



The Wright County MONITOR



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Pool Leak Puts Clarion's Summer Swim Season at Risk

Amanda Rink,
Editor

May 20, 2025 - The council met to take action on a few projects and community concerns, including a sewer system upgrade, a \$10,000 down payment on a used dump truck, and a mysterious pool leak that could throw off the summer schedule.

Mayor Rod Heiden called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M., joined by council members Dave Flurer, Dan Hennigar, Shayne Hennigar, Nick McOllough, and Mike Ennis. Also in attendance were City Administrator Clint Middleton, City Attorney Zack Chizek, Police Chief Steve TerHark, and Director of Public Works Jon De Vries.

Slip-Lining Sewer Pipes to Extend Plant Life

The council approved a contract with Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc. (SEH) for a slip-lining project to Clarion's sewer lines, running from Hardee's to 2nd Street, and beginning again at the post office out to Dollar General

"The sewer pipes are still good. There is really no wear and tear," explained City Administrator Clint Middleton to The Wright County Monitor. "It is that technology back when it was installed, 100 years ago, clay pipes have a joint every 3 feet. Slip-lining negates all the joints, so there is no water infiltrating into the sewer from outside the sewer."

Middleton also noted SEH originally designed Clarion's sewer plant during the last major upgrade, and has familiarity with the system. As for funding it was stated during the meeting that, "\$250,000 is budgeted and has been 'ratholed' away for this project."

Dump Truck Raises



It was shared during the latest Clarion City Council meeting that the Clarion Aquatic Center is experiencing a mysterious leak. Above is a photo of the pool being filled on May 13, 2025, shortly before it was found to be leaking. (Photo: Amanda Rink)

Questions

Public Works requested a \$10,000 down payment for a used 2012 tandem dump truck with only 72,000 miles. But Councilman Mike Ennis wasn't ready to sign off without a figurative look under the hood.

"I would love to see some maintenance records of what has been done to it, you know?" Ennis said. Director of Public

Works Jon DeVries said he would look into it before any money changes hands.

Summer Pool Plans in Jeopardy

The city pool, recently filled, has started losing water, and the source of the leak is still unclear.

"We filled it on Thursday [May 15], and over the weekend, Brady was adding more water to it because it was dropping down," shared DeVries. "It's dropping down faster than normal."

By Monday, water lev-

els had dropped again. City staff say they'll know more by Wednesday May 21, and are trying to figure out if the leak is small enough to still run the pool this summer, or if it needs to be repaired before opening.

"You could keep adding water to it," said City Administrator Middleton, but continued on to explain that once water is added to the pool, more chemicals need to be added. "It could be cost-prohibitive to do so."

A contractor has been contacted for repairs, but it could take three weeks to a month and a half before they're available if work needs to be completed. Middleton shared during the meeting that if it takes a month and a half for repairs, it could mean the pool doesn't open for the season. If it only took three weeks, the city could drain the pool and work could begin "right away."

Summer Street Work Announced

Director of Public Works Jon DeVries shared that multiple streets are scheduled for new asphalt during the warmer months ahead. These include:

- 1st St SE from 3rd Ave SE to 4th Ave SE
 - 5th Ave SE from 2nd St SE to Dead End
 - 2nd Ave NE from 6th St NE to 7th St NE
 - 3rd St NE from 2nd Ave NE to 3rd Ave NE
 - 6th Ave NW from 2nd St NW to 1st St NW
 - 4th St NW from widening intersection to HWY 3
 - 9th Ave SW from 4th St SW to the end of pavement
- In other business, the council approved:
- Road closures for the Church Iglesia Pentecostés Nueva Vida (x2), Chap-py's, and Clarion Development Alliance
 - A Building permit for Flurer and a fence permit for VanWyk
 - Liquor licenses for Top of Iowa Lucky Wife and Yesway

Hidden Fee in State Bill Could Strain Local 911 Services

Amanda Rink,
Editor

May 21, 2025 - An extra line of fees was quietly added to Iowa's Senate File 659 in the final hours of the legislative session and has gained widespread concern among emergency officials statewide.

The measure grants the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management the authority to impose undefined "reasonable costs" on local 911 service boards. The fees must be paid within 30 days of billing.

Public safety leaders warn that these surprise charges could force local dispatch centers to cut staff, delay critical equipment updates, and even slow emergency response times, particularly in rural areas.

The provision, which is now codified as Iowa Code Section 34A.12, was added to the appropriations bill without consultation with statewide stakeholders. It had previously failed to advance out of committee earlier in the session.

Supporters of the bill argue that the fees are necessary to fund a \$3 million statewide upgrade to the next-generation 911 system. However, opponents contend that local 911 boards already operate on razor-thin budgets and that the new fees could jeopardize their ability to maintain essential services, citing that there is a statewide surplus that would be used instead.

The Iowa chapters of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) and the National Emergency Number Association (NENA) are urging Governor Kim Reynolds to veto the provision. As of now, the governor's office has not responded to inquiries about whether she is considering an item veto.

Area Headlines

Belmond

Belmond High School is following the Governor's statewide cell phone ban in schools. Their rule covers all smart devices and applies to both students and staff.

Eagle Grove

City leaders agreed to apply for a \$1.75 million grant to improve the Northeast Neighborhood. Plans include fixing 18 blocks of streets, adding storm drains to reduce flooding, building new sidewalks, upgrading Fish Pond Park, and fixing up homes. The whole project will cost \$2.67 million. The city will cover part of it, and local supporters like Prestage Foods and the Community Development Corporation have pledged extra funds.

Dows

Despite community requests, the Casey's store near town will close on June 1, 2025.

Goldfield

Goldfield's annual Clean-Up Day is on Saturday, May 31, from 8 AM to 5 PM for city residents. Drop off accepted items at City Hall. There is a fee for electronics.

Hampton

Hampton City Council will appoint someone to replace Ward 1 Councilor Bill Hodge, who is stepping down on July 1. Interested residents can pick up an application at City Hall. Applications are due June 6. The new councilor will begin on July 1.

Rowan

Join the Rowan Public Library for a Fun Day on Saturday, June 7, 2025, from Noon to 5 PM! Activities include a silent Auction, Local Vendors, Games and fun for all ages, a Free-will donation meal, and a 5K Run.

7 Day Weather Outlook Clarion, IA.

Wednesday, May 28

Partly Cloudy
72°/54°
ENE 10 mph



Thursday, May 29

Partly Cloudy
71°/56°
SW 11 mph



Friday, May 30

Partly Cloudy
75°/56°
NE 11 mph



Saturday, May 31

Partly Cloudy
82°/57°
N 13 mph



Sunday, June 1

Mostly Sunny
85°/57°
W 14 mph



Monday, June 2

Mostly Sunny
82°/58°
SSW 13 mph



Tuesday, June 3

Partly Cloudy
81°/59°
SSW 19 mph



Community Gathers to Celebrate EMS Week at Clarion Ambulance Shed



On Wednesday, May 21, community members came together at the Clarion Ambulance Shed for a freewill donation dinner in honor of EMS Week. The event celebrated the hard work and dedication of local emergency medical service teams. (Photo: Amanda Rink)



Find Your Next Favorite Thing - City-Wide Garage Sales are Thursday May 29 - Saturday May 31!

Heartland Museum Summer Events

Heartland Museum will celebrate 25 years with special events this year. The museum is open year-round by appointment, with summer months having set open hours of Wednesday through Saturday, 10 am – 4 pm. The museum will open for summer on May 28, 2025.



Open House – free admittance! “Thru the Decades” is the theme for Heartland Museum’s open house on June 21 from 5:00 pm-7:00 pm. Food and beverages that were introduced since 1860 will be served. Feel free to come out in your favorite decade outfit.

Handwerk Make and Take events are being planned for each month this summer. The events center around Handwerk – different arts and crafts that have been used by people for everyday living. Handwerk is the German spelling of handwork! Dates will be announced later, free to attend. Heartland is currently looking for people who can macrame, embroider, applique or cross stitch.

Prior to each Handwerk workshop, Heartland will be displaying the crafts in the community room, which will be free to view. One show will be knitting and crocheting, one will be quilts, and the other is in planning stages. Anyone can bring their treasured items for show. These items can be old family heirlooms, or current projects! More information will be coming soon.

Also planned for this summer thru September are 4 different tour buses coming to visit. Heartland is asking for volunteers to help with the tours as about 50 visitors are expected for each tour. A tractor ride is being planned to stop at Heartland in August along with the possibility of a fifth bus tour.

Call 515-602-6000 for more information. Heartland is located at 119 9th St. SW in Clarion.



June Is Cancer Survivor Month

Make an Appointment to Donate Blood in Your Community

Cancer Survivor Month is observed every June to celebrate survivors, honor caregivers, and raise awareness about the challenges surrounding cancer survivorship. According to the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR), more than 18 million people in the United States are cancer survivors who are living with, through, and beyond their disease.

A single hospital patient can require a large amount of blood in a single situation. Cancer patients can use up to eight platelet units per week. In the month of June, LifeServe Blood Center is asking individuals to think of those people they know who have been impacted by cancer and are encouraging them to host a blood drive in their honor or memory. Or, you can simply schedule your lifesaving blood donation by visiting lifeserve.info/schedule or by calling 800.287.4903.

• Clarion Community Blood Drive, 06/03/2025 from 1-5:30 pm at United Presbyterian Church of Clarion-Fellowship Hall (219 1st Street NW).

LifeServe Blood Center is a non-profit, community-based blood center that has served the needs of local hospitals and patients in our regions since 1947. As one of the 15 largest blood centers in the country, LifeServe provides blood products to 175 hospitals primarily in Iowa, South Dakota, Nebraska and Illinois. LifeServe is committed to saving lives by providing premier service to volunteer blood donors and access to a safe, quality blood supply for hospitals and patients. Your donation with LifeServe will help save your neighbor, a friend or family member, or a stranger on the street. YOU make a difference in YOUR community. For more information about blood donation or to schedule an appointment to donate blood, call 800.287.4903 or visit lifeservebloodcenter.org.

Correction

The Wright County Monitor regrets publishing two errors in the twentieth issue of 2025. In a photo caption from CGD’s graduation day, the name Mitchell Holcomb Ackerman was incorrectly spelled as “Mitchelle.” Additionally, in the article “Honoring the 2025 CGD Retirees,” Kevin Ofstethun was misidentified as “Austin.” We apologize for the inaccuracies.

Why are rural cops dying at higher rates? And why is no one doing anything about it?



A disproportionate number of officers from small, rural, and remote places get shot each year, and an even more disproportionate number of those die of their wounds. These rural LEOs and others made the ultimate sacrifice in 2024. Top row, L-R: Sheridan PD Sergeant Nevada Krinkee, Syracuse PD Officer Michael Jensen, Onandaga SO LT Michael Hoosock, Gila River PD Officer Joshua Briese, Lafayette Sr. Corporal Segus Jolivette, Newton County Cpl Brandon Schreiber. Bottom row, L-R: Selmer Officer/McNairy Co Deputy Rick Finley, Terrell Officer Jacob Candanoza, Hillsdale Deputy William Henry Butler Jr., Smyth Co Deputy Hunter Reedy, Deputy Brandon Cunningham, Summit Officer Troy Floyd. (Photo/ODMP)

Kathleen Dias, Police 1

Six years of tracking officer shootings has made one thing clear: in the smallest towns, violence comes fast, backup is far and too many cops die before help arrives

“The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results.”

That quote is often attributed to Albert Einstein, and I am no genius or even a physicist. I’m just a writer, more like Dr. Seuss’s Lorax, but for rural cops instead of trees: speaking for people who can’t speak for themselves. In this case, they may be muzzled by bosses and taxpayers who find their grievances politically inconvenient, or it may be they are so few and so scattered that no one can hear.

Either way, I’m here writing the same thing I’ve said every Police Week since 2020: rural cops get shot a lot and way too many of them die.

The project

In 2019 I began tracking the numbers of officers shot with the intent to discover where every single one of them was attacked. I believed there was a pattern of violence impacting officers from rural and remote places that no one else was talking about or quantifying.

