



The Wright County MONITOR



clarionnewsline.com • The Official Newspaper of Wright County, The City of Clarion, & The Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Community School District
157th year Number 13 Wednesday, March 25, 2026 \$1.25 per copy

Two Years of Open Doors

Wright Community Connection Becomes a Blueprint for Rural Iowa

Amanda Rink,
Editor

When Erica Lindaman first described her vision for a county-wide community center two years ago to The Wright County Monitor, she kept her answer simple: “The diversity will draw the kiddos in. The program diversity, the people, the ideas. This is not just for kids in Clarion; this is a county-wide community center.”

What she didn't say, maybe because she couldn't have known, was that the vision would eventually draw in entire communities from across Iowa.

The Wright Community Connection (WCC) is celebrating two years with open doors at 215 N. Main Street in Clarion, and in that time, the center has changed and grown in ways that even Lindaman herself didn't anticipate.

Lindaman, who operates the nonprofit Gift of Giving and worked as a school-teacher in Wright County, saw the gaps in the county which could be filled with a community center, clearly. “When we have about half of our student population receiving free or reduced lunch, that is telling about what our community might need,” she shared when the center was first announced.

Her charity work through the Gift of Giving had long focused on providing children with holiday gifts, school supplies, and families with resources for financial or social emergencies, but she knew there was more to do.

Within months of opening, the WCC was ‘officially’ welcomed by the Clarion Development Alliance with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, a moment that marked the center's transition from vision to reality.

From the start, the space offered something for pretty much everyone. A game room known as “The Hub,” a toddler area, gardening, a sauna booth, and an array of community programming filled the building on Main Street. Mental health professionals rotated through every month.

Iowa Legal Aid established a presence, beginning with a free Immigration Law Clinic. The First



The Wright Community Connection (WCC) is celebrating two years with open doors at 215 N. Main Street in Clarion, and in that time, the center has changed and grown in ways that even Lindaman herself didn't anticipate. (Photo: Amanda Rink)

Lutheran Food Pantry set up a satellite pantry within the walls of the WCC, extending food access to more families in need.

A Young Empowerment and Entrepreneurial Program gave Wright County youth a place to learn, grow, and even sell their own goods through a retail space inside the center. Volunteers offered free tutoring to children. The Gift of Giving found its home there, too.

Walk through the WCC today, and the original vision is still intact, with a little more. The center now offers formal wear at no charge for area students, a playroom for littles, a game room, a small reading area, and an indoor hydroponic farm.

But even considering the growth in the last two years, what has surprised even Lindaman is how far the WCC's reach has reached beyond Wright County's borders.

The Wright Community Connection is becoming a blueprint for rural communities across Iowa.

Lindaman now regularly hosts tours and meetings with groups from across the state, leaders, organizers, and community members who are looking to build similar community centers in their own towns.

In early March, a group from Humboldt made the trip to Clarion, and The Wright County Monitor

was invited along to take in the tour alongside them.

The Humboldt delegation was made up of a wide range of individuals, food pantry board members, mutual aid organizers, politicians, and people Lindaman described as folks with “a passion project, just trying to make a difference and learn more.”

Among them was Kyle Kruse, who is currently running as a Democrat for House District 56. He came to understand how a rural community center like WCC actually works in practice. Jan Libbey attended with hopes of bridging connections between food pantries across the region. Also sitting in: members of a Mason City mutual aid and rapid response group, eager to learn from what Wright County has built.

“Learning from each other as rural communities,” Lindaman said of the gathering, perhaps the clearest summary of what the WCC has become.

The newest addition to the WCC's growing network of partnerships is the North Iowa Food Community Care Network (NIFCCN), an all-volunteer initiative that has been working alongside the WCC for a full year now.

The partnership focuses on strengthening local capacity by building a coordinated system of care: connecting neighbors, bridging gaps in mental

health resources, fighting misinformation, and building community solidarity and resilience through food access. The network operates across Wright, Hancock, and parts of Franklin counties.

“Everything is changing, every day,” Lindaman told the most recent tour group, a reflection not just of the world outside, but of what continues to evolve inside the walls of the WCC.

The WCC has evolved into a gathering place for responsible organizing, a space where hard questions can be asked, and where rural communities can figure out, together, how to show up for one another.

The Wright Community Connection is, as Lindaman once put it, a hub, for conversations, creativity, commerce, and most importantly, care.

You can stop in to visit the thrift store, sit for a wellness consultation, pick up food from the satellite pantry, or join your neighbors for an art day. You can bring your children, knowing they'll be safe, stimulated, and welcomed.

And now, if you're someone who cares, anywhere in rural Iowa, wondering how to build something like this in your own town, you can walk the halls of 215 N. Main, and see what two years of commitment, creativity, and connection look like in action.

Council Discusses Gazebo Park Electrical Upgrade

Amanda Rink,
Editor

March 17, 2026 - The Clarion City Council met in regular session last Tuesday night with Mayor Rod Heiden calling the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. Council members Mike Ennis and Elmarie Nel were absent.

The council approved the consent agenda, which included minutes from the March 3 meeting, financial reports and claims for payment, plus a building permit for the Ruba family.

The council held a public hearing on a proposal to enter into a General Obligation Corporate Purpose Loan Agreement. They then approved Resolution 26-10, taking additional action on the agreement and providing for the levy of taxes to pay the General Obligation Corporate Purpose Bonds.

The second reading of Ordinance 632, which would amend the city code for the use of camper-type vehicles and trailers during renovation or construction of a new home, was discussed. City Administrator Clint Middleton stated he would follow up with absent council member Ennis regarding any suggested changes to the ordinance before the final reading.

The council discussed an electrical upgrade at Gazebo Park but took no formal vote, with two members absent. The discussion centered on power issues during community events, like the Cultural Festival, where overloaded circuits forced organizers to run extension cords across walkways to power the inflatables, vendors, and food trucks.

It was also mentioned that the Clarion Development Alliance would like to look into moving children's attractions near the park for the yearly Festival in the Park, as it has been done in the past. This cannot be done until the electrical system is updated in the park.

Council members agreed the current setup poses safety concerns and discussed the need to expand electrical capacity in three areas of the park: near the stage, along the east side for vendors, and on the south side near the grass area.

The council agreed to bring in three different contractors for a quote. They also discussed a possible site walk-through to better understand what is needed.

Council member Dan Hennigar noted he would trench the conduit himself to save the city about \$2,000. Before the meeting closed, Middleton brought up the need for a special meeting date to close out the Water Treatment Plant project, setting it tentatively for March 30 or 31.

The council will meet for a regular meeting on April 7 at 5:00 P.M.

Supervisors Hear Roofing Grant Announcement

Amanda Rink,
Editor

March 23, 2026 - The Wright County Board of Supervisors met in regular session Monday morning, with Supervisor Betty Ellis absent, and approved routine items, and heard a presentation on a state roofing grant program during open forum.

Aaron Budweg, director of economic development, addressed the board during open forum to announce a new grant opportunity through the Iowa Economic Development Authority.

The program makes funding available for homes across the state to receive new roofs, along with lead and radon mitigation. Each city in Wright County can submit an application for up to six homes, with a maximum of \$30,000 per home, without a match required. The application cost is \$750. Budweg also shared that the program is available to the county for rural residences outside city limits.

“This is a great opportunity for our community to use some of those dollars that we're putting out,” Budweg said.

Supervisor Dean Kluss said that to qualify, applicants must meet income guidelines, the home must be a primary residence, and it must be located outside the 100-year floodplain. Budweg shared that he is reaching out to mayors and city clerks across the county to generate interest. He will return to the board to formally request a resolution allowing him to complete applications once enough interest has been established.

A presentation by Wright County Assessor Tonee Nicholas on Slough Bill applications was tabled for a second week.

Under meeting updates, supervisors noted upcoming items: hazardous materials mitigation, Building Families, an IDDA board meeting at the courthouse, and a CFR meeting.

Supervisor Ashley Bosch reported attending a Board of Health meeting the previous Wednesday and noted a presentation to the board is expected the following week.

The next regular meeting of the Wright County Board of Supervisors is scheduled for Monday, March 30, 2026, at 9:00 A.M. This meeting, and past meetings, can be viewed online at youtube.com/@WrightCountyIowaOfficial8312.

Kelly Kirstein named Clarion AAUW Woman of the Year

Barbara Mussman

The Clarion Branch of AAUW has chosen Kelly Kirstein of Clarion as 2026 Woman of the Year. The mission of AAUW is: advancing gender equity through education and advocacy.

“Kelly is a worthy recipient of this award,” said Sally Emerson, AAUW co-president. “Her programs and advocacy offer guidance and support to girls to help them live their best life so they can succeed at home, in school and in the workplace.”

Kirstein's call to ministry came in 2008. “I had decided to leave my teaching position and stay home with my kids,” she said. “I've always cared about kids and at that time I was called upon to mentor a couple high school girls who were

pregnant. That was the beginning.”

Locally, Kirstein's Chicks organization for middle school girls is her most public advocacy. She chose the name Chicks for her group and the acronym came next. C.H.I.C.K.S represents Christ's Hands Influence Confidence, Kindness and Self control. That name has become Chicks Ministry.

As Chicks continued to evolve, Kirstein herself advanced her education, pursuing classes from business marketing and building an on-line platform to a two-year on-line ministry program. Chicks Ministry has been a 501(c)3 non-profit organization since 2015. “The business side has been more challenging for me,” said Kelly. “Interacting
continued on page 2



Read Local, Advertise Local, and Lead Local.

Kelly Kirstein continued from page 1

with the kids is easy. I learned so much about business from my husband, Kent, and his experience with our farming business.” Chicks has expanded to a worldwide ministry with a vision to inspire teen-age girls to pursue a relationship with Jesus Christ in their own unique ways.

“Chicks Ministry educates young women with the intention to help teens understand how powerful they are in any situation and how to move forward and make positive choices,” Kelly said. She cites Ephesians 2:10 as one of her guiding principles. “For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” (NIV Holy Bible)

As Chicks Ministry grew, so did their internet presence. In addition to the website: www.chicksministry.org, young women of all ages can connect through ChicksTV, Instagram, Facebook, TikTok or Wattpad. Kirstein also provides the Chicks Ministry blog and hosts a podcast entitled Faithful Chicks.

Kelly uses her background in education to write her own curriculum. She has authored “How to Live a Beautiful Life”, “The High Way” and other Bible studies. “As my ministry grew I found the content on the market was too difficult for middle school aged girls,” she said. “I have polled the students to find out what works and what doesn’t work.” In April, 2026, Kirstein’s Bible study, “Just a Girl who Loves Jesus” will be published by Redemption Press.

Kirstein’s passion for mentoring and advocating for girls and young women has led her outside Chicks Ministry. She works with the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services and the Iowa Attorney General’s office as she advocates for children.

“Kelly’s work with young women helps remove barriers to success through communication with students and adults,” said Emerson. “Sometimes there might be relationship conflicts, school situations, lack of a healthy home environment or even trafficking issues and she is there

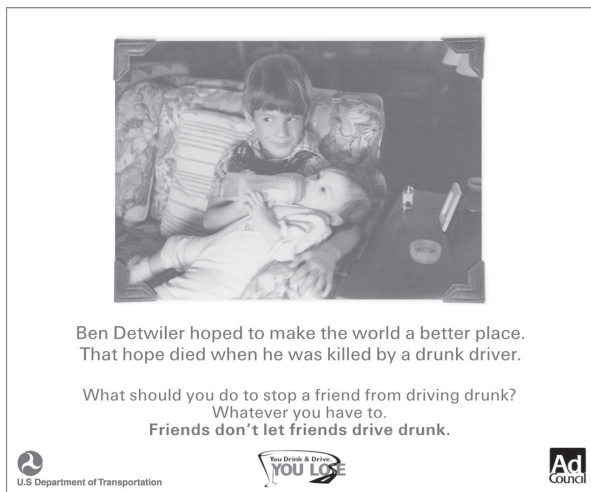
to facilitate communication and support the young women. She is an example of the AAUW mission of advocating for women.”

“My main objective is to help these girls recognize their significance and the impact they can have when they live out the purpose for which they were created,” said Kirstein. “God has good plans.

“I was surprised and honored to be chosen as AAUW Woman of the Year,” she said. “So much of my work is confidential and unseen and I appreciate being recognized.”

Kelly is a life-long Clarion resident. She and her husband, Kent, live on an acreage east of town. They have three adult children. She is an active member of the Clarion Methodist Church and recently completed four years of service on the CGD School Board.

Anyone interested in supporting Chicks Ministry financially can donate through the website or by contacting Kirstein directly. Membership in the American Association of University Women (AAUW) is open to anyone with a two-year degree or higher. Anyone interested in learning more about the organization can contact Emerson.



Down Memory Lane Park, a Generational Project Still Underway 3 Decades Later

Edward Lynn
Mid America Publishing

GOLDFIELD — What began decades ago as a simple idea to beautify a neglected stretch of land along the path to the cemetery, by the railroad tracks has grown into one of Goldfield’s most enduring community projects. Today, the park known as Down Memory Lane stands as a testament to volunteer spirit — and on Saturday night, residents gathered once again to help support it.

The Down Memory Lane Soup Supper and Silent Auction drew a die-hard crowd to the Goldfield Community Center on Saturday evening, even as a blizzard loomed in the forecast.

“This is our fourth soup supper and we’re thankful the weather held off for us so we could have it,” said organizer Greg Schipull. “We’ve got a great start to the night. Turnout’s going good.”

The fundraiser supported improvements at Down Memory Lane Park, a community green space created through the efforts of local volunteers beginning in the 1990s.

Maureen Cameron recalled the origins of the project; explaining that the land along the route to the cemetery had once been far from welcoming. “It was just a mess,” Cameron said.

