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THE RED OAK Express

WEDNESDAY

April 26, 2023
Red Oak, IA
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King and Queen

Kyle Westover and Danique Dobbe, center, were selected as 2023 Red Oak Prom King and Queen Saturday, April 22. Also pictured are Landon Crouse, far left, and Josie Vanderhoof, far right. More prom photos from Red Oak are on page 8A. (Photo provided)

ROOT Development financing major downtown overhaul

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

Alley Poyner Macchietto partner Daric O'Neal is undertaking a major overhaul of the two buildings at 302 and 304 E. Coolbaugh St.

O'Neal, who has the Alley Poyner Macchietto office at 302 E. Coolbaugh, is renovating the existing office space while turning the second story into an Airbnb. Renovations for 304 E. Coolbaugh will turn the ground floor into a new business space for J Mercantile, and the second story into a two-bedroom apartment.

O'Neal said one of the catalysts for why he decided to undertake the project stemmed from his fascination with historic architecture.

"I gained a much better appreciation for it when I lived in London as part of a University of Nebraska study abroad program for a semester in 2002. London is a very old city, but if you travel around there, or anywhere in Europe, you see a great respect for the history as well as a pretty progressive infill with mod-



Building Crafts construction crews work at 302 E. Coolbaugh, the Red Oak office of Alley Poyner Macchietto. The ground floor, pictured, will continue to serve as Alley Poyner's office, and will have desks available to rent for remote workers, and space for podcasters. (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express)

ern architecture and uses, whether that's renovating a building or putting a new building into a historic context," O'Neal said. "I started thinking about how it would be great to do some of that in my hometown of Red Oak. It took me a while to get back here, but I'm lucky to be a partner in an outstanding architecture firm that believes in me enough to have an Iowa office here, and I get to bring these ideas and try my hardest to implement them when I can into the community."

O'Neal said early on, he was a partner with Earl and Cynthia Bangston in their Coolbaugh Street Holdings project, and he learned a lot from both of the Bangstons and had a lot of mentorship from Earl. As he undertook the current project, O'Neal said things snowballed from there.

"Around the time we renovated our house, we got connected with a number of like-minded individuals that wanted to see Red Oak prosper and grow, and we partnered with others to form ROOT Development, which stands for "Red Oak's Ongoing Transformation." One of the definitions of "root" is the cause or react of something. We're doing that right now mostly with acquisition and rehabilitation projects that require a lot of patience, time, and resources to make them happen," O'Neal explained. "We know that this is a long game. Nothing we do is a flip and a quick dollar. If we do a number of these projects downtown, you bring the whole downtown value up. We're trying to do things strategically on a scale that makes sense for Red Oak. It was never an intention to do as much as we're doing, but it's working out nicely with the spaces and the properties we've already done some renovations on."

O'Neal said the renovation projects between both buildings have been extensive.

"It's been a full-on take it down to the bare bones and bring it back. There's all-new electrical, plumbing, heating and cooling, improving insulation values when needed, and both the buildings needed all-new roofs. A lot of the buildings downtown have been incrementally improved over the years, but they need an extensive interior remodel. I want the renovations in these buildings to be 50-year renovations, so for anyone that comes in here, these renovations will last for another 50 years with minimal improvements," O'Neal advised. "We're not quite ready to reveal exact time frames yet, because our schedule keeps changing. You tear open a ceiling and find out you have some

O'NEAL, Page 10A

Funding for frontline brush truck underway

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

The Red Oak Fire Department is seeking funding for the purchase of a new vehicle.

Through the Red Oak Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association, the department is looking for donations to assist in the purchase of a new frontline brush truck to replace the department's existing 2003 model.

Montgomery County Emergency Management Coordinator Brian Hamman said first and foremost, safety is the number one driving factor for the new truck. Even though the Red Oak Fire Department has experienced a plethora of brush and field fires already this spring, the A Avenue field fire back in October really brought to light how unsafe the department's current truck is set up and how important it is to get the firefighters who are engaged in active fire-fighting on these large fires better located and closer to the cab of the truck so that the driver/operator of the vehicle has constant eyes on those firefighters.

"With our current setup on both of our brush trucks, these firefighters are located on the rear of the truck and not always visible to the driver/operator. Even though we have the ability to talk back and forth via radios, it's still a concern if something were to happen, and they couldn't directly and immediately contact their driver/operator," Hamman explained. "The new truck will also be more functional with having the ability to carry twice the amount of water the current truck does as well as being able to carry more firefighting and rescue equipment, making it

more useful year round and especially during inclement weather such as snow and ice events when our larger vehicles have difficulty accessing certain locations both in town and in the rural setting."

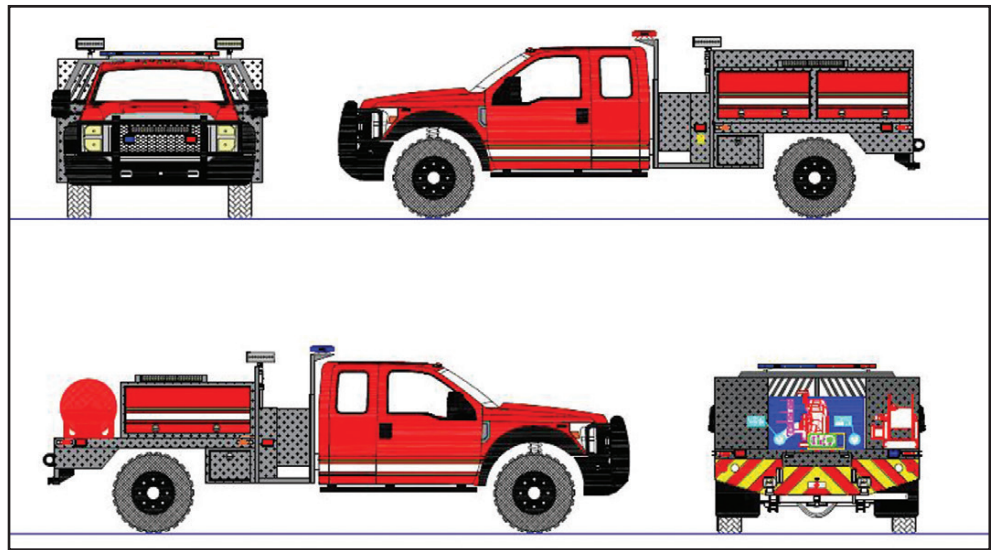
Hamman added the mission of the Red Oak Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association has always been to support the City of Red Oak Fire Department.

"When people donate to the department or gift memorials on behalf of their loved ones, they know the money stays in-house with the Association and that it's used for the overall good of the department. We also look at this as a great partnership between the City and Association as over the years, we have made great strides and efforts to assist with purchasing goods and equipment that the city would not have been able to purchase or to help offset their general budget," commented Hamman. "Over the years, the Association has invested hundreds of thousands of dollars back into the fire department and gifted those purchases and equipment back into the fire department."

The ROVFRA has been working hard over the past year writing a spec, identifying a vendor, and doing fundraising. So far, roughly \$100,000 has been raised, half of the \$200,000 goal. However, plans to secure the new truck have accelerated.

"On April 5, the association entered into a contract with FeldFIRE for the purchase of the new brush truck. While we don't have all the funds to date, the timeline for the truck's completion is around 18 months, or more. We, like everyone else, have experienced the

FUNDING, Page 2A



Council approves budget

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

The Red Oak City Council met in special session April 24 to approve the city's proposed fiscal year 2023-24 budget.

After a public hearing, in which no oral or written comments were received, the council moved to discussion. The proposed budget was \$13,649,615.

The budget was approved as presented.

The council also held

the second readings of an ordinance granting to MidAmerican Energy Company, its successors and assigns, the right and non-exclusive franchise to acquire, construct, erect, maintain, and operate in the City of Red Oak, a natural gas system and to furnish and sell natural gas to the city and its inhabitants and authorizing the city to collect franchise fees for a period of 25 years. The second reading was approved.

an ordinance granting MidAmerican Energy Company, its successors and assigns, the right and non-exclusive franchise to acquire, construct, erect, maintain, and operate in the city of Red Oak, an electric system, and communications facilities and to furnish and sell electric energy to the City and its inhabitants and authorizing the city to collect franchise fees for a period of 25 years. The second reading was approved.



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County’s fiscal year 2023-24 budget approved by board

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors has finalized the fiscal year 2023-24 budget. At their regular meeting April 18, The board held a public hearing on the proposed budget. Pastor Ray Simmons spoke before the supervisors, saying he knew that the supervisors were at the point they had to make numerical decisions. However, he felt the supervisors needed a theology and philosophy of taxation. “Without that, we’re simply trying to match budget requests and available dollars. Among the things to keep in mind is the fact that there are legitimate needs in our government, like roads and things like that, but combined, they should not exceed 10%, because that’s all that God asks. We went to war for a 4% tax rate, and now we’re over 40%,” stated Simmons. Also, Simmons urged the supervisors not to keep taxes low so the county could keep more of its own money. “We want to keep taxes low so we can have freedom and so that we can help those in need. The scripture has a lot to say about helping the

poor, but it’s always individuals doing it out of a cheerful heart individually. That helps because we can look people in the eye and actually determine needs,” Simmons commented. Also, Simmons felt property tax was the most un-biblical, because the state does not own the land. “God owns the land, and he gives it to us as stewards. I haven’t been in your position exactly, but I have been in the military where we have rising requirements and steady or declining budgets, so I know it’s difficult. I just pray that the Lord give you wisdom and the lands remain productive,” Simmons advised. No written comments were received, and the public hearing was closed. Under the proposed 2023-24 budget, total revenues were \$14,155,718, an increase from \$13,451,228 for 2022-23. Total expenditures were \$15,480,446, an increase from last year’s \$14,410,012. Montgomery County Auditor Jill Ozuna said there were a number of factors that contributed to the budget increase this year. “Our workman’s compensation went up 40%, health insurance costs went up 6%, inflation was a factor, our tort liability went up 30%. Overall, it

was inflation that resulted in an increase in everything,” Ozuna said. Ozuna added she was pleased that the budget had been completed and approved. “Overall, I’m pleased with how it turned out. Everyone was really great in helping, and we all worked together and got through it,” commented Ozuna. The supervisors also discussed the purchase of Cat6 cable for the county’s radio service. County IT director Sonia Morrison said the issue was noted after Montgomery County Emergency Management coordinator Brian Hamman started having issues with his radios dropping. “They would drop for a few seconds and come right back up. There was no rhyme or reason, and it could be multiple times an hour or twice a day. We had Farmers Mutual Telephone Company help us troubleshoot the fiber line to rule that out, and FMTC noted traffic through the Muraki equipment on a line that was dedicated only for radio traffic,” Morrison said. “There’s a fiber line that goes directly from EMA to the law enforcement center. There’s not supposed to be any Muraki network on that line at all, but we were seeing it.” Morrison said they also called in First Wireless, the entity that took care of all of the Motorola

radios and equipment. While troubleshooting, Morrison said the problem was located. “We were looking at the equipment in the storage room at the LEC, which is the old microwave equipment, and found out it was plugged into our network switches. That traveled to a network switch in the equipment room at the LEC, and a cable going from that network switch to the radio equipment. That’s how it’s tying into our network,” explained Morrison. Morrison added the goal was to completely take the network out of that system, and have it dedicated to radio. Morrison said a fix was possible. “It’s recommended we run the three cables that come from the old microwave equipment directly to the radio equipment in the other closet at the LEC. I got a quote to get that done, and they requested the Cat6 cable, at a cost of \$1,500. I’m asking that expense be added to my American Rescue Plan Act funded projects,” Morrison said. The supervisors approved Morrison’s request as presented. Morrison felt that this most recent expense would lead to a slowdown in requests. “We have had a lot of unknowns pop up during this network upgrade project. We’re getting to the point where this should just about wrap up the issues we’ve had with the network equipment,”

Mayor’s Youth Advisory Council updates park and tree board

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

The Red Oak Park and Tree Board is lending its support to the Mayor’s Youth Advisory Council. At the regular meeting April 13, the board heard comments from MYAC member Joselyn McCunn, who shared details on a proposed project they are looking at doing to upgrade Indian Gully, located just past the dog park on 8th Street. “The main idea is to get the trail mapped out, and get a sign like the one up on Eastern Avenue, placed at the front so more people can know all of the trails. We’ve had the trail walked, and we’re going to get a better map through Montgomery County Secondary Roads and Beau Boeye with Friends of the Red Oak Trail,” McCunn said. “The goal is to put mile markers in, and nature signs, and do the mile marker color schemes like they are

on hard surface trails.” Additionally, McCunn said they are looking to get some benches to place at Indian Gully from Red Oak Fabrication. They are currently waiting for cost estimates. One other feature McCunn is hoping they can install are holders for dog waste and birdhouses, depending on what funds can be raised. “One of our potential ideas is that people may want to have the bench include the name of a loved one, which would help us in our fundraising. Friends of the Red Oak Trails is also assisting with items,” commented McCunn. “For the birdhouses, my thought is that the Scouts would probably love to help with that, or 4-Hers, and perhaps the Red Oak schools shop class.” A complete trail map is estimated to cost around \$200, and McCunn said it will be color-coded to indicate each particular trail. Plans are to complete portions of the project in two phases, with the map

and signs in phase one and items such as the dog waste receptacles in the second phase. Chairman Bill Drey suggested getting the materials and getting volunteer help to build the sign for Indian Gully and that would be a cost saver. “We could get volunteers. We often have more people we can use, and they would likely be able to make a sign like the one at Eastern Avenue. Right now, we’re very tight on money in our budget, but I like the ideas you have,” Drey said. Board Member Alex McFarland offered to assist McCunn and the MYAC in efforts for fundraising, stating she had lots of experience in coordinating fundraisers in the past. Boeye said he had been meeting with the group and noted there was a lot of excitement for the project. “The members have done a lot of research on it, and there’s a lot of potential for a phase three of the project, such as a potential expansion. Friends

of the Red Oak Trails completely supports it, and our board will hold discussions on fundraising,” advised Boeye. Red Oak Mayor Shawna Silvius was in agreement that a phase three to the project would be a great idea, and would be a benefit to the county. Other members of the MYAC are Cyrus Mensen, Sebastian “Baz” Clear, Jonah Thomason, Hailey Rydberg, and Bella Glassel. Advisors include Cynthia Bangston, Dave Dimmitt, and Silvius. The Park and Tree Board issued their approval for the MYAC to proceed with the project. In other business, the board: • Approved the request from Classy Chassis Car Club for the use of Fountain Square Park on Aug. 19 for Old Car Day. • Approved a request from the Red Oak Rotary Club for use of the Fountain Square Park shelter for a pancake feed from 5:30 to 10 a.m. June 24.

