



The Wright County MONITOR

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Still Our Story to Tell

Amanda Rink,
Editor

For generations, your local newspaper has told the stories of new babies, lifelong marriages, packed football fields and full council chamber rooms. The writers and photographers have captured moments that could appear small to those who don't call this place home, but those moments mean a great deal to those who do.

Not too long ago, there was a real possibility these stories could have stopped being told. Like so many small-town newspapers across the country, our local papers were facing an uncertain future. Rising costs, changing local habits and an always-changing media landscape brought many communities closer than most realized to losing something irreplaceable.

As shared in prior editions, instead of an ending, this has become a beginning. A new owner, Kris Grabinoski, has stepped in, and not from a distance, but by stepping directly into the community.

In the weeks since her offer to purchase The Wright County Monitor and The Eagle Grove Eagle from Mid-America Publishing, she's spent hours in Wright County. She has met with the community, stepped into our stores and cafes, and even peered into possible office spaces.

She is beginning to understand what the newspapers mean to the people they serve, and she's just getting started. Kris shared with Amanda Rink, Editor of The Wright County Monitor and interim Editor of The Eagle Grove Eagle, why she was pulled toward our communities.

Kris has been involved in newspapers for decades, starting out proofreading before working her way through the print room and press room. She and her husband, Jay, live in Armstrong and have owned

newspapers since 2008, today being part of 10 publications, with three additional papers co-owned alongside business partner Jerry Wiseman.

She also serves on the Iowa Newspaper Association, a network she credits with providing strong support, especially in challenging situations like the one our community recently faced.

Her decision to add these papers was a deliberate one. "I am part owner of the Humboldt Independent, and by owning three papers in close proximity, we're able to collaborate on stories, advertising and special sections. That collaboration strengthens all three newspapers and helps create long-term sustainability. It also allows us to share staff and support one another when needed. Most importantly, I strongly believe in keeping newspapers alive in local communities — they are essential, and worth investing in."

She's not arriving with a stack of mandates. "From past experience, I've learned not to make immediate changes to the newspapers. It's important to take the time to understand the community and what readers appreciate. I do bring ideas from other publications and from conversations with fellow publishers at the Iowa Newspaper Association Convention, but those will be introduced thoughtfully over time."

Readers may notice one early change: the physical size of the paper. "We publish all of our newspapers on a 32-inch web, which makes our press room more efficient by eliminating the need to switch between different roll widths. That efficiency helps us manage costs and focus resources on content and coverage." But Kris doesn't want to fix what isn't broken. She knows too much change too soon can feel exhausting for readers who just want to flip to

the page they're used to finding.

Looking ahead, she sees the papers with "a strong and consistent advertising base that provides the revenue needed to produce a publication the community can be proud of. Alongside that, a solid digital presence will help us stay connected in an ever-changing world. Long-term success depends on both readership and advertising support working together."

She's also clear that the pages should reflect the full community, its diversity, its challenges, and its everyday wins. "At this point, I'm still learning what each community values most. What I do believe is that everyone has a story to tell, and the newspaper should reflect the voices of the people it serves. I encourage community members to reach out with story ideas or suggestions. While not every idea can be implemented, that input is incredibly important in shaping a newspaper that truly represents its community."

And she's candid about what makes all of it possible. The most impactful way to support the newspaper is through subscriptions and advertising. Subscriptions keep local news flowing, while advertising allows local businesses to promote themselves and helps sustain the paper financially. Sending a photo, sharing a story tip, placing an announcement for a birthday or a local event, even sending a donation, all of it matters more than most people realize. "It truly is a partnership — when businesses and readers invest in their newspaper, it allows us to continue telling the stories of the community."

Her measure of success is equally grounded. "Success means building a sustainable operation — one that can meet its financial obligations while continuing to serve the community with meaningful, reliable coverage. With strong local



New Publisher/Owner of the newspaper, Kris, has been involved in newspapers for decades, starting out proofreading before working her way through the print room and press room. She and her husband, Jay, live in Armstrong and have owned newspapers since 2008, today being part of 10 publications, with three additional papers co-owned. (Photo provided)

support from both readers and advertisers, that goal is absolutely achievable."

Kris welcomes feedback and wants to hear from the community, though she asks that readers connect with local staff and editors first. She can also be reached at krisg@armstrongjournal.com or by mail at Kris Grabinoski, PO Box 289, Armstrong, Iowa 50514.

In a world filled with information overload, the local

newspaper doesn't always appear loud and flashy, but it is the place where neighbors see neighbors, where local government is explained in plain fact, and most importantly, a reflection of the community.

With continued support from readers and local businesses, the future of this newspaper, and the community stories it tells, can stay strong. At its core, this was never just a business deal. The change of hands

is a reminder that stories told in our communities matter. That the history being written here, week by week, page by page, is worth preserving.

And that, together, this community still has a story to tell.

"If we want a newspaper that reflects and strengthens the community, it has to be supported by the people and businesses within it," Kris shared.

Confinement Reviews Dominate Supervisors Meeting

Amanda Rink,
Editor

April 13, 2026 - Discussion surrounding two proposed livestock confinement projects took significant time to discuss during the Wright County Board of Supervisors meeting on Monday morning, with one hearing being rescheduled following questions over site details.

The first public hearing focused on a proposed new confinement site in Vernon Township, southeast of Dows, for two new barns and pits totaling 4,999 head. Presented by Kent Prowse, the site initially scored 495 points on the state master matrix, above the required 440.

Questions from supervisors centered on nearness to a home under construction and drainage features in the area. Because the home, brought up by Supervisors Betty Ellis, is not yet occupied, it does not currently factor into required distance measurements; discussion suggested that could change once completed. Additional concerns were raised by Supervisor Dean Kluss about a nearby pond and its outlet, particularly in relation to drainage districts and potential impacts to the Iowa River.

"I guess my main concern is the proximity to the main ditch, which dumps directly into the Iowa River," stated Kluss.

Discussion moved on further to include soil conditions in the area, particularly sandy soils and potential nutrient loss. Browse explained that injected manure and its ammonia-based composition make it less prone to leaching compared to commercial fertilizers, while also providing agronomic benefits.

Given uncertainties around distances and mapping, Prowse noted a revised score and map would be prepared with consideration from the Department of Natural Resources. The board agreed to reschedule the hearing. No public comments were received.

A second public hearing followed for a site in Lake Township involving an increase in animal capacity at an existing confinement operation. The request is tied to updated stocking practices by Smithfield and would not involve "new construction" but instead a revised manure management plan.

The updated plan shows a shift in production type, reducing total manure output to 1.49 million gallons annually. The site scored 480 points on the master matrix.

Wright County Public Health also noted they conducted a site visit despite such reviews not being required for expansions. Additional comments emphasized the importance of county involvement in future site visits alongside state officials.

Outside of the confinement hearings, supervisors received the county's fiscal year 2024 - 2025 audit report from Gardiner and Company. The audit resulted in an "unmodified opinion," indicating the county's financial statements are fairly presented. The audit was described as "very clean," with no questionable expenditures seen.

The board also approved the hiring of a full-time telecommunications specialist for the county communications office, with a start date of April 27. The department remains short-staffed and is continuing recruitment for a part-time position.

Supervisors reviewed budget amendment documents for fiscal year 2026, reflecting a decrease of \$73,492 in revenues and \$305,211 in expenses across departments. A public hearing on the amendments was set for May 4 at 9:15 a.m.

During general updates, supervisors discussed recent legislative activity at the state level, with Supervisor Betty noting she had listened to a recent legislative forum and ongoing discussions at the Capitol. She said property tax reform remains a key issue, though details are still being worked out as the session continues.

Chris Bauer, who introduced himself earlier in the meeting during public comment as a candidate running to replace Representative Shannon Latham, joined the discussion, sharing updates from the legislature. Bauer noted the Senate had passed a bill with amendments, including adjustments related to property tax provisions and other measures.

Discussion also touched on ideas about the gas tax and limitations on fund carryover, with concerns raised about how those changes could impact cities and counties. Supervisor Ellis noted that limiting carryover funds could lead to higher borrowing costs for local governments; maintaining reserves can help secure better interest rates.

Bauer added that budget negotiations remain a sticking point at the state level, pointing to concerns among some lawmakers over a projected deficit ranging from \$1.2 to \$1.6 billion. He noted that disagreement over the budget is contributing to delays on other legislation, including the CO2 pipeline eminent domain bill.

