



The Wright County MONITOR



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Haze the Therapy Dog: Bringing Comfort to Wright County

Amanda Rink, Editor

In Wright County, emergency management isn't only about sirens, storm warnings, and disaster drills. The county's Emergency Management Director, Jarika Beecher, works every day with first responders, hospitals, and public health to keep the community prepared and supported when emergencies happen.

Recently, that mission gained an unexpected helper: a four-legged partner who brings calm and comfort when people need it the most. Haze, a red fox English Labrador, is Wright County's new therapy dog in training!

Still a young pup, Haze is already making a difference in the lives of the people she meets. Each morning, she comes bounding through the side door of the sheriff's office and makes a beeline to dispatch, where her day begins with tail wags and greetings for the team. From there, she'll wander into the sheriff's office for a quick visit or trot to the courthouse to say hello to county staff. "She gets to start everyone's day off positively," Beecher said.

Haze is part of a larger effort by Crisis Canines, an organization that develops therapy dog teams to work alongside first responders. These dogs and their handlers train for up to 18 months, becoming certified to provide support after traumatic events in hospitals, schools, and even in courtrooms. While Haze isn't certified to respond

to traumatic events just yet, that training will begin after her first birthday. For now, she mostly observes and participates in community events. Recently, she tagged along at the third-grade Safety Day Camp in Wright County with her mentor dog, Maverick.

Beecher's inspiration to bring Haze to Wright County actually came from Maverick, Kossuth County's Crisis Canine. "Maverick was just a really chill guy," Beecher explained. "I saw how well he worked, and I thought, this could help our county too."

The choice was also personal. Beecher lost her husband to cancer last November, and raising Haze became both a professional mission and a source of personal healing. "I knew a therapy dog not only helps the county, but it also benefits me. It gives me a purpose to come to work every day and find joy in what I'm doing."

For all her important duties, Haze is still very much a puppy. Beecher describes her as a "goofball who loves to play." She proved the point by chasing her tail for the most of my visit to their office.

At home, Haze lives with Beecher, her one-year-old son, and two other dogs. Haze's playful yet gentle personality makes her perfect for therapy work and a wonderful family companion. When the workday is done, she unwinds like any dog, playing with her housemates, lounging around, chasing her tail, and spending time with her favorite little human.



The county's Emergency Management Director, Jarika Beecher, works every day with first responders, hospitals, and public health to keep the community prepared and supported when emergencies happen. Now she has a new sidekick, who will soon be providing comfort to Wright County. (Photo: Amanda Rink)

When Haze turns one, she will head to the Crisis Response Academy for 40 hours of intensive training with master K9 trainers, veterinary professionals, and mental health experts. Once certified, she will be able to assist with crisis response throughout the county and beyond, supporting first responders, visiting hospitals and schools, and even helping during traumatic events.

But Beecher says Haze is already making an impact. "She doesn't really know what's going on in

the world, she just brings a smile to someone's face. There's no harm in that," she said, giving Haze a fond pat.

With her wagging tail, gentle eyes, and goofball personality, Haze reminds Wright County that sometimes, the best kind of first response is comfort.

The Wright County Monitor will be there to follow Haze's journey, checking back in when she graduates from her training and officially takes her place as Wright County's very own crisis response dog.

Landowners push back at Summit Carbon Solutions during presentation to Wright County Supervisors

Amanda Rink, Editor

September 29, 2025- The Wright County Board of Supervisors opened its Monday meeting with routine business before turning to a presentation from Summit Carbon Solutions, whose proposed carbon pipeline continues to draw pointed questions from Wright County landowners.

Kylie Lange, project manager for Summit, delivered the update, highlighting changes in the company's leadership and pipeline plans, while acknowledging ongoing disputes with landowners ahead of a judicial review of the project which is scheduled for October 10.

Lange told supervisors that the project now operates under a new management team and a new CEO, Joe Griffin, who she invited the board to engage with directly.

Summit outlined a slate of financial arrangements tied to the project. Landowners, Lange explained, would receive payments ranging from upfront and spread out compensation to equity investment options. Once the pipeline is operational, property owners hosting pipe could expect between 25 and 50 cents per foot annually for the life of the project. Summit also offers a \$500 payment for survey access and has committed at least \$96,000 to Wright County's emergency management fund prior to operations.

For the county as a whole, Summit Carbon Solutions presented an estimated \$3 million in taxes and an annual county-wide pipeline payment between 25 cents and \$1.25 per foot for the proposed 46.30 miles in Wright County.

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Toy Gun Incident Reported at CGD Elementary, Everyone Safe

Amanda Rink, Editor

A Clarion-Goldfield-Dows (CGD) elementary student brought a toy gun to school last week, according to a letter sent to families by the district.

School officials emphasized that the item was not a real weapon, and at no point were students or staff in danger. However, administrators said they take situations involving items resembling weapons seriously.

In the letter, the district said staff responded immediately, contacted the student's parents, and issued a consequence to the child.

"We want to remind all families that toys resembling weapons, even if they are plastic or non-functional, are not allowed at school," the district's message read. "These items can cause unnecessary fear or distraction and take away from the safe and positive environment we work hard to maintain for all students."

The Monitor reached out to the Clarion Police Department for comment, and according to CPD Chief Terhark: The police were not informed of the incident and "the officer on duty wasn't dispatched to the school."

Area Headlines

Belmond

The time-honored Cattleman's restaurant, located at the Belmond golf course, is under new management. The menu keeps to its original roots.

Dows

The Dows Golf Course will hold a 'Chili Dipper Two Person Best Shot' on October 12 beginning at 10:00 A.M. Sign up online or at the course for \$30.00, free chili meal and hole prizes.

Goldfield

Down Memory Lane will host a wood carving of a bald eagle on October 7th. The carving will start around 9:00 in the morning, and take most of the day to complete.

Hampton

Veterans Dennis Horst, Dawn Galindo and Vern Muller were honored with Quilts of Valor during a veterans picnic at Harriman Park.

"This meant a great deal to me," Horst shared with The Hampton Chronicle. "I had never felt proud of what I did during the Vietnam War. But now I'm proud of what I did, and I would have loved to make a career out of it."

Rowan

For the first time in years, citizens will choose between two candidates for Mayor: current Mayor Lennea L. Groom and Dale Hollman.

Clarion Wastewater Bypass Draws State Attention; City Says Action Prevented Property Damage

Amanda Rink, Editor

According to a letter sent to Clarion city officials in August from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the city's wastewater treatment facility had a violation in July 2025. Records show that an untreated wastewater bypass occurred on July 19, 2025, following a period of wet weather.

While Clarion received only a notice of violation and no fine, neighboring Eagle Grove is facing much steeper consequences. The DNR recently issued Eagle Grove a \$10,000 fine after years of repeated wastewater violations.

The DNR says such bypasses are a violation of state law, which prohibits the discharge of untreated or partially treated sewage into the environment. The Iowa Code reads that while it is a violation of law, there are instances in which a bypass is permitted.

The Iowa Code reads: 567—63.6(455B) Bypasses and upsets. 63.6(1) Prohibition. Bypasses from any portion of a treatment facil-

ity or from a sanitary sewer collection system designed to carry only sewage are prohibited. The department may not assess a penalty against a permittee for a bypass if the permittee has complied with all of the following:

a. The bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage.

During the time the bypass occurred, Clarion was experiencing an extreme weather event beginning at about 4:00 A.M. Rain came heavy and fast onto the town. The bypass was chosen to prevent property damage to the citizens of Clarion.

According to an article on the DNR's website: "Heavy rainfall can overload wastewater collection systems and underground sewer pipes carrying sewage to a treatment plant. With sewage pipes overwhelmed, excess water has nowhere to go and can back up into basements through floor drains. Bypassing can lower the water level and alleviate pressure in the col-

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Wright County Prepares for 2025 Local Elections

Amanda Rink, Editor

Voters across Wright County will soon head to the polls for the 2025 school and city elections. With contested races in both education and city government, citizens will have their say on the leadership that directly impacts their everyday lives.

School Board Elections Belmont-Klemme Community School District

• District #4 Director (Vote for one): Richard C. McDaniel is the sole candidate.

• At-Large Director (Vote for two): A competitive four-way race features Cody Ostendorf, Gary Berkland, John Wacker, and Melissa Arnold.

Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Community School District

• Clarion District #1 Director (Vote for two): Carlos Leyva Jr., Alison Marshall, Joseph Corrow, and Megan Ring are all vying for seats.

• Dows District #3 Director (Vote for one): SheRee Wharton

Eagle Grove Community School District

• At-Large Director (Vote for two): Angie Capsel and Aaron Parrott

City Elections Belmont

• Mayor (2-year term): Frank Beminiio and Calista Henry

running.

• Council At-Large (2-year term, TFV): Earl Kalkwarf

• Hospital Trustee (4-year term, vote for two): Troy Watne and Terri Havens

Public Measure WB will also appear on the ballot.

Clarion

• Mayor (4-year term): Rod Heiden is running unopposed.

• Council At-Large (4-year term, vote for three): Daniel Hennigar, Nick McOllough, and Dave Flurer are all running for reelection unopposed.

• Council At-Large (2-year term, TFV): Elmarie Nel is also running unopposed.

Dows

• Mayor (2-year term): Larry Klatt is seeking reelection.

• Council At-Large (4-year term, vote for three): Craig E. Russell, Richard Mark Echelberger, Loren Liemann, and William A. Stuck.

Eagle Grove

• Mayor (2-year term): Michael Boyd is running unopposed.

• Council At-Large (4-year term): Marcus Spangler

• Council Ward 2 (4-year term): Michael Weland

• Council Ward 4 (4-year term): No candidate is currently listed.

Galt

• Mayor (2-year term): Steve Chambers

• Council At-Large (2-year term, vote for five): Joshua

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Check out  Sports on page 9

Clarion Waste Water continued from page 1

lection system, keeping sewage from backing up into basements, which could present health risks.”

City Administrator Clint Middleton shared with The Wright County Monitor that the wastewater expelled into the creek east of Clarion was mostly rainwater, not sewage as most would think first when they read wastewater. However, even diluted wastewater can still contain bacteria and other pollutants, which is why the DNR requires strict reporting of all bypasses. There is a sewage slip lining project in the works for select pipes in Clarion to prevent excessive use of wastewater bypasses in the future.

The DNR’s enforcement order against Eagle Grove cited sewage backups into homes, untreated discharges during heavy rain, and even a diesel contamination incident in 2024 that left some residents with fuel-tainted water in their basements. Officials said the city delayed needed sewer repairs for years, which led to environmental damage and health concerns. One event in 2016 saw more than 15 million gallons of wastewater discharged.

Residents interested in reviewing official DNR documents can find them through the state’s online database at <https://programs.iowadnr.gov/DocumentSearch>.

Local Elections continued from page 1

A. Weis, Shallon J. Weis, and Jacob A. Weis have filed. **Goldfield**

- Mayor (2-year term): Gabriel Fiscus
- Council At-Large (4-year term, vote for three): Marcella Duncalf and Anthony Meinke

Rowan

- Mayor (2-year term): Voters will choose between Lennea L. Groom and Dale Hollman

- Council At-Large (4-year term, vote for three): Virgil Park

Woolstock

- Mayor (2-year term): No candidate has filed.
- Council At-Large (4-year term, vote for three): Scott Myers and Bart Green are seeking election.

