





WEDNESDAY

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Inside this week's edition is a Salute to Cattle section honoroing Mills and Montgomery County cattle producers. Pictured above are Chris and Cody Vanderholm of Vanderholm Cattle Company of rural Stanton. (Tess Nelsoln/Red Oak Express)

Quality over quantity at Vanderholm Cattle Co.

Tess Nelson

Preferring quality to quantity, Vanderholm Cattle Company of rural Stanton raises registered Angus cattle and Simmental-Angus cross cattle.

The Vanderholm – cattle connection began five generations ago with Chris' great-grandfather, Henry, who came from Sweden to the United States and raised registered Shorthorns. From there, Chris' grandfather Vernon also raised cattle as did his father, Robert, who raised the Maine-Anjou breed.

"I've been around cattle my entire life," said Chris. Residing on the family farm near the Page Montgomery County line, Chris and his wife, Christie, prefer Simmental and Angus breeds of cattle.

"We have purebred Angus cows that are bred to a purebred Angus bull or a Simmental bull. We shoot for selling show heifers, replacement heifers, bulls and breeding stock," Chris said. "We don't have a large number of cattle, but what we have are good bloodlines and good dispositions. We have quality over quantity."

Chris said he looks for an eye-appealing animal that is efficient, sound and functional on her feet and legs. He added he looks for maternal cattle that will be good producers and those that "move free and easy," are "deep bodied" and "good natured."



Christie Vanderholm of Vanderholm Cattle Company scratches the back of Gizmo, a bull. (Tess Nelson/Red Oak Express)



"Angus cattle are very versatile and Simmentals make a good crossbreeds," he said. "We probably take better care of our cattle than most people - for one thing we don't have too many, so we can take better care of them."

Chris' cows calve in January and the first part of February. During labor and shortly thereafter, the cow and baby are kept in a barn where they can be

monitored.

"We have barn cameras and a television in the house designated to the barn cameras. We also have cameras we can watch on our phones, which allows us to check on them easily and more frequently when we aren't home or in the middle of the night."

Calves are for sale through word of mouth and at calf shows, where they are exhibited.

"Last year we had two of our cattle at the Iowa State Fair and they were both champions," Chris said. "That probably won't happen again."

Chris and Christie's two children, Cody and Cara, are also active in the cattle business and have been from

"It means the world to have the whole family involved," said Chris.

In fact, Cody moved back from Cedar Rapids in order to go into the cattle business with his father.

"When I was living in Cedar Rapids I missed being around cattle. One of the things I wanted to do when I came back was get into the cattle business," said Cody. "He's my walking book of knowledge because he reads all the magazines and watches all the sales. He has everything stored in his mind."

"It's therapeutic being out here with them," added Cody, who also works for HTS Ag and has his own video/photography business, Vanderholm Media.

Chris retired from UPS a few years ago, while Christie works for the City of Red Oak.

"I couldn't imagine not having cattle," said Chris. "I love it. It's something I've always enjoyed and something I have passion for."

White's ready to serve as county's VA director

Nick Johansen The Red Oak Express

The new director of the Montgomery County Veterans Affairs commission is settling into his new role.

At the April 26 meeting of the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors, the supervisors approved the choice by commission members to appoint Curtis White as replacement for outgoing director Harry Rossander.

White started in the new position May 2. White, who moved to the Montgomery County area in January, said he and his wife were looking for a change from the big city, and the move was partly inspired due to his retirement from the Boy Scouts.

"My hips went bad on me, and I retired at the end of 2021, as I just couldn't do the job anymore as a ranger for the scouts. My wife and I found some property just off of Boxelder Avenue near Hawthorne Church that satisfies our need to be close to Omaha and our grandkids, but far enough away that we don't have to worry about neighbors," White said.

Prior to his civilian jobs, White said he joined the U.S. Air Force in 1976, by delayed entry, while trying to take advantage of the Vietnam era GI bill.

"I entered active duty in 1977 in San Antonio, Texas, and I was in basic training when Elvis Presley passed away. They shut down the base for a day when Elvis passed. My first duty assignment was at Howard Air Force Base in the Panama Canal Zone, and I was there when then-President Jimmy Carter came down and signed the treaty with Panama to turn the canal back over to Panama.

Following that, White said he was stationed in Biloxi, Miss., and then spent two and a half years in Italy.

"I got to sample Europe, and it's a very fascinating area. I got involved in the Boy



Curtis White

Scouts there. There was one particular place I wanted to go. Any time you go to a new duty station in the military, you're given the opportunity to tell them where you want to go next. It's called a dream sheet. All of my dream sheets had one location I wanted to go to, and that was Colorado. My last duty station was Offutt Air Force Base, and that was the closest I ever got to Colorado," White said.

While at Offutt, White went in as a telecommunications system equipment repairman, but it was for teletype, not telephones.

"While I was in, computers and the internet came along, and phased the career field out, and so I went from a repairman to a computer operator, and decided due to drawdowns when then - President Bill Clinton was in office that it was time to leave the service. After that, I went into several civilian jobs that were computer related, property management, and then ended up with Camp Cedars and Camp Eagle as a ranger, until my hips went out

WHITE, Page 2A

RO board discusses space needs

Nick Johansen The Red Oak Express

The Red Oak School Board is finalizing a path forward for assessing the facilities needs and outlining a long-range plan moving forward.

School Board President Bret Blackman said the board issued requests for proposals for the facilities master planning process, and had heard some responses that would be discussed at a future board meeting. Blackman said space, or the lack therof, continues to be the biggest issue, due to the number of students.

"One of the things that's different now from when I first joined the board, was that our enrollment was dropping about 20 students per year. This year, we're up 36 students, and we also know that our early childhood center is at max capacity. While that's a good thing, it's not something that we were facing when we did the facilities planning five years ago," Blackman said.

