The Official Newspaper of Wright County, The City of Clarion, & The Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Community School District

156th year Number 18

Thursday, May 1, 2025

\$1.25 per copy

"Right on Hereford, Left on Boylston" and All the Way from Iowa

Clarion Nurse Takes on Boston Marathon

Amanda Rink,

April 21, 2025 – The Boston Marathon, held each April on Patriots' Day, is the world's oldest annual marathon, dating back to 1897. The race draws thousands of runners from around the globe. In 2025, Kenya's Sharon Lokedi and John Korir took top honors, with Lokedi setting a new women's course record.

For many runners, including Clarion native Amy Bahsen, running in the Boston Marathon represents more than just hours of training.

A registered nurse at Iowa Specialty Hospital and Clinic, Amy, 41, is a wife to Ryan, a mom to two, and a bonus mom to five. She grew up in Latimer and now calls Clarion home. "I've dreamt of running the Boston Marathon since I was a little girl," she shared. "I started running in 6th grade, and with the help of a friend, we even got a cross-country program go-

ing at CAL.' While the dream never faded, Amy knew qualifying for the race through time wasn't likely. Instead, she applied to run with the American Liver Foundation, a cause close to her heart. "There was an ap-

plication and a phone interview. When I found out I was accepted, I was thrilled," she shared with The Wright County Moni-

Training began in December and ramped up quickly. "I was running 30 to 50 miles a week, with two rest days for strength training. It was a lot of early mornings and treadmill miles, especially during winter," she said. "I did a lot of 12-14 milers indoors."

Despite a tough bout of illness in January and February, she stayed committed. "I had to take more rest than planned, and I was worried about hitting the 18- and 21-mile marks, but I pushed through. Winter training is no joke." Amy credits her family for being sure she was grounded and motivated.

"The kids are active, so I'd usually run before they got home from school. Sometimes they'd hop on the treadmill with me or lift weights together. They were a part of this journey." The journey that took Amy more than 1,000 miles from

Race day was filled with emotions. "I woke up nervous, happy, and sad all at once," she recalled. "We



Amy was all smiles as she flashed a peace sign while running the Boston Marathon. (Photo Provided)

had to be at the buses by 6:30 a.m., but my race didn't start until 11:15. Sitting in Athlete's Village gave me time to reflect." The reflection did not lead her to reconsider her choice, though.

The course lived up to its tough reputation, but again, her family kept her motivated. "The first time

I saw my family along the route, I just burst with joy. The support was incredible. People lined every inch of the course, cheering, giving high-fives. It was electric."

The course begins in Hopkinton, Massachusetts, weaving through seven towns and ending in legendary Boston, totaling a

continued on page 2

Approves Budget and Grant **Awards**

Clarion Council

Amanda Rink,

April 22, 2025 - Last Tuesday's meeting of the Clarion City Council, led by Mayor Rod Heiden, focused on budget approvals, public safety initiatives, and local development grants.

The council opened the session with approval of the consent agenda, and with no comments from the public, moved quickly onto agenda approvals.

Agenda Projects that were approved included:

- FY26 Budget: Adopted via Resolution 25-22 after a public hearing, which saw no community feedback.
- USDA Police Grant: Approved under Resolution 25-23, the grant will fund the city's share of a new police vehicle.
- 124 N Main Street Project: Resolution 25-21 authorized a \$37,000 pay application for upper-story renova-
- Airport Engineering: Resolution 25-24 confirmed DGR as the city's airport consultant, continuing a longstanding partnership.
- Hotel/Motel Grants: Awarded \$3,500 each to The Red Shed and Heartland Museum. A third grant will fund new decorations for the courthouse lawn along Highway 3.

In other discussions, City Administrator Clint Middleton shared his ongoing dissatisfaction with the city's current software provider, Gworks. He hinted at a potential transition to a new system due to widespread technical issues. Public Works Director Jon DeVries shared that a "slipline report" is expected in the coming

Assistant Police Chief Bret Thompson shared news of recent collaboration with local code enforcement, which will streamline the process for police to issue tickets for code violations. Mayor Heiden expressed a desire to issue a formal proclamation in honor of Police and EMS Week before closing the meeting.

The council will meet again on May 6, 2025, at 5:00 P.M. at the Council Chambers.

Wright County

Leads in Job

Numbers

Most area counties saw their unemployment numbers

Statewide, Iowa recorded a slight uptick in unem-

The national unemployment rate rose to 4.2 percent

for the month. Hardin County's numbers bucked the

state trend and dipped by .1 percent, down to 3.5 per-

cent. Wright and Franklin counties were the regional

leaders at 3.1 percent, as Grundy County also fell by

.1 percent, landing at 3.6 percent from 3.7 percent the

Franklin County stayed constant at 3.8 percent while

continued on page 2

ployment numbers, up to 3.4 percent from 3.3 percent

dip with the latest figures released by Iowa Workforce

Wright County Prepares for 2025 Local Elections City and School Board Seats Open

Amanda Rink, Editor

As the 2025 election season approaches, Wright County residents will have the opportunity to shape their local communities by voting for a variety of city and school leadership positions. While there are no open seats at the county level this year, several key roles are up for grabs in cities and school districts across the county.

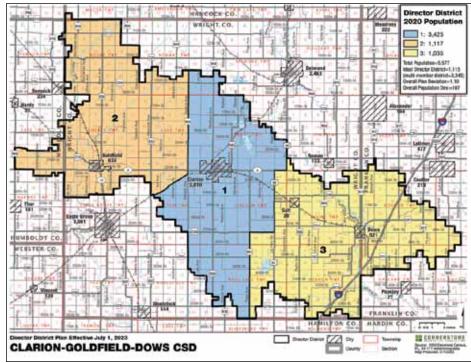
School Board Openings

School board elections are crucial for shaping the future of education in our communities. This year, all of the districts in Wright County have open seats.

Belmond-Klemme School District

Director District #4 Director District At Large **Clarion-Goldfield-Dows** (CGD) School District Director District #2 Director District #3 **Eagle Grove School District**

Director District At Large School board members help set district policies,



Map showing the boundaries of Director Districts #2 and #3 within the Clarion-Goldfield-Dows (CGD) School Board districting. (Map provided by CGD)

approve budgets, and ensure schools are serving students effectively. **City Government Seats** City elections offer a chance to choose local leaders who make choices

that impact our everyday

lives, like city spending, parks, public safety, and town projects. Here are the seats open in Wright County towns: Belmond: Mayor, 3 City Council Members, 2 Hospital Trustees, 1 Park **Board Member** Clarion: Mayor, 3 City Council Members Dows: Mayor, 3 City Council Members Eagle Grove: Mayor, Council Member At Large, continued on page 2

Belmond

Michael Hohenbrink,

Development.

the month before.

Mid-America Publishing

A new nonprofit organization, Harv-Ware, has planted roots in Belmond, assisting individuals with small home repair jobs. Their goal is "to help, not profit from your situation."

Area Headlines

Dows

With the return of warmer weather, the historical buildings in Dows will be opening their doors soon.

Eagle Grove

The Eagle Grove REC Center is set to open soon. Yearly membership rates were announced recently: a Family Pass (parents and children under 23) is \$720, Adult Single (ages 23 and older) is \$480, Youth (ages 16 to 23) is \$420, and Seniors (65+) can join for \$420 per couple or \$300 for an individual.

Goldfield

"Thank you to the Izaak Walton League for providing 100 free Red Oak saplings to Goldfield residents. Starting April 25, residents can get up to 2 saplings from City Hall while supplies last," the city shared in an online statement.

Hampton

Alivia Fergus has been hired as the new park manager of Beeds Lake State Park.

Rowan

In a special meeting, the Council approved purchasing remaining water meters before May to avoid price increases due to tariffs. The matured General Fund CD was moved to a savings account instead of renewing, and funds from the savings account will be used to cover the meter purchase.

Hydrogen Exploration Company Urges Reconsideration of Setbacks

Amanda Rink,

April 28, 2025 - Twin Exploration Rivers representatives asked the Wright County Board of Supervisors to reconsider the county's 250-foot setback requirement for seismic testing, a policy Twin Rivers says could block their search for underground hydrogen and possible economic development opportunities in the area.

which Twin Rivers, specializes in hydrogen exploration through seismic testing, has targeted Wright County because of promising geological features underground. Natural hydrogen could support local fertilizer production, clean electricity, and other new economic investments if it is found in viable quantities.

However, seismic testing — the first step

in finding hydrogen has been stalled after the Wright County Board of Supervisors denied a request from the company to reduce setbacks from county assets.

"Without reducing the buffer, we can no longer explore in Wright County," said Kyle Handy, a landman for Twin Rivers, at the Monday Board of Supervisors meeting. "The 250-foot buffer essentially makes large sections of the

road network off-limits, which leaves critical gaps in our seismic imaging." Twin Rivers proposed

reducing the setback to 50 feet from county assets, most notably drainage tile.

The company says they would monitor the seismic imaging vibrations to ensure they do not exceed the 0.5 Particle Velocity (PPV) standard, a scientific vibration limit endorsed continued on page 2



Check out



Sports on page 9

2025 Local Elections continued from page 1

Council Member Ward #2, Council Member Ward #4 Galt: Mayor, 5 City Council Members Goldfield: Mayor, 3 City Council Members Rowan: Mayor, 3 City Council Members Woolstock: Mayor, 3 City Council Members How to Run

If you're considering running for one of these positions, the process is pretty straightforward, but you will need to act within the official filing period. Nomination papers can be submitted starting August 25, 2025, but must be turned in by Thursday, September 18, 2025, at 5:00 P.M.

Candidates must meet basic requirements, such as being a registered voter in the district or city they wish to represent or being located within the districting maps. More details and nomination forms are available on

the Iowa Secretary of State's city/school election page: sos.iowa.gov/voters/schools-and-cities

This election season is a great time to get involved and make a difference in your community!

Job Numbers continued from page 1

Butler County improved slightly to 4.7 percent from 4.9 percent the month before.

Marshall County had the state's highest rate at 7.8 percent, followed by Crawford County at 5.4 percent. "March's report shows increased hiring in key industries such as construction, transportation, and healthcare, while other areas with more temporary workers pulled back," said Beth Townsend, Executive Director of Iowa Workforce Development. "There

remains over 50,000 open jobs in Iowa, and the IowaWORKS career planners and Reemployment Case Management team can help Iowans who are looking for work find available jobs and learn how to best position themselves in a competitive job market."

Supervisors continued from page 1

by third-party engineering firms hired by the company. Handy delivered a detailed plea to the board to reconsider, highlighting tests the company had completed, which showed no damage to underground clay drainage tile.

County Concerns

Despite Twin Rivers' assurances, the Board remained cautious, with Supervisor Dean Kluss stating he was firm on the 250-foot setback.

Wright County Engineer Adam Clemons emphasized the long-term risk. Even if no immediate tile damage is observed, decades-old drainage systems made of fragile clay tiles could deteriorate or fail in future years, potentially causing major flooding and expensive repairs

"We'll be the ones named in that lawsuit because we allowed the testing," stated Clemons.

Twin Rivers said they would provide full GPS tracking of every seismic shot and offered to extend a ten-year indemnification agreement, covering any damages linked to their operations. They stressed that their technology and testing methods were less invasive than older seismic methods used during oil exploration in the 1980s.

Precision Drainage, an Algona-based contractor, supported Twin Rivers' request, describing extensive tests conducted with both new and old tiles.

"We placed vibratory trucks directly over shallowburied clay tile. After multiple tests, there were no cracks, no shifts, nothing," said a representative, who said he was an uninterested party, with Precision Drainage and Excavating of Algona.

Yet, several voices, one of which was Bob Ritter, remained skeptical. He pointed out that aged tiles already prone to cracks may react differently than fresh test installations, and that vibrations, even at low intensities, may have cumulative effects not visible immediately.

What Happens if Hydrogen Is Found?

Beyond testing, public questions turned to the broader environmental impact if hydrogen is found in Wright County. "What does Wright County, Iowa look like when you're drilling hydrogen?" asked County Conservation Director Eric Rector.

It was explained that hydrogen extraction would look similar to a natural gas operation, with a typical well site occupying about 1.5 acres once completed. The above-ground "Christmas tree" structures would be 6 to 9 feet tall. Gathering lines to transport hydrogen would ideally run along road easements to avoid disruption to other systems.

Unlike CO2 pipelines, which have stirred significant local controversy, hydrogen gas is lighter, less hazardous, and would likely be consumed locally rather than piped across long distances, according to Twin Rivers.

Still, skepticism was voiced about land leases, the potential industrialization of rural areas, and the danger of anhydrous fertilizer plants.

"I'm a fan of hydrogen as a fuel source," said Rector. "But there are a lot of unanswered questions."

Twin Rivers representatives stated that at this point there are possibilities to consider, but right now they are just looking for the resource.

What's Next?

The Wright County Supervisors did not make a final decision during the meeting.

They requested more time to consult with the county attorney, insurance providers, and to review all data, including mapping files and vibration testing reports submitted by Twin Rivers.

A potential decision could come within the next two weeks.

Without a revision to the current setback, Twin Rivers warned, seismic testing could not begin in Wright County, though neighboring counties like Franklin, Cerro Gordo, and Hamilton have already approved similar projects without restriction.

Request for comment from the Wright County Monitor submitted to Twin Rivers Exploration remains unanswered as of the publication deadline.

Get all your news online: www.clarionnewsonline.com

Boston Marathon continued from page 1

little over 26 miles. There are fluid stations, digital clocks, hydrogel depots, and medics set up along the route. On average, it takes runners just under four hours to complete.

