



The Wright County MONITOR



clarionnewsonline.com • The Official Newspaper of Wright County, The City of Clarion, & The Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Community School District
156th year Number 52 Wednesday, December 24, 2025 \$1.25 per copy

Bus Drivers Keep Students Safe During Unexpected Snow Squalls

Amanda Rink, Editor

On Thursday, December 18, Wright County was hit by what the National Weather Service calls snow squalls. A snow squall is a short but intense burst of heavy snow and gusty winds that can reduce visibility to near zero, creating sudden whiteout conditions and rapidly icing roadways. Much like a summer thunderstorm, these squalls arrive quickly, but with snow instead of rain.

Though they often last less than an hour, snow squalls are especially dangerous because of how abruptly they impact travel, frequently causing accidents, pileups, and highway closures. Even more concerning, they often develop with little warning.

With very little time to

prepare, many commuters found themselves driving home through near-zero visibility on the afternoon of December 18. Even more concerning were the children and school bus drivers who were caught in the storm. Alex Rothman, transportation director for Clarion-Goldfield-Dows, said the storm "came up so fast, we didn't expect the blowing snow."

As a result, several bus drivers were instructed to pull over and wait out the squalls if visibility became too poor to continue safely. One driver, Jerry Schmitz, did just that on the west side of Clarion. While waiting, some of the students asked to use the restroom, so Schmitz escorted them into the nearby Urness Hardware store.

And as any local knows,



CGD students who were stopped to wait out sudden snow squalls west of Clarion were treated to Urness popcorn during their wait. (Photo provided)

no trip to Urness is complete without a bag of popcorn. Each child was treated before heading back out to the warm bus. Given

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Supervisors Approve Cost-Saving Wellness Program



Last week, the Wright County Courthouse held its annual staff Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest. Together, employees raised \$500 for the Humane Society of Wright County. This year's winning sweater belonged to Mindy Lockhart, who collected \$135.51 in votes! (Photo provided)

Amanda Rink, Editor

December 22, 2025 - The Wright County Board of Supervisors covered a full agenda during its recent meeting, touching on employee wellness, road maintenance, and other county business.

One of the highlights of the meeting was the county's continued participation in the ISAC

Wellness Program for 2026. County officials reported strong results from the program, which rewards employee participation in health screenings and assessments with reduced insurance costs.

According to the wellness update, Wright County had a savings of \$97,861.70 in the most recent fiscal year, up from just over \$89,000 the year before. Those savings come largely from a 5 percent insurance discount earned by surpassing the required 80 percent employee participation rate. As of January 1, 2025, the county had 105 health insurance contracts, which ISAC uses as the contract count for the entire year.

Of those employees, 90 completed their physicals and submitted physician forms, while 94 completed the required online health assessment, more than enough to qualify for the discount. The savings benefit the entire county.

The popular annual step challenge also returned, with 65 employees taking part. During the year, participants logged more than 144 million steps. While that averages out to just over 5,000 steps per employee per day, officials agreed it was an impressive and motivating number.

Biometric data from employee physicals showed most health indicators were within normal ranges, though elevated blood pressure, body mass index, and waist circumference were noted as areas of concern. It was noted that this was normal across Iowa.

The local Wellness Committee plans to focus on those issues in the coming year, including promoting

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AREA HEADLINES

Belmond

City officials agreed to allow children to the city cemetery unaccompanied by an adult through resolution 2025-42.

Dows

The American Legion Hall Post 523 presented the following local Veterans with Quilts of Valor: David Sackville of Hampton (Army), Randy DeBour of Latimer (Navy), Merle Weideman of Dows (Army), and Jim Kreitlow of Belmond (Air Force)

Eagle Grove

According to public record, Mark Hennigar, an Eagle Grove police officer who had been serving as acting chief, has pleaded not guilty to the charge of solicitation to commit a felony and waived his right to a speedy trial.

Hampton

Hampton Police Officer Bo Brass graduated from the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy late last week after 16 weeks of training. He will continue work beginning the last part of December.

Rowan

Work on the outdoor classroom will begin again in the Spring.



Jerri Gobeli's daughter sits in front of their family Christmas tree. Christmas memories made in childhood are often the most treasured, especially when growing up in a small Iowa town like Clarion. (Photo provided) For more Holiday decor, check out page 2.



Whitney Dahlgren of Clarion shared that her Christmas tree is decorated with sentimental ornaments collected year after year. The oldest, and maybe the most cherished, date back to 1986. (Photo provided)

The Santas of Wright County



Max Peterson began his time as Santa in 1988. He is photographed below with his grandchildren, Kendall & Karson Peterson. (Photo provided)

Amanda Rink, Editor

Christmas in Wright County is not brought to you by storefront displays or packed community calendars alone. It is carried and distributed by unpaid work happening in kitchens, living rooms, church

basements, and community halls.

It is the work of mothers balancing lists, budgets, and leaving the best gift until the end, grandmas baking cookies from memory alone, and neighbors volunteering their time at a community gift drive.



Richard Echelberger was dared to dress up as Santa at work, but he loved spreading the joy so much he continued doing so. His wife, Mary, later joined as his Mrs. Claus. (Photo provided)

It is also community members who slip into red suits, or dresses, each December so children, and sometimes adults, in our area can believe in something magical, if only for a little while.

For Anthony Wubben of Eagle Grove, that work is

tied deeply to family tradition.

"I'm not a first-generation Santa for my family," Wubben shared with The Wright County Monitor. "My father had played Santa in Buffalo Center, Iowa, since before I was born."

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Happy Holidays from The Wright County Monitor!

Even the Grinch Loves Animals...



“Rescued by Bruiser,” an animal rescue located on the edge of Goldfield, is officially a nonprofit making a big impact with a lot of heart. Pictured above is a moment from their recent holiday fundraiser, where even the Grinch couldn’t resist stopping to cuddle a few kittens who are now ready for adoption.

As you consider your end-of-year giving, remember the many local charities doing meaningful work in our community. Organizations like the Wright County Humane Society, Rescued by Bruiser, Gift of Giving, and Chick’s Ministry are all nonprofits making a real difference right here in Wright County. And of course, this list is just the beginning—there are countless groups quietly changing lives every day!

Holiday Youth Photography Workshop

Amanda Rink, Editor

Each month, the Wright County Extension office holds a photography workshop for the children enrolled in the county 4-H program. The workshop is led by Paige Stewart, of Front Paige Photography, who is also the County Youth Coordinator for the extension office.

In December, they focused on holiday photos. The results are impressive, but in the interest of space, we are only able to highlight two photos.



Model, David. Photographer, Weston.



Model, Jake. Photographer, Avery.

More holiday Decor continued from page 1



Sarah Zwiefel’s son is a reminder that Christmas, when seen through the eyes of a child, is pure magic. (Photo provided)



Callie Stein of Belmond proves that when it comes to holiday cheer, there’s no such thing as “too much,” proudly showcasing her five beautifully decorated Christmas trees. (Photo provided)



Sometimes, all it takes is a few twinkling lights to make a space feel warm and cozy on an Iowa winter night. This is one of two Christmas trees Tamara Beisel of Clarion shared with The Monitor. (Photo provided)



Tessa Yackle’s Christmas tree features a vintage-inspired look, complete with loose tinsel, deer antlers, and unique lighting. The Yackles recently opened their home for the Clarion Tour of Homes. (Photo provided)



Kristina Moore of Clarion shared with The Wright County Monitor that her real Christmas tree holds “an ornament or two for every year since 1992.” The arrangement changes each year, at least on the bottom two feet. (Photo provided)



Santas continued from page 1



Kevin and Mary Hadley of Rowan have been volunteering their time as Mr. and Mrs. Claus for over two decades. (Photo provided)

As a child, Wubben tried to solve the mystery of Santa with his brother by keeping what they called “Secret Santa Journals,” carefully recording what they believed was proof their father was, in fact, Santa.

“It was until the town newspaper editor had called our home phone and had left a voicemail discussing details of when my father was scheduled to play Santa for the community.”

The discovery didn’t end the tradition for the Wubben children; it just changed the way they handled it. “From that day moving forward, it was pivotal for us as we continued to believe in the holiday spirit, instead of sharing with our friends who Santa was,” Wubben said.

He first stepped into the role himself during his junior year of high school, wearing a Santa suit purchased by his father. Since then, he has played Santa almost every year somewhere in Wright County or beyond.

Over the past six years, Wubben has recorded himself delivering presents on what his family calls the “Wubben Santa Cam,” sharing the videos online.

“Waking up at weird hours in the night, running downstairs to dress as Santa and record myself delivering presents to my own house seems a bit odd,” he said. He shared that his children’s “overwhelming excitement” makes it worth it, especially after losing his father in 2017. Since then, his volunteer work has taken on a new meaning.

“It’s a way that I feel that I’m able to honor him by continuing to provide that for others within the community,” Wubben said.

One tradition that continues to stand out for him is

delivering poinsettias to residents at Rotary Senior Living North and South in Eagle Grove, a project supported by Eagle Grove Greenhouses and the Eagle Grove High School, where Wubben is employed, student council.

“This may be the only opportunity they have to experience the holiday season outside of the compassionate facility staff,” he said. Thankfully, Wubben isn’t alone in spreading holiday cheer.

In Rowan and throughout Wright County, Kevin and Betty Hadley have spent nearly two decades volunteering as Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Kevin first dressed as Santa after a friend asked him to visit their children. Kevin ended up enjoying playing Saint Nick so much that he continued to volunteer all over Wright County. Kevin’s wife, Betty, saw how much joy it brought Kevin to spread cheer as Santa, so she decided to join him as Mrs. Claus.

For the Hadleys, the reward comes from giving, not recognition.

“We enjoy it more than the community does; it’s a real joy for us to help others feel happy,” they said. Their visits have included food pantry nights, time with children in Wright County’s HOPES program, and video calls for families unable to attend in person.

“We don’t always remember to ask what kids want,” they said. “Sometimes, kids are just too excited to see us to ask for anything.” Every once in a while, the Hadleys will help Max Peterson, one of Belmond’s Santas, at the Santa House.

Max became one of Belmond’s Santas at the Santa House, located on the quaint



Tim Hamilton of Clarion began his role as Santa as a joke among coworkers. It quickly grew into a meaningful tradition once Hamilton had a custom suit made and began volunteering. One of his favorite moments as Santa came just recently when a baby sat on his lap and stared in wonder at him, without tears. It resulted in a great photo for the family. A week later, he recognized the baby at a school event, surprising the mother when she realized Santa was standing right in front of her. For Hamilton, it’s a reminder that “Christmas magic comes in many forms.” (Photo: Amanda Rink)



Anthony Wubben, photographed here with three of his children, is a second generation Santa. (Sarah Orton Photography, Webster City)

main street that is decorated with Christmas trees year after year, in 1988.

What keeps him coming back is the patience the role requires, enjoying the coaxing that is sometimes required to get children to join him for a photo.

Requests from the children brave enough to ask for toys vary each year. “Girls want makeup stuff,” Max shared. “Quite a few boys want dinosaurs.” A few minutes South of Belmond resides Dows’ Claus couple, Richard and Mary Echelberger.

Richard began his role as a dare from coworkers at Hagies’ in Clarion about five years ago. After going to a few events, Mary decided to accompany her husband as Mrs. Claus.

After being asked to serve at the Dows Lions Christmas Soup Dinner, their presence became a regular part of the season.

“We really do it for the

children,” Richard shared. “There is such joy on the kids’ faces.”

Some requests the couples hear are simple, like Legos or maybe a Barbie doll. Some carry a deeper weight on the couple, “Some just want a new pair of shoes, a job for their mom and dad, or ask that their sister or brother get better. It can break your heart,” Richard stated.

For the Echelbergers, the meaning of the season is clear. “Christmas is all about hope,” they shared.

Across Wright County, these Santas represent just a small part of the unpaid labor that makes Christmas such a magical time in Wright County, a place where any Hallmark movie could serve as the background.

The season is held together by people who shop, bake, volunteer, plan, and show up. They often do so without notice or thanks, so others can

continue on page 5



reading between the lines

with Amanda Rink

Go Get Your Horse, Girl

Amanda Rink,
Editor

A pony is a childhood dream. A horse is an adulthood treasure. - Rebecca Carroll

I know I write about my kids often. I'm sure for some readers it comes as a bore, but for other readers, I know they look forward to my column each week, even if it ends up being 500 words about my latest lesson in parenting, and that brings me such joy.

This column is where I can express my own creativity and thoughts. I'm thankful for that. I'm also grateful that through this column, I have been selected as a finalist for the Iowa Newspaper Association for "Master Columnist."

So, if you've been here through my writing growing pains and have been cheering me on, thank you for your support and kindness. We all need a little

kindness in our days.