FUNDING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

impacts of supply chain issues across the country and had to secure the contract as the cost of goods continues to increase, as well as the lead times for the truck chassis and individual components needed for the truck,” commented Hamman. Among the features of the new truck being sought are 400 gallons of water, compartmentation to transport additional tools and portable extraction equipment, LED warning and work lights, a lift for better off-road access and response during inclement weather, and side attack positions located directly behind the cab to allow safer positioning of firefighters during fire suppression efforts. So far, the ROVFRA has assisted the Red Oak Fire Department with the purchases of a 2021 Polaris Ranger fire and EMS skid unit and trailer, a John Deere Gator with a fire/EMS skid unit and trailer, a 2016 Dodge Ram utility truck, a 2007 Ford F550 brush truck, a 2003 Chevrolet Silverado brush truck, rope and high angle rescue equipment and hand tools for the aerial unit, Milwaukee power tools, and EMS equipment, among other items. “The list just highlights some of the more notable and recent purchases made by the association to help offset the fire department and the City of Red Oak’s annual budget. We express our appreciation to everyone who has contributed in the past and continues to contribute and support our Association and Department. Without their continued support,

we wouldn’t have the Fire Department and equipment that we have today,” Hamman stated. To donate by mail, send checks to: Red Oak Volunteer Fire & Rescue Assoc., Attn Truck Fund 1904 N. Broadway St., Red Oak, IA 51566. Donations can also be made through Venmo @ROVFRA, or through Paypal at paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=JS6N5WXY9QU6&fbclid=IwAR1q3ekJRUnySBd_PzJWj9jVbF4AeC_y95c3dwVFKrsB-Dlyd4D1-jECXk

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GERALD NORCROSS, 87

Gerald Raymond Norcross, 87, of Carmi, Ill., passed away on Tuesday, April 4, 2023.

He was born on Nov. 7, 1935, in Villisca, the son of Donald R. and Ruby Maxine (Rupp) Norcross.

Jerry married Linda Fay (Oliver) Cummins on June 15, 1983, and she survives. He enlisted in the Air Force in 1953. Missiles were a new career field and Lowry Air Force Base in Aurora, Colo., had the Air Force's only Guided Missile Program. After basic training, he was selected to be in the missile program and trained at Lowry on the Matador TM61B missile. Jerry helped write the material for the courses and went on to instructor training school to teach those courses. In 1955, the Air Force wanted to start a school for the new GAR-1 Falcon air-to-air missile. He was with a select group chosen to go to Hughes Aircraft in California for six months of factory training. After coming back to Lowry, Jerry, along with nine other service members and five civilians, wrote the courses and started the Guidance System courses for the Falcon missile. He became a master instructor at this time also.

In 1957, Jerry had to decide whether to re-enlist or take advantage of the GI bill and go to college. Since he got credits toward an engineering degree for his missile training and his training degree from Hughes Aircraft, Jerry decided to go to college at C.U. Boulder and get his electrical engineering degree. While still in school, he worked for a time at Martin Aerospace Plant in Denver on the Titan I and II missiles. However, his love was the Air Force, and he went back to work as a missile instructor, hiring in as a civil servant GS9 back at Lowry Air Force Base. With Lowry, he went to Martin Company in Baltimore, Md. for a four-month factory training course on the Mace TM76B missile and then back to Lowry to help build the Mace missile program.

Jerry went to school in California to learn about down range testing and added that to the courses on instrumentation at Lowry. Later he taught the AIM-10 sidewinder air-to-air interceptor missile. Over time, and with promotions, he left teaching and moved into management as a GS12 Training Manager; he oversaw courses on safety, disaster, preparedness, explosive ordnance disposal, instrumentation and nuclear. Jerry ended his career as a GS13, Chief in Charge of all training managers. He described this as being like a superintendent of a school in charge of all the teaching courses.

Jerry's whole career was spent at Lowry Air Force base in Aurora, Colo., and between his four years of active service and his civil service career of 34 years, he spent 38 years with the Air Force. Like Lt. Dan in Forrest Gump, Jerry would recite his family's history in the military. He would tell any young person that was interested in joining the military, to join the Air Force. Jerry said that they had better food and didn't have to sleep on the ground.

He was very patriotic, and if grandpa was attending the Veterans Memorial Day event at the City Park, it was strongly advised that the grandkids and great-grandkids attend as well. Grandkids learned to take their shoes off at the door and turn shirts inside out to hide certain logos, otherwise they and their parents would get a lecture from grandpa. Trying to find greeting cards made in the USA, could take up a whole day of shopping and going from store to store. Where the card was made, sometimes, would trump what the card said.

In his lifetime, Jerry was blessed with two loving fathers and paid it forward in his own blended family, loving everyone equally. You don't realize what a big part of your life someone is until after they're gone, and you have to figure out how to fill that void. His family is very proud of his life of service and his part in our lives. We all love him and miss him already.

In addition to his wife, Linda "Lin" (Oliver) Cummins; Jerry is survived by his children, Greg (Sharell) Norcross, Ken (Laura) Cummins, Deanna (Matt) Luchs, Deborah Morris, LeAnne (Ralph) Hosmer and Blythe Cummins; grandchildren, Jeremy (Julie) Norcross, Joshua (Marissa) Norcross, Caleb (Mikayla) Norcross, Austin Norcross, Sarah Flores-Norcross, Jonathan (Vanessa) Phillips, Nicole Callnon, Devin, Emily, Trinity and Thor Hosmer, Kylie and Kennady Cummins, Kayla Nelson, Trevor (Savanna) Nelson, and Cody Nelson; great-grandchildren, Michelle Middleton, Beth Lugo, Heaven, Jenson, Anya and Ari Norcross, Jacob, Logan, LeAnne Callnon, Chase and Colton Phillips, Kingston Hosmer, Brynnleigh Nelson, Gunner Cruse, and Dallas Nelson; and a brother, Jim (Connie) Courcier.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his step-father, Everett Courcier; infant son, Ward T. Norcross; sons, Eric R. Norcross, and David B. Norcross; and a sister, Joyce Alexander.

Celebration of Life services for Jerry Norcross will be held at later dates in Illinois, Iowa, and Colorado. Campbell Funeral Home in Carmi is assisting the family with arrangements.

MARJORIE LANTZ, 93

Marjorie L. Lantz, 93, Stanton, passed away on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at Stanton.

Marjorie Lucille Lantz, the daughter of Glenn and Florence (Rundall) Michael, was born July 24, 1929, in Albion, Neb.

Marjorie was preceded in death by her parents; and husband, Clifford.

Marjorie is survived by her two children, Douglas Lantz of Amarillo, Texas; and Jacque Petersen of Omaha, Neb.; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

May God bless her memory and give strength to those who mourn.

Cremation has taken place and a graveside service will be held at a later date. Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at sldfuneralhome.com.

Sellergren-Lindell-DeMarce Funeral Home is in charge of Marjorie's arrangements and serving her family.

MAHLON RICHARDSON, 46

Mahlon John Richardson, 46, of Red Oak, passed away Tuesday April 11, 2023, at his home.

Mahlon was born Oct. 11, 1976, in Council Bluffs, the son of Karry and Margaret (Blanchard) Richardson.

Survivors include his wife, Adrienne Richardson of Breda; father, Karry Richardson of Red Oak; children, Nicole Bean of Guthrie Center; Christopher Dankert of Cassville, Mo.; Robert Grimes of Illinois; Caspian Richardson of Lincoln, Neb.; and Zephyr Richardson of Red Oak; step-children, Destiny Williams of Carroll; Robert Sales III of Council Bluffs; Matthew Sales of Council Bluffs; and Marcus Sales of Omaha, Neb.; and five grandchildren.

A celebration of life was held Saturday, April 22, 2023, at the Red Oak Depot under the direction of the family.

Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel assisted the family with cremation services.



MARIE ORVIK, 99

Marie (Boeddeker) Orvik, Ada, Minn., passed away peacefully on Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at age 99 years and one week in Red Oak, with her family.

She was born on April 11, 1924, in Traill County, N.D., to Florence and Henry Boeddeker. She attended school in Herberg Consolidated School, Grandin, Caledonia, Crookston, and graduated from Halstad High School in 1942.

During WWII, Marie was Rosie the Riveter at Consolidated Aircraft in San Diego, Calif. After the war, she attended Interstate Business College in Fargo, N.D. She married Kenneth Orvik on July 19, 1947, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Moorhead, Minn. They celebrated 50 years of marriage together in Ada, Minn. Marie worked at the City Clerk's Office in Ada for her career.

Marie enjoyed traveling, quilting, study club, attending programs at the Norman County Historical Museum, and coffee with friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 50 years, Kenneth Orvik; her parents; and 13 siblings.

Marie is survived by two daughters, Susan and her spouse Ordean Hegrenes of Rochester, Minn.; and Kerry and her spouse Kevin Hohbach of Red Oak; five grandchildren, Jon and Mary Hegrenes, Corbin and Anika of Rochester, Minn.; Aaron and Tara Hegrenes, and Adam of Rochester, Minn.; Jason and Stefanie Hegrenes, Emily, Owen, Eli, and Evan of Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii; Britt and Kelly Otte, Katie, Parker, and Brody of Lincoln, Neb.; and Ryan and Janessa Winroth, Jacob, and Jackson of Johnston. Marie is also survived by many nieces, nephews, family, and friends.

Funeral Service was Monday, April 24, 2023, at Grace Lutheran Church, Ada, Minn. Interment was in Ada Municipal Cemetery, Ada, Minn..

Please view our guestbook and share condolences online at www.fredriksonfh.com. Arrangements with Fredrikson-Ganje Funeral Homes, Ada & Halstad, Minn.

PATRICIA "PAT" WETTERLIND, 87

Patricia Ann "Pat" Wetterlind, 87, Red Oak, passed away Friday, April 21, 2023, at the Montgomery County Memorial Hospital.

Pat was born Aug. 15, 1935, in Red Oak, the daughter of James "Harold" and Blanche (Burdick) Aiken. She graduated from Elliott High School in 1953 and was united in marriage to Donald Wetterlind on Dec. 5, 1954, on the Wetterlind family farm in rural Montgomery County. They lived in Red Oak for a short time before moving to the family farm. Over the years, Pat worked for Bell Telephone, Dr. Kenneth Anderson, DDS, and then worked with Don on the family farm.

She was a longtime member of Center Ridge Presbyterian Church and currently a member of Red Oak Presbyterian Church. Pat enjoyed bowling, cooking, sewing, playing the piano, singing, and spending time with her family. She especially enjoyed the grandkids' events. In her younger years, she was a good basketball player.

Preceding her in death were her parents; husband, Don Wetterlind; and son-in-law, Bob Drogo.

Survivors include her children, Denise Bergen and husband Tom of Villisca; Barb Drogo of Atlantic; Doug Wetterlind and wife Patti of Red Oak; and Mike Wetterlind and wife Cindy of Red Oak; grandchildren, Brandi Wichhart and husband Derk of Creston; Jennifer Rowley and husband Corbin of Saratoga Springs, Utah; Angela Lewis of Hickman, Neb.; Jessica Vu and husband Dudley of Cumming, Ga.; Matthew Drogo and Stephanie Landsdown of Atlantic; Ashley Mosier and husband Lucas of Atlantic; Anthony Drogo and wife Stephanie of Lewis; David Wetterlind of Naperville, Ill.; Tami Donovan and Jeremy Dicks of W. Des Moines; Mark Wetterlind and wife Julia of Red Oak; Jacob Wetterlind of Schaumburg, Ill.; and Ryan Wetterlind of Red Oak; many great-grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at Red Oak Presbyterian Church. Burial was in the Center Ridge Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to the Red Oak Presbyterian Church. Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

LADONNA RANEY, 91

LaDonna M. Raney, 91, Stanton, passed away on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at Accura Healthcare of Stanton, Stanton.

LaDonna Mae Raney, the daughter of Richard and Frances W. (Carls-wald) Carlson, was born Nov. 15, 1931, on a farm south of Stanton.

LaDonna was preceded in death by her parents; and son, Randall.