While the district has cash on hand, and the ability for bonding capacity, Blackman said the first priority was utilization of the space the district already had.

"It's important for us to have Superintendent Lorenz give us some data and facts about our space utilization, and

continue down the path of hearing from the respondents to our RFPs that will help us prioritize and understand what our space needs are," Blackman commented. "But I would think that we would have an expected outcome of action, and not be kicking this six to 12 months down the road. I would anticipate by June that we'll have a finalist list for those that submitted RFPS, and select as a board who we want to immediately engage in the process."

Superintendent Ron Lorenz said there was a definite space crunch at Inman Elementary that needed to be addressed sooner rather than later.

"We're anticipating a large kindergarten class next year, and we're scrambling a bit to try and find where to put them. We have a possible solution that, board willing, we can pursue, but right now we're in a place where we simply don't have classrooms for all the kids that are coming to us, and we have to figure out how we navigate that. We do have some alternatives, or ideas, but we want to make sure we don't do anything that limits the board, or paints us into a corner. We let the experts advise us," advised Lorenz.

So far, the district has received around 11 responses from 16 firms contacted.

BOARD, Page 9A









Reveal Imager Facial Skin Screen May 18th - 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

MCMH Oncology Department

Call 623-6460 for an appointment!

Board of Supervisors deny Level C Road reclassyfying request

Nick Johansen The Red Oak Express

After lengthy discussions, the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors voted against reclassifying a portion of 230th Street in East Township, west of V Avenue, as a Level C Road.

Prior to the vote at the May 3 supervisors meeting, a public hearing took place. Two letters were received. The first, signed by 24 people, urged the supervisors to vote against reclassifying the road

A second letter was received by Christopher and Leanna Frede. While they are not adjacent property owners to the road in question, they own property close to the area and stated that they were in favor of the road reclassification, due to the large increase in traffic by nonresidents and non-property owners.

"We've noticed a large portion of the travelers go by at all times of the day and night, and at above the speed limit or at unsafe speeds. There has not been an accident yet, but there will be. There are three blind hills, and I have personally stopped a carload of young adults trying to jump the hill at our driveway. My wife and I also have concerns about meeting non-resident traffic," Frede said.

The supervisors then heard oral comments from residents for and against the reclassification. Gordon McAlpin said he lived about a mile and a half from the road, and used it often, as it was the most direct route from Hacklebarney to Villisca.

"That road is used quite a bit, and I think that's enough of an excuse to leave that road open. I know Eric Anderson has spent a lot of money on that road, but I'm sure the engineer's office and the taxpayers have spent money to upgrade that part of the road. Most of the people on that first petition live in that area and use that road,"

Adjacent property owner Eric Anderson was next to speak, and said he was in favor of making the road a Level C for a number of reasons, including safety.

"I'd like to see it closed because there's a lot of blind driveways and hills, and recently, there was someone who got stuck in the mud and made a mess of it, which will require it to be graded and cleaned. I've paid a lot of money for rock to be hauled, and for construction on the road," commented Anderson.

County engineer Karen Albert confirmed that the cost of the gravel and the hauling, as well as the grading on the graveled portion of the road was paid for by Anderson, and the county did some grading, but it was very minimal, and all the work the county did was compensated by Anderson.

Kyle Yates addressed the supervisors next, and said he lives a half mile from the road in question, and he was against reclassifying the road as a Level C. Yates said there were a lot of dirt roads in the county, and there were a lot of people that made poor decisions in going down dirt roads.

"My question is, are you going to close all of them, or just this one? Yes, we did have someone get stuck recently, and we probably will have someone get stuck the next time it rains. I'll bet that there's not a dirt road in the county that someone hasn't gotten stuck on," advised Yates. "To me, this is a drumbeat by a new landowner that wants a private lane to his 40 acres. That road has been there a long



Montgomery County resident Eric Anderson speaks to members of the board of supervisors about making a portion of 230th St. a Level C road. (Nick Johansen/Red Oak Express)

time, and there's no reason to close it. People are going to do stupid things, and they're going to do them all over the county. The vast majority of people are smart enough to know when they can go down that road, and when they can't. I'll concede that it probably gets more traffic than other dirt roads just based on proximity."

Pat Victor spoke in favor of the road being classified as a Level C, and said she's been in favor of it for decades. Victor said the road would not be closed off completely.

"We're going to have two gates for people to come through. It's not a private driveway. We know it affects people, but all they have to do is call us and we'll let them through," Victor stated.

The final two residents to speak were Craig Archer and John Clark. Both were in favor of the supervisors approving the change

Supervisor Donna Robinson said she had received a number of phone calls regarding the road reclassification, and all of the calls urged her to vote against it.

I'm sure there are going to be people that go out and tear it up when it's muddy, but there are a lot more people that are going to use it the right way when it's not muddy," Robinson said.

Supervisor Mike Olson said he felt it was the supervisors' role to respect the rights of the landowners who lived on the road or near it.

"Pretty much everyone that has signed off on that has said they are in favor of closing the road. I also feel we need to respect what Mr. Anderson did financially to bring that road up to code. It's probably a good back way to get from Hacklebarney to Villisca, but I'm not sure it's a total necessity for the viability of the eastern part of the county," advised Olson.

The resolution failed by a 3-1 vote, with Olson being the only supervisor in favor of passing the resolution. Supervisors Chair Mark Peterson abstained from voting.







Syphilis is on the rise in Iowa. Syphilis is a sexually transmitted infection. Early numbers show a 75% increase in syphilis cases in lowa from 2020 to 2021. It's more common and easier to get than you might think. Syphilis is curable but can cause serious health problems without treatment. Talk to your doctor about whether you are at risk.

Find a testing location near you gettested.cdc.gov MILLIONS OF AMERICANS HAVE HEPATITIS C. MANY DON'T KNOW IT. Hepatitis C is a serious disease that can lead

to liver cancer, but there is a cure. All adults should get tested for hepatitis C. Talk to your doctor – it could save your life.