Was I being oversensitive because rural officers are family to me? Was I assigning too much weight to the headlines I read in small local papers? The only way to sort out reality from my personal bias was to dig for data.

I created my own parameters for the dataset.

I track shootings because they are reliably reported (unlike simple assaults) and because it’s hard to argue intent when someone points a gun at a cop and pulls the trigger. Sworn officers shot feloniously count, or a blue-on-blue that would not have happened but for a suspect’s violent actions. I include local, tribal, state and federal officers together because I’m looking at where the violence happens rather than who signs paychecks. Off-duty officers are counted if they were acting in their sworn capacity when the attack took place.

I document the number of officers shot in each incident, the number of fatalities and armor saves, the agencies involved and the dates, so each incident can be cross-checked. I search maps to find the geographic location and population for each incident to discern between truly rural and remote places, and suburbs bordering urban areas.

There is no single definition for “rural” so I track officers from places with populations of 30,000 or fewer residents, and also break out a smaller category of fewer than 11,000 residents.

Each search starts by checking Gun Violence Archive’s (GVA) Officers Shot or Killed page, and cross-referencing incidents carefully; sometimes they turn out to be accidental or a suicide, or not actually a gunshot wound. I follow up with a news search to catch incidents that pass unnoticed. Game wardens, park rangers, constables and tribal officers are sometimes overlooked. As years passed, I’ve added fields with basic suspect

demographics, and assaults classified as ambushes using data provided by the National Fraternal Order of Police.

What kinds of incidents happen in rural and remote places?

Crime happens in waves that ripple to touch even the smallest places.

The first officer to die by felonious gunfire last year, and the only one killed in a shooting in January, is an example: Deputy Jeremy Malone died in a gun battle on a traffic stop in a Mississippi town of just about 3,000 people.

Incidents came and went at a steady pace for months. July was marked by a gray rhino: an active shooter — a disgruntled concessionaire working at Yellowstone National Park — threatened fellow workers and park visitors by opening fire with a rifle on the 4th of July. NPS law enforcement rangers responded and one ranger was shot in the confrontation before the gunman died by return fire.

Then there was late summer and early fall.

In August, a total of 27 officers were shot. Nineteen of them, 70%, were in rural or remote places. Six of those officers died, five of them in the places I write about.

One incident was an ambush in a Florida town of about 23,000 residents, where Lake County deputies were lured to a trailer by a fake 911 call from a woman obsessed with conspiracy theories and religious delusions. One deputy was killed; two more were wounded trying to rescue him.

Less than a week later, an officer and new grand-

father working a traffic checkpoint in a tiny Mississippi town was killed by a driver with an arrest warrant. The driver fled, then wounded two officers responding to the chase from another town, before dying in a final gun battle. So August 2024 went on, with officers shot at a traffic stop in rural Virginia, in an ambush on a domestic in a small Georgia town and another Georgia deputy killed during a warrant service in the next county to the south.

From mid-September to mid-October, 28 more officers were shot. Eleven were places with populations as small as 134 people, including the only officer killed: a Kentucky deputy in a town of fewer than 3,000 residents, helping in the search for a suspect who had shot at a trooper and fled.

What does the six-year trend show?

I was right. A disproportionate number of officers from small, rural and remote places do get shot each year and an even more disproportionate number of those die of their wounds. I wasn’t overreacting and I’ve got six years’ worth of numbers to prove it.

“Things like that don’t happen here. And because they never have, they never will,” is a comforting lie that citizens, decision-makers and bean counters tell themselves about the pretty little towns and wild places where they live. I call it the Myth of Mayberry, used to avoid providing rural officers and officers in small departments things that can help keep them safe- training, modern equipment, working communications, **continued on page 5**

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reading between the lines

with Amanda Rink

Somewhere Between and the Cat that Carried Her Through

Amanda Rink,
Editor

"A cat has absolute emotional honesty: human beings, for one reason or another, may hide their feelings, but a cat does not." - Ernest Hemingway

This week, our home is quieter. Not in a peaceful way, but in that uncomfortable silence that follows the closing of a book you weren't ready to finish reading.

In 2020, I brought home a black and white mama cat and her three kittens. The mama cat was named Cookie because "Oreo" seemed too basic. We're a creative bunch, clearly.

I've always had a soft spot for black cats. Two of Cookie's kittens were black, and they reminded me of a wild black cat I

tamed as a child. I named her "Kitty." I was obviously very creative then, too. She was a tough one, but she passed away during my senior year of high school. I hadn't had a cat since we brought home Cookie and her kittens.

Cookie, who must have been a stray her whole life, eventually ran away. She left us with her kittens, and we cared for them as our own. We named them Salem, Happy, and Moon. Salem passed away after a seizure. Happy after his neuter. It was rough, but we soldiered on, knowing we gave them a happy life, however short.

Moon, an all-black cat with beautiful, big green eyes—so much like my long-lost Kitty—was the last remaining kitten. She chose my oldest daughter, Arianna, as her person.

Arianna, a cool "cat mom," bought Moon a special harness and a clear backpack so Moon could go everywhere with her. Kayaking and swimming at the lake, riding in the car, attending the fair (where she earned a purple ribbon!), trick-or-treating... to name a few.

But this morning we will go to the vet's office and make the toughest decision a pet owner ever has to make. Afterwards, we will lay Moon to rest beside the other animals we were lucky enough to love.

While I've always believed words can offer comfort in times of loss, I've found myself quiet during these last twenty-four hours. I don't have words to offer my daughter that can make this easier, or make Moon's illness make sense.

Just this past Sunday, Arianna graduated from high school. It should be a time of celebration, a moment to exhale and look ahead. We should be dreaming (or worrying, if you're me) about dorm life, picking out bedsheets and planners, and talking about what it'll be like when she moves out in the fall.

Moon was going to go with her as her legitimate emotional support animal. They were a package deal: one girl and her shadow, her confidant, her soft place to land in a world that often feels loud, hard, and overwhelming for Arianna.

But life, as it often does, had other plans. Moon's time came faster than we expected. Her little heart, the one that purred comfort into my daughter's arms, that soothed teenage tears and offered late-night study companionship, couldn't

carry on any longer.

And so, we find ourselves walking a bittersweet tightrope: the celebration of a beginning for Arianna, and the heartbreak of an ending to one of the most meaningful relationships of her youth.

As I often do when I cannot find the words, I turned to others. I found this quote that settled deep in my chest:

"I wanted to spend the rest of my life with you, but instead I am deeply honored knowing you spent the rest of your life with me."

To me, that captures the love of a pet perfectly. That someone, even a small, green-eyed, whiskered soul, chose to spend her short, precious life with my daughter. Out of all the laps and windowsills in the world, Moon chose Arianna's.

Moon was there through final exams, first heartbreaks, after-school dances, and early mornings before cheer practice. She stayed. Until the very end, she stayed to guide Arianna through some of the hardest years of growing up. And in doing so, she taught my daughter something high school never could: the preciousness of shared time, and the strength in letting go when it's time.

But it hurts. It hurts me to see her hurt. To say goodbye to a cat who meant so much. But I'm also saying thank you

Thank you, Moon, for being there when I couldn't be.

For providing comfort.

For easing anxiety.

For the laughter.

And mostly, for the joy.

So this week, we won't be focusing on college plans or summer jobs. We'll be living between the lines of grief and gratitude. Arianna is somewhere between an ending and a beginning.

And if there's one final lesson Moon is leaving her person, it's this: Sometimes, goodbye isn't a loss.

Sometimes, it's a last gift. A reminder that we were lucky enough to have someone worth missing.

Rest well, sweet Moon. Thank you for spending the rest of your life with us. I hope you find Arianna in the next one.

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

The Historical Viewpoint

The Shirtwaist Kings and the Triangle Shirtwaist Fire

Casey Jarmes

Isaac Harris and Max Blanck were both born in Russia in the 1860s. Both immigrated in the 1890s and settled in New York. Harris was a tailor, working in the crowded sweatshops where many immigrants were forced to work long hours to survive, while Blanck was an aspiring businessman, owning a small company that produced blouses. The pair met when Blanck married Harris's cousin and decided to form a partnership. At the turn of the century, the pair founded the Triangle Shirtwaist Company

A shirtwaist is a type of blouse cut similarly to men's shirts. They look old-fashioned now, but at the time they were the height of fashion. They were also cheaper and quicker to create than other pieces of clothing, making them an easy choice for Blanck and Harris's new business. Shirtwaists were seen as a symbol of women's liberation, which is ironic when paired with the cruelty and oppressiveness of Blanck and Harris's sweatshops.

The two men wisely invested in the new technology of sewing machines, becoming fabulously wealthy as the Triangle Shirtwaist Company expanded to multiple factories and hundreds of workers. Blanck and Harris were chauffeured around the city in the same year Model T first entered production. For their fortune, Harris and Blanck were given the nickname the Shirtwaist Kings.

Of course, Harris and Blanck could not have made such fortunes without overworking and underpaying the workers whose labor kept their business running. Workers in Triangle Waist Factories worked 12 hours a day, six days a week, and were paid less than a dollar a day. Most of the workers in these factories were among the most vulnerable parts of society, young immigrant women, most aged 14-23, many of whom could not speak English or find work outside of sweatshops. These young women were Italian immigrants fleeing poverty or, like Blanck and Harris, Russian and Polish Jewish immigrants fleeing brutal pogroms. To editorialize for a moment: there is something very disturbing about reading about how Blanck and

Harris, two immigrants from the same background of poverty and oppression as their employees, did not care even slightly about the wellbeing of their workers.

The poor conditions in the Triangle Waist factories led workers to go on strike in 1909, something that expanded to an industry wide strike. 20,000 garment workers went on strike for eleven weeks. Blanck and Harris responded to this strike by hiring gangsters to assault strikers and bribing cops to arrest them. Ultimately, the strike was successful, leading to higher wages and shorter hours. The Shirtwaist Kings, disgusted by the threats to their already massive fortunes, instituted a new policy at their factories. During the work day, the doors to the exits would be locked. Ostensibly, this was to prevent theft and unauthorized breaks. But, more importantly, it prevented workers from stepping away to talk about unionizing.

In addition to making money through sweatshops, Blanck and Harris had another profitable hobby: insurance fraud. On four different occasions, the two men's factories caught fire in the middle of the night, leading to hefty insurance payouts. It is likely Blanck and Harris burned down their own businesses. Because of this, they did not install sprinklers in future factories, as sprinklers would prevent them from eventually torching the factories for insurance money. The fateful fire was not the result of arson, but it only happened because the factory's owners were arsonists.

The largest of Blanck and Harris's factories was located on the eighth, ninth, and tenth floors of Asch Building, a skyscraper in Manhattan. Approximately 500 workers were employed at this location. On March 25, 1911, a fire broke out on the eighth floor of the Asch Building, possibly caused by an employee throwing a match or cigarette into a bin full of fabric scraps. The fire spread quickly, consuming the linen, cloth, and cotton as it transformed into a raging inferno. An inferno, in a building where the door to the stairs had been locked.

The building's flimsy fire escape collapsed as panicked workers attempted to escape,

sending twenty people to their deaths. Workers on the tenth floor, as well as Blanck and Harris, survived by climbing to the roof and jumping to neighboring buildings. The building's elevator operators, Joseph Zito and Gaspar Mortillaro made repeated trips up into the fire, saving dozens. Mortillaro was forced to stop when the rails of his car buckled under the heat of the fire. Zito was forced to stop when his car was destroyed by the impact of people falling down the elevator shafts while trying to climb down.

Firefighters arrived, but their ladders only stretched six stories high. Their nets were torn apart as multiple girls jumped at the same time. Seeing no other option, 62 workers jumped to their deaths, either out of a misplaced hope of survival or a desire for a quicker demise. In total, 146 workers perished in the blaze. 100,000 New Yorkers marched through the streets as part of a funeral procession, as 400,000 watched from the sidewalks.