LaDonna is survived by her husband, James T. Raney of Stanton; three children: Judy Rhamy of Avoca, Larry Raney of Winterset, and Mark Raney of Clarinda; 10 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

May God bless her memory and give strength to those who mourn.

Celebration of Life Service was held Monday, April 24, 2023, at Mamrelund Lutheran Church at Stanton. Inurnment took place at Arlington Cemetery, rural Stanton.

Memorials are suggested to Mamrelund Lutheran Church or Accura Healthcare of Stanton. Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at sldfuneralhome.com.

Sellergren-Lindell-DeMarce Funeral Home is in charge of LaDonna's arrangements and serving her family.

ROSA-LEE KNIGHT, 91

Rosa-Lee Knight, 91, of Richmond, Mo., formerly of Independence, Mo., passed away Saturday, April 15, 2023, at Oak Ridge Assisted Living in Richmond.

Rosa-Lee was born on April 22, 1931, in Red Oak, the daughter of Emmett Elijah and Mollie (Dumler) Hopkins.

Survivors include her son, Bobby Don Davis of Richmond; two grand-daughters; and two grandsons.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and husband, Gene Knight.

Memorials are suggested to Ray County Humane Society. They can be mailed to Thurman Funeral Home, 507 E. Main - P. O. Box 190, Richmond, MO 64085

Private family inurnment will be at a later date in Red Oak. Share your memories of Rosa-Lee at thurmanfuneralhome.com.



SAMUEL "SAM" HELM, 78

Samuel Joseph "Sam" Helm, 78, Red Oak, passed away Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at his home.

Sam was born March 19, 1945, in Montgomery County, the son of Ernest and Lela (Christensen) Helm. He grew up near Elliott, graduating from Griswold High School in 1964. He was drafted into the Army during the Vietnam war and served overseas. He was united in marriage to Darlene Anderson on Sept. 13, 1969, in Griswold. They lived most of their married life in Red Oak. Sam worked many years at D & L, which became ROMECH, where he retired.

Sam was an outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting, fishing, scrap-ping metal, and in his younger years playing softball. He also loved western movies and was a Boy Scout leader for many years. Sam was known as a quiet gentle man who would help anyone anytime.

Preceding him in death were his parents; and brothers, LeRoy and Edwin.

Survivors include his children, JoAn DeWitt and husband Jeremy of Red Oak; Joseph Helm of Manassas, Va.; and Troy Helm and wife Jessica of Carter Lake; grandchildren, Tyler DeWitt and wife Rebecca of Kimballton; Trent DeWitt of Red Oak; Kylee Helm of Catlett, Va.; Parker Helm of Carter Lake; and Emma Helm of Carter Lake; brother, Elmer Helm of Stanton; and many other relatives and friends.

A celebration of life service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday, April 28, 2023, at Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel. Burial will be in the Evergreen Cemetery with military honors.

Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements.



BRANDON WAX, 39

Brandon Leroy Wax, 39, Hastings, passed away Saturday, April 15, 2023, at CHI Bergan Mercy Hospital in Omaha, Neb.

Brandon was born July 26, 1983, in Red Oak, the son of John and Mary (Nyquist) Wax. He graduated from Red Oak High School in 2002 and attended Iowa Western Community College. Brandon started his working career with No Frills Grocery Store, then UPS, before starting a long career with Hy-Vee where he was nominated several times for customer service awards and was featured in a Hy-Vee commercial. Most recently, he was working in landscaping in Omaha.

Brandon was united in marriage to Stephanie Fuentes in October of 2004 in Kansas City, Mo. He was an outdoorsman who loved camping, barbecues, and animals. He was also enjoyed guns, sports, and was an avid Iowa Hawkeyes Fan.

Preceding him in death were his grandparents, Rueben and Agnes Nyquist, Larry Wax, and Joan Wax Hollibaugh; and his uncle, Michael Nyquist.

Survivors include his parents, John and Mary Wax of Emerson; brothers, Bryan Wax and wife Rachel of Dearborn, Mo.; and Brent Wax and spouse Tim Chaffins of Omaha, Neb.; nephew and niece, Gavin and River Wax of Dearborn, Mo.; his babies, Cookie, Sugar, and Shadow; close friend, Kellie Reynolds and husband Jeff of Red Oak; and many other relatives and friends.

A celebration of life service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 6, 2023, at Viking Lake State Park at the old restaurant with a time of lunch and fellowship to follow.

Memorials are suggested to the family or the Montgomery County Animal Alliance and Rescue.

Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements.



BRETT LIGHT, 52

Brett Floyd Light, 52, Red Oak, passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, April 20, 2023, at the Montgomery County Memorial Hospital.

Brett was born March 22, 1971, in Iowa City, and was adopted when he was 3 weeks old, the son of Dean and Darlene (Hoover) Light. The family lived in Ft. Dodge during his kindergarten through seventh grade years. Then they moved to Evergreen, Colo., until moving to Red Oak in 1988. Brett graduated from Red Oak Community High School in 1990. He worked various jobs throughout the years including Nishna Productions.

Brett was united in marriage to Jennifer Foreman on May 26, 2000 in Red Oak. His hobbies included putting together model cars, coloring, watching NASCAR, listening to music, tinkering with cars, photography, and doing any activity outdoors.

Preceding him in death were his grandparents, George and Ethel (Setterstrom) Light and Floyd and Lillian (Webbink) Hoover.

Survivors include his wife, Jennifer Light of Red Oak; daughter, Maggie Light of Red Oak; son, Brandon Light of Guthrie Center; son, Cody Johnson of Omaha, Neb.; parents, Dean and Darlene Light of Kansas City, Kan.; sister, Amy Maskil and husband Dan of Kansas City, Kan.; mother-in-law, Cindy Dunn of Red Oak; father-in-law, Larry Foreman and Tammi King of Red Oak; sister-in-law, Janell Milner and husband Tom of Red Oak; nieces and nephews, Abigail Maskil of Kansas City, Kan.; Aaron Maskil of Iwakuni, Japan; Priscilla Cline and husband Kenny of Omaha, Neb.; and Chloe Milner of Red Oak; and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 26, 2023, at Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel. Burial will be in the Evergreen Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to the Red Oak Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association or American Heart Association.

Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements.



Law and Order

The following events were filed with the Red Oak, Montgomery County, State of Iowa, or other government offices. In regard to law enforcement and judicial activities, all parties are presumed innocent until proven guilty, and other details may be available at iowacourts.state.ia.us.

SMALL CLAIMS

- Credit Bureau Services of IA Inc. vs. Joshua Goolsby, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$3,497.68 with 7.22% interest from April 18, plus costs.
- Clear Recovery Inc. vs. Anthony Anderson, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$1,037.54 with 7.22% interest from April 18, plus costs
- Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC vs. Lora Top, Villisca,

judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$2,182.22, plus costs

- Credit Bureau Services of IA Inc. vs. Donald Griffin, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$755.59 with 7.22% interest from April 18, plus costs.
- Credit Bureau Services of IA Inc. vs. Arron LeRette, Red Oak, \$1,423.38 with 7.22% interest from April 18, plus costs.

ARRESTS

- Filed April 13, Jason Rush, 37, Elliott, warrant for domestic assault, \$300 bond.
- Filed April 14, Bradley Jackson, 36, Glenwood, warrant for second degree sexual abuse, \$25,000 bond.
- Filed April 17, Becky Suley, 39, Griswold, driving under suspension, \$491.25.
- Filed April 17, Daniel Wil-

liams, Red Oak, violation of burn ban, cited and released.

- Filed April 19, Chad Padilla, 21, Red Oak, warrant for violation of probation, \$2,500 bond.
- Filed April 22, Michael Aguirre, 59, Malvern, public intoxication, \$300 bond.

CRIMINAL

- Felony, State of Iowa vs. Aidan Lowry, 29, Red Oak, contempt of court, pled guilty, 10 days jail, credit for time served.
- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Russel McCullough, Red Oak, public intoxication, \$125 fine.

TRAFFIC

- Edgar Zamarron Talamantes, Red Oak, operation without registration card or plate.

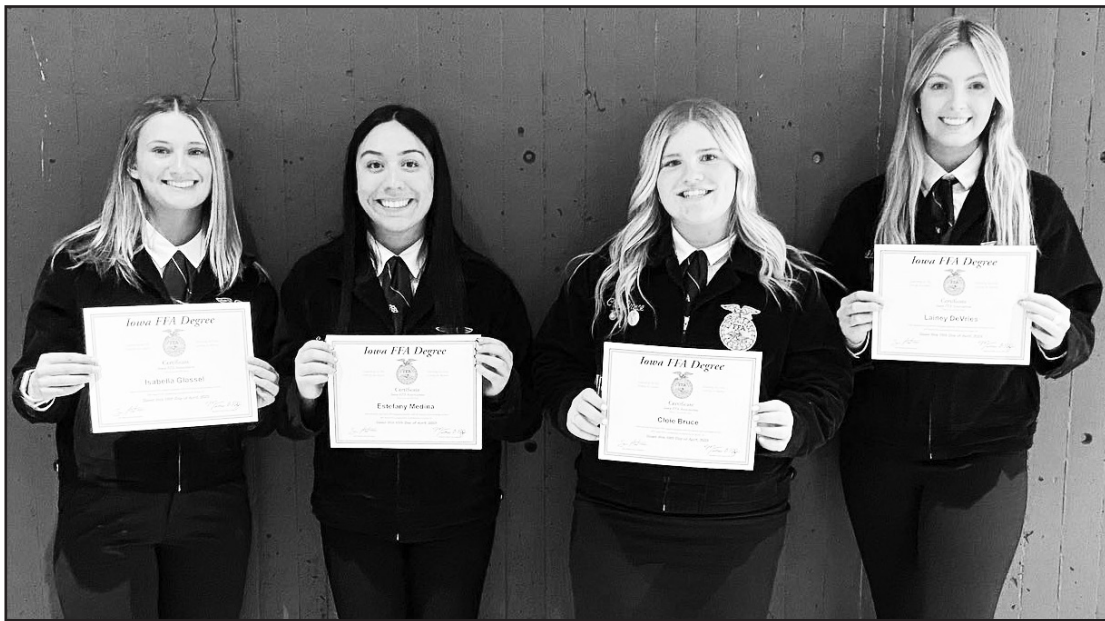
- Rafael Hernando, Omaha, Neb., no valid driver's license.
- Michael Husz, Macedonia, operating non-registered vehicle.
- Jesus Ybarra, Storm Lake, speeding.
- David Fussel, Red Oak, fail to obey stop sign and yield right of way.
- Bartholomew Hughes, Red Oak, no valid driver's license, registration violation.
- William Rowell, Council Bluffs, operation by unqualified driver.
- Mandy Knapp, Red Oak, speeding.
- Brandon Coker, Council Bluffs, speeding.
- Michael Peterson, Lincoln, Neb., speeding.
- Breanna Thomas, Glenwood, speeding.
- Brian Broermann, Red Oak,

- no valid driver's license.
- Eduardo Gallegos Castillo, Omaha, Neb., failure to dim headlights, speeding, no valid driver's license.
- Kiven Elice, Creston, speeding.
- Bryce Medhi, Omaha, Neb., speeding.
- Karlee Barlow, Clarinda, operation without registration card or plate.
- Colby Weston, Elliott, speeding.

ACCIDENTS

- On April 18, at 4:40 p.m., Red Oak Police officers investigated a two-vehicle accident at the intersection of 2nd and Valley streets. Melissa VanScyoc, 53, Red Oak, driving a 2017 Mitsubishi Outlander, was traveling east on Valley Street. Michael

Squires, 38, Red Oak, driving a 1998 Chevrolet K1500 pick up, was traveling south on 2nd Street and broadsided the VanScyoc vehicle. Damage to the VanScyoc vehicle was about \$14,000, and damage to the Squires vehicle was about \$5,000, and both vehicles are considered a total loss. Three juvenile passengers in the VanScyoc vehicle were injured. Two were transported to Montgomery County Memorial Hospital for minor suspected injuries, one by Red Oak EMS and one by private transportation, and the third was transported by Air Evac to UNMC in Omaha for serious injuries. Squires was cited for failure to yield and failure to provide proof of financial liability.



FFA students earn degrees

The Red Oak FFA Chapter was one of many in attendance at the 95th Iowa FFA Leadership Conference in Ames on April 19. Four members received their state degrees. Those members included, from left: Bella Glassel, Stef Medina, Cloie Bruce, and Lainey DeVries. (Photo submitted)

Good Shepherd registration

Enrollment of preschoolers for the 2023-24 school year has begun at Good Shepherd Christian Preschool, located on the upper level of the Viking Center in Stanton.

Children from any school district who will be four years old on or before Sept. 15 are eligible to attend this free preschool program.

Registration materials are available in the Viking Center, the Stanton Child Resource Center, or Stanton Elementary. Registration materials should be returned prior to May 23 in order

to secure your child's place for the 2023-24 school year.

GSCP will be holding another exploration hour for incoming preschoolers and their parent/guardian on April 28 from 9 to 10 a.m. or 1 to 2 p.m. Teachers will be available to answer questions and children will be free to explore the classroom with the current students.

Registration materials may be picked up or dropped off at that time.

Contact Marcia Lantz at GSCPstanton@gmail.com or 829-2421 with questions.

VIEWPOINTS

Stronger the Press, Stronger the People

LETTERS TO | THE EDITOR

County residents voice their support of drag shows

To the Editor:

To the Editor, Rain, and Goodemonte. First let me introduce myself I am Ryan Fuller, or go by the stage name Cherry Peaks. I have lived in Montgomery County for the last four years, my partner of 14 years graduated from Red Oak High School.