April rainfall helps with drought conditions across state

Precipitation for April averaged 3.20 inches, about a half inch below normal. The near-normal rainfall helped to continue improvement of drought conditions in Iowa, according to the latest Water

However, at the start of May, more than half of Iowa is free from dryness or drought. Concern, however, continues for water resources in parts of northwest Iowa.

state is only about a half inch below normal," said Tim Hall, DNR's coordinator of hydrology resources. "However, some areas of northwest and western Iowa received two inches below normal rain for Management Department.

the month, and that is of concern. If we can get above normal rainfall in May and June, we should see continued improvement."

Soil moisture and groundwater levels are near normal across much of Iowa, but northwest Iowa remains drier.

For a thorough review of Iowa's water resource trends, go to iowadnr.gov/watersummaryupdate.

The report is prepared by technical staff from Iowa DNR, the "April was close to normal for rain, and for the year to date the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, IIHR— Hydroscience and Engineering, and the U.S. Geological Survey, in collaboration with Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency

Residential blaze in Villisca sends 2 to hospital

Villisca, along with aid from several other area fire departments, tackled a residential blaze on Wednesday, May 4.

The Villisca Fire/Rescue Department was dispatched to the scene of the fire at 129 W. 4th St. at 9:07 a.m. Upon arrival, emergency responders reported heavy smoke and fire coming from the residence.

Fire was impinging on the neighbor's house, so a defensive fire ground operation was begun. Firefighters were able to quickly ascertain that the occupants had evacuated the residence. Mutual Aid was called from Red Oak Fire/Rescue, the Stanton Fire Department and Grant Fire Department.

The fire ground operations were transitioned from defensive to offensive fire ground operations. A tremendous amount of salvage and overhaul had to be completed to get all areas of fire extinguished. The fire had extended from the first floor, through the second floor, and then into the attic space.

Fire ground operations were terminated at noon. The home's two occupants were taken by Villisca ambulance to Montgomery County Memorial Hospital for treatment of smoke inhalation and minor injuries sustained from this event.

The residence was valued at approximately \$27,000 and deemed a total loss. Total value of property inside is yet undetermined; however, it was also considered a total loss. The Red Cross was contacted to assist the residents as needed. Firefighters were able to save some family valuables and got those items returned to family members.

The Iowa State Fire Marshall was contacted due to injuries being sustained by the residents. This is currently an ongoing investigation.

The Villisca Fire Department was assisted at the scene by the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, Montgomery County Communications, the Montgomery County Emergency Management Agency, Villisca Public Works, and the Villisca Electric Company.

WHITE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

on me," commented White.

After his temporary retirement, White said he became interested in the position of VA director after a conversation with Harry Rossander, similar to the way Rossander took over the position after a conversation with then VA director Jerry Hansen.

"I applied for it, as did two other individuals after talking to Harry and realizing I was getting bored doing nothing. A part-time job was awesome for me at this point in my life, and my wife works from home fulltime, so this got me out of her hair for three days a week. I had my first hip surgery, and after that, I applied for the job," explained White.

White has a second hip surgery scheduled for June 27. After the surgery, and with some rehabilitation, White said he should be able to walk without a cane. Now that he's officially in the position, White said there are some goals he's set for himself to achieve by the end of the year.

"I've got to get my certification and my

attention, and get them to talk to me. Also, with the surgery complete, I'll be able to set up at the Montgomery County Fair with a booth, and maybe during Junction Days. I'm focused on finding ways to get out into the public and get some of those veterans who may not know about the benefits of the VA to come and talk to me.'

White said once he knew he had been selected, he looked forward to the chance to get to talk to veterans.

"I'm looking forward to getting out into the community and chat with people and veterans and learn new things, and just have the opportunity to do the job itself," advised White.

White said the most important message he wanted to give to veterans was that they may be eligible for things through the VA that they may not know about.

"I was one of those people. I've never taken advantage of the VA, even though I was a veteran, because I reasoned that I wasn't the one overseas, fighting the battles, tests, and then I'm going to try to look at and those guys needed it more than me. My ways to approach the veterans, get their tune has kind of changed on that. I feel all

the area veterans need the opportunity to realize they're authorized for things through the VA and figure out what of those things they need," White said.

Rossander, who has been aiding White in the transition, spoke about his departure, and said he's going to miss the veterans.

"I'm going to miss interacting with those guys, and having the ability to help people, whether they were a veteran or not. This job was fun for me, but I know Curt is going to do a fantastic job," said Rossander.

Rossander said he and the commission all felt that White had the outgoing personality that was needed to draw people in.

"The tough part is getting our younger veterans in here from wars like Iraq and Afghanistan to come in and talk to us. You need someone that has the ability to work with young folks, and draw them in a bit; we need Curt. Curt worked as a Scout Ranger, and knows how to work with folks and draw them in and grow them, and I know Curt will be able to do that with this office," stated Rossander.



Learn more about syphilis

cdc.gov/knowmorehepatitis

ERIC RAMPENDAHL, 73

Eric Todd Rampendahl, 73, passed away Monday, April 25, 2022, at his home in Council Bluffs, surrounded by his loving family.

Eric was born in San Francisco to Dieter Wulf Rampendahl (a published Korean War hero) and Norma Ruth (Burnett) Rampendahl. Eric, affectionately called "Ricky" by his family, grew up in Sebastopol, Calif., graduating from Analy High School in 1967, and

then enlisted in the Air Force where he spent seven years in the weather department.

After the Air Force, Eric chose a profession of helping and caring for developmentally delayed children and adults. Eric led a full and wonderful life; some of his passions included traveling with his wife, playing with his grandchildren and watching them play sports, reading, researching history - especially war history about his father, and playing his guitar and banjo.