When the miles got tough, Amy found strength in her faith. "God kept me going. A friend sent me a verse before the race, and I just kept repeating it in my mind. I also remembered all the messages I'd gotten, texts, Facebook notes, video cheers. It made all the difference."

And then came that final stretch. "Right on Hereford Street. Left on Boylston Street. The crowds were unbelievable. When I crossed the finish line, I felt so thankful, and honestly, sad that it was over. I wanted to do that last stretch again and again."

Amy was one of 105 people from Iowa who ran in the marathon. Now back



Amy Bahsen, registered nurse, mother, and wife, crossed the Boston Marathon finish line in late April, with arms raised in triumph, completing her lifelong dream with Iowa grit and determination. (Photo Provided)

home, Amy is enjoying some well-earned rest, but not for too long. "I have a half marathon in June, and maybe some 5 Ks this summer. I've applied for the 2026 New York City Marathon. Someday, I'd love to complete all six World Marathon Majors." Her advice to others

running for their dreams? "Remember your why,"

she shared. "When things get tough and you feel like quitting, remember why you started. Nothing worth doing is easy, but anything is possible when you have

From Latimer's streets to Clarion's treadmills to the finish line in Boston, Amy Bahnsen's journey shows the grit and determination Iowa is known for.

Greving named AAUW Woman of the Year

Greving Katie was recently named Woman of the Year by the Clarion Branch of **AAUW** (American Association of University Women).

Jane Co-president Dettman explained the criteria for the award. "Our purpose is to advance equity through education, advocacy, and research," she said. "Katie's volunteer and employment history clearly reflect this mission. Additionally, she is always willing to say, 'I will do that.' "Katie is a member of AAUW and serves as Program Chair for the Organization. **AAUW** membership is not one of the criteria for the award.

Greving is a licensed mental health counselor. She and her family came to Clarion 12 years ago. She had been working at the Drake University Counseling Center. She is currently working two jobs. She is employed by Timely Care, a virtual counseling service for college and university students. "I hold a license in multiple states," Greving said. "I usually serve five or six students each day, virtually, in varied locations."

Katie's second job is her passion. "In 2013, we saw a need for information about Dyslexia. At that time, there were no resources available through the schools," she said. Greving and other parents organized a group of volunteers to research and offer support and information about Dyslexia

to parents and students. Decoding Dyslexia Iowa was formed to educate, advocate, and legislate, and to make sure people could find information, advice, and support. It is a non-profit organization and was initially all volunteer. Fundraising enabled the group to hire Greving as a part-time executive

Director.

"I am proud to have had a part in establishing this organization," Greving said. "As a volunteer, I built and designed the website from scratch. I had never set up a website, and this was before there were templates. I'm not proud that it took me all summer," she laughed. One of her responsibilities currently is keeping the website updated, so it is a supportive resource for parents and children. "When my time with the organization is done, I am confident it will continue to help other people," she added. The website address is: decodingdyslexiaiowa.

Katie is an active member of St. John's Catholic Church and AAUW. For seven years, she served the CASA program here. Court Appointed Special (CASA) Advocacy Volunteers helped abused and neglected children be treated with dignity and respect until the child found a loving, permanent home. Katie was a volunteer coordinator.



Greving still finds time for family amid her busy schedule. In 2023, she and her husband, Brian and their children, Alex (now 20) and Natalie (now 18), traveled with a group of Clarion ambassadors to the Clarion sister city of Junik, Kosovo. "Alex had written a paper about it," said Katie, "and Joe Nelson (CGD Superintendent) asked if our family would be willing to make the trip." For a week, the kids attended school in Kosovo, bridging the language gap and sharing experiences. The adults joined the other ambassadors in meeting with community leaders and exchanging ideas, and sightseeing.

'Travel is about learning about other people and other cultures. This was educational for our whole family," Katie said.

Greving expressed surprise at being nominated for Woman of the Year. " I joined AAUW because I believe in the mission of equality and advocacy," she said. "And because I respect and admire the women who are members. It is a great honor to be recognized by this organization."

When she isn't working, Katie says people will see her walking in all kinds of weather. "I just love to walk," she said. "I also lift weights. It's my stress relief. I am fortunate to have two jobs that are rewarding and where I feel like I can make a difference in the lives of others."

The American Association of University Women was founded in 1881 and is a non-profit organization that advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.



Amanda Rink, Editor

April 28, 2025 – Acting as Drainage Trustees Monday morning, the Wright County Board of Supervisors considered drainage maintenance mostly.

approved Work orders included:

-Beaver Dam Removal in Vernon Township

Water -Standing Norway and Grant Township -Surface Pipe Covered/ Buried in Boone Township

In addition to work orders, invoices were approved for payment to:

for work done in Vernon

Township for \$2,631.08 and Grant Township for \$3,099.42.

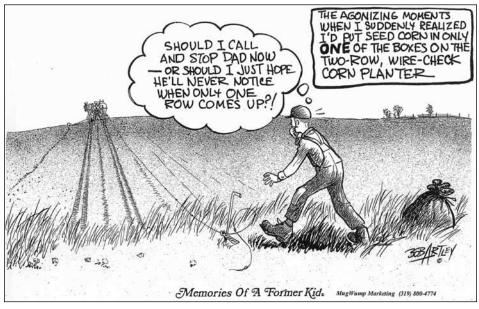
-Wright County Secondary Roads for Open Ditch Drone flying to check for vegetation overgrowth for the combined amount of \$569.32.

Drainage Administrator Courtney Morris noted that ditch clearing and maintenance would be a priority for the coming months as part of the annual rotation schedule. The Drainage District trustees meet on an as-needed basis.





Retirement Celebration



How to make the most of your local library

Local libraries are invaluable resources for residents, including students and their families. The value of libraries has been recognized for far longer than many may realize. The Franklin Public Library, opened in 1778 in Franklin, Massachusetts, is considered the first lending library in the United States. Since then, libraries have become integral components of communities across the nation and even the globe.

It's easy to overlook a local library, but residents who resolve to make the most of these venerable institutions can do so in the following ways.

• Get or renew your library card. The first step to making the most of a local library is to sign up for or renew your library card.

The Wright County Monitor www.clarionnewsonline.com 304 W. Broadway St., Eagle Grove, IA 50533

> Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Clarion contact information:
Phone: 515-448-4745,
515-364-2344

We reserve the right to edit any and all copy presented to our news department.
We reserve the right to reject any advertising, request prepayment, and cancel at any time. Quantity discounts available.

Newsroom 515-448-4745, 515-364-2344 or email news@wrightcountymonitor.

com

Use this contact to offer story tips

Use this contact to offer story tips, local news, church news, obituaries: 515-364-2344 or design@

<u>Dows News</u> Dows news can be emailed to design@wrightcountymonitor.com

wrightcountymonitor.com

<u>Paper or Internet Advertising:</u> Contact Nikki Vega by email at sales@wrightcountymonitor.com

Circulation and Subscriptions: 1-800-558-1244 ext. 122 or email circulation@midamericapub.com subscriptions and renewals can take up to two weeks to process and may cause lags in service for planned ahead. Didn't get your paper? If you did not receive your paper in Thursdays mail, call the Clarion Post Office or The Monitor at 515-532-2871.

<u>Composition:</u> 515-448-4745, or by email at design@wrightcountymonitor.com

Billing and Accounting:
Admin., 1-800-558-1244 ext.119
or email
accounting@midamericapub.com

News Tips:

The Monitor welcomes any and all news tips. At the office, call 515-364-2344 or email news@wrightcountymonitor.com To request a photographer, please give at least a day's notice.

Deadlines:
Legal Notices
Classifieds
Display Ads
Submitted News
Obituaries
Breaking News
Event coverage requests
This news may not be published in the current issue.

The Monitor Staff:
Regular employees in order of con tinuous years of service:
Sarah Duda, Composition
Amanda Rink, Editor
Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

Official Newspaper For:
City of Clarion
City of Dows
Clarion-Goldfield-Dows
School District

Clarion-Goldfield-Dows
School District
Wright County

Member of:

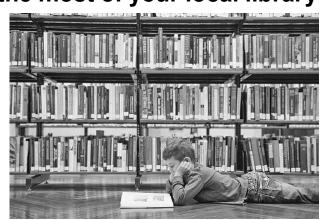
Iowa Newspaper Association National Newspaper Association

A Division of Mid-America Publishing Corporation P.O. Box 29 Hampton, Iowa 50441 Postmaster: Send address changes to: The Wright County Monitor, P.O. Box 153, Clarion, Iowa, 50525

Postal Information: USPS ISSN 693-360 Weekly

Scan the QR Code for our e-edtion www.clarionnewsonline.com





Each member of the family, including children, can get their own card, which affords access to books on site and often additional texts and offerings the library can request from other branches.

 Acquaint yourself with all the offerings at your local library. Books may be the first thing people think of when pondering local libraries, and modern branches still maintain extensive catalogs of books spanning the genres. But libraries also offer more than books. Film fans may be surprised to learn libraries typically have extensive catalogs of films that can be borrowed on DVD. and some even allow movies to be streamed through library-affiliated streaming services. Libraries also offer services to adults, including seniors, and children that can range from tax preparation tips to passport application assistance to craft projects for young-

• Utilize the research capabilities of local libraries. Card members have access to a wealth of resources at their local libraries, and that includes research databases

like JSTOR that might require paid subscriptions if users try to access them on their own. These databases can help individuals grow their knowledge about the world they live in and prove invaluable to students young and old who are conducting research for school projects.

• Open doors to new career opportunities. Many libraries offer career counseling services free of charge. These can be particularly useful to prospective small business owners, recent graduates looking to get a foot in the door in their chosen field, and even mid- and late-career professionals who want a change but aren't sure where to begin.

• Grow your social network. Not all social networks are grown online. Community-based events and programs sponsored by and hosted at local libraries can be great places to meet neighbors with similar interests.

Local libraries are more than just places to borrow a book. Residents can utilize an array of services to make the most of their local libraries.

Check it Out at The Library!



Linda Lloyd, Clarion Public Library Director

Libraries offer free and accessible resources. The Clarion Public Library offers a wealth of resources at no cost to the public, including books, technology, and internet access. This makes us a valuable asset for individuals and families who may not have access to these resources elsewhere. Our goal at the library is for everyone to be able to pursue knowledge and valuable skills so we will have a community that is fulfilled and enriched.

Puppy Brain: How Our Dogs Learn, Think, and Love by Kerry Nichols. With guidance about everything from crate training to spaying and neutering, Puppy Brain distills the latest insights and breakthroughs from canine research into practical, actionable, evidence-based guidance.

Building Small:
Sustainable Designs for
Tiny Houses & Backyard
Buildings by David Stiles &
Jeanie Stiles. The tiny house
revolution shows designs
for homes as well as a
range of backyard buildings
including workspaces and

sheds. How To: Absurd Scientific Advice for Common Real-World Problems by Randall Munroe. The world's most entertaining and useless self-help guide from the brilliant mind behind the wildly popular webcomic xkcd, the bestsellers What If? and Thing Explainer,

and What If? 2
New Fiction Books

Fundamentally: A Novel by Nussaibah Younis. A witty and bighearted PhD, publishes an article on deradicalization, everything changes. The United Nations comes calling with an opportunity to put her theory into practice and lead a rehabilitation program for women caught in the crosshairs of harmful ideology.

People of Means: A Novel by Nancy Johnson. A mother and daughter each seeking justice and following their dreams in 1960s Nashville and 1990s Chicago.

Into the Gray Zone: A Heart-Pounding Military Thriller with a Gripping Political Twist by Brad Taylor. "Non-stop action, wall-to-wall intrigue, and some of the best damn cliffhangers you will ever read. Brad Taylor absolutely crushes it!" — Brad Thor

myLIBRO app enables the user to search by title, author or genre; hold, cancel and renew materials; manage his/her account including fees due, return dates and more; learn about library hours or events. Download myLibro today and start searching for your next read.

Barn Fire at Amish Farm Brings Community Together



Nine volunteer fire departments responded to the barn fire. (Photo: Mary Swander)

Mary Swander

By this time in the evening, we thought the fire had to be out. So, when I drove over the top of the hill, we were surprised. Flames shot up from the top of the barn roof. Smoke hung in the Saturday night air, turning the darkness into a thick ashen fog that permeated the Amish homestead — the barn, house, shed, and greenhouses, all white buildings clustered tightly together, clinging to each other in a fearful embrace.

Lights from nine different small-town volunteer fire department trucks lit up the sky, their beams illuminating the scene. Police cars, parked along the gravel road, flashed their siren strobe lights silently, but furiously around and around: red, red, blue, red, blue, red. Still more fire trucks rolled into the farm yard, carrying huge tanks of water. The volunteers had set up and filled large plastic swimming pools, dipping their hoses down beneath the surface, suctioning water,

and spraying it on the barn. I parked across the street on a narrow gravel lane, wedging my car next to the ditch to allow the buggies enough room to pass. The Kauffmans, Glen and his two young sons, poured out of my car and disappeared into the darkness. I headed toward the fire, but the smoke was too much for me, so I stayed on the edge of the crowd and watched men, women and children trying to help with anything they could do to dampen the flames.

Working right along with the small-town volunteers. Their faces smudged with soot, they anticipated each other's actions. Earlier that afternoon, they had moved the 40 milk cows into an adjacent shed. A neighbor had appeared with a portable vacuum milking machine and chores were done as if nothing unusual were happening.