I am the founder and owner of Iowa Drag Brunch: our mission is to spread queer visibility to rural communities. We are following our mission statement and providing entertainment in these spaces. In addition to that we have a farm where we raise donkey, goats, chickens and quail. Currently we are in the midst of kidding season for our goats, is that manly enough for you?

We raise, breed and sell goats. Also have an all natural farm that provides produce and goods to local people, restaurants, and farmers markets, and are currently on the board for a non profit in the area as well as establishing another non profit to supply food and produce to people in need.

On top of all this I am

two classes away from my Masters Degree in Emergency Management and Homeland Security. My goal with this degree is to help the community I live and work in, so now that you know a little about me lets talk about drag.

I have been an entertainer for over a decade and shows in the area are not a new thing. Our first show was at the Wilson Performing Arts Center roughly eight years ago. These drag shows are much more than just men dressing as women to put on a show. We have male entertainers, female entertainers, and drag kings (women dressing as men.) I am supporting local businesses by bringing shows into their establishments, but it goes much deeper than that. I support local businesses for my printing, advertising and merchandising needs. Nothing has been sourced outside of Southwest Iowa.

The importance of these shows in the area is to show acceptance and understanding. Don't like the shows fine don't go, they aren't for you. But queer people are here and this helps them to be able to not only

accept themselves but know that they will be accepted by others in the community.

Do not judge, or you will be judged. Matthew 7:1.

Ryan Fuller
Emerson

To the Editor:

A Response to the Advertisement in the Red Oak Express Extender April 19 entitled: "Southwest Iowa is under attack-Stop the Drag Shows."

If Southwest Iowa is under attack, it is by the religious extremists who believe that we should conform to their perception of gender reality as the author of the ad explains: "let us obey our risen Savior in our towns...so that the Lord may bless SW Iowa," implying there is something evil with this type of performance.

One often hears the argument that it is sexual perversion. May I suggest it is only perverted when you project your sexual assumptions unto it? This is what really bothers me about this type of ad: the incipient ignorance and prejudice that surround this issue

and the ubiquitous idea that gender and drag shows are linked to sex and perversion.

Drag shows, on the whole, have nothing to do with sex; nothing to do with perversion. Is there something Jesus commanded about this that we need to "obey?" The truth is, Jesus never issued a commandment against "drag shows" or men wearing women's clothing or women wearing men's clothing.

The Bible verse usually cited is Deuteronomy 22:5 found in the Hebrew Bible (The Old Testament), not the New Testament. It is an obscure text in which modern Jewish and Christian Biblical Scholars agree that we really do not know the original meaning of this law. If you apply this law, let us be consistent and forbid women from wearing men's slacks which by the way, there are still some Fundamentalist Churches that do so.

This type of ad reveals a serious problem in this country. There is something wrong with a religion that forces everyone to conform to their beliefs and norms, especially with regard

to gender. Could it be that these drag shows are offensive to you because they challenge your prejudices?

Please Stop -you are creating an oppressive culture that could lead to increased violence as evidenced by the recent firebombing of a church that held a drag queen storyline.

Edward Kelly, Jr.
Red Oak

To the Editor:

I want to respond to Rod Goodmote's ad in the Extender and his and Alex Sain's letters.

Sain notes "people from out of state are using money . . ."

That's the truth. Moms for Liberty, which is an astroturf group from out of state has been using fear of LGBTQ+ people, drag shows, and Critical Race Theory (which is not even taught in schools) to gin up controversy designed to divide Americans. This organization is funded by a small group of wealthy folks determined to keep us voting against our own interests.

Sain also calls drag shows "events based on lies," yet I have

watched rural America embrace lie after lie via Fox News and Rush Limbaugh, again designed to disempower the very people listening. Which lies are bigger? Which lies affect more people?

Goodmote writes "Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith." Is that faith only defined by his view of sexual morality?

The God I know through the practice of my own Christian faith is a god of love. The Jesus I know is concerned with feeding, healing, and caring for people without homes, families, and in prison. His greatest commandment was to love God and love other people.

The fear and judgment I see expressed in Sain and Goodmote's letters is exactly why we are divided today. It's why our churches and state are bleeding young people. If they know one thing about Jesus, they know he preached love. What I see in those letters is the opposite. May God help us all.

Cherie Miner.
Elliott

THE TIME CAPSULE | ROY MARSHALL

Fear of flying

Jimmy Stewart and the party he was traveling with, which included his wife, two representatives of Universal Studios and Mrs. Millie Miller, mother of Glenn Miller, spent two days in January of 1954 in Clarinda.

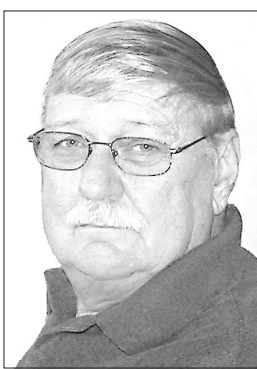
On Thursday, Jan. 14, they traveled by car from Clarinda to Red Oak, arriving at the new high school gymnasium shortly before noon.

A crowd of about 700, including students, filled the building. Dignitaries went to their assigned seats and, as the school band played a couple of numbers, a few daring children approached Stewart and acquired his autograph.

Red Oak's mayor spoke. The Chamber of Commerce president did likewise, then Stewart approached the podium. Although a brilliant actor who did westerns, comedy and drama equally well, our newspaper account indicates Jimmy Stewart may not have been a vibrant public speaker. He also had a 1:18 train to catch. He said the new gym was a dandy and he expected the basketball team would go at least four years before losing a home game (a quick check of sports page tells us this didn't work out).

Richard Simpson had a darned fine band, Stewart said, and he knew all about fine bands as he was playing Glenn Miller in a new movie and he sure hoped people would turn out to watch.

Stewart concluded by saying his wife was traveling with him. He thought she was a swell looking lady and the audience might like to see for themselves, so he asked her to stand and be introduced. He was then in his fifth year of marriage to Gloria McLean, a for-



mer model. They raised four children and remained married and devoted until 1994, when death did them part.

Stewart signed more autographs and shook a few hands on his way to a car, which took them around Fountain Square and by the Murphy Calendar Company on their way to the depot.

An officer of the Iowa Highway Patrol escorted the car Stewart and party brought from Clarinda to Red Oak. That officer also helped with luggage at the depot and waited to see them off.

Years later he recalled the day, saying an odd thing about it was a rumor that Stewart was afraid to fly. This was the mid 1950s. Celebrities and politicians routinely traveled by plane.

Stewart's group came from Hollywood to southwest Iowa by train, then went on to Chicago the same way. We might speculate as to why they chose the train, but it definitely was not because Jimmy Stewart feared flying. Born in 1908, he was a Hollywood star in his mid-30s when the US entered World War II.

Already an excellent pilot, he believed he could best serve his country by enlisting in the Air Corps. The military was happy to have him. Those in charge believed, however, that he should be kept out of combat because if he became a casualty the public's morale

might suffer.

Another issue was that the Air Corps preferred combat pilots 10 years younger than Stewart. He endured a stateside training job for months, then succeeded in his attempt to be reassigned. Stewart flew the B24 Liberator on more than 20 bombing missions over Germany.

By accounts attributed to pilots who knew, the B24 was a difficult plane to fly. Called the "flying coffin," B24s were heavier and more sluggish than smaller bombers, making them easier to hit and crippled ones more difficult to bring home. B17 bombers had fuel tanks mounted on the wings, so if hit the fire was primarily outside the aircraft. The B24 had fuel tanks inside.

In addition to several unit citations and participation medals, Stewart was awarded the Croix de Guerre and twice received a Distinguished Flying Cross. He held the rank of Colonel when the war ended, then elected to reenlist in the Air Force Reserves. He eventually retired a Brigadier General.

Stewart's group may have been traveling by train in 1954 because they wanted to view the scenery, perhaps the trip was a whistle-stop tour promoting his latest movie. But they weren't on a train because Jimmy Stewart was reluctant to fly.

Roy Marshall is a local historian and columnist for the Red Oak Express. He can be contacted at news@redoakexpress.com.

DEADLINES

Newspaper Inserts: Noon Wednesdays.
Submitted News Items and Letters: 4 p.m. Thursdays.
Public Notices: 4 p.m. Thursdays.
Display & Classified Display Advertising: 4 p.m. Wednesdays.
Classified Line Ads/Garage Sale Ads: 10 a.m. Thursdays.
Obituaries: 9 a.m. Mondays.

CONTACT US

Office: 2012 Commerce Dr., 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday.
Mail: Box 377, Red Oak, IA 51566.
Phone: 712-623-2566. Fax: 712-623-2568.
Website: redoakexpress.com.
Advertising Email: advertising@redoakexpress.com.
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THE RED OAK Express

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Single copies are \$1.50 each and available at (in Red Oak unless speci-

fied): Red Oak Express; Casey's (Red Oak, Stanton, Villisca, Griswold); Cubby's; E-Stop (Emerson); Fareway; Hy-Vee; Hy-Vee Wine &

Spirits; United Farmers Cooperative. Single copy sales are also available from a coin rack in front of the Red Oak Express.

WHO WE ARE

Employees in order of continuous service: Trish Deitchler, Graphic Design; Peggy Boeye, Office Manager, News; Ann Watt, Mail; Nick Johansen, News Reporter; Charm Carpenter, Sports Reporter; Tracy Schooling, Driver; Tess Nelson, General Manager/Editor; Nanny Crowe, Circulation; Joshua Byers, Regional Publisher.

The Red Oak Express is owned by Red Oak Publications in Red Oak, IA. It is a member of the Iowa Newspaper Association and the National Newspaper Association.



Community Calendar

27 April

8 a.m.-noon, Leadership Red Oak.
12:30 p.m., Bingo, Red Oak Senior Center, 2700 N. 4th St. Call 712-623-3497 or Carolyn at 402-926-8683 for more information.
4 p.m., Community Prayer Time, Fountain Square Park. Call Bonnie at 623-4759.
7 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St.

28 April

Red Oak Public Library, Popcorn Friday, all day.
10-11 a.m., Core 52 Bible study at the Red Oak Presbyterian Church, 511 E. Coolbaugh St.
10:15 a.m., Storytime at the Red Oak Public Library, 400 N. 2nd St., theme: "Flowers."
5:30 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St.
7 p.m., "Dearly Departed," Coming Opera House, 800 Davis Ave., Coming. Tickets \$13.
7 p.m., "Sweetwater," theatre #1; "Jesus Revolution," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

29 April

10-10:45 a.m., Parent-Tot swim lessons for kids ages 6 months to 3 years at the Montgomery County Family YMCA.
7 p.m., "Sweetwater," theatre #1; "Jesus Revolution," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.
7 p.m., "Dearly Departed," Coming Opera House, 800 Davis Ave., Coming. Tickets \$13.

30 April

10 a.m.-3 p.m., Vendor/Craft show at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds. Free admission.
11 a.m.-2 p.m, Taco night fund raiser for Bomer family, see story on page.
1-4 p.m., Guitars for Vets fundraiser, Five One 8, 518 N. 4th St.

2 and 7 p.m., "Sweetwater," theatre #1; "Jesus Revolution," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.
5:30 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St.

1 May

12:30 p.m. Bingo, Red Oak Senior Center, 2700 N. 4th St. Call 712-623-3497 or Carolyn at 402-926-8683 for more information.
5 p.m., Grow with Google training at the Corning Opera House, 800 Davis Ave., Corning.
5:30 p.m., Red Oak City Council meeting, Red Oak Fire station or via Zoom.
6-8 p.m., Service Academy Virtual Learning, see story on this page for further details.
7 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St.

2 May

8:30 a.m., Montgomery County Supervisors, North Meeting Room in courthouse basement, open to public.
9-11 a.m., Intro to pickleball at the Montgomery County Family YMCA, 101 E. Cherry St. Equipment provided.
Noon, Rotary Club meeting. For location, go to rotarydistrict5650.org/clubinfo/red-oak.
1 p.m., Card games (pitch and/or cribbage) Red Oak Senior Center, 2700 N. 4th St. Call 712-623-3497 or Carolyn at 402-926-8683 for more info.
2-3:30 p.m., Journeys Grief Support Group, Faith Community Church, 2701 N. 8th St.
6-8 p.m., Service Academy Virtual Learning, see story on this page for further details.

3 May

1:30-5 p.m., Christ's Cupboard Food Pantry and Clothing Cupboard, 206 E. Coolbaugh St. Donations accepted 1-5 p.m. at back door.



Jail N' Bail fundraiser planned next week

The Southwest Iowa Squadron of Heroes is planning their third Jail N' Bail Fundraiser. It has been four years since their last event and now is the time to get tough on some "criminals." Area participants have been asked to 'volunteer' to be a convict for a day and raise their bail money to avoid being thrown in "Hero Jail." The event day will be on May 5, and will be held at the Red Oak Elks Lodge.
Volunteer convicts will be at the Elks beginning at 6 p.m. to get their "official" mug shot taken and secure their release, or be provided three hots and a cot, if they are not prepared. If you wish to be a convict, contact 370-3062.
Some of the supporters will be collecting bail prior to the event, while others will be putting out the call for assistance that evening. This year, several groups have asked to participate at a group level vs. the individual, so several businesses, organizations, and churches are participating that way.
The Hero Squad will be using

funds raised during this year's event to assist in costume alterations, updates, support kits, cooling vests, etc, handouts and goodies for the littles, and to support travel to events. Since forming the group, it has continued to grow and change and now includes the following volunteer heroes: Batman, Batgirl, Wonder Woman, Thor, Superman, Captain Marvel, Scarlet Witch, and Yelena.
The group has attended numerous events over the past five years and has had overwhelming support from the various communities.
All funds raised will be used towards the cause and group's mission of positive interaction with young people in Southwest Iowa. If asked to "bail" someone out please consider their request. You may drop off your donation on the evening of the event at the Red Oak Elks Lodge, 519 N. 1st St. or contact Brad Baker, 712-370-3062 for more information. Checks should be made payable to Elks' - Super Hero Acct.