The overall feeling seemed to be that lawmakers are working toward passing a budget, though uncertainty remains on what those final measures will be.

The board of Supervisors will meet again on Monday, April 20 at 9:00 A.M. at the courthouse. This meeting, along with past meetings, can be viewed online at youtube.com/@wright-countyiowaofficial8312

Council Approves Updates to Infrastructure

Amanda Rink,
Editor

April 7, 2026 - The Clarion City Council met last Tuesday night following a public hearing on the proposed FY27 budget, where community members voiced frustrations over recent tax levy letters.

Mayor Rod Heiden called the regular meeting to order shortly after 5:00 P.M. with council members Dave Fluer and Nick McOllough absent.

During public forum, Economic Development director Aaron Budweg addressed the council about the housing repair effort assistance through the Economic development office, stating, "If you know anyone who needs a roof," as he encouraged use of the available assistance.

Troy Wood also spoke, outlining a proposal to upgrade electrical service to better hosts events and food vendors at Gazebo Park.

Wood shared plans for new underground conduit and multiple dedicated outlets across the park, "Every single outlet is dedicated," he said. "So somebody overloads one outlet, it's not going to affect anybody else." He added the project could see completion in "three days at the most, if I don't get rained out."

The council then approved routine items under the consent agenda, including minutes, fi-



Troy Wood spoke during open forum, outlining a proposal to upgrade electrical service to better hosts events and food vendors at Gazebo Park. (Photo: Amanda Rink)

nancials, and several permits, with one abstention noted on a building permit from Dan Hennigar.

Among bigger projects, the council approved a task order related to the airport's capital improvement plan after the FAA requested clarification regarding an office building. Public Works

Director Jon DeVries hinted at future developments, telling council members, "I don't want to say what it is, but good things coming."

The council also passed the final reading of the ordinance updating rules on recreational vehicles or campers. The updated language limits extended RV

use to only the property owner actively building a home with an approved permit.

As reported in prior issues of The Monitor, progress continues on the county wide trails development. The city approved a BOOST grant agreement, committing \$5,000 as part of a

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CGD District Sees Rising Costs

Amanda Rink,
Editor

April 9, 2026 - The Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Community School District held its FY27 budget hearing last Thursday at 7:30 in the morning, ahead of its regular board meeting, with Elementary/Middle School Principal Jared Carder sharing the district's financial outlook for the coming year.

Carder's presentation outlined a district navigating rising costs, increased student needs and state funding that officials say is not keeping pace with inflation.

Enrollment increased by 10.4 students this year, with preschool enrollment at 70. Total weighted enrollment rose by 28.8 over the prior year. While the increase in students brings additional funding, officials noted the district is also serving students with higher needs, which carries greater costs.

"We're seeing more kids, but we're also seeing a different variance of level," Board Member Megan Ring said, noting how that affects funding.

The presentation noted that the state provides only 50% of the cost of educating K-12 students. Officials highlighted several ongoing challenges facing the district, including "transient student enrollment, unfunded state mandates, the difficulty of spreading costs across a smaller student population, state funding that is not keeping up with inflation, and rising insurance

and benefit costs." Teacher salaries account for only 6.8% of district spending.

An upcoming change to the student count date was also flagged as a concern. Under the previous system, districts received funding for students who enrolled between count dates, but the state determined that could create a situation where districts were paid twice for the same students. The adjustment will require all districts to navigate budget planning around a tighter enrollment window.

"Our challenge is basically with the new count date, that's going to present something that every district will have to contend with," Board Secretary Anita Frye said. "I feel like there's always continually mandates and requirements that are put on districts, and a lot of those are unfunded. You do more with the same amount that you're given."

The presentation also noted that districts with lower property valuations carry higher tax rates than those with more property wealth. Property taxes for the district are proposed to increase 6.4%, with the additional levy rising 1.4%. The nutrition, activity, and sales tax funds are all showing deficits. Sales tax revenue is being used to service loans for the baseball and gym facilities. No questions or public comments were heard after the presentation.

Read Local, Advertise Local, and Lead Local.



Clarion Coin Club Hosts 82nd Show!



Mary LaRue, Clarion Coin Club

Clarion Coin Club celebrated its 82nd show since its early beginnings in 1958. It is one of the oldest coin clubs in the state with a membership of 75 and still growing.

This Springs theme was the Semi-quincentennial which will mark 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence in July 4, 1776. The White House is calling it the "Freedom 250" celebration, which will officially take place on July 4, 2026.

Our club had a red, white & blue decorated table set up selling memorabilia for the actual event in July like t-shirts, polos, flag ties, cups plus many different semi-quincentennial colored medallions.

Darrin Speed of Cedar Valley Coins purchased many of the medallions to pass out to kids that came to our show. Sam and Bev Ashton of Fort Dodge would let the kids pick a coin from his foreign coin treasure box, then tell them a little bit of history about the country of the coin they picked. Group leaders, Boyd & Mary LaRue had a many things to let them pick from as well. One boy from Minnesota received a metal detector.

If interested in COIN COLLECTING, stop by Pizza Ranch in Clarion on any 4th Thursday of the month to visit our club and see what goes on, then maybe join us and start a collection of your own. SILVER & GOLD have been skyrocketing for awhile now.



Legal notices

PUBLIC NOTICE City of Clarion Meeting #1 April 7, 2026 Minutes

The Clarion City Council met in regular session (meeting #1) Tuesday April 7th, 2026, at 5:00pm in the Council Chambers with Mayor Heiden presiding. Present were Council members, Dan Hennigar, Elmarie Nel, and Mike Ennis (Absent: Dave Flurer & Nick McCollough). Also, in attendance City Administrator Clint Middleton, Attorney Zach Chizek, PWD Jon DeVries, and Chief Steve TerHark. Mayor Heiden called the meeting to order. Motioned by Hennigar seconded by Nel to open Public Hearing for Property Tax Levy (Motion passed 3-0). Leroy Jensen and Melanie Maasdam asked for

a brief explanation of the levy. Middleton explained to them it was going down but by just a little. Many questions about the confusing letter that is mailed to each business and residence. Middleton gave clarification as to what the numbers show but realized it is not a helpful document. Motioned by Hennigar seconded by Nel to close Public Hearing for Property Tax Levy (Motion passed 3-0). Motioned by Hennigar seconded by Ennis to adjourn. All Ayes. (Motion passed 3-0). Respectfully Submitted, Clint Middleton City Administrator Rod Heiden, Mayor

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Board of Education Addresses Public School Strong Letter and Hears Behavior Report

Amanda Rink, Editor

April 9, 2026 - The Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Community School District held its regular board meeting last Thursday morning following the budget hearing. Discussion ranged from school choice legislation, student behavior programs, and an international student trip.

School Choice
Two representatives from Public School Strong, Becky Ahrensen and Cindy Fletcher, addressed the board during open forum, following up with a letter sent to the board after they declined to atop the Public School Strong Resolution. They again asked the board to consider signing a resolution in opposition to the state's educational savings account program.

Fletcher noted the organization began in North Carolina in the 1960s and asked the board to consider what the 5% of funding now directed to vouchers could have meant for public schools in prior years without the added weight of inflation.

The discussion that followed showed board members who were broadly supportive of public schools but divided on the question of doing away with the "school choice" programs entirely.

Superintendent Joseph Nelson said he agreed with much of what the group presented but was direct about

his position on choice. "I don't even think it's realistic for a group of people to all have the same opinion. I'm all for parent choice, but you stroke a check, right? You want to go to private, great, but you pay for it," Nelson said.

Board member Allison Marshall said she agrees private schools should be held to the same accountability standards as public schools, but stopped short of calling for the elimination of educational savings accounts. "I am for parent choice. I do believe that private schools should be held to the same standard that public schools do, but at the same time, I think it creates competition. They have to be the choice. They have to do better. It's not completely black and white," she said, sharing she thinks the money should follow the student.

Board member Megan Ring echoed that sentiment, saying she stands firmly behind public schools, citing her decision to run for the board again as evidence, but agreed the funding structure needs to be addressed. "We have to fight the fight. How can we get them on a level playing field with the rest of us," she said.

Board member Craig Warnke suggested the district consider drafting its own resolution rather than signing onto the existing one, which is what the district did, only omitting any points that could

have been deemed taking a political stance.