And according to her, two local women decided something had to be done. “Millie Nelson and Sandra Schipull decided they were going to clean it up,” Cameron said. “And they did.”

The land itself was donated to the city by Dr. John Aronson, Cameron noted, allowing volunteers to begin transforming the overgrown ground into a park. Over the years, community members pitched in with everything from pulling weeds to planting trees and building memorial features.

Bev Steffenson said the effort quickly became a point of pride for the town. “It was on the way to the cemetery,” Steffenson said, noting that everyone took the road eventually, “you know — weeds and everything.”

Many of the early volunteers belonged to the Bayview Study Club, which helped organize the initial effort. The name, Camer-



on joked, was a bit ironic. “You come to the Bayview and there’s no bay to view,” she said with a laugh.

The name of the park was a bit more on point. “I think we voted on it,” Bev Steffenson said, before revealing the reason for the name. “It was just because it was kind of on the way to the cemetery.” It was Sandra Schipull who came up with the name, Cameron recalled. And it fit very naturally, given that people were literally traveling “Down Memory Lane” when going to the cemetery and reflecting on loved ones.

Today, volunteers continue the work started decades ago, led by Greg Schipull, son of Sandra. Who said the current focus is improving accessibility in the park by paving its walking path.

“All funds, all proceeds made from the supper as well as the silent auction and raffle and t-shirt sales goes to park improvements,” he said. “Our main project is trying to asphalt as much of the pathway as we can.”

“Which is smart,” Cameron said, emphasizing the importance of the asphalt for seniors like her, walking with canes, or taking scooters, as well as young parents with kids in strollers. “He wants to make a road for bikes and people through there. I can’t even walk on the thing right now because I’m dizzy all the time. And I’ll just step on a big ol rock on the ground!”

“We have to do it in phases,” Schipull said. “So this year’s phase is a little over \$19,000.” If fundraising continues at a steady pace, organizers hope to complete the work within a few years. “If we can raise that amount, we should

complete in 2028,” Schipull said.

Saturday’s event featured homemade soups, raffle drawings, and a silent auction with donated items ranging from gift certificates to handcrafted wood carvings, with other prizes including plants and pizzas, with drawings held later in the evening.

Greg’s sister Kris Vink, who helped run the raffle, said the park remains important to the community. “I just think it’s a lovely thing for a small town like this to have,” she said.

Several additional fundraisers are already on the calendar to help the park’s friends reach their improvement goal.

A Down Memory Lane Park Night fundraiser will be held at Pizza Ranch in Clarion from 5 to 8 p.m. Monday, March 23, with 10 percent of sales and all tips going toward the park

project.

Later this year, organizers will also host a golf tournament June 6 at Oakridge Golf Course in Goldfield, featuring a four-person best-shot format with raffle and auction items available.

In addition, volunteers continue to collect cans through community pop-can drives, another long-running tradition supporting the park’s upkeep and improvements.

For those involved, the project represents more than landscaping or pavement. It reflects decades of local pride and volunteer effort — something Schipull says the community continues to carry forward.

“This is one of the many fundraisers we do,” he said. “We’ve had a lot of really good support and a lot of really good donations and help from the community.”

The Friends of Memory Lane Park would like to thank the following donors for their generosity:

BUSINESS DONATIONS:

- First Bank (Cash)
- Prestige Foods (hole sponsor golf tournament)
- Beck Performance Diesel (hole sponsor golf tournament)
- Sadler Construction (hole sponsor golf tournament)
- Miller & Sons (hole sponsor golf tournament)
- Eagle Grove Greenhouse (gift cards)
- Arden Scott Collectibles (gift cards)
- Sally’s Sewing Room (gift certificate)
- Pop’s Pizza & Pub (cash)
- Urness Hardware (cash)
- Reflections Hair Salon (cash)
- Ptacek Carving (wood carvings)
- Goldfield Community Charity Organization (cash)

PERSONAL DONATIONS:

- Greg & Liz Soenen
- Donna Smith
- Bev Brooks family
- Virgil Bahn
- Greg Nelson
- Dave and Rhonda Stevenson
- GHS Class of ‘80. (park bench)

Iowa Specialty Hospital Representatives participate in Annual Day On The Hill at the State Capitol

On Wednesday, March 11, more than 240 hospital leaders, health care professionals and advocates, representing 76 Iowa hospitals and health systems across the state, gathered at the Iowa State Capitol for the Iowa Hospital Association’s (IHA)

annual Hospital Day on the Hill.

Local leadership attended representing Iowa Specialty Hospitals & Clinics, including Steve Simonin, President and CEO; Letitia Dominick, Surgery Leader; Vanessa Smith, Hospital Nurse Leader; Kayla Zeien, Nurse Education Leader; Amber Hunt, ER Nurse Leader; Rachel Fletcher, Behavioral Health Leader; Alexis Chaney, Hampton Clinic Leader; Virginia Tonelli, Rural Health Advocacy Director.

“Any day that we can celebrate Iowa in the most beautiful capital is a good day,” stated Steve Simonin, President and CEO of Iowa Specialty Hospitals & Clinics. “Iowa Specialty Hospitals & Clinics was blessed with fantastic representation on the 11th of March. The bulk of our time was spent talking to our lawmakers about the important issues that both drive and

impede care in our areas. As Iowa Specialty Hospitals & Clinics represents a lot of North Central Iowa, one

would think our needs vary. However, healthcare in small communities is essentially about the care of our families and friends. Whether it’s cancer care, maternal needs, or insurance prior authorization, the stories are so important for the lawmakers to hear. They are also community members, and they want to understand the problems their constituents are facing. It was a very worthwhile day.”

The impactful day empowered IHA members to connect with lawmakers to strengthen dialogue and influence key health care policies in Iowa.

“Iowa hospitals are essential to the health and economic vitality of our communities,” said Chris Mitchell, IHA President & CEO. “Hospital Day on the Hill provides an opportunity for legislators to hear directly from hospital and health system representatives about the challenges and opportunities facing Iowa’s health care system.”

Participants discussed key issues including work-



Iowa Specialty Hospitals & Clinics representatives pictured from left to right: Virginia Tonelli, Kayla Zeien, Letitia Dominick, Vanessa Smith, Alexis Chaney, Rachel Fletcher, Amber Hunt, and Steve Simonin.

force shortages, improving access to care for rural and underserved communities, as well as lowering health care costs.

Throughout the day, attendees met with legislators, attended policy briefings, and shared stories illustrating how legislative

decisions impact patients, health care providers, and local economies. The event reinforces IHA’s commitment to advocacy, education, and partnership in advancing high quality health care across the state.

“Iowa hospitals are not just care providers, they are

major employers and community anchors.” Mitchell said. “Strong public policy is critical to sustaining these institutions and the services they provide. Hospital Day on the Hill allows us to share real-world frontline perspectives with policymakers and work

collaboratively on solutions that ensure Iowans continue to have access to safe, high-quality care close to home.”

IHA represents 121 hospitals and health systems across the state and supports its members through advocacy, education, and data services.

Wright County Economic Development and MIDAS Partner to Launch 2026 Home Roofing Program

Wright County Economic Development (WCED) and MIDAS Council of Governments are pleased to announce a new opportunity to assist local homeowners with critical roof repairs. The Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) has officially opened the first round of the 2026 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Roofing Replacement Program, with applications due May 22, 2026.

This program provides up to \$24,000 per household to replace failing roofs, including shingles, roof decking, gutters, and downspouts. This assistance is provided as a five-year receding forgivable loan with zero local matching funds required from the city, county, or the homeowner.

“Our mission is to ensure that Wright County’s housing stock remains safe and sustainable,” said Aaron Budweg, WCED Director. “By partnering with Steven Stransky and the expert team at MIDAS, we are providing our cities and rural residents with the

technical and administrative support needed to bring these state funds directly to our neighborhoods.”

Income Eligibility Guidelines (80% Area Median Income)

Household Size	Maximum Annual Gross Income
1 Person	\$51,550
2 People	\$58,900
3 People	\$66,250
4 People	\$73,600
5 People	\$79,500
6 People	\$85,400

Key Eligibility & Program Details:

- **What Counts as Income:** Includes total gross income (before taxes) for all adults in the home, including wages, Social Security, pensions, and interest.
- **Homeownership:** The home must be the owner’s primary residence, must be insured, and must be located outside the 100-year floodplain.
- **Forgivable Loan:** The assistance is structured as a five-year receding forgivable mortgage. The debt is completely cleared if the owner remains in the home for five years after the project is finished. If the home is sold before then, only the prorated remaining balance must be repaid out of the sale proceeds.

Next Steps for Residents: Residents in Wright County cities and rural areas are

To qualify for the 2026 CDBG Roofing Replacement Program, a household’s total gross income must be at or below the following limits based on household size:

encouraged to contact their local City Hall or the contacts below immediately to be placed on the initial interest list. Communities must identify interested homeowners and hold a required public hearing before the May deadline to be eligible for funding. If the community is awarded by the State, formal applications for homeowners are anticipated to open in late summer.

For more information or to express interest, please contact:

Aaron J. Budweg
Director, Wright County Economic Development
(515) 532-6422 | abudweg@wrightco.iowa.gov
Steven Stransky, AICP
Community Development Director, MIDAS
(515) 576-7183 x 212 | cd-dir@midascog.net

Upcoming Series: Stories Worth Knowing

Some of the most remarkable stories in Wright County have never been printed in the newspaper or even shared on your newsfeed.

These stories live in the memories of people who hauled water from pumps, raised families through hard times, built businesses from nothing, or watched this county grow and change across nearly a century of living. Until now, most of these stories have gone unrecorded.

The Wright County Monitor is proud to introduce a new monthly series dedicated to changing that. Each monthly installment of “Stories Worth Knowing” will feature a conversation with a resident of one of our local care centers or retirement communities.

Their stories, which they might say are insignificant, are part of our local history and deserve to be told. We believe you’ll find them every bit as vivid, funny, maybe heartbreaking, but always inspiring as any story we’ve ever published.

The series comes to us through writer Jill (Etter) Harrington, a Wright County local whose warmth and curiosity make her a natural fit for this kind of work.

In her own words below, she shares how the idea came to be, and how a quiet Sunday morning, a plate of flat Snickerdoodles, and a group of women talking about laundry day reminded her why stories like these matter. Look for Jill’s first highlight in April. If you’re interested in being part of this effort, please reach out at news@wrightcountymonitor.com

We hope you’ll pull up a chair and stay a while.
Amanda Rink, Editor

Dear Reader,
I’m sorry it’s been so long since I’ve reached out; I hope you’ve been well. I’ve been meaning to write, but unfortunately, the longer I put it off, the easier it becomes to neglect.

Anyway, a few weeks ago, I received this message from our mutual friend, Amanda: “Are you ready to write for the Monitor?” Before I could process it, another message came through: “Because I have an assignment I’d like you to handle. It goes with an idea you floated to me in our earlier conversations.”

Basically, the idea, suggested through the Iowa Newspaper Association, was to interview the “cool-est person” at local care centers and retirement communities and feature their stories through a monthly series. A combination of fear and excitement buzzed through my body as I repeated the question: Are you ready to write for the Monitor? I feel like I should have given a resounding yes, but instead asked for a

day to think about it. And while I hadn’t given Amanda my verbal “yes,” it was apparent that my brain had accepted the assignment and started to think of ways to make it a successful series, quietly deciding, “You’re not passing on this opportunity,” it felt very providential. The next day I told Amanda, “I’d love to take on the assignment.”

I decided to start with The Meadows Independent Living in Clarion. I’m familiar with the facility, my mother is a resident, and I’ve known other residents there most of my life, so I believed I could easily find someone to interview. But I quickly realized that people were reluctant to share, mainly because they didn’t think they had anything worth sharing, and also because they didn’t feel comfortable sharing personal information.

I get it. We live in a world where identities are stolen and false, impulsive stories replace ones that slowly emerge through the genuine unfolding of life. Because I had respect for their hesitation, I took a step back to think about my approach.

My mom has lived at The Meadows for a little over a year now. She and a group of ten or so friends meet in the dining hall daily for coffee. I’ll stop by sometimes to sit and chat, often bringing banana bread or cookies to share. Normally, the group is pretty quiet, typically talking about the weather or the flock of geese that land in the field across from the facility.

When I visited last Sunday, I brought my flattened Snickerdoodles to share, I promised they still tasted good, and asked for tips on how to get them to rise like they’re supposed to. We talked about our favorite cookies and how beautiful the sunsets have been lately.

When everyone became quiet, I instinctively started to tell them about the series and how I had yet to find someone willing to share their story. They pointed to my mom, I had asked her, but she was part of the “I don’t have anything interesting to share” group. Then a woman said, “It’s because people don’t want to expose themselves.”

I understood that, but I explained that a story worth telling didn’t need to be adventurous to be remarkable, and that nothing would be shared that they didn’t feel comfortable with. I went on to say that storytelling has been used for centuries to heal, teach, and connect communities, and that something as simple as sharing what life was like growing up could influence and connect people.

Then one woman who rarely speaks piped up: “My mother would haul water from the pump and boil it in large pots on the stove for washing clothes.” She continued to describe the process and how the kitchen became the laundry room. Others joined in, freely sharing their recollections of laundry day. I sat back, sipped my coffee, and listened.

Did you know they had to fill three large basins with water to wash clothes? The first was for hot water and soap, you had to use a large wooden stick to stir and agitate the clothes because the water was scalding hot. The second and third tubs were used for rinsing. This was also the step where a bluing agent would be added to the water to make whites appear brighter by countering the yellowing.