Clarion Lions Club Fall Pork Loin Dinner 11 A.M. - 1 P.M. October 5, 2025 at the CGD High School

The group is fundraising to support the community by providing eye exams for students, scholarships, adopt leader dogs for the blind, CGD FFA, and support local organizations like the food pantry. Ask a Lion about purchasing tickets for the meal or buy tickets at the door the day of! Carry-Out & Dine-In Available

Regular Meal: \$10
Children’s Hotdog Meal 12 and Under: \$6

Iowa FFA Foundation Welcomes Shannon Latham as New Executive Director



Shannon Latham

The Iowa FFA Foundation is excited to announce Shannon Latham as its next executive director, marking a bold step forward in advancing agricultural education and leadership development across Iowa. A lifelong advocate for agriculture, youth leadership, and rural vitality, she has consistently turned vision into impact.

Her service and leadership have been recognized with honors such as the Advocate for Iowa Agriculture Award (2021, Iowa Soybean Association), the Greenlee School of Journalism Professional Achievement Award (2020), and induction into the FarmHer Hall of Fame (2016).

A Future of Promise As executive director, Shannon will lead the Iowa FFA Foundation in forging stronger partnerships, expanding opportunities for donors to invest in tomorrow’s leaders, and ensuring agricultural education continues to thrive.

“We believe Shannon’s leadership will inspire new possibilities for the Foundation and for the organizations we serve,” said Iowa FFA Foundation Board President Jason Berklund. “Her combination of business expertise, public service, and lifelong passion for agriculture perfectly positions her to connect donors with the transformational impact their support makes possible.”

Shannon and her husband John reside in Franklin County. They are the proud parents of Ian and Ellie. Outside of work, Shannon enjoys gardening, reading, and traveling — passions that reflect her lifelong love of growth, discovery, and connection.

in agriculture. That double major has really benefited me throughout my career.”

Shannon’s career reflects the very mission of FFA — to grow leaders, build communities, and strengthen agriculture. From founding her own communications firm and launching the agritourism destination Enchanted Acres, to championing agricultural literacy, youth leadership, and rural vitality, she has consistently turned vision into impact.

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Eagle Grove High School Students Experience “Real Money. Real World.”

Thirty-four Eagle Grove High School students stepped into the shoes of working adults through the Real Money. Real World. program on September 22–23, gaining first-hand experience in financial decision-making and money management.

The program, coordinated by Iowa State University Extension and Outreach in partnership with Eagle Grove High School, helps students understand the connection between education, career choices, and financial stability. Students participated in four preparatory lessons before engaging in a hands-on spending simulation where they navigated real-world expenses such as housing, childcare, food, transportation, and insurance.

During the simulation, students were given life scenarios, including jobs, family situations, and salaries, and were challenged to balance their monthly budgets. The activity highlighted the importance of distinguishing between needs and wants, the reality of taxes and deductions,

and the impact of lifestyle choices on financial security.

“Students walk away realizing how everyday decisions—like what career path they choose or whether they save—affect their long-term financial well-being,” said Paige Roberts, K-12 Program Coordinator with Iowa State Extension and Outreach in Wright County. “It’s a safe place for them to make mistakes, learn, and practice skills they’ll use for the rest of their lives.”

Community volunteer Amanda Rosenkilde from First State Bank in Clarion played a key role in making the simulation realistic. Her insight as an Ag/Commercial Lender helped guide students through the decision-making process in the simulation. Her participation connected classroom learning to real-world experiences, reinforcing the importance of financial literacy as a life skill. “It was a privilege to partner with ISU Extension and bring Real Money. Real World. to Eagle Grove High School,” said Amanda. “Watching students engage with real-



life financial scenarios and build practical money management skills was inspiring. Programs like this are a powerful investment in our future workforce and community.”

Real Money. Real World. is a program developed by Ohio State University Extension and delivered locally through Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. It aligns with Iowa Department of Education

financial literacy standards and prepares students with the tools to evaluate career choices, manage money wisely, and plan for the future.

For more information about Real Money. Real World. or other youth programs, contact ISU Extension and Outreach Wright County at 515-532-3453 or visit www.extension.iastate.edu/wright.

Supervisors continued from page 1

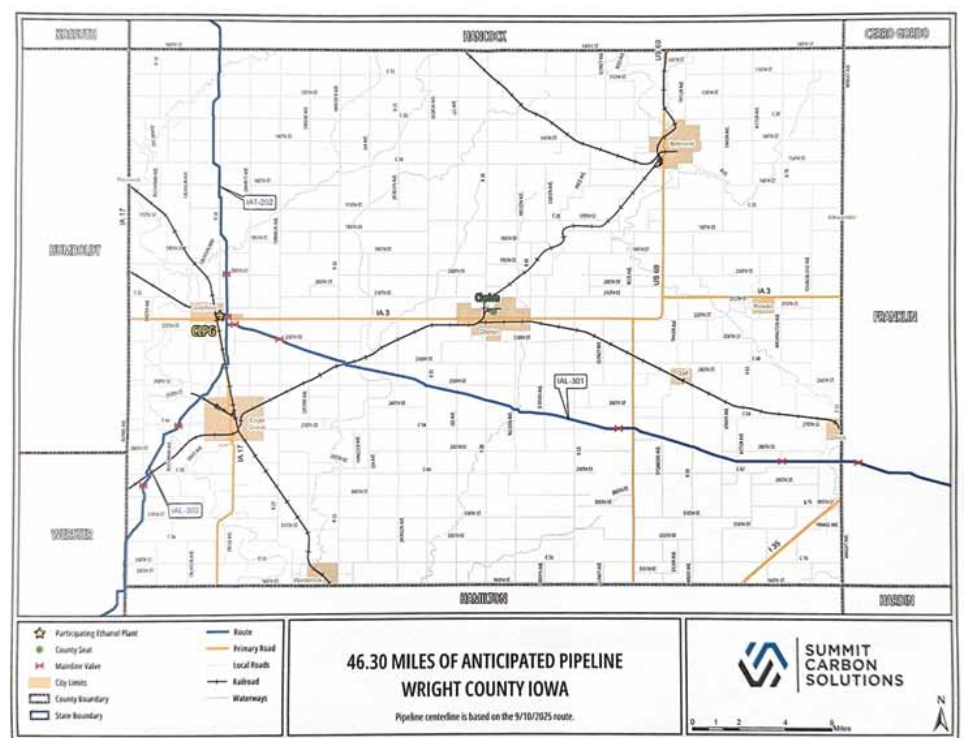
Summit recently filed amendments with the Iowa Utilities Commission, including the addition of a plant in Denison, reroutes around railroads, and an increase in pipe diameter from 8 to 12 inches along one leg of the system in Wright County. The company also adjusted language in its permit request, changing a condition requiring passage through South Dakota to a “viable location.”

Some land easement agreements will need updates due to the pipe-size change, Lange said.

Despite Summit’s reassurances, landowners voiced sharp criticism. Bob Ritter dismissed the company’s proposed \$330 annual payment as “a joke” and promised, “There’s no talking anymore, we’ll see you in court.” Mrs. Ritter, added that “money is not the issue,” echoing widespread distrust among affected property owners because of the company’s use of eminent domain.

Landowners also expressed frustration over past requests for pipeline route adjustments that Summit rejected, only to see the company now pursuing its own modifications. “Why is it okay for you to make changes in pipe size and location when we were told adamantly no changes can be made?” Bob Ritter pushed.

Board members pressed Summit on environmental monitoring, including questions about water usage and how carbon sequestration would be tracked. Lange explained that monitoring tools compare emissions captured at ethanol plants with amounts stored underground. Federal regulators overseeing sequestration permits would ultimately



Summit Carbon Solutions delivered an updated pipeline project map and shared changes in the company’s leadership. During the meeting, the company representatives faced pushback from local landowners. (Map provided by Wright County Board of Supervisors)

verify accuracy, she said.

Supervisor Betty raised concerns about water hydrology and whether Summit’s system allows recycling. Lange responded that recycling is possible, though she did not offer specifics if it would be used.

Skepticism focused on the project’s financial underpinnings. Some residents questioned whether Summit’s pursuit is driven less by climate goals than by federal 45Q tax credits, which provide subsidies for carbon sequestration. Lange acknowledged the credits play a role but argued that ethanol plants need the pipeline to remain competitive in emerging low-carbon markets, including sustainable aviation fuel.

“We didn’t build the

regulation,” Lange said. “We are helping the ethanol plants adapt to it ... Iowa’s corn production isn’t going down. We’ve got to find an outlet to use that corn.”

Other concerns ranged from drainage tile damage to questions about why Summit’s mailings to landowners were postmarked from Texas rather than its headquarters in Ames. As discussion wandered from concerns to criticism, Summit representatives stated that pipeline workers and emergency responders

would live in the communities they serve.

Many residents left the meeting unconvinced, with one farmer stating, “You’ve already rung the bell,” before leaving the meeting.

Summit is planning a public open house in Fort Dodge on November 13 at the Webster County Fairgrounds (West Wing) beginning at 11:00 A.M.

Residents will have the opportunity to voice questions and concerns while meeting the new management team.

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reading between the lines

with Amanda Rink

Insecurities During Kids Eat Free Night

Amanda Rink,
Editor
"Raising a teenager is hard... but being a teenager is hard, too." - *Some-one on the Internet*

The other night over pizza at Pizza Ranch (because kids eat free on Tuesdays and I'm not passing up free food, ever) my 16-year-old daughter Hayden was critiquing her most recent school photo.

Truth be told, I never buy the photos. They just never bring out the best of the kids. One year I paid good money for a picture of said daughter with shadows all over her photo which made it look super creepy.

Besides, I take enough photos of them myself... usually in the five seconds before someone blinks, cries, or starts wrestling in the background.

Anyway, Hayden was going on and on about her photo while Travis and I stayed quiet, chomping down on that blueberry dessert pizza, letting her work through her insecurities.

Finally, she asked, "Why didn't you tell me I [insert

latest 'problem area' here]?"

There comes a time in every parent's life when our kids begin to see themselves through a different lens. It happens sooner for girls, I feel. Suddenly, the little one who once thought they were unstoppable in mismatched socks and glittery hair bows is standing in front of the mirror, frowning because their hair won't lay down or their favorite jeans are suddenly too small.

And we, as mothers, are caught in the middle. While we know those jeans they seem to love so much aren't exactly flattering, why would we ruin that for them? Do we reassure them they're perfect just the way they are? (Because they are, and I'm sure yours are too.) Do we step in with advice and risk sounding critical? Or do we stay quiet, hoping they'll eventually realize that half these "problems" are just trends made up by bored adults in marketing departments?

I usually pick the last option. Maybe it was wrong, because my daughter sure let me have it over dinner, even throwing in a dramatic, "I hate you." Ouch. (Side note: if you haven't been "hated" by your teenager in the middle of Pizza Ranch on kids-eat-free night, have you really parented?)

It's a thin line, this role we walk. On one hand, we want to protect our children from the harsh voices of the world. On the other, we don't want

to leave them unprepared when those voices eventually find them. Because they do, they always do.

I've come to believe our job isn't to point out what's "wrong." It's to be the safe place where our kids can ask, and know they'll hear the truth spoken with love. Sometimes that means saying, "You look great, but if you want my honest opinion, I can help." Other times, it means sitting beside them in their frustration, reminding them that worth isn't measured in mirrors, makeup, test scores, or how many names pop up in their recently contacted.