Warnke said he never thought the voucher system would pass and described its trajectory as going sideways from what was originally presented as a way to help low income students. "The wheels came off the bus," he said.

Board President Troy Seaba shared that there is no guarantee capped voucher funds would be redirected to public schools.

The board noted CGD has lost three students to private schools this year. Ahrensen told the board that local legislators may not be receptive to the message, saying of state representatives. "They have a mindset of their own, and they don't care to listen."

Nelson suggested the board set up a meeting with local representatives. 13 out of 331 Iowa school districts have signed the Public School Strong resolution.

District Behavior Report
Lori Beltran presented the district's Behavior PLC report alongside team members Maycie Rector and Katrina TerHark, middle school behavioral specialist Brad Kahler was absent.

According to Beltran, the K-12 program focuses on building consistent behavioral expectations across grade levels and has involved one-on-one meetings with students, data collection, and collaboration with building principals and

other administrators.

Among the initiatives, the team identified and addressed a tardy issue in the middle school, which does not have a bell system, and developed a solution after reviewing the data. Middle school students have also been sent to assist elementary students during enrichment time, and intervention groups led by teachers have been put in place.

A positive referral system was also created to recognize students who are consistently meeting expectations, after the team recognized significant time and resources were being directed toward a smaller group of struggling students while the majority doing the right thing went unacknowledged.

Beltran said she has appreciated working with the CGD staff throughout the process. "I want to share that I've just been blessed to work and learn with you. You have some amazing teachers that are so dedicated and caring. Your administrators are, I've worked with hundreds of administrators over my many years, top notch," she said.

Principal Carder noted the challenge of building consistency across a staff with varying expectations. "We have some adults where their level of tolerance might be here, and then other people's might be here. We have to find the average of that and try to operate right in there. We have

to have that consistency," he said.

Ring asked whether the team was receiving parent feedback. Team member Maycie Rector said responses from parents vary, with some dismissing concerns with comments such as "not my kid" or "boys will be boys." The teachers noted they are sharing information and positive happenings with families during Wednesday communications.

After questioning from Superintendent Nelson, Beltran shared that behavioral specialist Khaler works primarily with individual students and has had limited direct involvement with the PLC team due to scheduling conflicts on Wednesday afternoons, though his wife, who is also employed by the district, serves on the team and has shared helpful materials.

Superintendent's Report
Superintendent Nelson shared that eight CGD students recently traveled to Kosovo at no cost to them, after the district successfully fundraised over 18 months to cover all expenses. Nelson called it a defining experience for the students.

"Kids are just kids. Our kids were line dancing to country music in the middle of a school in Kosovo to music the kids had never heard before, Albanian kids that speak Albanian, and the adults just got out of the way and let the kids enjoy each other. I truly told the kids, I think this will be a story they tell at their 20-year class reunion," Nelson said.

He also shared that CGD will host its own cross country program, calling it a natural step for a district of its size. He shared hope that keeping the program within the district will increase participation by eliminating travel. Beginning

next season, CGD and Belmond will each run their own separate wrestling programs.

Nelson also shared that Wednesday, April 15, fourth grade students and staff will travel to Target Field in Minneapolis for Jackie Robinson Day. This will cap a Black History Month study unit led by Nelson with an hour and a half of education before the game led by those at Target Field. Nelson completed his report by sharing his hope that May 27 will be the last day of school.

In other business, the Board approved:

- Middle school Washington D.C. and New York spring break trip for spring break 2028.

- Consent agenda, which included minutes from the March 10 and March 24 meetings, payment of bills, employment contracts, lane movements, leave requests, a review of several district policies, the potential 2026 graduates list, FY27 milk and bread bids, FY27 fees and meal prices, and a Relay Service Agreement for Medicaid processing.

- A resolution to form an ad hoc committee for the school improvement advisory committee meeting, planned for May. Principal Carder said the district hopes to send out invitations to gather a broader range of community input and will make intentional efforts to include Latino families and students in the process.

Under the consent agenda, board Member Ring raised a question about paraprofessional staffing levels, with Principal Carder stating the district is actively working to reassess needs following recent paraprofessional resignations. The board will meet again on May 12 at 7:00 A.M.

City Council continued from page 1

matching fund effort to hire a firm to design trail connections across key areas of the community. Plans aim to move the project closer to "not shovel ready, but close to shovel ready," allowing the city and the trails committee to pursue future funding.

Infrastructure needs were another focus, with the council setting a public hearing and bid timeline for a water main improvement project designed to better serve the hospital.

The goal, as explained during the meeting, is ensuring "the hospital not having the ability to be out of water" by creating a looped system.

During reports, Mayor Heiden shared feedback from residents regarding the downtown fountain, noting growing interest in restoring it. "They were very upset with the fountain," he said, referring to the updates made in the spring of 2025 when the fountain was filled with dirt and flowers rather than repairing the fountain electrical issues and basin structure.

Repairs could cost tens of thousands of dollars and will be considered in upcoming budget talks.

The council will meet again on Tuesday, April 21 at 5:00 P.M.

Courthouse news

BIRTHS
Kamilla Rose Hernandez was born on April 1, 2026 to Sierra Jones of Mason City.

Lorelei Lynn Ross was born on April 1, 2026 to Anna and Matthew Ross of Gilmore City.

Kendra Antonella Ajtun Gonzalez was born on April 2, 2026 to Martina Gonzalez Perez of Webster City.

Luella Kristine Davis was born on April 2, 2026 to Taylor Boyd of Clear Lake.

Harvey Hernandez Romero was born on April 3, 2026 to Vidalina Romero Lopez and Wilfredo Hernandez Gomez of Corwith.

Kimberly Yesenia Maldonado Guinac was born on April 3, 2026 to Deisy Guinac Lara of Eagle Grove.

Amelia Delgadillo Fernandez was born on April 5, 2026 to Maria Fernandez Jaldin of Humboldt.

DEATHS
James Price of Clarion was born on January 19, 1941 and died on April 3, 2026 at the age of 85.

TRAFFIC
Samuel Gene Foster, Woolstock, failure to comply with safety regulations.

Casey Lee Taylor, Maquoketa, speeding (6-10 over).

Morgan Lorraine Slama, Dakota City, failure to provide proof of financial liability.

Michael Allen Rahe, Buffalo Center, failure to maintain or use safety belt.

Dillon Tyler Most, South Bend, Indiana, speeding (16-20 over); failure to provide proof of financial liability.

Cody Homeyer, Clarion, operating non-registered vehicle.

Wade Louis Willard, Eagle Grove, improper registration plate lamp.

Denise Mendez, Eagle Grove, speeding (6-10 over).

Alec M. Thomas, Dubuque, speeding (16-20 over).

Jaymon L. Morgan, Marion, speeding (16-20 over).

Martha Nell Busick, Clarion, speeding (21 or over).

Brian Eugene Bates, Mason City, registration violation.

Geoffrey Lynn Hansen, Ringsted, failure to maintain or use safety belt.

Hessler Matul Alvarado, Osceola, no valid driver's license.

Stacy Lea Osborn, Eagle Grove, speeding (1-5 over).

Rodolfo Plancarte, Belmont, speeding (6-10 over).

Christopher Lawrence Altman, Fort Dodge, maximum group axle weight violation; maximum gross weight violation.

Megan Melinda Douglas, Humboldt, speeding (6-10 over).

Kyaw Myint Naing, Port Lavaca, Texas, speeding (11-15 over in 55+ zone).

Robert John Rezakabek, Woolstock, speeding (6-10 over).

Teresa Carolina Reyes Gomez, Clarion, failure to have valid license or permit while operating.

failure to secure child under 18; failure to have valid license or permit while operating.

Maria Ines Leon Castro, Webster City, failure to prove security.

CRIMINAL
Luis Angel Duran Polo, Belmont, pled guilty to assault causing bodily injury or mental illness, amended from domestic abuse assault impeding the flow of air/blood. Sentenced to seven days in jail with credit for time served and ordered to pay a \$430 fine, pled guilty to no valid driver's license, amended from driving while barred, and was fined \$260.

Dilmer B. Ramos Oliva, Hampton, pled guilty April 3, 2026, to no valid driver's license, amended from driving while barred, fine of \$260.