Red Oak Elks honoring first responders

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has been a long standing supporter of first responders, and the Red Oak Elks is no exception to this statement.
As a showing of their support, they are inviting all Montgomery County's first responders and their significant

other or plus one to a free supper, prepared by Brenda Vrba, and hosted by Red Oak Elks #1304.
Save the date of May 9, at 6:30 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 519 N 1st St. A cash bar will be available.
Please R.S.V.P. "yes" to Brad Baker at 712-370-3062 by May 2.

Kiwanis makes donation

Kiwanians Bryant Blay, Kim Truka, and Connie Mellott helping at the mobile food pantry. Live Well Montgomery County part of MCMH, organizes and puts on a food pantry in conjunction with Food Bank for the Heartland for residents of the county several times a year. The mission: Eliminate hunger in the heartland by ensuring consistent access to healthy food through community partnerships. (Photo submitted)

Taco night fundraiser April 30

A taco night fundraiser is planned to help the Brittney and Travis Bomer family with medical bills for their son Colt, who was life flighted to Omaha.
The event will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the

Villisca Community Building, 207 S 3rd Ave.
Free will donation, carryout available. Baskets will also be available for a raffle. Cost is \$5 per ticket, or five for \$20.

Service Academy virtual learning nights

Senators Grassley and Ernst are hosting a virtual informational night for students interested in attending a U.S. service academy. Academy representatives from the nation's five service academies will be available to answer questions about the

application and nomination process May 1 and May 2 from 6 to 8 p.m.
To RSVP, call 515-284-4574 or or 515-288-1145, or email brenda_safranski@ernst.senate.gov or academy_nominations@grassley.senate.gov.



Celebrating their anniversaries this week are:

Doug and Patty Laire - May 2
Lowell and Jan Burnison - May 2

Congratulations and happy anniversary to you!

To become a member of the free "Anniversary Club," e-mail your anniversary (and those of your friends and family) to news@redoakexpress.com, mail to P.O. Box 377, Red Oak, IA 51566, or drop by our office at 2012 Commerce Dr.

Senior Menu

Thursday, April 27: Breaded chicken patty on a bun, corn, cauliflower, blueberry muffin, beverage mix.
Friday, April 28: Beef stroganoff with penne pasta, broccoli florets, multi-grain bread slice, hot

cinnamon applesauce, beverage mix.
Monday, May 1: Country fried steak with country gravy, whipped potatoes, green beans, multi-grain bread slice, baked cookie, beverage mix.
Tuesday, May 2: Chicken berry almond salad with ranch dressing, marinated carrots, saltine crackers, beverage mix.
Wednesday, May 3: Beef goulash, tossed salad with Italian dressing, roasted Brussel sprouts,

Happy Birthday!

Celebrating birthdays are:

Linda Swain - April 27
Connie Muller - April 27
Jonathan Goddard - April 27
Hailey Rydberg - April 27
Bev Palmquist - April 28
Bryan Nelson - April 28
Kenadee Beacham - April 29
Blake Bergren - May 1
Sonya Dodson - May 1
Marvin Adolphson - May 1
Marla Williams - May 1
Susan Stewart - May 3

To be included on the free "Happy Birthday" list, e-mail your birthday (and those of your friends and family) to news@redoakexpress.com, mail to P.O. Box 377, Red Oak, IA 51566, or drop by our office at 2012 Commerce Dr.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Advent Christian

300 S. 2nd Ave., Villisca, Rev. Jeff Eason, Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m., Celebrate Recovery, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Assembly Of God

1005 Senate, Red Oak, 623-2174, Services, 10:30 a.m.

Baptist

The Bridge (First Baptist Church), 406 N. 3rd St., Red Oak, Rev. Len Taylor, Worship, 11 a.m.
Grace Baptist, 1510 N. 6th St., Red Oak, Gary D. Walters, Bible class, 10 a.m., Worship, 11 a.m., Worship, 6 p.m.; Wednesday, Prayer, 7 p.m.
Grace Baptist, 525 Main St., Griswold, Victor Maxson, Bible study, 10 a.m., Worship, 11 a.m. **Online:** 11 a.m. livestream.

Southern Baptist

Crossroads Community Church, 303 E. Oak St., use the alley entrance, Rev. Ricky Rohrig, Sr., Celebration Services with Kids' Church, 9:23 a.m., Wednesdays in the Word, live on Facebook, 6:30 p.m. 712-357-1060, crossroadsredoak.com. **Online:** 9:45 a.m. approx. live on Facebook.

Catholic

St. Joseph's, 131 W. High, Villisca, Father Sylvester Okoh, Sunday

Mass, 8:30 a.m.
St. Mary's, 1510 Highland Ave., Red Oak, Father Lazarus Kirigia, Saturdays, 5 p.m. (1st, 3rd, 5th Saturday); Sunday, 10:30 a.m., in Spanish, 1 p.m.

Christian

First Christian, 1909 Summit St., Red Oak, Pastor AJ Baratta, PreKindergarten - Sunday School, 9:30-10:15 a.m., Fellowship, 10 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m. **Online:** 10:30 a.m. live on Facebook.

Christian & Missionary Alliance

Citylight Southwest Iowa, 705 Bradford, Emerson. Co-lead pastors Matt Keller, Tyler Mass. Worship with children's church, 10 a.m. in-person gathering. **Online:** 10 a.m. live on Facebook.
Faith Community, 2701 N. 8th St., Red Oak, Pastor Dan Wetzel, Associate Pastor Stephen Beaulier, Worship, 9:30 a.m. Connection Classes for pre-kindergarten-adults, 11 a.m. Wednesday activities: Faith Kids, Pre-K grade 4, 6-7:30 p.m. Faith Midpoint, grades 5-6, 6-7:30 p.m. Faith Youth, grades 7-12, 7-8:30 p.m. **Online:** 9:30 a.m. on KCSI, 9:30 a.m. on Facebook.

Church Of Christ

Church Of Christ, Elliott, Sunday Bible School, 9 a.m., Worship, 10 a.m., Men's and Women's Bible study and breakfast, first Sunday of the month at 7:30 a.m.
River of Life Church, Hwy. 48 North, Red Oak, Interim Minister Kevin Berry, Sunday School 9 a.m., Worship, 10 a.m.

Church Of the Nazarene

Red Oak, 401 E. Prospect St., Rev. Lori Lathrop. Radio ministry, 8:30 a.m., worship with children's church at 10:30 a.m.

Covenant

Evangelical, Rev. Matt King, 308 Eastern, Stanton, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:45 a.m. **Online:** 10:45 a.m. live on Facebook and later on Youtube.
Faith Covenant Church, 212 Alice St., Essex, Pastor Gordon Scott, Pastor Staci Shearer, Worship, 8:30 a.m.
First Covenant, Rev. Alan Dean, pastor, 3rd & Hammond, Red Oak, Worship, 9:30 a.m.

Jehovah's Witness

210 Argus Road, Shenandoah, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m., public Bible discourse.

Lutheran

Bethesda Lutheran, Rural Clarinda. Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship, Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Bethlehem Lutheran, 1101 Summit St., Red Oak, Rev. Jennifer Yeske-Drown, Sunday worship, 11 a.m.
Strand Evangelical, Rural Villisca, Rev. Marietta Nelson-Bittle, Worship, 9:45 a.m.
Fremont Lutheran (Nyman), 1147 Ironwood Ave, Red Oak, Pastor Ann Albert, Worship, 9:30 a.m., Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.
Mamrelund Lutheran, 410 Eastern Ave., Stanton. Worship, 10:30 a.m. Sunday School, 9:15 a.m. **Online:** 10:30 a.m. FMTC Cable Channel 1, also live on Facebook.
Mt. Calvary, 107 S. 5th, Villisca, Jerome Wagoner, Worship, 9:00 a.m. Tabor Lutheran, 1711 Q Ave., Stanton, Worship, 8:15 a.m., Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.
Peace Lutheran, (A WELS Congregation), 411 Church St., Shenandoah, Saturday Worship, 5:30 p.m.; Bible and Sunday School, 6:30 p.m.

Non-Denominational

Oaks Community Church, 41310 Ellington Rd., Emerson, Rev. Ron Perry, 712-824-7218, Sunday School, 10 a.m., Worship, 11 a.m.

Presbyterian

Center Ridge, 1546 N. 110th St., Red Oak, Caryn Pedersen, Worship, 1 p.m., two times a month. Call 623-9023 for more information.
First Presbyterian, 109 S. 3rd Ave., Villisca, Rev. Sandra Wainwright, Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m.
Red Oak Presbyterian, 511 E. Coolbaugh, PO Box 402, Red Oak, Caryn Pedersen, redoakpresbyterianchurch.com, Service, 10:30 a.m. **Online:** 10:30 a.m. live on Facebook/Red Oak Presbyterian Church

Reformed Evangelical

Heartland Sovereign Grace Church, new church plant. Bible study Sunday, 5 p.m., www.swiacrec.com, contact@swiacrec.com.

United Methodist

First United Methodist, 600 E. Hammond, Red Oak, Rev. Jennifer Van Nostrand, Worship, Sunday, 9 a.m.; Youth group Wednesday 6:30-8 p.m., grades 6-12, snack is served. **Online:** 9 a.m. fumcro.org; click on the media tab to see previously recorded services.
Wesley Chapel UMC, Rev. Joni Hickey, M16 north off Hwy. 34 then west on Epperson. 624-8320. strahaniowachurch.org Worship, 8:30 a.m., Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.

Red Oak Circuit, Linda Westerhold; Hawthorne, 1248 210th St., Red Oak, Worship, 10 a.m.; Stratton, 1695 150th St., Red Oak, Worship, 11:15 a.m. **Online:** 11:15 a.m. live on Facebook.

Elliott United Methodist, Rev. Terry McClain, Sunday School, 9 a.m., Worship, 10 a.m. **Online:** 10 a.m. live on Facebook.

Emerson United Methodist Church, Rev. Denise Stevens, 801 Bradford Ave., Emerson, (712) 824-7368, Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m.

Grant United Methodist, Pastor Casey Pelzer, Worship services, 8:30 a.m. **Online:** 8:30 a.m. live on Facebook

United Methodist, 203 S. 3rd Ave., Villisca, Pastor Jennifer Van Nostrand, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:45 a.m. **Online:** 10:45 a.m. live on Facebook.

Strahan United Methodist, Five miles south of Hastings on M16., strahaniowachurch.org, Rev. Joni Hickey, Sunday Worship service 9:45 a.m. Adult and children's Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

United Church Of Christ

First Congregational, 608 Reed St., Red Oak, Sunday Worship, 11:30 a.m. in the sanctuary with fellowship prior to the service at 10:30 a.m.. Rev. Holly Scherff, interim pastor.

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The Heart of Southwest Iowa



Here's what is new at the Red Oak Chamber

Elaine Carlson
Director of Membership & Finance

Who's ready for sunny spring days? We really needed the rain and need even more, but I sure do enjoy a warm sunny day.

Office renovations are almost complete. We have a couple of things to button up to fin-

ish the project, but the process went very smoothly. We are so pleased with how everything turned out. Stop by next time you are downtown to take a peek.

ROCIA Membership Golf Tournament

Registration for the ROCIA Membership Golf Tournament has begun. The date is Thursday, May 18, with a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start at the beautiful Red Oak Country Club.

Entry fee for a team of four is \$250 and includes a steak dinner. Online registration is available on our website, redoakiowa.com. You can stop by the office, send us an email, or give us a call to sign up your team today.

Leadership Red Oak

The LRO Class of 2023 has been learning all sorts of

things in the latest sessions. They have heard from school officials representing the Red Oak Community School District and Southwestern Community College.

The class learned what products Clarios, Fres-co System, and Parker Hannifin produce and how their companies retain their employees, and their involvement in our community.

Ron Kloewer, CEO of Montgomery Memorial Hospital, shared with the class about the many services that are offered by MCMH and how they partner with other hospitals. He also spoke about the challenges rural hospitals face and how they continue to navigate and overcome them.

As the largest employer in Montgomery County, they learned about the economic impact MCMH has in our com-



Leadership Red Oak visits the Red Oak Greenhouse. (Photo submitted)



Leadership Red Oak at Clarios. (Photo submitted)

munity and surrounding area. Steve Adams, executive director of the Montgomery County Development Corporation presented to the class the previous comprehensive plan and results that have come from that to date.

The city is working on an update to the plan and has put together a steering committee to begin the process.

Adams related to the class how MCDC leads our community and county in economic development efforts.

The same day, Kevin Cabbage CEO of Farmers Mutual Telephone Company informed the class of the company's initiatives to bring fiber optics to all businesses and residents in Montgomery County and the surrounding area.