The clothes were then put through a hand-cranked wringer to squeeze the water out before hanging them to dry, either on lines strung across the kitchen or basement, or brought outside to the clothesline to be dried by the sun and wind. (I’m imagining now how fresh those line-dried sheets must have smelled.)

I said with delight that this natural conversation was exactly what I was looking for. We talked for some time; I could go on about the process of doing laundry, but that’s not the point.

By remaining open to new experiences, I discovered growth and meaningful connections that deviated from my initial expectations. Life will sometimes surprise you if you sit back and allow it. I’m looking forward to talking with more of our friends; I’ll write as soon as I do!
Your Friend,
Jill (Etter) Harrington

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

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

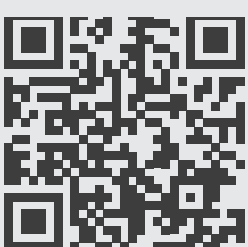
Official Newspaper For:
City of Clarion
City of Dows
Clarion-Goldfield-Dows
School District
Wright County

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

Scan the QR Code for our e-edition
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Your Horoscope

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Your confidence is at an all-time high, Aries. This is the week to pitch an idea or finally send that text you’ve been mulling over. The universe is backing your bold moves.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, this week you’re entering a cycle of “treat yourself.” You deserve it right now, so enjoy. Whether it’s a brunch out with friends or a mental health day, lean into the experience.

GEMINI - May 22/June 21

Expect a random invitation to create a new connection, Gemini. Your wit is extra sharp this week, so use it to charm the room. Your social calendar is likely to fill up.

CANCER - June 22/July 22

Cancer, the things you have been visualizing are about to materialize. You might feel an urge to organize your space or redecorate. Jump on that opportunity this week.

LEO - July 23/Aug 23

Leo, you have been feeling underappreciated lately, but that ends soon. Expect a moment when your unique talents become the star of the show. It’s a great week for travel.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, a puzzle that you have been trying to solve finally clicks into place. You are moving among different social circles and it can be tricky to balance it all. Trust your intuition over logic.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, harmony is an ideal to aspire to this week. If there has been any tension in your circle, you are able to help dissolve it quickly. This is prime time for a date night or friends’ dinner.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, people are drawn to you this week, and you have that certain something that is impossible to ignore. Use this influence wisely.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

This week you’re in the mood to see what happens and let fate take the lead. Letting go of control might put you in a very fun situation, Sagittarius. Agree to a spontaneous plan.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

This week you are ticking off your to-do list with amazing efficiency, Capricorn. The real magic happens when you sign off of work and head home to great news.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/February 18

Aquarius, you are thinking light years ahead of everyone else right now. Share your ideas, however unusual they may be and see who is along for the ride.

PISCES - Feb 19/March 20

The universe is making you choose whether to enjoy financial riches or riches of the heart this week, Pisces. It can be a tough choice to make, so give it some time.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

MARCH 29
Megan Hilty, Actress (45)

MARCH 30
Celine Dion, Singer (58)

MARCH 31
Ewan McGregor, Actor (55)

APRIL 1
Logan Paul, Social Media Star (31)

APRIL 2
Zach Bryan, Singer (30)

APRIL 3
Eddie Murphy, Comic (65)

APRIL 4
Natasha Lyonne, Actress (47)

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

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Ad Council United Way

PUBLIC NOTICE
CGD School Budget Summary

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Proposed CLARION-GOLDFIELD-DOWS School Budget Summary
Fiscal Year 2026 - 2027

Location of Public Hearing: Clarion-Goldfield-Dows CSD District Office 120 Central Ave E Clarion, IA 50525 | Date of Hearing: 04/09/2026 | Time of Hearing: 07:30 AM

The Board of Directors will conduct a public hearing on the proposed 26/27 school budget at the above noted location and time. At the hearing, any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of, any part of the proposed budget. This notice represents a summary of the supporting detail of the revenues and expenditures on file with the district secretary. A copy of the details will be furnished upon request.

	Budget 2027	Re-est. 2026	Actual 2025	Avg % 25-27
Taxes Levied on Property	1	8,393,018	7,879,612	7,912,567 % 3.0
Utility Replacement Excise Tax	2	150,122	168,610	152,723 % -0.9
Income Surtaxes	3	405,010	388,693	422,326 % -2.1
Tuition/Transportation Received	4	625,000	575,000	721,300
Earnings on Investments	5	3,950	7,490	6,771
Nutrition Program Sales	6	200,000	200,000	221,249
Student Activities and Sales	7	227,800	207,000	221,492
Other Revenues from Local Sources	8	85,000	54,083	114,910
Revenue from Intermediary Sources	9	0	0	0
State Foundation Aid	10	7,162,112	6,822,580	6,610,325
Instructional Support State Aid	11	20,435	0	0
Other State Sources	12	1,228,500	1,293,027	1,540,382
Two Tier Assessment Limitation Replacement	13	148,356	148,356	152,427
Title I Grants	14	250,000	250,000	266,969
IDEA and Other Federal Sources	15	785,000	750,581	895,425
Total Revenues	16	19,684,303	18,745,032	19,238,866
General Long-Term Debt Proceeds	17	0	0	0
Transfers In	18	614,590	635,503	646,182
Proceeds of Fixed Asset Dispositions	19	300	25,250	108,070
Special Items/Upward Adjustments	20	0	0	0
Total Revenues & Other Sources	21	20,299,193	19,405,785	19,993,118
Beginning Fund Balance	22	4,481,761	5,754,672	5,601,678
Total Resources	23	24,780,954	25,160,457	25,594,796
*Instruction	24	13,175,000	11,996,500	11,580,666 % 6.7
Student Support Services	25	675,000	688,006	612,760
Instructional Staff Support Services	26	575,000	530,200	536,853
General Administration	27	430,000	461,225	412,306
School Administration	28	690,000	710,000	863,080
Business & Central Administration	29	291,500	265,230	253,194
Plant Operation and Maintenance	30	2,490,000	1,706,000	1,566,518
Student Transportation	31	1,040,000	1,082,000	840,539
*Total Support Services (lines 25-31)	31A	6,191,500	5,442,661	5,085,250 % 10.3
*Noninstructional Programs	32	930,000	860,000	870,775 % 3.3
Facilities Acquisition and Construction	33	700,000	526,000	371,492
Debt Service (Principal, interest, fiscal charges)	34	583,090	882,500	878,795
AEA Support - Direct to AEA	35	394,051	335,532	420,776
*Total Other Expenditures (lines 33-35)	35A	1,677,141	1,744,032	1,671,063 % 0.2
Total Expenditures	36	21,973,641	20,043,193	19,207,754
Transfers Out	37	614,590	635,503	632,370
Other Uses	38	0	0	0
Total Expenditures, Transfers Out & Other Uses	39	22,588,231	20,678,696	19,840,124
Ending Fund Balance	40	2,192,723	4,481,761	5,754,672
Total Requirements	41	24,780,954	25,160,457	25,594,796
Proposed Property Tax Rate (per \$1,000 taxable valuation)		13.15540		

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Wed. March 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Clarion Proposed Property Tax Levy

CITY NAME: NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - CITY OF CLARION - PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY **CITY #: 99-949**
CLARION Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027

The City Council will conduct a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year City property tax levy as follows:
Meeting Date: 4/7/2026 Meeting Time: 05:00 PM Meeting Location: City Hall Council Chambers

At the public hearing any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of the proposed tax levy. After the hearing of the proposed tax levy, the City Council will publish notice and hold a hearing on the proposed city budget.

City Website (if available)
clarionia.gov

City Telephone Number
(515) 532-2847

Iowa Department of Management	Current Year Certified Property Tax 2025 - 2026	Budget Year Effective Property Tax 2026 - 2027	Budget Year Proposed Property Tax 2026 - 2027
Taxable Valuations for Non-Debt Service	90,633,176	94,194,223	94,194,223
Consolidated General Fund	736,504	736,504	750,434
Operation & Maintenance of Public Transit	6,415	6,415	6,410
Aviation Authority	0	0	0
Liability, Property & Self Insurance	176,729	176,729	132,933
Support of Local Emergency Mgmt. Comm.	6,650	6,650	109,284
Unified Law Enforcement	0	0	0
Police & Fire Retirement	0	0	0
FICA & IPERS (If at General Fund Limit)	244,824	244,824	248,969
Other Employee Benefits	290,635	290,635	303,239
Capital Projects (Capital Improv. Reserve)	0	0	0
Taxable Value for Debt Service	106,583,092	111,840,832	111,840,832
Debt Service	173,872	173,872	141,737
CITY REGULAR TOTAL PROPERTY TAX	1,635,629	1,635,629	1,693,006
CITY REGULAR TAX RATE	17.75961	17.07318	17.73615
Taxable Value for City Ag Land	1,492,290	1,582,360	1,582,360
Ag Land	4,483	4,483	4,754
CITY AG LAND TAX RATE	3.00375	2.83311	3.00375
Tax Rate Comparison-Current VS. Proposed			
Residential property with an Actual/Assessed Valuation of \$100,000/\$110,000			
City Regular Residential	842	869	3.21
Commercial property with an Actual/Assessed Valuation of \$300,000/\$330,000			
City Regular Commercial	3,661	4,058	10.84

Note: Actual/Assessed Valuation is multiplied by a Rollback Percentage to get to the Taxable Valuation to calculate Property Taxes. Residential and commercial properties have the same rollback percentage through \$150,000 of actual/assessed valuation.

Reasons for tax increase if proposed exceeds the current:
Increase in Property and Health Insurance. Levying for Emergency Management Communications (911). Pre-levy for 2nd Street Project.

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Wed. March 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
Estate of Shirley Ann Lager

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR Wright COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Shirley Ann Lager, Deceased CASE NO. ESPR017794

NOTICE OF PROOF OF WILL WITHOUT ADMINISTRATION
To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Shirley Ann Lager, Deceased, who died on or about on January 21, 2026:

You are hereby notified that on 3/17/2026, the Last Will and Testament of Shirley Ann Lager, deceased, bearing date of May 8, 2015, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and there will be no present administration of the estate. Any action to set aside

the Will must be brought in the district court of the county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the Will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter for forever barred. Dated on 3/17/2026. Milissa Katschke, Proponent Attorney for estate: Philip M. Johnson, ICIS#: AT0014857 216 North Commercial Ave PO Box 109 Eagle Grove, IA 50533 Phil@johnsonslawfirm.com Published in the Wright County

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Wed. March 25 & April 1, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
Estate of John Odilo Lager Jr.

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR Wright COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF John Odilo Lager, Jr., Deceased CASE NO. ESPR017792

NOTICE OF PROOF OF WILL WITHOUT ADMINISTRATION
To All Persons Interested in the Estate of John Odilo Lager, Jr., Deceased, who died on or about on January 17, 2026:

You are hereby notified that on 3/17/2026, the Last Will and Testament of John Odilo Lager, Jr., deceased, bearing date of May 8, 2015, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and there will be no present administration of the estate. Any action to set aside

the Will must be brought in the district court of the county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the Will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter for forever barred. Dated on 3/17/2026. Milissa Katschke, Proponent Attorney for estate: Philip M. Johnson, ICIS#: AT0014857 216 North Commercial Ave PO Box 109 Eagle Grove, IA 50533 Phil@johnsonslawfirm.com

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Wed. March 25 & April 1, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
John and Shirley Lager Revocable Trust

TRUST NOTICE IN THE MATTER OF THE TRUST: The John and Shirley Lager Revocable Trust

To all persons regarding Shirley Lager, deceased, who died on or about January 21, 2026. You are hereby notified that the trustee listed below is the trustee of The John and Shirley Lager Revocable Trust dated on May 8, 2015. Any action to contest the validity of the trust must be brought in the District Court of Wright County, Iowa, within the later to occur of four (4) months from the date of second publication of this notice or thirty (30) days from the date of mailing this notice to the spouse of the decedent settlor, and to all heirs of the decedent settlor whose identities are reasonably ascertainable. Any suit not filed within

this period shall be forever barred. Notice is further given that any person or entity possessing a claim against the trust must mail proof of the claim to the trustee at the address listed below via certified mail, return receipt requested, by the later to occur of four (4) months from the second publication of this notice or thirty (30) days from the date of mailing this notice if required or the claim shall be forever barred unless paid or otherwise satisfied. Dated on 3/17/2026. Milissa Katschke 2594 Nelson Ave Clarion, IA 50525 Philip M. Johnson #AT0014857, Attorney for Trustee The Johnson Law Firm, PLC 216 North Commercial Ave, PO Box 109, Eagle Grove, Iowa 50533

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Wed. March 25 & April 1, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Clarion March 17, 2026 Minutes

The Clarion City Council met in regular session Tuesday March 17th, 2026, at 5:00pm in the Council Chambers with Mayor Heiden presiding. Present were Council members Dave Flurer, Dan Hennigar, Nick McOllough, (Absent Mike Ennis and Elmarie Nel). Also, in attendance City Administrator Clint Middleton, Attorney Zach Chizek, PWD Jon DeVries 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 were none. Motioned by Flurer seconded by Hennigar to approve consent agenda consisting of Minutes-2026.03.03; Financial report- ap-

prove checks; Licenses/Permits-(Building, Liquor, Tobacco, Sign, Peddler, Street Closure) Building; Ruba - addition (Motion passed 3-0, absent Ennis & Nel). Motioned by McOllough seconded by Flurer to have open Public Hearing on proposal to enter into a General Obligation Corporate Purpose Loan Agreement (Motion passed 3-0 absent Ennis & Nel). No comments from the public. Motioned by Flurer seconded by Hennigar to have close Public Hearing (Motion passed 3-0 absent Ennis & Nel). Motioned by Flurer seconded by Ennis to approve Resolution (26-10) taking action on proposal to enter into a General Obligation Corporate Purpose Loan Agreement and Providing for the levy of

taxes to pay General Obligation Corporate Purpose Bonds, Series 2027 (Motion passed 3-2, absent Ennis & Nel). Motioned by Hennigar seconded by Flurer to have Second Reading of Ordinance 632: Amending Code 146 - Use of Recreational Vehicles (Motion passed 3-0 absent Ennis & Nel). There was no new information. There were members of the CDA and Danielle Hennigar (representing her kids inflatable rentals) present to help with the information on the discussion of the Gazebo Park Electrical Upgrade. There was a general quote of \$19,000+ for the proposed upgrades in three locations (upgrade outlets/panel on stage, upgrade vendor food truck area, underground power to

bounce house inflatable area) from one company. Hennigar and Flurer will work to get a map of the actual scope and seek more quotes with these areas broken down. Discussion and possible action will take place at a later date. A Special Meeting with more in attendance will need to take place later in the month. This is regarding the steps to close out certain grants issued to the Water Treatment Project. Looks like Monday the 30th will likely be that date. No reports from department heads this meeting. Motioned by McOllough seconded by Flurer to adjourn. All Ayes. (Motion passed 3-0). Respectfully Submitted, Clint Middleton City Administrator Rod Heiden, Mayor

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Wed. March 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
Construction Permit OCMD Enterprises, LLC

PUBLIC NOTICE
(This section is to be completed by the applicant)

The Wright County Board of Supervisors, has received a construction permit application for a confinement feeding operation, more specifically described as follows:
Name of Applicant: OCMD Enterprises, LLC.
Location of the operation: Section 15, Vernon Township.