Melvin Robert Tiffany, Ellsworth, driving while barred. Arraignment is scheduled for April 24, 2026, at 9 a.m.

Marcio Esvin Romero Lopez, Clarion, first-degree harassment. The defendant waived preliminary hearing. The State must file a trial information within 45 days of the charge is subject to dismissal with prejudice.

Ronald Kermit Allen Jr., Jefferson City, Missouri, pled guilty to introducing intoxicants or drugs into an institution, a Class D felony, and was sentenced to a suspended five-year prison term, fined \$1,025 (suspended), and placed on probation. Pled guilty to a violation of probation charge, and the original sentence was imposed.

Justin Albert Heiserman, Belmont, Heiserman pled guilty April 7, 2026, to possession of a controlled substance, second offense (amended). He was sentenced to 30 days in jail with 23 days suspended, fined \$855 (suspended), placed on probation for two years.

Dillon Paul Peer, Belmont, pled guilty April 3, 2026, to assault causing bodily injury or mental illness, amended from domestic abuse assault, second offense. Sentenced to seven days in jail with credit for time served, fined \$430, with five days of jail suspended, and placed on probation for one year.

Dustin Scott Cole, Dows, domestic abuse assault impeding airflow flow causing bodily injury, false imprisonment, and domestic abuse assault causing injury. The defendant waived preliminary hearing. The State must file trial information within 45 days of the charges are subject to dismissal with prejudice.

Justin Michael Morris, Eagle Grove, order of dismissal was filed.

Michelle Renee Eisenman, Belmont, pled guilty April 6, 2026, to one count of third-degree harassment and was fined \$105. Three additional counts were dismissed.

Aaron Thomas Stotts, Marshalltown, domestic abuse assault, first offense. Trial has been continued to May 28, 2026, at 2 p.m.

Kristal Rios Acevedo, Clarion, domestic abuse assault, first offense. A non-jury trial is scheduled for May 21, 2026, at 2 p.m., no-contact order has been lifted.

Colt Allen Richardson, Webster City, pled guilty April 3, 2026, to two counts of dissemination of obscene material to a minor and one count of first-degree harassment. He was sentenced to 30 days in jail, fined \$855, received suspended prison terms, placed on probation for one year, and is required to register as a sex offender.

Kory David Burger, Eagle Grove, charges of third-degree harassment and violation of a no-contact order were dismissed March 19, 2026.

Spencer Alan Stevenson, Goldfield, Stevenson pled guilty April 9, 2026, to one count of possession of a controlled substance, first offense, and was sentenced to seven days in jail and a \$430 fine. Additional counts were dismissed.

Terry James Groesbeck, Eagle Grove, driving while the license denied or revoked. The case remains pending.

Jason Russell Morley, Belmont, driving while license denied or revoked. The case remains pending.

Land Transfers
Town Lot Deed
Dave Punay to Maria Carrilo, Clarion, Turrell's ADDN BLK 10 Lot 8 S 26' EXC E 40'

Warranty Deed - Town Lot
Tausz James W Trustee to Carrillo Maria James W Tausz Trust Clarion Turrell's ADD BLK 10 Lot 7 EXC E 40'. "Fulfillment of contract"

Warranty Deed - Land Deeds
Wells Fargo Bank National Association Trustee Cramer Allen Genevieve Revocable Trust to Woodley Heritage Farms LLC. 16-91-24 NE E 1/2

Contracts - Town Lot
Jakama Holdings LLC to Maldonado Gonzalez Wilson, Gonzalez Maldonado Wilson, Maldonado Marta Teresa, EG Wright's end ADDN E 55' of S 140' of Reserve Jakama to Maldonado.

Warranty Deed - Town Lot
Susan M Anderson to Derrick M Henderson, EG Broadway ADDN BLK 4 LOT 4 Anderson S

Contracts - Town Lot
MMDUKE LLC to Lopez Hernandez Thelma Celena, EG Wright's 2nd ADDN Blk 1, Lot 1 + 2.

Warranty Deed - Land Deed
Hyl LLC to Dennis C Sloth, Deborah A Sloth, 19-93-23 NW Tract In outlet 2 in NE 1/4S

Warranty Deed - Town Lot
Barahona Cabrena Selvin, Barahona Cabrena Selvin Israel, Reyes Antunez Dixza D, Antunez Reyes Darlina to Rodney Schroeder Shannon M Schroeder, Dows Orig ADDN BLK 11 Lot 4 and Part of ADJ alley

Quit Claim Deed - Land Deed
Kirby Amonson to Kirby D Amonson Revocable Trust, 16-92-24 Tract In lot 33 Sandy Beach.

Warranty Deed - Town Lot
Jesus Benavides Blanca V Benavides to Jose Castillo Valenchia Gabriela Sanchez, Belm Morse Brother's ADDN BLK 14 lot 3 + 4 S 1/2

Quit Claim Deed - Land Deed
Lance L Ulrich to Richard and Mary Echeiberger, 36-91-23 NE Outlet 2 of NE 1/4 EXC Tract.

Warranty Deed - Land Deeds
Paul Thompson Trustee Elena Meyer Trustee Thompson Paul Revocable trust Meyer Elena Revocable trust to Rodger Ross Gipple, 18-93-24 NW, 13-93-25 NE E 1

Quit Claim Deed - Town Lot
Dustin Peck to Joshua Krull, EG Wright's 3rd ADDN BLK 20 Lot 2

Contracts - Town Lot
Cassandra J. Schnobrich, Devin J Adams to Joshua Krull EG Wright's 3rd ADDN BLK 20 Lot 2.

Others - Town Lot Deeds
Sally Nelson (Estate) Graham Elaine (Executor) to Andrew Buhr Gold Fountain City ADDN Lot 7 Nelson S

Warranty Deed - Town Lot
Manuel Castro Isaura, Mancel Castro Isaura, Antonio Perez Ceferino, Perez Antonio Ceferino to Hernandez Guinac Adolfo, Guinac Hernandez, Adolfo Ordonez Lopez Rosalina, Clar Sturgeon's ADDN BLK 16, Lot 6.

Open House

at the NEW
Water Treatment Plant

Wednesday, April 22
from 3 - 6 p.m.

Located west of the depot.
Enter through East Door.
City Staff, Contractor and Engineer will be on hand for tours and answer questions.

Downtown Eagle Grove

Voted Best Place to Buy Furniture 3 Years in a Row!

The area's best selection and service for 77 years!

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515-448-3413

FREE DELIVERY in the Local Area

Mon - Fri 9-5 • Sat 9-4
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PUBLIC NOTICE Wright County Proposed Budget

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - PROPOSED BUDGET Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027 County Name: WRIGHT COUNTY County Number: 99

The County Board of Supervisors will conduct a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year 2026 budget as follows: Meeting Date: 4/27/2026 Meeting Time: 09:15 AM Meeting Location: Wright County Board of Supervisors Chambers At the public hearing any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of, any part of the proposed budget.

Average annual percentage changes between "Actual" and "Budget" amounts for "Taxes Levied on Property", "Other County Taxes/ TIF Tax Revenues", and for each of the ten "Expenditure Classes" must be published. Expenditure classes proposing "Budget" amounts, but having no "Actual" amounts, are designated "NEW".

Table with 5 columns: Budget 2026/2027, Re-Est 2025/2026, Actual 2024/2025, AVG Annual % CHG. Rows include REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES, EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES, and Total Revenues & Other Sources.

Table with 2 columns: Proposed property taxation by type, Proposed tax rates per \$1,000 taxable valuation. Rows include Countywide Levies, Rural Only Levies, Special District Levies, TIF Tax Revenues, and Utility Replacement Excise Tax.

Published on Thursday, April 16, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE City of Clarion April 7, 2026 Claims

Table with 2 columns: CLAIMS REPORT, AMOUNT. Lists various vendors and their amounts, such as DOOLITTLE OIL CO. INC. OIL, EAGLE BLDG SUPPLY TREATED 4X4, etc.

Published on Thursday, April 16, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE City of Clarion Ordinance No. 632

ORDINANCE NO. 632 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CLARION, IOWA, 2022, BY AMENDING CHAPTER 146: USE OF RECREATIONAL VEHICLES. It is unlawful to use for human habitation any recreational vehicle within the corporate limits of the City except in the following cases:

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Lists various vendors and their amounts for March 2026 Claims, such as Access Systems, Service, AgVantage, Supp, etc.