He was preceded in death by his father, Deiter; his mother, Norma; his Aunt Betty; and his daughter Stacie Knop.

He is survived by his loving wife, Robbie, Council Bluffs; children, Anna (Billy) Garrett, Colo.; Elizabeth (Eddie) Argumedo, Worland, Wyo.; Todd (Tanja) Rampendahl, Deer Park, Wash.; Sarah Rampendahl, Spokane, Wash.; Jeremy Rampendahl, Omaha, Neb.; Rebecca (Quinn) Jordan, Bellevue, Neb.; Bob Ives, St. Pete, Fla.; Kevin (Tara) Ives, Monroe; and Christina (Ryan) Schoening, Nebraska City, Neb.; sisters, Linda (Fred) Hoppe and Marta (Martin) Schwarzt; and aunt, Jonni Lunny; all from Santa Rosa, Calif.; and uncles, Joe and Floyd Burnett, both from Washington State. Eric is also survived by 32 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren. His extended family also includes Rose Ives; and many nieces, nephews and friends. He loved

His supervisor at Glenwood Resource Center said this about him and it is so true, "Eric was one of a kind in the absolute best ways possible. He gifted humanity with his open mind and his open heart and will never be forgotten by all who knew him.

A celebration of life has already taken place.



ROCHS Large Group Festival results





The Red Oak Community High School varsity choir (pictured above) and concert band (members pictured above right) performed Saturday at Abraham Lincoln High School in Council Bluffs at the lowa High School Music Association's Large Group Festival. Both groups earned a Superior, Division I rating. This festival is the culmination of months of hard work and allows participants to showcase their musicality as an ensemble. The choir is directed by Tim Marsden, and the band is directed by Taylor Wood. They encourage the public to congratulate the students on their achievement. (Submitted photos)

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.

REAL ESTATE

WARRANTY DEED

- Korey and Kaycie Sanchez to Nancy and Jeffery Morgan, 17-71-37 Lt 1.
- Jon and Jan Hansen to Darrell and Marlene Hamby, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 58 Lts 5-6.
- Daniel and Cheryl Case to Daniel and Cheryl Case, 28-72-
- Rebecca Peterson to Nathan and Kristi Elwood, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 22 Lt 6.
- Victor and Patricia Helton to Joel Viramontes and Gail Mc-Ewan, Red Oak Northeastern Addition Lts 11-12
- Rodney and Tina Johnson to Brynn Dozier and Brynn Darby, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 71 Lt
- Roger Carlson, Member, Kathryn Carlson, Member, and Oak Valley LLC to Kelly Osheim,

25-72-39.

COURT OFFICER'S DEED

- Kit Johnson Estate and Carolyn Johnson, Executor, to Carolyn Johnson, 15-71-37, 14-71-37 Parcel A, 12-71-37.
- Kenneth Helm Estate and Sonia Jackson, Administrator, to Micah and Megan Batten, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 10 Lts 1-2.
- Joan Selser Estate, Mary Gohlinghorst, Executor and Joanie Selser to Roger and Jane Brown, 27-72-38.

QUIT CLAIM DEED • Randy Johnson to Randy,

Oatis, and Laura Johnson, Red Oak Thompson's Addition Lt 17.

MORTGAGE

- Micah and Megan Batten to Bank Iowa, Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., and MERS, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 10 Lts 1-2.
- Micah and Megan Batten to Iowa Finance Authority, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 10 Lts 1-2.
- Nathan and Kristi Elwood to Houghton State Bank, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 22 Lt 6.
- Steven and Ashley Biggerstaff to Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, 35-73-39 Parcel A.
- Kyle Yates to United States Department of Agriculture and Farm Service Agency, 10-71-36,
- Dustin and Amber Sellers to Bank Iowa, Stanton Original Plat Lts 155-156.
- Randy, Laura, and Oatis Johnson to Centris Federal Cred-

- it Union, Red Oak Thompson's Addition Lt 17.
- Nancy and Jeffery Morgan to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., MERS, and Flanagan State Bank, 17-71-37

SMALL CLAIMS

- Red Credit Solutions, LLC vs. Michael Winchester, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plantiff, \$353.89 with 3.78% interest from May 5, plus costs.
- LVNV Funding, LLC vs. Shirley Kingery, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plantiff, \$4,364.21 with 3.78% interest from May 5, plus costs.
- Portfolio Recovery Associates LLC vs. Jessica Veik, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plantiff, \$1,043.25 plus costs.
- · Clear Recovery Inc. vs. Dalton Sacca, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plantiff, \$931.64 with 3.78% interest from May 5, plus costs.
- General Service Bureau Inc. vs. Amy and Marvin Graham, Red Oak, Judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$568.86 with 3.78% interest from May 5, plus
- Montgomery County Sheriff vs. Robert Filloon, Red Oak, dismissed with prejudice.
- Montgomery County Sheriff vs. Christina Dalrymple, Red Oak, dismissed with prejudice.
- Montgomery County Sheriff vs. Barbara Wilson, Red Oak, dismissed with prejudice.

ARRESTS

• Filed May 3, Kyla Smith, 40, Villisca, domestic abuse assault,

- first offense, no bond.
- Filed May 7, Dylan Taylor, 26, Red Oak, two Page County warrants for violation of probation, transferred to Page County, \$10,000 bond.

CRIMINAL

- Aggravated, State of Iowa vs. Austin Hale, 27, Red Oak, driving while barred
- Robert Harvey, 59, Clarinda, driving while barred.
- Aggravated, State of Iowa vs. Dylan Taylor, 26, Clarinda, driving while barred.
- Felony, State of Iowa vs. Jason Waters, 60, Red Oak, possession of a controlled substancethird or subsequent offense, deferred judgment, two years, \$1,025 fine, suspended, two years probation, DNA requirement.
- Felony, State of Iowa vs. Justin Smith, 44, Villisca, forgery. • Simple misdemeanor, State
- of Iowa vs. Alisha Seyler, 21, Red Oak, disorderly conduct - loud raucous noise, \$105 fine.
- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Mildred Douglas, 32, Red Oak, criminal mischief fifth degree, pled guilty, five days jail, time served, concurrent with Adams County charge.

