things up in the 79th minute. Midfielder Angel Cortez set up Tux Coc on

the play and was awarded his fourth assist of the year. Goalkeeper Jose Alfaro accounted for 10 saves in the tie.

On Thursday, Wright County would drop a home game against their conference foes from Humboldt. Tux converted on his only shot on goal of the contest, but the United fell 4-1 to the Wildcats.

A day later in State Center, Central Iowa United defeated Wright County 7-2. Junior Anderson Diaz and freshman Jerry Herdandez each scored goals in the second half of the loss.



Last week, Cowboy senior Owen Sweeney chose to continue his career at NICC in Calmar. (Graphic from CGD Baseball Facebook)

Cowgirls Tee Off In Story City and Goldfield

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

Girls golfers from CGDHS teed off for the first time last Monday afternoon in Story City. The ladies had 252 total points and fell to opponents from Roland-Story (181) and West Marshall (211) at River

Bend Golf Course.

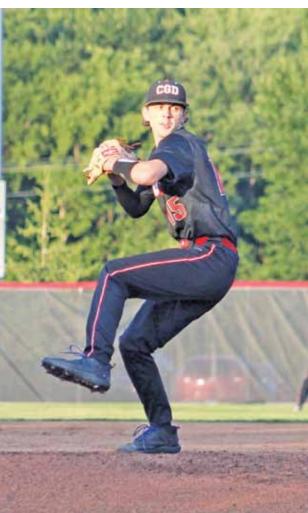
Sophomore Blaire Askelsen (12th/57) was C-G-D's top golfer. Maddie Askvig finished 13th with a 61, and junior Claire Kirstein shot a 67 for 17th place. Jordyce Duncalf (20th/68) rounded out the scoring for

the Cowgirls.

Randi Anderson (72) and Quinn Brooks (74) also represented C-G-D at the triangular.

The girls would go on to lose 195-238 in a home dual against Garner-Hayfield-Ventura Thursday, on

April 10. Askelsen (5th/56) and Askvig (6th/59) led the charge again for the Cowgirls, and Kirstein shot a 60 for 8th. Duncalf scored 61 at Goldfield's River Bend Golf Course.



As a junior starter and relief pitcher, Owen Sweeney struck out 38 with an ERA of 4.24 and a record of 3-3.

Aerial views

Bruce Voigts, Aerial Photographer (Photos taken April 8, 2025)



Migratory birds were headed up north.



A house was being moved north of Clarion.



onstration Farm in Kanawha. "Researchers conduct extensive tests on corn and soybean weed management. Evaluation of cover crops and strip tillage also is underway. Researchers study soil fertility and management systems. Agronomists study nutrient requirements of area crops and apply nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium and lime to observe crop yield response." Various field days are held during the summer months for those interested in this timely research.

> **The Chronological Gospels** The Life and 70 Week **Ministry of the Messiah** www.ARoodAwakening.tv **Watch Shabbat Night Live**

Agronomy Workshop Series for Women to Be Held in Franklin County

Angela Rieck-Hinz, ISU Extension and Outreach

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach will host Agronomy in the Field, a multi-session, hands-on workshop being offered to women landowners, farmers, conservationists, and other women who are interested in learning more about agronomy. The workshop series will be held during the 2025 growing season.

Women in field. Sessions are designed to be handson and conducted in the field to see real-time conditions.

"Agronomy in the Field aims to strengthen agronomic skills for women that allow for better decision-making, provide a better understanding of inputs for crop production, showcase various conservation practices and increase confidence in communication with farming partners," said Angela Rieck-Hinz, north central

field agronomist for Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.

The workshops will be held on April 29, May 27, June 24, July 22, Aug. 26 and Sept. 9 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at a farm located east of Hampton. Specific session and location details will be emailed to regis-

The fee to register is \$50, with a discounted rate of \$30 for high school or college students. This fee includes all educational

materials and resources. To register for Agronomy in the Field, please contact Shonda Tranel, ISU Extension and Outreach Hardin County at 641-648-4850, ext 2., or stranel@iastate.

This workshop is made possible by the financial support of Hardin, Franklin, Butler and Grundy County extension offices and supported locally by Hillcrest Grain Company and farm hosts, Shonda and Keith Tranel.





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