Last week, my daughter, Hayden, learned a lesson on kindness and how it can come from a community that doesn't know her personally... just like some of you who read my column.

At the start of this school year, Mrs. Tanja Jensen, the Clarion Goldfield Dows TAG teacher, introduced something new to the TAG students called Genius Hour.

The idea in the most simplest form is, give kids time and space to explore what they love, then help them figure out how that passion might fit into their future. Not just dreaming, but doing.

For Hayden, there was never really a question about what she'd choose. Horses.

She's been a "horse girl" for as long as I can remember. One year, she got a horse manual for Christmas and treated it like sacred text. She did not casually flip through; she studied. Horses bring her joy, calm her mind, and give her a sense of purpose that's hard to explain unless you've seen it firsthand.

We haven't had horses in years, but that never slowed her down. About a year ago, Hayden started riding lessons outside of Hampton with Kelly Reynolds. She paid for most of them herself, picking up extra shifts at work, while we covered one lesson a month. Before long, Kelly asked if Hayden would be interested in leasing a horse, one with some health challenges, but a spirit Hayden connected with. So, her dad and I made a deal with her.

If Hayden could save \$1,000, she could lease him.

Not because we didn't want to help, and not because we didn't think her want of a horse was worthy. We wanted her to have something set aside before taking on a monthly responsibility. We wanted her to think back on this lesson in her adult life. Always have what you need in the bank before making a large purchase.

So she went to work. She walked dogs. Picked up extra hours at the grocery store. Sold crafts.

She even organized a fundraiser, completely on her own. Mrs. Jensen encouraged her every step of the way, helping her turn ideas into plans.

Somewhere in the middle of all that, Hayden realized horses weren't just something she loved; they were what she wanted to build a future around. In whatever form makes the most fiscal sense when that time comes.

She enrolled at Iowa Central to earn her associate degree while still in high school, with plans (at least for now) to continue her education in Ohio. She completed her first college course as a sophomore and finished with an A. Her father and I were, and still are, so proud of the growth we had seen in her in such a short amount of time. All because Mrs. Jensen gave her the tools to develop an idea, and she did the work. But as things normally don't go to plan, there was a moment of disappointment that would derail most children.

The horse she'd been saving for was placed in another home. Instead of falling

apart, Hayden expressed gratitude. She was relieved he went somewhere that could care for him properly. I'm not sure I'd have handled it with the same grace at her age.

But that same week, Mrs. Jensen reached out with unexpected news.

An anonymous donor had heard Hayden's story at a Humane Society meeting and wanted to gift her the remaining funds needed to reach her goal. Our first instinct was to say no.

We didn't want to undo the lesson. We didn't want to backtrack on what we'd asked her to do.

And honestly, we didn't want it to look like she hadn't earned it, because she absolutely had.

Even more honestly, we didn't want it to look like we needed charity. We weren't making

Hayden "jump through hoops" because we couldn't afford to lease the horse.

But Mrs. Jensen, as she often does for children every day, gently reframed it for us.

This wasn't about our ability to provide. It was about someone in the community seeing a hardworking kid, recognizing her dedication, and wanting to do something kind. It was about someone seeing Hayden the same way we see all of our kids. They, complete strangers to us, saw the promise Hayden holds.

In the end, the check was held until Hayden reached her original goal on her own. The remaining amount was set aside for future horse-related needs. Last Friday, she was given the check in a private moment by Mrs. Jensen. The timing couldn't have been better.

It was a reminder that effort and hard work matter, but so does kindness. That sometimes the world meets you halfway, giving you a soft yes for your goals. And that generosity, quiet, true, and without strings, still exists.

I'm sharing this here not just because I'm proud (though if you know the grey hairs this girl has given her father and me, I've earned at least a little bragging rights), but because this story highlights a few things worth writing about.

An exceptional teacher. A determined teenager. And true altruism.

These are the kind of lessons that stick with you for a lifetime. I hope everyone is able to have a teacher touch their life so positively. I hope every child realizes the value of hard work for something they want, and I hope we can all continue to look out for the children in our community... in whatever way we're able to.

Amanda Rink is the Editor of The Wright County Monitor and a children's book author. Her (mostly) weekly column is published in The Wright County Monitor and The Hampton Chronicle. She writes about everyday life in rural Iowa through a unique lens filtered through motherhood and other life experiences. 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.

Barrett Financial Celebrates with Ribbon Cutting

Amanda Rink,
Editor

Nick Barrett has spent nearly two decades in Clarion as a business owner. And now he is excited to share his latest way to serve, Barrett Financial, which offers tax preparation and filing.

After operating his own business for 15 years and spending a year working alongside accountant Bruce Frink, Barrett decided it was time to branch out on his own. He was drawn by the opportunity to serve individuals better, families, and local businesses while taking on new professional challenges for himself.

As an Enrolled Agent, Barrett is federally accredited to represent taxpayers before the IRS and handle a wide range of tax matters. He stays current on changing tax laws through continuing education and is on track to complete his Master's degree in Accounting from Iowa State University this May. Barrett's favorite part of his work day is meeting new people and "engaging with the public."

Barrett Financial marked its opening with a ribbon-cutting hosted by the Clarion Development Alliance (CDA) on Thursday, December 18. Despite wintry weather, several community members turned out to help celebrate. Cookies and refreshments were served.

Barrett joked with The Wright County Monitor



Nick Barrett is federally accredited to represent taxpayers before the IRS. He handles a wide range of tax matters and is continuing his education through Iowa State University to serve the community better. (Photo: Amanda Rink)

about starting a poll on how long the office plants gifted by Ennis Corp. and the CDA to celebrate his ribbon cutting would survive, with his secretary, Sam Stumpf, volunteering to keep watch.

Outside of the office, Barrett stays busy with community involvement, home remodeling projects,

golf, and cheering on his children, Calvin, Gabriel, and Genevieve, alongside his wife, Rebecca.

Those interested in learning more about the services offered at Barrett Financial can visit online at barrett-financial.co or stop by the office at 202 N. Main St. in Clarion.

Clarion Development Alliance Wishes Community a Merry Christmas

The Clarion Development Alliance would like to wish everyone in Clarion and the surrounding communities a Merry Christmas and happy holiday season.

As the year comes to a close, the CDA extends sincere thanks to our local businesses, investors, volunteers, and residents for their continued support and commitment to our community. Your involvement helps make Clarion a wel-

coming and vibrant place to live, work, and shop.

The CDA encourages everyone to continue supporting local businesses throughout the holiday season and into the new year.

Looking ahead to the colder months, community members are invited to mark their calendars for a fun winter event. The Clarion Development Alliance will host its Winter Blues Casino Night on January 31st at the Red Shed Event

Center. More details will be announced soon.

From all of us at the Clarion Development Alliance, we wish you a safe, joyful, and festive Christmas filled with time spent with family and friends.

Clarion Cash Reminder: Clarion Cash makes a great last-minute gift and can be purchased at the CDA Office, Wright County Insurance, and The Branded Bombshell Boutique.

2025 A Pretty Good Year For Norwegian Heritage

Rodger Tveiten

Looking back on the past 12 months, things went well for the 1825-2025 Norwegian migration bi-centennial celebration. Called "Crossings 200", there were events and activities held in Norway and in the U. S., recalling the start of one of the largest mass migrations in American history. Heritage events and activities were held in North Iowa as well. Here is a short list.

*The Ullensvang Lutheran Church in Thor had their second annual Kumla Feed on March 5 in honor of their immigrant founders.

*Weekly newspapers in North Iowa featured articles about the 1825-2025 bi-centennial and related events.

*In April, 2500 souvenir envelopes promoting the bi-centennial were printed in Belmont and distributed locally and to Sons of Norway lodges in North Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa.

*An open house at the Belmont History Museum

was held to promote a 287 page book about early Norwegian settlers in Wright County. The book's author attended that event and on May 4th spoke to members of the Saint Olaf Lutheran Church about their immigrant past.

*In Lake Mills, a catered Syttende Mai banquet celebrated the "Crossings 200" bi-centennial on May 5th. An official from the Vesterheim Museum gave the program. Eighty attended this annual Sons of Norway gala held at the great hall of the Salem Lutheran Church.

*On June 26, 28 and 29 at the Norwegian Emigration Museum in Hedmark, Norway, there was an outdoor, history play about Wright County. It was not in English. It had a large cast and included horses, dogs and other farm animals. It was about Norwegian pioneers arriving in 1869 to an area west of Belmont and north of Clarion before there was a Belmont. Yes, "Crossings 200" was also celebrated in Norway.

*In early October Crown Prince Haakon of Norway, heir to the throne, came to Iowa, Minnesota and New York to honor Norwegian-Americans and be a part of "Crossings 200". The first state he visited, of course, was Iowa. The first city he visited, of course, was Decorah. The first and best reception, of course, was at the Vesterheim Norwegian American Immigration Museum, there. While the Prince did not come to North Iowa, some residents of Belmont and Mason City did come to him, attending a banquet and a private reception.

In the year 2025, there were many other "Crossings 200" events in New York City and all across the Lefse Belt from Chicago to the Pacific Northwest. All-in-all, 2025 was a pretty good year for Norwegian heritage in America. It was, also, a pretty good year for Norwegian heritage in Iowa. And, yes, of course, in North Iowa, it was an especially good year.

Rodger Tveiten, a former newspaper worker and retired postal clerk, resides in Kanawha.

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

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

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Circulation and Subscriptions:
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Deadlines:
Legal Notices Noon Friday
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Display Ads 11:00 a.m. Friday
Submitted News Noon Friday
Obituaries 4:30 p.m. Monday
Breaking News 5 p.m. Monday*
Event coverage requests 24 hours
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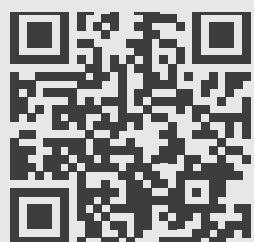
Official Newspaper For:
City of Clarion
City of Dows
Clarion-Goldfield-Dows
School District
Wright County

Member of:
Iowa Newspaper Association
National Newspaper Association

A Division of Mid-America
Publishing Corporation
P.O. Box 29
Hampton, Iowa 50441

Postal Information:
USPS ISSN 693-360 Weekly

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Wright County November 2025 Claims

November 2025 Claims	
General Basic Fund	
Access Systems, Copier contract	\$142.97
AgVantage, Fuel	\$2,934.09
Jon Ahrendsen, Med. exam	\$321.00
Amazon, Cust. supp	\$925.80
Arnold's, Paint	\$245.99
Adam Asche, Chlorination	\$300.00
Auxiant, Insurance	\$190.00
Brogan Avery, Chlorination	\$215.00
Independent, Subscription	\$54.00
Blackhawk Sprinklers, Inspection	\$375.00
Blue Ribbon Pelham, Water	\$106.50
BMC, Grave	\$771.73
Boeys Tech., Sensor	\$223.41
Bomgaars, Fluid/shavings	\$528.97
Ashley Bosch, Mileage	\$56.34
Brothers Market, Hot deli	\$4,031.77
BOA, Credit Card	\$1,834.29
Campbell's, Pressure washer	\$4,778.00
Darrel Carlyle, Meals	\$95.35
CDW-G, Backup	\$3,064.35
Ron Cerwick, Well closure	\$675.00
Chloe Mae Cherry, IPERS refund	\$694.97
City of Clarion, Water & sewer	\$958.19
Column, Publication	\$680.01
Comm1, Phone	\$2,140.53
Culligan, Water	\$170.20
Kim Demory, Mileage	\$160.57
DM Stamp, Stamps	\$88.15
District II Supervisor, Annual meeting	\$250.00
Betty Ellis, Meal	\$100.00
Ewing, Funeral	\$2,000.00
First Citizens Bank, Safe box	\$40.00
Frontier, Phone listing	\$184.00
Galls, Apparel	\$2,192.45
Gardiner & Co., Audit Service	\$4,575.00
Gold-Eagle Coop, Fuel	\$163.84
Govt. Forms, W2/1099	\$254.51
GreatAmerica, Copier contract	\$245.43
Hanson & Sons, Repair	\$3,049.61
Hawkeye West, Pest control	\$328.00
Heartland Radar, Certification	\$320.00
Hennigar's, Rock hauling	\$2,733.75
Hewett, Meals/Comm	\$271.60
Terry Hilipire, Contract carrier	\$125.00
Holiday Inn, Lodging	\$134.40
ICAA, Training	\$90.00
ICIT, Membership	\$50.00
ILEA, Training	\$175.00
Indeed, Advertising	\$585.58
Inquirehire, Background	\$85.20
IPI, Markers	\$159.00
ISSDA, Training	\$650.00
Cole Kirstein, Well closure	\$700.00
Language Link, Interpreter	\$56.10
LexisNexis, Online research	\$406.00
Lynn Loux, Reimbursement	\$10.00
Mail Services, Print/postage	\$563.09
Americo Maldonado, Interpreter	\$245.00
Sandra McGrath, Mileage	\$61.60
Menards - FD, Cust. supp	\$58.29
Amanda Meyer, Mileage	\$25.00
MidAmerican, Utilities	\$2,650.68
Modern Marketing, Note pads	\$937.51
Mitchell Nielsen, Well insp	\$500.00
North Iowa Reporting, Transcript	\$231.00
Northland Vinyl, Service	\$3,500.00
ODP, Paper	\$95.98
Oldson's, Repairs	\$22,260.55
Christine Oliver, Mileage	\$420.00
P&P Electric, Maint	\$385.00
Panoramic, License fee	\$520.00
Pitney Bowes, Service	\$174.29
Pitney Bowes, Lease	\$1,101.75
Postmaster, Postage	\$162.00
Prairie Energy, Utilities	\$1,964.05
Rick Rasmussen, Meal	\$10.00
Region V HazMat, Contribution	\$4,853.62
Revize, Subscription	\$2,370.00
River City Comm., Detector	\$793.80
Israel Rivera, PerDiem	\$375.00
James Russell, Mileage	\$398.30
Katie Schlichting, Med. ex.	\$605.00
Peggy Schluttenhofer, Mileage/meal	\$87.76
Schumacher Elevator, Maintenance	\$195.85
State Hygienic Lab, Testing	\$1,003.50