Blanck and Harris were charged with manslaughter. Their lawyer pointed out that one of the witnesses used the same terms multiple times when describing the fire, which meant that she practiced her testimony, which apparently meant that her testimony was fake, which apparently meant that every witness was lying, which meant that Blanck and Harris were innocent. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty after less than two hours.

The Shirtwaist Kings were sued for damages and settled to pay \$75 per victim, around \$2417 with inflation. Blanck and Harris's insurance paid them handsomely, giving them \$60,000 more than they'd actually lost in the fire, meaning the two men actually profited from mass murder at a rate of about \$400 per victim.

The horrific fire led New York to enact sweeping labor laws, demanding sprinklers, fire exits, fire drills, a minimum wage, paid overtime, smoke detectors, and unlocked fire doors that swing outwards. Blanck and Harris's fortune eventually collapsed, but not before they opened a new factory. In 1913, the two men were charged with a \$25 fine for locking the exit doors at this factory.

How Flag Day got its start

Flag Day is commemorated each year in the United States on June 14. Though Flag Day is not an official federal holiday, the day remains significant nonetheless, as it traces its origins all the way back to 1777.

The Second Continental Congress formally adopted the flag of the United States on June 14, 1777. That resolution noted certain characteristics of the new flag, including the alternating red and white stripes that remain part of the flag that is celebrated each June 14.

Flag Day is one of various notable events and holidays commemorated in June, a list that includes Father's Day, Juneteenth and the summer solstice. That can make it easy for Flag Day to get lost in the proverbial shuffle, but the Farmer's Almanac notes it is customary for the sitting president of the United States to encourage Americans to display the flag outside of their homes and businesses each June 14. The flag is flown from all public buildings on Flag Day, which the Farmer's Almanac reports is another rich tradition that dates back 1877 and the centennial of the flag's adoption.



President Woodrow Wilson issued a presidential proclamation on June 14, 1916, that designated the day as Flag Day going forward. Thirty-three years after President Wilson's proclamation, the U.S. Congress officially established June 14 as National Flag Day.

One notable tidbit Americans can consider this Flag Day is the connection between the flag and seamstress Betsy Ross. Many American schoolchildren were taught that Ms. Ross designed and sewed the first American flag, but

historians have since discredited that legend. The Farmer's Almanac notes that many historians now believe George Washington already had a design for a flag with 13 red and white alternating stripes and 13 six-pointed stars set in a circle when he visited Ms. Ross in Philadelphia. And while historians do not doubt that Ms. Ross sewed a flag reflecting the design George Washington brought with him when visiting the seamstress, it's hard to confirm if she in fact sewed the first flag.

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Classifieds 11:00 a.m. Friday
Display Ads 11:00 a.m. Friday
Submitted News Noon Friday
Obituaries 4:30 p.m. Monday
Breaking News 5 p.m. Monday*
Event coverage requests 24 hours
* This news may not be published in
the current issue.

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Regular employees in order of con-
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Amanda Rink, Editor
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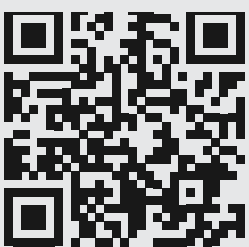
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Look, a square!
Squares have four equal sides.
Daddy's kind of a square too,
but that's another story.

Everyday moments can be learning moments with
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Downward Trend in Iowa Cash Rental Rates for 2025

Ann Johanns
ISU Extension
and Outreach

The 2025 survey of cash rental rates for Iowa farmland shows that rates decreased, on average, by 2.9% in 2025 to \$271 per acre. This is the first decline in cash rents since 2019, after a peak of \$279 per acre the previous two years of the survey. Iowa State University Extension and Outreach conducts the annual Cash Rental Rates for Iowa Survey.



to \$225 in 2025.

The report also shows typical rents for irrigated, alfalfa, grass hay, oats, pasture, corn stalk grazing and hunting rights by crop reporting district. New information in the 2025 report includes crop reporting district averages for land in organic crop production. Using the survey information

Survey information can serve as a reference point for negotiating an appropriate rental rate for next year. However, rents for individual farms should be based on productivity, ease of farming, fertility, drainage, local price patterns, longevity of the lease and possible services performed by the tenant. Three major factors with the potential to influence future cash rents are crop prices, government payments and land values.

The survey presents typical dollars of rent per bushel of corn and soybean yield for each county, based on the county average yield for each crop during the last five years, and row crop CSR2 index point. This year, the rent per bushel ranged from \$0.95 to \$1.88 for corn and from \$3.11 to \$6.20 for soybeans, with overall averages for corn and soybeans of \$1.39 and \$4.67, respectively. The statewide average per CSR2 index point was \$3.38, with a range of \$2.32 to \$4.78.

The intent of the Cash Rental Rates for Iowa 2025 Survey is to report typical rents in force, not the highest or lowest values heard through informal sources. Iowans supplied 1,492 usable responses about typical cash rental rates in their counties for land producing corn and soybeans, hay, oats, and pasture. Of these, 44% came from farm operators, 37% from landowners, 8% from professional farm managers and realtors, 6% from agricultural lenders and 5% from other professions and respondents who chose not to report their status. Respondents indicated being familiar with a total of 2.5 million cash-rented acres across the state.

Changes in average rent across counties and land quality

There was considerable variability across counties in year-to-year changes, as is typical of survey data, but 68 out of the 99 Iowa counties reported decreases in average rents for corn and soybean acres.

All land qualities reported similar decreases in average cash rents. High-quality land experienced a 3.4% decrease, from \$328 per acre in 2024 to \$317 in 2025. Medium-quality land experienced a 2.5% decrease, from \$278 per acre in 2024 to \$271 in 2025. Low-quality land experienced a 3.0% decrease, from \$232 per acre in 2024

An important factor considered by landowners when negotiating cash rents is the return on their farmland investment. Calculations based on the ISU Land Value Survey and Cash Rental Rates for Iowa Survey show the evolution of the ratio of average cash rents to average land values in Iowa. The calculations suggest that the average return on investment for landowners who cash rent their land to operators has followed a declining trend since the early 1990s, stabilizing at around 3% after 2010. Note that this ratio does not measure net returns as ownership costs,

including real estate taxes, are not considered in its calculation.

Survey resources

The annual survey was carried out by ISU Extension and Outreach. This information would not be possible without the 1,492 responses on typical cash rents from producers, landowners and ag professionals across the state. Every survey response is greatly appreciated. The full publication is available for download.

AgDM File C2-10, Cash Rental Rates for Iowa 2025 Survey, provides detailed results by county and Crop Reporting District. Archived publications from previous years are also available on this webpage, and Ag Decision Maker File C2-11, Historical County Cropland Rental Rates, reports historical county averages from previous years.

Other resources available for estimating a fair cash rent include the AgDM Information Files Computing a Cropland Cash Rental Rate (C2-20), Computing a Pasture Rental Rate (C2-23) and Flexible Farm Lease Agreements (C2-21). All of these fact sheets are on the Ag Decision Maker Leasing page, and include decision tools (electronic spreadsheets) to help analyze individual leasing situations. An online decision tool can be used to visualize the cash rents by land quality in each county by year, and compare trends in cash rents for a county versus its CRD and the state average.

For questions regarding the cash rent survey, contact the authors. For general leasing questions, contact the farm management field specialist in your area. Farm management specialists will once again present farmland leasing programs across the state in July and August for an in-depth assessment of trends and issues impacting Iowa tenants and landowners.

Prevention Is Key to Avoiding Pinkeye after Pasture Turnout

Sherry Hoyer,
Chris Clark
ISU Extension
and Outreach

As herds are being turned out on pasture across the state, most calves will get an immunity boost for select diseases through a vaccination program. However, as Iowa State University Extension and Outreach beef specialist Chris Clark explained, "Arguably the most common health nuisance on pasture, pinkeye, doesn't have an easy vaccine solution with consistent efficacy. In part, this is because pinkeye is complicated, involving multiple bacterial strains and risk factors."

The solution is prevention and early intervention. Pinkeye on livestock eye

Prevention points

Reduce corneal irritants. The cornea provides a protective layer over the eye, and when it is healthy, bacteria cannot attach. Irritants that damage the cornea allow bacteria to colonize and infection to occur. Common irritants on pasture include UV light, seedheads and dust.

Control fly populations. Flies contribute to cornea irritation, but the primary role of flies in regard to pinkeye is carrying the bacteria from one animal to the next, and facilitating transmission. Because flies can travel distances, the adage "your fly control program is only as good as your neighbor's" bears truth.



But by taking steps in your herd, populations can still be significantly reduced. Multifaceted approaches are the most effective.

Prioritize nutrition. Multiple macronutrients and micronutrients are essential for an effective immune response. A well-balanced mineral program is important in keeping the herd healthy. Mineral supplements can become costly, so a solid understanding of mineral levels in the available feed and water can help reduce some costs without sacrificing animal performance.

Early intervention

Check cattle regularly and watch closely for early signs of infection. Once clinical signs are observed, initiate treatment as soon as possible to minimize complications and severe cases.

Treat with systemic antibiotics labeled for pinkeye and be diligent in following label directions. Weigh animals to ensure appropriate dosing. Use good injection site practices to ensure op-

timal drug absorption.

Adjunct therapy such as eye patches, stitching eyelids shut, and subconjunctival injections are sometimes used in addition to systemic antibiotics. Evidence is somewhat inconsistent regarding efficacy of these practices. Eye patches have been shown to speed corneal ulcer healing, but for best results, leave a spot open to facilitate drainage and airflow when applying. Pinkeye increases sensitivity to UV light, so shade can be helpful for animal comfort. Pain associated with pinkeye may warrant the use of an anti-inflammatory as well. Topical ointments and sprays are also sometimes used.

"As with all health challenges, work closely with your veterinarian to develop a plan for dealing with cases," Clark said. "Before using any medications, talk with your veterinarian about safety and legality for use in the eye, required dosing schedules and required withdrawal times."

Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig rules out gubernatorial bid, seeks reelection in 2026

Robin Opsahl
Iowa Capital Dispatch

Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig announced he will not pursue a gubernatorial election and will instead seek another term as agriculture secretary.

Naig was one of the many Republicans considered a potential candidate in the race to succeed Gov. Kim Reynolds after she announced she would not seek reelection in 2026. Naig had said in April he and his family were "thoughtfully discussing that possibility." But on Tuesday he said he had decided not to run, adding that there was "still work to be done growing our state and economy as secretary of agriculture."

Naig has held his current position since being appointed in March 2018 after serving as deputy agriculture

secretary under Bill Northey, who was appointed undersecretary for farm production and conservation in the U.S. Department of Agriculture during President Donald Trump's first term in office. Naig won reelection in the 2018 and again in 2022 against Democratic challenger John Norwood.

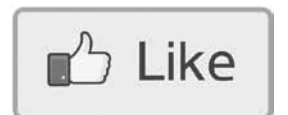
He said he plans to officially launch his 2026 campaign for agriculture secretary at a later date.

"I'm incredibly grateful for the opportunity to serve the people of Iowa as we work to advance an Iowa First agenda that puts farmers, families, and freedom at the center of our future," Naig said in a statement. "We have made tremendous progress over the past few years, but there remains important work ahead and we're not

done yet — building markets for Iowa products, defending our livestock industry, accelerating soil and water conservation efforts, and making sure rural Iowa thrives for future generations."

Naig said he will continue to "fight for the hard-working men and women who feed and fuel the world and keep Iowa as the greatest agricultural state in the country."

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



Legal notices

PUBLIC NOTICE Wright Co. Supervisors Minutes

May 12, 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 9:30 a.m. Members present were Kluss, Bosch, Rasmussen, Loux, and Ellis.

Motion by Kluss and seconded by Bosch to approve the tentative agenda. Motion carries.

Minutes of the previous regular meeting of May 5, 2025 were read

and approved with two corrections. Approved claims for payment. Motion by Kluss and seconded by Loux to receive the monthly revenue report from the Wright County Sheriff. Motion carries.