Parenting teenagers is a balancing act of listening, guiding, laughing, and stepping back. And sometimes, it's reminding yourself that their dramatic Pizza Ranch "I hate you" isn't actually about you... it is more about them learning who they are.

At the end of the day, maybe the best gift we can give our teens is this: the assurance that no matter how hard the journey feels, they don't have to walk it alone... unless they want to.

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.

Shooting Guns

My 14-year-old granddaughter has expressed an interest in going squirrel hunting with me. I told her that would be great, but she needs to practice shooting my .22 rifle so I am sure she will be safe, and she can hit what she is aiming at.

She shot my rifle some last year, but we decided we should go out and shoot again. My grandson wanted to shoot my BB pistol, and I needed to try out the black powder rifle to make sure it was ready for deer season.

We all headed out to a friend's house where it is safe to shoot. He had a target already set up against an old tree. My grandson helped me load up the BB pistol, so he got to shoot first. He stood about 15 feet away and I retaught him how to properly hold the gun and all the safety rules about shooting a pistol. Once he was ready, he took a few shots, and we went to inspect the target. He was shooting a bit high, so I gave him pointers on aiming. He re-adjusted and then placed multiple shots close to the bulls eye. He seemed disappointed that all the shots were not right in the middle of the target. I explained to him that shooting a pistol is very difficult and that it would take years of practice to hit the center each time. I even gave it a few tries to see how I could do it. Not that much better.

Next it was my granddaughter's turn with the .22 rifle. She helped load the gun and we went through all the safety measures she needed to know. I had taken a chair along and a shooting stick for her to lean the gun on. I was guessing that when she



went hunting with me, we would be sitting on chairs in my small tent blind so that is how I wanted her to practice. My rifle has a small scope on it, and when she shot last year, she was able to sight through the scope. This year she was having a very difficult time seeing the target through the scope, so we decided to take the scope off.

Once we had the scope off, she still was having trouble with the chair and the shooting stick. She just wanted to give it a try just standing and shooting the gun. I have forgotten how good a 14-year-olds eyes are, and how steady they can be. Much better than old man grandpa. She did very well and after a few practice shots that went high she was placing her shots right next to the bulls eye.

I had her try leaning against a tree for support, but she just did much better standing on her own. When it was my turn, I tried just standing and shooting and I was not steady enough for a good shot. I leaned against a tree and did much better. At the end of our practice, I felt comfortable enough with her safety and shooting that I could take her hunting.

Next up was for me to try out the black powder rifle. I tried to hunt with this rifle last year for late season deer hunting, but when it came time to pull the trigger, the gun did not fire. I had spent the previous 3 days hunting in the rain, so I was guessing that the powder in the gun had gotten wet.

I loaded up the gun with the powder pellets and bullets and rammed everything tight down the barrel. I had a new target placed on another old tree and walked off about 50 yards. My first shot was going to be standing and shooting the gun. Normally when I am hunting, I always find a tree to rest on or use my shooting stick. Standing and shooting free hand is difficult and we old people tend to be a bit shaky.

I fired off my first shot with a roar from the rifle. Black powder shooting is loud and very smokey. After you shoot it is hard to see through the cloud of grey smoke. I went to look at the target and I could see I was a bit high with my shot. I needed to do better.

I then decided to sit down and use my shooting stick to learn the gun on. This is how I would normally hunt anyway, so I wanted to give it a try. With the shooting stick and sitting down I was much steadier. I fired off another round and went to inspect the target. I had just cut out the bottom of the bulls eye so I felt good about that.

I asked the grandkids if they wanted to shoot the black powder gun, but they said no. It was too loud. I then explained that now that we had fun it was time to head home and clean the guns. That is just part of shooting. My granddaughter helped take the guns apart and clean them so they would be ready to go for the next time. Hopefully we can get squirrel hunting soon.

Letter to the Editor

"Fiesta Cultural De Clarion" was a Delight!

Many congratulations are due for the people who imagined, supported, and also, ate, drank and danced the night away. I was there as a member of NIFCCN, aka North Iowa Food & Community Care Network. (We had a rock painting table!)

It was immediately evident that many generous sponsors were responsible for the great entertainment of the day, including bouncy houses, two great bands and the wonderful dance company in stunning authentic costumes. Fascinating!

The fountain structure in the park was remarkably filled with flowers and the stage was glittering and proudly festooned with flags of all of our home countries.

There seemed to be endless choices of delicious food and drinks to enjoy, but my favorite part of any public event is the opportunity for people watching. Such a pleasure! A warmth

encircled this gathering that had nothing to do with the temperature. Babies in strollers and primary school kids in charming national costumes came early and stayed late, safely in their parents' care. Teens and young adults were testing the social waters and the dancing that vigorously continued until the last call, included and engaged every one, no matter what age group.

The pleasant glow as the evening drew to a close reminded me somehow of "The Old Country" of my childhood in Belleville, IL among Czech neighbors and German family members, reminiscent of the kind and pleasant villages that exist in the sweet spots of the earth. It is our privilege to have among us old timers, those people and families that enrich our lives, our senses, our world and confirm our belief that we can indeed say, in the words of Louis Armstrong, "What a Wonderful World!"
Luanne Krabbe, Rowan

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* This news may not be published in the current issue.

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Regular employees in order of continuous years of service:
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Amanda Rink, Editor
Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

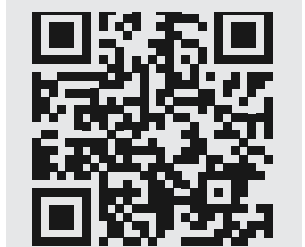
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In The Sky During October* David Voigts

October will be an interesting month in the sky. Unmistakable Saturn will rule the southern skies with a steady, pale-yellow light. Not only will it be a joy to observe, but its predictable motion, like the other orbiting planets and the Moon, can be used to find other stars and constellations. Currently, Saturn is in the constellation Pisces (the Fish) just to the lower left of the dim circlet of stars that represent the western fish. If the sky is not really dark, the circlet can best be observed with binoculars. It just fills the field of view of my wide-angle binoculars. The rest of Pisces extends as a string of stars from the northeastern part of the circlet, first to the east and then north to the eastern fish, but the stars are so dim that it is difficult to trace out the pattern.

Saturn and the circlet can be used to find the Great Square of Pegasus (the Winged Horse), which is above them. The Great Square is formed by four equally bright stars that form an almost perfect square that is tipped on one corner when rising or setting. It is about the size of a fist held at arm's length. It represents the front half of the winged horse. The back half never made it into the sky - or is traced out in the black of the sky. The winged horse always flies across the sky upside down. Its neck extends westward from the southwestern star of the Great Square as a line of two stars that turn up at the end to form the horse's face. Its front legs extend upward from the northwestern star of the Great Square. The upper star of each leg is easy to find close to that star of

the square. The rest of the legs extend northwestward but are dimmer.

The northeastern star of the Great Square is a part of both the Winged Horse and Andromeda (the Princess). The main stars of Andromeda extend northeastward as two slightly diverging curved lines of three stars. The outer, or southern line is brighter than the inner line of stars. If extended, the outer line will point to the brightest star in Perseus (the Hero). Some people see the rest of the stars of the constellation as a ragged letter K. I see a glob of stars.

In Greek mythology, Perseus was the son of Zeus and the mortal Danae. When an adult, he was sent by King Polydectes, who wanted to court Danae, on a mission to cut off the head of the Gorgon Medusa, beings so monstrous that if you looked at one, you were turned to stone. Perseus was successful, and Medusa's blood fell into the sea, mixed with sea foam, and Pegasus was born. Perseus then either rode away on the Winged Horse or flew beside him using the winged sandals that he had been given by the god Hermes (Roman, Mercury). On their flight, they came upon and rescued Andromeda, who her parents, Cassiopeia (the Queen) and Cepheus (the King), were reluctantly sacrificing to Cetus (the Sea Monster), but that is another story.

Observing Highlights
Oct. 5 The bright Moon will be close above Saturn. If the Moon is too bright to see Saturn, mark the spot and look again in a few days when the Moon has moved away.

Oct. 6 The full Moon tonight is the closest to the autumnal equinox, and as such, it is called the Harvest Moon. In olden days, this full Moon rising at sunset was important because it gave farmers additional light after sunset to harvest their crops. Also, at this time of the year the angle of the rising Moon is fairly flat, and as a result, the Moon rises only a few minutes later each night. It's almost like having a full Moon for several nights in a row. This can be observed by watching the rising Harvest Moon. It will move dramatically to the right as it rises.

Oct. 10 After they rise at about 10:00, the Moon will be to the upper left of Aldebaran, the brightest star in Taurus (the Bull) and farther to the lower right of Capella, the brightest star in Auriga (the Charioteer).

Oct. 13 After they rise shortly after midnight, the Moon will be above very bright Jupiter and to upper right of Castor and Pollux, below Castor, the twin stars of Gemini (the Twins).

Oct. 19 Just before dawn, the crescent Moon will be to the right of brilliant Venus, which is dropping closer to the Sun.

Oct. 24 In the early evening, the crescent Moon will be just below bright Antares in Scorpius (the Scorpion) very low in the southwestern sky. If you see them look to their right and a little lower for Mercury and dimmer Mars close to its upper right. Look about 20 minutes after sunset. Binoculars probably will be needed.

Oct. 29 Mercury will be at its highest for this orbit, but still very low in the western sky.

Moon Phase	Date	Rises	Highest Point	Sets	When Visible
Full moon	Oct. 6	Sunset	Midnight	Sunrise	All night
Last quarter	Oct. 13	Midnight	Sunrise	Noon	A.M.
New Moon	Oct. 21	Sunrise	Noon	Sunset	Not visible
First quarter	Oct. 29	Noon	Sunset	Midnight	P.M.

*Dates and times are approximate. Sources: StarDate, Jan-Feb. Vol. 53, No. 1. Chartrand III, M. R. Nat. Audubon Soc. Field Guide to the Night Sky. A. A. Krump, Inc., NY pub. 1995. SkyandTelescope.org

Republicans mourn Charlie Kirk, call for change at Iowa Faith and Freedom Coalition fundraiser

*Robin Opsahl
Iowa Capital Dispatch*

The death of conservative activist Charlie Kirk — and the national response — was a major talking point at the Iowa Faith and Freedom Coalition fall banquet for GOP speakers, who said his shooting was a call to action for Republicans.

U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem, U.S. Sen. Bernie Moreno of Ohio and Iowa Republicans shared their memories of the Turning Point USA cofounder at the annual fundraiser held in Des Moines. The event began with a moment of silence and prayer for Kirk and a memorial video.

The fatal shooting of Kirk Sept. 10 at Utah Valley University has fueled a national discussion among politicians and others about the need to prevent future instances of political violence and lower polarization. There has also been a significant

push to condemn and pursue punishments for people who celebrate or make controversial statements about the right-wing influencer, including in Iowa, where the Board of Regents directed state universities to investigate social media posts allegedly made by employees about Kirk.

Many on the slate of Republican speakers shared their personal experiences with Kirk. Noem, U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst and U.S. Rep. Ashley Hinson shared stories of their children watching videos of Kirk's speeches and debates online, and the importance of defending free speech in the wake of his death.

Noem said she stayed in close contact with Kirk during her time in public service, and shared a story of getting a text message from him the day before he was killed.

"When I went back to look at what the last text was that I

had gotten from him, I realized I hadn't replied to it," Noem said. "He had sent it to me the day before he passed away, and he said, 'We have to hold these mayors and governors accountable.' We have to hold them accountable. And I was traveling and meeting with other security ministers from other countries, and I had completely missed it. And I will forever be sick that I didn't respond to him."