OWI

- State of Iowa vs. Kalie Miller, 27, Omaha, contempt - resist order or process of district court, two days jail.
- · State of Iowa vs. Jason Waters, 60, Red Oak, second offense, 30 days jail, 23 days suspended, work release, \$1,875 fine,

- one year probation.
- State of Iowa vs. Bryceton Flathers, 33, Exira, second offense • State of Iowa vs. Keegun
- Hoyt, 38, Red Oak, first offense. State of Iowa vs. Kevin Mutschler, 32, Omaha, first

offense.

- TRAFFIC • Jamie Neville, Red Oak, no Aggravated, State of Iowa vs.
 - valid driver's license. • Brianne Ballard, Blockton, registration violation.
 - Suzanne Hoffman, Blakes-
 - burg, operation without registra-
- operation without registration card or plate. • Steven Schneider, Shenan-

registration violation.

tion card or plate.

license.

right of way

doah, fail to obey stop sign and

• Rebecca Pettit, Creston,

• Walter Maravilla Arevalo,

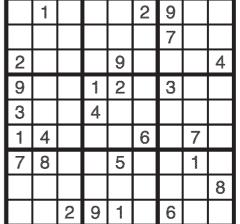
• Jazzmyn McKinley, Villisca,

• David Dimmitt, Red Oak,

• Emily Rohner, Red Oak,

Omaha, Neb., no valid driver's

fail to obey stop sign and yield



Fun By The

Like puzzles?

Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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6	7	S	9	3	8	G	Þ	quae
ç	ω	desse	6	Z	Þ	9	2	3
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ε	9	6	S	8	7	Þ	seeds	S
ANSWER:								

News Tip?

Call 712-623-2566 or email news@redoakexpress.com.

OREGON TRAIL





















The annual Oregon Trail event with local school children, generous volunteers, and the Montgomery County Conservation took place Friday, May 6. (Tess Nelson/Red Oak Express)



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. Thursdays. Classified Line Ads/Garage Sale Ads: 10 a.m. Fridays. 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.

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EXPTESS

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WHO WE ARE

Employees in order of continuous service: Doug Tye, Mail; Paul Dumler, Production Manager; 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; Shawn Parker, Press; , Advertising/Sales; Nanny Crowe, Circulation; Joshua Byers, Regional Publisher; Shellie Welbon, Mail.

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Villisca, Griswold); Cubby's; Dollar General; E-Stop (Emerson); Fareway; Hy-Vee; Hy-Vee Wine & Spirits; United Farmers Cooperative; Walmart (Shenandoah). Single copy sales are also available from a coin rack in front of the Red Oak Express.

Community

Community Calendar

12 May

.8 a.m. to noon: Leadership Red Oak, Red Oak Chamber and Industry Association.

Noon: SCORE webinar, "Boom! Explode Your Business by Getting Clients With Bigger Budgets." Go to omaha.score.org/content/ take-workshop-242 for more information.

12:30 p.m. Bingo, Red Oak Senior Center, 2700 N. 4th St. Call 712-623-3497 or Carolyn 402-926-8683 for more infor-

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.

13 May 5:30-7:30 p.m., Business After Hours at Building Crafts Inc., 2300 N. 8th St., celebrating 50 years of operation in Red

5:30 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St.

5:30-9:30 p.m., Lifeguard certification classes at the Montgomery County Family YMCA,101 E. Cherry St.

6 to 9 p.m., Vinyl Night with Dan Crouse. Vinyl cleaning also offered, Five One 8, 518 N.

7 p.m., "The Batman," theatre #1; "Morbius," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

14 May

8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Lifeguard certification classes at the Montgomery County Family YMCA,101 E. Cherry St.

10-11:30 a.m., Youth Bike Safety Rodeo sponsored by the Malvern Area Betterment Association, at the corner of 4th Street and Main Street in Malvern. Helmets required

7 p.m., "The Batman," theatre #1; "Morbius," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

15 a.m. Yo 5:30 p.m., Life-

guard certification classes at the Montgomery County Family YMCA,101 E. Cherry St. 2 and 7 p.m., "The Batman,"

#2; Red Oak Grand Theatre. 5:30 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St.

theatre #1; "Morbius," theatre

16 May

12:30 p.m. Bingo, Red Oak Senior Center, 2700 N. 4th St. Call 712-623-3497 or Carolyn 402-926-8683 for more infor-

5:30 p.m., Red Oak City Council meeting, Red Oak Fire Station, or via Zoom.

7 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St.

17 May

8:30 a.m., Montgomery County Supervisors, North Meeting Room in courthouse basement, open to public.

Noon: SCORE webinar. "Your Roadmap to Success - How to Create a Business Plan." Go to omaha.score.org/ content/take-workshop-242 for more information.

Noon, Rotary Club meeting. For location, go to https:// rotarydistrict5650.org/clubinfo/ red-oak.

12:30 p.m., Best ball golf tournament at the Red Oak Country Club, lunch and dinner available.

1 p.m., Card games (pitch and/or cribbage) Red Oak Senior Center, 2700 N. 4th St. Call 712-623-3497 or Carolyn 402-926-8683 for more information.

18 May

Happy Anniversary!

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

Celebrating their anniversaries this week are:

Congratulations and happy anniversary to you!

51566, or drop by our office at 2012 Commerce Dr.

Tim and Kate Fridolph – May 14

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.

6 p.m., Civilian Conservation Corps presentation, Red Oak Public Library, 400 N. 2nd St.