The eighth week was another fun one as they toured the Red Oak Greenhouse and learned from Mark Johnson all about this home-grown family business and how it has expanded through the years.

They learned about the growing process of the plants they wholesale to a long list of customers across many states. The class then transitioned to Red Oak Fabrication, another home-grown family business that has several locations in Red Oak with each having its own focus.

During the tour, they saw how Red Oak Fabrication designs, manufactures each piece, powder coats, and assembles a finished product for many of their customers.

The class finished this week's session with a tour of the Wilson Performing Arts Center and learned about the many different programs they offer. They also saw behind the scenes of what all goes into any given performance.

We are very blessed to have such a wonderful venue in our community.

Thanks once again to our Diamond Sponsor - Red Oak Greenhouse. Gold sponsors - Building Crafts, Inc., Carrick & Associates, LLP, and Clarios. Silver Sponsor - Farmers Mutual Telephone Company. Bronze Sponsors - Bank Iowa, Michael J. Portz, O.D., P.C., Montgomery County Family YMCA, Montgomery County Memorial Hospital. Sponsors of the week include- Kiwanis Club of Red Oak, Larry &

Faye Brandstetter, Milestone Financial Group, Montgomery County Farm Bureau, Nishna Productions, Red Oak Community School District, United Group Insurance.

Welcome New Members

Red Oak Washboard - 400 E. Washington St.

Business After Hours

Please join us on Friday, May 5 to help celebrate Mark Jackson's Hardware Hank & Gold Crown Hallmark celebrate 40 years of serving Red Oak and the surrounding area! The celebration begins at 5:30 p.m. at their 315 E Reed St. location.

Junction Days 2023

As soon as we wrapped up Junction Days 2022, we were busy making plans for our 2023 celebration. This year is Junction Days' 45th anniversary, and we have changed some things up to make this year even more special.

Our theme is "Having the Time of Our Lives" and we have recently revealed the t-shirt design.

We will have the shirts available for purchase by the end of May. Pre-orders will be available on our website as well. We appreciate working with CR Graphics again this year to able to offer the Junction Days t-shirts to purchasers near and far away.

Milestone Anniversary?

If your business or organization is celebrating a milestone anniversary this year, please reach out to let us know.

We want to celebrate with you with either a ribbon cutting or a Business After Hours.

Also, we acknowledge those milestone anniversaries at our kick off of Junction Days, so give us a call today.

For more information about our members, promotions, and events within and around our community, please visit our website at redoakiowa.com.

If you have questions about becoming a member of the ROCIA or are interested in volunteering opportunities, please contact me at 623-4821.

Warm wishes,
Elaine Carlson

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Cable Companies				THURSDAY EVENING APRIL 27, 2023							
A	B	C	D	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
3	3	3	3	KMTV (3)	Sheldon (N) Ghosts (N)	So Help Me Todd (N)	Last Last Late (N)	3 News Now	(.35) Colbert		
4	4	4	4	KPTM (42)	Next Level Chef (N)	Animal (N) Kat (N)	News at Nine (N) (Live)	iCRIME (N)	iCRIME (N)		
6	6	6	6	WOWT (6)	Law "Private Lives" (N)	Law-SVU "Bend the Law" (N)	Law & Order (N)	WOWT 6 (N)	(.35) J. Fallon		
7	7	7	7	KETV (7)	2023 NFL Draft Round 1 Teams make their first round picks in the 2023 NFL draft. (N) (Live)			News (N)	News (N)		
8		8	8	KCCI (8)	Sheldon (N) Ghosts (N)	So Help Me Todd (N)	Last Last Late (N)	News (N)	(.35) Colbert		
15	5	15	9	KXVO (15)	Fear Factor	Fear Factor	Fear Factor	Dumbest	Dumbest		
10	11	10	11	IPTV	Father "The Red Death"	Hamish Macbeth	Midsummer Murders	Sister Boniface Mysteries			
17		12	12	KDSM (17)	Next Level Chef (N)	Animal (N) Kat (N)	13 News at 9 (N) (Live)	National (N)	National (N)		
9	9	9	16	NWSN	Cuomo (N)	Dan Abrams Live (N) (Live)	Banfield (N)	Cuomo			
			19	ION	Chicago P.D. "Fool's Gold" (3:00) U.S. House (N) (Live)	Public Affairs Events	Chicago "House of Cards"	Chicago P.D. "You and Me"			
		28	21	CSPAN	2023 NFL Draft Round 1 Teams make their first round picks in the 2023 NFL draft. (N) (Live)						
25			5	WOI (5)						5 News (N)	
12	2	12	24	ESPN	2023 NFL Draft Round 1 (N) (Live)					SportsCenter (N)	
11	28	13	25	ESPN2	(6:30) NHL Hockey New York Rangers at New Jersey Devils	NHL Hockey Winnipeg Jets at Vegas Golden Knights (N)					
36			26	FX	(6:00) **** The Martian (15) Matt Damon.	Patient (P)	Patient (N)	**** The Martian (15)			
	10	16	27	PARMT	**** Wedding Crashers (05) Vince Vaughn, Owen Wilson.	**** Major League (89) Tom Berenger.					
40	36	28	LIFE	Castle "Cool Boys"	Castle "The Last Seduction"	Castle "Mr. & Mrs. Castle"	(.05) Castle "Tone Death"				
29	20	19	29	FREE	(6:25) **** The Proposal (17) Sandra Bullock.	Good Trouble (N)	The 700 Club				
18	13	11	30	USA	**** Transformers: The Last Knight (17) Anthony Hopkins, Josh Duhamel, Mark Wahlberg.						
	8	8	31	TBS	(6:00) NHL Hockey	Post Game Sheldon	Sheldon	Sheldon			
23	14	18	32	TNT	(6:30) NBA Basketball Playoffs: Teams TBA (N) (Live)	NBA Basketball Playoffs: Teams TBA (N) (Live)					
	25	22	33	AMC	**** Lethal Weapon (87) Danny Glover, Gary Busey, Mel Gibson.	**** Lethal Weapon 2 (89) Mel Gibson.					
29	25	34	HGTV	The Flipping El Moussas	The Flipping El Moussas	Hunt Int'l (N)	Home in a Heartbeat				
33	24	30	36	HIST	Swamp "Who Will Be King?" (N) (SF)	(.35) Swamp People (N) (SF)	(.35) Swamp People (N) (SF)	The Marina Monster"			
19	15	26	37	A&E	The First 48	The First 48 (N)	City Confidential (N)	(.05) The First 48			
34	18		38	DISC	BattleBots "The Big Reveal" (N)	This Is Mark Rober (N)	Mark (N)	Mark (N)			
35	31	31	39	TLC	Dr. Pimple "Alligator Arms"	Dr. Pimple Popper (N)	Hoarding "Hoo, This Reeks!"	Hoarding: Buried Alive			
39	27	40	A/P	Vet Life "Vegan Cowboys"	The Vet Life	The Vet Life "Doctor Dads"	The Vet Life				
30	26	23	41	NICK	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	
31	21	24	43	DISN	Big City	Bunk'd	Big City	Hamster & Marvel's Mo	Ladybug		
21	16	20	45	CNN	Cooper 360 (N) (Live)	CNN Primetime (N) (Live)	CNN Tonight (N) (Live)	CNN Tonight (N) (Live)			
37	34	35	65	HALL	**** A Pinch of Portugal (23) Heather Hemmens.	Gold Girls	Gold Girls	Gold Girls	Gold Girls		
		21	72	SYFY	(4:45) **** X-Men: Apocalypse	**** The Lost World: Jurassic Park (97) Julianne Moore, Jeff Goldblum.					
39	36		73	TVL	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	(.05) King	(.40) King	
			74	WE	(6:50) Brat.Lov.. (.50) Love-Loc.	Brat Loves Judy (N) (SP)	Brat Loves Judy	Love-Loc. "Felons 4 Life"			

A-Elliott B-Stanton C-Emerson D-Red Oak, Villisca, Glenwood

Cable Companies				SATURDAY EVENING APRIL 29, 2023							
A	B	C	D	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
3	3	3	3	KMTV (3)	True Lies	CSI: Vegas	48 Hours	3 News Now Live at 10 (N)			
4	4	4	4	KPTM (42)	9-1-1 "Lost & Found" (N)	USFL Memphis Showboats vs. Houston Gamblers (N)	Access Hollywood (N)	Farmer Wants a Wife			
6	6	6	6	WOWT (6)	**** The Fate of the Furious (17) Dwayne Johnson, Charlize Theron, Vin Diesel.			News (N)	SNL		
7	7	7	7	KETV (7)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA (N) (Live)			News (N)	The Rookie		
8		8	8	KCCI (8)	True Lies	CSI: Vegas	48 Hours	News (N)	Matter (N)		
15	5	15	9	KXVO (15)	Fear Factor "Couples"	Fear Factor "Couples"	Fear Factor "Couples"	World's Dumbest ...			
10	11	10	11	IPTV	TimeBy	Keep-Appeal	Hoop Street	Traces			
17		12	KDSM (17)	(6:00) USFL Memphis Showboats vs. Houston Gamblers (N)				Farmer Wants a Wife			
9	9	9	16	NWSN	NewsNation (N) (Live)	NewsNation Prime	NewsNation Prime				
		19	ION	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law-SVU "Guardian"	Law & Order: SVU "Mama"				
		28	21	CSPAN	White House Correspondents Dinner (N) (Live)			Public Affairs Events			
25			5	WOI (5)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA (N) (Live)			5 News (N)	(.35) 9-1-1		
12	2	12	24	ESPN	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA (N) (Live)			SportsCenter (N) (Live)			
11	28	13	25	ESPN2	(6:00) XFL Arlington Renegades at Houston Roughnecks (N) 30 for 30 Bullies of Baltimore						
36			26	FX	**** Baywatch (17) Zac Efron, Priyanka Chopra Jonas, Dwayne Johnson.	**** Nobody's Fool (18) Tiffany Haddish.					
	10	16	27	PARMT	**** The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (01) Ian McKellen, Liv Ullmann, Elijah Wood.						
40	36	28	LIFE	**** Road Trip Hostage (23) Veronica Ramirez. (P)	(.05) **** Fatal Getaway (19) Tilky Jones, Christie Burson.						
29	20	19	29	FREE	(6:20) **** Minions (15)	(.25) **** Sing (16)					
18	13	11	30	USA	**** Fighting With My Family (19) Lena Headey, Florence Pugh.			**** Kicking & Screaming (05)			
	8	8	31	TBS	(4:30) NHLHo.	Post Game	**** Godzilla vs. Kong (21) Millie Bobby Brown, Alexander Skarsgård.	**** The Meg			
23	14	18	32	TNT	(6:00) **** Avengers: Age of Ultron (15)		**** Ready Player One (18) Olivia Cooke, Tye Sheridan.				
	25	22	33	AMC	**** True Lies (94) Jamie Lee Curtis, Tom Arnold, Arnold Schwarzenegger.		**** The Shawshank Redemption...				
29	25	34	HGTV	Houses With History (N)	Houses With History (N)	The Renovator (N)	Hunters	Hunters			
33	24	30	36	HIST	Ancient Aliens	Aliens "Destiny of the Ring"	(.05) Ancient Aliens	(.05) Ancient Aliens			
19	15	26	37	A&E	The First 48	The First 48 "Stray Shot"	The First 48 "The Invitation"	(.05) The First 48			
34	18		38	DISC	Naked and Afraid XL "A Bridge Over Swampy Water"	Naked and Afraid XL "A Feast of the Eyes"					
35	31	31	39	TLC	90 Day Fiancé	Sex "It Was a Doozy"	Sex "Hitting the Hay"				
39	27	40	A/P	Pit Bulls "Out of the Dark"	Pit Bulls "Almost Perfect"	Pit Bulls "Not Meant to Be"	Pit Bulls "Perfect Match"				
30	26	23	41	NICK	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	
31	21	24	43	DISN	**** Monsters University (13)		(.55) The Owl House	(.55) The Owl House			
21	16	20	45	CNN	The White House Correspondents' Dinner (N) (Live)						
37	34	35	65	HALL	**** Hearts in the Game (23) Marco Grazzini, Erin Cahill. (P)	**** Love, Romance & Chocolate (19) Leanne Chabert.					
		21	72	SYFY	(6:00) **** John Wick: Chapter 2 (17)	**** John Wick: Chapter 3 - Parabellum (19) Keanu Reeves.					
39	36		73	TVL	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	
			74	WE	NCIS "Devil's Triangle"	NCIS "Engaged, Part 1"	NCIS "Engaged, Part 2"	NCIS "Sins of the Father"			