Published on Thursday, April 16, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE Wright County Supervisors March 30, 2026 Special Meeting

March 30, 2026 Special Meeting Chairperson Bosch called the special meeting of the Wright County Board of Supervisors to order at 9:00 a.m. Members present were Kluss, Rasmussen, Bosch, Loux, and Ellis.

Published on Thursday, April 16, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE Wright County Dust Control Notice

Dust Control Notice To Wright County Rural Residents Any person desiring to have dust control on a section of road under county jurisdiction should be responsible for hiring an approved contractor.

Published on Thursday, April 16, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE City of Clarion April 7, 2026 Minutes

The Clarion City Council met in regular session (meeting #2) Tuesday April 7th, 2026, at 5:05pm in the Council Chambers with Mayor Heiden presiding. Present were Council members Dan Hennigar, Mike Ennis and Marie Nell Absent Dave Flurer and Nick McCollough. Also, in attendance City Administrator Clint Middleton, Attorney Zach Chizek, PWD Jon DeVries and Chief Steve Terhark.

Published on Thursday, April 16, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE Estate of Heinz W. Schmid

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR WRIGHT COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF HEINZ W. SCHMID, Deceased. CASE NO. ESPR17801 NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

Published on Thursday, April 16, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE Wright County March 2026 Claims

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Lists various vendors and their amounts for March 2026 Claims, such as Wells Fargo Fin., Service, Angela Wessellink, Reimb, etc.

Published on Thursday, April 16, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE Wright County Supervisors March 30, 2026 Minutes

March 30, 2026 Chairperson Bosch called the regular meeting of the Wright County Board of Supervisors to order at 9:30 a.m. Members present were Kluss, Rasmussen, Bosch, Loux, and Ellis.

PUBLIC NOTICE AWARDING CONTRACT FOR PROJECT BROS-C099(108)-8J-99

WHEREAS, the Wright County Board of Supervisors, hereafter referred to as "the Board", believes that BROS-C099(108)-8J-99, hereafter referred to as "the project" is in the best interest of Wright County, Iowa, and the residents thereof.

PUBLIC NOTICE RESOLUTION #2026-11 RESOLUTION FOR INTERFUND TRANSFERS

WHEREAS, according to Section 331.432 of the Code of Iowa, the Board of Supervisors shall authorize inter-fund transfers.

PUBLIC NOTICE NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Wright County Board of Supervisors that the Auditor be authorized to make transfer of funds during the 2025-2026 budget year; not to exceed the following amounts:

From Drainage Administration To Rural Services Basic Fund \$109,153.36 Assessed and approved on this 30th day of March, 2026.

PUBLIC NOTICE Budweg then presented information on the possible merger of Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern.

Budweg then presented information on the possible merger of Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern. There has been a request submitted to the transportation board to pursue the merger and their initial application was denied. Budweg feels that anything that can grow Wright County, he supports. Kluss is opposed as he doesn't like the idea of one railroad carrier for the United States and the lack of willingness to work with the Counties on situations that occur.

Published on Thursday, April 16, 2026

Legal and Public Notice submissions must be received by 12:00 PM on Friday for publication the following week.

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, April 19
9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
• Sunday, April 26
9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
10:00 a.m. Worship Service

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA
420 1st St NW, Clarion, IA 515-532-3440
www.firstlutheranclarion.com
"YOU are love, YOU belong, YOU are called, and YOU are gifted"
• 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Services
10:30 a.m. Fellowship
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL
121 3rd Avenue N.W., Clarion
• Sunday, April 19
9:30 a.m. Worship
10:30 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, April 16
Pastoral Leadership Study Day
Offices Closed
No Weekday Mass at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove
• Friday, April 17
7:40 a.m. Rosary at St. John, Clarion
8:00 a.m. Mass at St. John, Clarion
• Saturday, April 18
Food Pantry
1:00 p.m. Wedding at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove
3:15 p.m. A/B at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove
4:00 p.m. Mass at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove
7:15 p.m. A/B and Rosary at St. John, Clarion
8:00 p.m. Mass is Spanish at St. John, Clarion
• Sunday, April 19
Divine Mercy Sunday
First Communion
Food Pantry
8:00 a.m. Mass at St. John, Clarion
10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Francis Xavier, Belmont

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Swiss Steak Dinner, Takeout or Delivery at St. John, Clarion
• Monday, April 20
8:15 a.m. Rosary at St. Francis Xavier, Belmont
5:30 p.m. O.C.I.A. Confirmation at St. John, Clarion
• Tuesday, April 21
No Events
• Wednesday, April 22
7:40 a.m. Rosary at St. Francis Xavier, Belmont
8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Francis Xavier, Belmont
6:00 p.m. Adoration at all Parishes
6:30 p.m. YFF Classes at all Parishes
• Thursday, April 23
8:00 a.m. Sewing at St. John, Clarion
11:15 a.m. A/B and Rosary at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove
12:00 p.m. Mass at Sacred Heart, Eagle Grove

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
219 First Street N.W. Clarion
515-532-2709
• Sunday, April 19
• Sunday 9:00 a.m.
• Sunday 10:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class
• Wednesdays 6:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study
• Saturdays 8:00 a.m. Men's Group

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

GOLDFIELD AREA

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

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
220 E. Oak St., Goldfield, IA 50542
515-825-3581
goldfield.upc@gmail.com
Facebook@goldpres
"A Church for the Community"
Office M-F 7:30 - 11:30 a.m.
• Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Goldfield
Pastor Ron Rasmussen
• Sunday, April 19
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, afcgeo@gmail.com
Pastor cell 412-874-9878
www.HolmesLutheran.net
HolmesLutheran@gmail.com
www.Facebook.com/holmeslutheranchurch
• Sunday, April 19
9:30 a.m. Worship
10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
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, April 19
9:45 a.m. Morning Worship, 10:30 a.m. Fellowship, 11 a.m. Sunday School, 6 p.m. Evening Worship

ROWAN AREA

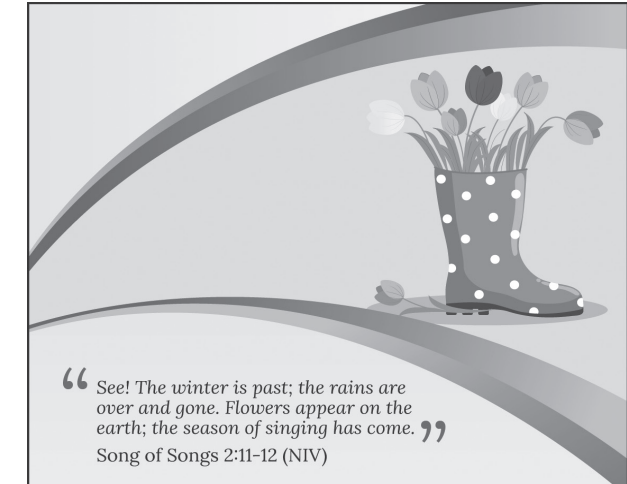
UNITED CHURCH OF ROWAN
Pastor Nancy Hofmeister
811 Pesch St., Box 38, Rowan
• Sundays
10:00 a.m. Worship
• Every Tuesday
1:30 p.m. Bible Study anyone is invited to attend
• Wednesday, April 15
10:00 a.m. Council
11:00 a.m. Property, Maintenance and Memorial
• Thursday, April 16
2:00 p.m. UCR Women
• Sunday, April 19
Special guest Alaire Willits will share about the UMC Midwest Mission in Jefferson and how we can help

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod
Jet, Highway 69 & 3
Pastor Mark Eichler
• Sunday, April 19
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



CHURCH DIRECTORY

Contact
design@wrightcountymonitor.com
to support the Church Directory,
only \$10 per week!