Now the big chore was to stop the fire. The first level of the barn might be saved — the milking parlor and stanchions. But the beams in the loft were so charred, they were a total loss. The hay loft would have to be completely rebuilt. That could be done, of course. That was the easy part. Really. Getting the fire out had proven to be harder than anyone thought.

It felt like I'd stepped into William Faulkner's story, "The Barn Burning." The crackling barn boards, the interactions of father and sons all around. With mothers and sisters waiting on the side. But the famous Faulkner story is about class and patriarchy, money and power, lying and truth telling, loss and revenge.

"He say to tell you wood and hay kin burn."

But here, there was only one mission: to work together to put out the fire and save a homestead, a family and their livestock, all part of a larger community. People from a radius of 20 miles were here to help. Were there tensions among these people? Of course, but they were put aside to get a job done.

Here, there was no ar-

sonist, only sparks from a saw powered by compressed air, sparks that flew through the barn, rose up and fell down, landing on a pile of hay. That's all it took in this dry spell. That was at 1 o'clock in the afternoon. And now at 8 p.m., the fire was still burning.

"I thought the fire would be under control by now," Glen said, finding me at the edge of the crowd. "They need more men to help. Can you take the boys home and bring my respirator?"

We were off, down the gravel to the black top, dropping the children at home, donning my head lamp to search for Glen's respirator hanging from a nail above his workbench in his tool shed. I circled around to my house to grab a box of N-95 masks I had left over from Covid, and headed back to the fire.

The next couple of hours were spent fetching more respirators, fetching coffee butlers and cake pans, and returning more children to their homes. The Amish tend to have large families and they travel in units. We were in the outer reaches of my neighborhood, so I didn't know some of the children or where they lived.

"Can you send an older child with me who can speak English?" I asked. "Or at least one who can point the way?"

We plunged into the dark night, one gravel road making a T with another.

"Okay, turn here to the right," my 12-year-old navigator said, pointing with her hand. "Now a sharp left."

We coasted along in the dark, the farmyards and houses dark without electricity or lights. Barking dogs crawled out of their little houses to greet me with suspicion.

I pulled up in front of one house where my car was recognized as the bearer of bad news.

"Oh, no," I heard the grandma on the porch. She knew it spelled trouble when I arrived at 10 p.m.

"Everything's all right," I called. "They just need another coffee pot."

"Fire out?" "Not quite."

"You gave me quite a fright."

Back at the barn, Amish men were up in the loft, trying to pitch the hav down to the ground where the firefighters doused it with water. The men in the loft had managed to unwrap all the small square bales, but when they dove into the loose hay with their pitchforks, it just burst into flames. For another hour, the men pitched and battled the flames, pitched and battled until the fire was better under control. Inside the barn, the flames were

extinguished, most of the roof gone, the rafters looking like crumbling skeletal bones. Outside, the hay was still smoldering on the ground, emitting a steady stream of smoke.

Around 11 p.m., the workers began to drift across the road into a neighbor's garage for supper. Five banquet tables held pots of chili, crackers, cinnamon rolls, carrots, celery sticks and dip, pies, cakes and cookies, all freshly baked that afternoon. Their clothes filled with the smell of smoke, the men teetered on one leg, then the other, too exhausted to talk, shoveling up the desserts with plastic forks.

Many of these same men would return on Monday morning to start to rebuild the barn. They wouldn't even have to call a frolic, the Amish word for a barn raising. The men would know to come with their tool belts strapped around their waists. The work would be completed by Tuesday noon.

I hung at the edge of the garage. Above, the stars began to shine through the cloud of smoke. In seven hours, it would be an early spring morning with the robins and cardinals beginning to sing.

"Please, have some supper," one of the women beckoned me to the table.

In Faulkner's story, Sarty, the young protagonist, left his dead father and his family behind, walking into the woods.

"He went on down the hill, toward the dark woods within which the liquid silver voices of the birds called unceasing—the rapid and urgent beating of the urgent and quiring heart of the late spring night. He did not look back."

Glen returned my box of N95 COVID masks and thanked me. The masks were filled with soot but stacked, their elastics stretched, one cradling the other, back in the small cardboard box.

"Join us," the woman repeated.

At last, I stepped into the garage and picked up a bowl of chili, hunger and fatigue suddenly washing over me, the warm liquid effortlessly sliding down my throat.

This column is republished from Mary Swanders' Buggy Land, through the Iowa Writers' Collaborative. Mary Swander is a well-published author and playwright, the executive director of AgArts, and the host of the "AgArts from Horse & Buggy Land" podcast. Find her work at maryswander.com



Courthouse news

BIRTHS

Elise Renae Bockelmann was born on April 8, 2025, to Shelby and Cole Bockelmann of Humboldt.

Hallee Mae Berhow was born on April 9, 2025, to Carlee and Chase Berhow of Webster City.

Braxton Hayes Ostendorf was born on April 9, 2025, to Jessica and Ross Ostendorf of Thornton.

Kieran Atreus Hovellon was born on April 10, 2025, to Mya and Liam Hovellon of Kanawha.

Oliver Idriel Velasco Bravo was born on April 11, 2025, to Maria Bravo Perez of Thornton.

Everett Axle Dean Askvig was born on April 11, 2025, to Britni and Myles Askvig of Vincent.

Cove Clair Dahlby was born on April 11, 2025, to Samantha Cooper of Northwood.

Lincoln Wade Anderson was born on April 11, 2025, to Peyton and Michael Anderson of Belmond.

Rhett Dean Nelson was born on April 12, 2025, to Sarah and Taylor Nelson of Leland.

Edward Ronaldo Vicente Estrada was born on April 13, 2025, to Margarita Estrada Reyes and Gilmar Vicente Maldonado of Eagle Grove.

Levi Gaspar Raymundo Perez was born on April 15, 2025, to Catarina Perez Raymundo and Jose Raymundo Lopez of Webster City.

DEATHS Earnest Dean Kiley of Eagle Grove was born on April 21, 1936, and died on April 14, 2025, at the age of

88. **Property Transfers**

Court officer deed others-land deeds: Caruth Culley Executor, Caruth Alan, Caruth Alan Estate to Caruth Culley - 29-90-23 NE, Estate of Alan Caruth 000013261004675321;25-

Warranty deed - town lot: Kelch Consulting Services LLC to Kelch Charles

P Revocable Land Trust, Kelch Pamela K Revocable Land Trust, Charles P and Pamela K Kelch Revocable Land Trust – Clar McKay's Second Addn Blk 1 Lot 7 except N 20', Clar McKay's Second Addn Blk 1 Lot 8 except N 20'; Kelch Consulting 000012305004676435; 25-646.

Warranty deed - land deeds: McMurray Michael R, McMurray Vicki J to Nelson Cole E - 30-93-23NW Tract in the NE 1/4; 25-647.

Contracts - town lot: Lopez Adalberto Jr, Lopez Olivia to Banegas Velasquez Fredis Antonio, Velasquez Banegas Fredis Antonio, Amador Gutierrez Kelvin Joel, Gutierrez Amador Kelvin Joel, Banegas Menica Brayan Jonathan, Menica Bangas Brayan Jonathan -Clar Denison's Addn Blk 2 Lot 4; 25-648.

Warranty deed - town lot: Cahalan Investments LLC to Venegas Sanchez Alisson Yajaira, Sanchez Venegas Alisson Yajaira - EG Broadway Addn Blk 9 Lot 6, EG Broadway Addn Blk 9 Lot 5 W 1/2, In Fulfillment of Real Estate Contract; 25-649; Related Documents 22-388 02-004 Contracts-Town Lot.

Contracts - land deeds: Jacobson Jim, Jacobson Alice M to Morelli Jill - 14-93-25 NW, Jim Jacobson/ Jill Morelli 000016045004677191; 25-651.

Warranty deed - land deeds: Gregg Marilyn M Trustee, Gregg Marilyn Revocable Trust, Marilyn M Gregg Revocable Trust to Okland Joshua, Okland Michelle - 16-92-24 SW Tract Sandy Beach Sub, FJF Gregg TR 20250409 0956 000016887004677333; 25-

Warranty deed - town lot: Barnes Melissa M, Barnes Edward A to Vences Blanca - Gold Orig Addn Blk 49 Lot 8, Vences - Barnes 000014225004678922; 25-

Warranty deed - land

deeds: Dougherty Dennis M Trustee, Dougherty Randall D Trustee, Falconer L G Trust, L G Falconer Trust to Dougherty Dennis M Trustee, Dougherty Joan M Trustee, Dougherty Dennis M Revocable Trust, Dougherty Joan M Revocable Trust, Dennis M and Joan M Dougherty Revocable Trust - 16-92-24 NE Lot 26 Wilson's Sub & Tract, Falconer Trust to Dougherty Trust 000022861004679397; 25-

Warranty deed - town lot: Grant Sebby Drywall LLC to Gold Eagle Cooperative - Holm Orig Addn Blk 1 Lot 7, Holm Orig Addn Blk 1 Lot 8 Part, Sebby Drywall to Gold Eagle 000022861004679397; 25-633; Related Documents - GWH667 56-001 Groundwater Hazard.

Warranty deed - land deeds: Schmid Kurt J, Schmid Maria, Schmid Todd M, Schmid Lynn to Jacobson Kreg Family Revocable Trust, Kreg Jacobson Family Revocable Trust - 1-90-25 SW W 1/2 of S 1/2 Except, Schmid, Kurt J 000013261004681228; 25-669.

Tickets

Timothy Edward O'Connor of Waterloo, IA, maximum gross weight violation – 1001 to 2000.

Joseph Scott Elliott of Forest City, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (6 thru 10 over).

Adam Robert Walker of Winterset, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (6 thru 10

Edward Parra of Roland, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (6 thru 10 over).

David R Johnson of San Antonio, TX, speeding 55 or under zone (6 thru 10 over).

Karly Paige Terhark of

Urbandale, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (1 thru 5 Joseph LaDuke of Bel-

mond, IA, failure to provide proof of financial Liabili.

Joseph LaDuke of Bel-

mond, IA, improper rear lamps.

William Clay Sievers of Maple Grove, MN, speeding OVR 55 zone (11 thru15 over).

Yeferzoin Amador Banegas of Eagle Grove, IA, no valid drivers license.

Yeferzoin Amador Banegas of Eagle Grove, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (16 thru 20 over).

Yeferzoin Amador Banegas of Eagle Grove, IA, failure to provide proof of financial Liabili. Mark Lee Pittman of

Clarion, IA, use electronic communication device age 18. Jessica Elizabeth Place of

Alden, IA, failure to maintain or use safety belts -Hunter Myles Sutter of

Alexander, IA, failure to comply with safety regulations Rul.

Jess Allen sprung of Aredale, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (1 thru 5 over).

Benjamin Vazquez of Kanawha, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (16 thru 20

Kathy Jean Meyer Allbee of Hampton, IA, dark window or windshield.

Jason Marc Tucker of Minneapolis, MN, speeding OVR 55 zone (16 thru20 over).

Kirk Wallace Nesset of Ames, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (6 thru 10 over). Danaisy Carmona Castel-

lon of Brandon, FL, speeding 55 or under zone (11 thru 15 over). James Michael Bata of

Owasso, OK, speeding 55 or under zone (6 thru 10 over).

Carter Joseph Bjorklunder of Eagle Grove, IA, speeding 55 or under zone (11 thru 15 over). Tarron Marie Glidden

of Forest City, IA, window Melissa Rae Pulido of

Clarion, IA, speeding. Bryson X Warren of Belmond, IA, window tint. Juan Francisco Vasquez Acabal of Belmond, IA, no valid drivers license.

Carlos Enrique Sanchez Fuego of Belmond, IA, no valid drivers license.

Carlos Enrique Sanchez Fuego of Belmond, IA, proof of security against liability - driving.

Santos Isidro Garcia Gomez of Eagle Grove, IA, permitting unauthorized person to drive.

Agustin A Garcia of Clarion, IA, failure to have valid Licenseor permit while.

Miguel Antonio Oxlaj Lux of Clarion, IA, failure to have valid Licenseor permit while.

Sara Jo Bakker of Roseville, MN, failure to obey traffic control device.

Selena E Johnson of Belmond, IA, dark windows. Dora a Espinoza of Eagle Grove, IA, expired registra-

Humberto Hernandez Rodriguez of Eagle Grove, IA,

no drivers license. Andres Reyes Lopez of

Eagle Grove, IA, no drivers license. **Small Claims**

Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC v. Pamperin,

Alvin John; case dismissed with prejudice.

Hauge Associates, Inc. v. Jonas Knehans; judgment for the plaintiff in the amount of \$513.20 plus interest at 7.22% from 3/10/25.

SENCOR Holdings, LLC vs Melissa Adams & PIP; case dismissed, plaintiff ordered to pay \$95.00 in court

Civil

(RTD)ANDREW JOHN-SON VS STATE OF IOWA; case dismissed with prejudice.

Criminal

State of Iowa vs Douglas, Lacey Michele; simple misdemeanor assault - General, Defendant pled guilty and was fined \$105.00, plus \$95.00 in court costs, and a \$15.75 surcharge.

State of Iowa vs Robinson, Octavious D; simple misdemeanor violation of no contact/protective ordercontempt, dismissed by the court; simple misdemeanor interference with official acts, defendant pled guilty and was fined \$250.00 plus \$60 in court costs and a \$37.50 surcharge.