A-Elliott B-Stanton C-Emerson D-Red Oak, Villisca, Glenwood

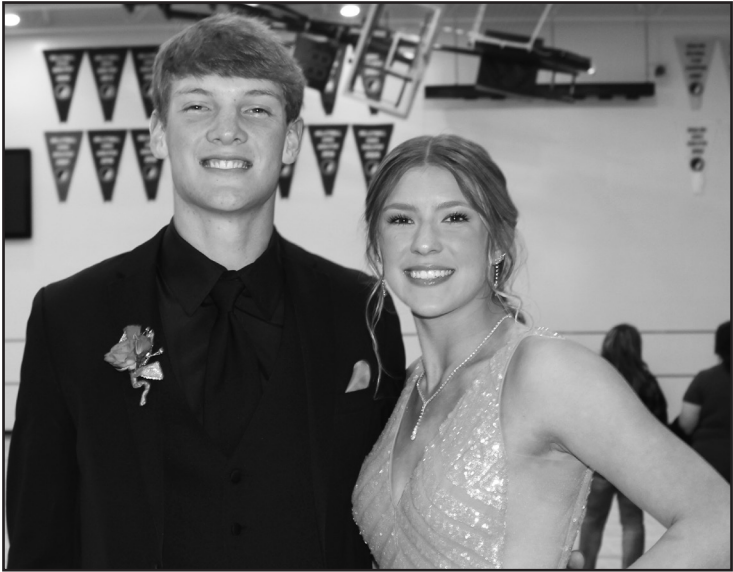
Cable Companies				MONDAY EVENING MAY 1, 2023							
A	B	C	D	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
3	3	3	3	KMTV (3)	Neighbor (N) Bob Heart	NCIS "In the Spotlight" (N)	NCIS "Cabin Fever" (N)	3 News Now	(.35) Colbert		
4	4	4	4	KPTM (42)	9-1-1 "Lost & Found" (N)	Fantasy Island (N)	News at Nine (N) (Live)	iCRIME (N)	iCRIME (N)		
6	6	6	6	WOWT (6)	The Voice "The Playoffs Premiere" (N)			WOWT 6 (N)	(.35) J. Fallon		
7	7	7	7	KETV (7)	American Idol "615 (Judge's Song Contest)" (N) (Live)			The Good Doctor (N) (SF)	(.35) J. Kimmel		
8		8	8	KCCI (8)	Neighbor (N) Bob Heart	NCIS "In the Spotlight" (N)	NCIS "Cabin Fever" (N)	News (N)	(.35) Colbert		
15	5	15	9	KXVO (15)	Fear Factor	Fear Fctr. "Female Models"	Fear Factor	Dumbest	Dumbest		
10	11	10	11	IPTV	Antiques Roadshow (N)	Tommy Emmanuel		Independent Lens (N)	POV		
17		12	KDSM (17)	9-1-1 "Lost & Found" (N)			13 News at 9 (N) (Live)	National (N)	National (N)		
9	9	9	16	NWSN	Cuomo (N)	Dan Abrams Live (N) (Live)	Banfield (N)	Cuomo			
		19	ION	FBI "Little Egypt"	FBI "The Lives of Others"	FBI "American Idol"	FBI "An Imperfect Science"				
		28	21	CSPAN	(4:00) Public Affairs Events						
25			5	WOI (5)	American Idol "615 (Judge's Song Contest)" (N) (Live)			The Good Doctor (N) (SF)	5 News (N)	(.35) J. Kimmel	
12	2	12	24	ESPN	(6:00) NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA (N) (Live)					
11	28	13	25	ESPN2	(6:00) NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA (N) (Live)					
36			26	FX	(6:00) **** Spider-Man: Homecoming (17) Tom Holland.			**** Spider-Man: Homecoming (17) Tom Holland.			
	10	16	27	PARMT	Movie			Movie			
40	36	28	LIFE	Castle "Heartbreaker"	A Small Light "Pilot: Welcome to Switzerland" (N) (P)				(.35) Castle		
29	20	19	29	FREE	(5:20) **** Sing (16)	(.55) **** Minions (15)				The 700 Club	
18	13	11	30	USA	WWE Monday Night RAW (N) (Live)			Race to Survive: Alaska (N)			
	8	8	31	TBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	American (N) American	American	American	
23	14	18	32	TNT	(6:30) NBA Basketball Playoffs: Teams TBA (N) (Live)	NBA Basketball Playoffs: Teams TBA (N) (Live)					
	25	22	33	AMC	**** Cast Away Helen Hunt, Nick Searcy, Tom Hanks.			**** Moneyball (11)			
29	25	34	HGTV	Love-List "Storage Wars"	Love It or List It (N)	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters		
33	24	30	36	HIST	History's Mysteries	History's Mysteries (N)	(.05) History's Mysteries "Expedition Bermuda Triangle"				
19	15	26	37	A&E	The First 48 "Senior Year"	The First 48	The First 48 "The Grudge"	(.05) The First 48			
34	18		38	DISC	Outlaws: Fast "10K Grudge Race" Kye calls out Cali Nate for a huge 10K grudge race. (N)			Motor Mythbusters			
35	31	31	39	TLC	90 Day Fiancé (N)	You, Me & My Ex (N)	90 Day Fiancé (N)	Husband "My Two Dads"			
39	27	40	A/P	Homestead Rescue	Homestead Rescue	Homestead Rescue	Homestead Rescue				
30	26	23	41	NICK	(6:00) **** Playing With Fire	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	
31	21	24	43	DISN	Saturdays "Mama Drama"	(.55) Creatures "Convoy"	(.10) Big City	(.35) Hamster & Marvel's Mo	Ladybug		
21	16	20	45	CNN	Cooper 360 (N) (Live)	CNN Primetime (N) (Live)	CNN Tonight (N) (Live)	CNN Tonight (N) (Live)			
37	34	35	65	HALL	**** Sweet Autumn (20) Andrew Walker, Nikki Deloach.	Gold Girls	Gold Girls	Gold Girls	Gold Girls		
		21	72	SYFY	(.10) **** X-Men: Apocalypse (16) Michael Fassbender, Jennifer Lawrence, James McAvoy.			(.25) **** Nerve			
39	36		73	TVL	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	King	
			74	WE	Bones "The Girl in the Gator"	Bones "Man in the Mansion"	Bones "Bodies in the Book"	Bones			

A-Elliott B-Stanton C-Emerson D-Red Oak, Villisca, Glenwood

Cable Companies				WEDNESDAY EVENING				MAY 3, 2023				
A	B	C	D	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	
3	3	3	3	KMTV (3)	Survivor (N)	FBI "Family First"	True Lies (N)	3 News Now	(.35) Colbert			
4	4	4	4	KPTM (42)	Masked "Quarter Finals" (N)	Farmer Wants a Wife (N)	News at Nine (N) (Live)	iCRIME (N)	iCRIME (N)			
6	6	6	6	WOWT (6)	Chicago Med (N)	Chicago Fire (N)	Chicago P.D. (N)	WOWT 6 (N)	(.35) J. Fallon			
7	7	7	7	KETV (7)	Conners (SF) Goldbergs	Not Dead (N) Not Dead	Million Little (N) (F)	News (N)	(.35) J. Kimmel			
8		8	8	KCCI (8)	Survivor (N)	FBI "Family First"	True Lies (N)	News (N)	(.35) Colbert			
15	5	15	9	KXVO (15)	Fear Factor "Best Friends"	Fear Factor	Fear Factor "Siblings"	Dumbest	Dumbest			
10	11	10	11	IPTV	Nature (N)	NOVA (N)	Iconic America (N)	Parks Changed				
17		12	KDSM (17)	Masked "Quarter Finals" (N)		Farmer Wants a Wife (N)	13 News at 9 (N) (Live)	National (N)	National (N)			
9	9	9	16	NWSN	Cuomo (N)	Dan Abrams Live (N) (Live)	Banfield (N)	Cuomo				
		19	ION	Blue Bloods	Blue Bloods	Blue Bloods	Blue Blood "Not Fade Away"	Blue Bloods				
		28	21	CSPAN	(4:00) Public Affairs Events							
25			5	WOI (5)	Conners (SF) Goldbergs	Not Dead (N) Not Dead	Million Little (N) (F)	5 News (N)	(.35) J. Kimmel			
12	2	12	24	ESPN	NHL Hockey Second Round: Teams TBA (N) (Live)			NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA (N)				
11	28	13	25	ESPN2	World Chess Tag 6 (N)	World Chess Tag 6 (N)	Rookie	Rookie	SportsCenter (N) (Live)			
36				FX	*** Thor: The Dark World (13) Natalie Portman, Chris Hemsworth, **** Logan (17) Hugh Jackman.							
	10	16	27	PARMT	***** Titanic (97) Kate Winslet, Billy Zane, Leonardo DiCaprio.							
	40	36	28	LIFE	Married at First Sight "What's Our Safe Word?" (N)				(.35) Married-Sight (N)	(.35) Married		
29	20	19	29	FREE	The Office "The Office"	The Office "The Office"	Single (N)	Single (N)	The 700 Club			
18	13	11	30	USA	Law-SVU "No Surrender"	Law & Order: SVU "Genes"	Law-SVU "Net Worth"	Law-SVU "Spellbound"				
	8	8	31	TBS	All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite (N) (Live)				All Elite Winter is Coming	All Elite Winter is Coming		
23	14	18	32	TNT	(6:30) NBA Basketball Playoffs: Teams TBA (N) (Live)				NBA Basketball Playoffs: Teams TBA (N) (Live)			
	25	22	33	AMC	***** Twister (96) Bill Paxton, Cary Elwes, Helen Hunt.							
29	25	34	36	HGTV	Property "Life Out West"	Heartbeat "Dan Cave" (N)	Hunters (N)	Hunters (N)	Fix My "A Crazy Maze"			
33	24	30	36	HIST	Pawn Stars	Pawn Stars	(.05) Pawn Stars	(.05) Pawn Stars	(.05) Pawn Stars			
19	15	26	37	A&E	The First 48 "Predator"	The First 48	The First 48	(.05) The First 48	(.05) The First 48			
34	18	38	38	DISC	Moonshiners (N)	Growing Belushi (N)	(.05) Hi Science	(.35) Hi Science	(.05) Master Distiller			
35	31	31	39	TLR	Dr. Pimple Popper (N)	Dr. Pimple Popper (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Joyce's Story"					
	39	27	40	A/P	Monsters "Russian Killer"	River Monsters	Monsters "Asian Slayer"	River Monsters				
30	26	23	41	NICK	(6:00) The SpongeBob...	Friends "Friends 'The Last One"	Friends "Friends 'The Last One"	Friends "Friends 'The Last One"	Friends "Friends 'The Last One"			
31	21	24	43	DISN	Big City "Big City"	The Villains "The Villains"	Big City "Hamster & Gretel"	Marvel's Mo "Marvel's Mo"	Marvel's Mo "Marvel's Mo"			
21	16	20	45	CNN	Cooper 360 (N) (Live)	CNN Primetime (N) (Live)	CNN Tonight (N) (Live)	CNN Tonight (N) (Live)	CNN Tonight (N) (Live)			
37	34	35	65	HALL	*** Pearl in Paradise (118) Kristoffer Polaha, Jill Wagner.		Gold Girls "Gold Girls"	Gold Girls "Gold Girls"	Gold Girls "Gold Girls"			
		21	72	SYFY	*** Final Destination All Larter, Kerr Smith, Devon Sawa.							
39	36	73	TVL	Raymond "Raymond"	Raymond "Raymond"	Raymond "Raymond"	Raymond "Raymond"	King "King"	King "King"			
		74	WE	NCIS "Playing With Fire"	NCIS "Up in Smoke"		NCIS "Till Death Do Us Part"	NCIS "Extreme Prejudice"				



Red Oak's Prom was held April 22. The walk-up and pictures were at the jr./sr. high school due to the chilly and windy weather. Pictured are Faith Ketelhut and Eli Vukonich. (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express)



Braden Wood and Merced Ramirez.



Connor Knight and Gracie Strunk.



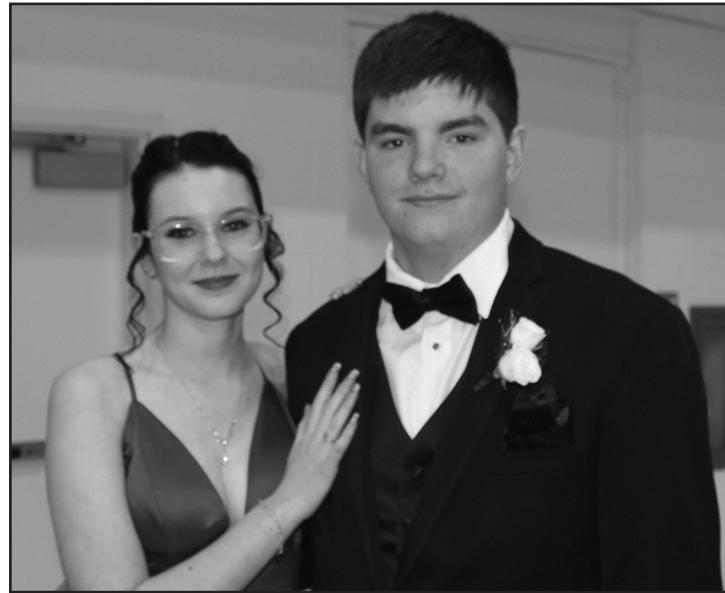
Guadalupe Bowen and Kaleb Cobb.



Fateen Sealy and Katelynn Wagaman.



Xzavier Foster and Hailey Nagunst.



Syriana Spann and Seth Jones.



Ryleigh Ewalt and Ty Jenkins.



Haley Branam and Cameron Sallach.