Type of confinement feeding operation structure* proposed: Two new deep pit swine finisher confinement barns for a new swine confinement facility.
Animal Unit Capacity Of The Confinement Operation after Construction: 1999.60 animal units (4999 head of swine finishers).
(This section is to be completed by the county)

Examination: The application is on file at the County Wright Public Health Office and is available for public inspection during the following days: March 30, 2026 - April 10, 2026 and hours: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Comments: Written comments may be filed at the County Auditor Office, until the following deadline: April 10, 2026. Public Hearing: April 13, 2026 Board of Supervisors Meeting, Wright County Court house.

*A confinement feeding operation structure = a confinement building with a below the floor concrete pit; confinement building with an earthen basin or anaerobic lagoon; aboveground steel tank, etc. (see definition in footnote 1, page 1 of this application form).

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Wed. March 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
Construction Permit Larry Olson

PUBLIC NOTICE
(This section is to be completed by the applicant)

The Wright County Board of Supervisors, has received a construction permit application for a confinement feeding operation, more specifically described as follows:
Name of Applicant: Larry Olson
Location of the operation: Section 22, Lake Township.

Type of confinement feeding operation structure* proposed: Increase in animals only at an existing swine confinement facility.
Animal Unit Capacity Of The Confinement Operation after Construction: 1880 animal units (4700 head of swine finishers)
(This section is to be completed by the county)

on file at the County Wright Public Health Office and is available for public inspection during the following days: March 30, 2026 - April 10, 2026 and hours: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Comments: Written comments may be filed at the County Auditor Office, until the following deadline: April 10, 2026. Public Hearing: April 13, 2026 Board of Supervisors Meeting, Wright County Court house.

*A confinement feeding operation structure = a confinement building with a below the floor concrete pit; confinement building with an earthen basin or anaerobic lagoon; aboveground steel tank, etc. (see definition in footnote 1, page 1 of this application form).

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Wed. March 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
Wright County Landfill March 18, 2026 Minutes

WRIGHT COUNTY AREA LANDFILL AUTHORITY
The following is a report of public record from the 18 March 2026 Board meeting of the Wright County Area Landfill Authority, an Iowa 28E organization.

Members present included Mike Nail, Dale Hollman, Barb Schaefer, Chris Peterson, John Leist, Chris Rollins, and Lynn Loux. Travis Connor was also present. Members not present were Craig Russell, Jeanie Arends, and Earl Kalkwarf.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm. The Board approved the minutes from the

28 January 2026 Board meeting, the bills and bank reconciliations for the months ending 31 January 2026 and 28 February 2026, the financial statements for the months ending 31 January 2026 and 28 February 2026. The 28 February 2026 financial report showed total expenses of \$965,124 (64.38%) and revenues of \$951,613 (71.38%).

Travis Connor proposed to the Board the FY 26-27 Employee Wage increase. The Board approved a 1.8% wage increase for full-time hourly employees. Ryan Caquelin \$27.50, Mason Rector \$27.50, Connie Ruitter \$23.50, Travis Connor salary \$83,200.

Travis Connor proposed to the Board the FY 26-27 budget. The Board approved the FYE 26-27 budget of \$1,299,543.00. Along with the approval of the budget there is an increase in per capita fee from \$25.00 to \$28.00 for all Wright County Area Landfill Authority members. There were 6 Ayes, Mike Nail, Barb Schaefer, Chris Peterson, John Leist, Chris Rollins, and Lynn Loux. There was 1 Nay Dale Holman.

The next Board meeting is 20 May 26. The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Travis R. Connor, Director - Wright County Area Landfill Authority

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Wed. March 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of Clarion March 17, 2026 Claims

CLAIMS REPORT	300
VENDOR AMOUNT	IA DEPT OF REVENUE 118.91
AFLAC	IOWA MEDICAID ENTERPRISE ...
AGSOURCE COOP SERVICES	1,102.25
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1,454.49
ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY	465.39
BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC	2,248.62
BROTHERS MARKET	133.22
CENTRAL SERVICE & SUPPLY, INC.	341.19
CITY OF CLARION	416.8
CLARION DISTRIBUTING	394.5
CLARION HEALTH & FITNESS	180
CLARION HEALTH INS	1,569.07
CLARION VISION INS	1,052.79
CLARION WATER & SEWER	248
CLIA LABORATORY PROGRAM	40
COBRAHELP	369.23
COLLECTION SERVICES CENTER	148.61
COLUMN SOFTWARE PBC	127.17
COMM1	828.12
COUNSEL OFFICE AND DOCUMENT	476.17
DGR ENGINEERING	1,498.91
EAGLE BLDG SUPPLY	42.4
ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING	55.05
FAREWAY STORES INC	144.14
FED FICA ELECTRONIC	13,439.02
FERGUSON WATER WORKS #2516	1,485.75
VISA	1,046.69
GOLD-EAGLE COOP	2,146.67
HEIMAN FIRE EQUIP	4,390.31
HSA PERSONAL	1,340.84
A DEPT OF PUBLIC SAFETY	.....
IA DEPT OF REVENUE	..... 118.91
IOWA MEDICAID ENTERPRISE	.....
IPERS	..... 1,102.25
KANSAS CITY LIFE INSURANCE CO	..... 134.6
KC NIELSEN, LTD	..... 122.64
LANGUAGE LINK	..... 45.92
MARKER, BRIAN	..... 72.55
MIKE SAMPSON	..... 220
NYEMASTER GOODE, P.C.	.....
PRAIRIE ENERGY	..... 1,662.00
QUADIEN LEASING USA, INC	..... 75.05
RELIABLE1 HEATING AC & PLUMBING	..... 9,361.12
SMALL CITY RESEARCH INST	..... 750
SPENCER STEEL LLC	..... 116.5
STERICYCLE, INC	..... 103.58
T & S SANITATION	..... 319
TAC10	..... 8,406.20
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA	.....
UNITYPOINT HEALTH 8	.....
URNESSE HARDWARE & APP	..... 442.91
USA BLUE BOOK	..... 452.67
VEIT EDGE - DALLAS	..... 692.58
VEIT, LLC	..... 57.99
WEBSTER GLASS	..... 555
WRIGHT CO LANDFILL	17,832.50
WEX BANK	..... 716.31
ZIEGLER INC	..... 2,279.06
Accounts Payable Total	83,966.54
GENERAL	..... 37,316.80
ROAD USE	..... 6,670.52
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT FUND	..... 166.6
DAYCARE - CLARION	..... 10,819.46
SEWER	..... 3,709.86
LANDFILL	..... 17,812.50
INTERNAL SERVICE FUND	..... 275.78
TOTAL FUNDS 83,966.54

Published in the Wright County Monitor on Wed. March 25, 2026

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Courthouse news

BIRTHS

Lane John Larson, born March 2, 2026, to Marissa and Luke Larson, Livermore.

Rusvel Huerta Vazquez II, born March 3, 2026, to Ana Huerta Vazquez and Rusvel Huerta Manzano, Hampton.

Travis Alexis Baeza Lopez, born March 4, 2026, to Vivian Lopez Agosto and Hector Baeza Puc, Eagle Grove.

Bennett Knight Bieber, born March 4, 2026, to Elizabeth and Matthew Bieber, Clear Lake.

Kenzo Yazid Mendez Croasdaile, born March 4, 2026, to Maria Croasdaile Velasquez and Jeffrey Mendez Mejia, Eagle Grove.

Arus Ordell Otterman, born March 4, 2026, to Anna and Joshua Otterman, Clear Lake.

Caleb Joseph Widick, born March 4, 2026, to Alexis and Jacob Widick, Webster City.

Broc Alan Burgardt, born March 5, 2026, to Katie and Nicholas Burgardt, Britt.

Carson Scott Finch, born March 5, 2026, to Cheyenne Randels, Hampton.

Ryker Fritz Church, born March 6, 2026, to Natasha and Timothy Church, Garner.

Ellenor Lynne Wells, born March 6, 2026, to Tianna and Andrew Wells, Iowa Falls.

Everley Renee Porter, born March 6, 2026, to Kaelee and Kyle Porter, Fort Dodge.

Maverick Lee Avery, born March 6, 2026, to Amber Klepoch, Britt.

Kendall Elaine Randle, born March 6, 2026, to Desirae and Emmanuel Randle, Rockwell.

Adalyn Ann Brood, born March 7, 2026, to Michaela and Kaleb Brood, Sheffield.

Landon Wayne Torkelson, born March 8, 2026, to Jenalyn and Adam Torkelson, Forest City.

Bexton Lee Walker, born March 8, 2026, to LaKayla Walker, Iowa Falls.

Savanna Quinn Christian, born March 9, 2026, to Sydney and Court Christian, Belmont.

Estrella Noemi Gomez Guzman, born March 10, 2026, to Rosa Guzman Hernandez, Eagle Grove.

Amylo Jace Lewis, born March 10, 2026, to Jade Troe, Garner.

Emersyn Rae Brawdy, born March 11, 2026, to Kayla Overton, Humboldt.

Jose Marcelo Ramos Benitez, born March 11, 2026, to Xochitl Benitez Arellano, Belmont.

Samuel Azael Aguilar Samayoa, born March 11, 2026, to Laura Samayoa Bravo and Ciriaco Aguilar Chilel, Webster City.

Willow Arlene Reutzell-Wilcox, born March 12, 2026, to Jessica Reutzell, Mason City.

Sawyer Ann Post, born March 12, 2026, to Alissa Hicks, Titonka.

Riggs Anthony Hoover, born March 13, 2026, to Odysse Hanson, Fort Dodge.

Augustus Don Eliason, born March 14, 2026, to Sage Hall, Garner.

Winona Joann Marcov, born March 14, 2026, to Gracie and Samuel Marcov, Dumont.

Emory Reuben Paulsen, born March 15, 2026, to Olivia and Bryce Paulsen, Forest City.

Jack Jesse Tschopp, born March 15, 2026, to Molly and Jesse Tschopp, Webster City.

DEATHS

Mary Louise Johnson, 87, Belmont, died March 11, 2026.

Robert Sigurd Jacobsen, 96, Dows, died March 10, 2026.

Amy Mae Asche, 93, Goldfield, died March 6, 2026.

Shirley May Miller, 91, Woolstock, died March 17, 2026.

Jonnie Raymond Terry, 77, Goldfield, died March 11, 2026.

TRAFFIC

Andrew John Eekhoff, Belmont, SPEEDING 55 OR UNDER ZONE (11 THRU 15 OVER).

Kimberly Jo Mohr, Eagle Grove, SPEEDING 55 OR UNDER ZONE (6 THRU 10 OVER).

Max Alan Bly, Fort Dodge, SPEEDING 55 OR UNDER ZONE (21 OR OVER).

Dylan Christopher Fullerton, Sanborn, Minn., FAILURE TO MAINTAIN OR USE SAFETY BELTS - ADULT.

Yarely Yolibeth Nolasco Mejia, Belmont, NO VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE.

Yarely Yolibeth Nolasco Mejia, Belmont, DRIVING WITH OBSTRUCTED VIEW OR CONTROL.

Christina Linnea Gregory,

Belmond, FAILURE TO REDUCE SPEED TO REASONABLE AND PROPER RATE.

Lisseth Cordero, Eagle Grove, NO VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE.

Owen Jeffrey Leerar, Belmont, SPEEDING 55 OR UNDER ZONE (6 THRU 10 OVER).

Gage William Buechler, Runnells, SPEEDING OVER 55 ZONE (6 THRU 10 OVER).

Marlique Haehnel Dequa Hunter, Wichita Falls, Texas, SPEEDING OVER 55 ZONE (21 OR OVER).

Carla Sue Ferguson, Fort Dodge, SPEEDING 55 OR UNDER ZONE (1 THRU 5 OVER).

Robert Leland Halfpop, Belmont, SPEEDING 55 OR UNDER ZONE (6 THRU 10 OVER).

Jordan Castillo, Clarion, DARK WINDOW OR WINDSHIELD.

Jose Joaquin Lopez Jorge, Crete, Neb., SPEEDING 55 OR UNDER ZONE (6 THRU 10 OVER).