ADS, Tiling supp	\$3,763.69
AgVantage, Fuel	\$33,539.02
Ahlers & Cooney, Labor Relations	\$1,500.00
Airgas, Welding supp	\$651.48
Alliant Energy, Utilities	\$548.55
Arnold's, Parts	\$1,240.90
Independent, Publication	\$286.80
BMC, Roadstone	\$38,242.72
Bomgaars, Supplies	\$940.14
CBA, Inspection	\$4,803.50
Campbell's, Parts & Rep.	\$97.15
Certified Labs, Testing	\$749.85
CINTAS, Coveralls	\$312.35
City of Belmond, Utilities	\$72.69
City of Clarion, Utilities	\$581.91
City of Eagle Grove, Utilities	\$75.74
CJ Cooper, Testing	\$55.00
Clarion Distributing, Shop supp	\$735.00
Comm1, Phone	\$279.40
Culligan, Water	\$159.00
Detrick Electric, Repairs	\$364.90
Dumont Implement, Parts	\$1,243.24
Force America, Parts/Supp	\$62.11
Force Fitters, Apparel	\$7,635.50
Hawkeye West, Pest control	\$63.00
Heartland Asphalt, Excavation	\$38,658.36
Hiway Truck, Equipment	\$151,161.42
ISH-Clarion, Testing	\$381.00
Jack's O.K. Tire, Tires	\$1,186.30
K.C. Nielsen, Parts	\$351.31
Kimball Midwest, Parts	\$810.46
Kinzler Construction, Maint	\$2,175.50
Lawson Products, Supp	\$1,593.33
Mid-Am Research, Supp	\$809.00
Mid-America, Advertising	\$210.70
Midland Power, Utilities	\$8.58
Northland Products, Oil	\$6,731.36
Oldson's, Repairs	\$204.17
Prairie Energy, Utilities	\$721.17
Reliable Glass, Parts & Rep	\$830.28
Rockmount, Supp	\$946.52
T & S, Disposal	\$347.00
T-Mobile, Service	\$238.38
Truck Center, Parts	\$9,050.24
Urness, Supp	\$63.19
US Cellular, Phone	\$1,674.88
VISA, Credit Card	\$6,577.84
Visual Edge, Copier Contract	\$74.52
W & H, Fuel	\$1,188.03
Wr. Co. Aud., Postage	\$7.40
Sanitary Landfill, Disposal	\$55.00
Wright Farm Services, Repairs	\$51.73
Wright Materials, Gravel	\$146.02
Ziegler, Parts	\$4,780.55
Public Health Resource	
Amazon, Supp	\$390.19
Fareway, Supp	\$97.80
Early Childhood	
Visual Edge, Copier contract	\$47.94
Conservation Reserve	
West Iowa Bank, Loan	\$11,038.00
E911 Surcharge Fund	
Alliant Energy, Utilities	\$289.86
Comm1, Phone	\$119.12
Language Link, Interpreter	\$9.07
MidAmerican, Utilities	\$166.34
Prairie Energy, Utilities	\$211.23
TAC10, Maint	\$13,977.70
Wright County Eng., Labor	\$60.00
Drainage Administration	
IDDA, Registration	\$400.00
Debt Service	
UMB Bank, GO Bond	\$10,275.00
Debt Service Wind Farm UR	
UMB Bank, GO Bond	\$8,700.00
Debt Service Agribusiness UR	
Iowa Finance Authority, Loan	\$21,200.00
UMB Bank, Rev. Bond	\$11,335.00
Local Emergency Management	
Comm1, Phone	\$55.95
VISA, Credit Card	\$1,001.30
Wright Co. Communications	
Amazon, Stamps	\$182.61
CDW-G, Monitor	\$760.68
Hawkeye West, Pest control	\$204.00
Hero Schedule, Time schedule	\$44.00
IMWCA, Audit adj.	\$266.00
IWD, Unempl. Ins.	\$3,618.00
Visual Edge, Copier contract	\$286.29
Agribusiness Park Water Supply	
Thomas Ford, Operator Serv	\$1,200.00
Hawkins, Azone	\$183.95
Prairie Energy, Utilities	\$160.72
Grand Total	\$662,763.31

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Wed. Dec. 24, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE
Wright County Supervisors December 8, 2025 Minutes

December 8, 2025
Chairman Rasmussen called the regular meeting of the Wright County Board of Supervisors to order at 9:00 a.m. Members present were Kluss, Bosch, Rasmussen, Loux, and Ellis.
Motion by Loux and seconded by Ellis to approve the tentative agenda. Motion carries.
Minutes of the previous regular meeting of December 1, 2025 were read and approved.
Approved claims for payment with denying claim #44026 for reimbursement to Darrel Steven Carlyle. Ellis believes this should be paid out of the Marketing Fund rather than the General Basic Fund. Motion by Ellis and seconded by Bosch to deny claim #44026 until further clarification from the Economic Development Board as to where the reimbursement should be paid from. Motion carries.
In open forum, Wendy Palomino was congratulated for 20 years of service to Wright County as a dispatcher.
Aimee Goeman and LeAnn Waltzing, representing the Belmond Aquatic Center Committee, and Cody Nicholas, Belmond City Manager, discussed with the Board the CAT (Community Attraction and Tourism) Grant the City of Belmond is applying for. Goeman explained that they have raised \$2 million so far and with the bond that was passed on the ballot this last election, they were able to secure \$3 million additional through a bond. The committee and the City of Belmond are applying for the CAT Grant but need to have support

from the Supervisors. They are requesting \$10,000 for a match to be able to secure the grant.
Motion by Rasmussen and seconded by Bosch to approve Resolution 2025-35 agreeing to provide local contribution for the 2026 Community Attraction and Tourism Grant. By roll call vote: Ayes – Kluss, Bosch, Rasmussen, Loux, and Ellis; Nays – none. Resolution 2025-35 duly passes and reads as follows:
Resolution 2025-35
A RESOLUTION AGREEING TO PROVIDE LOCAL CONTRIBUTION FOR THE 2026 COMMUNITY ATTRACTION AND TOURISM GRANT
WHEREAS, the City of Belmond is applying for a Community Attraction and Tourism Grant from the Iowa Economic Development Authority to help finance the demolition of the existing pool and relevant facilities and constructing a new aquatic center facility.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Wright County, Iowa: That Wright County, Iowa hereby agrees to provide up to \$5,000 from Fiscal Year 2026 and \$5,000 from Fiscal Year 2027 of local monies to be used as matching funds for the 2026 Community Attraction and Tourism Grant project, as outlined in the grant application that will be submitted.
Passed and approve this 8th day of December, 2025.
Julie Edwards, UDMO Director, presented the annual report for services in Wright County. With the contribution from the County of \$16,000 last year, Upper Des

Moines Opportunity, Inc. was able to provide \$266,128 of direct services to the citizens in Wright County. UDMO is requesting continued partnership and financial support in the amount of \$16,000. This will be discussed during budget discussions.
Discussion was held on the Christmas Eve Holiday. Motion by Rasmussen to have Christmas Eve off as a gift to the employees. Motion dies for a lack of second. Ellis and Loux would like to see the courthouse be open on Christmas Eve as a normal work day.
Motion by Ellis and seconded by Loux to receive the monthly revenue report from the Wright County Sheriff. Motion carries.
Motion by Kluss and seconded by Rasmussen to support additional funding for the Heart of Iowa Regional Trust Fund from the Board of Supervisors in the amount of \$3,270. Motion carries with Ellis voting nay.
Adam Clemons, Wright County Engineer, gave an update on the Secondary Roads Department. Clemons is working on an agreement with the cities for maintenance inside the city limit with approval from the city on the Secondary Road extensions. This would include snow removal and normal blading with any additional maintenance to be reimbursed for.
Motion by Loux and seconded by Rasmussen to adjourn the meeting. Motion carries.
Rick Rasmussen, Chairman, Wright County Board of Supervisors
Amanda Meyer, Wright County Auditor

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Wed. Dec. 24, 2025

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.

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Clairon December 16, 2025 Claims

CLAIMS REPORT		VENDOR AMOUNT	
A.D TECH SOLUTIONS	242.7	COUNSEL OFFICE AND DOCUMENT	476.17
AFLAC	204.05	CRYSTAL CLEAN CARPET	808.26
AGSOURCE COOP SERVICES	1,390.90	DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP	418.97
AIRGAS USA, LLC	122.98	FAREWAY STORES INC.	854.53
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1,159.37	FED FICA ELECTRONIC	15,945.79
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	20.78	VISA	288.81
ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY	691.91	FORCE AMERICA, INC	484.79
BAKER & TAYLOR	27.15	GALLS,LLC	43
BETTER HOMES & GARDENS	1,427.01	GOLD-EAGLE COOP	1,427.01
BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC	14.52	GORDON FLESCH COMPANY	337.2
BROTHERS MARKET	47.84	HAWKEYE WEST PEST CONTROL	271
CASEY'S BUSINESS MASTERCARD	124.67	HAWKINS, INC	888.16
CENTER POINT LARGE PRINT	98.28	HEIMAN FIRE EQUIP	502.9
CENTRAL LOCK SECURITY	34,741.00	KRISTYN HENNIGAR	279.27
CITY OF CLARION	424.6	HENNIGARS WRECKER SERVICE	620
ULTIMATE SAFETY CONCEPTS	748.54	HSA PERSONAL	1530
CLARION DISTRIBUTING	72	I & S GROUP, INC	560
CLARION HEALTH & FITNESS	180	IA DEPT OF REVENUE	139.52
CLARION HEALTH INS.	1,342.93	ICCC	30
CLARION VISION INS	980.05	IMWCA	1,798.00
CLARION WATER & SEWER	369.23	INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES	117.93
COLLECTION SERVICES	132.09	IPERS	2,888.01
COLUMN SOFTWARE PBC	132.09	K & L TECHNICAL SERVICE	2,888.01
		KANSAS CITY LIFE INSURANCE CO	134.6
		KRUEGER, STEVE	4,000.00
		LANGUAGE LINK	2.28
		MAGNOLIA JOURNAL	25
		MERCY COLLEGE OF HEALTH	3,150.00
		MID AMERICAN ENERGY	514.03
		MID-AMERICA PUBLISHING CO	310
		NYEMASTER GOODE, P.C.	611
		PARADIGM BENEFITS	200
		PEOPLE	30
		PAIRIE ENERGY	67.71
		QUADIENT LEASING USA, INC	52.75
		QUILL CORPORATION	224.67
		SPRECHER, SARAH JANE	137.5
		STERICYCLE, INC	208.5
		T & S SANITATION	188
		T & S SANITATION	201
		THE TRASH MAN	20
		TREASURER STATE OF IOWA US CELLULAR	196.25
		USA BLUE BOOK	852.75
		VISUAL EDGE - DALLAS	692.58
		VISUAL EDGE IT	57.99
		WORLD BOOK, INC	463.04
		WRIGHT CO LANDFILL	17,812.50
		WEX BANK	1,098.28
		ZIEGLER INC	2,108.50
		Accounts Payable Total	107,213.84
		GENERAL	28,857.93
		ROAD USE	6,578.43
		EMPLOYEE BENEFIT FUND	5,948.58
		STREET PROJECT	8,199.00
		WATER	7,107.09
		WATER PLANT PROJECT	28,670.01
		SEWER	3,908.21
		LANDFILL	17,812.50
		INTERNAL SERVICE FUND	132.09
		TOTAL FUNDS	107,213.84