Adam Clemons, Wright County Engineer, gave an update on the Secondary Roads department.

Motion by Kluss and seconded by Ellis to adjourn the meeting. Motion carries.

Rick Rasmussen, Chairman, Wright County Board of Supervisors Amanda Meyer, Wright County Auditor

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Wed. May 28, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE City of Clarion May 6, 2025 Minutes

The Clarion City Council met in regular session Tuesday May 6th, 2025, at 5:00pm in the Council Chambers with Mayor Heiden presiding. Present were Council members Dave Flurer, Dan Hennigar, Shayne Hennigar, and Mike Ennis (Nick McOllough, absent). Also, in attendance City Administrator Clint Middleton, Attorney Zach Chizek, PWD Jon DeVries, and Police Chief TerHark.

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

Motioned by D. Hennigar seconded by McOllough to approve consent agenda consisting of Minutes- 2025.04.22: Financial report-approve checks; Licenses/Permits-(Building, Liquor, Tobacco, Sign, Peddler, Street Closure) Road Closures: Iglesia PentaCostes Nueva Vida (x2), Chappy's, CDA; Building: Flurer - fence, Van Wyk - fence; Liquor: Top of Iowa Lucky Wife, Yesway (Motion passed 3-0, Flurer conflict, McOllough absent).

Motioned by Flurer seconded by S. Hennigar to approve Resolution (25-29) authorizing contract with SEH for slip lining. (Motion passed 4-1 McOllough absent).

Motioned by Flurer seconded by Ennis to approve Resolution (25-30) Setting the Date for Public

Hearing for Budget Amendments (Motion passed 4-1 McOllough absent).

Motioned by S. Hennigar seconded by Flurer to approve \$10,000 down payment for dump truck pending verification of vehicle maintenance records (Motion passed 4-1 McOllough absent).

Update on the leak at the swimming pool. We always have had a need for water make-up, but this leak was much more. We have been doing some testing to verify where the leak is coming from and will know more in a few days. The pool contractor we have consulted believes it is an issue that will take a few weeks to a month to repair. We will weigh several factors in making the decision on how to handle this going forward but this may effect opening date or even pool availability.

Reports from the Council or Dept heads: Littlejohn spoke of the open house that is happening Wednesday. Mayor attended retirement party for Fireman Howieson that was interrupted by a fire call. DeVries gave a map of the overlay asphalt road repairs that will happen this summer. There will be other smaller patching done by the city crew.

Motioned by D. Hennigar seconded by Flurer to adjourn. All Ayes. (Motion passed 4-0). Respectfully Submitted, Clint Middleton City Administrator

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Wed. May 28, 2025

Legals are your right to know!

PUBLIC NOTICE City of Clarion May 2025 Claims

CLAIMS REPORT	1,946.41
VENDOR AMOUNT	77.4
A & D TECH SOLUTIONS	8.34
.....	2,440.02
AFLAC	204.05
AGSOURCE COOP SERVICES	2,010.50
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	144.2
AMERICAN LEGION EMBLEM	76.85
ANDERSON, LUKE	140.32
BAKER & TAYLOR	609.87
BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC	170.86
BROTHERS MARKET	236.95
CEMSTONE CONCRETE MATERIALS	1,150.00
CENTER POINT LARGE PRINT	95.88
CITY OF CLARION	424.6
CLARION DISTRIBUTING	170.2
CLARION HEALTH & FITNESS	180
CLARION HEALTH INS.	1,395.51
CLARION VISION INS	204
CLARION WATER & SEWER	918.25
COBRAHELP	40
COLLECTION SERVICES CENTER	369.23
COLUMN SOFTWARE PBC	320.31
CORE & MAIN	84.79
COUNSEL OFFICE AND DOCUMENT	476.17
DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP	1,847.99
DON'S TRUCK SALES	10,000.00
EDC EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	567.37
ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING	56.15
FED FICA ELECTRONIC	14,083.82
GISA	2347.56
GOLD-EAGLE COOP	2,807.16
HAWKEYE WEST PEST CONTROL	200
HEIMAN FIRE EQUIP	3,476.86
HSA PERSONAL	1130
I & S GROUP, INC	13,127.80
IOWA MEDICAID ENTERPRISE	84,421.00
IOWA ONE CALL	77.4
IOWA SPECIALTY HOSPITAL	8.34
IPERS	526.62
ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION	2,063.76
KANSAS CITY LIFE INS CO	134.6
KANSAS CITY LIFE INSURANCE CO	46.56
LANSON PRODUCTS	87.06
ANA JUAREZ	554.17
MID AMERICAN ENERGY	200
PARADIGM BENEFITS	336.21
JASON PARRY	191.46
PLUMB SUPPLY	74.61
PRAIRIE ENERGY	439.69
QUILL CORPORATION	1,110.00
REITER, AMY	1,990.00
SMITH TREE FARM	352
SYN-TECH SYSTEMS, INC	20
T & S SANITATION	204
THE TRASH MAN	204
TMI SERVICES	276.97
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA	2,460.35
URNERS HARDWARE & APP	888.56
USA BLUE BOOK	51
USI EDUCATION GOV SALES	276.97
USI EDUCATION GOV SALES	692.58
VISUAL EDGE - DALLAS	5,978.73
VISUAL EDGE IT	978.73
WILLEY'S WOOD SHOP	760
WINDOW MAN	65
WRIGHT MATERIALS CO.	664.46
WEX BANK	894.47
Accounts Payable Total	84,421.00
GENERAL	34,619.47
ROAD USE	21,714.49
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT FUND	2,088.71
WATER	7,365.35
WATER UTILITY IMPROV FUND	966.7
WATER PLANT PROJECT	12,161.10
SEWER	5,184.87
INTERNAL SERVICE FUND	320.31
TOTAL FUNDS	84,421.00

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Wed. May 28, 2025

Informed citizens build stronger communities

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IOWA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

iowapublicnotices.com

Why are rural cops dying at higher rates? continued from page 2

adequate staffing — in the name of complacent self-deception and fiscal restraint. Risk-benefit analyses break issues down to numbers, but the numbers I count represent lives lost and bodies broken, not dollars or widgets. They're people, not amortizable assets.

Let's look at those numbers for 2024.

Total officers shot: 311
 Fatalities: 43 = 14% of the total
 Armor save: 26 = 8% of the total
 Ambush: 67 = 21% of the total

The overall number of officers shot nationwide fell from 358 in 2023, but fatalities rose from 39 to 43, a slightly higher percentage; armor saves fell from 36 to only 26. (Did that affect the number of fatalities? Possibly.) Ambush incidents fell significantly, from 104 in 2023 to 67 in 2024.

Now we'll look at a smaller population set. Officers Shot Population >11,000 to < 30,000 in 2024

28 officers were shot (9% of the national total)
 4 died of their wounds (9% of the national total)

1 was saved by ballistic armor (4% of the national total)

6 were shot in ambush attacks (9% of the national total)

It's a predictable figure: smaller town, small number of officers shot overall, fatalities lower than the national percentage. Compared to 2023, however, it's a significant increase.

In the same category of towns in 2023, only 19 officers were shot all year compared to 28 in 2024. Fatalities rose slightly and ambushes and armor saves did not vary significantly.

Now let's look at the smallest places. Logic would seem to dictate that if the numbers of officers shot in smaller towns was, well, small, then the numbers should go down even more here.

(Movie narrator voice: They do not.)

Officers Shot Population <11,000 2024

61 officers were shot (20% of the national total)
 12 died of their wounds (28% of the national total)
 6 were saved by ballistic armor (23% of the national total)

13 were shot in ambush attacks (19% of the national total)

The trend holds again, as it has every year since I began this project. The number of officers shot

dips in smaller towns and then rises in the very smallest places instead of falling again. It's counterintuitive, but very consistent.

The number of officers shot in the least-populated places and the number of ambush attacks doubled as the population fell. The number of fatalities tripled. Armor saves increased from just one to six.

While the numbers of officers shot trended down overall, correlating to a nationwide decline in violent crime, the percentage of rural/small town officers shot and killed as a percentage of the national number remains above pre-pandemic levels (which were higher than I believe they should be anyway).

Taken together, the number of officers shot in the places I write about represents 29% of all officers shot in 2024, but 37% of the fatalities. That is an improvement from 2023, when rural officers spiked to 56% of shooting fatalities, but considering how few officers actually work in these sparsely populated places, I believe they remain disproportionately at risk from violent attacks.

But why so many year after year? And why don't things change?

There are several possibilities for the disparity. Maybe it's because rural officers rarely have backup, and that makes bad guys bold. Maybe there are gaps in training that small departments aren't addressing because of staffing shortages, or budget constraints, or complacency. Distance from sophisticated trauma care almost certainly plays into the high fatality rate, although I can't prove that without help from other researchers with more information for each case. There are likely more rifles in the country, and armor isn't very good at stopping high-velocity rounds, especially basic soft armor that isn't properly fitted.

I think things don't change because too many decision-makers either don't have access to the kind of information I track, or because they don't think it applies to their officers.

Maybe somewhere along the line they decided that change was just too hard and too expensive, and they'd rather gamble on a workers' compensation case or a fancy funeral than expend the effort to prevent them. That's harsh. But I don't have other ideas at this point.

Until these facts are ac-

knowledge, nothing will change and that is unacceptable in the richest nation in the world, full of people who say they value the service and sacrifice of the officers who are paid (far too little far too often) to keep the rest of society safe.

Here's to another year, another data set, another stab at making people look at tough realities.

I've been trying on my own for a long time and I believe these officers' lives matter. I do believe change is possible and I want you to help.

Here is my ask for you. Share this article. Cross-check my numbers. Challenge a police chief, a sheriff, a city council member, a county commissioner, to read it and refute it — or own it. Get your FOP lodge or guild, or professional publication to reprint it. Send it to a local reporter and ask them to look into your department's situation.

I can keep counting and I can keep writing. But in the words of the Lorax, "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."

This article was originally published on Police1.

com on May 08, 2025, and The Wright County Monitor received permission to republish in this issue thanks to Nancy Perry, Director of Content of Lexipol. Police1 is part of Lexipol, the nation's leading content, policy, and training platform for public safety and local government, enabling first responders and leaders to better protect their communities and reduce risk. Their mission is to use online technology and digital media to help first responders and local government better serve and protect communities.

About the Author: Kathleen Dias writes features and news analysis on topics of concern to law enforcement professionals serving in rural and remote locations. She uses her background in writing, teaching, and marketing to advocate for professional levels of training and equipment for rural officers, open channels of communication for isolated departments, and dispel myths about rural policing. She's had a front-row seat observing rural agencies — local, state, and federal — from the Sierra foothills to California's notorious Emerald Triangle, for more than 30 years.

USDA seeks feedback from producers about 2025 crops, stocks, inventories, and values

Over the next several weeks, USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will conduct the June Agricultural Survey. The agency will contact nearly 92,000 producers across the nation to determine crop acreage and stock levels as of June 1, 2025.

"The June Agricultural Survey is one of the most important and well-known surveys NASS conducts," said Joseph L. Parsons, USDA NASS Administrator. "When producers respond to the survey, they provide essential information that helps determine the expected acreage and supply of major commodities in the United States for the 2025 crop year. The results are used by farmers and ranchers, USDA, exporters, researchers, economists, policymakers, and others to inform a wide range of decisions."

Producers can respond to the June Agricultural Survey online at agcounts.usda.gov, by

phone, or mail. They will be asked to provide infor-



mation on planted and harvested

acreage, including acreage for biotech crops and grain stocks.

"NASS safeguards the privacy of respondents by keeping all individual information confidential and publishing the data in aggregate form only to ensure that no operation or producer can be identified," said Parsons. "We recognize that this is a busy time for farmers, but the information they provide helps U.S. agriculture remain viable and capable."

I urge them to respond to these surveys and thank

them for their participation."