Audrey Grace Orr, Woolstock, USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICE.

Hannah Jean Frohling, Rowan, SPEEDING 55 OR UNDER ZONE (6 THRU 10 OVER).

Alysa Ann Weiss, Meservey, PERMITTING UNAUTHORIZED PERSON TO DRIVE.

Tate Joseph Richardson, Eagle Grove, SPEEDING 55 OR UNDER ZONE (1 THRU 5 OVER).

Sean Curtis Stephenson, Goldfield, FAILURE TO PROVIDE PROOF OF FINANCIAL LIABILITY.

Jillian Mae Pitsch, Minneapolis, Minn., SPEEDING OVER 55 ZONE (6 THRU 10 OVER).

Michelle Elizabeth Pralle, Hampton, SPEEDING 55 OR UNDER ZONE (1 THRU 5 OVER).

Mark Alan Dorr, West Des Moines, SPEEDING 55 OR UNDER ZONE (6 THRU 10 OVER).

William Ramiro Soy Otzin, Eagle Grove, NO VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE.

Michelle Marie Garcia, Clarion, SPEEDING 55 OR UNDER ZONE (6 THRU 10 OVER).

Stephanie Grace Olmstead, Eagle Grove, SPEEDING 55 OR UNDER ZONE (6 THRU 10 OVER).

Jose Yoan Hernandez, Eagle Grove, SPEEDING 55 OR UNDER ZONE (6 THRU 10 OVER).

Todd Curtis Travis, Curlew, FAILURE TO MAINTAIN OR USE SAFETY BELTS - ADULT.

Craig Robert Martin, Woolstock, IMPROPER REAR LAMPS.

Anibal Morales Aguilar, Litchfield, Minn., NO VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE.

Arthur Eugene Wopat, Fitchburg, Wis., SPEEDING 55 OR UNDER ZONE (6 THRU 10 OVER).

Teresa Emilsa Ordonez Gomez, Vincent, SPEEDING 55 OR UNDER ZONE (11 THRU 15 OVER).

Joseph Daniel Anderegg, Osage, FAILURE TO MAINTAIN OR USE SAFETY BELTS - ADULT.

Carmen Garcia Serrano, Alexander, SPEEDING 55 OR UNDER ZONE (6 THRU 10 OVER).

Joshua Adam Janssen, Jefferson, SPEEDING 55 OR UNDER ZONE (16 THRU 20 OVER).

Beverly Alvarado, Clarion, NO VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE.

Ursulo Everardo Martinez Gurrion, Eagle Grove, OPERATION WITHOUT REGISTRATION.

Cesia A. Maldonado, Clarion, FAILURE TO HAVE VALID LICENSE OR PERMIT WHILE OPERATING.

Cesia A. Maldonado, Clarion, FAILURE TO SECURE CHILD UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE.

Juan Ruben Raymundo Lopez, Webster City, FAILURE TO OBEY TRAFFIC CON-

TROL DEVICE.

Juan Ruben Raymundo Lopez, Webster City, FAILURE TO HAVE VALID LICENSE OR PERMIT WHILE OPERATING.

Yurida Benitez Vava, Kanawha, FAILURE TO HAVE VALID LICENSE OR PERMIT WHILE OPERATING.

CRIMINAL
Mary Ellena Baderstadt, Fort Dodge - Driving While Barred; fines and court costs: \$1,327.89.

Justin Michael Morris, Eagle Grove - Stalking (Aggravated Misdemeanor, 10/01/2025); Use of Dangerous Weapon in the Commission of a Crime (Aggravated Misdemeanor, 10/01/2025); Harassment - 1st Degree; Jury Trial continued to 04/02/2026 at 8:30 AM.

Jordan Ronald Currier, Mason City - Identity Theft Under \$1,500; Arraignment 04/03/2026 at 9:00 AM.

Javier Jesus Guadalupe Chavez Aguilar, Corwith - Domestic Abuse Assault - 2nd Offense; Jury Trial 05/21/2026 at 8:30 AM.

Danilo Bersai Matul Vasquez, Belmont - Driving While Barred; Arraignment 04/03/2026 at 9:00 AM.

Cory Wayne Bryan, Eagle Grove - Driving While Barred; Arraignment 04/03/2026 at 9:00 AM.

Marcio Esvin Romero Lopez, Clarion - Harassment - 1st Degree; Initial Appearance 03/26/2026 at 1:00 PM.

Marcio Esvin Romero Lopez, Clarion - Disorderly Conduct - Loud Raucous Noise; Initial Appearance 03/26/2026 at 1:00 PM.

Denton Roy Sanders, Eagle Grove - Assault on Persons in Certain Occupations (Aggravated Misdemeanor, 03/09/2026); Assault with Intent to Inflict Serious Injury; Plea of Not Guilty filed 03/10/2026; Initial Appearance 03/11/2026.

Fernando Allen Navarro Marquardt, Eldora - Driving While Barred; Preliminary Hearing 03/26/2026 at 1:30 PM.

Eric R. Sorenson, Goldfield - Domestic Abuse Assault; Display or Use of Weapon - 1st Offense; Preliminary Hearing 03/26/2026 at 1:30 PM.

Spencer Alan Stevenson, Goldfield - Willful Injury - Causing Serious Injury; Waiver of Rights and Plea of Guilty; fine \$187.03, 30-day jail, 1-year probation.

Justin Albert Heiserman, Colfax - Order Setting Trial filed 03/06/2026.

Herberth Joel Gomez Gomez, Clarion - Possession of Controlled Substance - 3rd or Subsequent Offense (Marijuana, Methamphetamine); Plea Hearing 04/10/2026 at 9:00 AM.

Andrew John Eekhoff, Belmont - Controlled Substance Violation; Plea of Not Guilty.

Laura Lara Gonzalez, Eagle Grove - Compulsory Education Violation - 1st Offense; Hearing 04/30/2026 at 2:30 PM.

Enrique Emmanuel Castillo Vicente, Eagle Grove - Disorderly Conduct - Loud Raucous Noise; Non-Jury Trial 05/28/2026 at 2:00 PM.

Alejandro Ortiz Barragan, Eagle Grove - Public Intoxication; Trial 04/02/2026 at 1:45 PM.

Leroy Brown Jr., Opa-locka, Florida - Possession of Controlled Substance - Marijuana 1st Offense; Final Notice of Past Due Court Fine and Costs.

Antonio Utrera Aguirre, Eagle Grove - Assault Causing Bodily Injury or Mental Illness; Pre-Trial Conference 04/03/2026 at 9:00 AM; Jury Trial 04/16/2026 at 8:30 AM.

Geneva Marie Friedl, Fort Dodge - Possession of Controlled Substance - 1st Offense; Pre-Trial Conference 05/08/2026 at 9:00 AM; Jury Trial 05/21/2026 at 8:30 AM.

Terry James Groesbeck, Eagle Grove - Driving While License Denied or Revoked; Arraignment 04/03/2026 at 9:00 AM.

Archdiocese Sets Date for Restructuring Announcement

Michael Hohenbrink, Mid America Publishing

Potentially big changes for area parishes will be made public soon.

Announced last year, the archdiocesan Journey in Faith process is moving ahead with plans to end weekly Mass at dozens of parishes.

In place of current Mass schedules, the archdiocese will instead use Pastorate, groupings of parishes with not all parishes having weekly Mass.

"This plan is guided by a few important pastoral principles intended to help our priests serve well and ensure that the faithful continue to receive strong spiritual leadership and ministerial support," said Archbishop Thomas Zinkula in a statement made public recently.

"For example, the weekend Mass schedule will remain the same each week. In other words, there will no longer be Mass rotations. Instead

of focusing on more important mission-driven endeavors such as ministry and relationship building, those rotations focused on building utilization and depleted necessary human and financial resources. In addition, priests will normally celebrate no more than three Masses on a weekend so they can also devote time to the many other important responsibilities of priestly ministry."

An initial trial of this Pastorate model was announced last year in Allamakee County with the merger of St. Ann-St. Joseph Parish Harpers Ferry; Lansing's Immaculate Conception Parish; New Albin's St. Joseph and Wexford's Immaculate Conception and establishment of Lansing-based Holy Family of the Bluffs Parish.

A date has been set to make public the full list of parish changes.

"The final pastorate

structure and priest assignments will become public on April 11," said the Rev. Zinkula. "Beginning on that day, information will be available on the Journey in Faith website so parishioners can learn more about the plan and find answers to common questions. That weekend, April 11-12, the pastors will share a letter with their parish communities explaining what the plan means for their local parishes, including pastorate collaborations, priest assignments, and weekend Mass locations."

The restructuring has drawn criticism.

Save our Churches Save Our Communities is a group within the archdiocese that has organized and voiced concern.

The group is hosting Canon Lawyer Philip Gray

Thursday, March 26 at 6:30 p.m. over at Manchester's Old 20 Auctions 1949 210th Street.

Iowa PBS presents The Legacy of 4-H

Explore the origins of the nation's largest youth organization during The Legacy of 4-H, a new documentary from Iowa PBS premiering Monday, April 6 at 8 p.m. It will be rebroadcast Sunday, April 12 at 1 p.m. and will also be available to stream online with the PBS app.

Tracing 4-H's roots back to the early 1900s, the documentary celebrates Jessie Field Shambaugh and her lasting influence on youth education. Affectionately called "The Mother of 4-H," Shambaugh grew up and lived in Clarinda, Iowa. People knew her to be calm and thorough, with an innate ability to share with others her own knowledge.

As a schoolteacher in southwest Iowa, Jessie started Boys Corn Clubs and Girls Home Clubs in addition to camps, exhibitions and judging contests. Her vision and pioneer spirit helped lead to 4-H clubs nationwide. Through history and reflection, the film shows how 4-H has empowered generations with skills, leadership, and a commitment to community.

"It was a joy producing this documentary. I learned how Jessie Field Shambaugh, a woman from Page County, Iowa, was a driving force in shaping the 4-H movement. It was interesting learning more about 4-H and how it has adapted over the decades in order to reach more and more young people in rural and urban areas alike. As the world has changed, so too has 4-H."

Iowans who can't wait for the broadcast are invited to attend one of the free premiere screenings of The Legacy of 4-H. Screenings will take place March 29 at 2 p.m. at the CCAM Art Hangar in Clarinda and April 2 at 4:30 p.m. at the Iowa State University Alumni Center in Ames. For more information and to register for either event, visit iowapbs.org/events.

As a testament to Jessie and the longevity of 4-H, there are over six million U.S. school children participating in 4-H activities today. They are learning life skills such as leadership and cooperation through the same values of Head, Hands, Heart

and Health that she helped pioneer over a century ago. In Iowa, nearly 100,000 youth are involved in 4-H. Jessie was part of a lasting legacy that is forever honored in the 4-H creed, "I pledge my head to clearer thinking, my heart to greater loyalty, my hands to larger service, and my health to better living for my club, my community, my country and my world."

Funding for The Legacy of 4-H is provided by Bank Iowa, Casey's, Clarinda Carnegie Art Museum, Iowa Pork Producers Association and NEW Cooperative, Inc.

In addition to its statewide broadcast, Iowa PBS .I is available to livestream on iowapbs.org/watch, pbs.org/livestream, the PBS app, Local Now, YouTube TV and Hulu + Live TV. Iowa PBS programs, behind-the-scenes extras and more can be enjoyed on iowapbs.org, Facebook and YouTube. Viewers can also stream their favorite shows on demand using the PBS app, available on iOS, Android and many streaming devices. Learn more at iowapbs.org.

Community Health Center of Fort Dodge to Celebrate 20 Years During Annual Fundraiser

The Community Health Center of Fort Dodge is pleased to announce its annual fundraising event will be held on Saturday, April 11, beginning at 5:30 PM at The Laramar in Fort Dodge. This year's event is especially meaningful as the organization celebrates 20 years of service to the community.

Guests will enjoy dinner, live and silent/online auction, and musical entertainment by Scott Kirkhart. The evening will bring together supporters, partners, and community members for a memorable celebration benefiting an important cause.

Over the past two decades, Community Health Center has experienced significant growth expanding from serving 3,000 patients in 2008 to caring for almost 18,000 patients this past

year. They now also serve patients at locations in Dayton, Mason City, Eagle Grove, Clarion, and most recently, Spencer. In 2025 alone, they provided care through almost 60,000 patient visits, delivering comprehensive medical, dental, behavioral health, vision, and pharmacy services as a Federally Qualified Health Center.

This year's fundraiser will support expanding access to breast cancer screening for underserved women. Bringing mammograms on-site will reduce transportation barriers, allow screenings at the time of care and support early detection and prevention. Expanding access for all patients including those eligible for their sliding fee scale.

Tickets for the event will go on sale March 13

and will be available online (chcfd.com), at Community Health Center of Fort Dodge, and through Community Health Center employees. Raffle tickets are also available to support the cause. The online auction will open April 4 at 8:00 AM and remain active until 9:00 PM on the night of the event.

Sponsorships are still being accepted, and auction donations are currently being sought. Those interested in supporting the event may contact Regina Suhrbier, Outreach Coordinator, at 515-576-6500 or via email at rsuhrbier@chcfortdodge.com.

All contributions will help the Community Health Center continue its mission of delivering essential, high-quality healthcare services to those who need them most.