Plumbing, Heating and A/C, Inc. 114 N Commercial, Eagle Grove 515-448-3456

Specializing in Collision Repair!

"In business since 1995"

Down Draft Paint Booth w/Baked Curing Cycle · Frame Machine · Computerized Paint Matching Computerized Estimates · A preferred shop with insurance companies

Quality Pre-Owned Vehicles Weather Tech Dealer • Detailing • Interior/Exterior Cleaning 118 N. Commercial • Eagle Grove • 448-3944 www.lawsonauto.com

Legal notices

PUBLIC NOTICE City of Clarion April 22, 2025 Claims

CLAIMS REPORT **VENDORAMOUNT** . 204.04 AGSOURCE COOP SERVICES1,583.20 AGVANTAGE FS INC1,299.32 AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES BAKER & TAYLOR......650.79 BIRDS & BLOOMS EXTRA.....10 BOMGAARS3 BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC .. 302207.98 BROTHERS MARKET...... 276.91 CEMSTONE CONCRETE MATE-. 1.210.00 CENTER POINT LARGE PRINT.. CENTRAL IOWA DISTRIBUTING2,184.00 CITY OF CLARION CLARION DISTRIBUTING...561.6 CLARION HEALTH & FITNESS... CLARION HEALTH INS.. 1,395.51 NELS LLCCLARION VISION INS CLARION WATER & SEWER COLLECTION SERVICES CEN-TER369 COLUMN SOFTWARE PBC 369.23 CORE & MAIN1,030.10 COUNSEL OFFICE AND DOCU-LLC......524.28 DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING. ENNIS CORP. FLEET SERVICES FED FICA ELECTRONIC16,484.25 FIRE SERVICE TRAINING BU-

GOLD-EAGLE COOP 5,748.43

GORDON FLESCH COMPANY.

HAWKEYE WEST PEST CON-

HOTSY EQUIPMENT CO. 335.39

HSA PERSONAL1130 I & S GROUP, INC 6,814.90

IA CENTRAL COMM COLLEGE.

......30
IA DEPT OF PUBLIC SAFETY......

IOWA MEDICAID ENTERPRISE ...

......1,946.41

.....187.08

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs. May 1, 2025

WIID / WILL WO/ WY LIVE	
MID-AMERICA PUBI	LISHING CO
	69
MIDSTATES ORGAN	IIZED CRIME
	100
MURPHY, DENNY	460.1
NAEMT	60
NIACC	300
OUR IOWA	39.98
PRAIRIE ENERGY	74.61

FRAIRIL LINLINGT14.01
PRINTING SERVICES INC
1,890.00
QUADIENT LEASING USA, INC
52.75
QUADIENT FINANCE USA, INC
550.03
QUALITY PUMP CONTROL
1 261 88

	. 1,261.88
CHRIS REED	44.89
REVITALIZE DEVELOP	ERS LLC.
	55,000.00
RINKS AUTO	
RUSSELL, ADAM	65.8
SIMMERING CORY IA C	CODIFI-
CATION	.2,269.00
SMALL CITY RESEARC	H INST
	.3,400.00
STERICYCLE, INC	198.8
SYN-TECH SYSTEMS, I	NC 496.5
T & S SANITATION	269
T-MOBILE	172.75
THE TRACH MAN	20

STERICYCLE, INC 198.8
SYN-TECH SYSTEMS, INC 496.5
T & S SANITATION269
T-MOBILE172.75
THE TRASH MAN20
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA
POSTMASTER 350
US CELLULAR392.54
VISUAL EDGE - DALLAS 692.58
VISUAL EDGE IT120
VISUAL EDGE IT 6,036.72
WHITE FOX HOLDING, LLC
10,000.00
WILLEY'S WOOD SHOP 450
WRIGHT COUNTY EXTENSION.

WINIGHT COUNTY EXTENSION.
45
WRIGHT FARM SERVICES
598.85
WRIGHT MATERIALS CO
1,264.05
WEX BANK1,081.61
Accounts Payable Total159,271.35
GENERAL 45,265.14
ROAD USE11,915.55
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT FUND
1,970.31
WATER14,436.92
WATER UTILTY IMPROV FUND
32,500.00
WATER PLANT PROJECT

..... 8,814.9011,674.75 SEWER IMPROVEMENT.32,500.00 STORM SEWER UTILITY 89.5 INTERNAL SERVICE FUND. . 104.28

TOTAL FUNDS 159,271.35

PUBLIC NOTICE City of Clarion April 22, 2025 Minutes

The Clarion City Council met in regular session Tuesday April 22nd, 2025, at 5:00pm in the Council Chambers with Mayor Heiden presiding. Present were Council members Dave Flurer, Dan Hennigar, Shayne Hennigar, Nick McOllough and Mike Ennis. Also, in attendance City Administrator Clint Middleton, Attorney Zach Chizek, PWD Jon DeVries, and Officer Bret

Mayor Heiden called the meeting to order and polled the council for any conflicts of interest with the agenda, there was one, D. Hennigar for Nelson building. Mayor Heiden asked if there were any citizens listed to address the council, there were none.

Thompson.

Motioned by D. Hennigar seconded by Flurer to approve consent agenda consisting of Minutes-2025.04.01 #1 & 2025.04.01 #2; Financial report- approve checks; Licenses/Permits- (Building, Liquor, Tobacco, Sign, Peddler, Street Closure) Road Closure: CDA; Tobacco Casey's, Crowe Smoke' N Vape; Building - Nelson - Building; Garbage hauler - American Sanitation

(Motion passed 5-0).

Motioned by S. Hennigar seconded by McOllough to open Public Hearing for FY26 Budget (Motion passed 5-0). No comments from the public. Motioned by Flurer seconded by S. Hennigar to close hearing (Motion passed 5-0).

Motioned by Flurer seconded by McOllough to approve Resolution (25-22) Approving FY26 Budget (Motion passed 5-0).

Motioned by D. Hennigar seconded by Flurer to open Public Hearing for Police Grant (Motion passed 5-0). No comments from the public. Motioned by McOllough seconded by Flurer to close hearing (Motion passed 5-0). Motioned by McOllough seconded by Flurer to approve Resolution (25-23) Approve USDA Police Application (Motion passed 5-0).

Motioned by Flurer seconded by McOllough to approve Resolution (25-21) Approving Pay Application No. 1 for 124 N Main Street Upper Story Project. (Motion passed 5-0). Motioned by Flurer seconded by D. Hennigar to approve Resolution (25-24) approving DGR as Airport Engineering Consultant (Motion

passed 5-0). Motioned by D. Hennigar seconded by Flurer to approve Hotel Motel Grant Committee Recommendations: Red Shed - \$3,500,00 for wedding venue landscaping; Heartland Museum - \$865.97 an-niversary brochures; Clarion Puritans \$2,500.00 Tree lights. (Motion passed 5-0).

Reports from the Council or Dept heads: Middleton updated information from IDEA findings. The mayor mentioned he has been part of some Kosovo delegate visits. Officer Thompson talked about streamlining Code Enforcement direct to citations if not addressed in a timely manner. D. Hennigar talked about lots owned by city and if they were for sale. DeVires gave a quick update on a sewer Slip Lining project we are getting engineer's guote on. Middleton updated on the potential of the city upgrading to a new accounting software as the current one has forced cities to upgrade to a system that is failing repeatedly. Research is almost completed as to what software to switch to.

Motioned by D. Hennigar seconded by Flurer to adjourn. All Ayes. (Motion passed 5-0). Respectfully Submitted, Clint Middleton City Administrator

Published in the Wright County Monitor on May 1, 2025

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs. May 1, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE Estate of LaVonne G. Falconer THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT

FOR Wright COUNTY IN THE MATTER
OF THE ESTATE OF LaVonne G. Falconer, Deceased CASE NO. ESPR017689 NOTICE OF PROOF OF WILL WITHOUT ADMINISTRATION

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of LaVonne G. Falconer. Deceased, who died on or about on October 25, 2024:

You are hereby notified that on 04/02/2025, the last will and testament of LaVonne G. Falconer, deceased, bearing a date of March 27, 2012, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and there will be no present administration of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district 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 4/2/2025. Dennis M. Dougherty, Proponent

Randall D. Dougherty, Proponent Attorney for estate: Philip M. Johnson, ICIS#: AT0014857 216 North Commercial Ave PO Box 109 Eagle Grove, IA 50533 Phil@Johnsonslawfirm.com Date of second publication May

1, 2025 Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs. April 24 & May 1, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE Wright County Supervisors April 14, 2025 Minutes

April 14, 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 9:12 a.m. Members present were Kluss, Bosch, Rasmussen, Loux, and Ellis,

Motion by Bosch and seconded by Ellis to approve the tentative agenda with tabling item 12(c) for the use of the Courthouse grounds for CDA. Motion carries.

Minutes of the special meeting of April 7, 2025 were read and approved with one correction and the minutes of the regular meeting of April 7, 2025 were read and approved

Motion by Kluss and seconded by Ellis to receive the quarterly revenue report from the Wright County Recorder. Motion carries.

Tiffon Pohlman, Communications Director, presented wage adjustments effective July 1, 2025. Pohlman has been working with the County HR Attorney, Mike Galloway, to determine a wage scale for the Communication employees. Currently the starting wage is \$21.00 and the proposed scale would increase the starting wage to \$23.50 and a range up to \$29.00. Pohlman would also like to raise two employees beginning July 1 st 2025. Motion by Kluss and seconded by Ellis to approve a starting wage of \$23.50 with no range and authorize the two employees presented to receive pay increase to \$24.00 and \$24.50 effective July

1, 2025. Motion carries.

Pohlman mentioned that this week is Dispatcher Appreciation Week. The Board would like to thank all the County Dispatchers for their work.

Darrel Steven Carlyle introduced Kate Garner with Prairie Energy to the Board. Garner would fill the seat that Todd Foss has since resigned from on the Economic Develop-ment Commission. Motion by Kluss and seconded by Rasmussen to appoint Kate Garner to the Wright
County Economic Development Commission with a term to expire 12/31/2026. Motion carries.

Andy Yackle, Wright County Buildings and Grounds Director, presented three applications from the Clarion Development Alliance (CDA) for the use of Courthouse grounds. Motion by Kluss and seconded by Bosch to approve the use of Courthouse grounds for June 13 th , 2025 for Family Fun Night from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and June 14 th, 2025 for Festival for Kid's Zone Activities from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00

p.m. Motion carries. Motion by Kluss and seconded by Bosch to receive the Wright County 2024 Central Service Cost Allocation Plan and have the Chairman sign the Certification of Cost Allocation Plan. Motion carries.

Jeremy Abbas, Assistant to the Wright County Engineer, gave an update on the Secondary Roads. Motion by Kluss and seconded

by Bosch to adjourn the meeting. Motion carries.

Rick Rasmussen, Chairman, Wright County Board of Supervisors Amanda Meyer, Wright County Au-

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Thurs. May 1, 2025



Rural Voices Rise in Defense of Public Education at Wright County Meeting

Amanda Rink,

April 22, 2025 - At the most recent meeting for the Wright County Democrats, which The Wright County Monitor was invited to attend, one voice resonated with a sort of urgency: Nancy Huisinga, a former Iowa House candidate and an advocate with Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement (CCI). Speaking predominantly older audience of 16, Huisinga introduced the group to "Public School Strong," a grassroots campaign led by Iowa CCI. This initiative is aimed at defending and improving Iowa's 300plus public school districts, which Huisinga argues being undermined are state legislation private interests. "We want fully funded public education," Huisinga stated plainly, considering 5% funding to be "fully funded". "We (Iowa Public School Strong) are inviting Iowans to engage with their school boards—not to

strengthen them." She shared a picture of challenges public schools face: state-level "defunding," increased relocation of taxpayer dollars to private schools, and political maneuvers that Huisinga said "erode the democratic foundation of education." Notably, she criticized the state's voucher program, which has redirected funds to private schools that are mostly religious and lack the accountability required of public schools. She also highlighted the greater concern of private schools' admission selective practices, which she shared with the crowd, undermine the universal access that

However, one of the most notable parts of her presentation was her of attending memory the Des Moines school board meetings, where community presence in "Public School Strong" T-shirts brought gratitude, not confrontation, from the elected leaders. She encouraged others

public schools offer.

the room to adopt civic responsibility, even if they do not have school-aged children in their personal lives.

In addition to rallying support, Huisinga offered practical steps for involvement and solutions to the crowd. Education material was distributed, and the group discussed resolutions to eliminate vouchers within five years. The tone of her message was not just one of resistance, but of hopeful mobilization. "If we don't do this," she warned, "we risk losing the very heart of our communities-our schools."

The meeting, which also touched on social media outreach and protest planning, stood in great contrast to the small, rural setting and attendance.

In the face of education and property tax policies that risk leaving small communities behind, it may be the quiet voices in the corners of rural rooms that rise up to shape Iowa's future.



In The Sky During May*

fight them, but to support

David Voigts May will be an exciting month in the sky. As May begins, brilliant Venus and bright Saturn will be close together low in the eastern predawn sky with Mercury near the eastern horizon and probably hard to spot without binoculars. As the month progresses, Mercury will drop quickly toward the Sun, while Venus and Saturn separate as Saturn climbs much faster than Venus into the morning

If you are an early riser, it should be interesting to follow these planetary movements. Since Saturn will be in a dim part of the sky, it should be easy to find even when it is far from Venus.