NASS will publish the data in a series of USDA reports, including the annual Acreage and

quarterly Grain Stocks reports on June 30, 2025. This data also contributes to NASS monthly and annual Crop Production reports, the annual Small Grains Summary, the annual Farms and Land in Farms report, the Land Values report, various livestock reports, including Cattle, Sheep and Goats, Hogs and Pigs, and USDA's monthly World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates. All NASS reports are available online at nass.usda.gov. NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S.

agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture.

The Other Side of Nursing

Iowa Donor Network celebrates National Nurses Month

May is National Nurses Month, and it's a chance to celebrate the nurses in an array of jobs. At Iowa Donor Network, nurses on the team help facilitate life-saving organ transplants. They use their clinical background to make quick, heavily informed decisions on donor potential and transplant matches.

Fernanda (Fern) Marrufo worked in a Neuro Trauma Intensive Care Unit (ICU) neuro trauma in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at a Des Moines Hospital. In that work, she saw many neurological injuries that resulted in organ donation. Then she took the leap to work at Iowa Donor Network in what she calls "the best decision I took in my entire life." Now she works as an Organ Utilization Specialist Team Lead at Iowa Donor Network, where she has worked for six years.

Margaret Badger began her work as a nurse in the operating room and ICU where she witnessed the full circle of donation in her work on the team procuring organs from a donor one day and then taking care of one of the recipients the

next day. From there she worked as a travel nurse before she began working at an organ procurement organization in Texas. She now works as an Organ Resource Supervisor at Iowa Donor Network.

"It takes a lot of people to make one organ donation happen, and it takes a lot of people to make transplants occur," said Marrufo. "It's a physical and mental effort to make miracles happen."

Labs, CT images, and hospital charts — donor medical history is evaluated to determine organ donation potential. The next step is a potential match list including a long list of recipients that might match with the life-saving gift. Then those potential matches are reviewed with the transplant teams to evaluate and coordinate recovery and transplant.

"Having that experience as a bedside nurse is vital. The clinical piece of knowing what's going on with a patient and how hospitals function helps us," said Badger. "I got to witness the miracle of donation on multiple occasions as a nurse, and that is why I have been in the organ do-

nation industry for 12 years. Once I joined this industry, I learned all about all the real miracles it takes along the way to make donation and transplant happen. I am honored to be in this work to witness miracles every day, and I am blessed beyond measure to be able to utilize my nursing degree and knowledge in this capacity."

Utilizing their clinical backgrounds, Marrufo and Badger are able to quickly understand a hospital chart, look for red flags and screen matches. In these fast-paced jobs, they have to rely on their medical backgrounds to make the best possible match that will lead to transplant success and the recipient's wellbeing.

"We do meaningful work, and we want to give donor families an informed decision," said Badger. "There's a medical step after death, and it's organ donation. I love working at Iowa Donor Network."

Long before she began to work at Iowa Donor Network, Marrufo wrote college papers on organ donation. It's a mission she

continued on page 7



\$500 FISHING DERBY

LAKE CORNELIA • JUNE 7, 2025

- FREE PULLED PORK SANDWICHES FROM 11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. (OPEN SHELTER HOUSE)
- REGISTER FOR FISHING CONTEST AT OPEN SHELTER HOUSE BY 12:30 P.M.
- CONTEST WILL TAKE PLACE FROM 12:30 - 2:00 P.M.
- AGE GROUPS: 17 AND UNDER 18 AND OLDER
- \$500 IN PRIZES FOR LONGEST AND MOST FISH
- RAIN DATE: JUNE 8

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Parents: Your may save the life of a child.

Potentially dangerous drugs are in the hands of Iowa children...

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They have found their way into our communities and schools.

Talk to your children now.

Find out more at DrugFreeIowa.org
 For Immediate Assistance, call the Iowa Substance Abuse Information Center toll-free Help Line at 866-242-4111.

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Church news

CLARION AREA

CLARION FIRST METHODIST CHURCH
201 3rd Ave. NE, Clarion, IA 50525
Pastor Craig Luttrell
515-532-2845
website: www.clarion.church
Church Office
Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - Noon
• Sunday, June 1
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
• Sunday, June 8
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
• Sunday, June 15
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, June 1
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:00 a.m. Fellowship

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

ST. JOHN CATHOLIC
608 2nd Ave. N.E., Clarion
Father Jerry W. Blake, Pastor
515-532-3586
• Wednesday, May 21
7:40 a.m. Rosary at St. Francis, Belmont
8:00 a.m. Mass, A/B at St. Francis, Belmont
• Thursday, May 22
8:00 a.m. Sewing at St. John, Clarion
11:00 a.m. A/B, Rosary,
7:30 p.m. Our Lady of Fatima Novena in Spanish at St. John, Clarion
• Friday, May 23
7:40 a.m. Rosary at St. John, Clarion
8:00 a.m. Mass at St. John, Clarion
• Saturday, May 24
3:15 p.m. at A/B at St. John, Clarion
4:00 p.m. Mass at St. John, Clarion
7:15 p.m. A/B at St. John, Clarion
8:00 p.m. Spanish Mass at St. John, Clarion
• Sunday, May 25
7:15 a.m. A/B in St. Francis, Belmont
8:00 a.m. Mass at Francis, Belmont
9:45 a.m. A/B at St. John, Clarion
10:30 a.m. Mass at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove
• Monday, May 26
Memorial Day
9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Francis, Belmont
• Tuesday, May 27
9:00 a.m. Bible Study at St. Francis, Belmont
2:00 p.m. Mass at Clarion Care Center
6:30 p.m. Knights of Columbus at St. Francis, Belmont

• Wednesday, May 28
7:40 a.m. Rosary at St. Francis, Belmont
8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Francis, Belmont
• Thursday, May 29
Ascension of the Lord
9:00 a.m. Guild at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove
11:40 a.m. Rosary at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove
12:00 p.m. Mass at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove
• Friday, May 30
7:40 a.m. Rosary at St. John, Clarion
8:00 a.m. Mass at St. John, Clarion
• Saturday, May 31
10:00 a.m. Evening Prayer Walk Through at St. Francis
3:15 p.m. A/B at St. John, Clarion
4:00 p.m. Mass at St. John, Clarion
7:15 p.m. Spanish A/B at St. John, Clarion
8:00 p.m. Spanish Mass at St. John, Clarion

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

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

GOLDFIELD AREA

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

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
220 E. Oak St., Goldfield, IA 50542
515-825-3581
goldfield.upc@gmail.com
Facebook@goldpres
"A Church for the Community"
Office M-F 7:30 - 11:30 a.m.
• Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Goldfield
Pastor Ron Rasmussen
• Sunday, June 1
10:00 a.m. Worship Service and Fellowship Coffee in the Fellowship Room.
No Sunday School

GOLDFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
P.O. Box 214
515-825-3754
New Pastor: Pastor Laurene Banza
We welcome all!
Pastor Laurene is from the Democratic Republic of Congo Africa.
• Sunday Services
11:00 a.m. Worship time

HOLMES EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Pastor George Lautner
412-874-9878
• Sunday, June 1
9:30 a.m. Worship with Communion and Baptism
• Wednesday, June 4
1:30 p.m. Home Circle

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, June 1
9:30 a.m. Morning Worship, 10:30 a.m. Fellowship, 11 a.m. Sunday School, 6 p.m. Evening Worship

ROWAN AREA

UNITED CHURCH OF ROWAN
Pastor Nancy Hofmeister
811 Pesch St., Box 38, Rowan
• Sundays
10:00 a.m. Worship
• Sunday, June 1
Scholarship Application Due
• Sunday, June 8
Pentecost

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

DOWS AREA

SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH
109 N. Eskridge St., Dows
Dows / www.sgcdows.com
Doug Holmes, Pastor
• Sunday, June 1
10:15 a.m. Sunday school,

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

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Dows, IA
Masking is option
• Sunday, June 1
9:00 a.m. Worship
• Monday, June 2
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Summer School
• Tuesday, June 3
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Summer School
• Wednesday, June 4
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Summer School

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

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

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

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

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

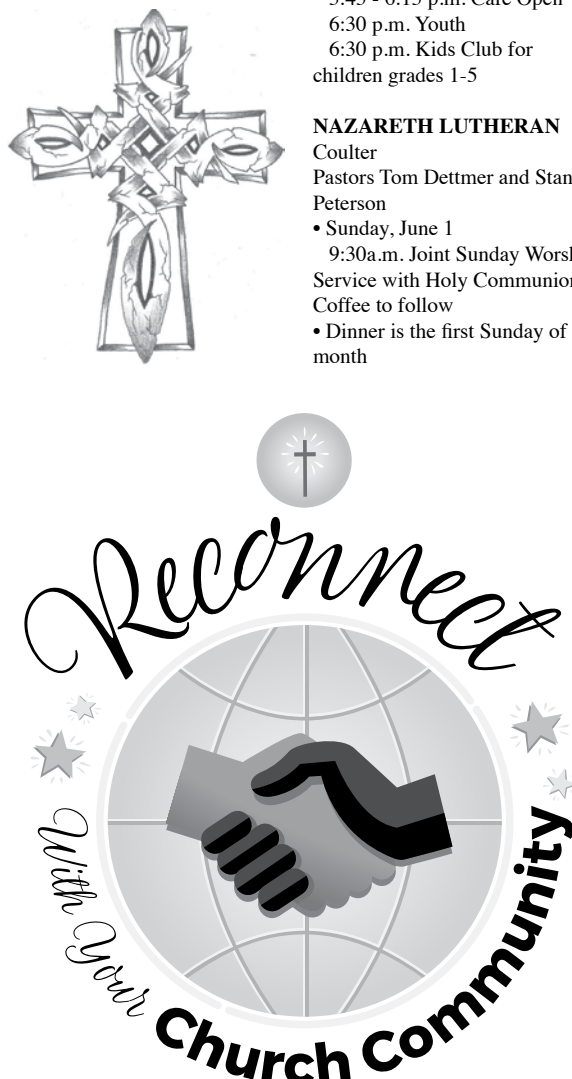
MISSIONARY ALLIANCE CHURCH
3rd & Lake Streets, Blairsburg, IA 50034
• Sundays
8:45 - 9:45 a.m. Café is open serving donuts, smoothies and coffee beverages
9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Nursery available for children up to age 2
10:00 a.m. Kids Church for children 2 years to grade 5
• Wednesday
5:45 - 6:15 p.m. Café Open
6:30 p.m. Youth
6:30 p.m. Kids Club for children grades 1-5




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

The Clarion Wire

** It's GARAGE SALE weekend in Clarion and around Lake Cornelia! Check schedules - beginning on Thursday, May 29 through Saturday, May 31!
** Wright County Veterans: Free Coffee and Rolls on Friday, May 30 from 8 - 10 a.m.; Veterans Affairs office, 120 - 1st Avenue N.W. in Clarion.
** Heartland Museum, celebrating 25 years, has special events throughout 2025! It is open year-round by appointment, with summer months having set open hours of Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
** Enjoy a BBQ at Clarion's Senior Citizens Center on Friday, May 30. Serving from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free will offering!
** 2025 Farmers' Markets in Clarion return for the season; beginning weekly on Saturday, May 31 from 9 - 11 a.m. CHANGE OF LOCATION: east side of courthouse - in Courthouse Parking Lot! 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.
** "Wag & Walk", dog walk at Lake Cornelia on Saturday, May 31!
** Clarion swimming pool opens for the summer season on Monday, June 2! (Dows pool opened on May 25.)
** 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!). Next ones are June 4 and 18 from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
** Clarion City Wide Clean Up is set for Friday, June 6 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Saturday, June 7 from 9 - 11 a.m. Drop off location - Hanson Park, 216 - 6th Avenue N.E. in Clarion. Volunteer Fundraiser with contributions going to the CGD Football Team. Supported by Clarion Fire Department, CGD Football Team and Hagie Manufacturing!
** Iowa's Department of Natural Resources annual FREE FISHING DAYS on Friday, June 6 through Sunday, June 8. Fish without fishing licenses!!
** Iowa River Players presents "Leaving Iowa". A family comedy for all to enjoy! Performances are June 6, 13, and 14 at 7:30 p.m. and June 8 and 15 at 2 p.m. Community night is Friday, June 6, with free admission to thank the community for helping with the theatre roof! Enjoy hot dogs that night, also free!
** It's Donkey Daze in Renwick on Saturday, June 7!
** Wright County Farm Bureau "Free Lunch and Fishing Derby" is Saturday, June 7, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Lake Cornelia. Up to \$500 in cash prizes awarded. The public is invited to participate; no need to be a Farm Bureau member! Catch and release.
** "ROWAN FUN DAYS" on Saturday, June 7 on Main Street! Lots of fun things to do/see!
** Pencil Drawings by Ron Prah will be featured in the first show of the season at the Jenison Meacham Memorial