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Wed. Dec. 24, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Clairon December 16, 2025 Minutes

The Clarion City Council met in regular session Tuesday December 16th, 2025, at 5:00pm in the Council Chambers with Mayor Heiden presiding. Present were Council members Dan Hennigar, Nick McOllough, Mike Ennis and Elmarie Nel (absent Dave Flurer). Also, in attendance City Administrator Clint Middleton, Attorney Zach Chizek, and Chief TerHark Mayor Heiden called the meeting to order and polled the council for any conflicts of interest with the agenda, there were none. Mayor Heiden asked if there were any citizens listed to address the council, there was one. Jordan Capsel was there to point out a property that has no buildings on it on south main needs the sidewalk scooped. Middleton informed Capsel that he would have Code Enforcement look into it and get it taken care of. Motioned by McOllough seconded by Nel to approve consent agenda consisting of Minutes- 2025.12.02; Financial report- approve checks; Licenses/Permits- (Building, Liquor, Tobacco, Sign, Peddler, Street Closure) no permits (Motion passed 4-0, Flurer absent). Motioned by Nel seconded by McOllough to approve Resolution

(25-65) Fire Department Officers (Motion passed 4-1, Flurer absent). Motioned by Nel seconded by McOllough to approve Resolution (25-66) 28E County- Road maintenance (Motion passed 4-1, Flurer absent). Middleton's notes mentioned attending the caroling and snacks at the Depot Senior Center where he received a donation to the city. Motioned by McOllough seconded by Nel to adjourn. All Ayes. (Motion passed 4-0). Respectfully Submitted, Clint Middleton City Administrator

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Wed. Dec. 24, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE
CGD December 12, 2025 Claims

Clarion Goldfield Dows Community School District	December 11, 2025 Claims	Supplies	470.83	Materials - Rock	969.88	
Vendor Name	Vendor Description	Midamerican Energy Electric	27.82	T & R Electric LLC HS Electrical Repair	716.14	
Amount	Amount	North Iowa Area Comm. College Bus Class Fee	40.00	Capital Projects Total	\$2,329.77	
Access Systems Copier Supplies	149.12	Onestop Autoglass Transport	40.00	Access Systems Leasing Printer Copier Lease	2,697.69	
Ahlers & Cooney PC, Legal Services	207.00	Bus Repairs	336.92	Card 3 Bank of America MS Furniture	175.25	
Airgas USA LLC Vo Ag Supplies	1,138.53	Prairie Lakes AEA Supplies/Classes/Services	29,994.58	Central Lock Security Security License Fee	1,350.00	
Amazon Capital Services Supplies Credit	47.37	RevTrak Monthly CC Processing Fee	658.65	Comm 1 Network Inc PRI Credit	(341.29)	
Arnold Motor Supply Custodial/Transport Supplies	729.40	Rieman Music Instrument Repair	100.00	Mechanical Air Systems Company HS Building Repairs	813.27	
Beck Performance Diesel Bus Repair	1,247.65	RingCentral Inc. Phone System Credit	(220.46)	Oaks Garden Spot Site Improvement Material	1,875.00	
Bomgaars Custodial Supplies	57.50	Rothman, Alex Reimburse	89.85	Rasmussen Lawn Care Site Improvement Service	13,455.00	
Brothers Market FCS/Instructional Supplies	197.13	Roto-Rooter Elem Service	340.00	RingCentral Inc. District Wide Phones	656.95	
Business Card Bank of America Supt Tavel	1,763.52	Scholastic Book Clubs Inc Book Fair Books	273.27	PPEL Fund Total	\$20,681.87	
Business Accounting Course	695.00	School Specialty LLC MS Instructional Supplies	71.91	UMB Bank N.A. Agent Fee	300.00	
Card 3 Bank of America Custodial Supplies	466.85	Sesker, Matt Wrestling Official	130.00	UMB BANK NA 2021 Rev Bond Interest	34,751.50	
Card One Bank of America Elem Instructional Supplies	386.91	Spencer Steel LLC Transport Supplies	172.52	Debt Service Fund Total	\$35,051.50	
Carr, Marvin Wrestling Official	130.00	T & S Sanitation Garbage	1,435.00	Anderson Erickson Dairy Co Dairy Products	4,892.33	
Cengage Learning HS Instructional Textbks Supplies	21,400.50	T-Mobile Cell Phone/Ipad Service	6,556.30	Bimbo Bakeries USA Bread Products	194.60	
Central Iowa Distributing Custodial Supplies	650.00	TILL360 LLC HS Speaker Fee	1,131.01	Brothers Market Food	5.29	
City Of Clarion Water/Sewer	2,978.57	Tjaden, Randy Basketball Official	150.00	Clarion Distributing Nutrition Supplies	519.25	
City Of Goldfield Water/Sewer	67.81	Urness Hardware Custodial Supplies	674.94	Martin Brothers Distributing Co, Inc. Food/Supplies	40,668.04	
Clarion Distributing Custodial Supplies/Paper	5,810.78	VERIZON District Cell Phones	362.98	Rapids Nutrition Supplies	8.16	
Column Software PBC Legal Publications	340.35	Visa - Card Two Instructional Travel/PD	174.10	RingCentral Inc. Nutrition Phone Credit	(44.06)	
Comm 1 Network Inc Phone Lines	349.32	Visa - AF Metro Fax	11.95	VERIZON Nutrition Cell Phone	38.48	
Cramer Chiropractic DOT Physical	100.00	Visa - Card OneTAG Travel	579.54	Visa - Card One Nutrition Online Course Fee	191.53	
Crystal Clean Carpet Carpet Cleaning	567.21	W & H Cooperative Oil Co Propane Payment	215.00	Nutrition Fund Total	\$46,473.62	
Decker Equipment Custodial Supplies	1,071.58	General Fund Total	\$108,494.46	Benton, Rhonda Reimburse	Golden Apple Expense	78.59
Dehrkoop, Mike Basketball Official	150.00	Amazon Capital Services Esports Supplies	47.37	Ingebritson, Madison Hooray for Dows Scholarship	1,500.00	
DHS Cashier 1st FI State Medicaid Share	14,007.62	Biosecurity Services Equipment Service	300.00	Wharton, Belle Hooray for Dows Scholarship	1,500.00	
Don's Pest Control Pest Control	182.00	Card One Bank of America Student Senate Travel	569.97	Wharton, Jacob Hooray for Dows Scholarship	1,500.00	
Donovan Group I Communication Services	2,750.00	Charlson, Angie Reimburse Travel	316.74	Trust Fund Total	\$4,578.59	
Electronic Specialties, Inc Bus Radio	347.85	Elite Sports HS Girls Warmups	392.00	Total Claims	\$251,271.59	
Federal Fire Equipment Co. Inspection Fee	692.14	Four Seasons FFA Resale Supplies	4,133.80	Fund 71	Auxiant Claims Medical Claims/Premium	280,182.57
Franklin County Auditor Election Fee	517.41	Hewett Wholesale Inc Concession Supplies	1,041.14	Clarion Health & Fitness Monthly Fee	700.00	
Gold-Eagle Cooperative Bus Fuel/Diesel/Kerosene	1,867.56	Independence School District Office Wrestling Entry Fee	370.00	Reliance Life Standard Premium	2,234.47	
Greiman						

PUBLIC NOTICE
CGD December 12, 2025 Minutes

The Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Board of Directors held their Organizational and Regular Meetings on Friday, December 12, 2025, at the district office. Attending the meeting was Troy Seaba, Megan Ring, Alison Marshall, Craig Warnke, SheRee Wharton, Kelly Kirstein, Elizabeth Severson, Brad Kahler, Jarod Carder, Adam Vorne, Mark Skogerboe, Amanda Rink, Tanja Jensen, Kelly Hill, Amanda Morris, Katrina TerHark, Maycie Rector, Amanda Rosenkilde, Brian Engstler, Scott Simmons, Joe Nelson, and Anita Frye.

Troy Seaba Called the Meeting to Order at 7:00 A.M. and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Severson to Approve the Agenda. Second by Ring. Motion carried 5-0.

Open Forum: Tanja Jensen addressed the board with her desire to maintain a strong TAG program and what it should look like in the future after her retirement. She wants the board to consider all parts of the program and what it means to the students in our district when making decisions for next year. Kelly Hill spoke on how difficult it is to use or schedule to use school facilities for practices, and he would like to see the buildings open for use on Sunday. Mr. Nelson asked if he had discussed his concerns or the situation with Brad Kahler. Hill replied he had not. Brian Engstler stated he would like to see the gyms open 1-5 P.M. on Sunday afternoons. He does not like that we combined with other towns for sports. CGD should have their own team for each sport. Mr. Nelson replied the reason the district combined with other neighboring schools was low participation numbers. Scott Simmons discussed how busy the schedules of students are during the week. Some starting at 6:30 in the morning and not ending until 8-9:00 P.M. Having the time on Sunday afternoon would allow students to end their day earlier during the week.

Review of Elections Results: Troy Seaba read the election results, adding two new board members Alison Marshall and SheRee Wharton. Both Marshall and Wharton received their Oath of Office, on Thursday, Dec. 4th, 2025, from Board Secretary Frye. Mr. Nelson thanked retiring board members Elizabeth Severson for her sixteen years of service and Kelly Kirstein for her four years of service. Adjournment of the Retiring Board by Severson. Second by Ring. Motion carried 5-0.

Organizational Meeting: Board Secretary Frye Called the Meeting to Order at 7:22 A.M. She then asked for nominations for Board President. Motion by Ring to nominate Troy Seaba. Second by Warnke. Motion carried 5-0. Frye administered the Oath of Office to Seaba. Seaba then took nominations for Vice President. Motion by Ring to nominate Craig Warnke as Vice President. Second by Marshall. Motion carried 5-0. Seaba administered the Oath of Office to Warnke. Motion by Ring to Appoint Mark Skogerboe as district Treasurer. Second by Warnke. Motion carried 5-0. Seaba administered the Oath of Office to Skogerboe. Motion by Ring to Appoint Anita Frye as Board Secretary. Second by Warnke. Motion carried 5-0. Seaba administered the Oath of Office to Frye. Motion by Ring to Approve 2026 Committee Assignments are Building & Grounds – Craig Warnke & Megan Ring; Wright Co. Conference Board

– Alison Marshall; SIACC – Megan Ring & SheRee Wharton; Legislative Network Rep – Troy Seaba; IASB Delegate – Troy Seaba; IASB Alternate – Craig Warnke; Board Policy – Entire Board; Negotiations – Teachers – Troy Seaba & Megan Ring; Negotiations – Classified – Alison Marshall & Craig Warnke; Wellness Committee – SheRee Wharton; Insurance Committee – Troy Seaba & Alison Marshall; Educational Committee – Megan Ring & Craig Warnke. Second by Warnke. Motion carried 5-0. Motion by Ring to name Wright County monitor the official newspaper for legal publications of the district. Second by Warnke. Motion carried 5-0. Motion by Ring to Appoint Ahlers Cooney and Seaba Law firm for school district legal matters. Second by Marshall. Motion carried 5-0. Motion by Ring to Approve Depository Limits not to exceed \$15 million at First Citizens, \$5 million at First State, and \$1 million at Bankers Trust. Second by Warnke. Motion carried 5-0: Motion by Ring to Approve Board President, Vice President, Board Secretary and Amanda Carpenter as authorized signatures for two signature check payments. Second by Warnke. Motion carried 5-0.

Superintendent Report: During this time AD Brad Kahler discussed Gym Usage the conversations he has had with several parents, gaining their perspective on Sunday usage. He outlined a schedule that a fourth-grade parent had given him, and the activities they participated in all week. He presented the idea that Sunday could be a recharge/family day for all students. Marshall stated she thinks Rec or AAU teams that practice on Sundays will allow them time to improve their skills. It is up to the parents to decide if their child participates and to what degree. Warnke spoke on his experience as a parent and coach in the community. He would like to Sunday protected as refocus and recharge day. Ring spoke as a parent and felt that her child needs a day free of activities to recoup. Carder spoke as a parent, acknowledging he can see it from both points of view, but appreciates the free Sunday afternoon to regroup. Maycie Rector spoke from the point of view of a student athlete and a volunteer coach – she practiced on Sunday as an athlete and as a volunteer coach that is the only time she can really commit to practice or games due to her employment duties.