Stanton Child Resource Center receives \$1 million for expansion



U.S. Congresswoman Cindy Axne, pictured center, presents a check to staff and students of the Stanton Child Resource Center on May 4. Axne secured \$1 million in funding through the House Appropriations Committee to fund an expansion project for the center. Groundbreaking on the project is planned for the fall. (Photo submitted)

Library hosting special event May 18

The Red Oak Public Library at was one of the locations where 400 N. 2nd St. is hosting a special program by Linda McCann at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 18.

McCann will give a presentation on Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in Iowa. Red Oak

the camps existed. The public is invited to attend. There is no cost for admission.

Anyone with questions can call the library at 623-6516.

Best ball golf tournament May 17

The Red Oak Chamber and Industry Association has announced an 18-hole best ball golf tournament at the Red Oak Country Club May 17 with a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m.

Cost to participate is \$200 per team, or \$50 per person.

The admission charge includes a steak dinner following the tournament.

Limit is 36 teams total, with four persons per team, carts and lunch is available at an extra charge. Call 623-4821 for more information.

May 15 deadline to order Memorial Day flag

Members of the Montgomery County Court of Honor will hold the annual Memorial Day program on Monday, May 30.

The cutoff date for ordering

a flag to be dedicated Memorial Day is May 15. Call Bob Fenstermann at 712-621-5145 to order a flag.

Youth Bike Safety Rodeo May 14 in Malvern

The Malvern Area Betterment Association is hosting a Youth Bike Safety Rodeo.

The event will be held from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the corner of 4th Street and Main Street in

Bicycles or scooters are welcome. Helmets are required, but a select number are available free of charge.

Call or text 402-212-1904 to reserve a spot today.



akexpress.com, mail to P.O. Box 377, Red Oak, IA 51566, or drop by our office at 2012 Commerce Dr.

Open House/Card Shower

To be included on the free "Happy Birthday" list, e-mail your

birthday (and those of your friends and family) to news@redo-

Happy Birthday!

Celebrating birthdays this week are:

Geoff Gutha - May 12

Steve Jones – May 12

Darian Heideman – May 14 Evan Vannausdle – May 14

Ramona Sellers – May 16

Zachary Thomas - May 16

Pete Crawford – May 17

Butch Neligh - May 17

Virginia Bowen will celebrate her 90th birthday on Saturday, May 14.

In honor of the occasion, the family is hosting an open house for her from 2-4 p.m. May 14 at the Henderson Community Building,

Cards may also be sent in care of Kathy Doyle, 66623 390th St., Imogene, IA 51645.



Submit your Memorial Day service times for the Community page. Email news@redoakexpress.com by May 18 at 4 p.m.

Senior Menu

Thursday, May 12: Salisbury beef steak, whipped potatoes and gravy, peas, bread slice, sliced peaches, milk/coffee.

Friday, May 13: Chicken noodle casserole, whipped potatoes, mixed vegetables, bread slice, strawberry

cheesecake pudding, milk/coffee. Monday, May 16: Sliced turkey breast with gravy, whipped potatoes, peas, wheat roll, frosted cake

slice, ice cream, milk/coffee. Tuesday, May 17: Ham and white beans, green beans, savory

sliced carrots, combread, sliced peaches, milk/coffee.

Wednesday, May. 18: Beef hamburger patty on a wheat bun, beans, carnival cookie, hamburger to eat lunch. dills, milk/coffee.

For more information, call the Senior Center at 623-3497 or Carolyn at 402-926-8683.

Please call for reservations by roasted red potatoes, baked pinto 9:30 a.m. the day before you plan

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

McClain, Sunday School, 9 a.m.,

Worship, 10 a.m. Online: 10 a.m.

Elliott United Methodist, Rev. Terry

Emerson United Methodist Church

Rev. Denise Stevens, 801 Bradford

Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship,

Grant United Methodist, Rev. Jenn

United Methodist, 203 S. 3rd Ave.,

Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship,

10:30 a.m. Online: 10:30 a.m. live

Strahan United Methodist, Hast-

Worship, 9:30 a.m., Sunday School,

United Church Of Christ

ings, Rev. David Kwangki Kim,

Van Nostrand, Worship services, 9

a.m. Online: 9 a.m. live on Face-

Villisca, Rev. Jessica Jacobsen,

Ave., Emerson, (712) 824-7368,

on Facebook.

live on Facebook

10:30 a.m.

on Facebook.

10:30 a.m.

book

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.

<u>Catholic</u>

St. Joseph's, 131 W. High, Villisca, Father Eze Venantius Umunnakwe,

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, PreKindergarten - Sunday School, 9:30-10:15 a.m., Fellowship, 10 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m. **On**line: 10:30 a.m. live on Facebook.

Christian & Missionary <u>Alliance</u>

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, Rev. David MacDonald, Worship, 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Sunday School for kindergarten-adults, 10:45 a.m..Wednesday activities: JUMP, Pre-K grade 4, 4-5:20 p.m. or 6-7:20 p.m. SHOUT, grades 5-6, 4-5:30 p.m. EXIT, grades 7-12, 7-8:30 p.m. Online: 9 a.m. on KCSI, 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Facebook, also Youtube/Red Oak Faith Community Church.

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, Minister David Havnes, 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.

<u>Covenant</u>

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 First Covenant, Rev. Alan Dean,

pastor, 3rd & Hammond, Red Oak, Worship, 9:30 a.m.

<u>Jehovah's Witness</u>

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., evening service 4 p.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, Rev. Eric Kutzli, Sunday School and Confirmation, 9:15 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m. Online: 9:30 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

6:30 p.m. Non-Denominational

Congregation), 411 Church St.,

Shenandoah, Saturday Worship,

5:30 p.m.; Bible and Sunday School,

Oaks Community Church, 41310 Ellington Rd., Emerson, Rev. Ron Perry, 712-824-7218, Sunday

School, 10 a.m., Worship, 11 a.m. <u>Presbyterian</u>

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

Heartland Sovereign Grace Church, new church plant. Bible study

Reformed Evangelical

Sunday, 5 p.m., www.swiacrec.com, contact@swiacrec.com. **United Methodist** First United Methodist, 600 E.