"See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come."
Song of Songs 2:11-12 (NIV)

A Perseverant Season
The familiar adage that "April showers bring May flowers" is more than a childhood rhyme; it is a profound observation of the natural order. As we witness the landscape transform this month, we are invited to reflect on the relationship between adversity and growth. This period marks a peak emergence of life across the natural world—a collective display of resilience that follows weeks of erratic spring rain. This process serves as a compelling metaphor for our own personal development. Just as the soil requires the saturation of a storm to nourish the seed, our own periods of challenge often precede our most significant seasons of renewal. By viewing our difficulties not as permanent setbacks, but as the necessary rain for a future bloom, we can maintain a steady perspective even when the clouds seem most persistent.
-James Stone

DOWS AREA

SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH
109 N. Eskridge St., Dows
Dows / www.sgcdows.com
Doug Holmes, Pastor
• Sunday, April 19
10:15 a.m. Sunday school,
Coffee, 11:15 a.m. Worship at
First Presbyterian in Dows

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Dows, IA
Masking is option
• Sunday, April 19
9:00 a.m. SS/Conf/Coffee
10:00 a.m. Worship

UNITED METHODIST & PRESBYTERIAN
• Sunday, April 19
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 Dunwald
• Sunday, April 19
10:30 a.m. Worship

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN
304 W. Main, Latimer
Travis Berg, Pastor
• Sunday, April 19
9 a.m. Worship, 10:15 a.m.
ABC/Sunday School

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Morgan, Lee Center, Bradford
Erling Shultz, Pastor
• Sunday, April 19
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, April 19
9:30a.m. Joint Sunday Worship
Service with Holy Communion,
Coffee to follow
• Dinner is the first Sunday of the
month

Obituaries

Betty M. Herzberg 1930 - 2026

Betty M. Herzberg, 95, of Clarion passed away Tuesday, April 7, 2026 at her home in Clarion.

Funeral services were held at 7:00 PM on Monday, April 13, 2026 at the Clarion Church of Christ, 420 North Main Street in Clarion, with Pastor Warren Curry officiating.

Visitation was held from 5:00 - 7:00 PM prior to the funeral service on Monday. Graveside service took place at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at Evergreen Cemetery in Clarion.

Betty Marie, eldest child of Clyde and Dagmar (Hanson) Nicholas, was born June 8, 1930 on the family farm in rural Page County. Betty attended country school until 8th grade where she attended Clarinda High School, graduating in 1949.

Betty was united in marriage to Virgil Herzberg on December 18, 1949. They made their home in Shenandoah for a few years before moving to Livermore and eventually settled in Clarion in 1963 where they raised their children. Betty worked as the school cook for Clarion schools for many years before she retired. After retirement, Betty loved spending her time volunteering as a greeter at Iowa Specialty Hospital.

Over the years, Betty enjoyed attending her children and grandchildren's sporting events. She looked forward to her Wednesday morning coffee group and watching the Gaither's, Martha B Polka Party, and Lawrence Welk every weekend. Her family was most



important to her and cherished her time spent with her children and grandchildren. Betty looked forward to her daily care visits from Athena Higgins and the special bond they shared.

Betty is survived by her daughter Brenda (Chris) Carpenter of Clarion; grandchildren Nick Carpenter (Belle), Chad Herzberg, Casey Herzberg, Amy Werner (John), Kole Herzberg (Madison), and Kaylee Herzberg; great-grandchildren Christian Herzberg, Brylie Herzberg, Hanna Schwering, Jacob Schwering, Adalee Herzberg, Paxton Herzberg, Sierra Herzberg, and McKenzie Herzberg; sisters Carolyn (Adrian) Hanson, Phyllis Foster, and Shirley (Jack) Clark; sister-in-law Joyce Myers; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her husband Virgil in 1986; sons Gregg and Kevin; infant son Dwight; infant grandson Kent Virgil; brother Richard Nicholas; brother-in-law David Foster; and parents Clyde and Dagmar Nicholas.

Obituaries

Ann M. Johnson 1948 - 2026

Ann M. Johnson, 78, of Belmont, passed away peacefully with her family by her side on Monday, April 6, 2026 at Concord Care Center in Garner.

Per Ann's wishes, no services will be held. Memorials made directed to St. Croix Hospice or to Concord Care Center.

Ann Marie, daughter of Adolph and Erna (Platte) Aschbrenner, was born on March 3, 1948 in Hampton. Ann grew up in Coulter and graduated valedictorian from CAL High School in 1966. Ann worked as a bookkeeper at Farmers Hybrid in Hampton while taking college classes. While working there, Ann met Edwin Johnson.

In 1971, Ann was united in marriage to Edwin. They were blessed with two daughters, Laurie and Lisa. Ann adjusted well to the farm life, where she enjoyed gardening and canning over the years. Ann was active with the 4-H club, where she was instrumental in teaching her girls how to sew and bake and helped with their 4-H and fair entries. She volunteered as room mother for her girls while they were in elementary school and was an active member of St. Olaf Lutheran Church where she taught Sunday school and bible school.

After the girls were grown, Ann worked various jobs, most recently she worked at Dollar General in Belmont, where she met her best friend, Mary Luick. Ann enjoyed traveling with her daughters and grandchildren and hosting cousins reunions in



Branson. Ann is survived by her daughters Laurie Johnson and Lisa Sweet-Penaluna (Dan); 8 grandchildren Caleb (Morgan), Taylor, Macie, Raini, Nick (Cheyenne), Bryce (Heather), Brennan, and Dawson (Kaitlyn); 5 great-grandchildren Easton, Ella, McCoy, Keston, and Everlee; ex-husband Edwin Johnson; devoted sister Yvonne Cordell; sister-in-law Donna Johnson; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents; parents-in-law Sherman and Gladys Eckland; brother Ron (Kay) Aschbrenner; and brother-in-law Alfred Johnson.

Ann's family thanks the Concord Care Center and St. Croix Hospice for their care and compassion they showed Ann during her final days.

Beth D. Harker 1942 - 2026

Beth D. Harker, 83, of Clarion, passed away peacefully on Monday, April 6, 2026 at Kanawha Community Home, leaving behind a legacy of love, loyalty, faith, and service to others.

A Celebration of Life Visitation will be held from 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM on Wednesday, April 15 at Ewing Funeral Home, 1801 Central Avenue East in Clarion.

Beth Donelle (Scott) Harker, born October 23, 1942, to Donald and Edna (Nauman) Scott. Raised in Clarion, Iowa, Beth carried with her the values of hard work, humility, and a deep-rooted connection throughout her life. She shared a deep and devoted partnership of 53 years with her husband, George "Pete" Harker, whom she adored. She stood by him in every way, always supporting and caring for him with unwavering love.

Beth was a devoted Christian and a longtime member of the Church of Christ. She lived her faith through action, serving faithfully on the church funeral committee and coordinating Meals on Wheels for those in need. She never sought recognition, but her kindness and consistency made a lasting impact on many.

She built lifelong friendships that stood the test of time, especially with her cherished "Stomper Gang" of high school girlfriends and her colleagues from over 27 years at Meredith/EDS. Loyalty was simply who she was. That same devotion extended to her family, particularly her sisters, for whom she became a steady source of strength and guidance after the loss of their mother.

Beth was a sports enthusiast, often saying her love for the game came from a time when "she never got to play sports when she was in school." That didn't stop her; she became the most loyal supporter her family could ever have, never missing a game, tournament, or performance. Whether in the stands or cheering from the sidelines, she showed up every single time.

Beth had a deep love for her



community and her schools, often reminiscing about her cherished high school years and the joy of watching her own children grow and thrive. After retiring, she found her way back, working at the high school as a lunch lady, simply to be close to her grandchildren and to stay connected to the energy of the school life once again. As a mother, Beth was loving, compassionate, and full of grace. She gave her children the freedom to make their own decisions while grounding them in the values of hard work and family love. She believed in them wholeheartedly, celebrated their accomplishments with pride, and spoke of them often.

Her life was one of steady faith, quiet strength, and unconditional love. She showed up for the people in her life, time and time again. That's how she will be remembered. Faithful, kind, and deeply loved.

Beth is survived by her husband Pete, children Monty, Nicole (Bo) Nilsson, Shawn (Cory) Klehm, and Jodie Rath. Her grandchildren are Chase & Chance Harker, Corynn, Reese (Destiny), and Khai Klehm, Leif, Liam, and Isabella Nilsson, Kennedy Lee, Anthony Fuego, and her great-grandchild, Saylah Harker. Her sisters, Janine (Larry) Hebner, Martha (Denny) VerMulm, many nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

Beth was preceded in death by her parents and grandparents.

The Clarion Wire

** Wright County Economic Development and MIDAS have teamed up to launch the 2026 CDBG Roofing Replacement Program, offering up to \$24,000 per household for critical roof repairs. Interested residents should contact their local City Hall or Aaron Budweg at (515) 532-6422 for more complete information or immediately to be added to the interest list.