Nelson shared due to the staff survey and open meeting that was held with staff, feedback is clear that they would like to see two principals, one at the Elementary School and one at the Middle School. He then had Jared Carder give an update on the principal applications. Through Grundmeyer Leader search the district will continue to receive applications through Sunday, January 4, 2026. We have had eight Middle School applicants and six Elementary applications; the plan is to have interviews around the third week in January.

New Business: Motion by Ring to Approve the district's administration to submit a request to the School Budget Review Committee for a modified supplemental amount of \$83,705.00 for increased enrollment. Second by Warnke. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Ring to Approve the district's administration to submit a request to the School Budget Re-

view Committee for a modified supplemental amount of \$73,403.00 for Open Enrolled Students Out who were not included in the district's previous year certified enrollment count. Second by Marshall. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Ring to Approve the district's administration to submit a request to the School Budget Review Committee for a modified supplemental amount of \$106,400.00 for EL program students who have exceeded five years of weighting that are included on the Fall 2025 certified enrollment headcount. Second by Warnke. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Ring to Approve FY27 Building Administrator Plan hiring one principal for the Elementary Building and one principal for the Middle School Building. Seconded by Warnke. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion was held on Policy 08.02 – Facility Use. This was tabled until next meeting once more information is obtained regarding liability, staff, and fees.

Consent Agenda: Motion by Warnke to Approve Minutes of Meeting held on November 13, 2025; Approve Payment of Bills in Between Meetings; Approve Payment of Monthly Bills; Approve FY26 Contract for Paul Hansch – Classroom Instructor Drivers Education -\$3,075.00; MS Special Education Para Abigail Mewes, Step 1 \$17.17/hr. with FT Benefits after successful completion of 60 work days; Approve Lane Movement Request from Slade Sifuentes BA+10 to BA+20; Approve Contract Modification for Kristina Moore reducing library stipend and adding TLC Lighthouse Stipend – Contract \$60,429.68, 4 additional contract days \$1,272.20, 91 ELA/Library Days \$4,310.67, TLC Lighthouse Stipend \$1,000, total contract \$67,012.55; Teddy Yackle as Seasonal Building & Grounds Help \$13.16/hr. FY27 Whitney Dahlgren moving from MS Science to HS FCS Teacher with reimbursement of two classes to get endorsement upon submission of transcripts and verification of class payment; Approve 1st Reading of Policies - Policy 208 -Board Committees; 208 R1-Board Committees Regulation; 401.01 – Equal Opportunity; 502.07 – Student Substance Use; 507.05-Emergency Plans and Drills; 710.1E1-School Nutrition Program Notices of Nondiscrimination; 804.07-Radon Mitigation; 804.07-R(1)- Radon Mitigation. Approve Rescinding of Policy 208.E1-Ad Hoc Committees Exhibit; Approve HS Choir overnight request Dorian Festival – January 11-12, 2026, and Meistersinger Festival January 25-26, 2026. Second by Marshall. Motion carried 5-0.

Financial Reports: Reports may be viewed at the district office during normal business hours.

Facility/Nutrition/Transportation: No reports were given. Ring and Wharton commented that the changes made to the school lunches are very much appreciated and they have heard lots of positive comments.

Next Regular Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 8, 2026, at 4:30 P.M. The board will hold a Closed Session at 3:30 to screen principal applications.

Motion by Ring to Adjourn. Second by Warnke. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:16 A.M. Anita Frye, Board Secretary

City Council Appoints Fire Chief and Approves Road Agreement

Amanda Rink, Editor

The Clarion City Council met Tuesday evening, Dec. 16, at City Hall with Mayor Rod Heiden presiding. Council members Dan Hennigar, Nick McOllough, Mike Ennis and Elmarie Nel were present. Dave Flurer was absent while attending his child's school concert. City Administrator Clint Middleton and City Attorney Zach Chizek were also in attendance.

During the open forum for the public, resident Jordan Capsell spoke about a winter safety concern involving a snow-covered sidewalk in an area south of the Clarion Locker. Capsell said he walks to and from town every day and noted that when the sidewalk is not cleared, he and another resident are forced to walk

in the street. He asked the council to make sure the issue was addressed. After agreeing to address the issue, the council moved on to agenda projects.

The council approved the reappointment of Pat McCormick as Clarion Fire Chief and accepted the officers of the Clarion Fire Department for 2026.

Approved officers included: Brian Marker as Assistant Chief; Gene Rosenbaum, Treasurer; Tim Hamilton, Secretary; Tyler Reiter, Michael Weber and Bryce Hamilton as Captains; Steve Krueger as Training Officer; Bryce Hamilton as Training Officer; and Greg Littlejohn as Liaison/PIO Officer.

Trustees approved were Lance Austin for a one-year term, Eric Stevens for a two-year term, and Owen

Kockorsky for a three-year term. Councilmembers also approved a new 28E agreement with Wright County for road maintenance within city limits.

Under the new agreement, Wright County will continue snow removal and summer blading on certain secondary road extensions, including Madison Avenue (R38), 210th Street, and Nelson Avenue, at no cost to the city. The agreement also outlines that any additional maintenance not specified must be approved by the council and reimbursed to the county. Roads with shared ownership will continue to be maintained jointly by the city and county.

The council will meet again on January 6, 2026, at 5:00 P.M. in Council Chambers.

Supervisors continued from page 1

nutrition, wellness programs, and sharing information about a new employee assistance program targeting high blood pressure and stress reduction.

Supervisors approved a motion to continue participating in the ISAC Wellness Program for 2026. ISAC also provides the county with \$20 per contract, funds which are used for year-end wellness prizes. This year's prizes included two treadmills, a 65-inch television, an iPad, and a cooler.

In other business, the board appointed JoEllen Reynolds to the Wright County Trails Committee as the Belmont representative.

The board then moved on to a 28E agreement with the City of Belmont regarding county maintenance

of certain city streets. Under the agreement, Wright County will continue providing snow removal and summer blading on county roads within city limits.

Any work beyond that will require city approval and reimbursement, as with the agreement with Clarion. The city of Belmont had already approved the agreement before Wright County Engineer Adam Clemons

brought it to the Board of Supervisors.

Clemons then provided a secondary roads update, reporting that crews have been busy with snow and ice response, particularly on hills and intersections. Sand sheds and the Clarion salt bunker have been restocked, and the county has received just over half of its ordered salt allotment from the Iowa DOT. Work con-

tinues on the Taylor Avenue Bridge near Belmond, as weather allows, and seismic testing is ongoing.

Clemons also noted the department is reviewing equipment pricing and possible cost increases heading into the 2026 budget cycle.

During meeting updates, supervisors recognized the retirement of longtime county employee Darrel Steven Carlyle.

The board also announced county offices will be closed on Wednesday, December 24, through Friday, December 26, for the holiday.

The board of supervisors will meet again on Monday, December 29, at 9:00 A.M. at the courthouse. This meeting, and past meetings, can be viewed online at youtube.com/@WrightCountyIowaOfficial8312.

Bus Drivers continued from page 1

the conditions, Schmitz then decided to turn west-bound students around and return them to the high school, where school staff stayed with them until Rothman was able to drive the children home. The students ultimately arrived home about an hour later than their usual drop-off time.

The bus on the west side of Clarion was one of several navigating the intermittent snow squalls throughout the area. Adam Foertsch, another bus driver, was also caught in the storm and at one point pulled his bus over for safety.

Rothman emphasized that making sure students feel safe is always a priority,

especially during weather events like this. When one child asked Foertsch what would happen if they "ended up in the ditch," he reassured them that the bus had plenty of fuel to stay warm, and joked that they could always sing Christmas songs if needed. The lighthearted comment sparked spontaneous caroling, with several students leading the rest in holiday songs.

Other drivers focused on keeping conversation going to calm worried students, but Rothman noted that most children seemed relatively unfazed, chatting with friends or playing games on their phones. "The drivers all did a good job making sure the kids were safe," Rothman said

proudly.

Elsewhere around Clarion, travelers were forced to stop along roadways as sheriff's deputies set up checkpoints in the areas hardest hit by the squalls. Others took shelter in community spaces such as the Clarion Library, restaurants, and local businesses.

Ultimately, when emergencies strike, Clarion residents know they can count on their neighbors, one of the many reasons Wright County remains a special place to call home.

This article was made possible by a news tip from a community member. Do you have a story to share? Contact the editor at news@wrightcountymonitor.com.

Santas continued from page 1

feel cared for.

Christmas hope, cheer, and nostalgia does not arrive in Wright County all on its own. It arrives because people carry it to every corner it is invited to.

Editor's Note: Throughout Wright County, many generous individuals volunteer their time as Santa and Mrs. Claus, and we are truly grateful for each and every one of you. Space simply doesn't allow me to recog-

nize everyone, especially during the holiday season, which feels like an impossible task. I could easily fill all twelve pages of the Monitor offering thanks.

That's because Wright County is filled with people who give so much of themselves. From those who serve on boards to improve our parks and pools, to those who sit on councils, to those filling church basements every day to feed our neigh-

bors or make sure a child has shoes for the first day of school, you are the heart of this community.

Thank you for all that you do, often without recognition or applause. I hope this season brings you the gratitude you so richly deserve, and if it doesn't, please consider this your heartfelt thank-you.

The Wright County Monitor, Amanda Rink

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Wed. Dec. 24, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE
Wright County Freedom Mortgage Corporation

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR WRIGHT COUNTY FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, PLAINTIFF vs. ALL OF THE UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ALL OF THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, SPOUSES, ASSIGNEES, GRANTEEES, LEGATEES, DEVISEES AND BENEFICIARIES OF DONNIE HAUSER, DECEASED, NICOLE HAUSER, LNV FUNDING, LLC, CAPITAL ONE, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO CAPITAL ONE BANK (USA), NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, MIDLAND FUNDING, LLC, HAUGE ASSOCIATES, INC., STATE OF IOWA, IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND FINANCE AND PARTIES IN POSSESSION, DEFENDANTS EQUITY NO. EQCV025458 ORIGINAL NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: You are hereby notified that there is a petition on file in the office of the clerk of the above court which petition prays for a judgment in rem against the property involved in this action for the sum of \$41,998.50 with interest at 3.875% per annum from and including May 1, 2025, on the promissory note executed by Donnie Hauser, a married person and mortgage executed by Donnie Hauser and Nicole Hauser, husband and wife to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as mortgagee, as nominee for Embrace Home Loans, Inc., its successors and assigns and assigned to Plaintiff, who is the sole and absolute owner thereof. Said note, together with the mortgage given to secure the same are due and payable by reason of the failure of the Defendants Don-

nie Hauser and Nicole Hauser, husband and wife to pay the installments of principal when due. Plaintiff also prays in said Petition for the foreclosure of said mortgage dated December 18, 2012 recorded in Book 2012 Page 2915 in the Recorder's Office of Wright County, Iowa, with said note dated December 18, 2012 on the following described property, to-wit: The South Half of Lot 6 and all of Lot 7 in Block 9 of Hewett's Park Addition to Eagle Grove Junction, Wright County, Iowa and also asking that said mortgage be declared a prior and superior lien to that of each of the above named Defendants; for appointment of a receiver; for the amount paid by Plaintiff for attorneys' fees, abstract expense, costs and accruing costs of this action; that special execution issue for the sale of said real estate to satisfy said judgment, interest, attorneys' fees and costs and for such other and further relief as may be just and equitable.

FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS, SEE COPY OF PETITION NOW ON FILE. THE PLAINTIFF HAS ELECTED FORECLOSURE WITHOUT REDEMPTION. THIS MEANS THAT THE SALE OF THE MORTGAGED PROPERTY WILL OCCUR PROMPTLY AFTER ENTRY OF JUDGMENT UNLESS YOU FILE WITH THE COURT A WRITTEN DEMAND TO DELAY THE SALE. IF YOU FILE A WRITTEN DEMAND, THE SALE WILL BE DELAYED UNTIL THREE MONTHS FROM ENTRY OF JUDGMENT IF THE MORTGAGED PROPERTY IS YOUR RESIDENCE AND IS A ONE-FAMILY OR TWO-FAMILY DWELL-

ING OR UNTIL TWO MONTHS FROM ENTRY OF JUDGMENT IF THE MORTGAGED PROPERTY IS NOT YOUR RESIDENCE OR IS RESIDENCE BUT NOT A ONE-FAMILY OR TWO-FAMILY DWELLING. YOU WILL HAVE NO RIGHT OF REDEMPTION AFTER THE SALE. THE PURCHASER AT THE SALE WILL BE ENTITLED TO IMMEDIATE POSSESSION OF THE MORTGAGED PROPERTY. YOU MAY PURCHASE AT THE SALE. The Plaintiff's attorneys are Petosa Law LLP by Benjamin W. Hopkins, whose address is 1350 NW 138th Street, Suite 100, Clive, IA 50325, telephone number 515-222-9400, facsimile number 515-222-9121. You must serve a motion or answer on or before the 21st day of January, 2026, and within a reasonable time thereafter file your motion or answer in the Iowa District Court of Wright County, at the Courthouse in Clarion, Iowa. If you do not, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Petition.