Arts Center, 1179 Taylor Avenue, just north of Belmont. A reception for Ron will be held Sunday, June 8 from 1-4 p.m. The public is invited to come and meet Ron, view his amazing show, and enjoy some refreshments. Ron's artwork will be on display June 8-June 29. The Arts Center is open Sundays from 1-4 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 June 11 and 25!
** Get ready for Clarion's Festival in Park! Set for Friday & Saturday, June 13 & 14! Friday Family Fun Night from 6 - 7 p.m.; Foam Party, both on Main Street! 8 - 10 p.m. "Taylor Made Band" at Gazebo Park. And at the Bru from 8 - 11 p.m. - "Tank Anthony".
** Festival continues on Saturday, June 14 with the traditional Fireman's Breakfast from 6 - 10 a.m. 7 a.m. Walk/Run Off those pancakes, fundraiser for First Steps Early Learning Center. 10:30 a.m. - parade. 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. is a Vendor & Business Fair, Kids Zone, or 9 hole Mini Golf on Main Street. Noon - 3 p.m. - Entertainment on Gazebo Park Stage. 1 p.m. - Pickleball Tourney. 8 - 11 p.m. - "Fossey" entertaining at The Bru.
** From the Festival in the Park committee: "The Festival committee is in need of volunteers for the big event on Saturday June 14. If you are interested in volunteering and supporting this fun event, you can use the link below. There are many different time slots and areas to plug in, all with low time commitment and lots of fun planned, plus you get a free t-shirt! Many hands can make light work, so consider volunteering with a friend! Reach out to ccdirector@outlook.com at the CDA with any questions.
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfwqJc5eLvGuyTkFrt8biuCBOSWtaGN48C7e6w5jOXR5OWsKQ/viewform
** Keep celebrating the 25th anniversary of Heartland Museum in 2025! Open House - free admittance! "Thru the Decades" is the theme for Heartland Museum's open house on Saturday, June 21 from 5 - 7 p.m.. Food and beverages that were introduced since 1860 will be served. Don't hesitate to wear your favorite decade outfit.
** "Bingo at the BRU" the 4th of each Tuesday. Next one is Tuesday, June 24 at 6 p.m. \$20 for 3 cards and 10 rounds of Bingo; \$ for community fundraising!
** AT THE CLARION THEATRE: Showing "Lilo & Stitch" on Friday - Sunday, May 30 - June 1 @ 7 p.m.; Sunday Matinee at 2:30 p.m. - June 1! (2nd of 2 weeks).
** THANK YOU: As we move away from Memorial Day weekend, thank you to everyone currently serving in the military and those who have served in the past. And, lest we forget, the families too!



	<p>Contact: Xavier Patterson to Advertise! 515-448-4745</p>		 <p>“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” Philippians 4:6 NIV</p> <p>Always Be Ready Preppers, especially the more pessimistic ones who think the end is near, advise us to have our "Go Bag" ready. That is, when things fall apart and we have to leave suddenly you need a backpack filled with supplies and ready to go. And they suggest you might need one in the trunk of your car in case you can't make it home when the disaster hits. It's always good to be prepared, but preppers typically only think about the material things you'll need (food and water, clothing, tools, etc.). It's also a good idea to have something for your spiritual needs, such as a Bible or a prayer book. Besides being a boon to our spirit, it might help to keep us focused on the more important things and remind us that even if we've lost our earthly home, our true and final home is with God. -Christopher Simon</p>	<p>Contact: Xavier Patterson to Advertise! 515-448-4745</p>	<p>Contact: Xavier Patterson to Advertise! 515-448-4745</p>	 <p>HANSON & SONS Tire and Auto Service 1407 Central Ave. East Clarion, IA 50525 Phone 515-532-2444 Fax 515-532-2299 www.hansontire.net Email: che_hanson72@yahoo.com</p>
<p>Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078</p>	<p>Contact: Xavier Patterson to Advertise! 515-448-4745</p>	<p>Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078</p>		 <p>204 E. Broadway St. Eagle Grove, IA.</p>	<p>Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078</p>	 <p>First Citizens Bank myfcb.bank</p>
<p>Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078</p>	 <p>110 13th Avenue SW Clarion, Iowa 50525</p>	 <p>210 North Main • Clarion 515-532-2893 515-532-6626 Laura Phillips Pharmacy Manager</p>		 <p>www.firstiowa.bank Member FDIC</p>	<p>Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078</p>	<p>Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078</p>
	<p>Contact: Xavier Patterson to Advertise! 515-448-4745</p>			<p>Stevenson Insurance Services ABENS-MARTY-CURRAN AGENCY  Goldfield 515-825-3476</p>		<p>Office: (563) 864-3333 Cell: (563) 605-1078</p>

Words of Wisdom

Last week's trivia questions:
 What song by The Beatles became their first number one hit on the U.S. charts, in 1964? Answer: "I Want to Hold Your Hand."
 What song by The Beatles spent the most consecutive weeks at number one, in 1968? Answer: "Hey Jude."



This week's trivia questions:
 Iowa has an inventory of about 25 million hogs and pigs, making it the top producer of swine in the country. What two states are the second and third largest producers, with 9 million and 7.4 million?
 Iowa is the largest producer of corn in the United States, with 2.6 billion bushels in 2024. What two states are the second and third largest producers, with 2.3 billion and 1.8 billion?

May 28 is International Hamburger Day, World Hunger Day, and World Otter Day; May 29 is Mount Everest Day, and National Fip Flop Day; May 30 is National Creativity Day, and National Heat Awareness Day; May 31 is World Parrot Day, and National Smile Day; June 1 is International Children's Day, National Pen Pal Day, National Cancer Survivor's Day, and World Milk Day; June 2 is National Rotisserie Chicken Day; June 3 is World Bicycle Day, and National Egg Day.

Rodney Dangerfield jokes

"I was such an ugly kid... when I played in the sandbox, the cat kept covering me up."
 "When I was a kid I got no respect. I had no friends. I remember the see-saw. I had to keep runnin' from one end to the other."
 "What a childhood I had, why, when I took my first step, my old man tripped me!"
 "When I was a kid I got no respect. When my parents got divorced there was a custody fight over me... and no one showed up."
 "I was so ugly my mother used to feed me with a slingshot."
 "In my life I've been through plenty. When I was three years old, my parents got a dog. I was jealous of the dog, so they got rid of me."
 "I was ugly, very ugly. When I was born, the doctor smacked my mother."

The world record for the tallest corn stalk is more than 35 feet, although a researcher in New York now reports growing corn nearly 45 feet high.

The world record for the heaviest pig belongs to "Big Bill" of Jackson, Tennessee, a Poland China breed of hog that tipped the scales at 2,552 pounds.

Monitor Memories

FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE WRIGHT COUNTY MONITOR
 1983 - 1948

42 Years Ago June 2, 1983

The American Flags stood out proudly along the Avenue of Flags at eh Clarion cemetery on Memorial Day Monday. The strong wind made things very uncomfortable, and officials moved the Memorial Day service inside.

The Festival in the Park parade is sure to be a colorful event. That's because Clarion's well known "Hat Lady" Alvina Sellers has been named as the Grand Marshall for the 10 a.m. parade. The parade is just one of many events scheduled to be held on Saturday, June 11 during Clarion's annual "festival" observance.

The Clarion Police Reserve Force held their monthly meeting May 16 and discussed plans for summer activities. On June 11, the reserve group will participate in the Festival in the Park with a food booth as well as assisting the regular police force with traffic control and security. June 25 the reserve force plans to have a garage sale (without the garage) in the Courthouse parking lot. In July the reserve force will be assisting the regular police in security and traffic and crowd control for RAGBRAI.

77 Years Ago May 27, 1948

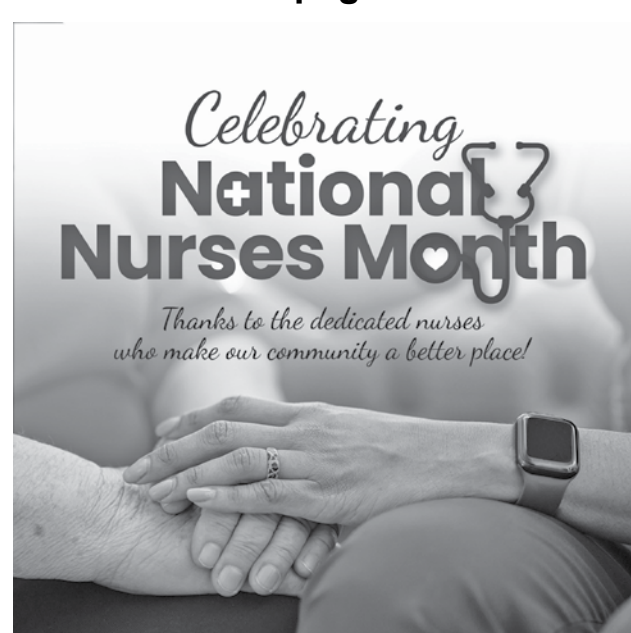
How many rural schools in Wright County won't have teachers when next September rolls around? That is the question now facing C.W. Sankey, county superintendent of schools and the various township boards. At the present time 26 teachers have signed contracts to teach next fall. Sixty-seven schools were open this year, but the total may be a few less than that next fall.

Plans are now being completed for the series of summer band concerts by the Clarion high school band, under the direction of Howard P. Berry. The first concert will be Wednesday night, June 2 in the city park. The band is composed of 50 musicians. Concerts will begin at 8 o'clock each Wednesday night.

The annual observance of Memorial Day will be held Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Clarion Evergreen cemetery. Exercises will be in charge of local ex-service organizations. The line of march will form in front of the Legion hall and start for the cemetery at 1:45.



The Other Side of Nursing continued from page 5



found herself pulled toward.

"I truly love what I do," said Marrufo. "I do it for the mission. I was really young when I dedicated my life to the mission of organ donation, and every day when I leave work I know I have done everything I can to get someone off the recipient list."

To learn more about registering as a donor and the way Iowa Donor Network advocates for organ and tissue donation, visit IowaDonorNetwork.org.

About Iowa Donor Network (IDN)

Iowa Donor Network is a nonprofit organization that serves as the primary contact for organ and tissue donation services for the state of Iowa. Certified by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, IDN coordinates organ and tissue recovery, educates healthcare professionals and communities and provides support to donor families. IDN collaborates with healthcare partners, organizations and volunteers statewide to honor the gift of life and inspire others to donate.

Did you know?



According to the Skin Cancer Foundation, skin damage builds up over time, beginning with a person's very first sunburn. The more a person's skin burns, the greater his or her risk for skin cancer becomes. The SCF notes that the same ultraviolet (UV) rays that damage skin alter a tumor-suppressing gene. That alteration gives injured cells a smaller

window to repair before a tumor becomes cancerous. Five or more sunburns in a lifetime doubles a person's risk for melanoma, which can be deadly. That cumulative effect underscores the need to emphasize skin protection methods, such as wearing sunscreen and avoiding exposure to the sun between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Celebrate Father's Day in unique ways



Father's Day is a celebration of dads near and far. Falling on the third Sunday of June each year, Father's Day presents an opportunity for families to come together and put the spotlight on fathers who work tirelessly for their children and provide them with love and support. Father's Day also is a chance to honor the men who serve as father figures or play special roles in people's lives.