The Wright County MONITOR

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

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

BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">a HouseSOLD name</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.5em;">Town Country Realty</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">**A WINNING COMBINATION** for Real Estate Success!</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Carol Haupt • Broker/Owner 104 North Main St. • Clarion, IA 515.532.2150 www.clarionowarealty.com</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.1em;">A.D. TECH SOLUTIONS</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Computer and Network Repair. Virus Removal</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Mon. - Fri. By Appointment Only. 207 North Main Street</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.1em;">(515) 532-2157</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">andrew@ad-techsolutions.com</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.1em;">TIMOTHY M. ANDERSON</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.1em;">ATTORNEY AT LAW</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">KNOSHGAUG ANDERSON LAW OFFICE 218 1ST STREET SW P.O. BOX 111 CLARION, IOWA 50525</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">TELEPHONE (515) 532-2821 CLARION TOLL FREE (877) 532-2821 FACSIMILE (515) 532-2450 GARNER TOLL FREE (866) 923-2769</p>
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Office: (563) 864-3333
Cell: (563) 605-1078

Church news

CLARION AREA

CLARION FIRST METHODIST CHURCH
201 3rd Ave. NE, Clarion, IA 50525
Pastor Craig Luttrell
515-532-2845
website: www.clarion.church
Church Office
Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - Noon
• Sunday, March 29
9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
• Sunday, April 5
9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
10:00 a.m. Worship Service

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA
420 1st St NW, Clarion, IA 515-532-3440
www.firslutheranclarion.com
"YOU are love, YOU belong, YOU are called, and YOU are gifted"
• 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Services
10:30 a.m. Fellowship

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL
121 3rd Avenue N.W., Clarion
• Sunday, March 29
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
9:30 a.m. Worship, also live each Sunday on Facebook
10:30 a.m. Fellowship
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, March 26
8:00 a.m. Sewing
4:00 p.m. OCIA at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove
5:30 p.m. Lenten Stations, Mass and Soup Supper at St. Francis Xavier, Belmont
5:30 p.m. Lenten Stations and Soup Supper at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove and St. John, Clarion
7:00 p.m. Cluster Pastoral Council Meeting at St. John, Clarion
• Friday, March 27
7:40 a.m. Rosary at St. John, Clarion
8:00 a.m. Mass at St. John, Clarion
7:00 p.m. Via Crucis at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove
• Saturday, March 28
Palm Sunday
Iowa Catholic Men's Conference
2:00 p.m. Baptisms at St. John, Clarion
4:00 p.m. Mass at St. John, Clarion
8:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish at St. John, Clarion
• Sunday, March 29
Palm Sunday
8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Francis Xavier, Belmont
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Knights

of Columbus Omelet Breakfast at St. Francis Xavier, Belmont
10:30 a.m. Mass at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove
• Monday, March 30
Holy Week
8:15 a.m. Rosary at St. Francis Xavier, Belmont
• Tuesday, March 31
2:00 p.m. Chrism Mass in Dubuque
• Wednesday, April 1
6:30 p.m. YFF Classes at all Parishes
6:30 p.m. Adoration at all Parishes
• Thursday, April 2
Holy Thursday
Offices Closed
7:00 p.m. Bilingual Mass at St. Francis Xavier, Belmont

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
219 First Street N.W. Clarion 515-532-2709
• Sunday, March 29, Jay Rudolph 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

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, March 29
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
Rev. George Lautner
Cell: 412-874-9878
• Wednesday, March 25
Lent Midweek Five
6:00 p.m. Light Meal
7:00 p.m. Worship
• Sunday, March 29 Palm Sunday
9:30 a.m. Worship & Praise
10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages with refreshments
• April 2 Maundy Thursday
6:00 p.m. Worship & Communion
• April 3 Good Friday
6:00 p.m. Worship
• April 5 Easter Sunday
8:30 a.m. Breakfast
9:30 a.m. Worship & Communion
Everyone Welcome!
Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays
Praise Songs & Worship last Sunday of the month

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, March 29
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
• Every Tuesday
1:30 p.m. Bible Study anyone is invited to attend
• Every Wednesday in March
3:00 p.m. Church Service at Belmont Rehabilitation Center

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod
Jct. Highway 69 & 3
Pastor Mark Eichler
• Sunday, March 29
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, March 29
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, March 25
5:30 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. Lenten Meal
6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship
• Sunday, March 29
9:00 a.m. SS/Conf/Coffee
10:00 a.m. Worship & Communion

UNITED METHODIST & PRESBYTERIAN
• Sunday, March 29
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

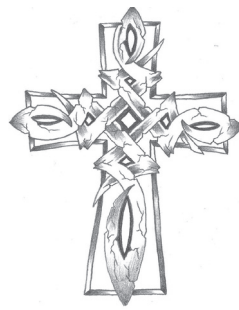
IMMANUEL U.C.C.
204 E. South St., Latimer
Joe Dunnwald
• Sunday, March 29
10:30 a.m. Worship

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN
304 W. Main, Latimer
Travis Berg, Pastor
• Sunday, March 29
9 a.m. Worship, 10:15 a.m. ABC/Sunday School

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Morgan, Lee Center, Bradford
Erling Shultz, Pastor
• Sunday, March 29
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, March 29
9:30a.m. Joint Sunday Worship Service with Holy Communion, Coffee to follow
• Dinner is the first Sunday of the month



HAVE YOU TALKED TO GOD LATELY?

The Clarion Wire

** Need \$\$ for some worthwhile project in Clarion? Every 3 months (quarter) there are monies available from our local HOTEL/MOTEL TAX. Grant applications are relatively simple; information is available at Clarion City Hall. Deadline for this one is Tuesday, March 31!
** BINGO continues at the Clarion Senior Citizens Center every Friday at 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Anyone wanting to volunteer at the center or with ideas of programs, contact Gloria Johnson - 515-835-7728.
** All You Can Eat FISH FRY is Friday, March 27 from 5 - 6:30 p.m. - Eagle Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church - 615 S.W. 2nd Street. Freewill.
** Dows STAG at its Community Center on Friday, March 27 from 5:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. \$75; \$85 at the door.
** Texas JAM at Blairsburg Opera House on Friday, March 27 from 6 - 9 p.m. Bring a snack to share!
** 3rd Annual CGD 'Matress Sale Fundraiser' on Saturday, March 28 - CGD Middle School Cafeteria from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Fundraiser for CGD Fine Arts program.
** On Sunday, March 29 enjoy Scalloped Potatoes and Ham Dinner with Dows Legion in Dows from 1-1 p.m. Freewill offering
** 500 card players: '500' each Wednesday at Clarion's Senior Citizens Center; both men and women; from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. And on Thursdays, learn to play 'Hand & Foot' card game! Also 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
** 'Trivia Nights' at the Bru are the 1st and 3rd Thursday nights of each month. Next ones are April 2 and 16, beginning at 6 p.m.
** Easter Egg Hunt in Belmont on Saturday, April 4 at 9 a.m. for 0 - 9 year olds! At the BELmond City Park.
** Easter is coming! Rowan Easter Egg Hunt is set for Saturday, April 4 at 10 a.m. at the Rowan Playground. Easter bunny will be on hand for photos! (In case of bad weather, it will be across the street in the Communiyt Center!)
** Clarion's Easter Egg Hunt is set for Saturday, April 4 at Tornado Park - at 10:30 a.m.
** Dows Easter Egg Hunt is Saturday, April 4 at 10 a.m. Football Field.
** Easter Egg Hunt for kids 0 - 9 years old at Eagle Grove's Hewitt Park (615 S.W. 2nd Street) on Saturday, April 4 at 3 p.m. (Weather reschedule is Saturday, April 11).
** Clarion Church of Christ celebrates Easter on Sunday, April 5 - Sunrise Breakfast at 8 a.m.; Worship at 10 a.m.
** Clarmond EASTER BUFFET on Sunday, April 5. Reservations Only. Two seating times - 10:30 a.m. and Noon. clarmond16@gmail.com . Adults - \$20; over 65 - \$18; Kids 5 - 10 - \$12; under 5 - \$2 per year.
** MAKE YOUR EASTER RESERVATIONS NOW at Cattleman's Bruch with Dining in Belmont. Open 10:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call 641-444-4183!
** Clarion's Pizza Ranch will open at 4 p.m. on Easter Sunday, April 5!

** Clarion's Blood Drive is the first Tuesday afternoon of each of each month. The next one is Tuesday, April 7 at Iowa Specialty Hospital from 1 - 6 p.m.
** Clarion city officials are going to meet with the public to talk about the new Water System. At the Clarion Senior Citizens Center on Thursday, April 9 at 1:30 p.m.
** First Lutheran Church FOOD PANTRY in Clarion, 420 - First Street N.W., is open on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month, from 5 - 6:30 p.m. Next ones are April 9 and 23.
** Local VFW Fish Fry is Friday, April 10 from 5 - 7 p.m.; serving at Heartland Museum - adults - \$15; 5 - 12 are \$6 and those younger are free.
** Clarmond SPRING KICK-OFF on Saturday, April 11. Fundraiser. Open to the public. \$10 entry fee (includes meal). Happy Hour at 5 p.m.; Meal at 6 p.m.; Music at 7 p.m. with 2nd Avenue Society. Games, prizes.
** Community Impact Night at Pizza Ranch on Monday, April 13 from 5 - 7:30 p.m. Marys & Marthas will be bussing tables for % of sales and tips! Making \$\$ for swimming pool passes this summer!
** Mark your calendars for Wright County Humane Society's Bags Tournament and Silent Auction on Saturday April 25th. Registration at 1 p.m. and Bags fly at 2 p.m.as they begin to raise \$ to build a county shelter! Watch The Humane Society of Wright County facebook page for pictures of silent auction items closer to the event! Volunteers are raising money to build a shelter!
** Start registering kids from kindergarten through fifth grade for SUMMER DAY CAMPS; offered by ISU Extension & Outreach.
** AT THE CLARION THEATRE: Showing "Project Hail Mary" (PG-13) on Friday - Sunday, March 27 - 29 @ 7 p.m.; Sunday Matinee at 2:30 p.m. - March 29 (2nd of two weeks)
** FOCUS ON BUSINESS: Tis the season to buy a ticket for Seversons at Grand View Beef and their "Farm to Table" events. Check them out on their facebook page!
** FOCUS ON BUSINESS #2: Take the stress out of the tax season! Barrett Financial Tax and Accounting is booking new clients. Located at 202 N Main Street, Clarion.Call (515) 448-8070.
** COMMENT: Eagle Grove Lions are NO LONGER COLLECTING SHOES. Shipping is no longer free, causing the group to stop collecting them!
** THANK YOU: To everyone who helps to make Easter celebrations a good one: worship services, Easter egg huts, Easter dining with family and friends!!!

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New Life in a New Season
As we move into the official beginning of Spring, we tend to feel a sense of serenity and renewal. As the days grow longer and the air gets warmer, we can reflect upon the matter of renewal in our own lives. Life can bring about circumstances which feel like a "crossroads" as we seek out a fresh start or a new path to embark upon. While standing at these turning points can feel uncertain, the changing season serves as a reminder that growth is a natural process. Just as the flowers of Spring will not bloom all at once, our own transitions take time and careful attention. As this new season begins, try to find comfort in this fact, no matter how long the winter may have felt, or how uncertain times may feel.
-James Stone

Reconnect
With Your Church Community

Words of Wisdom

Last week's trivia questions:
 What state has the most lighthouses?
 Answer: Michigan, with over 150 past and present structures. (Michigan's extensive shoreline along the Great Lakes has required many navigational aids to guide ships through treacherous waters).



What state has the most caves? Answer: Tennessee, with approximately 10,000 caves in the primarily limestone bedrock.

This week's trivia questions:

What prominent big band leader and trombonist during "the swing era" was born in Clarinda, Iowa, and was one of the best-selling recording artists of the 1940s?

What legendary American singer, known for his smooth vocals, charismatic stage presence, and amazing TV Christmas specials, was born in Wall Lake, Iowa?

March 25 is International Waffle Day, and Medal of Honor Day; March 26 is National Spinach Day, and Wear a Hat Day; March 27 is World Theater Day; March 28 is World Piano Day; March 29 is National Mom and Pop Business Owners Day, National Vietnam Wars Veterans Day, and World Marbles Day; March 30 is Doctor's Day, and Take a Walk in the Park Day; March 31 is Crayola Crayon Day, and National Farm Worker's Day.

Funny awards show speeches:

Actor Steve Carell - "I really did not expect to win this, so I didn't write anything. However, my wife did and handed me something. I would like to thank my wife, Nancy, for her constant support and for being so beautiful tonight. Also, to my wife, for giving me two wonderful children, as painful as her labor might have been. Nancy, my precious wife, who put her career on hold in support of mine, and who sometimes wishes I would let her know when I'm going to be home late so she can schedule her life, which is no less important than mine."

Host Billy Crystal - "So tonight, enjoy yourselves. Because nothing can take the sting out of the world's economic problems like watching millionaires collecting gold statues."

Comedian Tina Fey - "George Clooney married Amal Alamuddin this year. Amal is a human rights lawyer who worked on the Enron case, was an adviser to Kofi Annan regarding Syria, and was selected for a three-person UN commission investigating rules of war violations in the Gaza Strip. So tonight, her husband is getting a lifetime achievement award."

Actor Steve Martin - "Maybe critics are right, maybe Hollywood movies are too violent. I took a nine-year-old kid to see Gladiator and he cried through the entire film. Now, maybe it was because he didn't know who I was?"

The "Dollywood" theme park in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee opened under its current name in 1986, when Dolly Parton partnered with the Herschend family to transform the park into a nationally recognized destination.

Dollywood is home to some of the most thrilling rides, including "Lightning Rod," the world's fastest wooden roller coaster. Interestingly, Dolly Parton does not ride the rides at her own theme park, due to a fear of roller coasters and motion sickness.