This case has been filed in a county that utilizes electronic filing. You should refer to (i) Iowa Court Rules Chapter 16 for general rules and information on electronic filing; and (ii) Iowa Court Rules Chapter 16, division VI regarding the protection of personal information in court filings. If you require assistance of auxiliary aids or services to participate in court because of a disability, immediately call your district ADA coordinator at (641) 421-0990. (If you are hearing impaired, call Relay Iowa TTY at 1-800-735-2942). **YOU ARE ADVISED TO SEEK LEGAL ADVICE AT ONCE TO PROTECT YOUR INTERESTS.**

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Wed. Dec. 17, 24 & 31, 2025

Legals are your right to know!

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GARNER TOLL FREE (866) 923-2769

The Wright County MONITOR
clarionnewsonline.com • The Official Newspaper of Wright County, The City of Clarion, & The Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Community School District

DEADLINE:

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

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
• Wednesday, December 24
Christmas Eve
4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
• Sunday, December 28
No Sunday School, Christmas Break
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, December 28
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, December 25
Christmas Day
9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Francis Xavier, Belmont
Offices Closed
• Friday, December 26
No Events
• Saturday, December 27
Feast of the Holy Family
4:00 p.m. Mass at St. Francis Xavier, Belmont
8:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish at St. John, Clarion
• Sunday, December 28
Feast of the Holy Family
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
4:00 p.m. Evening Prayer and Potluck for the All-Cluster Celebration of the Feast of the Holy Family St. Francis Xavier, Belmont
• Monday December 29
8:15 a.m. Rosary at St. Francis Xavier, Belmont
• Tuesday, December 30
No Events
• Wednesday, December 31
Solemnity of Mary
New Year's Eve
4:00 p.m. Mass at St. Francis Xavier, Belmont
• Thursday, January 1
New Year's Day
9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Francis Xavier, Belmont

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
219 First Street N.W. Clarion
515-532-2709
• Sunday, December 28 Roger Kallem 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, December 28
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: Ann Trimble Ray. Each bring a new perspective to our church and God!
• Sunday Services
11:00 a.m. Worship time
Everyone Welcome!

HOLMES LUTHERAN CHURCH
2139 Hancock Ave, Holmes, Iowa
HolmesLutheran@gmail.com
Pastor George Lautner
Office hours 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. (Flexible)
515-825-3660
• Sunday, December 28
9:30 a.m. Praise & Worship
10:30 a.m. Suda School all ages
Everyone Welcome!
Comunion 1st & 3rd Sundays
Praise Songs & Worship last Sunday

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, December 28
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
• December 24
5:00 p.m. Service of Scripture with Carols, Communion and Candles
• Sunday, January 4
Take down decorations after worship
• Sunday, January 11
Annual Meeting following worship

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod
Jct. Highway 69 & 3
Pastor Mark Eichler
• Sunday, December 28
10:30 a.m. Divine Services,
11:45 a.m. Bible Study
October 7 - 28 and November 4 at 1:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study

DOWS AREA

SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH
109 N. Eskridge St., Dows
Dows / www.sgcdows.com
Doug Holmes, Pastor
• Sunday, December 28
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
• Wednesday, December 24
6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
• Sunday, December 28
10:00 a.m. Worship

UNITED METHODIST & PRESBYTERIAN
• Sunday, December 28
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, December 28
10:30 a.m. Worship

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN
304 W. Main, Latimer
Travis Berg, Pastor
• Sunday, December 28
9 a.m. Worship, 10:15 a.m. ABC/Sunday School

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Morgan, Lee Center, Bradford
Erling Shultz, Pastor
• Sunday, December 28
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, December 28
9:30a.m. Joint Sunday Worship Service with Holy Communion, Coffee to follow
• Dinner is the first Sunday of the month



The Clarion Wire

** MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!
** Watch for changes of business hours and opening!
** Clarion Senior Citizens Center will be closed for the Christmas holiday now and reopening on Monday, January 5!
** Enjoy a 'Christmas Eve Service' at a church of your choice to celebrate the birth of Jesus!
** Christmas Eve Service at Goldfield's United Methodist Church is Wednesday, December 24 at 4 p.m.
** Choose a time which fits you/your family: Clarion Methodist Church with Christmas Eve services at 4 or 6 p.m.
** Wright County Catholic services: Belmont - on Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24 - 4 p.m.; and at 7:30 p.m. Bilingual in Clarion. Christmas Day on Thursday, December 25 - 9 a.m. in Eagle Grove. And on Sunday, December 28 at 4 p.m. in Belmont - all cluster mass with a potluck to follow (Feast of the Holy Family).
** Enjoy the Christmas Eve Service on Wednesday, December 24, at Holmes Lutheran Church - 4:30 p.m.
** United Congregational Church and First Lutheran Church in Clarion has their joint Christmas Eve Worship service on Wednesday, December 24 at the Lutheran Church at 5 p.m.
** Christmas Eve Worship at Clarion's United Presbyterian Church is Wednesday, December 24 at 5 p.m.
** Christmas Eve Worship service at Holmes Baptist Church will be held at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, December 24!
** Join Clarion's Church of Christ for its Christmas Eve Service set for Wednesday, December 24 at 5:30 p.m.
** It's Coming: FREE MOVIE "Soul on Fire" at the Clarion Theatre on Tuesday, December 30 at 7 p.m.; sponsored by Clarion's Marys and Marthas!
** From Clint at the Bru: "New Year's Eve has drink specials and complementary Champagne at midnight. Opening early to watch the Iowa vs. Vanderbilt bowl game at 11 a.m."
** Celebrate the upcoming New Year at Clarion Country Club dining with friends on Wednesday, December 31 between 5 - 9 p.m. Reservations required - 515-532-2911 or clarion16@gmail.com .
** From Pete Gardner: "Cattleman's in Belmont has live entertainment on New Year's Eve, Wednesday, December 31. BK jazz quartet entertains from 8:30 to 11 p.m. We are looking for other live music possibilities into 2026. Know someone who could play at Cattleman's some evening? contact me at 641-430-1688."
** Happy 2026!
** Clarion's Blood Drive is the first Tuesday afternoon of each month. The next one is Tuesday, January 6 - United Presbyterian Church from 1 - 5:30 p.m.
** Play (learn) Pickleball! From 6 - 8 p.m. at Clarion's Elementary/Middle School Multi-Purpose Room (entry on north side of school building). Pay \$2 to play. Every Wednesday evening in January - February. Contact Gloria Johnson for more information 515-835-7728.
** CDA 'Casino Night' is scheduled for Saturday, January 31 at the Red Shed from 7 - 10 p.m.
** From CDA office: "Clarion is participating in the Rural Housing Readiness Assessment to better understand our current housing conditions and future needs. We're asking residents, business owners, and community partners—both in Clarion and the surrounding area—to complete the RHRA survey. Your input will help identify housing gaps, support workforce needs, and guide future community investments. Online Survey Software | Qualtrics Survey Solutions - English; : https://iastate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8xp7t3GEHtZnUDY - Spanish. If you need help or prefer a paper copy, stop by the CDA Office or call Bailey at 515-532-2256.: You have some time. But JUST DO IT!!
** AT THE CLARION THEATRE: Showing "Soul On Fire" (PG) on Friday - Sunday, December 26 - 28 @ 7 p.m.; Sunday Matinee at 2:30 p.m. - December 28. Don't forget the extra showing sponsored by Clarion's M & Ms on Tuesday, December 30 - FREE!
** FOCUS ON BUSINESS: From Sally Woodley: "Holiday hours are Monday, December 22 and Tuesday, December 23, 11-4. Closed Wednesday, December 24 and Thursday, December 25. Year-end Sale of 35% off store wide, some exceptions, Friday, December 26, 10-5, Saturday, December 27 10-3, Wednesday, December 31, 10-5, Thursday, January 1, 11-3, Friday, January 2, 10-5, and Saturday, January 3, 10-3."
** MONEY SAVING TIP: Shop at Italics Boutique in Clarion; buy 1 item at regular price; 2nd one 50% off!
** THANK YOU: To all of you as readers and subscribers of the CLARION WIRE!



	<p>Contact: Katie Phillips to Advertise! 641-790-1841</p>		<p>“Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.” Luke 2:11 (NIV)</p> <p>Celebrating Christ's Birth</p> <p>In the time leading up to Christmas, we enjoy all the season has to offer: decorating, giving gifts, spending time with loved ones, and a lot more. While these joyful feelings may seem fleeting, we can seek out lasting joy in recognizing the fact that Christ was brought into this world for us. In celebrating Christ's birth, we can find both the real meaning of the holiday, but also a measure of hope in a world that often feels characterized by conflict. Truly, the narrative of Christ's birth and life provide excellent guidance for us when encountering such conflict in our own lives. From His family's first steps towards Bethlehem to His last days on earth, Christ has laid out a perfect blueprint for us. In attempting to both emulate His actions and celebrate His birth this Christmas season, we are serving Christ. -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>
<p>Contact: Katie Phillips to Advertise! 641-790-1841</p>	<p>CLARION WELLNESS & REHABILITATION CENTER Caring Staff... Quality Rehabilitation 515-532-2893 110 13th Avenue SW Clarion, Iowa 50525</p>	<p>THRIFTY WHITE PHARMACY Committed to Healthy Outcomes 210 North Main • Clarion 515-825-6626 Laura Phillips Pharmacy Manager</p>		<p>www.firstiowa.bank Member FDIC</p>	<p>Contact: Katie Phillips to Advertise! 641-790-1841</p>	<p>Office: 641-622-3110 Cell: 641-790-1841</p>
	<p>Office: 641-622-3110 Cell: 641-790-1841</p>			<p>Stevenson Insurance Services ABENS-MARTY-CURRAN AGENCY Trusted Choice Goldfield 515-825-3476</p>		<p>Contact: Katie Phillips to Advertise! 641-790-1841</p>

Words of Wisdom

Last week's trivia question:
Match the college or university in Iowa
with the town where it's located -



- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Coe | A) Cedar Rapids |
| 2. Cornell | B) Decorah |
| 3. Dordt | C) Dubuque |
| 4. Ellsworth | D) Forest City |
| 5. Loras | E) Indianola |
| 6. Luther | F) Iowa Falls |
| 7. Northwestern | G) Mount Vernon |
| 8. Simpson | H) Orange City |
| 9. Waldorf | I) Sioux Center |
| 10. Wartburg | J) Waverly |

Answer:

1. Coe - Cedar Rapids
2. Cornell - Mount Vernon
3. Dordt - Sioux Center
4. Ellsworth - Iowa Falls
5. Loras - Dubuque
6. Luther - Decorah
7. Northwestern - Orange City
8. Simpson - Indianola
9. Waldorf - Forest City
10. Wartburg - Waverly

This week's trivia questions -
What U.S. state produces the most Christmas trees?
After Alaska, what two New England states receive
the most snowfall each year?

Dec. 24 is Christmas Eve, and National Eggnog
Day; Dec. 25 is Christmas Day, and National Pumpkin
Pie Day; Dec. 26 is National Candy Cane Day; Dec.
27 is National Fruitcake Day; Dec. 28 is National Card
Playing Day, and Chocolate Candy Day; Dec. 29 is
Still Need to Do Day; Dec. 30 is National Bacon Day;
Dec. 31 is New Year's Eve, and
National Champagne Day.

Funny things people said in job interviews:
"Did you bring your references with you?..." "I tried,
but they couldn't get the time off work."
"Why did you leave your last job?"..."I literally
could not stand those people anymore."
"Where do you see yourself in five
years?"..."Probably on an exotic beach somewhere."
"Why do you want to work with us?"..."My mom
said I have to get a job or she'll stop
giving me money."
"Why should we give you this job and not the other
candidates?"..."I have mob ties."
"How would you describe yourself in three
words?"..."Efficient."
"What is your greatest weakness?"..."
I'm terrible at interviews."
"Do you have any questions for us?"..."
When do I start?"

In Japan, a Christmas tradition for many people is
to get a meal from KFC (Kentucky Fried Chicken).
Families pre-order their meals weeks in advance
to avoid long lines. The KFC Christmas tradition
began in 1974, when the manager of the first KFC
outlet in Japan launched a "Kentucky for Christmas"
advertising campaign.

The Christmas tree tradition originated in Germany
during the 16th century, when devout Christians began
bringing decorated evergreen trees into their homes.
German settlers brought their tradition of Christmas
trees to America.