Hammond, Red Oak, Rev. Dr. Eric Sayonkon, Worship, Sunday, 10:30 a.m.; Youth group Wednesday 6:30-8 p.m., grades 6-12, snack is served. Online: 10:30 a.m. fumcro.org; click on the media tab to see previously recorded services.

Phillips, Worship, 8:45 a.m., Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Red Oak Circuit, Linda Westerhold;

Wesley Chapel UMC, Rev. Carl

First Congregational, 608 Reed St., Red Oak, Pastor Jenny Folmar, Sunday Worship, noon., Outdoors if weather permits, otherwise in the chapel. If outdoors, bring your own

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Konecne recognized during appreciation week | Parents of students reminded of 529 Day

Iowa Department of Education

As part of the celebration of National Teacher Appreciation Week, The Iowa Department of Education highlighted a few outstanding educators from classrooms across the state. We thank all teachers for their dedicated work with Iowa's students this past year.

The Q&A session spotlight features Corning Community School District teacher Lisa Konecne. She is a 14-year veteran educator and currently teaches family and consumer science classes for grades 9-12 at Southwest Valley High School. Some of the subjects she teaches include Human Growth Development, Culinary Essentials, Textile Sciences, Nutrition and Wellness, Health, Principles of Human Services and Workplace Experience in Human Services. Below, Konecne shares her thoughts on being a teacher and who has influenced her.

Why are you passionate about teaching?

I am passionate about the students I get to teach. I love to see their faces light up when they learn something new and can apply it to their life. I love the subjects that I teach and feel that I am teaching students life skills that they can use for the rest of their lives.

What do you think are the keys to a student's success and how do you help foster that?

A key to a student's success is to really learn about the student. For instance, learn the activities they are involved with, ask about their family, find something that you can connect with the student to show them that you care for them.

Another success I have found is finding out what motivates that student to achieve. I foster this by finding something that is the most important thing to them and then have conversations with them. An example of this for me was when I had a student that would not do work for me. I sat down one day and just talked to the student about what they like to do outside of school. I found out the student loved to fish so I talked about fishing with them. We talked about fishing once they got their work done, and they taught me about fishing and the places to go around my community to catch the best fish. In their class, I taught them how to cook fish and make a meal for the family.



Lisa Konecne

Over the years, how have you grown as an educator?

As an educator, I have grown by continuing to take classes to learn about new material and to be able to take back to my classroom. I have also grown as an educator by getting involved by serving on the district and school lead team, attending events that my students are in and volunteering in the community where I live.

What opportunities do you see in the next few years in education?

This is a hard question, but I see maybe a more personalized teaching to students on their schedule and adding more technology into the education to teach content. I think it will be interesting to see how students can dive more into the future and find what they want to do in their life.

Who was your favorite teacher and why?

I had so many favorite teachers through elementary to my college years, but if I need to choose just one, I would say Mary Hanna was my favorite teacher. She was my family and consumer sciences teacher in high school. She encouraged me along the way to do my best, treat others with respect and how to take care of myself and loved ones. She later became a mentor for me when I first began teaching and encouraged me to follow my dreams.

Three area students recognized at Central College

Central College students and donors were recognized during the annual scholarship dinner.

Libby Mensen of Red Oak received the Class of 1970 50th Reunion Journey Scholarship for the 2021-22 academic year for a high commitment to academic achievement. Mensen is a member of the class of 2024 at Central in Pella.

Tyler Peterson of Emerson received the Class of 1971 50th Reunion Journey Scholarship for the 2021-22 academic year for a high commitment to academic achievement. Peterson is a member of the class of 2024 at Central in Pella.

Keygan Day of Red Oak received the Journey Scholarship for the 2021-22 academic year for a high commitment to academic achievement. Day is a member of the class of 2024 at Central in

The Scholarship Celebration also recognized the generous alumni, parents, friends faculty and staff who support scholarships for Central students. A video was shown during the dinner highlighting-Central's newest endowed scholarship. It may be accessed at central.edu/perkins-scholarship.

School Activities

Thursday, May 12

tion day events

- Griswold: Spring FAST testing
- 6:30-7:45 a.m., Griswold: High school boys throwers, middle school gym
- 8:45 a.m., Griswold: Fifth grade conserva-
- 1:30 p.m., Griswold: Rehearsal for elementary spring program
- 3:25-5:55 p.m., Griswold: High school track
- practice, middle school gym 5 p.m., Red Oak: Cub basketball
- 5-8 p.m., Griswold: weightlifting, weight
- 6 p.m., Southwest Valley: Enarson elementary fifth and sixth grade spring concert, middle school gym

Friday, May 13

- Essex: Last day of pre-kindergarten classes
- Essex: A&P class field trip to Lincoln
- Stanton: Senior check out day Griswold: Seniors last day
- Southwest Valley: National Nurses Appre-
- ciation Day 10 a.m., Griswold: Elementary spring music
- program and art show 1:30 p.m., Essex: Early dismissal
- 3:25-5:55 p.m., Griswold: High school track
- practice, middle school gym 5-8 p.m., Griswold: weightlifting, weight

Sunday, May 15

- Griswold: FFA State Fair nomination dead-
- 1:30 p.m., East Mills: Graduation, East Mills High School gym
- 2 p.m., Essex: Graduation, Allen Stuart
- gymnasium
- 2 p.m., Southwest Valley: Graduation, Corning activity center
- 2 p.m., Griswold: Commencement, Griswold High School
- 5:30-p.m., Griswold: High school basketball open gym, high school gym
- 7 p.m., Stanton: Senior Baccalaureate, high school auditorium