In the evening sky, very bright Jupiter will be dropping into the twilight glow and will be hard to spot by the end of the month. Meanwhile, Mars will be high in the westsouthwestern sky. eastward motion has taken it away from the bright twin stars of Gemini (the Twins), and it will be moving through the dim constellation Cancer (the Crab). This movement will take it very close past the Beehive open star cluster on about May 4, and it be close to the cluster for a couple of days before and after. If you every wanted to see this iconic star cluster that some say looks like bees around a hive, this is an excellent opportunity to find it. Binoculars or a very dark sky will be needed to see the cluster, but with Mars nearby it should be easy.

Although Cancer is the dimmest constellation of the zodiac, it has a long history. It is thought to have been given its name because about 2,500 years ago, the summer solstice occurred when the Sun was in this part of the sky. The motion of the Sun northward and then turning and moving southward may have reminded the ancient sky watchers of the sideways motion of a crab. In Greek-Roman mythology, Cancer represents the crab that was sent to distract Hercules during his battle with the monster Hydra. Hercules crushed the crab, and because it failed, it was given only dim stars when it was placed in the sky.

Another story related to Cancer concerns what currently is called the Beehive star cluster but in ancient times was called the Praesepe or manger. As the story goes, the Greek gods Dionysus and Silenus were riding two donkeys into the battle with the Titans. The loud braying of the donkeys frightened the Titans and allowed the gods of Olympus to win the war. The donkeys then fed at a manger. The manger, along with the donkeys, were placed into the sky.

On May 16, we commemorate Dr. Nancy Grace Roman, NASA's first Chief Astronomer, who was born in 1925. She created NASA's space astronomy program, championed larger space telescopes, and helped develop the Hubble Space Telescope.

Observing Highlights May 2 The Moon will be close to Pollux, the slightly brighter of the twin stars of Gemini (the Twins). Castor, the other twin star, will be to their right, and Mars will be farther to their upper left.

May 30 bserve Astronomy Day with the Black Hawk Astronomy Club and Grout Museum Imaginarium, 7-9:30. The Moon will be close above Mars and the Beehive open star cluster in Cancer (the Crab), but the bright Moon may make it hard to see the cluster. Mars will be very close to the Beehive on May 4 and 5, and it will be within a binocular field of view of the cluster from about April 21 to May 17.

May 6 Before dawn, brilliant Venus and dimmer Saturn will be side by side, with Venus on the left.

May 6 The Moon will be close above Regulus, the brightest star in Leo (the

Lion), at nightfall. May 9 The Moon will be close above Spica, the brightest star in the constellation Virgo (the

Maiden). May 13 The bright Moon will rise very close to Antares, the brightest star in the constellation

Scorpius (the Scorpion). May 23 Before dawn, the Moon will be to the upper right of brilliant Venus and farther to the lower left of

Saturn. May 28 The Moon will have returned to the evening sky and will be above Jupiter very low in the west-northwestern sky. May 31 Star Party sponsored Grout Museum & Black Hawk

Astronomy Club, Prairie Grove Park, Waterloo, 9-10:30.

Moon Phase When Visible <u>Date</u> Rises **Highest Point** <u>Sets</u> May 4 P.M. First quarter Noon Sunset Midnight Full moon Sunset All night May 12 Midnight Sunrise May 22 Last quarter Midnight Sunrise Noon A.M. May 26 Not visible New Moon Sunrise Noon Sunset *Dates and times are approximate.

Sources: StarDate, Jan-Feb 2025. Vol. 53, No. 1. Chartrand III, M. R. Nat. Audubon Soc. Field Guide to the Night Sky. A. A. Krump,

Inc, NY pub. 1995. Highpointscientific.com/astronomy-hub

SkyandTelescope.org

BE A CORRESPONDENT! Do you have a **story** to tell or **photos** to show off? We are always looking for area residents to write a column, submit articles or sport features in the newspaper! Share history, highlight your community, document events and more. Call 515-364-2344

today, to talk about how we can include your voice and ideas!



Legislation to quickly end lawsuits attacking free speech, press heads to governor's desk

It's a 'big day for the truth,' former newspaper co-owner says Robin Opsahl,

Iowa Capital Dispatch

Courts could more quickly resolve lawsuits meant to silence critics or media outlets under legislation that went to the governor's desk Thursday after years of being stalled in the Legislature.

Douglas Burns, former co-owner of an Iowa newspaper that was nearly bankrupted by such a lawsuit, celebrated the bill's passage.

"This is a big day for Iowa, it's a big day for democracy, it's a big day for community newspapers," Burns said in an interview. "And most of all, it's a big day for the truth."

House File "strategic deals with lawsuits against public participation," or SLAPP lawsuits, a term referring to civil lawsuits filed by organizations, businesses or individuals against news organizations or activists because they have published articles or made statements about a topic the plaintiff does not want them to publicize. The entities filing these lawsuits do not necessarily expect to win in court, but aim to stop individuals or groups from continuing to report or talk about the topic by engaging them in a legal battle that costs them significant time and money.

The issue came to Iowa lawmakers' attention when a Carroll police officer sued the Carroll Times Herald in 2018 for reporting that he had sexual relationships with teenagers, which the officer had confirmed was

true. The judge dismissed the lawsuit, but the legal fees, totaling more than \$100,000, nearly caused the paper to go out of business.

The bill seeks to prevent situations similar allowing courts to grant expedited relief in cases involving First Amendment rights, including freedoms of speech and press.

As of January 2025, 35 states and the District of Columbia have similar anti-SLAPP laws place. Rep. Steve Holt, R-Denison, has been the main proponent of Iowa joining these states. During floor debate on the bill Thursday, he said he began having conversations about anti-SLAPP legislation in 2018.

"This is the fourth or fifth time we've passed anti-SLAPP legislation," Holt said. "... We passed this numerous times, never advanced in the Senate. This year, it did advance in the Senate."

The measure came back to the House with an amendment removing the ability to grant expedited relief for a "cause of action asserted in a civil action." The amendment striking this provision would mean anti-SLAPP protections be cannot applied retroactively, a situation Holt said rarely occurs.

"This amendment really does nothing in terms of the fact that were this to be signed into law, it will be on the books going forward, which will be ... a tremendous victory in trying to protect our small town newspapers and media outlets from being put out of business," Holt

said. The amendment was approved unanimously and goes to Gov. Kim Reynolds

for final approval.

Holt said corresponded with Burns, the former co-owner of the Carroll Times Herald, who he said "spent \$140,000 defending himself in court after telling the truth and basically lost his newspaper as a result," about the bill earlier Thursday.

Speaking with the Iowa Capital Dispatch, Burns said the bill's passage "proves that the ashes of a business can be the foundation for something durable and meaningful in Iowa."

He thanked "tenacity and for his determination" advocating for the bill for years in the Legislature, and praised the bill's passage with bipartisan support.

"It just shows that sometimes the truth can be apparent to all, and the truth can prevail," Burns said. "With this legislation in place, assuming the governor will sign it, it should secure more truthful outcomes to a variety of stories and scenarios in our state for generations."

Note: Douglas Burns is a guest columnist for Iowa Capital Dispatch. ©Copyright 2025, Iowa Capital Dispatch. Published under a Creative Commons license, CCND 4.0. Read more at iowacapitaldispatch.com.

Supervisors Discuss Insurance Gaps

Amanda Rink,

April 28, 2025 -Insurance coverage gaps were addressed at the Wright County Board of Supervisors meeting Monday morning as officials learned the county's properties and equipment are significantly underinsured, a discovery that could cost taxpayers tens of thousands of dollars.

Jay LeFevre of the First Gabrielson Agency presented findings showing that Wright County is underinsured by about \$3 million. A review of the county's insurance policy revealed road graders valued at only \$245,000 are now priced at \$475,000 for replacement.

Wright County Auditor Amanda Meyer and LeFevre warned that while the county could stick with lower valuations to save on premiums, doing so would expose Wright County to greater financial risk in case of loss.

Key issues:

Road Graders and Equipment: A \$3 million underinsured gap for county premiums if corrected. · County Jail: Currently

insured for only \$5.3 million, the jail's coverage needs to increase to \$10 million, an adjustment projected to add \$10,000 in premiums.

• Courthouse Coverage: \$15 million to \$30 million, an increase of \$24,000 premiums, though insurance caps still apply to certain items under the policy. Supervisor Dean Kluss

estimated insurance costs could rise by about 12.5%.

Auditor Meyer and LeFevre suggested that any increased insurance payments be budgeted after July 1, preventing disruption to department budgets near the end of the fiscal year. Final premium figures are expected by early June.

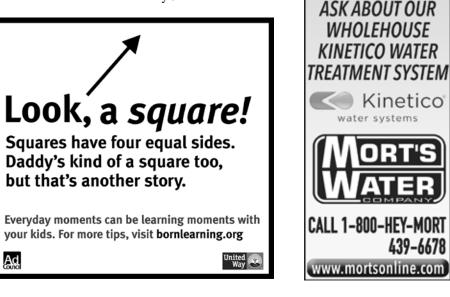
In Other Business:

• The Board held a public hearing and approved the Wright County Fiscal equipment could cost an Year 2025-2026 budget estimated \$6,000 more in with no public comments. Resolution 2025-17 officially adopted the new budget.

• A cigarette, tobacco, nicotine, and vapor permit was approved for the Casey's General Store located in Dows.

• Director of Wright County Economic Development Daryl Steven Carlyle noted that the awards ceremony and dinner for the Wright County Charitable Fund is scheduled for Wednesday evening at The Eagle Grove Robert Blue Middle School.

The Wright County Supervisors will meet again on Monday, May 5, 2025, at 9:00 A.M. This meeting, along with past meetings, can be viewed online at youtube.com/@ WrightCountyIowaOfficial







Carol Haupt • Broker/Owner

104 North Main St. • Clarion, IA

A.D. TECH SOLUTIONS Computer and

Network Repair. Virus Removal Mon - Fri. By Aspointment Chly 207 North Main Street

(515) 532-2157 andrew@ad-techsolutions.com

Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078 TIMOTHY M. ANDERSON ATTORNEY AT LAW KNOSHAUG ANDERSON LAW OFFICE 218 IST STREET SW P.O. Box 111

439-6678

Clarion, Iowa 50525 Telemose (515) 552 5821 O very Ton Tent (677) 502-2821 Extreme (515) 582-2450 Green Ton Tint (506) 923-236

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, May 4

9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Sunday, May 11 10:00 a.m. Worship Service Sunday, May 18

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA 420 1st St NW, Clarion, IA

515-532-3440 www.firstlutheranclarion.com "YOU are love, YOU belong, YOU are called, and YOU are

gifted"
• 9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Services

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

121 3rd Avenue N.W., Clarion • Sunday, May 4 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Fellowship

CHURCH OF CHRIST

420 North Main, Clarion Pastor Warren Curry 515-532-3273 http://clarionchurchofchrist. weebly.com Facebook Clarion Church of

Christ 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship, also live each Sunday on Facebook 6:00 a.m. Tuesday Iron Man, Fellowship Hall, Church Building 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, Weekly Prayer Time Fellowship Hall, Church Building

Ongoing Bible Studies - times and locations vary; check for more information at the church office week.

ST. JOHN CATHOLIC 608 2nd Ave. N.E., Clarion Father Jerry W. Blake, Pastor

515-532-3586 • Wednesday, 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 Closed)

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

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

8:15 a.m. Rosary at St. Francis,

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

Bible Study • Saturdays 8:00 a.m. Men's Group

THE LIGHTHOUSE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Dana Wendel, Pastor 1010 2nd Street SW; Clarion 515-293-3003 FREE Dinner will be on the first

Sunday of the month. Sunday

9:30 a.m. Coffee Time 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship

 Tuesday 11:00 a.m. Prayer Time · Iglesia del Nazareno 6:00 p.m. Sabado 6:00 p.m. Domingo

Lay Minister Mynor

GOLDFIELD AREA

515-851-9699

Bienvenidos

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,

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, May 7

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

GOLDFIELD UNITED

METHODIST CHURCH P.O. Box 214

No Sunday School

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, May 4 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, May 4 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship, 10:30 a.m. Fellowship, 11 a.m. Sunday School, 6 p.m. Evening

ROWAN AREA

UNITED CHURCH OF ROWAN

Pastor Nancy Hofmeister 811 Pesch St., Box 38, Rowan

Sundays

10:00 a.m. Worship Sunday May 4 10:00 a.m. Senior Recognition

Day • Saturday, May 10

Opal Ellingston's Graveside

Service at St. Olaf Thursday, May 15

2:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship Sunday, June 1

Scholarship Application Due Sunday, June 8 Pentecost

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod Jct. Highway 69 & 3 Pastor Mark Eichler Sunday, May 4

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, May 4 10:15 a.m. Sunday school,

Coffee, 11:15 a.m. Worship at First Presbyterian in Dows FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dows, IA Masking is option

 Sunday, May 4 9:00 a.m. SS/Conf/Coffee 10:00 a.m. Worship

 Tuesday, May 6 1:00 p.m. FLCW Quilters Meet Wednesday, May 7

6:00 p.m. Council Meeting UNITED METHODIST

 Sunday, May 4 10 a.m. Dows Joint Worship at Untied Methodist

& PRESBYTERIAN

FIRST REFORMED

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

IMMANUEL U.C.C.