The Christmas hymn "Silent Night", which
originated in Austria in 1818, is the most widely
recorded Christmas song in history.

Monitor Memories

FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE WRIGHT COUNTY MONITOR
1983 - 1948

42 Years Ago December 29, 1983

Record-setting cold
and high winds turned what
should have been a pleasant
holiday weekend into one
of the most punishing
Christmas Eves in history.
In Clarion, the thermometer
dropped down to as low
as 24 degrees below zero
on Saturday, matching
the record lows across the
state. The winds gusted up
to as high as 30 miles an
hour. The wind chill index
dropped to 80 degrees
below zero and even colder.

The value of Wright
County farmland and
farmland throughout the
NC Iowa area declined by
an estimated 6.9 percent in
1983, according to a study
released by ISU. In Wright
County alone, the value of
farmland by acre dropped
from a 1982 price of \$2511
to a 1983 price of \$2401.

Some 200 youngsters
of all ages came out in
droves last Thursday
afternoon and enjoyed
free skating at Clarion's
Spinning Wheels. A
number of special activities
were included like the ever-
popular limbo when skaters
showed how low they
could go. The afternoon-
long event was sponsored
by Spinning Wheels and
the Clarion Area Chamber
of Commerce.

77 Years ago December 23, 1948

The display of electric
trains being exhibited in
the basement of the United
Presbyterian church has
attracted more than 1,000
visitors during the days
it has been opened to the
public. The display consists
of six trains running on
350 feet of track. The
installations of the tracks
and trains represent about
14 man-hours of work.

Hooray, Kids! You're
going to have an ice skating
rink this year just like you
did last year and it will be
in the same old place, near
the school house. The shelter
house has been enclosed
with the exception of the
east side so you can put
your skates on in comfort.
The Clarion Rec committee
began flooding the rink
Wednesday and it depends
on the weather how soon
it will be ready.

A five-year-old boy
and his Scotty dog had
themselves a whee of a
time Saturday morning and
when they had finished,
Clarence Kastler, who
operates a mink ranch
near Woolstock was minus
19 mink averaging in
value \$40 each and had
an outright loss of several
hundred dollars.



Nibbles

By Nichol Hohenbrink

Adventure Awaits

A daring new adventure
is coming to my kitchen
sometime soon.

Liver pudding is one
of those things I've been
exposed to over the years
of knowing my husband.
Don't get me wrong, my
family ate plenty of things
others would consider
bizarre, exotic, etc. -
buffalo/bison, antelope,
elk, rattlesnake, bear,
beaver, I think.

My husband was waxing
poetically recently about
liver pudding. I've fried up
liver pudding my mother-
in-law had made up and
frozen previously, but I
don't know the least bit
about making it. I told
him if he could get me the
recipe I would try to cook
it for him.

What I got was one of
those old recipes that had
a lot of vague directions.
A phone call later with my
mother-in-law I made the
muddy water slightly less
murky. As my mother-
in-law explained to me,
if I were to go around to
several of the older women
in her county which is
heavily settled by Germans,
each person I asked would
probably give me a slightly
different recipe for how

they make liver pudding.

If I were a young woman
from a generation or two
who spent quite a bit
more time in the kitchen,
I could probably be more
at ease with vague cooking
directions, but that's not
me. I still need to call a
local butcher shop or two
to round up some of the
ingredients.

Here is an edited version
of her recipe for you to
ponder and possibly enjoy.

LIVER PUDDING SOURCE: Joyce Hohenbrink

About 6 pounds pork roast
1 whole pork liver
1 beef heart
8 slides pork steak or
uncured ham (each about
the size of the palm of your
hand)
2 pounds box buckwheat
flour
1 3/4 Tablespoon coarse salt
per batch
1 cup all-purpose flour
1 Tablespoon ground black
pepper per batch
Broth obtained from
cooking above meats
1 tongue, optional (outer
membranous layer
removed)
Place meats in a large
canning pot and cover with
water. Boil on medium to
high heat until fork-tender.
Remove meats from
the bones, keeping the
white meat (pork roasts
and pork steak) and dark
meats (liver, heart and
tongue) separate. Run
the meats, white and dark
meats separately, through a
blender or grinder.

Put some of the broth,
approximately 3 to 5 scoops
into a heavy pot. May be
diluted if necessary. Add
two parts of white meat to
one part of dark meat into
the broth. Add salt and
pepper. Bring to a simmer.
Add 2 cups of buckwheat
flour and 1 cup of white
flour to thicken mixture.
Place into 13x9-inch
pans. Cool overnight. Then
cut 4x8-inch squares. Seal
in large plastic bags and
then freeze.

To prepare, thaw most
of the way. Cut into slices
about 1/2-inch thick. Fry in
skillet on both sides until
browned.

Obituaries

Pamela Josephine (Beran) Brinton 1947 - 2025

Pamela Josephine
(Beran) Brinton, known to
all as Pam, passed away
peacefully December
15, 2025, in Bentonville,
Arkansas, surrounded by
the love that she so freely
gave to others throughout
her life. She was born
February 3, 1947, in Eldora,
Iowa, to the late Virgil
Eugene Beran and Erma
Pauline Vickre Beran.



She grew up in Garden
City and was a proud
graduate of Radcliffe High
School. Pam continued
her education at Luther
College, a time that would
shape her future in more
ways than one. It was there
that she met the love of her
life, Bob. Though they had
grown up only twelve miles
apart, Pam in Garden City
and Bob in Ellsworth, it
took moving to Decorah for
their paths to finally cross.
They built a life together
defined by shared passion
and partnership, residing
in Clarion, Iowa, from the
early 1970s until the early
2000s.

A lifelong enthusiast of
athletics, Pam took great
pride in her own athleticism
and found joy in supporting
the competitors around her.
She and Bob were fixtures
on the sidelines, cheering
on local athletes and
steadfastly supporting their
daughter, Andrea's, career
throughout her college
years and subsequent
coaching career. Pam
loved the energy of the
game and the dedication of
the players, especially that
of her grandchildren.

In their retirement years,
Pam and Bob split their
time between Ames, Iowa,
and a home in Florida,
enjoying the relaxation
and fun they had earned.
Following Bob's passing
in 2023, Pam moved to
Arkansas to be closer to her
daughter, Andrea, and her
wife, Trinke.

Pam was a woman
who appreciated the "nice

things" in life, not just
material comforts, but the
beauty of generosity and
care and kindness. She
spent a lifetime sharing
that abundance. Pam's final
years in Arkansas were
filled with the genuine
love and daily kindness
provided by Andrea and
Trinke. This circle of
care was widened by the
compassionate staff and
great friends at Village on
the Park of Rogers, Mercy
Hospital and Hampton
Place. The family extends
a special gratitude to Circle
of Life for their exceptional
tenderness and support
during her final journey.

In addition to her
parents, Pam was preceded
in death by her beloved
husband of fifty-four years,
Robert "Bob" Wayne
Brinton. Pam is survived
by her devoted daughter,
Andrea, and her wife
Trinke; her sister, Paula
Bruce; her nephew, Chad
Michael Klug; her niece,
Morgan Renae Dornfeldt
(EJ); great-niece, Avery
Dornfeldt; great-nephew,
Reed Dornfeldt; two
other daughters, Amanda
and Amber and eight
grandchildren.

The family requests
donations be made to
Alzheimer's research, The
Circle of Life or a battered
women's program in your
local area. Cremation
arrangements are under the
direction of Benton County
Memorial Park & Funeral
Home.

Your Horoscope

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

If you are feeling half-
hearted about what you are
working on, then put it off
for a little bit and focus on
something more interesting
this week, Aries. You can
use the rest.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Make it your business to
remind others not to take
life so seriously this week,
Taurus. The best way to do
that is to show them how to
laugh by example.

GEMINI - May 22/June 21

Your thoughts are on an
important decision that you
need to make, Gemini. It's
best to wait a few days be-
fore you get into the thick
of things. You need to mull
all possibilities.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, you may have
the courage and the confi-
dence to deal with whatever
life throws at you right now,
but not everyone is as dedi-
cated as you. Make allow-
ances for others this week.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

Sensitive feelings are
coming to the surface this
week and you are not sure
what to do about them, Leo.
You won't find peace of
mind until you have dealt
with them thoroughly.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, some unexpected
news could come your way
between now and the week-
end. It may seem like a lot,
but in the grand scheme of
things, it will only be a mi-
nor issue.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

You have reason to be

suspicious of someone's
motives this week. Just
don't go to extremes and
start reading into every
message or nuance, Libra.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, you might look
super confident on the out-
side, but underneath you get
anxious like everyone else.
At some point this week
you may need to ask for
some help.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/ Dec 21

It is easy to believe you
have enemies around ev-
ery corner, Sagittarius.
Although you might have
rubbed a few people the
wrong way, most people ac-
tually are on your side.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/ Jan 20

Capricorn, usually you
couldn't care less what
other people think about
you. But this week it seems
important to get another
person's approval for your
actions.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, be careful
when dealing with some-
one in a position of power.
They may have sights on a
promotion you also hope to
earn. Keep your cards close
to the vest.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, some people be-
lieve the world is full of
doom and gloom, but you
know that every day is what
you make of it. Brighten the
days of others with your
positivity.

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Iowa Attorney General Brenna Bird files lawsuit against Roblox

*Robin Opsahl
Iowa Capital Dispatch*
Iowa Attorney General Brenna Bird filed a lawsuit Tuesday against Roblox, the popular online gaming company, for allegedly putting Iowa children in danger of sexual exploitation.

Roblox, an online game platform, has over 80 million daily users, “many of those are Iowans and most of whom are children under the age of 18,” according to a news release from the attorney general’s office. Despite having a large base of child users, Bird said the company had taken insufficient action to address problems with sexual exploitation and stop the distribution of child sex abuse material on the platform.

In the petition filed Tuesday, Bird wrote Roblox had promised parents the platform was safe for children and equipped with safety measures “while knowing that the platform lacked necessary guardrails and facilitated the sexual exploitation of teen and preteen children and the distribution of child sexual abuse material.”

There are several lawsuits filed against the Roblox Corporation alleging the company has facilitated child sex crimes. One of the lawsuits was filed by an Iowa family, who claims

their 13-year-old daughter was found in Tennessee after being taken from her grandmother’s house and sexually abused by a person she met in a Roblox chat room.

“This tragic example is indicative of a pattern of grooming and predatory behavior on Roblox, of which Roblox has long been aware,” the petition states.

The lawsuit is seeking a preliminary and permanent injunction to enjoin Roblox from engaging in “deceptive and unfair acts” by either banning them from doing business in Iowa or requiring the company places “additional safeguards and child protection requirements on the Roblox platform.” The lawsuit also seeks injunctive relief, as well as reimbursement and other costs related to the allegations under the Iowa Consumer Fraud Act.

“We will fight for our children. Roblox created a breeding ground for sexual predators, and Iowa’s children are paying the price,” Bird said in a statement. “Roblox must either make their game a safe place for children or stop doing business in our state. Parents must be told the truth so they can protect their children online from inappropriate material, grooming, exploitation, and other predatory practices.”

Roblox Chief Safety

Officer Matt Kaufman said in a statement the newly filed lawsuit “contains patently false claims about our platform,” saying Roblox has taken many steps to protect minors from sexual exploitation.

“Roblox is built with safety at its core,” Kaufman said in a statement. “We have advanced safeguards that monitor our platform for harmful content and communications. Users cannot send or receive images via chat, eliminating one of the most prevalent opportunities for misuse seen elsewhere online. Safety is a constant and consistent focus of our work, and we are currently rolling out additional measures to further limit who users can chat with. We take swift action against anyone found to violate our safety rules and work closely with law enforcement to support investigations and help hold bad actors accountable.”

Kaufman said the company continues to “evolve and strengthen our protections every day” and encouraged parents to visit Roblox’s webpage on safety measures to get more information.

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



SPORTS

Clarion Alum Honored at Battle of Waterloo

Johnnie Johnson (left) is a 1979 graduate of Clarion High School. Over the weekend, he was inducted into the Battle of Waterloo Hall of Fame as a wrestling contributor and coach. Johnson competed at ICC and ISU before shifting his focus to coaching college and high school boys and girls wrestlers. He was named an IGHSU Coach of the Year and has worked as a wrestling official, broadcaster, and photographer. Johnson has received the Dan McCool Media Award from the Iowa Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association and the Iowa High School Athletic Association Media Award. He is pictured here with the legendary Dan Gable. (Photo: Johnnie Johnson)



Letter to the Editor

Landowner Property Rights Protection Bill Is Solution To Carbon Pipeline Eminent Domain Abuse

Senate proposal to widen corridors does not address property rights

A majority of landowners, legislators, supervisors and Iowans are calling to protect property rights by removing eminent domain powers for carbon pipelines.