** 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!

** On Tuesday, April 21 at 6:30 p.m. the public is invited to a forum at the Clarion Public Library. First in a series, with the subject of Iowa's public school funding vs private school vouchers. From County-to-County Collaboration of six counties. Wright County Democrats will provide light refreshments. For more information, contact klschnell@commlnet.net - libby.jan@gmail.com

** Mark your calendars for Wright County Humane Society's Bags Tournament and Silent Auction on Saturday April 25. 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!

** Wednesday, April 22 from 3 - 6 p.m. OPEN HOUSE at the NEW Water Treatment Plant. Located west of the depot. Enter through the East Door. City Staff, Contractor, and Engineer will be on hand for tours and answer questions.

** 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 one is April 23.

** CGD Junior/Senior Prom with its theme: "Glow" will be held on Saturday, April 25.

** AT THE CLARION THEATRE: Showing "The Super Mario Galaxy Movie" (PG) on Friday - Sunday, April 10-12 @ 7 p.m.; Sunday Matinee at 2:30 p.m. - April 12 (2nd of two weeks).

** INFORMATION: Check out the newly designed county fair web site: wrightcofair.com.

** THANK YOU: To Kristin Grabinoski and her family for becoming the new owner and publisher of the Wright County Monitor! And to the community members for helping to make this much needed business 'go' in our area!!

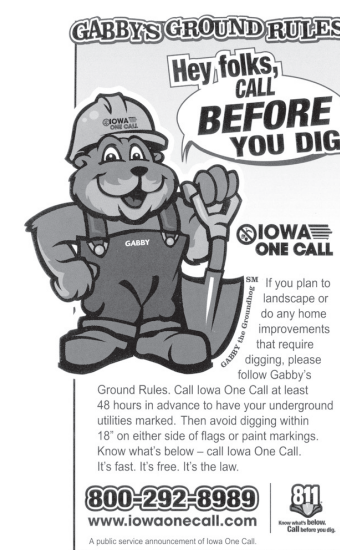
Classifieds

NOTICES
NOTICE: Garage door sales, service and repairs. Farm, home and commercial garage doors and operators. For prompt service, phone Mike Sampson in Kanawha at 641-762-3330

FOR RENT
FOR RENT: KANAWHA APTS. 2BR/1BA \$450. 1BR/1BA \$375. Updated Property, New Appliances, on site Laundry. Landlord Pays Water and Sewer. CALL AL 641-494-7965

FOR RENT
1&2 BD Apartments in Goldfield. 62 and older or disabled/handicapped at any age. Income Based, rental assistance if qualified. Contact Connor Management & Real

Estate, LLC 641-435-4788/ lkconnor@connormgt.com
Equal Housing Opportunity Provider.



NEW! Online scheduling for medical appointments!
Annual Exams
Colds/flu
Health Screenings
& More

EAGLE GROVE
308 W Broadway
515-293-8111

CLARION
303 N Main St
515-532-3343

Open to all, regardless of insurance status.

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

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The Local
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All on a Fiber Optic Network!
641-762-3772 or 515-825-3766

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CENTER
Caring Staff...
Quality Rehabilitation
515-532-2893
110 13th Avenue SW
Clarion, Iowa 50525

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HANSON & SONS
Tire and Auto Service
1407 Central Ave. East
Clarion, IA 50525
Phone 515-532-2444
Fax 515-532-2299
www.hansonire.net
Email: che_hanson72@yahoo.com

HARLE
Building Supply
204 E. Broadway St.
Eagle Grove, IA.

THRIFTY WHITE PHARMACY
Committed to Healthy Outcomes
210 North Main • Clarion
515-532-6626
Laura Phillips
Pharmacy Manager

FIRST CITIZENS
First Citizens Bank
myfcb.bank

SPORTS



Broncos Tie Comets, 3-3



Lily Pigman is a team captain for the Wright County girls soccer team. (Photo: Taylor Smith)

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

The Wright County girls soccer team kept busy with three matches last week.

Monday night, the team hosted Charles City at Belmont-Klemme High School, tying 3-3.

Junior forward and team captain Jany Morales Mejia had a goal for Wright County.

Freshman midfielder Amahia Hernandez also scored, and classmate Treisy Mejia had a big night with an assist and a goal.

Lily Pigman secured 13 saves in the tie with the Comets.

Thursday night, the Broncos lost at home against Webster

City (1-1). The Lynx defeated Wright County, 3-0.

#15 (IA) Aplington-Parkersburg came to Belmont on Friday night and left town with a 10-0 win.

In their third week of play, the girls will face Humboldt (2-0) Monday, April 13, on the road, and Garner-Hayfield-Ventura (3-0) in Belmont on Thursday, April 16.



Broncos Undefeated After Shutting Out Foes



Freshman Luis Guzman, pictured here in Clear Lake, has five goals and three assists this season. (Photo: Taylor Smith)

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

The Wright County boys soccer team stands at 4-0-1 following last week's shutout wins over Charles City and Central Iowa United.

"This team is still moving in the direction that we need to be..." Coach Ethan Krogman told *The Monitor*, adding that he "...could not be more proud

of these young men and the things that they're accomplishing and doing out on the field."

Hometown fans were treated to offensive and defensive clinics Monday night at Belmont-Klemme High School in Wright County's commanding 7-0 victory over the Charles City Comets (0-2).

Senior midfielder Anir Akdim booted in two goals for

the Broncos, and sophomore Adam Dak contributed two goals and an assist.

Jerry Hernandez and William Ordenez also scored for Wright County, and Luis Guzman chipped in with three assists and a goal.

Goalkeeper Juan Ulises Medina had one save in the win.

Thursday's match at Webster City (1-0-1) was postponed due to weather, but the boys were able to host a Friday night contest against Central Iowa United (1-4).

Two minutes into the game, junior midfielder Obed Herrera found Angel Cortes for the score to give Wright County a 1-0 advantage. Only three minutes later, the Broncos increased their lead to 2-0 after Cortes assisted Luis Guzman.

Cortes and Guzman would both score again in the 4-0 win, and the team improved to 4-0-1 on the season.

"I want to shout out the whole team this week and ev-

ery single individual that is part of our Wright County soccer family," Krogman added. "We as a team understand that every game will not be perfect. Perfection is something that we should not try to achieve, as it is impossible. Each pass, each defensive moment, save, and shot is due to us being able to work through the ups and downs that each game brings us. We all support each other and work towards always improving on what has already been a wildly successful season."

In their third week of play, the Broncos host Humboldt (1-0-2) on Monday, April 13, and Waterloo East (0-3) on Tuesday, April 14. They are on the road Thursday night at Garner-Hayfield-Ventura (2-1-1).



GOLF

Cowboy Golfers Prepare for Fresh Season



Head Coach Matthew Evans (Photo: clargold.org)

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

Head Coach Matthew Evans may be in his first year at the helm of the Clarion-Goldfield-Dows boys' golf program, but he's already spent years on the golf courses of north central Iowa.

"I lettered four years at Clarion-Goldfield in 1989-92 and played at Iowa Central Community College," Evans acknowledged in a recent interview.

Evans is also a knowledgeable experienced coach an spent twelve years coaching the Mason City girls' team.

He returned to his Alma mater in 2025, and already called his first Cowboy team "a fun group that has great chemistry."

"The guys that are dialed in are showing exponential growth," he added. "I'm excited about how much we are going to improve throughout the season."

Top returners for CGD are senior captain Tristan Kakacek, sophomores Jacob Ruba and Teddy Yackle, and junior Adam Hodson.

"These guys are the backbone of our program, and we're expecting them to evolve into great leaders as they improve their game," said Evans.

Coach Evans also noted that Cowboy fans should "keep an eye on" Crew Garza, Mason Warnke, Spencer Scheffel, and Preston Gniadecki.

"These guys are soaking up instruction and getting better every day."

That instruction doesn't always involve perfecting your backswing, though.