204 E. South St., Latimer Joe Dunnwald

• Sunday, May 4 10:30 a.m. Worship

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN 304 W. Main, Latimer

Travis Berg, Pastor • Sunday, May 4 9 a.m. Worship, 10:15 a.m. ABC/Sunday School

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Morgan, Lee Center, Bradford Erling Shultz, Pastor

 Sunday, May 4 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, May 4 9:30a.m. Joint Sunday Worship Service with Holy Communion,

Coffee to follow · Dinner is the first Sunday of the

The Clarion Wire

** "Cereal Box Domino Challenge Returns!!" The Elementary TAG students will be collecting cereal in boxes on now through Friday May 2 with the actual cereal domino activity at an assembly at the end of the day on May 2. Get a box(es) of cereal to an elementary student or the elementary school office!

** "Craft Show & Vendor Fair" at Heartland Museum in southwest Clarion on Saturday, May 3 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Prize drawing! ** It's coming! Clarion 'Zip Code Day' - 5/05/25 - Clarion's zip code! On Monday, May 5; 2025 - stay tuned! ** "Easy Going Senior Exercises" at the Clarion Senior Citizens Center every Monday and Thursday afternoon, beginning at 1:30

p.m. ** Clarion's Senior Citizens Center, Play '500 cards', the first and third Wednesdays (and on the 5th Wednesday of the month when there are 5!) of each month. Next ones are on Wednesdays, May 7 and 21 from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

** 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 events are May 8 and 22!

** Clarion Fire Department is hosting a reception for Terry Howieson to celebrate and thank him for 40 years of service to CFD. Come and go and open to the public. At the fire station on Sunday May 18 from 12-4. Please join them to recognize this incredible achievement!

** CO-ED BEACH VOL-LEYBALL (6V6) @ THE BRU on Wednesdays from May 21-June 25. \$120 entry fee per team. Register today at 515-851-2029 (text only) or clarion.thebru@gmail.

** "Bingo at the BRU" the

4th of each Tuesday. Next one is Tuesday, May 27 at 6 p.m. \$20 for 3 cards and 10 rounds of Bingo; \$ for community fundraising!

** Beginning next month: 2025 Farmers' Markets in Clarion; west side of Courthouse Square beginning weekly on Saturday, May 31 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!!

** CGD Leah Deutsch at the elementary is looking for businesses willing to donate to help purchase t-shirts for our Elementary to celebrate school is now a certified Lighthouse School; a huge accomplishment for everyone. Looking for 5 businesses willing to donate \$250, but will accept any and all donations. Email her at ldeutsch@clargold.org.

** AT THE CLARION THEATRE: Showing "Thunderbolt"" on Friday - Sunday, May 2 - 4 @ 7 p.m.; Sunday Matinee at 2:30 p.m. - May 4! (First of 2 weeks!)

** BU\$INE\$\$ TIP: Get the Brothers Market app by going to the app store. Get weekly discounts and many times FREE items!

** FOCU\$ ON BU\$INE\$\$: Mothers' Day and Graduations are coming! Good time to select gifts items locally - gift cards, gifts, greeting cards! Don't forget dining out together, too!

** THANK YOU: Clarion's Marys & Marthas (M & Ms) for all they do to help or congratulate others. And thanks to everyone who supports their efforts. Most recently with \$\$ for pool passes for families wanting to go to Clarion and Dows swimming pools this summer!

Get all your news online: ww.clarionnewsonline.com





Office:

(563) 864-3333

Cell:

(563) 605-1078

Office:

(563) 864-3333

Cell:

(563) 605-1078

Contact: Xavier Patterson to Advertise! 515-448-4745

Contact:

Xavier Patterson

to Advertise!

515-448-4745

CLARION

CENTER

515-532-2893

110 13th Avenue SW

Clarion, Iowa 50525

Worship



Office:

(563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078

THRIFTY WHITE R. PHARMACY d to Healthy Outo

210 North Main • Clarion 515-532-6626 Laura Phillips Pharmacy Manager



Amazing Grace

The story behind the hymn "Amazing Grace" has been told often, including in the movie "Freedom" and in the obiographical film "Newton's Grace." John Newton, the author of "Amazing Grace" had been a slave trader who had a conversion experience in 1748. Following a mutiny by his crew, Newton was put ashore on Sierra Leone and forced to work on a lemon and lime plantation, becoming virtually a slave himself. After being rescued and on his return to England, his ship was battered by a violent storm where it appeared that all was lost. Newton called out to God for help and his ship, and its crew, were saved from destruction. Although this marked a turning point in Newton's life, he didn't immediately end his career as a slave trader, continuing in this until 1754 or 1755. But God's grace had apparently planted a seed in Newton's beart, and he began studying theology and eventually became an Anglican clergyman and ardent abolitionist. God's grace that pricular event or crisis in our lives and yet it may take years or even decades for the conversion to have its fill effect in our lives. When I think of the many times in my life when God's grace saved me from what could have been utter destruction, I realize how often Fod wases us from ourselves.

-Christopher Simon -Christopher Simon

Contact:

Xavier Patterson

to Advertise!

515-448-4745

Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078 204 E. Broadway St.



BANK

www.firstiowa.bank Membe

Stevenson Insurance

Services

ABENS-MARTY-CURRAN AGENCY

Goldfield 515-825-3476

Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078

Contact:

Xavier Patterson

to Advertise!

515-448-4745



Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078

HANSON & SONS Tire and Auto Service

1407 Central Ave. East

Clarion, IA 50525

Phone 515-532-2444

Fax 515-532-2299

www.hansontire.net Email: hanson72@yahoo.com

First Citizens Bank

myfcb.bank

Office:

(563) 864-3333



Contact: (avier Patterson to Advertise! 515-448-4745



Words of Wisdom

Last week's trivia questions: What band was named "Artist of the Decade" in the 1980s, and has more hit country songs than any other band? Answer: Alabama. What female country singer had

an 80s hit song with "I Was Country When Country Wasn't Cool"? Answer: Barbara Mandrell.

This week's trivia questions: What country singer had hit songs in the late 70s and early 80s with "Every Which Way But Loose", "Drivin' My Life Away", and "I Love a Rainy Night"?
What female country duo had hit songs in the 1980s with "Mama He's Crazy", "Why Not Me?", and "Girls Night Out"?

April 30 is National Bugs Bunny Day, and Healthy Kids Day; May 1 is National Day of Prayer, and May Day; May 2 is Baby Day, World Tuna Day, and National Space Day; May 3 is National Fitness Day, Sun Day, and National Scrapbook Day; May 4 is International Firefighters Day, National Lemonade Day, and National Orange Juice Day; May 5 is Cinco de Mayo, National Astronaut Day, and National Concert Day; May 6 is National Nurses Day, and National Teachers' Day.

Actors who turned down famous roles Robert Redford as Clark Kent in "Superman." The part went to Christopher Reeve. Al Pacino as Han Solo in "Star Wars." The part went

to Harrison Ford. Burt Reynolds as "James Bond." The part went to David Niven.

Henry Winkler as Danny Zuko in "Grease." The part went to John Travolta.

Tom Selleck as Indiana Jones in "Raiders of the Lost Ark." The part went to Harrison Ford. Bruce Willis as Sam Wheat in "Ghost." The part went to Patrick Swayze.

Molly Ringwald as Vivian Ward in "Pretty Woman." The part went to Julia Roberts. John Travolta as "Forrest Gump." The part went to

Tom Hanks. Julia Roberts as Annie Reed in "Sleepless in

Seattle." The part went to Meg Ryan. Mel Gibson as Maximus in "Gladiator." The part went to Russell Crowe.

Jim Carrey as Buddy the Elf in "Elf." The part went to Will Ferrell.

Tom Hanks as "Jerry Maguire." The part went to Tom Cruise.

Halle Berry as Annie Porter in "Speed." The part went to Sandra Bullock.

Michelle Pfeiffer as Clarice Starling in "Silence of the Lambs." The part went to Jodie Foster. Christina Applegate as Elle Woods in "Legally Blonde." The part went to Reese Witherspoon. Sandra Bullock as Maggie Fitzgerald in "Million Dollar Baby." The part went to Hilary Swank. Julia Roberts as Leigh Anne Tuohy in "The Blind Side." The part went to Sandra Bullock.

Matt Damon as Jake Sully in "Avatar." The part went to Sam Worthington. Gwyneth Paltrow as Rose in "Titanic." The part

went to Kate Winslet.

Tom Cruise as Iron Man in the Marvel Superhero movies. The part went to Robert Downey Jr.

The giving of May Baskets on May Day (May 1st), when small baskets of sweets and flowers would be left anonymously on doorsteps to the delight of neighbors, has faded since the late 20th century. However, the tradition is alive and well in schools, churches and hospitals.

The international distress signal, "mayday," has nothing to do with the first of May. It is derived from a French word meaning "come help me."

Spring Craft Show at the Heartland Museum

Heartland Museum is holding a spring Craft Show on May 3,2025. Vendors will be set up in the community room at the museum (119 9th St, Clarion).

Sale hours are 9 am -3 pm. Vendors include: made Hand crochet and sewn gifts, jam, Tupperware, Thirty-One, Everything Sauce, and more! When you give a gift for a shower, wedding, Mother's Day, graduation – consider giving a personal handmade or unusual gift rather than money! Give them something they will remember!

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 for more information. Heartland is located at 119 9th St. SW in Clarion.



Hundreds Of Fort Dodge Community Members To Receive Free Eye **Exams And Glasses**

Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation in partnership with the Community Health Center of Fort Dodge, Prevent Blindness Iowa, and OneSight EssilorLuxottica Foundation will host a free vision clinic on June 19 and 20 at Butler Elementary School. The clinic will provide free eye exams and glasses for hundreds of adults and children.

The vision clinic will address unresolved vision needs for adults and children in the community who may otherwise lack access to eye exams and prescription glasses.

This is the vision clinic's fifth year in Iowa and the first year held in Fort Dodge. Leveraging the OneSight EssilorLuxottica Foundation's clinic model and manufacturing capabilities, most participants in need of glasses will receive newly prescribed, quality glasses manufactured onsite at the clinic.

Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation, the Community Health Center of Fort Dodge, Prevent Blindness Iowa, and OneSight EssilorLuxottica Foundation, along with local volunteers, including ophthalmologists, optometrists, opticians, and other skilled and general volunteers, will staff the daily operations of the clinic. Optically skilled volunteers, especially ophthalmologists and optometrists are still needed and those interested can register to volunteer at:

Appointment Registration

The clinic will be open to registered patients Thursday, June 19 and Friday, June 20 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. both days at Butler Elementary School Gymnasium, located at 945 S. 18th St., Fort Dodge, Iowa. Individuals interested in receiving services are

strongly encouraged to pre-register for an appointment. Appointments can be scheduled through the Community Health Center of Fort Dodge by visiting chcfd.com/free-vision or by calling 515-576-6500. Please note that walk-in appointments will be extremely limited and are not guaranteed.

"We recognize many Iowans face barriers to accessing vision care and we are excited to bring this free vision clinic to members of the Fort Dodge community," said April Schmaltz, president and CEO of Delta Dental of Iowa, "Regular vision exams are important to overall health and can detect eye disease or symptoms of chronic disease such as diabetes or cardiac issues."

"We are thrilled to bring the Free Vision Clinic to Fort Dodge," said Renae Kruckenberg, CEO of the Community Health Center of Fort Dodge. "Several of our staff had the opportunity to volunteer at last year's clinic in Eastern Iowa, and it was truly inspiring to witness the impact it had on that community. To now be able to offer this same experience here at home is incredibly exciting.'

"As healthcare professionals, we know that the eyes are a window into the body. These exams can detect much more than vision issues — including signs of diabetes, high blood pressure, and other underlying health conditions. We're proud to not only help people see more clearly but to also provide them with the care they may need. If follow-up is needed, Community Health Center will be here to help." added Colleen Miller, COO of Community Health Center of Fort Dodge.

Help us "CHALK THE **TOWN GREEN"** this May!

& Clinics, on behalf of Make It Ok and the Healthiest State Initiative of Iowa, invites your community to participate with us in this year's awareness campaign for the month of May.

In honor of Mental Health Awareness Month, we will be recognizing the importance of mental health in our communities. As part of these efforts, we are inviting our providers and staff to "Chalk the Town Green" with messages of support and encouragement. We will be supplying green chalk for our providers and staff at our hospitals and clinic locations to share messages there on Wednesday, May 14th. We would like to encourage you to invite the businesses of your community to

Iowa Specialty Hospitals join us in sharing the positive messages this day and throughout month of the Wellness Leader, Our Brooke Nerlien, RN, has individually packaged green sidewalk chalk that can be delivered to your chamber office for distribution to businesses in your community. If you would like to join us in this event, let us know how many businesses may participate and we'll

make sure to have enough chalk delivered to you. Thank you!

Nikki Conlon Marketing Specialist Iowa Specialty Hospitals & Clinics

515-602-9814 nicole.conlon@iaspecialty.

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

Celebrating Donna (Yoder) Fibikar



Date: May 3, 2025 Time: 2pm-5pm Location: Southtown Apartments, 1501 S Main St, Clarion, IA in the Community Room

Hosted by: Shane & Chris (Ball) Fibikar, Dawn & Mark Heiden, Marda & Gary Lalor

Donna was recently diagnosed with terminal cancer and hasn't much time remaining in this life.

Please join us in showing this amazing woman what she has meant to us all, whether she was a coworker, friend, family, neighbor, a childhood second mom, or your favorite pizza lady, come take the time to give her a hug and say your farewells. Share your story or best memory with her so she can take them with her on her next journey.

Obituaries

Chan-elen Edith (Taft) Brass 1948 - 2025

Chan-elen Edith (Taft) Brass, the daughter of Chauncey and Helen Lorraine (Parmeter) Taft, was born on December 24, 1948, in Marshalltown, Iowa. She graduated from Marshalltown High School with the "Class of 1967".