“Carbon pipelines are not a utility, they provide no public benefit, public use or public convenience and therefore should not be eligible for the use of eminent domain. The Property Rights Protection Bill is a clean bill. Our bill does not impact any other type of pipeline or infrastructure project and it does not stop companies from building carbon pipelines,” said Kim Junker, Butler County landowner.

The legislation being proposed by landowners, and vetted by attorneys, is a clean bill based on the South Dakota law that passed in 2025 and is growing in popularity across the midwest. Landowners in Illinois, Nebraska, and Indiana are proposing similar legislation.

Senate leadership announced a proposal to remove the pipeline corridor, which landowners consider a false solution as long as eminent domain is still on the table. Landowners aren’t asking to remove the corridor, Summit is.

Expanding the pipeline corridor means even more landowners can be abused with the threat of eminent domain. That makes matters worse for landowners - not better. Eminent Domain must be off the table, period. Iowans deserve property right protection from our elected officials, not watering our individual rights down in favor of billionaires and their profit motives.

“There cannot be a discussion of widening a pipeline corridor unless there is first a law that eminent domain cannot be used for CO2 pipelines. Expanding the corridor does not protect existing targeted landowners or future targeted landowners that simply want to live without the daily threat of a hazardous CO2 pipeline because the hammer of eminent domain remains over their heads. Iowans deserve real respect and lawmakers’ commitment to their basic rights” said Landowner Lawyer Brian Jorde.

“Widening the pipeline corridor would simply add confusion and uncertainty to the process. I can’t imagine a pipeline company weaving around, trying to find a route where it does not have to use eminent domain. A clean bill prohibiting eminent domain for carbon pipelines is the

answer.” Said Sierra Club Iowa Chapter Attorney Wally Taylor.

Landowners have been meeting with legislators for the last three months on a proposal to remove the powers of eminent domain for carbon pipelines and have received resounding support for a clean property rights bill. Multiple requests for meetings with Senate Majority Leader Klimesh went unanswered.

“If private-profit carbon pipelines are allowed to use eminent domain against even one landowner, it is a violation and abuse of our constitutional property rights. In Iowa, we believe in free and fair markets, not gaming the system by taking from landowners and small business owners and giving to multi-billion dollar corporations,” said Mike Henning, targeted landowner in Greene County.

“For five years now landowners have been asking for a clean property rights bill for carbon pipelines to protect our constitutional property rights. A 10-mile corridor does nothing to protect property rights.” Said Kathy Stockdale, targeted landowner on Summit’s Phase 1 and Phase 2 routes in Hardin County. Julie Glade, Wright County Land Owner.



Dows Legion Bingo

The next Bingo night at the Dows Legion is Friday, January 2, 2026 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

We can stop HIV, Iowa—by protecting our sexual health when we talk, test, treat.

talk	Talk with your partner before having sex. Talk about when you were last tested & suggest getting tested together. Talk to your healthcare provider about your sex life. Ask about HIV & STI testing—including what tests you need & how often.
test	Get tested! It’s the only way to know for sure if you have HIV or an STI. Many STIs don’t cause symptoms, so you could have one and not know.
treat	HIV & all other STIs are treatable. If you test positive for an STI, work with your healthcare provider to get the right treatment. If you test positive for HIV, your provider or testing location will connect you to treatment & resources!

STOP HIV IOWA
Find testing near you! Scan the QR code or visit stophiviowa.org

Look, a square!
Squares have four equal sides. Daddy’s kind of a square too, but that’s another story.
Everyday moments can be learning moments with your kids. For more tips, visit bornlearning.org

Contact: Katie Phillips to Advertise! 641-790-1841 or sales@wrightcountymonitor.com

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To apply, please email a current resume and cover letter to dscarl220@gmail.com

SPORTS

Boys Hoopers Split Conference Games

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

A week ago, the Cowboy basketball team moved to 4-2 after finishing the week 1-1.

On Tuesday night, the Cowboys were in Cerro Gordo County to face #1 Clear Lake (3A).

Both of CGD's star forwards had difficulty shooting the rock vs. Clear Lake, and the Lions held the Cowboys to a season-low scoring output in their 62-32 victory.

Chaz Lane had 12 points, seven rebounds, and two blocks in the loss, and Huxley Lingenfelter put up seven points and ten boards.

Then on Friday, the Cowboys would host the Iowa Falls-Alden Cadets

for Senior Night.

Seniors Tristan Kakacek, Johnny Lomeli, McCoy Yackle, Ethan Hasty, Jairo Santis, Kiernan Bremmer, and Joseph Leal were honored before the contest, and the Cowboys put an exclamation point on the evening by blowing out the Cadets, 66-34.

Eleven Cowboys scored a basket in the win, and Lane led them all with 16 points, ten boards, and four blocks.

Lomeli poured in 11 in the win, and Huxley Lingenfelter and JD Morrical both added eight points apiece.

The 4-2 Cowboys return to their home court on January 6th to face Algona. The Bulldogs are 3-2 so far this season.



Senior Johnny Lomeli is shooting 42% from three-point range this season. (Photo: Taylor Smith)



Ethan Hasty drained two three-pointers in CGD's Senior Night win over Iowa Falls-Alden (1-3). (Photo: Taylor Smith)

Cowgirls Wrap Up 2025 on Their Home Court

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

Last week, the Clarion-Goldfield-Dows girls' basketball team played two conference opponents in their last few games of 2025.

On the road on Tuesday night, the Cowgirls would fall 72-8 to #15 Clear Lake (3A).

Sophomore Ruby Poac paced CGD with four points, four rebounds, and a pair of steals. Taylor Johnson added two points and four boards, and Daphne Tijull Villatoro finished her night with two points and a steal.

Clear Lake's Ashleigh Amble had 19 points and eight boards to lead the undefeated Lions.

At home facing Iowa Falls-Alden on Friday night, the Cowgirls trailed 30-9 at the half and went on to lose, 55-13.

Junior forward Kalli Schermer was CGD's leading scorer with six points.

Johanna Perez contributed four points and Audrey Eglund added two more in the loss.

After the game, Clar-



Kalli Schermer had six points in a Cowgirl loss to Iowa Falls-Alden. (Photo: Taylor Smith)

ion-Goldfield-Dows honored upperclassmen Sydney Munoz-Cruz and Daniela Rodriguez for Senior Night.

The Cowgirls head into their winter break with a re-

cord of 0-7 and will return to action on January 6th in a home game vs. their North Central Conference foes from Algona High School (5-3).

Thompson Reaches Podium Twice in a Week

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

The combined Clarion-Goldfield-Dows/Eagle Grove girls' wrestling teams wrestled in two of their three scheduled tournaments last week.

Fourteen other areas schools were in attendance at the Michelle Jensen Memorial Tournament in Humboldt on Tuesday night, and the Wright County ladies placed 10th with a team score of 70.5 points.

Junior Catherine Orozco (100) was 3-1 on the day and took 3rd after defeating Humboldt's Letty Jenson.

Sophomore Marlee Thompson was a finalist at 115, but fell in the 2nd period to Trista Guinn of GTRA. In the semifinals, Thompson had a 1st period pin over Humboldt's Gracey May.

Keylyee Collins (130) and Baylee Steig (140) both took 6th in their respective weight classes, and Keeley Peterson (155) improved her record to 12-7 after a fall over South Central Calhoun's Bella Dorsey in their 3rd place match. Pe-



Marlee Thompson holds a record of 20-4 record so far this season. (Photo: Taylor Smith)

terson went 4-1 on the day with three falls and a technical fall.

Adverse weather would be the cause of a cancellation in Emmetsburg on Thursday night, so the ladies returned to the mat on Friday in Webster County instead.

CGD/EG battled sixteen other schools at the Fort Dodge Girls Invite and placed 12th overall with 48 team points.

Algona (210), Mason City (146), Humboldt (144),

Clear Lake (110), and Fort Dodge (105) rounded out the Top-5 teams.

Orozco had three falls on the day and wrestled her way to a bronze medal at 100 after a 10-1 major decision victory over a FDSH wrestler.

Thompson dropped down a weight class and had three pins en route to 3rd place at 110. In her final match of the day, Thompson earned a 2nd period fall over a competitor from Algona.

Wrestlers Take 4th at State's Toughest Dual Tourney



Adam Hodson was the "hero of the meet" at The Battle of Waterloo after pinning Paul Willet of Pleasant Valley in the 2nd period. (Photo: Jill Campbell)

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

Blizzard conditions prevented the #1 (2A) Clarion-Goldfield-Dows boys wrestling team from competing in a conference triangular on Thursday in Iowa Falls, but the team was still able to make it to Black Hawk County on Friday for the 15th annual Battle of Wa-

terloo.

On Friday, the short-handed Cowboys finished 1st in Bracket B after defeating three much larger schools.

"Our kids wrestled fantastic on Friday morning and beat Charles City, Ankeny, and Pleasant Valley," Coach Cory Yoder told The Monitor after The Battle of

Waterloo. "The team came out focused and ready to go with a dominating win over Charles City (77-3). We had a hard fought win over Ankeny (41-31), and a big win over #2 seed Pleasant Valley (37-31). Adam Hodson was the hero of the meet, coming in and getting a big fall that secured the win for the Cowboys!"

The next day, the Cowboys placed 4th out of 4 teams in the Championship Pool.

"On Saturday, the competition was ramped up," Coach Yoder continued. "We started with a match-up with #1 Don Bosco (1A). We fell short, 37-36. The final two duals were against 3A powers #1 Southeast Polk and #2 Indianola. We fell in both 46-23 and 50-16. I'm super proud of the kids and their effort this weekend, finishing 4th out of 32 teams in the toughest dual tournament in the state."

"We put a stamp on who should be #1 in the state this weekend," Coach Yoder remarked in closing.



The Cowboys pose with some more new hardware. (Photo: Cory Yoder)

"We have been shorthanded with injuries and still have beaten the top teams in 2A. It will be a dogfight all season long between the top-5 teams in our class, but at this point in the season, we have proven we are best dual team and tournament team."

Linden Phetxoumphone (132) had five pins on the weekend and finished 5-1. Adrian Phetxoumphone (138) went a perfect 4-0, and Colin Sesker (165/175) and Paxton Redenius both finished with three falls apiece.

Cole Wibholm (106/113) and Ryan Hartwig (138/144) both went 3-2 over the weekend, and Redenius was 4-2 at 120 and 126.

Dawson Beyer (157) finished 4-2 and Easton Beyer (190) was undefeated.

Your Cowboys return to action on January 6th with a conference triangular against Webster City and Hampton-Dumont-CAL in Webster City.



Brandon Stein (Photo: Charlie Campbell)



Ryan Hartwig (Photo: Charlie Campbell)

The Wright County MONITOR

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Aerial views

Bruce Voigts, Aerial Photographer (Photos taken December 15, 2025)



This is not the north pole. It is how the countryside outside of Clarion looks after our bouts with snow.



A blue colored shelter on Lake Cornelia for ice fishing. No vehicles on the Lake ice yet.



Clarion in winter snow cover.

Quilts of Valor Presentation



Seated from left - David Sackville, Army, Hampton; Darwyne Muhlenbruch Navy, Alden, Ron Moravek, Navy, Iowa Falls. Standing from left - Randy DeBour, Navy, Latimer; Merle Weideman, Army, Dows; Jim Kreitlow, Air Force, Belmond. (Photo: Robin Koob)

A Quilts of Valor Presentation was held on Sunday December 14, 2025 at the American Legion Hall Post 523 in Dows Iowa. Country Quilters of North Central Iowa based in Franklin County were honored to award these fine men beautiful comforting

quilts. The majority of these men served during the Vietnam War and had a total of 46 years service. If you see them thank them for their service.

Anyone honorably discharged or active duty is eligible for a Quilt of

Valor. Nomination forms are available on the Quilt of Valor website: govf.org, a form can be picked up at the Franklin County Veterans Affairs Office or it is available from Robin Koob by calling 641-425-9713.



The Dows Fire Department was able to get new Bunker Gear because of the Wright County Charitable Grant. Thank you! (Photo: Jeanette Wenzel)

Ugly Sweater Contest

Deb Nesheim (right), representing the Wright County Courthouse, recently presented The Humane Society of Wright County Board member Brooke Johnson (left) with a donation of \$500.00. The money was raised during the annual Ugly Sweater Contest held in December among courthouse employees. The public was invited to join staff in voting for their favorite ugly sweater. The winner was Mindy Lockhart with \$135.51 in her jar. If you are interested in more information about the Wright County Humane Society or are interested in adopting a pet, please contact Don Garrett at 515-293-2026.



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