"Integrity stands at the heart of our program," Evans commented candidly. "Golf is a game built on honor, where players are expected to hold themselves to the highest standard even when no one is



JJV and JV players, left to right: Jace Weets, Spencer Scheffel, Carson Ott, Caleb Sweeney, Madden Johnson, Preston Gniadecki, Roy Hoang, Asa Toomsen, and Ryan Farnum. (Photo: Taylor Smith)



The 2025-26 Cowboy golf team, left to right: Jace Weets, Carson Ott, Spencer Scheffel, Teddy Yackle, Tristan Kakacek, Adam Hodson, Madden Johnson, Caleb Sweeney, Crew Garza, Roy Hoang, Asa Toomsen, Preston Gniadecki, Ryan Farnum, Jacob Ruba, and Mason Warnke. Nathan Kakacek is missing from the photo. (Photo: Taylor Smith)



Varsity players, left to right: Teddy Yackle, Jacob Ruba, Tristan Kakacek, Adam Hodson, Crew Garza, and Mason Warnke. The boys hosted GHV April 6 at Clarmond, losing 170-201. Kakacek was CGD's top finisher after shooting a 46 through nine holes and a 10 over par for the day. (Photo: Taylor Smith)

watching. In golf, and in life, there is no substitute for integrity. Beyond the scorecard, golf teaches us all kinds of lessons about honesty, integrity,

accountability, humility, and respect, and we're hoping that our guys learn not only to be great golfers, but great men." "My wish for our program is

that our guys learn to conduct themselves with class on the golf course and in all aspects of life; hopefully along the way, we can put up some low rounds."

Clarion - Goldfield - Dows School District

Middle School/High School Sports Calendar

Thursday, April 16

Varsity Boys Golf @ River Bend Golf Course, Story City, 4:00 p.m.
Varsity/JV Girls Soccer vs. GHV @ BKHS, 5:30 p.m.
Varsity/JV Boys Soccer @ GHV, 5:30 p.m.

Friday, April 17

Middle School Girls & Boys Track & Field @ EG Elementary, 4:30 p.m.

Monday, April 20

Varsity Girls Golf vs. SE Valley @ Oak Ridge Golf Course, 4:00 p.m.
Varsity Boys Golf vs. SE Valley @ Gowrie Municipal Golf Course, 4:00 p.m.
8th Grade Boys Track & Field @ WCHS, 4:30 p.m.
JV/Varsity Boys Track & Field @ Hampton-Dumont Invite, 4:30 p.m.
Varsity/JV Girls Soccer vs. HDC @ BKHS, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 21

Esports vs. West Sioux, 4:00 p.m.
Varsity Girls Golf Triangular @ Clarmond, 4:30 p.m.
Varsity Boys Track & Field @ BKHS, 4:30 p.m.
Varsity Girls Track & Field @ GHV, 4:30 p.m.
JV/Varsity Boys Golf @ Iowa Falls-Alden Triangular, 4:30 p.m.
Varsity/JV Boys Soccer @ Hampton-Dumont-CAL, 5:30 p.m.



GOLF

Golfers Grow Under Kahler's Guidance



Coach Ashley Kahler is also the head coach for the Cowgirl basketball team. (Photo: clargold.org)

Taylor Smith, Sports Editor

Cowgirl golf fans will notice many familiar faces on the golf course this season, along with a new head coach who brings a high level of expertise to Clarion-Goldfield-Dows.

"As a player, I played for Eldora-New Providence High School (now South Hardin)," first year CGD Head Coach Ashley Kahler told *The Monitor* when asked about her playing and coaching experience.

"I was part of three Iowa High School state championship teams and one runner-up team. My senior year, I placed fifth individually at the state tournament."

After that high school success, Coach Kahler went on to compete at Ellsworth Community College for a year and qualified for the National JUCO Tournament.

Then, she spent a handful of years coaching boys and girls at Newton High School and Glidden-Ralston High School before coming to Clarion-



The 2025-26 Cowgirl golf team, left to right: Jada Weets, Avery Fiscus, Tess Wibholm, Blaire Askelsen, Quinn Brooks, Ella Engstrom, and Claire Kirstein. (Photo: Taylor Smith)

Goldfield-Dows in 2025.

This spring golf season, Coach Kahler is already impressed with her squad of seven:

"They're coachable, ask great questions, and are constantly trying to improve their game."

Senior Claire Kirstein is in her fourth year with the program and is a player Coach Kahler calls "a positive leader for our team."

Kirstein is the top returning placer from a 2024-25 group that earned third at their North Central Conference tournament.

"She leads by example with her work ethic, encourages her teammates, and has a strong understanding of the game that helps set the tone for our lineup," Kahler continued.

Also returning is junior Blaire Askelsen, who boasted the lowest nine-hole average on the team last season. Her

coach says that Blaire "brings a competitive edge and confidence" to the group:

"She's not afraid to challenge herself, and her mindset has helped her take steps forward to be a nice contributor in the lineup."

Quinn Brooks, also a junior, is "someone who continues to grow," according to Kahler:

"She's putting in the time on her fundamentals, and we are seeing a lot of growth in practice."

Fellow junior Ella Engstrom will be back in the lineup after missing last season.

"[Engstrom] has been doing a lot of positive things for us," Kahler noted. "She's shown improvement in her consistency and mental focus."

Sophomores Avery Fiscus and Jada Weets are both in their second year of golf.

provement in her consistency and is growing her game each practice," said Kahler. "Jada has also been doing some really nice things on the course. She's gaining confidence and improving her overall game."

"Tess Wibholm joined the team this year for her senior season and has been a very positive contributor to our program," Coach Kahler added. "She's brought great energy, a willingness to learn, and has helped strengthen our lineup."

The Cowgirls may have a small team this year, but that just gives Kahler more time to work with individuals, something she says is made easy with such a coachable group:

"The girls genuinely support each other, celebrate each other's success, and create a positive, encouraging environment every day at practice. I've been really impressed with their willingness to learn and put in the work."

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Aerial views

Bruce Voigts, Aerial Photographer (Photos taken April 10, 2026)



Big Wall Lake with water level increased from winter due to recent rains. There are not much drought areas in Iowa at this time.



Tractor and tillage implement by the grain bins on right of picture.

Bingo at the Dows American Legion



Another successful Bingo this past week at the Dows American Legion. There was plenty of good food, pops and most importantly fun. Thank you all for coming. Join us this Friday April 17! (Photos: Barb Serrano)



Local Research Farm and Association Receives Support from Local Businesses

The North Central Iowa Research Association and the Iowa State University Northern Research and Demonstration Farm have received financial support from Comm1 and Aureon to help meet ongoing needs and support projects at the research farm near Kanawha.

The Northern Research and Demonstration Farm is owned by the North Central Iowa Research Association and is the oldest of Iowa State University's outlying research farms. The farm celebrated 95 years of operation in 2025 and continues to play a key role in agricultural research, education, and community engagement in north-central Iowa.

In 2019, the North Central Iowa Research Association voted to construct a new facility to better support ISU research trials and Extension programming. Over the past seven years, the association has raised funds and applied for grants to build and equip the facility. The new building was completed in 2025.

While construction is finished, continued support is needed to furnish and maintain the facility. In addition to hosting research and educational events, the building serves as



a community gathering space and is home to a local 4-H club. "Support from businesses like Comm1 and Aureon helps ensure the farm continues to serve farmers, families, and the broader community for years to come," said Andy Christensen, vice president, North Central

Iowa Research Association. Pictured during the presentation are Matt Schnabel, farm superintendent; Mervin Krauss and Andy Christensen, association directors; Randy Yeakel, CEO of Comm1 Network, Inc.; and Blake Smith, association director.

The North Central Iowa Research Association and the Northern Research and Demonstration Farm are grateful for the support provided by Comm1 and Aureon and for their continued investment in local agriculture, education, and community partnerships.

WCCT Readers Theatre.. It's a Party!



Who wouldn't enjoy a birthday party with five of your best girlfriends? Webster City Community Theatre invites you to a reading of "Birthday Club" on Sunday, April 26, at 3 pm at 1001 Willson Avenue. "Birthday Club" was written by Phil Olson, who also wrote the "Don't Hug Me" series. WCCT audiences enjoyed several of those musical comedies in the past, so you know it will be fun!

Five women get together for their birthdays, each with her own story. They drink, celebrate, commiserate, and support each other as they negotiate marriage, work, divorce, birth and kids while solving the problems of the world. Mary Sealine will lead the reading. Bring a snack to share and your choice of beverage. "Birthday Club" will kick off the next WCCT season with performances September 18-20 and 25-26, 2026.

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