On July 27, 1968, Chanelen was united in marriage with James Brass in Nevada, IA. Through this union they had 3 daughters. The couple lived in many cities throughout Iowa including Clarion in 1976 and Goldfield in 1991.

Chan-elen enjoyed crafts, reading, drawing, crosswords, playing cards, watching Star Trek, fishing with Jim but mostly spending time with family. Chan-elen passed away

on Sunday, April 6, 2025, at the age of 76 years. She was preceded in death by her parents, Chauncey Taft and Lorraine Wallace; stepfather, Robert Wallace; sister, Arla Schmidt and



son-in-law, Scott Sawyer.

Survivors include her husband, Jim Brass of Clarion; daughters, Julia Sawyer of Whiting, Ila Jo Browning (Chester) of Dubuque and Jolene Wilcox (Tim) of Clarion; nine grandchildren; five great grandchildren and brothers, Daniel Taft (Lori) of Ames, John Taft of Des Moines and Ben Taft (Melissa) of Marshalltown.

Memorial services will be held on Saturday May 3, 2025, at Foust Funeral Home in Eagle Grove at 2:00 pm with visitation one hour prior to service time.

Kenneth F. Adams

Kenneth F. Adams, 90, www.ewingfh.com of Clarion, passed away on Sunday, April 27, 2025 at his home. A Celebration of Life

will be held at a later date.

Ewing Funeral Home 1801 Central Avenue East Clarion, Iowa, 50525 515-532-2233

Monitor Memories

FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE WRIGHT COUNTY MONITOR 1983 - 1948

42 Years ago May 5, 1983

CAT is coming to Clarion. This CAT is not of the feline variety. Rather CAT is the Clarion Area Transit system, and it will begin its schedule on Friday, May 13. Clarion City Administrator Bruce Bierma hopes that this CAT does not turn out to be a black one, though. "I hope this is not a bad omen, he said, in an interview with the Monitor last Monday.

During National Nurses Week May 1-7, and every week, nursing is a family affair at Community Memorial Hospital in Clarion. Three sets of mothers and daughters add a family flavor to the Nursing Service Staff, which is 60 percent of the hospital's employees. The pairs are Jean and Colleen Lester, Joan and Teresa Frommelt, and Shirley Sorensen and Penny Romsey.

Sheriff's The department investigated the apparent break-in and theft of some tools from the Woolstock Coop Ammonia Plant on April 22. The investigation into the theft showed that entrance to a shed was gained after the latch, which had been padlocked to keep the door shut, was cut with bolt cutters.

77 Years ago April 29, 2948

It may be several days before all the facts can be sifted out, but Deputy Sheriff Bob Blecker and Highway Patrolman Al Sparvy believe they were instrumental in catching two soldiers under sentence who had escaped from a train passing through Boone one night last week. Acting on a tip from someone who had seen them near an underpass at Williams, the officers picked up the pair along the way into Iowa Falls.

The Clarion airport was host to a most unusual visitor recently when Colin MacMillan, a Canadian bush pilot, of Rossport, Ontario, Canada, dropped in for a couple of days while visiting friends at Rowan. He was flying a See Bee, made by Republic Aircraft, which he uses during the milder months to fly hunters into the Canadian wilds.

Old timers in Clarion and vicinity renewed their youth the past week when a 1911 Case car made its appearance here. It was bought by George L. Ripley of the Ripley Motor Co. from its original owner, a farmer living near Mason City. It is thought to be the only Case car in existence.



Serving: 11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

Regular Meal - \$10.00 \$5.00 CHILDREN' MEAL 12 & UNDER

CARRY-OUT AND DINE-IN AVAILABLE



Daddy's kind of a square too, but that's another story.

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



The View From Here

Senator Dennis Guth,

R-Klemme As we approach the scheduled end date for the 2025 legislative session, we are working on final budgets in each department and finishing up legislative priorities.

Two important pieces of legislation that have yet to come to the floor for debate are pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) reform and eminent domain guidelines.

PBMs are the entities that determine how much a pharmacy gets paid for the drugs they sell. Too many of those drugs are being reimbursed at a rate that is less than what it cost the pharmacy to purchase. The pharmacy cannot refuse to fill the prescription, so it operates at a loss. We have lost many pharmacies in Iowa because of this over the past year.

The Senate is trying to minimize increases in costs for businesses that cover pharmaceuticals, while improving the outcomes for pharmacies, especially rural and privately owned pharmacies. It has taken considerable work to come up with a plan that will "thread the needle" between costing too much and not helping local pharmacies enough. A primary part of this is to shed light on how the PBM determines how much to pay for each drug. It appears that PBMs have made considerable profit and not passed some discounts on to the consumer. Shedding light on this process has helped other states increase payments to pharmacies, while actually decreasing the cost to employers. I expect we will get something passed this session.

The other issue that has not been addressed is reforming when eminent domain can be used. I've worked on this for three years and not had any success getting a bill to come to the floor. The House passed two good bills dealing with eminent domain and pipelines. HF 943 prohibits the taking of agricultural land for a pipeline transporting liquefied carbon

two minutes until it clears.

(Rust remover is available at City Hall)

HF 639 has a number of policies designed to protect landowners. These include:

Requires hazardous liquid pipelines to have insurance to cover potential damage.

States pipeline owner must provide insurance or reimburse the individual for increased costs if individuals face increased insurance, or are unavailable to get insurance due to the pipeline,

Provides stronger safeguards to ensure that only legitimate public uses are recognized for eminent domain.

Mandates that members of the Iowa Utilities Commission (IUC) must be present during hearings.

Allows Iowans who are impacted by IUC action to intervene. Many Iowans have been prohibited from speaking at hearings even though they will be impacted.

I will continue to encourage Senate Republican leadership to bring these or similar bills to the floor. We must realize that liberty is dead if property rights are taken away by private companies operating solely for their personal gain.

We passed SF 233 this week which expands our "Right to Try" Act which allows a person with a rare disease, especially one that is life threatening, increased access to alternative treatments that can provide hope for a better outcome.

HF 117 expands the scope of the National Guard Service Scholarship program to include a program that awards a credential rather than just degree programs. This would allow a National Guard member to use the funds for a number of programs like HVAC, mechanic, and many other industry professions.

On April 22 the Family sponsored Champions Banquet to honor the conservatives who helped pass many important pieces of legislation relating to the right to life, religious freedom and parental rights.

The last eight years have

ATTENTION!

CITY OF CLARION

WILL BE FLUSHING FIRE HYDRANTS

1. To avoid drawing rust into the hot water heater, turn

on the cold water tap first to check for discolored water.

2. If the water looks rusty run the tap water for one or

3. If rust discolors clothing in a washing machine, the

City will provide a rust remover at no expense to you.

CITY OF CLARION • 532-2847

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.

Job Opportunity

Heavy Equipment Operator

Wright County Secondary Road Department has one

opening for a full-time road maintenance employee at the

Clarion Maintenance Facility. Primary job classification is

Heavy Equipment Operator. Primary job duties include

assistance with county repair work orders, removal

of snow, and may be called upon to assist in other

operations within Wright County Secondary Roads.

1st Ave SE Monday Afternoon May 5

N.E. Tuesday, May 6

South Wednesday, May 7

NW & West Thursday, May 8

Please check your water

before starting laundry!

been marked by an incredible list of pro-family bills passed into law, including, but not

limited to: April 2017: 20-Week Abortion

May 2017: Defund Planned Parenthood May 2018: Heartbeat Protection Bill May 2019: Judicial Nominating Reform June 2020: Abortion 24-Hour

Ban

Waiting Period April 2021: Protect Life Amendment May 2021: Critical Race Theory Ban February 2022: Save Girls' Sports January 2023: Universal

School Choice (ESAs)

March 2023: Help Not Harm March 2023: School Bathroom Bill May 2023: Parental Rights in Education July 2023: Second Heartbeat

Protection February 2024: Religious Freedom Restoration Act February 2025: Sex & Gender Clarity Act

What's Left Before Adjournment

Jennifer Konfrst Iowa House Democratic Leader

With the Iowa Legislature scheduled to adjourn on May 2, there is still a lot of work to get done for Iowans.

The biggest unresolved issue is passing the state budget. The Governor released her budget back in January, but we've not seen any progress from GOP legislative leaders so far.

Here's what we know right now. When the Governor released her budget earlier this year, she planned to use about \$900 million in onetime money to cover the state's ongoing revenues. The Senate GOP budget uses a similar amount, and we've yet to see any numbers from House GOP lawmakers.

With Iowa's economy already contracting and the chaos in DC leading to more uncertainty in our manufacturing and ag sectors, the next few years are going to be rocky. When you add in the 44% increase in state funding to private school vouchers and another \$1 billion tax cut for corporations that lay off workers on the table, it's going to compound the state's budget problems even more.

While state budget negotiations seem to have stalled, there were a few good bills that passed the House in the last week.

Two of the ideas House Democrats have been working on for years to lower child care costs were finally approved by the full Iowa House. One bill expands the state's child and dependent care tax credit to put more money in the pockets of Iowa families dealing with rising costs of childcare. The second bill lowers property taxes for childcare centers to make them more affordable for families.

After years of waiting, Iowa is finally one step closer to ensuring our firefighters and first responders get the care they deserve. Originally sponsored by Democratic lawmakers, a bill is on its way to the Governor that expands

cancer health care coverage for first responders.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), cancer is the leading cause of death among firefighters, and the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) has said that 63% of the names added to the Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial were members who died of occupational cancer. I'm thrilled to see this bill finally make it to the Governor's desk so first responders can get the care they deserve.

It's not clear when the Legislature might finish up for the year, but with so much uncertainty still out there, we'll likely be headed for overtime. So far, there hasn't been nearly enough done to actually lower costs for Iowans who are struggling to pay the bills.

At a minimum, we need to get a few more bills passed to lower the cost of housing and health care before we adjourn.

That's people over politics.

The Thompson Times

Representative

Mark Thompson, House District 56

One of our priorities we entered session with was to ensure Iowa laws are protecting our youth and setting them up for success in life, particularly those that are born into tough situations. This week we passed several bills off the House floor in that effort.

House File 1003 prioritizes providing stability for a child in the foster care system.

It requires the Department of Health and Human Services to have staff that is focused entirely on finding relatives for children placed in foster care. This staff would be dedicated to identifying those relatives and providing notice that the child has been removed from parental custody. It also allows the court to determine if placement with a foster parent that has had the child in their care for longer than 9 months may be in the best interest of the child over a relative or

Senate File 474 makes significant changes to the services provided to Iowa youth, particularly those with serious emotional disturbances and substance use disorders. It is a bill from the Department of Health and Human Services to help kids who are struggling get the mental health care and support they need.

Senate File 150 changes how a person can be charged for knowingly purchasing and possessing child pornography. Under this bill, multiple images of the same child can result in multiple charges. This bill aims to protect children and ensure justice is appropriately served.

Governor Signs into law Several House Judiciary bills also aimed at protecting

children. Child In Need (CINA)

Family Interaction This modifies the rules regarding family interactions during ongoing child in need of assistance (CINA) proceedings. Currently, family interactions must continue unless a court, or the Department of Health and

Human Services determines they are detrimental to the child. The bill changes this requirement, stating that interactions should continue unless a court finds substantial evidence that they pose an imminent risk to the child's life or health. (HF 367)

Threat School Safety Assessment Teams

This awaits the Governor's signature and was passed to build upon previous efforts to make our schools as safe as possible. This bill requires schools to create a multidisciplinary threat assessment team to intervene when a student exhibiting threatening It encourages behaviors. the collaboration between schools, law enforcement and mental health professionals to ensure the safest environment possible for our students and staff in schools. Under this bill, schools and government agencies are allowed to share information on students struggling with mental illness. It also provides immunity from civil liability for individuals who report credible threats. (HF 163)

Prior Authorization in Health Care

The Iowa House voted improve access to quality healthcare in Iowa. It does this by addressing prior authorization. Prior authorization is a practice that requires insurance companies to approve a medical procedure or medication before it can be given to the patient. The goal of this practice is to control costs, but it can often result in delays in getting the patient the care they need. (HF 303)

1002: House File Firefighters Length of Service Award

Many communities in Iowa rely on volunteer first responders in the case of emergencies. This bill creates a length of service award program for volunteer emergency responders. The program will provide taxdeferred benefits to create an additional incentive to recruit and retain individuals for these crucial roles.

-- \$1.5 million from the

sports wagering receipts fund for fiscal year 2025-2026 will be appropriated to support the grant fund.

-- A length of service award program offers a small but meaningful benefit for those who volunteer to put themselves on the front line. House Approves Measure

to Legalize/Facilitate Farm to Table Meat Sales

HF 1006 creates a new type of food processing entity that is licensed and inspected by the Department of Inspection, Licensing Appeals and (DIAL) agents that can store officially processed packaged meat or poultry raised by the licensee and offered for sale at a premise or farm on a wholesale or retail basis. The bill legalizes the on-farm storage of processed inspected packages and allows the sale on wholesale or retail basis for such packages by the producers. This legislation has been referred to the Senate Ways & Means Committee for its consideration. This bill would build on prior legislation that provided for tiered license/inspection fees for small food processors custom inspected poultry slaughter at state inspected lockers that have been enacted in recent sessions.