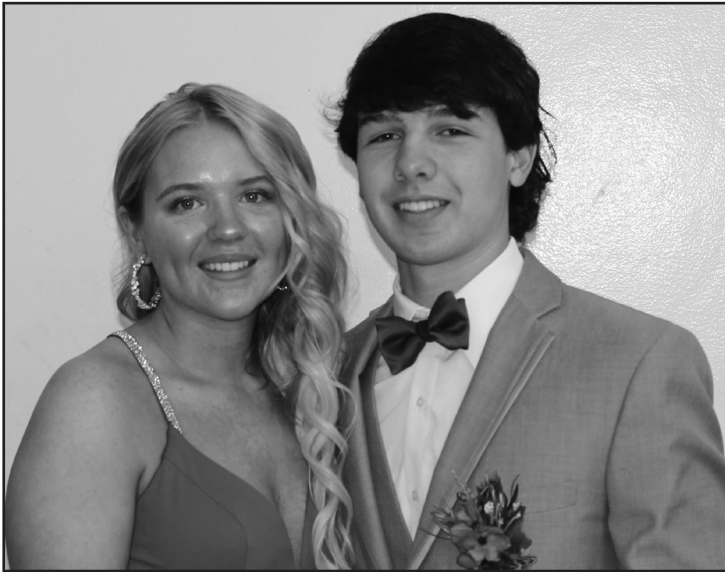
Josie Rengstorf and Cash Berendes.



Logan Conn and Hannah Smith.



Cole Thornton and Kian Cooper.



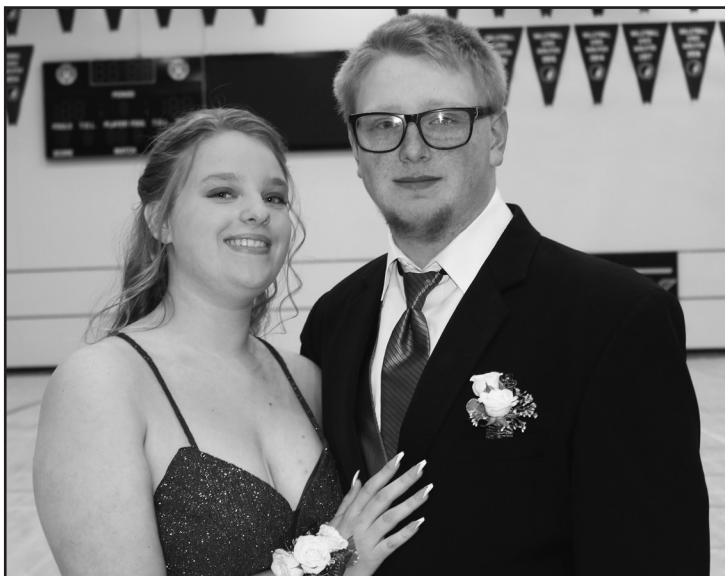
Olivia Bozwell and Chase Roeder.



Paige Pruett and Griffin Eubank.



Joshua LeRette and Ella Johnson.



Stephanie Bair and Cayden Gillespie.



Josie McCunn and Kyler Sandholm.

Come see us at our
**Pop Up
Vendors Sale!**
Friday & Saturday
April 28 - 4pm to 8pm & April 29 - 9am to 3pm
May 5 - 4pm to 8pm & May 6 - 9am to 3pm
1010 Broadway, Red Oak, IA

School board members grant final approval for 2023-24 budget

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

The Red Oak School board has granted final approval for the proposed fiscal year 2023-24 budget, with an adjusted due date of April 30.

A public hearing was held on the proposed budget. No oral or written comments were received.

Categories for expenditures include instruction, total support services, non-instructional programs, and total other expenditures.

Among the key variables funding property taxes were the certified enrollment numbers, which were at 1,073.1 for 2023, and were expected to drop to 1,034.1 in 2024. Preschool enrollment was expected to increase by one from 33.5 to 34.5, supplemental state aid increased from 2.50% to 3%, and drop out prevention dollars increased from \$190,747 to \$315,976.

The proposed property tax rate by levy would increase to 15.5536% in 2024. Superintendent Ron Lorenz said there were a lot of economic challenges the district was facing that most other

organizations were facing right now.

“We are dealing with inflation, rising operational costs, stagnant property values, and declining enrollment. Those were all key considerations as we developed the budget, and with the board’s direction, priorities were established. Increasing the property tax rates from 14 cents to a maximum of \$15.55 cents per thousand dollars valuation was pre-eminent,” explained Lorenz. “We also wanted to maximize our surplus levy to save on interest payments and accelerate the district’s bonding capacity in the future, and we wanted to levy as much into the management levy as we could while still staying below the 15.55% threshold. This budget accomplishes all of those objectives.”

Lorenz added that by maintaining the surplus levy at the statutory limit of \$4.05 per thousand, they were able to save taxpayers \$94,250 on top of the \$165,000 saved previously, and by lowering the management fund levy to 41 cents per thousand dollars valuation, they were able to stay within the parameters established by the board, and raise \$165,000 for things such as legal settlements, natural gas, liability insurance,

and workman’s compensation.

“I know we’ve all anguished over this. We all want that levy to be lower, and we know we’re asking a lot of our taxpayers, but that’s the level we need to keep things going,” commented Lorenz.

The board then held a public hearing on an amendment to the proposed FY 2023 budget. Lorenz said the issue was a straightforward one.

“We have to amend our current year budget to obtain additional spending authority to cover some increases that we’ve made to our original budget authority. Specifically, we have support staff salary increases, we have janitorial cost increases, and we have ESSER expenditures that weren’t factored in. We propose increasing the current year budget by \$800,000. That’s \$400,000 for instruction, \$200,000 for support services, and \$200,000 for other expenditures,” advised Lorenz. “It’s important that everyone remember this budget amendment has no impact on tax rates or any other general fund expenditures, it’s simply spending authority.”

No oral or written comments were received during the second public hear-

ing. The board approved the 2023 fiscal year budget amendment and the 2023-24 fiscal year budget as presented.

The board also discussed a 2024 fiscal year budget adjustment resolution. Lorenz said the adjustment was a means of activating the budget guarantee that exists in Iowa code.

“The 101% budget guarantee is a mechanism to ensure the district’s spending authority is not less than the previous year. It ultimately provides a buffer for districts that experience a decrease in enrollment like we have. Our loss in enrollment is greater than the increase in state supplemental state aid, and we’re subject to the budget guarantee,” stated Lorenz. “To meet that 100% threshold, we have to levy an additional \$132,977 which is the equivalent of 32 cents per thousand dollars valuation. To implement that, Iowa Code requires we pass a resolution and notify the department of management.”

The budget adjustment was approved as presented by the school board.

Finally, the board discussed a fiscal year 2024 bond surplus levy. Lorenz said in order to levy funds to prepay the district’s 2018 general obligation bonds,

the district had to pass a resolution and file it with the county auditor.

“The proceeds of the debt service levy, \$94,250 have to be invested into escrow, and then the escrow accrues and it is used to pay down the bond maturity amounts. This is something that we’ve done in the past and the board is familiar with it,” Lorenz said.

The board approved the fiscal year 2024 bond surplus levy as presented by Lorenz.

In other business, the board:

- Approved a human resource sharing agreement with the Stanton Community School District for the 2023-24 school year.
- Approved a maintenance director sharing agreement with the Stanton Community School District for the 2023-24 school year.
- Approved a school counselor sharing agreement with the East Mills Community School District for the 2023-24 school year.
- Approved a transportation director sharing agreement with the Sidney Community School District for the 2023-24 school year.

Better Financial Living
Financial Lessons: Parents to their Millenials

Dan Miller
CFP

Imparting a legacy with your family is one of the most important things you can do in life. One of the ways to impart that legacy is to teach your children how to properly manage their money. According to a Pew Research Report, for the first time since 1880, young adults aged 18-24 (also known as Generation Z) are more likely to live with their parents, than any other arrangement.

Yikes! Some of the reasons include the high cost of housing, lack of education, and lack of direction. Teaching your Gen Z children important financial lessons will not only help prepare them for a successful life, but also reduce or eliminate the potential future strain of having your children live with you for an extended time period. While we all love our kids and some parents welcome the additional time with their children, it may force changes in your own life that you were not counting on. Things like requiring you to cut back your retirement plans or if retired, even force you back into the workforce.

Teaching your Gen Z children financial responsibility is not only one of the hardest lessons for them to learn, but also one of the most important. By learning how to manage their money before they go off on their own, they hopefully are less likely to file for bankruptcy or have to move back home. Learning to be financially responsible is a huge achievement for any young person. These life skills can assist them tremendously as they become a working, contributing member to society.

Teach Them to Budget

Young adults can quickly identify their spending priorities, when they are the one that has to pay for their own extravagances! A cup of coffee every morning at Starbucks, brand name fashion wear, or the newest iPhone may become less necessary when they are now the one footing the bill.

A budget can help them manage their money and determine which expenses are the most important to them. Start by having them write down every single purchase, no matter how small, for a week, or a month. Like a dieter writes down their food choices, this exercise will help provide your Generation Z child with insight into their own spending habits. This can be pretty eye-opening! Then once the budget is finished, they can see exactly how much money they have, what their expected expenses will be for the month and how much money they need for incidentals, etc. Bad spending habits are now easily identified and hopefully they will discover the need to be wise with their spending habits.

Teach Them to Save More

Learning to save is the most basic lesson of all that we can teach our Gen Z children. By

getting in the habit of saving, it allows them to develop a mindset for money management, avoid financial disasters and prepare for the future. The temptations to spend in a consumer-driven, I want/need –it-now culture is often too great to bear! But financial discipline instilled at a young age should help them to prevail.

Teach Them About Credit

Learning to properly utilize debt and credit is a very important lesson to impart upon Gen Z kids. For example, using a credit card in a responsible and productive way will help enable them to avoid bad credit and become successful with money management. It is important to discuss that credit cards are contractual loan agreements that must be paid back. Parents can also help their children choose the best card, explain interest on unpaid balances, payment schedules, and what benefits may be most favorable for them. Helping your Generation Z child establish good credit habits may help unlock many unseen doors for their future.

Teach Them to Maximize Their Retirement Plans

After their budget and saving plans are in place, the next lesson is to teach your Gen Z child about retirement plans. If they work at a company that offers a 401(k), then they should absolutely participate. Companies often provide incentives such as matching contributions which will help their money go even further. Retirement plans provide tax deferral and compounding interest and returns. Generation Z employees with a 401k can typically contribute as any other employee. Other retirement plans to consider include Traditional and Roth IRAs, which allow annual contributions of up to \$6,500.

So start speaking with your Gen Z child about money as soon as possible. Involving them in the budgeting and investing process with your own finances may help break the ice and create memorable, yet instructive lessons. Too often young adults don’t have enough information regarding financial decisions until they are forced by circumstances to deal with them. By imparting your knowledge now, you can help remove their fear about financial matters in the real world. As parents we all want to help our Generation Z children take on the world in a financially savvy manner!

Dan Miller, CFP® is President of Milestone Financial Group, Inc. with offices located in Red Oak, IA. And Omaha, NE. Dan and his team serve clients throughout the country as they prepare for the next stages of their financial lives. Dan is a published author of the book “Retirement Built to Last: Planning for When the Paychecks Stop” and has had articles published in the Wall Street Journal, Financial Advisors IQ, Successful Farming, and The Hill. He is also a dedicated husband, father, and advocate for the financial planning process and financial education.

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Spotlight: Animal Health
Poisonous plants to avoid around the house

Homeowners must consider various factors when choosing plants to display in and around their homes. That’s because, despite their beauty, various plants are toxic to humans and animals.

Avoiding potentially poisonous plants can prevent injuries and even deaths. Here’s a list of some plants homeowners may want to avoid.

- Rhododendron: Rhododendrons produce flower clusters that bloom in the spring. They also produce thick, glossy leaves that thrive in the fall and winter in many areas. If any part of the plant is swallowed it can cause vomiting and potentially slow the pulse.
- Lily-of-the-valley: This popular plant grows close to the ground, blooming bell-shaped, sweet-smelling flowers. If large doses of the toxin in this plant are ingested, it can gradually slow the heart down and potentially prove fatal.
- Dumb cane: The houseplant dieffenbachia, commonly known as Dumb cane, adds tropical appeal indoors. The sap of the plant causes the tongue to burn and swell, enough to block off air to the throat. It can be fatal both pets and humans if ingested.
- English ivy: This go-to draping vine looks lovely cascading down from planters or shelving. While its toxins need to be ingested in large amounts to cause problems, English ivy can cause skin irritation, rash and fever, particularly after eating the berries.
- Bittersweet nightshade: Bittersweet nightshade grows as a weed on some properties. It’s particularly problematic for those who have pets or young kids because of the brightly colored berries it produces. The highest level of toxicity comes from these berries.
- Foxglove: According to The Spruce: Decor, foxgloves are among the most toxic specimens commonly grown on landscapes. They are widely coveted for their pink, purple and white bell-shaped flowers that grow in tall spikes. They’re also deer- and rabbit-resistant, making them especially popular. However, foxgloves contain potent cardiac glycosides that can be lethal in high doses.
- Philodendron: Philodendron are easy to care for and hearty. While not fatal, a bite of philodendron can irritate the skin and cause nausea and swelling of the mouth, throat and tongue. Similar effects occur with Pothos another common and hearty houseplant.
- Yew shrubs: The needlelike leaves of this shrub are toxic to humans and animals, as are the fleshy, bright red berries that grow toxic seeds. Kids may be tempted to pick and consume these bright berries.
- Palms: Several different palm trees are poisonous to people and pets. Palms are an overlooked source of poisoning tragedies in warmer climates. Formosa palm, Sago palm, Queen Sago, and Cardboard palm are some of the varieties that can cause issues if ingested or allergic skin reactions if touched.

When planning a landscape, work with a skilled garden expert to choose plants that will not be hazardous to family and pets.

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