She said she would have told Kirk, "I'm on it," and added, "I think he knows that."

Noem, as well as Moreno, are planning to attend the memorial service for Kirk, scheduled for Sunday in Glendale, Arizona. President Donald Trump and Vice President JD Vance will be in attendance, as will many other top Republican leaders from across the country. Moreno also shared his experience meeting Kirk, who asked him for support in founding Turning Point USA, and added, "it hasn't quite hit yet that Charlie's gone."

He said Kirk's killing is in part the result of the U.S. losing "its moral center of spirituality."

"I think what he would hope for us, more than anything else, is that we literally imagine this as a quite literal turning point in our country's history," Moreno said. "Where we just say, 'We're not going to allow this to happen. We will not lose this country for the next generation. We will do everything possible to spread the word, always speak

our minds, defend free speech and absolutely refuse to cede an inch to the lunatics that would take over this country."

Ernst said at the event the loss of spirituality, which Moreno called an "empty hole" in many people, is "rampant across the folks on the left in the Democratic Party."

"They are consumed by that darkness and that hole," Ernst said. "And that's why it is so easy to embrace abortion — abortion on demand. But it's also been very easy for them to be swallowed in that darkness and not valuing life, where they believe they can go out and take a life when they disagree with that person's position. And we saw that quite clearly a week and a half ago with the murder of Charlie Kirk."

Conservative CNN political commentator Scott Jennings, who gave the keynote address for the event, also linked Democrats and left-wing beliefs with Kirk's death. He said the Democratic Party wants to "control everything," from speech to acceptable vehicles and stoves.

"They want government to make decisions that you should be making for yourself and for your family," Jennings said. "And if you disagree, if you speak up, if you push back, as a matter of politics, or even as a matter of faith? Well, we saw what happened to Charlie. We saw what happened nearly to our president last summer. We saw what happened in Minneapolis. We saw what

happened in Nashville. Ladies and gentlemen, I submit to you tonight we have seen enough — enough."

Ernst addresses her retirement

Ernst also made comments at the fundraiser about her decision not to run for reelection in 2026 in one of her first public appearances since announcing her exit from the race. She said she was leaving the office to devote time with her family, in addition to bringing up a vow she made during her 2014 campaign to only serve two terms in the U.S. Senate.

"I also had made a commitment early on that I would serve two terms," Ernst said. "And so I have term limited myself and will be stepping aside because I think it's the right thing to do for the next generation."

Ernst said she supported Hinson's campaign for the position she currently holds, saying, "that seat belongs to you, the seat that I currently occupy."

As politicians shared their memories and thoughts on the incident, Faith and Freedom Coalition founder Ralph Reed also invoked Kirk, as well as Trump, who has faced assassination attempts, as he asked for financial support for the organization.

"I want you to think of the price that Charlie Kirk paid last Wednesday," Reed said. "He bore the ultimate burden. He paid the ultimate price. I want you to think about what President Trump and his family have been put through in the last 10 years — indicted, they tried to bankrupt him, they debanked the Trump Organization, they impeached him twice. And then after they did all that, they tried to kill him. You see, if you're not willing to put it all on the line, this goes away."

Speakers tout Trump immigration policies

In addition to speaking about Kirk, immigration was

a major topic for speakers at the event. Noem said Kirk was one of her biggest supporters in implementing Trump's immigration and deportation policies at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and spoke about her work with the president on his promises to increase border security and "build the wall."

Moreno, who was born in Columbia and immigrated with his family to the U.S. at a young age, said he believes more Latino voters will begin voting for conservatives in upcoming elections, saying many people in these communities have Republican values, on issues like faith, education, and on LGBTQ+ issues, saying, "there is no word for transgenderism in Spanish" and "family means a mom and dad together, married."

He also said he believed most legal immigrants from central and South America shared his perspective on immigration. He said it is "an honor to be welcomed to this country" legally, and that allowing undocumented immigrants to gain citizenship outside the established immigration process is insulting to those who went through proper channels.

"Imagine that somebody takes away that honor from you, and the way they take that honor away from you is by allowing people to come here illegally and then reward them," Moreno said. "Let the people skip you in the line be the ones who are somehow sympathetic — when in reality, you know, people do not hire illegal migrants because they're compassionate about illegals. They want to take advantage of those people, and that is the most horrifying idea that the Democrat Party has today. I find it insulting and I find it extremely demeaning."

Read more from Robin Opsahl online at IowaCapital Dispatch.com

Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE Wright County Supervisors Sept. 15, 2025 Minutes

September 15, 2025

Chairman Pro-Tem Kluss called the regular meeting of the Wright County Board of Supervisors to order at 9:00 a.m. Members present were Kluss, Bosch, Loux, and Ellis with Rasmussen present via zoom.

Motion by Ellis and seconded by Loux to approve the tentative agenda. Motion carries.

Minutes of the previous regular meeting of September 8, 2025 were read and approved.

Approved claims for payment.

Motion by Ellis and seconded by Bosch to approve the appointments of Sheila Cordero as Jail Administrator and Kristyn Hennigar as Assistant Jail Administrator. Motion carries.

Motion by Rasmussen and seconded by Ellis to receive and approve the filing for the Annual Urban Renewal Report for Fiscal Year 2025. Motion carries.

Motion by Loux and seconded by Rasmussen to approve Resolution 2025-30 for the Approval of Compromise Settlement Agreement with Central Iowa Juvenile Detention Center. By roll call vote: Ayes — Kluss, Bosch, Rasmussen, Loux, and Ellis; Nays — none. Resolution 2025-30 duly passes and reads as follows:

RESOLUTION OF THE WRIGHT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
RESOLUTION No. 2025-30

WHEREAS Wright County is a stakeholder in the Central Iowa Juvenile Detention Center (hereinafter CIJDC), and

WHEREAS the CIJDC is the Respondent in Hardin County Case No. CVCV102247, whereby Hardin County calls into question the validity of prior 28E agreements, and

WHEREAS the outcome of that litigation is uncertain, and Wright County has an interest in the outcome of that litigation, and

WHEREAS the CIJDC Commission has voted 22-5 to approve the attached compromise settlement agreement resolving the litigation, and

WHEREAS the compromise settlement agreement is a compromise between Hardin County and the CIJDC that acknowledges the membership of counties joining the CIJDC through 2012 and also allows the remaining counties to maintain certain benefits that the litigation does not otherwise guar-

antee, while also allowing the counties joining through 2012 to adopt a new 28E agreement and even vote to allow the remaining counties to regain full membership in the CIJDC, and

WHEREAS the Parties will file with the Court a consent decree memorializing the full terms and conditions of the Parties' compromise settlement agreement following approval of the compromise settlement by a majority of the member counties.

THEREFORE, the Wright County Board of Supervisors hereby approve and adopt the attached compromise agreement, and authorize the CIJDC to execute and present to the court a consent decree consistent with the attached compromise settlement.

Adam Clemons, Wright County Engineer, presented a posting for patrol operator out of the Eagle Grove Maintenance Facility. Motion by Ellis and seconded by Loux to approve the posting for a patrol operator out of the Eagle Grove Maintenance Facility with a starting wage at \$28.30, with a raise of \$0.25 after a successful six month review, and a full wage of \$28.80 after a successful one year review. Motion carries.

Clemons gave an update on the Secondary Roads Department.

The Board went into recess at 9:42 a.m. to act as Drainage District Trustees.

The Board came back into session at 9:53 a.m.

Ellis gave an update on the City of Woolstock Urban Renewal Area. They are currently working on a Development Agreement with NEW Cooperative. It was stated that the TIF dollars received from this Urban Renewal Area will help update the existing water plant in the City of Woolstock.

Kluss gave an update on the Economic Development Director position that is currently posted. The Economic Development Board has selected two candidates out of six applicants to do interviews with on Wednesday afternoon.

Motion by Rasmussen and seconded by Ellis to adjourn the meeting. Motion carries. Dean Kluss, Chairman Pro-Tem, Wright County Board of Supervisors Amanda Meyer, Wright County Auditor

PUBLIC NOTICE City of Clarion Special Session

The Clarion City Council met in Special session Friday August 19th, 2025, at 3:30pm in the Council Chambers with Mayor Heiden presiding. Present were Council members Dave Flurer, Dan Hennigar, Nick McOllough, and Mike Ennis (Elmarie Nel absent). Also, in attendance City Administrator Clint Middleton.

Mayor Heiden called the meeting to order.

Motioned by Flurer seconded by

McOllough to approve Resolution (25-55) authorizing and approving a Loan Agreement and providing for the issuance and securing the payment of \$12,200,000 Taxable Water Revenue Notes, Series 2025 (Motion passed 4-1).

Motioned by McOllough seconded by Flurer to adjourn. All Ayes. (Motion passed 4-0).

Respectfully Submitted,
Clint Middleton City Administrator

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Wed. October 1, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE Estate of Daniel Jon Wyman

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR WRIGHT COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DANIEL JON WYMAN ESPR017741

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To all persons interested in the Estate of Daniel Jon Wyman, deceased, who died on or about July 14, 2025:

You are hereby notified that on 09/16/2025, the undersigned was appointed Administrator of the estate.

Notice is hereby given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the Clerk of the above-named District Court, as provided by law, duly authenti-

cated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the date of second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.

Dated this 16th day of September, 2025.

Attorney for the Administrator THE JOHNSON LAW FIRM, PLC BY: Philip M. Johnson Attorney for the Estate 216 N Commercial Ave PO Box 109 Eagle Grove, Iowa 50533 Administrator of the Estate Shannon Wyman 1913 S 4th Ave Marshalltown, IA 50158 Date of Second Publication day of October 8, 2025

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Wed. October 1 & 8, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE City of Dows 2025 Financial Report

STATE OF IOWA 2025 FINANCIAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025 CITY OF DOWS, IOWA DUE: December 1, 2025	16209900300000 CITY OF DOWS PO Box 395 DOWS IA 50071-0395 POPULATION: 521
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NOTE - The information supplied in this report will be shared by the Iowa State Auditor's Office, the U.S. Census Bureau, various public interest groups, and State and federal agencies.