Access to New Treatment for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder

In recent years, psilocybin, the psychoactive compound found in mushrooms has been found to be used as an effective treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder. With this bill. we are allowing Iowa military veterans, law enforcement or others with PTSD to have access to this treatment in a safe environment. HF 978 would establish a Psilocybin Production Establishment Licensing Board within the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services. This new board would operate similar to the Medical Cannabidiol Advisory board, allowing for the use of psilocybin in a medical setting for people with certain mental health needs. The bill requires the patient to be over 21 years

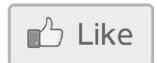
old. They would receive psilocybin in a clinical environment with psychiatric support. This treatment has been shown to resolve or lessen the impacts of PTSD. We know that suicide rates of veterans are devastatingly high. If this treatment can make a difference in saving the lives of American heroes, we believe it should be given a try with the proper safety controls in place.

Tax Reform Thoughts

Like me, representatives have heard from constituents regarding the price of keeping local communities afloat as well as the cost incurred by property owners. This is a conundrum we must come to terms with if we expect our communities and citizens to prosper. Most likely, the House will vote on a few modifications to our current tax system but will likely decide not to make major changes until we have more information. The Senate's intent is not yet

To say that the current tax system is complex and confusing would be an understatement. This has been ongoing for over 15 years so unravelling this puzzle needs in-depth study. There are many levels and types of taxation... classifications of taxes including residential, commercial, industrial and agricultural; taxing authorities including school, county and city. Additionally, the difference between urban and rural residential is profound. Tax Increment Financing (TIF) have impact as well.

"Requirements" versus "wants" will need to be discussed. Those responsible for maintaining local services and infrastructure have hard choices. We in the state capitol need to be as helpful as possible in what we do and what we don't do.



Farms For Sale

2-50 acre tracts side by side Section 1 & 2 in Norway Township Humboldt Co., IA West of Goldfield on Hwy 3

RYERSON REALTY, LLC

Office 515-448-3079 / Mike's Cell 689-3728 Eagle Grove, IA • www.ryersonauctionrealtyltd.com

Are you interested in improving the quality of child care in lowa?

The Child Care Resource Program is seeking a full-time, telecommute Child Care Consultant to cover Humboldt, Wright & Hamilton counties.

· Bachelor's degree is required in Early Childhood, Elementary Education with Early Child Endorsement, Child and Family Services or closely related field.

Responsibilities include providing on-site or virtual consultation, practice-based coaching and technical assistance to non-registered Child Care Homes, Child Care Development Homes, Licensed Child Care Centers and Preschools. Travel is required.

Reliable transportation, proof of insurance and a valid driver's license.

For more information & to apply online, please visit www.midsioux.org. 1-800-859-2025.



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

FOR RENT FOR RENT: KANAWHA APTS. 2BR/1BA \$450. 1BR/1BA \$375. Updated Property, New Appliances, on site Laundry. Landlord

Pays Water and Sewer. CÁLL AL 641-494-7965

FOR RENT

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



2017 Ford F250 extended cab long box truck

It has 24,500 miles on it with a 6.2L gas motor. It will be a sealed bid, there is a minimum bid of \$17,000.

All bids must be in by May 14th at 4pm. You may call, email, or drop off your bids. The truck comes "AS IS" and there will be no refunds after purchase. Inspection can be had during office hours. 515-532-3185 | wccb@wrightco.gov

CDL is not required to apply but chosen applicant must obtain Class A CDL with air brakes learners permit before starting work with the County. County will provide assistance with acquiring full CDL if needed. Starting pay is \$28.96/hr. with increases at six and twelve months with satisfactory performance review.

Wright County's benefit package includes health, dental and life insurance along with paid vacation, sick leave, and holidays (9). Applicant must show the ability to work with a team as well as accomplish tasks alone. Application form and job description is available at

the Wright County Engineer's Office, 416 5th Ave SW St, PO Box 269, Clarion, IA 50525, telephone 515-532-3597 or at www.wrightcounty.iowa.gov, click on "Employment" or find us on Facebook,

Wright County Secondary Roads. Applications will be accepted at the Wright County Engineer's Office until May 9, 2025, or until filled. Wright County is an equal opportunity employer.

SPORTS

Boys Steal Soccer Win In Iowa Falls

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

matches apiece.

Last week, the Wright County United boys and girls soccer teams were back in action with two

After a 3-0 loss in Belmond against Clear Lake on Monday, the boys bounced

back and responded with a 1-0 Thursday night road victory in Iowa Falls. Wright County United improved to 2-5-2 after iunior midfielder Anderson Diaz assisted on a goal to freshman William Ordonez in the second half of the game against the winless

Cadets.

On the girls side, the United would lose 5-0 toClear Lake on Monday and 6-0 to Iowa Falls-Alden on Thursday. Junior goalkeeper Lily Pigman had twelve saves against Clear Lake.

11/11/1/1/

Askelsen Medals At Home Triangular

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

In a Monday afternoon golf dual held a Gowrie Municipal Golf Course, the Clarion-Goldfield-Dows girls fell 223-208 to the SE Valley Jaguars. Claire Kirstein scored a 52 to tie for runner-up, and senior Maddie Askvig scored a 53 for 5th. Blaire Askelsen $(7^{th}/56)$ and Jordyce Duncalf (8th/62) rounded out the scoring for the Cowgirls.

face conference foe Iowa Falls-Alden at Meadow Hills Golf Course on Tuesday and lose 241-214. Askelsen and Askvig were the top C-G-D golfers of the day and both shot a 55 to tie for 4th overall. Kirstein (7th/64) and Randi Anderson (8th/67) were the other two scorers.

After a Thursday tournament in Story City, the girls would Hampton-Dumont-

The Cowgirls would CAL and Webster City at Clarmond Golf Course on Friday. Askelsen was the meet medalist with a low score of 53. Kirstein and Duncalf finished 4th and 5th with scores of 60 and 62, respectively, and sophomore Quinn Brooks shot an 80 for 14th overall.

Hampton-Dumont-CAL narrowly won the triangular with a team score of 254, followed by C-G-D (255) and Webster City (257)

how are your spent? Since knowing is so important, we joined other newspapers in Iowa and publish our public notices online. FIND IOWA NOTICES ONLINE AT www.iowanotices.org



FREE QUOTES • FREE LOCAL DELIVERY • FAST SERVICE **Contact Our Custom Printing Department Today!** customprinting@midamericapub.com • 641-456-2585 ext:138

Beisel Jumps At Drake



On Friday, MaKayla Beisel represented the Cowgirls in the high jump at the Drake Relays. (Photo: Chanse Hall).

Duncalf Seizes Gold in Poky

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

Twelve area schools met in Pocahontas last Friday for a for a windy boys track and field meet.

The Cowboys finished fourth out of six schools in Class A with 84 team points. Webster City took the Class A title with 133, followed by Humboldt with 119.





III FOKY	
100m Dash –	
3 – Charlie Campbell	11.7
8 – Christopher Matul	12.52
110m Hurdles –	
3 – Chaz Lane	16.96
4 – Daven Duncalf	17.26
200m Dash –	
3 – Ethan Boots	24.45
400m Dash –	
3 – Selvin Gonzalez	59.73
400m Hurdles –	
1 – Daven Duncalf	1:02.23
4 – Eduardo Rivera	1:06.58
800m Run –	
9 – Dietrich Woodley	2:32.16
1600m Run –	
6 – Tate Jackson	5:24.43
3200m Run –	
4 – Tate Jackson	11:24.44
Discus –	
8 – Huxley Lingenfelter	108'8"
High Jump –	
2 – Chaz Lane	5'10"
Long Jump –	
5 – Jallen Stewart	15'5 ½"
Shot Put –	
6 – Huxley Lingenfelter	37'10"
Shuttle Hurdle –	
2 – Lane, Rivera	1:12.20
Duncalf, Lindaman	

Lindaman Chosen for Wright County Farm Bureau Scholarship

Edward Lynn,

Eagle Grove Eagle

Bryce Lindaman, a senior at Clarion-Goldfield-Dows High School, has been awarded a \$500 scholarship by the Wright County Farm Bureau for 2025, the organization announced in a Facebook post on April 15.

Lindaman, the son of WCFB members Ben and Erica Lindaman, is graduating at the top of his class and has demonstrated exceptional leadership and service throughout his high school years. "Bryce has been actively involved in various school and extracurricular activities," the post reads. "He has served as president of the National Honor Society and team captain in football, basket-

ball, and track." His athletic accomplishments include earning three letters each in football and basketball and four in track. He was named to the Academic All-State team, selected first team all-district, and honored as the CGD

defensive MVP in football. Outside the classroom and off the field, Lindaman has distinguished himself through extensive community service. He is a Scouting America Patrol Leader, an Order of the Arrow recipient, and an active member of the Liberty Pathfinders 4-H club. His volunteer



Clarion Goldfield Dows Senior Bryce Lindaman (Photo: Uniquely Chic Inspirations by Crystal Engstrom)

work includes hundreds of hours with the Gift of Giving nonprofit, the First Lutheran food pantry, and Dirt Diggers summer camp.

Since the summer of 2024, he has also worked as a part-time custodian for the school district and as a Food Access intern with Iowa State Extension, where he maintained a donation garden, led outreach efforts, and created educational materials.

Lindaman plans to attend Iowa State University to study environmental engineering. His career goals include reducing water pollution, promoting sustainable farming practices, and advancing rural Iowa through environmental innovation.

"The Wright County Farm Bureau wishes Bryce all the best in his future endeavors!" the organization concluded.



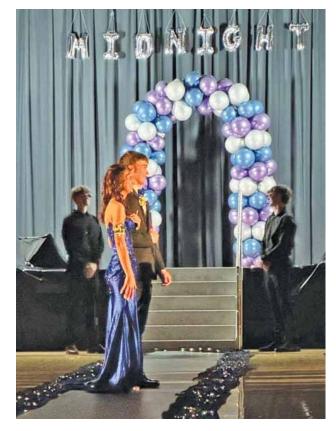
www.read.gov



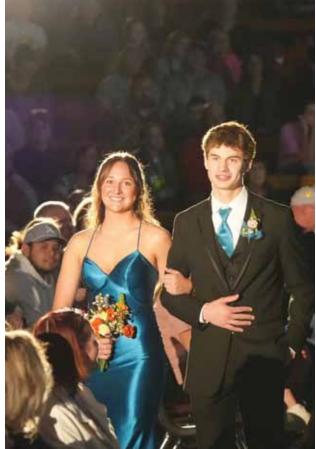


"Meet Me at Midnight" **CGD High School Celebrates Prom!**





CGD High School students celebrated prom Saturday, April 26, with the theme "Meet Me at Midnight." It's always fun to attend the Grand March and see the beautiful dresses and sharp tuxedos. Blue was a popular color for the kids; you can see Kaylie Morris, who was escorted by Caden Hauenstein, wearing a blue fitted gown. (Photo: Amanda Rink)



Coleton Johnson and Ella Engstrom, CGD seniors, basked in the spotlight during Grand March. The pair rocked a blue theme as well. (Photo: Crystal Engstrom)



Dave "The D.I Man" Stein provided music for students. The dance, which was well attended by freshman through senior students, was held in the library. (Photo:

Aerial views

Bruce Voigts, Aerial Photographer (Photos taken April 21, 2025)



I was out flying on Monday April 21, 2025 and noticed there were more signs of storm and wind damage that occurred mid April. This photos seems to show a larger building had considerable roof and building damage that blew into the field.

Your Herd for Ticks Tickborne disease can impact performance, death loss

Time to Check and Treat

Sherry Hoyer,

Beth Reynolds ISU Extension & Outreach

Temperatures are warmer, grass is greening up nicely, and yes, it's time for ticks. But are ticks on cattle a concern? Absolutely, said Iowa Beef Center program specialist Beth Reynolds, because of disease transmission opportunities.

For example, anaplasmosis is a tickborne disease with an estimated U.S. beef industry impact over \$300 million per year. The cost is realized in poor performance, abortions and death loss.

"For infected cattle that recover without medication, these animals remain carriers for life without showing clinical signs, which increases the likelihood for the disease to spread within the herd," she said. "Anaplasmosis is in Iowa with cases trending higher in recent years."

There are various methods available to control tick populations on livestock, with use dependent on individual

circumstances. "Treating with chemical acaricides, like a pour-on, is the most common strategy," Reynolds said. "To prevent ticks from developing resistance, rotate the class of chemical used annually. When treating, treat all animals in the herd at the same time, and reapply product according to label directions for best results."



Madi Ingebritson is graduating!

You are invited to a party!

Friday, May 9th • 4:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Dows Community Center 119 East Ellsworth St. • Dows, IA 50071

Class 2025

Burning pastures in the spring can reduce tick populations in that pasture, although she cautions farmers to be aware of brush areas, etc., that can serve as tick refuges.

She said a recent BEEF magazine article titled "Dangerous hitchhikers" does a great job of describing and explaining cattle health threats caused by ticks, and encourages producers to take a look at it.

The three most common species encountered in Iowa are the blacklegged (deer) tick, American dog (wood) tick, and the lone star tick. All three are effective vectors for different diseases and pose a risk to humans as well as livestock and pets. In addition, lone star tick bites pose the risk of alpha-gal syndrome (red meat aller gy). Awareness and prevention are crucial in keeping yourself and your livestock healthy.

For more information, check out this Iowa State resource available online. Ticks and Tick-borne Diseases PM

Dows Business & Professional Directory

Muhlenbruch Insurance

Shannon Muhlenbruch,

Agent

515-852-4156

Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078



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