It's easy for families to fall into a routine when it comes to celebrating Father's Day. Certainly dinner and gift-giving is traditional, but there are additional ways to provide Dad with the day he deserves. Explore these creative options.

Set up a scavenger hunt

Drag out the suspense of Dad getting his Father's Day gift by hiding it and requiring him to go through a series of clues to find it. When writing up the clue cards, spouses and children can reference particularly happy moments or things around the house that are representative of Dad's love. For example, a clue may read, "Here's where we like to snuggle together to watch our favorite show."

Take it outdoors

June weather tends to be pleasant, and that means Father's Day celebrations

can be held outside. Everyone can select a spot that Dad loves to visit, whether it's a hiking trail or a local park, and then plan activities around the chosen location.

Go on an adventure

Father's Day can be spent engaging in something the family has never tried before that may be exciting for Dad. Maybe he's always wanted to go off-roading on quads or try his skills at hatchet-throwing? The family can get together and choose an activity Dad will find engaging and that everyone can enjoy.

Make it a beach day

Dad might just want a break from the hectic pace of life on Father's Day. This is the perfect opportunity to head oceanside. For those who don't live by the coast, a river or lakefront spot can be an ideal alternative. Frequently these are touristy areas, so it could be relatively easy to find an eatery where everyone can make a reservation for lunch or dinner after enjoying a relaxing day with waves lapping the shore.

These are just a few clever ways to celebrate Father's Day. Families can choose activities that honor fathers and ensure he is feeling all the love.

Thank you from the Solis Family!
 To everyone who reached out, sent cards, provided meals, gave financial support, bought t-shirts, and prayed for Tre; we thank you from the bottom of our hearts! From our schools to our churches, businesses, doctors, medical staff, and community members, we deeply appreciate everything that was done for our family. We cannot possibly thank everyone individually, but please know that your thoughtfulness and generosity during this time has meant the world to us. Thank you again!
 Danny, Meghann, Niklas, Matheu, Trelyn, Zakary & Noelle Solis

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 114 N Commercial, Eagle Grove
 515-448-3456

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.

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Birth ANNOUNCEMENTS
 Welcoming OUR COMMUNITY'S NEW ARRIVALS!

Baby Girl

Alisia Bruns and Tristan Miller of Forest City, IA would like to announce the birth of their daughter Rowan Rae Miller. She was born Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at the Iowa Specialty Hospital in Clarion, IA. She weighed 7 pounds 12 ounces. She joins her sibling: Luca (3). Proud Grandparents are: Konna and James Erickson of Dows, IA; Melissa and Travis Hopkins of Forest City, IA; Roger Bruns of Titonka, IA and Bud Miller of Ventura, IA. Proud Great Grandparents are: Shirley

Bruns of Crystal Lake, IA and Wendy Hopkins of Forest City, IA

Baby Boy

Hailey and Israel Rivera of Clarion, IA would like to announce the birth of their son Vinnie Lee Rivera. He was born Monday, May 19, 2025 at the Iowa Specialty Hospital in Clarion, IA. He weighed 7 pounds 12 ounces. He joins her sibling: Ronnie (4). Proud Grandparents are: Aaron and Christina Johnson of Humboldt, IA and Lourdes Martine of Alexander, IA.

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FOR RENT
1&2 BD Apartments in Goldfield. 62 and older

GARAGE SALE
733 1st St NW, Clarion Fri., May 30- noon to 6 Sat., May 31- 9 to 1
A lot of misc. items. Some glassware, CDs, adult clothing (no children's clothes), holiday decor, furniture, TV. Might find antiques & collectibles.

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Obituaries 4:30 p.m. Monday





May Is Hepatitis Awareness Month

Hepatitis is an inflammation of the liver that can cause health problems, such as liver cancer and liver failure. Learn the ABCs of this serious virus.

Hepatitis A - Spread through contaminated food and drink. - It's very contagious and you can spread the virus even if you don't have symptoms.	Hepatitis B - Spread through contact with an infected person's blood or other bodily fluids. - There's no cure for hepatitis B, but treatment can delay or reduce the risk of developing liver cancer.	Hepatitis C - There isn't a vaccine to prevent hepatitis C, but treatment is available. - Most people with hepatitis C can be cured with just 8-12 weeks of treatment.
---	---	---

Help Protect Your Liver From Hepatitis

 **IOWA Health and Human Services** Source: cdcgov 4/25

 **Ask your healthcare provider about hepatitis vaccines and testing.**

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THE SCARLET & BLACK

THE CLARION-GOLDFIELD-DOWS STUDENT NEWSPAPER

www.clarionnewsonline.com

Wednesday, May 28, 2025 • The Wright County Monitor 9

Cereal Box Domino Challenge Returns!!



The Elementary TAG students once again provided a domino cereal challenge.

We collected cereal from Monday, April 28th thru Friday May 2nd with the actual cereal domino activity at an assembly at the end of the day May 2nd.

Thanks to everyone for supporting this event and helping us fill the food pantry to help with food insecurity in Wright County.



Simply Electrifying!



By Eli Rink

The 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Grades enjoyed a program titled "Simply Electrifying" from the Science Center of Iowa sponsored by MidAmerican Energy.

They learned safety tips first, then learned about magnetic forces and how they attract. Static electricity was next and it is caused by rubbing on certain items. They first used a wig and showed how it affects hair, next was aluminum foil, and last was packing peanuts.

Bryant from SCI also showed the students how to light a fluorescent light bulb with the grand finale of creating music with electrical currents. The students heard many of their favorite songs.

I loved the program and my favorite part was the fluorescent light bulb!

**THANK YOU
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY
FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY!!**

Congratulations to the following TAG students who placed in the Spring Noetic Math Contest:

5th Grade Math Wizards
Team Winner and National Honorable Mention
Greyson Disney
National Honorable Mention
Jake Schnittjer
Iker Chocop Ordenez
Jaxon Stumpf
6th Grade Mathematicians
Team Winner and National Honorable Mention
Sheamus Webb
National Honorable Mention
Carter Roberts
Eva Hogle
Sullivan Lewis
John Etheredge
7th Grade Math Geniuses
Team Winners and National Honorable Mentions (Tied)
Addyson Greenfield
and Owen Watts



Thinking Cap History and Information

Thinking Cap Quiz Bowl was formed in 1989 by Harvey and Shirley Kimble in Urbandale, Iowa. Both were avid Trivial Pursuit players and Harvey coached very successful high school quiz bowl teams. At that time, no company offered computer quiz bowls for elementary school and we decided

to fill that need. Harvey tried successfully to start a 5th and 6th grade contest in Iowa. They formed a company and offered one in Illinois as a test quiz and found teachers and kids very receptive and glad to have a computer team activity. A few years later they began offering 7th and 8th grade quiz bowls too.

CGD Thinking Cap TAG Quiz Bowl Results

5th Grade 49th
6th Grade 32nd
7th Grade 15th
8th Grade 49th

THE SCARLET & BLACK

THE CLARION-GOLDFIELD-DOWS STUDENT NEWSPAPER

10 The Wright County Monitor • Wednesday, May 28, 2025

www.clarionnewsonline.com

John Deere Operations Tour

By Cole Schnittjer,
Ethan Hasty,
Estuardo Lopez,
Charlie Campbell,
Hayden Rink,
Selvin Gonzalez

A group of High School TAG students recently planned a field trip to Waterloo John Deere Operations. The students chose where they would like to go, mapped out the trip, and chose where to eat within a certain price range.

This trip was funded by a Silos and Smokestacks grant to encourage educational tours in Iowa.



The students had the following to share:

Selvin - I learned that the paint adheres better to rough and warm tractor parts than a cool smooth surface.

Ethan - I learned different countries have different requirements for tractors.

Estuardo - I learned 60 percent of 7R tractors go to Europe.

Charlie - I learned European tractors use safety glass.

Hayden - I learned the tracks need to be stretched to be assembled.

Cole - I learned they sent 100 9330s to China.



The Wright County MONITOR



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SPORTS

Beisel Caps Career With Silver At State

Taylor Smith,
Sports Editor

Clarion-Goldfield-Dows senior MaKayla Beisel had a busy morning last week at Drake Stadium in Des Moines. The standout hurdler and multi-time state qualifier found her way to the podium last Friday with her best finish ever on Iowa's biggest stage.

Beisel started her day with the 100-meter hurdles and clocked a 15.83. She finished just outside of qualifying for the finals, but still had her best ever finish at state for 10th place. Leah Bolluyt of Spirt Lake took 1st in 14.66.

Just an hour later, it was time for MaKayla to shift her focus to the 2A 400-meter hurdles. After finishing 19th in the grueling event as a freshman in 1:11.40 and 17th as a sophomore with a time of 1:09.55, Beisel broke through with a personal best time of 1:05.00 for an outstanding 2nd place finish. Van Meter's Madison Boese won the event by a nose in 1:04.73. To top it all off, Beisel went on high jump 5'0" to tie for 13th in the final event of her incredible career at Drake Stadium. Rachel Schany of Emmetsburg won after clearing 5'6".



MaKayla Beisel cleared 4' 10" on her first attempt at state. (Photo: John Jensen)



MaKayla Beisel keeps pace with the field in the 400-meter hurdles. (Photo: John Jensen)

Hefti Walk-Off Gives Cowboys First Win

Taylor Smith,
Sports Editor

Last week, the Cowboy baseball team started their season with three games in two days.

Weather conditions initially prevented Webster City and Clarion-Goldfield-Dows from meeting early last week, but the two schools were finally able to begin their respective baseball seasons with a doubleheader on May 21st at Webster City High School.

The Lynx made quick work of Clarion-Goldfield-Dows in Game 1, and Webster City's Brady Asklund two-run walk-off homer in the bottom of the 4th gave them the 16-0 win. Lynx right fielder Alex Staley led all hitters

with eight RBIs, and starter Braylon Dvyyg pitched four frames of hitless baseball.

The Cowboys were able to generate some offense in Game 2, but the game was still a blowout. The balanced Lynx walked away with an 18-6 victory and conference sweep to open their season 2-0.

C-G-D center fielder Brandon Stein had a single and two stolen bases, and first baseman Chaz Lane added two RBIs and a pair of singles to lead the Cowboys. Left fielder Ryland Morgan had a single and two RBIs in the loss, and Huxley Lingenfelter struck out two and walked four in 2.1 innings pitched.

After that rough start to their season, it appeared that the Cowboys would

have to accept a similar outcome just one night later at a game in Manson. Trailing 9-0 to the Cougars in the 5th inning, the Cowboys miraculously rallied to a 10-9 victory after Kolton Hefti's two-run, walk-off single in the bottom of the 7th.

Ethan Hasty and Jacob Ruba both had crucial RBI singles in the bottom of the 6th, and reliever Caleb Sweeney struck out three and walked three to notch the win on the mound.

Owen Sweeney added three RBIs for the red and black.

The Cowboys will host two non-conference games this week against West Bend-Mallard on Thursday and North Iowa on Friday.

Soccer Boys Win In Thrilling Fashion

Taylor Smith,
Sports Editor

Wright County United's boys and girls soccer teams both had some important games last week with postseason implications.

On Tuesday night, the boys would battle in a hard-fought, 2-1 win over Iowa Falls-Alden in the first round of Class 3A Substate 6 play.

After a scoreless first half, Santiago De Leon Juarez found the back of the net on a free kick to put Wright County on the board. With less than twenty minutes left to play, Iowa Falls-Alden responded with a goal to

tie the contest at 1-1. In the game's final minute, the Cadets would commit a crucial penalty and give Santiago De Leon Juarez another free opportunity. The sophomore defender converted the clutch goal and gave Wright County the lead for good.

The 4-9-2 United advanced to play #1 (3A) Dallas Center-Grimes on Tuesday, May 27th.