ALL FUNDS				
	Governmental (a)	Proprietary (b)	Total Actual (c)	Budget (d)
Revenues and Other Financing Sources				
Taxes Levied on Property	199436		199,436	182,118
Less: Uncollected Property Taxes-Levy Year	0		0	0
Net Current Property Taxes	199,436		199,436	182,118
Delinquent Property Taxes	0		0	0
TIF Revenues	0		0	0
Other City Taxes	67,182	0	67,182	48,595
Licenses and Permits	1,228	0	1,228	1,450
Use of Money and Property	8,462	38	8,500	3,000
Intergovernmental	112,636	0	112,636	103,153
Charges for Fees and Service	33,965	181,995	215,960	229,210
Special Assessments	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	13,910	0	13,910	5,500
Other Financing Sources, Including Transfers in	9,663	0	9,663	9,663
Total Revenues and Other Sources	446,482	182,033	628,515	582,689
Expenditures and Other Financing Uses				
Public Safety	74,891		74,891	80,626
Public Works	86,330		86,330	109,875
Health and Social Services	3,825		3,825	4,100
Culture and Recreation	104,359		104,359	138,799
Community and Economic Development	0		0	0
General Government	150,000		150,000	157,300
Debt Service	16,528		16,528	16,528
Capital Projects	0		0	0
Total Governmental Activities Expenditures	435,933	0	435,933	507,228
Business type activities		186,321	186,321	200,960
Total All Expenditures	435,933	186,321	622,254	708,188
Other Financing Uses, Including Transfers Out	9,663	0	9,663	9,663
Total All Expenditures/and Other Financing Uses	445,596	186,321	631,917	717,851
Excess Revenues and Other Sources Over (Under) Expenditures/and Other Financing Uses	886	-4,288	-3,402	-135,162
Beginning Fund Balance July 1, 2024	72,515	395,290	467,805	557,099
Ending Fund Balance June 30, 2025	73,401	391,002	464,403	421,937

NOTE - These balances do not include the following, which were not budgeted and are not available for city operations:

Non-budgeted Internal Service Funds		Pension Trust Funds	
Private Purpose Trust Funds		Agency Funds	
Indebtedness at June 30, 2025		Indebtedness at June 30, 2025	
	Amount		Amount
General Obligation Debt	0	Other Long-Term Debt	0
Revenue Debt	68,000	Short-Term Debt	0
TIF Revenue Debt	0		
		General Obligation Debt Limit	1,244,569

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Wed. October 1, 2025

Statement of the Ownership, Management, Etc., Required by the Acts of Congress as of Aug. 12, 1970

1- 8. The Wright County Monitor, publication number 693-360, filing date of Sept. 24, 2025, frequency of issue, weekly; number of issues published annually, 52; annual subscription price, \$64.00. The mailing address of the Known Office of Publication and Headquarters is PO Box 29, Hampton, IA 50441, Franklin County.

9. The name and address of the publisher is Matt Grohe, PO Box 29, Hampton, IA 50441. The editor and managing editor is Amanda Rink, PO Box 29, Hampton, IA 50441.

10. Owners: Mid-America Publishing Corporation, 9 2nd St. NW, P.O. Box 29, Hampton, IA 50441. Stockholders owning or holding one percent or more of total amount of stock: Jeanette M. Grohe, 1 Lincoln Place Dr., Des Moines, IA 50312; Matthew Grohe, 1 Lincoln Place Dr., Des Moines, IA 50312; and Julie M. Herr, 4422 N. Mozart St., Chicago, IL 60625.

11. The known bondholders, mortgagees or other security holders owning or holding one percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities: First Bank Hampton, PO Box 59, Hampton, IA 50441; MidWestOne Bank, 112 N. Main St., Sigourney, IA 52591; Roger & Karen Rector, 1004 Twin Pines, Ida Grove, IA 51445; Leon & Becky Thorne, PO Box 352, Parkersburg, IA 50665.

13.-14. The Wright County Monitor, issue date for circulation data below is Sept. 25, 2025.

15a. Extent and Nature of Circulation. Total Number Copies (net press run) average each issue during preceding twelve months, 686; single issue published nearest filing date, 651.

15b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail) (1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated On PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies) - average number of copies each issue during preceding twelve months, 94; single issue published nearest filing date, 86.

15b. (2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies) - average number of copies each issue during preceding twelve months, 350; single issue published nearest filing date, 333.

15b. (3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid or Requested Distribution Outside USPS - average number of copies each issue during preceding twelve months, 231; single issue published nearest filing date, 225.

15b. (4) Paid Distribution by Other Mail Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail) - average number of copies each issue during preceding twelve months, 0; single issue published nearest filing date, 0.

15c. Total Paid Distribution [sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4)] - average number of copies each issue during preceding twelve months, 675; single issue published nearest filing date, 644.

15d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail) - (1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541 - Average number of copies each issue during preceding twelve months, 3; single issue nearest filing date, 3. (2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541 - Average number of copies each issue during preceding twelve months, 3; single issue nearest filing date, 4. (3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail) - Average number of copies each issue during preceding twelve months, 0; single issue published nearest filing date, 0. (4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means) - Average number of copies each issue during preceding twelve months, 0; single issue published nearest filing date, 0.

15e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution [sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4)] - average number of copies each issue during preceding twelve months, 6; single issue published nearest filing date, 7.

15f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c. and 15e.) - average number of copies each issue during preceding twelve months, 681; single issue published nearest filing date, 651.

15g. Copies Not Distributed - average number of copies each issue during preceding twelve months, 3101; single issue published nearest filing date, 3090.

15h. Total (Sum of 15f and g) - average number of copies each issue during preceding twelve months, 3782; single issue published nearest filing date, 3741.

15i. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation (15c divided by 15f times 100) - average number of copies each issue during preceding twelve months 99.12%; single issue published nearest filing date, 98.92%.

16a. Paid Electronic Copies - average number of copies each issue during preceding twelve months, 4; single issue published nearest filing date, 4.

16b. Total Paid Print Copies (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies - average number of copies each issue during preceding twelve months, 679; single issue published nearest filing date, 648.

16c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies - average number of copies each issue during preceding twelve months, 685; single issue published nearest filing date, 655.

16d. Percent Paid (Both Print & Electronic Copies) - average number of copies each issue during preceding twelve months, 99.12%; single issue published nearest filing date, 98.93%.

I certify that 50% of all my distributed copies (Electronic & Print) are paid above a nominal price.

17. This Statement of Ownership will be printed in the Oct. 1, 2025 issue of this publication.

Signed: Matthew Grohe, owner, Sept. 22, 2025.

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

Iowa Ag secretary urges safety, mental health priorities as harvest season takes off

Iowa corn harvest is ahead of last year and the five-year average schedule

Cami Koons,
Iowa Capital Dispatch

Harvest season is underway for many Iowa farmers, as more than 65% of corn acres have reached maturity, according to the latest crop progress and condition report from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

As farmers log long days in the combines, Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig urged farmers to keep physical and mental health “top of mind.”

In a news release recognizing National Farm Safety and Health Week, Naig said farmers should follow safe equipment operation practices, wear proper protective gear, inspect and maintain machinery and stay safe around grain bins.

Naig also reminded drivers that during harvest season, slow-moving farm equipment will be a common sight on the road. He urged drivers to stay alert, avoid distractions like cell phones and to keep a safe distance on the road.

“It’s also important to acknowledge that the long, stressful workdays and economic challenges facing agriculture can take a toll,” Naig said in the release. “I encourage farmers and ag workers to be mindful of their mental health and well-being, and to watch out for their neighbors too. No one needs to feel alone. There are resources readily available for Iowans.”

The release said engaging in hobbies, prioritizing sleep and talking to family, friends



and mental health professionals can help farmers prioritize their mental health during the stressful season.

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach offers farm stress resources that can help farmers and their families. Additionally, farmers can access several hotlines for mental health support, or if they are dealing with suicidal thoughts.

Mental health resources:

- Iowa Concern Hotline: confidential mental health support at 1-800-447-1985
- Your Life Iowa: help with alcohol, drugs, gambling, mental health or suicidal thoughts at 855-581-8111, or text 855-895-8398
- 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline: immediate crisis support via call or text at 988

Hot, wet conditions for the start of harvest season

Wet conditions last week left farmers with an average of about five days suitable for field work. Despite the low number of days in the field, 8% of Iowa corn acres harvested for grain have been harvested, which is ahead of both last year and the five year average for corn harvest.

Corn rated 74% good to excellent for the Sept. 15-21 reporting period. Soybeans also rated 74% good to excellent for the period.

The report noted soybean harvest has begun on some farms in the state, but not enough has been harvested to appear on the report. Sixty-two percent of soybean acres were dropping leaves across the state and nearly 90% of the crop has colored in Iowa.

Soil moisture conditions improved slightly during the reporting period compared to the week prior. According to the report, 70% of topsoil and 72% of subsoil moisture conditions were adequate for the reporting period. Less than 20% of topsoil and subsoil conditions were short of moisture for the period.

According to State Climatologist Justin Glisan, Iowa had an average of nine-tenths of an inch of precipitation, which was one tenth of an inch above the climatological normal – though some central and southeastern regions had around three inches during the reporting period.

Glisan also reported that temperatures across the state were 8.6 degrees Fahrenheit above normal. The average temperature for the week was 71.6 degrees.

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Virtual cattle fencing could have ‘huge’ potential for getting cattle back on the land

Cami Koons,
Iowa Capital Dispatch

Cattle at a nature preserve in eastern Iowa appear to roam the land freely — no fences or cowboys on horseback patrol their movement.

Instead, these cows wear special collars that keep them from grazing beyond the boundaries their owners designate via a phone or computer.

The Nature Conservancy has studied this form of virtual fencing with cattle at its Land of the Swamp White Oak Preserve for the past three years with the hope that the technology can be integrated into other ranchers’ operations.

Amy Crouch, The Nature Conservancy’s Little Sioux project director who headed the virtual fencing project, said the collars can give ranchers peace of mind, reduce labor on managed grazing operations and help put cattle onto more land.

With the collars, producers can do things like easily keep cattle from grazing — and therefore defecating — in vegetation near a stream, which protects water quality. They also know where a cow is if it gets out of bounds, and they are alerted if a cow has not moved for a certain period of time.

Crouch said she grew up with milk cows and remembers the feeling of being tethered to the farm to take care of the cows.

“I imagine it’s the same for a lot of these producers who do the intensely managed grazing, where they’re moving them all the time,” Crouch said. “If they could have this labor-saving device, so they can concentrate on doing other things too, how tremendous.”

Crouch said she still relatively new to the country, which is why Crouch said The Nature Conservancy decided to run a pilot project. Now, interested Iowans have somewhere to learn about the technology and how it might work on an Iowa landscape.

How does the virtual fence work?

Crouch said The Nature Conservancy project started around 2021 when a company from Norway appeared at a Practical Farmers of Iowa event and told her about the virtual fence technology.

“Think of it like an invisible dog fence,” Crouch said, explaining how the virtual fencing works. “But a little more sophisticated and complicated.”

Cows are suited up with a GPS-enabled collar that sits on their necks like a stereotypical cow bell.

Then, cattle are moved into a traditionally fenced paddock, but with one open side. Operators use a computer or smart phone to set the virtual fence around the open side so the cows can learn how the fence works.

When cattle get a certain distance from the virtual fence line, they’re sent an auditory tone, then another louder tone as they get closer and finally if they get too close the collar gives a vibration. Crouch said the collar doesn’t give a shock, but the vibration is unpleasant to the cow.

“They catch on so fast,”



Elizabeth Owens with The Nature Conservancy puts a virtual fencing collar on a cow. (Photo by Dale Maxson/The Nature Conservancy)

Crouch said. “They hear that tone, and they don’t even stop grazing, they just change direction and go a different way. So it’s really, really easy on them, and it’s easy on the farmer too.”

Once the cows are trained on the collars, farmers can move the cows to a fully virtual-fenced paddock and use the technology to move the cattle, gradually through different grazing areas.

The collars are solar charged, so once they’re on the cows, farmers don’t have to worry about trying to wrestle with a cow to switch out a battery.

Crouch said occasionally they have had issues with cattle sitting under tree shade most of the day and losing charge on their collars, but she said ranchers in more open spaces might not have to worry about that as much.

Benefits of virtual fencing

Producers who use highly managed grazing techniques, or grazing that strategically moves the cattle through different pastures to balance manure and plant regrowth, typically move their cattle every day or every couple of days. Crouch said the virtual fence would save hours of labor for these types of operations, which are believed to improve soil and water quality.