Clarion Coin Club Ends Hibernation

Rodger Tveiten

The Clarion Coin Club resumes monthly meetings on Thursday, March 26, after taking the winter off. The club, founded in 1958, meets the fourth Thursday of the month at 6:00 at the Clarion Pizza Ranch. Each session includes a live auction of coins, currency, gold, silver and other collectibles. Sale items are submitted by club members. Ten lots of Morgan and Peace silver dollars plus numerous other silver items are featured in the March auction. Members and guests are welcome. The non-profit

organization will host an America 250 Coin Show on Saturday, April 4, from 9:00 to 3:00 at Clarion's Heartland Museum. The theme of the annual spring show is the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776.

There will be America 250 displays and decorations. America 250 t-shirts and America 250 medallions will be available. Patriotic clothing is encouraged. The colors for the day will be Red, White and Blue! For more information, call Boyd LaRue at 515-460-5681.



CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
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Monitor Memories

FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE WRIGHT COUNTY MONITOR
 1984 - 1949

42 Years Ago
 March 29, 1984

Trooper Michael Gilbert, a state leader against drunk driving, will speak at Clarion High School on Monday. The public is welcome to attend this session which will begin at 9:30 a.m. Gilbert's presentation is being sponsored by Beta Sigma Phi of Clarion. Gilbert is out of Iowa State Patrol Post 11, Cedar Rapids. Since December 1, 1982, Gilbert has traveled all over the state of Iowa giving Students Against Driving Drunk (SADD) presentations to groups of high school students, parent groups, the Governor's Highway Safety Substance Abuse Seminar, and Mother Against Drunk Driving (MADD). Gilbert's efforts attempting to remove Operating While Intoxicated (OWI) drivers from Iowa highways was very well received, as attested by complimentary letters from across the state.

Airman First Class Velrita Waits of Clarion has been named at Bitburg Air Base "Professional Airman of the Month" for March. According to Ronald Cooper, USAF President, Waits was selected from the base population of first term airmen as the individual who exemplifies the image of professionalism. Airman First Class Waits projects the positive military image endorsed by the Noncommissioned Officers Academy Graduates Association.

Mary Margaret Weir had the ribbon cutting honors last Wednesday to signify the official opening of Mary's Beauty Shop, below the Fashionette in Clarion. Several Clarion Area Chamber of Commerce members, including executive secretary Karen Weld, were on hand for the ceremony.

77 Years ago
 March 31, 1949

"Minstrel Varieties", presented by the Clarion Community chorus played to a capacity crowd Friday evening. The standing room only signs were out long before the curtain was raised and several hundred persons were turned away, according to officers of the chorus. So successful was the program that plans already are being made to present another minstrel show next year. Wayne Cross, director of the chorus, said that next season's presentation will be given two different nights so that everyone who wishes can attend.

About \$15,000 damage resulted from a twisting wind which hit the Woolstock community Thursday, Mar. 24. Plate glass windows, chimneys and considerable electrical wiring were destroyed. On one farm, a chicken house was demolished and a barn pushed over by the force of the wind which was accompanied by rain. Two people received minor cuts from shattered glass.

Tom Shupe won first place in the broad jump to give Clarion six points and 18th place in the Class B state indoor track meet at Iowa City last Saturday. Other Cowboy competitors finished high up in their heats but were beaten out in the final tabulations. Shupe's 21 feet, six inch jump broke a 9-year-old record established in 1940 by Wortman of Grinnell. The former mark was three inches short of the Cowboy sophomore's jump.



Show your appreciation for our Lifesaving Volunteers with a Blood Donation in April



The mission of LifeServe Blood Center is simple: to save local lives. That mission wouldn't be possible without the hard work and dedication of our blood donors, staff members, and volunteers.

Our volunteers are behind every lifesaving donation. They help with everything from transporting blood to hospitals around our region to making sure our donor centers are stocked with necessary supplies.

April is Volunteer Appreciation Month. This month, show your gratitude to the volunteers who keep our work going and help make sure local patients have the blood products they need. The best way to say thank you? Keep them busy saving lives by making a blood donation.

• Clarion Community on Apr 7, 2026 from 1:00 pm to 6:00pm at 1316 S. Main Street

Schedule your lifesaving appointment by

visiting lifeservebloodcenter.org or by calling 800.287.4903.

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

Obituaries

Linda Papouchis

Linda Papouchis, 78, of Ames, Iowa, died Thursday, March 12, at home, surrounded by family following a battle with Parkinson's Disease and Dementia with Lewy Bodies.



Cemetery in Mason City.

A memorial service was held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 24, 2026 at St. Paul Lutheran Church at 610 15th St in Ames with Pastor Todd Jenks officiating.

A visitation for Linda Papouchis was held from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Monday, March 23, at Grandon Funeral and Cremation Care at 414 Lincoln Way in Ames. Burial will take place at a later date at Elmwood St. Joseph

Memorials can be directed to the American Parkinson's Disease Association or the Alzheimer's Association which includes studies into Lewy Bodies with Dementia.

Linda is the daughter of Alfred and Maureen (Hocraffer) Berding.

WCCT to host ICTA State Convention

"Fiddler on the Roof Sr." premiers March 27

Community theatre members from across the state will convene for the biennial gathering in Webster City on March 27-28. They will attend a production of "Fiddler on the Roof Sr." by WCCT's Over the Speed Limit Players on Friday, March 27, at 7 pm. Senior Broadway shows are a new concept developed by Music Theatre International (MTI) for actors over the age of 55. The performance will introduce this musical option for other community theatres to consider.

This version of the musical contains the characters, storyline, and songs that are familiar to audiences, just condensed to a bit over an hour. Loween Getter is leading rehearsals for the show with music assistance from Dane Barner. Technical direction is by Sam Ose and Sally Evans.

Dean Evans reprises his role as Tevye, with Mary Sealine playing his wife Golde. Their five daughters are portrayed by Anne Blankenship, Jeanette Tempel, Anne McLaughlin, Angela Rottering, and Loween Getter. Other cast members are Mark Dohms, Dale Arends, Dave Borer, Mark Andrew, Sylvia Vust, Bill Greenley, Joe Gale, Kathy Oliver, Tim Berven, Don Zompa, and Pat Powers.

The public is invited to attend the production on Friday, March 27, at 7 pm and Sunday, March 29, at 2 pm. General admission tickets will be available at the door and online at webstercitycommunitytheatre.org for \$10.

Saturday Activities

On March 28, convention attendees will explore four workshops on a variety of theatre topics. Amelia Oliver will lead "An Introduction to Onstage Stunts." She is a graduate of WCHS and U of I with a BA in Theatre Arts & Communications. She has 15 years of professional experience in film and television in Austin, TX where she

discovered a passion for stunt work. She is trained in everything from stunt work and high falls to combat, weapons, choreography, fire, and precision driving. The hands-on session will cover basic mentality and safety, general movement, and special skills.

Katy Hahn, Assistant Professor of Theatre at UNI, teaches acting, directs mainstage shows, is a dialect coach, and an Educator Advocate with Theatrical Intimacy Education. Her workshop on "Best Practices in Theatrical Intimacy" will cover consent-based and trauma-informed work for safer and effective collaboration.

Danny Blankenship, another WCHS grad with a degree in theatre from the University of South Dakota, will lead the workshop on "Open Scene Work." Open scenes are designed for two actors to work on short scenes for character development and performance delivery.

John Pergano, COO and Director of Education & Development at Music Theatre International and Loween Getter will present a workshop on "Senior Theatre." Pergano will discuss MTI's Broadway Senior program. Getter will share other options for involving seniors in theatre and outreach possibilities.

Other afternoon activities include lunch and the ICTA annual meeting and election. Getter is currently a board member.

Awards Gala

The evening will conclude at Briggs Woods Conference Center with a banquet and announcement of Awards of Excellence winners. Nominees have been chosen for excellence in directing, acting, and a variety of technical areas in plays and musicals. Among the nominees are WCCT volunteers who were involved in "Of Men and Cars," "Little Shop of Horrors," and "The Mocha Café Murders" during 2025.



Baby Boy

Joseph Fuentes and Mirna Barrientos Estrada, Clarion IA would like to announce the birth of their son Jacob Yousef. He was

born Monday, March 16, 2026 at the Iowa Specialty Hospital in Clarion, IA. He weighed 7 pounds 13.5 oz. He joins his sibling Perla (19).

Get all your news online:
www.clarionnewsonline.com

College Sports



Hawkeyes Punch Ticket to Sweet 16

TAMPA, Fla. – The ninth-seeded University of Iowa men’s basketball team defeated top-seeded Florida, 73-72, on Sunday night at Benchmark International Arena to advance to the program’s first Sweet 16 appearance since 1999. Junior Alvaro Folgueiras made a go ahead 3-pointer with four seconds remaining.

After falling behind 4-0 to open the game, Iowa responded and did not trail for the remainder of the first half. The Hawkeyes built a 23-13 lead with just under eight minutes remaining, holding Florida to 1-of-9 shooting and a scoring drought of more than six minutes during the stretch.

Florida rallied to tie the game at 31-31, but junior Kael Combs scored late to give Iowa a 33-31 lead at halftime.

Senior Tavion Banks led the Hawkeyes with 14 first-half points on 5-of-8

shooting and added four rebounds. Iowa shot 12-of-25 (48 percent) from the field in the opening 20 minutes and outrebounded Florida, 18-14.

Iowa extended its lead to 51-39 early in the second half following a 3-pointer from redshirt freshman Cooper Koch, marking the Hawkeyes’ largest advantage of the game. Florida answered with a 21-7 run to regain the lead, its first since the opening minutes, and built a four-point edge with under six minutes remaining.

The Hawkeyes responded to take a 66-65 lead with four minutes to play, but Florida again moved in front, taking a three-point advantage inside the final two minutes. Banks cut the deficit to one with a dunk before senior Bennett Stirtz added a jumper to make it a one-point game with under a minute remaining.

Following a missed go-ahead opportunity, Iowa fouled, and Florida made 1-of-2 free throws to extend its lead. On the following possession, Folgueiras knocked down a go-ahead 3-pointer with four seconds remaining.

Iowa’s defense held on the final possession, preventing Florida from attempting a shot.

Banks finished with a game-high 20 points on 7-of-10 shooting and six rebounds. Folgueiras added 14 points and five rebounds, while Stirtz recorded 13 points, five rebounds, five assists, and a steal. Koch also scored in double figures with 12 points, connecting on four 3-pointers.

Iowa shot 51 percent (26-of-51) from the field, 29.2 percent (7-of-24) from 3-point range, and 63.6 percent (14-of-22) from the free throw line.

Cyclones Into The Sweet 16 With 82-63 Win Against Kentucky

ST. LOUIS, Mo. – No. 6 Iowa State shot 63 percent from the field and outscored Kentucky 51-33 in the second half as it rolled to its third Sweet 16 appearance under head coach T.J. Otzelberger with an 82-63 win over the Wildcats (23-13) at the Enterprise Center.

The Cyclones (29-7), the second-seed in the Midwest Region, will face either third-seeded Virginia or sixth-seeded Tennessee next Friday at United Center in Chicago, Illinois.

Playing without All-American Joshua Jefferson, who was injured in the first round game against

Tennessee State, it was senior Tamin Lipsey who stepped up and posted a career day.

Lipsey scored a career-high 26 points, surpassing his previous high against Mississippi State (25). He also notched 10 assists.

Kentucky roared out of the gates to go up 10-4 at the first media timeout, eventually extending its lead to 20-9 with 11:30 left in the opening half.

But Iowa State responded with an 11-0 run to tie things up. The Wildcats would bang home a pair of 3-pointers and pushed the lead to 30-23 with under three minutes

remaining. The Cyclones closed the half on an 8-0 run, highlighted by a Nate Heise corner 3-pointer as time expired to give ISU’s a 31-30 lead at the break. It was ISU’s first lead since going up 2-0 on a Blake Buchanan floater on the first possession of the game.

ISU extended its lead to 41-36 at the first media timeout of the second half and it was all Cyclones after that as they outscored the Wildcats 35-19 over the next 12 minutes on the way to the win.

Iowa State forced 20 Kentucky turnovers and turned them into 25 points.

Hawkeyes Knock Out Knights

IOWA CITY, Iowa - 2-seed Iowa (27-6) defeated 15-seed FDU (30-5) in the First Round of the NCAA Tournament in Iowa City, 58-48. Jan Jensen picked up her 50th career win as head coach of the Hawkeyes, the most by any coach in program history through their first two seasons.

“I’m just really pleased that we found a way to win,” head coach Jan Jensen said. “What I told the players is there’s no time where the phrase ‘survive and advance’ is truer than in March, Credit FDU. They’re scrappy. Small ball teams can do a lot of damage from the three. We did what we needed to do, and I am really thrilled and proud of our team.”

Sophomore Ava Heiden led the scoring for Iowa with a career-high 29 points (11-of-16). Heiden also

recorded seven rebounds, two blocks, and a steal. Senior Hannah Stuelke notched a double-double with 13 points and tied her career-high of 16 rebounds.

The Hawkeyes came out blazing. After buckets by both teams, Iowa pulled away on a 10-0 run forcing an FDU timeout. The Hawkeyes continued let it rain keeping the Knights scoreless for six minutes before they scored four straight three-pointers. Iowa finished the quarter up, 20-17.

Iowa held up a defensive battle in the second quarter. The Hawkeyes held FDU to just 11.1 percent from the field in the first five and a half minutes. Iowa pulled down 14 rebounds and forced four quarter turnovers. Stuelke led with six points and six rebounds contributing to the Hawkeyes, 27-26 lead

at half.

The third quarter brought some early momentum for the Hawkeyes. Iowa forced a FDU timeout after an 8-0 run, all scored in the paint. Both teams had a collective defensive battle as the quarter progressed. The Hawkeyes kept a narrow, 35-33 lead.