Wright County's girls played two non-conference games last week against 10-4 Iowa Falls-Alden. A second half goal from junior midfielder Kristel Becerra would not be

enough for Wright County on May 19th in Iowa Falls, and Adessa Gillespie's four goals led the Cadets to a commanding 5-1 victory.

The Cadets would shutout Wright County 5-0 when the two teams met again, this time in a Friday night Class 2A Region 1 Quarterfinal at Cadet Field.

With the win, Iowa Falls-Alden advanced to face #13 (2A) Cedar Rapids Marion.

Wright County finished their year with a record of 1-11-3. Sophomore forward Jany Morales Mejia had a team-high six goals on the season.

Wright County Shooting Association May 18, 2025

Limited				
Name	Points	Penalties	Time	Score
Mike Townsend	157	10	18.25	8.054
Cody Larue	162	0	25.99	6.233
Denney Marz	147	20	40.35	3.147
Lynn Barz	147	10	60.82	2.252

Open				
Name	Points	Penalties	Time	Score
Mike Townsend	162	0	17.90	9.204
Cody Larue	144	20	18.32	6.786
Lynn Barz	133	40	41.09	2.214

Optic				
Name	Points	Penalties	Time	Score
Cody Larue	160	0	18.37	8.709
Mike Townsend	142	20	16.35	7.461
Lynn Barz	151	10	50.51	2.79
Denney Marz	140	10	53.47	2.438

Revolver				
Name	Points	Penalties	Time	Score
Dennis Marz	175	0	81.11	2.157

Clarion Native's Great Grandson Graduates from Air Force Military

May 21, 2025 - Airman First Class Johnathan Canfield, a 2025 graduate of U.S. Air Force Basic Military Training, recently celebrated a major milestone in his military journey. The Airman's Coin Ceremony was held on April 30, followed by graduation on May 1 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland in Texas.

Johnny, the son of Nathan and Kim Canfield of Wood River, NE, grandson of Ron and Francine Canfield of Council Bluffs, IA, and great-grandson of the late Francis and Marie (Krysan) Sheffield of Clarion, IA, now continues his service by beginning technical training at Fort Gregg-Adams in Virginia. His training there will further prepare him for his role in the U.S. Air Force with the 155th Air Refueling Wing in Lincoln, NE.



Basic Military Training is an intensive program that transforms civilians into Airmen, emphasizing discipline, teamwork, and core

values of the Air Force. Johnny successfully completed the program, earning the title of Airman.

Notification to the Community Open Sites and Closed Enrolled (Needy area)

Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Community Schools are participating in the Summer Food Service Program. Meals will be provided to all children without charge and are the same for all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), age or disability, and there will be no discrimination during the course of the meal service. Meals will be provided, at a first come, first serve basis, at the sites and times listed below:

CGD High School Cafeteria
CGD Elementary Circle Drive
Goldfield Community Center
Dows Park Gazebo

Meals will be served Monday-Thursday from Monday, June 2nd, 2025 through Thursday, June 26th, 2025 at the above locations from 11:30am-12:15pm. Included in each meal service will be one lunch and one breakfast for the following day. Thursday's service will include additional meals for Friday.

USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on

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To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform


the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

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Flags were flying at the Fairview Cemetery in Dows for Memorial Day



(Photos: Sarah Duda)



United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service Iowa Ag News – Crop Progress & Condition



Little or no precipitation and warm temperatures allowed Iowa farmers 6.6 days suitable for fieldwork during the week ending May 18, 2025, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn and soybean planting made rapid progress. There were scattered reports of replanting as early planted crops in some areas had struggled to emerge with the dry conditions.

Topsoil moisture condition rated 8 percent very short, 37 percent short, 53 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture condition rated 6 percent very short, 34 percent short, 58 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus.

Corn planted reached 91 percent complete, 12 days ahead of last year and 4 days ahead of the 5-year average. Fifty-eight percent of corn had emerged,

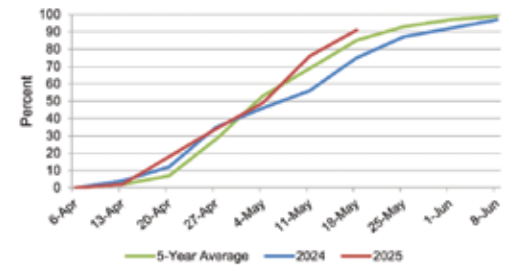
5 days ahead of last year's pace and 3 days ahead of normal. Eighty-four percent of the expected soybean crop has been planted just over 2 weeks ahead of last year and 1 week ahead of the 5-year average. Soybeans emerged reached 42 percent, 8 days ahead of last year and 6 days ahead of normal. Eighty-six percent of the State's oat crop has emerged. Oats headed reached 15 percent. Oat condition rated 0 percent very poor, 1 percent poor, 13 percent fair, 71 percent good and 15 percent excellent.

Twenty-three percent of the State's first cutting of alfalfa hay has been completed. Hay condition rated 78 percent good to excellent. Pasture condition rated 63 percent good to excellent. No livestock concerns were reported.

Crop Condition as of May 18, 2025

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Hay, all	0	2	20	60	18
Oats	0	1	13	71	15
Pasture and range	1	4	32	49	14

Corn Planted - Iowa



Crop Progress as of May 18, 2025

Item	Districts										State			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year avg	
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	
Corn planted	96	97	83	93	87	93	84	85	91	91	76	75	85	
Corn emerged	65	59	34	62	54	65	58	60	65	58	30	44	49	
Hay, alfalfa, 1st cutting	13	2	14	9	19	31	29	31	31	23	6	9	4	
Oats emerged	97	96	73	84	86	90	89	89	90	86	74	90	86	
Oats headed	9	9	6	13	9	18	38	39	17	15	2	15	5	
Soybeans planted	88	88	78	82	86	88	77	80	87	84	64	58	71	
Soybeans emerged	49	38	24	38	47	52	32	46	47	42	16	22	25	

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of May 18, 2025

Item	Districts										State		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	
	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	
Days suitable	6.1	6.4	6.6	6.4	6.6	6.8	6.8	6.9	7.0	6.6	6.4	3.8	
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	
Topsoil moisture													
Very short	7	3	9	12	4	13	12	7	9	8	5	1	
Short	48	29	35	35	27	38	42	40	51	37	22	6	
Adequate	44	67	54	53	61	47	46	50	38	53	70	77	
Surplus	1	1	2	0	8	2	0	3	2	2	3	16	
Subsoil moisture													
Very short	6	1	8	14	3	7	12	2	1	6	5	4	
Short	39	17	27	46	23	38	44	33	42	34	24	14	
Adequate	54	79	64	39	70	55	44	62	55	58	67	73	
Surplus	1	3	1	1	4	0	0	3	2	2	4	9	

The complete report can be found on the USDA NASS website at www.nass.usda.gov/Publications.



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Iowa Preliminary Weather Summary

Provided by Justin Glisan, Ph.D., State Climatologist Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

Reports from the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and maps from the Midwestern Regional Climate Center reflect data collected from 7:00 A.M. Central Time May 12, 2025 through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on May 18, 2025.

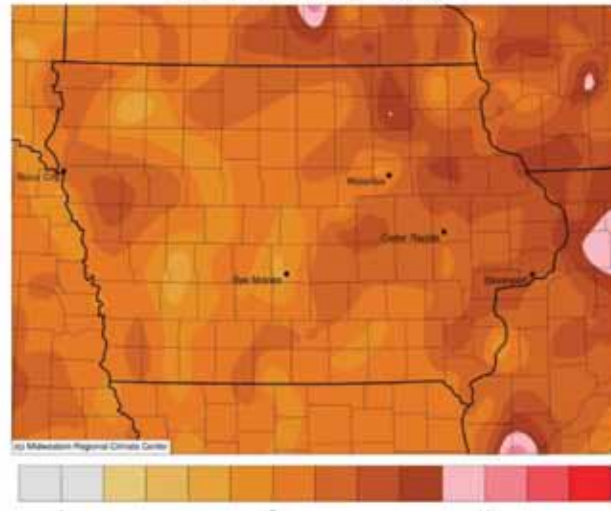
Much of southern and eastern Iowa reported rain-free conditions with departures approaching 1.20 – 1.40 inches below normal through the reporting period. Only stations in northwest Iowa received more than a few tenths of an inch. Unseasonably warm temperatures also persisted with a statewide average temperature of 65.0 degrees, 4.1 degrees above normal.

Sunday (11th) afternoon temperatures were in the upper 80s and low 90s northwest while upper 70s were observed southeast under sunny skies. Winds turned east to east-southeasterly on Monday (12th) morning with low temperatures in the 50s. Daytime temperatures rose into the 80s with low relative humidity and sunshine. Very isolated showers clipped the Iowa-Illinois border just after midnight, bringing meager totals to a handful of stations; Park View (Scott County) collected 0.01 inch while

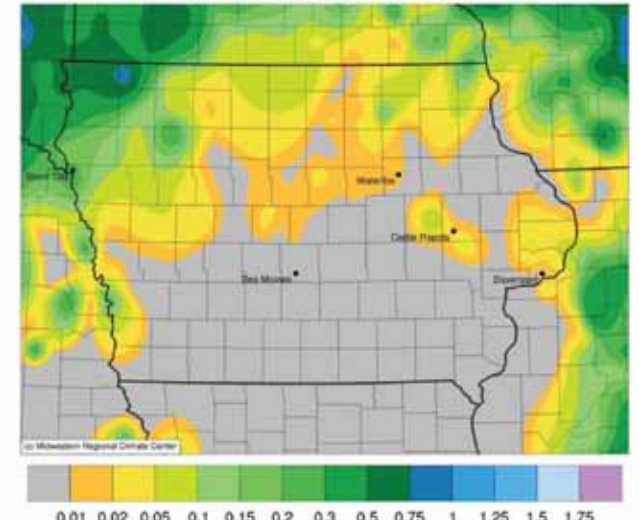
Camanche (Clinton County) registered 0.08 inch. Tuesday (13th) dawned with morning temperatures in the upper 50s and low 60s with mostly sunny skies. Afternoon temperatures warmed into the 80s with winds out of a southerly direction and spotty clouds in northeastern Iowa, where light showers popped up. Several stations reported minor amounts, ranging from 0.03 inch in Waukon (Allamakee County) to 0.31 inch in Ionia (Chickasaw County). Wednesday (14th) was mirror-image in terms of temperature and wind behavior with cloud cover increasing towards the end of the day as a low pressure center moved into South Dakota.

A line of stronger thunderstorms pushed across the northwest corner of Iowa overnight into Thursday (15th). Rain totals were locally heavy with 0.55 inch in Rock Rapids (Lyon County) to 0.77 inch in Sibley (Osceola County). Winds gradually shifted easterly through the day as a cold front swept west to east. Temperatures varied from low 60s northwest, behind the front, to upper 80s southeast. Winds swung back to the southwest by Friday (16th) with clear morning conditions and temperatures in the mid 50s to low 60s. Several lines of light showers ushered through the state's northern half with many stations collecting less than 0.10

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals
May 12, 2025 to May 18, 2025



Accumulated Precipitation (in)
May 12, 2025 to May 18, 2025



inch; Sibley observed an additional 0.29 inch with 0.14 inch at Le Mars (Plymouth County) and Orange City (Sioux County). The pattern quieted down into Saturday (17th) with a somewhat damp and chilly start to the day as temperatures held in the 40s with gusty northwesterly winds. Skies cleared from west to east in the afternoon with upper 50s and low 60s statewide. Clouds increased into Sunday (18th) morning over portions of northern Iowa with lows in the 30s to mid 40s.

Weekly rain totals ranged from no accumulation south and east to 1.06 inches in Sibley. The statewide weekly average rainfall was 0.05 inch; the normal is 1.01 inch.

Davenport Municipal Airport (Scott County) reported the week's high temperature of 94 degrees on the 15th, 22 de-

grees above normal. Mason City (Cerro Gordo County) reported the week's low temperature of 32 degrees on the

18th, 16 degrees below normal. Soil temperatures were in the upper 50s to low 60s statewide as of Sunday.

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