At the Land of the Swamp White Oak Preserve, Crouch said staff used the virtual fence to encourage cattle to chomp down on areas with an invasive species and then to stay out of sensitive areas like a wetland.

But even for producers who don’t move their cattle as frequently, Crouch said the virtual fence alleviates a lot of time and a lot of worry, because farmers can see exactly where each head of their herd is with one glance at the application.

It also saves time on fence management. With a virtual fence, farmers no longer have to spend time setting up and repairing fence lines.

Research into virtual fencing from the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Northwest Climate Hub found the

technology could even be beneficial to ranchers who operate in areas susceptible to wildfires. While traditional fencing would burn, farmers could quickly adjust their virtual fence boundaries to keep cattle away from burned areas, or areas susceptible to fire.

“Theoretically, you could have a cornfield in the middle of your pasture and they’d stay out — well, you know, as much as cattle can resist that,” Crouch said with a laugh. “The push and pull of the unpleasantness (from the collar deterrents) or corn.”

A herd equipped with a virtual fence system could also graze the cover crop on a neighboring field, or the back corners of a field that would otherwise be too hard to put cattle on with traditional fencing.

“The potential for all of that is just huge,” Crouch said. “...that’s one of the huge things, getting cattle back on the land.”

Implementing

Crouch said the collars and technology are slightly more expensive than the cost of installing a new fence. But, she said the year-to-year cost of fence maintenance and labor, give the virtual fencing an advantage over traditional fencing.

Crouch said she has been “very impressed” by the durability of the collars even though they’re outside and on a cow 24/7.

“They’re dunked in water tanks and rolled on the ground and smacked on trees and they’re fine,” Crouch said.

The hardest part, she said, is learning to put the collars on.

That’s why The Nature Conservancy wanted to launch a pilot project. Now, farmers who are interested in implementing the technology have someone local to turn to with questions.

Each August, the conservancy has led a field day for interested parties to learn about the collars and how they have worked on an Iowa landscape, though this year’s field day was canceled due to flooding.

The field days give farmers the opportunity to see how the technology works, before they decide to invest thousands of dollars to implement the system in their operation.

“They’re able to see it practically before deciding whether they want to implement it on their own place,” Crouch said.

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

WEBSTER CITY TRUE VALUE LIQUIDATION SALE

SALE STARTS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH 8AM SHARP!

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- Lawn & Garden
- Electrical & Plumbing
- Automotive
- Paint & Stain
- All Hardware

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A major decision has been made to close our True Value Store. We will liquidate our entire inventory to the Bare Walls! Thanks to our many customers that allowed us to serve them. Stop in and save like never before on our ENTIRE STOCK!

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NOTICE

Please kindly note that the main staff of The Wright County Monitor works remotely and does not operate an office in Clarion.

For direct communication, please contact Newspaper Editor and Writer Amanda Rink by phone/text at 515.364.2344 or by email at news@wrightcountymonitor.com.

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
• October 5
9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
• October 12
9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
10:00 a.m. Worship Service

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

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL
121 3rd Avenue N.W., Clarion
• Sunday, October 5
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
• Thursday, October 2
No Weekday Masses
• Friday, October 3
7:00 p.m. Rosary at Sacred Heart
No Weekday Masses
• Saturday, October 4
New Mass Schedule
Food Pantry
SCRIP Cards
3:15 p.m. A/B at St. Francis Xavier, Belmont
4:00 p.m. Mass with SFX Cemetery Collection at Francis Xavier, Belmont
7:15 p.m. A/B at St. John, Clarion
8:00 p.m. Spanish Mass at St. John, Clarion
(Communal Anointing after all Masses for the Elderly and Ill)
• Sunday, October 5
Food Pantry
SCRIP Cards
7:15 a.m. A/B at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove
8:00 a.m. Mass at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove
9:45 a.m. A/B at St. John, Clarion
10:30 a.m. Mass at St. John, Clarion
(Communal Anointing after all Masses for the Elderly and Ill)
• Monday October 6
8:15 a.m. Rosary at St. Francis Xavier, Belmont
6:30 p.m. OCIA Meeting at St. John, Clarion
6:30 p.m. She Shall Be Called Woman Meeting at St. John, Clarion
• Tuesday, October 7
Pastoral Leadership Day, Office Closed

• Wednesday, October 8
7:40 a.m. Rosary at St. Francis Xavier, Belmont
8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Francis Xavier, Belmont
6:30 p.m. YFF Classes Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove and St. John, Clarion
6:30 p.m. Adoration at all Parishes
• Thursday, October 9
11:40 a.m. Rosary at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove
12:00 p.m. Mass at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove
6:30 p.m. Cluster Faith Formation Commission Meeting at St. John, Clarion

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
219 First Street N.W. Clarion 515-532-2709
• Sunday, October 5 Jay Grogan will be leading the service
• 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, October 5
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
Pastor: Various Lay Speakers.
Each bring a new perspective to our church and God!
• Sunday Services
11:00 a.m. Worship time

HOLMES LUTHERAN CHURCH
2139 Hancock Ave, Holmes, Iowa
HolmesLutheran@gmail.com
• Sunday, October 5
9:30 a.m. Worship
Pastor George Lautner
10:30 a.m. Adult and Children's Sunday School

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, October 5
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

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod
Jct. Highway 69 & 3
Pastor Mark Eichler
• Sunday, October 5
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, October 5
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, October 5
9:00 a.m. Worship

UNITED METHODIST & PRESBYTERIAN
• Sunday, October 5
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, October 5
10:30 a.m. Worship

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN
304 W. Main, Latimer
Travis Berg, Pastor
• Sunday, October 5
9 a.m. Worship, 10:15 a.m. ABC/Sunday School

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Morgan, Lee Center, Bradford
Erling Shultz, Pastor
• Sunday, October 5
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, October 5
9:30a.m. Joint Sunday Worship Service with Holy Communion, Coffee to follow
• Dinner is the first Sunday of the month

The Clarion Wire

** BINGO continues at the Clarion Senior Citizens Center every Friday at 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
** Clarion CITY WIDE CLEAN UP DAYS - Friday, October 10 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. and Saturday, October 11 from 9 - 11 a.m. Bring items to Hanson Park, 216 - 6th Avenue North!!
** 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 October 14 and 28.
** Play BINGO at The Bru the 4th Tuesday of each month, this time the evening of Tuesday, October 26.
** It's coming: Clarion Development Alliance 'Annual Meeting' on Monday, October 27 from 5 - 8 p.m.!
** AT THE CLARION THEATRE: Showing "A Big Beautiful Journey" (R) on Friday - Sunday, October 3 -- 5 @ 7 p.m.; Sunday Matinee at 2:30 p.m. - October 5.
** FOCUS ON BUSINESS: Seniors, senior-sized drinks at Hardee's are 69 cents each: teas, coffees, sodas! Enjoy!!
** THANK YOU: To the various tree removal businesses for taking down a number of trees in our area! And for people who are seeing that they are coming down, if they need to be removed! You are appreciated!!

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Sunday Services +

Reconnect with Your Church Community

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. — 2 Corinthians 12:9 (NIV)

One succinct way to characterize the fall season is "imperfect," and this is actually a great thing. Whereas some may characterize the winter by the even sheets of snow that fall to the ground, or summer by the perfectly bright and clear weather days, fall is quite different. In the fall, you might see foggy or cloudy days and the imperfections of the leaves that fall from the trees. Sometimes they are piled up with many other leaves of differing shapes and sizes, all having marks that tell their story, whether it be a freshly fallen leaf or one that has been on the ground for some time. Despite these imperfections of the season, so many people appreciate these sights of fall. From the brisk, sometimes cloudy days to the piles of freshly fallen and old leaves, feelings of comfort and gratitude are often brought by the season. In this same way, we can find comfort in and gratitude for our abilities, and ultimately, imperfections, through this comparison. We sometimes feel that we are called to be perfect, but cannot forget that our imperfections are a part of all of us, and that beauty and goodness can still come from them, just as in the fall season. —James Stone

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304 W Broadway St., Eagle Grove, Iowa 515-448-4745

	<p>Contact: Katie Phillips to Advertise! 641-790-1841</p>		<p>Beauty in Imperfection One succinct way to characterize the fall season is "imperfect," and this is actually a great thing. Whereas some may characterize the winter by the even sheets of snow that fall to the ground, or summer by the perfectly bright and clear weather days, fall is quite different. In the fall, you might see foggy or cloudy days and the imperfections of the leaves that fall from the trees. Sometimes they are piled up with many other leaves of differing shapes and sizes, all having marks that tell their story, whether it be a freshly fallen leaf or one that has been on the ground for some time. Despite these imperfections of the season, so many people appreciate these sights of fall. From the brisk, sometimes cloudy days to the piles of freshly fallen and old leaves, feelings of comfort and gratitude are often brought by the season. In this same way, we can find comfort in and gratitude for our abilities, and ultimately, imperfections, through this comparison. We sometimes feel that we are called to be perfect, but cannot forget that our imperfections are a part of all of us, and that beauty and goodness can still come from them, just as in the fall season. —James Stone</p>	<p>Contact: Katie Phillips to Advertise! 641-790-1841</p>	<p>Office: 641-622-3110 Cell: 641-790-1841</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: 641-622-3110 Cell: 641-790-1841</p>	<p>Contact: Katie Phillips to Advertise! 641-790-1841</p>	<p>Office: 641-622-3110 Cell: 641-790-1841</p>		<p>204 E. Broadway St. Eagle Grove, IA.</p>	<p>Contact: Katie Phillips to Advertise! 641-790-1841</p>	<p>First Citizens Bank myfcb.bank</p>
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	<p>Office: 641-622-3110 Cell: 641-790-1841</p>			<p>Stevenson Insurance Services ARENS-MARTY-CURRAN AGENCY Goldfield 515-825-3476</p>		<p>Contact: Katie Phillips to Advertise! 641-790-1841</p>

Words of Wisdom

Last week's trivia questions:
 What 1969 movie stars Robert Redford and Paul Newman as a pair of outlaws, on the run after pulling off a string of train robberies?
 Answer: Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid.
 What 1976 movie stars Robert Redford and Dustin Hoffman as Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, two journalists investigating the Watergate scandal that ended the presidency of Richard Nixon? Answer: All the President's Men.



This week's trivia questions:
 After Omaha, with a population of approximately 500,000, and Lincoln (population 300,000), what is the third largest city in Nebraska?
 After Minneapolis, with a population of approximately 430,000, and St. Paul (population 300,000), what is the third largest city in Minnesota?

October is Spinach Month, National Seafood Month, National Roller Skating Month, National Pizza Month, National Diabetes Month, National Dessert Month, National Dental Hygiene Month, National Cybersecurity Month, National Crime Prevention Month, National Chili Month, National Bake and Decorate Month, National Arts and Humanities Month, National Apple Month, International Drum Month, Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Cookie Month, Computer Learning Month, Clergy Appreciation Month, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, American Pharmacist Month, American Cheese Month, National Fire Prevention Month, National Principals Month, Squirrel Month, National Sausage Month, National Pork Month, and Pear and Pineapple Month.

Oct. 1 is International Coffee Day, International Music Day, and National Homemade Cookie Day; Oct. 2 is National Custodian Day, and World Farm Animals Day; Oct. 3 is Kids Music Day, and National Techies Day; Oct. 4 is Bookshop Day, National Taco Day, National Truckers Day, and World Habitat Day; Oct. 5 is World Teacher's Day; Oct. 6 is National Child Health Day, National Coaches Day, and World Architecture Day; Oct. 7 is World Cotton Day, and National Frappe Day.