Heiden led the fourth quarter push with 15 points (4-of-6) and three rebounds. The Hawkeyes scored seven points on three FDU turnovers. Iowa held the Knights scoreless in the last three minutes of play, shooting just 35.3 percent from the field. The Hawkeyes held on to beat FDU, 58-48.

Bastida Falls in NCAA Title Match

CLEVELAND – Iowa State heavyweight No. 1 Yonger Bastida dropped his NCAA title match to NC State’s No. 2 Isaac Trumble, 5-0, Saturday night inside Rocket Arena. Bastida finishes his final season as a Cyclone as national runner-up with a 29-1 record.

It was a battle of undefeated heavyweights with Bastida carrying a 29-0 record into the title bout and Trumble a 20-0

record.

After a scoreless first period, Trumble escaped to begin the second period. Bastida fired off a shot attempt and got to a leg, nearly getting a takedown himself, but Trumble countered a spun around for a takedown. Trumble would ride out Bastida for the remainder of the match after Bastida chose to go underneath to begin the third period.

Bastida finished his season

with a nation-leading 17 tech falls. He closes his storied Cyclone career with a 104-23 record and is tied for the 33rd-most wins in program history. As a heavyweight, he compiled a 57-3 record.

Iowa State finished with three All-Americans and in eighth place with 52 points. It the Cyclones’ 60th top-10 finish in program history, fourth-most all-time behind Oklahoma State (90), Iowa (71) and Oklahoma (62).

Caliendo Finishes as NCAA Runner-Up, Hawkeyes Fourth as a Team

CLEVELAND – University of Iowa wrestler Michael Caliendo finished as the NCAA runner-up at 165 pounds on Saturday night at the 2026 NCAA Championships at Rocket Arena.

Iowa finished fourth in the team race with 92.5 points bringing home a team trophy for the 50th time in program history and notching the 71st top 10 finish in program history.

“I’ve got a guy that he is upstairs right now and he has to come down and get on the awards stand after that performance, and he’s not doing well,” said head coach Tom Brands. “I’m not doing well with him.”

Caliendo dropped a 20-4 technical fall to top-seeded

Mitchell Mesenbrink of Penn State in the finals. His appearance in the championship round extended Iowa’s streak of NCAA finalists to 35 consecutive tournaments.

The finals appearance was the second of Caliendo’s career and he finished the tournament as an All-American for the fourth time.

“You evaluate; you make adjustments,” said Brands. “You execute those adjustments. You have to be really smart and really diligent... Go get what you want. It’s not that simple but maybe it is that simple. It’s too early to talk about that in my mind. We are in an adjustment period, because

we are evaluating starting right now, and when I say right now, I mean you have to give me a minute with Caliendo, because you’ve got a guy hurting right now. You’ve got a Hawkeye that is hurting and I am hurting with him.”

Iowa’s NCAA lineup included four graduating seniors. Those seniors include Dean Peterson (125, four-time NCAA qualifier), Drake Ayala (133, three-time All-American, two-time NCAA Finalist, four-time national qualifier), Michael Caliendo (165, four-time All-American, two-time NCAA Finalist), Patrick Kennedy (two-time All-American, four-time national qualifier).

Middle School/High School Sports Calendar

Thursday, March 26

Varsity Girls Track and Field @ Clear Lake Athletic Center, 4:00 p.m.
Varsity Boys Soccer vs. Spirit Lake @ Okoboji HS, 5:30 p.m.
Varsity Boys Soccer vs. Humboldt @ Okoboji HS, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, March 27

Varsity Boys Track and Field @ Clear Lake Athletic Center, 4:00 p.m.

Monday, March 30

JV/Varsity Boys Soccer @ Iowa Falls-Alden, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 31

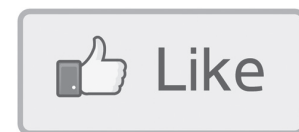
JV/Varsity Boys Soccer @ Ballard HS, 5:30 p.m.

Classifieds

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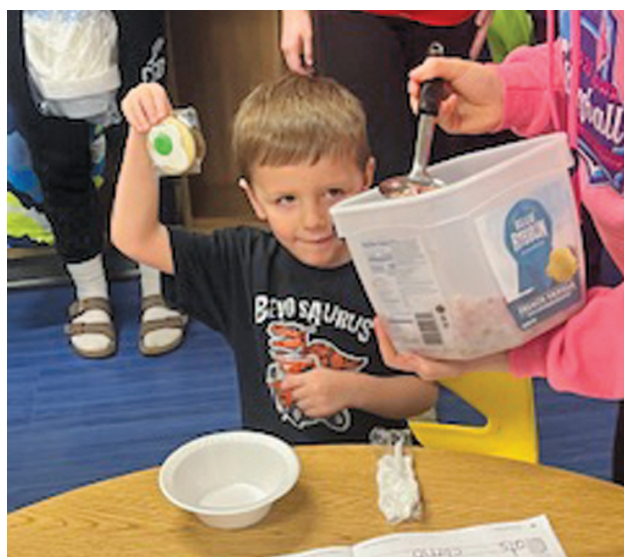
THE SCARLET & BLACK

THE CLARION-GOLDFIELD-DOWS STUDENT NEWSPAPER

www.clarionnewsonline.com

Wednesday, March 25, 2026 • The Wright County Monitor 9

Green Eggs and Ham Day



Green Eggs and Ham Day was the culmination of CGD's Read Across America Week. A big thank you to Versova for providing eggs, cookies, and treat bags as well as delivering to each classroom. We appreciate your support of our school! The students enjoyed dress up days, a story from Mr. Carder, and celebrated reading!

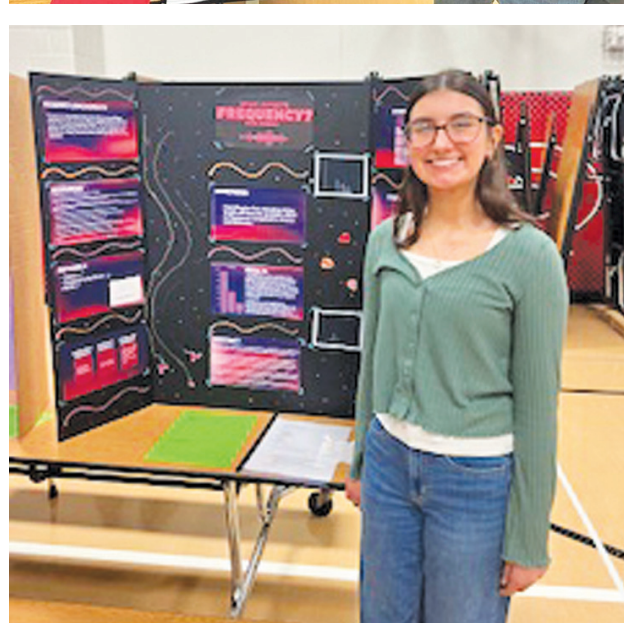
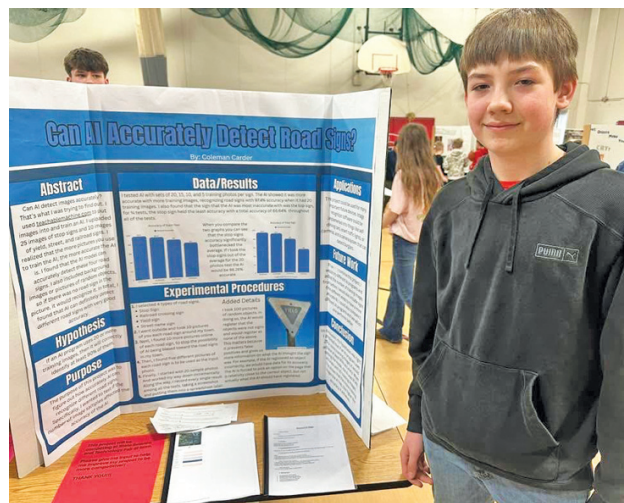
Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Talented and Gifted Science Fair Results

Overall 2026 Middle School Science Fair Winner
Coleman Carder

6th Grade
Winner - Sebastian Luttrell
Runner Up- Zion Marshall
Peoples Choice - Iker Chocop Ordenez

7th Grade
Winner- Gracyn Schmeling
Runner Up - Lucy Wibholm
Peoples Choice - Kayleigh Marshall

8th Grade
Winner - Addyson Greenfield
Runner Up - Piper Russell
Peoples Choice - Tucker Morrival



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Iowa River Players
Announces
Auditions for The Diary of Anne Frank
April 7 & 8 at 6:30 p.m.
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Roles are available for five men/boys and five women/girls. Performances are scheduled for June 20, 21, 27, and 28.
Unable to attend? Contact Luanne Krabbe at 319-231-7828 to arrange a time.

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Nominations Now 'Open for 2026 Festival Grand Marshal

Community invited to nominate local leaders and volunteers

The Clarion Development Alliance is now accepting nominations for the 2026 Festival Grand Marshal, who will be honored during Festival on Saturday, June 13, 2026.

The Grand Marshal is selected each year to recognize an individual (or couple/family) who has made a meaningful impact in the Clarion community through service, leadership, volunteerism, or long-standing support of local organizations and events. This honor celebrates those who go above and beyond to make Clarion a great place to live, work, and gather.

Community members are encouraged to nominate someone who embodies the spirit of Festival and represents the pride, dedication, and heart of Clarion. Past Grand Marshals have included longtime volunteers, community champions, and individuals who quietly make a big difference behind the scenes.

Nominations should include the nominee's name, a brief description of their contributions to the community, and why they deserve to be recognized as Grand Marshal.

How to Nominate: <https://forms.gle/EKurtjF-WbKfhLJG7>

The selected Grand Marshal will be announced in advance of Festival and will be featured in Festival promotions and recognized during the celebration on June 13th.

For more information or to submit a nomination, contact:
Bailey Seby
Executive Director, CDA
cdadirector@outlook.com
515-532-2256

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

Wright County 4-H Clover Kids Explore Engineering Through Hands-On STEM Challenge



Wright County 4-H Clover Kids their March meetings exploring the exciting world of architecture and engineering through a hands-on STEM challenge designed to introduce youth to the engineering design process.

During the activity, Clover Kids members worked in teams to construct towers using

noodles and marshmallows. Before beginning their builds, youth discussed how engineers and designers approach challenges by identifying a problem, brainstorming possible solutions, creating a plan, testing their ideas, and redesigning when needed.

As members began constructing their "tricky towers," they quickly discovered that

successful designs require thoughtful planning, stable foundations, and flexibility.

Clover Kids provides a safe and encouraging environment where youth can try new things, take risks, and learn from the process. During the tower-building challenge, many members experienced the frustration of their structures tipping or collapsing. Rather than

viewing these moments as failures, youth were encouraged to reflect on what went wrong, adjust their designs, and try again. This hands-on experience helped youth develop perseverance, problem-solving skills, and confidence in their ability to overcome challenges. By learning that setbacks are a natural part of the learning process, Clover Kids

members build resilience, a growth mindset and skills that will support them not only in STEM activities, but in school, relationships, and future opportunities.

The Wright County Clover Kids program serves youth in kindergarten through third grade and provides a welcoming environment where young people can explore new interests, build friendships,

and develop important life skills through engaging activities and projects. Clover Kids is FREE thanks to the Wright County 4-H Endowment! For more information about the Wright County Clover Kids program or to learn how to get involved in Wright County 4-H, please contact Wright County Extension and Outreach.

Aerial views

Bruce Voigts, Aerial Photographer (Photos taken March 18, 2026)



Meyer Ag Service is just east of the 5-mile corner of highway 3 and 69 intersections on the north side of highway 3.



A large agricultural complex south of Eagle Grove with numerous barns in the foreground and Prestage Foods hog processing in top of the picture.

Rowan's 24th St. Patrick's Day Parade



A couple dozen entries wound their way up and down the streets of Rowan for its 24th St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday afternoon, March 22. The 'more than summer like day' found green and Leprechauns in plain sight. Rowanite Betty Hadley with friends and family helped to kick off the parade. The celebration started with Irish stew and soda bread being served at the Rowan community church for a freewill offering. (Photo: Karen Weld)

Dows Legion Riders Dinner



The American Legion Riders had their monthly ride/dinner at the Family Table Restaurant in Eagle Grove last Thursday. Everyone present said that both the meal and the service were excellent thanks to all the hardworking staff including our amazing waiter, Braylon who kept the mood light and funny while serving our big group lots of great food. A good time was had by all!! We look forward to our next Riders dinner to be announced sometime in April. Left side around the table. Barb and Bill Chambers, Keith Patterson, Lorna Holst, Barb Serrano, Braylon, Mike Holst, Nancy and Carey Rothman, and Don Koob. (Photo: Darryl Thayer)

Free Coffee and Rolls

Veterans

Friday, March 27th • 8 - 10 a.m.

Wright County Veterans Affairs
120 1st Ave NW Clarion • 515-602-6208
Coffee with Chris



Dows Business & Professional Directory

<p>Muhlenbruch Insurance</p> <p>Shannon Muhlenbruch, Agent</p> <p>515-852-4156</p>	<p>Office: (563) 864-3333</p> <p>Cell: (563) 605-1078</p>	<p>MORT'S WATER 1-800-HEY-MORT (439-6678)</p> <p>Local Authorized Kineticco Dealer</p> <p>Well Systems • Water Conditioning • Backhoe Sewer Systems • Trenching/Horizontal Boring • Drain Line Auger & Jetting • Plumbing</p> <p>www.mortsonline.com • Kent Morton - Owner</p> <p>Geothermal • Heating • Air Conditioning • Air Quality Control • Plumbing • Duct Cleaning</p> <p>1-800-579-6678</p> <p>GeoComfort Geothermal Systems</p>
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