Funny newspaper headlines -
 "Forecasters call for weather on Monday" - Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
 "Cows lose their jobs as milk prices drop" - The Baltimore Sun
 "State population to double by 2040, babies to blame" - Sacramento News Service
 "Mississippi's literacy program shows improvement" - The Associated Press
 "Breathing oxygen linked to staying alive" - Mason County News
 "Bridge closure date: Thursday or October" - Newbury News
 "Federal Agents Raid Gun Shop, Find Weapons" - World News Today
 "Utah Poison Control Center reminds everyone not to take poison" - Salt Lake Sentinel
 "Students Cook & Serve Grandparents" - The Clemons Courier
 "Hospitals resort to hiring doctors" - The Herald-Citizen
 "Man Accused of Killing Lawyer Receives a New Attorney" - Phoenix Sun
 "Murderer says detective ruined his reputation" - The Dallas Times

Monitor Memories

FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE WRIGHT COUNTY MONITOR
 1983 - 1948

42 Years Ago
October 6, 1983
 The Clarion Board of Education heard a report Monday that indicates the math program is in the process of becoming highly organized, thanks to the efforts of several teachers during the past summer. High school principal David Hall reported that a workshop was held to update the local math curriculum.

The Clarion City Council will be considering an ordinance that will allow the community's garbage men to receive an extra \$1 per month, during upcoming meetings after the council voted to consider such an ordinance during the council's meeting.

Although every week is special when it comes to the safety of students riding school buses, October 2 through 8, has been designated as national School Bus Safety Week. Numerous reports by school bus drivers and students are filed annually concerning motorists who ignore or fail to recognize the flashing warning lamps and stop arm that signal that a school bus is about to take on or discharge pupils.

77 Years ago
September 30, 1948
 Rated as one of the top-flight illusionists of our time is Carl Mario, whose acts of legerdemain will be one of the highlights of the Saturday afternoon and evening stage entertainments for Clarion Corn Carnival visitors. Mr. Mario will also serve as master of ceremonies for the stage program.

A contest to determine the highest amount of shelled corn in a bushel of ear corn will be one of the feature attractions in the grain show of the Clarion Corn Carnival. Farmers enter 80 pounds of ear corn, which becomes the property of the show. The entry with the highest percent of shelled corn on a 14% moisture basis wins first place.

A new type corn crib-feeder which eliminates 90 percent of the work in feeding hogs, will be awarded to one of this area's farm operators attending the Clarion Corn Festival. The award will be Quonset 20 portable corn crib feeder.



Birth ANNOUNCEMENTS
 Welcoming OUR COMMUNITY'S NEW ARRIVALS!

Baby Boy

Nancy Tijul Avila and Julio Lopez of Clarion, IA would like to announce the birth of their son Matras Adrian. He was born Thursday, September 18, 2025 at the Iowa Specialty Hospital in Clarion, IA. He weighed 7 pounds 12.5 ounces. He joins his siblings: Virgilio (8) and Sara (7).

Baby Boy

Alexis Baker and Keegan Pohlman of

Clarion, IA would like to announce the birth of their son Aaron Bennett. He was born Wednesday, September 17, 2025 at the Iowa Specialty Hospital in Clarion, IA. He weighed 7 pounds 6.3 ounces. Proud Grandparents are: Kim Pohlman and Rick Cope of Clarion, IA and Robert and Britney Baker of Richmond, KY. Proud Great Grandparents are: Donna Lawless of Richmond KY.

Obituaries

Mallory Jean Lalor (Thul) 1985 - 2025

Mallory Jean Lalor (Thul) was born on January 22, 1985 to Penny Mohr and Steve Thul. Mallory graduated from Eagle Grove High School and later attended Iowa Central to pursue her degree in nursing.

On January 20, 2006 she was united in marriage with Donavon Lalor. They raised their family together in Eagle Grove for 20 years until her untimely passing.

Mallory's caring heart was evident in many ways. She started her healthcare career in high school working as a CNA with the elderly and knew her passion was nursing. Over the years she worked taking care of others in various ways but ultimately loved long term care nursing.

Over the years, Mallory enjoyed riding the motorcycle with her husband, family get together with all her siblings and their families, and their annual family vacations to the Wisconsin Dells. Mallory treasured her fairy garden and decorating her yard with pretty ornaments. She loved watching her children succeed in sports, activities, and school. She also loved a good girls day of pedicures and shopping with her girls.

She is survived by her husband Donavon, son



Dawson, daughters Emma (Justin) and Piperjean, step daughter Kayla (Mark) and their son Jaxson, parents; Penny and Kenny Mohr and Steve Thul, siblings; Casey (Jenna) Thul, Miranda Thul, Mariah Thul, and Mercy (Shane) Meyer, two step brothers Kenny Mohr Jr. and CJ (Ashley) Mohr, many nieces and nephews, and many dear friends.

Mallory passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, September 21, 2025. She was preceded in death by all of her grandparents; father and mother-in-law, Gary and Janice Lalor, and daughter, Adaya Jean Lalor.

Mallory would not want her family and friends to mourn her loss in anger or sadness but to take solace in knowing she was no longer suffering.

Darlene J. (Thompson) Dieger

Darlene J. (Thompson) Dieger, 91, of Belmond, passed away on Sunday, September 28, 2025 at the Rehabilitation Center of Belmond.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 AM on Thursday, October 2, 2025 at Ewing Funeral Home, 111 Luick's Lane South in Bel-

mond. Burial will be in the Belmond Cemetery.

Visitation will be one hour prior to services at the funeral home on Thursday.

Ewing Funeral Home
 111 Luick's Lane South
 Belmond, Iowa 50421
 641-444-3248
 www.ewingfh.com

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Donate at your community blood drive and make a difference.

This October, breast cancer awareness month, LifeServe Blood Center is encouraging individuals to schedule an appointment to donate blood and make a difference in the life of someone facing this diagnosis. Breast cancer affects 1 in 8 women, and many patients undergoing chemotherapy, surgery, and other treatments rely on blood transfusions to regain strength, boost their immune systems, and prevent excessive bleeding.

• Clarion Community Blood Drive, 10/07/25 from 1-5:30 pm at 219 1st Street NW.

• Eagle Grove High School Blood Drive, 10/30/25 from 9 am-2 pm at 415 NW 2nd Street.

Your blood donation could help save a life and give a breast cancer patient the strength to continue their fight. Schedule your lifesaving appointment by visiting

lifeservebloodcenter.org or by calling 800.287.4903.

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.



Clarion Lions Club
Pork Loin Dinner
 Sunday, October 5, 2025
 Serving from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
 Clarion High School Cafeteria
 Regular Meal \$10.00.
 \$5.00 Hot Dog Children's Meal under 12.
 Take-Out Available.

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Iowa Rep. Shannon Lundgren joins growing 2nd District GOP field Former U.S. Rep. Rod Blum also announces campaign

Robin Opsahl, Iowa Capital Dispatch
Iowa Rep. Shannon Lundgren, R-Peosta, announced her run for Iowa's 2nd Congressional District Tuesday, joining a growing field of Republicans aiming to take the seat currently held by U.S. Rep. Ashley Hinson.

In a social media post Tuesday morning, Lundgren announced her U.S. House campaign, kicking off by stating her early support for President Donald Trump during the 2016 election cycle.

"I proudly supported President Trump in August of 2015 because I knew our country needed his strong leadership to get us back on track after decades of establishment politicians forgetting about working families and rural America," Lundgren said in post. "In the 2024 caucuses, I proudly stood with him early again. Now, I'm stepping up to serve Iowans in Congress because President Trump needs that type of unwavering, loyal conservative fighters in Congress to deport illegal immigrants and make America safe, support our small businesses and working families, help Iowans afford housing and health care, protect Social Security and Medicare, and end the woke gender ideology that endangers our daughters."

Lundgren has served for five terms in the Iowa House, chairing the House Commerce Committee, and is the owner and operator of Trackside Bar & Grill in Peosta alongside her husband, Charlie. She said that as a small business owner, she knows the struggles and needs of people and businesses in northeast Iowa, and that she would work in Congress to be "the strongest advocate for Iowa's workers and small businesses who are the backbone of our American economy."

"Charlie and I are excited to earn support across northeast Iowa," Lundgren said. "We will keep this seat red and fight, fight, fight alongside President Trump to put Iowa and America first."

With Lundgren's announcement, there are now four Republicans running to become the 2nd Congressional District Republican nominee in the 2026 election. The race heated up quickly after Hinson, the incumbent, announced she will instead run for U.S. Senate after U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst shared that she will not seek a third term in office.

Earlier in September, state Sen. Charlie McClintock, R-Alburnett, and former state lawmaker Joe Mitchell announced their campaigns for the seat.

Blum announces campaign

Former U.S. Rep. Rod Blum announced in Sept. 18, 2025 he was running for Iowa's 2nd Congressional District in the 2026 election. (Photo courtesy of the U.S. House of Representatives)

Former U.S. Rep. Rod Blum joined the race on Friday. Blum, who previously represented northeast Iowa in Congress, was first elected to the U.S. House in 2014 before losing to former U.S. Rep. Abby Finkenauer, a Democrat, in the 2018 midterm election.

Blum had hinted he would join the race shortly after Hinson's Senate campaign launch. In his announcement, Blum said he would prioritize issues like border security, energy independence and strengthening the U.S. economy "through fair trade deals that put more money in the pockets of American workers" if elected to Congress.

The 70-year-old Dubuque resident said he was kickstarting his campaign with a personal \$250,000 investment. Blum previously worked as CEO and president of Eagle Point Software, as well as the construction software company Digital Canal.

"We also need more Republicans in Washington who understand the business world and what

it means to create jobs, balance budgets and make tough decisions," Blum said in a statement. "I look forward to working hard every day to earn the Republican nomination, hold this seat for our Republican majority next November and get to work protecting our constitutional freedoms as Americans." Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee spokesperson Katie Smith criticized the recently announced Republican candidates in the race, calling Lundgren "the latest out-of-touch Republican gearing up for a crowded, messy primary fight over who can best cater to Washington special interests and rubber stamp health care cuts and price-spiking tariffs."

"Iowans deserve change, not more of the same corrupt Washington politics," Smith said. "Democrats will flip this seat because voters are ready for someone who actually fights to lower their costs and puts them first."

Rep. Lindsay James gains Star Trek actor's endorsement

There are also three Democrats competing to become their party's nominee in the 2nd District • Iowa Rep. Lindsay James, D-Dubuque, Clint Twedt-Ball, the founder

of the nonprofit Matthew 25 and Kathy Dolter, the former dean of nursing at Kirkwood Community College.

On Monday, James snagged the endorsement of an celebrity born in the district — actor Kate Mulgrew. Mulgrew, 70, was born in Dubuque, and is known for her roles in television shows like "Star Trek: Voyager," and "Orange Is the New Black." Mulgrew toured Feed Iowa First, a nonprofit urban farm in Marion, with James on Monday while offering her support for the candidate.

Mulgrew said she supported James' bid for the seat because she believes James would be able to win in 2026, according to the *Gazette*.

"I came here to stand by her side and to give it a little push, because I think she's going to flip this seat," Mulgrew said. "... She's got the passion and she's got the fire in the belly to do it."



Rod Blum

The race for Iowa's 2nd Congressional District could be more contentious in 2026 than previously expected. Cook Political Report, a political forecaster, shifted the district's rating from "solid Republican" to "likely Republican" following the September campaign shake-up.

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• After 12 Months \$28.80

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Location: Eagle Grove shed or to work where assigned.

Normal Workday: 7:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M., Monday through Friday, hours may vary. Subject to call 24 hours a day during emergency conditions.
Summer work hours are 6:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Monday through Thursday.

Application form and job description are available at the three locations, at Wright County Engineer's Office, 416 5th Ave SW, P.O. Box 269, Clarion, Iowa 50525; Telephone 515-532-3597, online at www.wrightcounty.iowa.gov under "Employment", or find us on Facebook, Wright County Secondary Roads.

CDL is not required to apply but chosen applicant must obtain Class A CDL with air brakes learners permit before starting work with the County. County will provide assistance with acquiring full CDL if needed.
Applications will be accepted at the Wright County Engineer's Office until: October 9th, 2025 at 3:30 PM or until filled.
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The Dows Community Library is seeking a Library Director. Qualifications: People-oriented, responsible, reliable, honest, attention to detail, willing to learn, work with a budget, and must like children. Must take the Public Library Management classes offered by the State Library of Iowa to become certified. Knowledge of Word and Excel is a plus. Must be able to work hours required, 22-23 hours per week. Job Applications may be picked up at the Dows Community Library. Application deadline: October 17, 2025. AA/EOE

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The Wright County MONITOR

DEADLINE:

Legal Notices Noon Friday
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Display Ads 1:00 a.m. Friday
Submitted News..... Noon Friday
Obituaries Noon Monday

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SPORTS

Week 5 Volleyball Rundown

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

Last week, the Cowgirl volleyball team competed on the road against Pocahontas Area (5-16) on Tuesday night and then at home vs. Clear Lake (10-5) on Thursday evening.

After falling short 25-16 in the first set against Pocahontas, the Cowgirls rebounded to triumph 28-26 in a tightly contested second set.

The Indians would outperform CGD and take the next two sets 25-23 and 25-19 for the 3-1 non-conference win.

Ella Engstrom led CGD with eight kills, two blocks, nine digs, and two aces. Junior middle hitter Adelynn Howell contributed two aces, three blocks, and a kill.

Jacqueline Kirstein and Ella Fineran had six kills apiece, and Harper Nerlien added nine digs, 26 assists, and three aces.

The Cowgirls were swept in their Thursday contest against the Lions, but Fineran led the way with eight kills and an ace.



Quinn Brooks currently has the third-highest dig total in the entire North Central Conference. (Photo by Taylor Smith)

Nerlien added 18 assists, 11 digs, and an ace for CGD.

Junior libero Quinn Brooks had a team-high 14

digs. Brooks currently has the third-highest dig total in the entire North Central Conference.

Spartans Top Cowboys in 1A Showdown

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

The #10 (1A) Cowboy football team had their hands full last Friday night against the top-ranked high school in all of 1A. Undeclared Grundy Center came to town and used their superb passing game to jump to a 35-0 lead in the 1st half.

The Spartans would improve to 5-0 after their 56-8 victory over Clarion-Goldfield-Dows (3-2).

Offensively, Selvin Gonzalez led the Cowboys with 65 yards on 16 carries. Joel Meier added 42 yards on 12 carries, and sophomore Colin Sesker rushed for 35 yards and a touchdown on 10 carries.

On defense, sophomore Traesyn Cope notched a sack and had 2.5 total tackles for CGD.

Ryan Hartwig, Huxley Lingenfelter, Kolton Hefti, and Selvin Gonzalez all recorded three total tackles apiece.

Spartan quarterback Judd Jirovsky went an improbable 16-for-16 and passed for 201 yards and four touchdowns. The



Sophomore defensive lineman Traesyn Cope had a sack and 2.5 total tackles vs. Grundy Center. (Photo by Taylor Smith)

senior ran for another two touchdowns and caught two interceptions on defense.

The Cowboys return home this Friday for a Senior Night showdown against their Class 1A,

District 3 foes from Eagle Grove (1-3).

Dating back to 2018, the Cowboys have won seven straight head-to-heads against the Eagles.

Swenson Top-20 at Riverhawk Invite



Lila Swenson continued her strong junior campaign with a top-20 finish in Mason City. (Photo by Taylor Smith)

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

As a team, the girls placed 7th with 174 total points. Mason City earned the team title with a low score of 32, followed closely by Gilbert with 33.

“Avery Boeshart had a big 65 second season best time to place 27th with a time of 23:26,” Coach Daniel Murray said after the meet. “She’ll be looking to run under 23 minutes here shortly.”

On the boys’ side, the team scored 299 for 12th place. Lake Mills (45), Ames, (61), and Mason City (103) all placed in the top-3.

“We tied with Waterloo East, but lost the tie-breaker

(6th runner),” said Murray. “Nolan Muhlenbruch ran under 19 minutes for the first time with a 20 second PR (41st place, 18:54). Logan Torsell and Leo Ertel are getting closer to the 20-minute mark.”

GIRLS RESULTS:

18 – Lila Swenson	22:05
27 – Avery Boeshart	23:26
42 – Kendra Huedepohl	25:25
53 – Johanna Perez	26:12
58 – Adriana Toj Lopez	27:42



GO COWGIRLS!

BOYS RESULTS:

41 – Nolan Muhlenbruch	18:54
66 – Logan Torsell	20:12
67 – Leo Ertel	20:15
74 – Eduardo Rivera	20:52
91 – Samuel Williams	23:47



GO COWBOYS!

City Wide Clean-up Days

Friday October 10th
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Saturday October 11th
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Drop off location: Hanson Park
216 6th Ave NE • Clarion

Volunteer Fundraiser organized and coordinated by Clarion Fire Department, CGD Football Team and Hagies.

Contributions Welcome: Going to Football Team
Some suggested items to drop off but are not limited to:

- ANY SCRAP METAL • Furniture • Mattresses
- Vacuums • Toilets • Appliances

Small fee for: CASH ONLY

TV's under 32" \$25, 32" and larger \$40 Monitors \$10
Tires, NO rims, Car/Truck \$5, Semi \$10, Tractor \$25
NO yard waste, trees or tree limbs, or rock.

City of Clarion provides a year-round location for these items to be disposed of.

Absolutely NO basic garbage/food waste that service is provided T&S and Trashman on a weekly basis.

Please stop into City Hall if you need more information regarding these services.

Wright County Shooting Association September 28, 2025



LIMITED

Name	Points	Penalties	Time	Score
Cody LaRue	232	10	33.93	6.54
Mike Townsend	226	0	51.86	4.36
Jennilee Townesend	222	0	78.92	2.81
Lynn Barz	213	10	77.18	2.63

OPEN

Mike Townsend	242	0	52.84	4.58
Jennilee Townesend	223	0	64.19	3.47
Cody LaRue	221	10	61.10	3.45
Lynn Barz	205	10	63.99	3.04

OPTIC

Mike Townsend	218	0	34.27	6.36
Cody LaRue	229	0	36.35	6.30
Bill Holden	243	25	45.29	4.61
Vicki Holden	231	0	64.43	3.57
Jennilee Townesend	202	0	61.77	3.27
Lynn Barz	186	10	64.97	2.71

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Some kids think synthetic drugs, often called fake marijuana and bath salts, are safe.

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Talk to your parents about the dangers of synthetic drugs.

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

Partnership @ DrugFreeIowa.org

Aerial views

Bruce Voigts, Aerial Photographer (Photos taken September 23, 2025)



The white lines of are hay bales stored along the fence line for cattle feed this winter.




After rains the prairie potholes in farm fields appeared again. The potholes were revived a number of times this crop growing season. Hopefully things will dry up for a nice harvest this fall.



Monday September 22, 2025 was the first day of Fall. Fall is a season that has many benefits, bright colored leaves, cooler weather, less insect pests, harvesting, football, volleyball, cross country running, nice sunsets, etc. If fall continues like last year, it may nicely be "extended". These photos were taken last year, February 4, 2024 and one can see there is a lack of snow. Elm and Cornelia are frozen over but snow is absent. Maybe this year we can have an extended Fall season again?

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Tickets on sale at WCCT for 'The Café Mocha Murders'

Get ready to savor a fresh blend of intrigue and laughter as Webster City Community Theatre announces tickets are now on sale for The Café Mocha Murders.

- Performances are:
- Saturday, October 4 at 7:00 p.m.
 - Friday, October 10 at 7:00 p.m.
 - Saturday, October 11 at 7:00 p.m.
 - Sunday, October 5 at 2:00 p.m.
 - Sunday, October 12 at 2:00 p.m.



At the counter shows "Soma (Rachel Derrig) discusses the new rules at The Bean Shack Cafe with coworker Ian (KeVon Edwards) in a scene from WCCT's production of "The Cafe Mocha Murders."

In The Café Mocha Murders, the staff of The Bean Shack gather for what should be an ordinary meeting—until a sudden blackout leaves one of them dead. As tensions rise, suspicions brew, and secrets begin to spill, everyone wonders who might be the next to get "roasted." This fast-paced comedic mystery blends clever dialogue with a coffeehouse setting, serving up a lighthearted whodunit that is full of flavor.

Under the direction of Ann McLaughlin and assistant directed by Sally Evans, the cast includes Rachel Derrig as Soma, Jack Barner as Kathy Oliver as Beverly, KeVon Edwards as Ian, Reba Stein as Ivy, Amelia Oliver as Mel, Max Anderson as Ben, Gayette Grimm as Cathi and Aidan Haman as Eddie the pizza guy.



Close up of "Mel (Amelia Oliver) shares a cautionary tale with Eddie the Pizza Guy (Aidan Haman) in a scene from WCCT's production of "The Cafe Mocha Murders."

Tickets are \$15 plus tax and fees. Purchase your seats by visiting www.webstercitycommunitytheatre.org or call the box office at 515-832-4456 to reserve seats. Leave a message and a volunteer will call back to take your ticket order.

Dows Community Prayer

Dows Community Prayer started Wednesday Night 10Oct, with the topic "Who do you pray to?" This weekly prayer service is designed to bring the community together to pray. The service is non-denominational and is not associated with any church organization. It is being led by Christian leaders in the community with the hope to bring hope, restoration,

healing, and fellowship. The service will be held at the Dows American Legion Sefton Activity Center, located at 103 W Train St. (Old Presbyterian church near the city park) The services will be led by Legion Chaplain Richard Echelberger, with other leaders in the future as different topics are discussed.


The Topic for 8Oct - Why do we pray?, 15Oct - When should we pray?, 22Oct - Where should I pray?, 29Oct - What should I pray for? Each week will be focused on prayer with new prayer topics each week. For additional information, you can contact Richard. Echelberger@gmail.com or call 641-373-2788 after 3pm.

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Veterans Day Tribute

Coming in the Eagle Grove Eagle and Wright County Monitor

	<p>Veteran's Name: Branch of Service: Date of Service:</p> <p><i>*Contact information (phone number or email) for questions.*</i></p> <p><small>Please do not resubmit soldiers who have run in past years.</small></p>
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In honor of veterans past and present, please send us your photos with information provided in sample above.

There will be no charge to submit photo and bio. Deadline for photo submission is Monday, October 22, 2025. Publication date is Thursday, Nov. 6, 2025

Send to: Eagle Grove Eagle
PO Box 6
Eagle Grove, IA 50533
or email: news@eaglegroveeagle.com