Monday, May 16

- East Mills: Late start, 90 minutes Stanton: Senior trip
- 3:25-5:55 p.m., Griswold: High school track practice, middle school gym
- 5-8 p.m., Griswold: weightlifting, weight
- 6 p.m., Essex: Florida trip, mandatory meet-

6 p.m., Southwest Valley: FBLA ceremony,

auditorium

- 7 p.m., Stanton: Eight grade graduation
- 7 p.m., Griswold: Middle school spring concert, auditorium

Tuesday, May 17 Stanton: Senior trip

- Griswold: Kindergarten-fifth grade field trip
- 6:30-7:45 a.m., Griswold: High school boys throwers, middle school gym
- 6:45-7:45 a.m., Southwest Valley: High school baseball practice, new high school
- 7:30 a.m., Griswold: Fourth grade to LHF
- 8:30 a.m., Griswold: Kindergarten-third grade zoo field trip
- 8:30 a.m., Griswold: Fifth grade field trip to Iowa State Capitol
- 3:25-5:55 p.m., Griswold: High school track practice, middle school gym
- 5-8 p.m., Griswold: weightlifting, weight
- 6 p.m. Essex: Kindergarten round up, Trojan
- 6 p.m., Southwest Valley: Y Teens mother/ daughter banquet
- 7 p.m., Red Oak: Fifth and sixth grade concert, junior/senior high school auditorium

Wednesday, May 18

- Stanton: Graduation practice, seniors last day, contact tboyer@stantonschools.com for more information
- Griswold: Petting zoo at the Griswold School District Griswold: SWIEF Scholarship breakfast for
- Griswold: One hour early release, teacher work time Noon to 6 p.m., Southwest Valley: Blood-
- mobile hosted at the Villisca Communty 1:15 p.m., Stanton: Early dismissal
- 3:25-5:55 p.m., Griswold: High school track
- practice, middle school gym 5-8 p.m., Griswold: weightlifting, weight
- 5:30 p.m., Red Oak: Senior athletic awards, junior/senior high school auditorium
- 6:15 to 8 p.m., Red Oak: Senior scholarship awards night, junior/senior high school
- 8 p.m., Red Oak, Senior Baccalaureate, junior/senior high school auditorium

ebrating 529 Day, recognized nationally on May 29, with a College Savings Iowa giveaway in Montgomery County.

"529 Day spreads the word about the importance of 529 plans, like College Savings Iowa, and how they can be used to help families pay for higher education costs," said Fitzgerald. "Maximize the opportunity to grow your child's education savings this 529 Day by entering to win a \$529 College Savings Iowa contribution." To register, visit Iowa529Contest.com before May 31.

College Savings Iowa offers families a taxadvantaged way to save money for educationrelated expenses such as tuition, room and board, books, supplies, computers and more. Students are

State Treasurer Michael L. Fitzgerald is cel- not limited to staying in Iowa and can attend any eligible educational institution in the United States or abroad, including colleges, universities, technical training schools or apprenticeship programs.* Plus, Iowa taxpayers have the benefit of being able to deduct up to \$3,522 in contributions per beneficiary account from their 2022 Iowa adjusted gross income.

> It only takes \$25 to open an account and anyone - parents, grandparents, friends and relatives - can invest in the Plan on behalf of a child. Visit CollegeSavingsIowa.com for more information or call (888) 672-9116.

> Visit Iowa529Contest.com to register for the giveaway.

School Lunch Menus

East Mills

Thursday, May 12: Bosco stick or pepperoni pizza slices, au gratin potatoes, side salad with choice of dressing, sliced pears, marinara cup.

Friday, May 13: Chicken and cheese taquito or pepperoni pizza slices, salsa cup, smiley potatoes, carrot slices, diced peaches.

Monday, May 16: Crispy chicken drumstick or pepperoni pizza slices, mashed potatoes, baked

beans, mandarin oranges, dinner roll. Tuesday, May 17: Beef, bean, and cheese burrito or pepperoni pizza slices, romaine lettuce with choice

of dressing, green beans, pineapple tidbits, salsa cup. Wednesday, May 18: Mr. Rib sandwich on a bun, cucumber slices, cherry tomatoes, watermelon chunks, Teddy Grahams.

Essex Thursday, May 12: Chicken Alfredo pasta, corn,

garlic bread, sliced pears. Friday, May 13: Uncrustable peanut butter and jelly sandwich, string cheese, corn chips, Sidekick,

applesauce. Monday, May 16: Spaghetti with meat sauce, garlic bread slices, lettuce salad with choice of dressing,

sliced peaches. Tuesday, May 17: Taco salad, shredded lettuce, shredded cheese, diced tomatoes, diced onions, salsa,

tortilla chips, mandarin oranges. Wednesday, May 18: Cheesy meatball sub sandwich on a bun, peas, pineapple tidbits.

Griswold

Thursday, May 12: Cook's choice. Friday, May 13: Cook's choice. Monday, May 16: Cook's choice. Tuesday, May 17: Cook's choice.

Wednesday, May 18: Cook's choice.

Red Oak Elementary/ Preschool Center Thursday, May 12: BBQ bacon cheeseburger nachos, salsa, diced onions, diced tomatoes, cheese sauce; or BLTE salad, blueberry muffin; or breaded chicken patty on a bun; or pizza slices; or southwest chicken avocado wrap; tater tots, potato salad, fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, fresh fruit,

banana/orange mix. Friday, May 13: Ham and cheedar melt; or beef taco salad, shredded lettuce, shredded cheese, diced tomatoes, diced onions, pickled jalapenos, diced olives, cornbread; or pepper jack grilled cheese sandwich; or pizza slices; or fried chicken salad sandwich; fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, broccoli

florets with ranch, fresh fruit, pineapple tidbits. Monday, May 16: Beef tacos, shredded lettuce, shredded cheese, diced onions, diced tomatoes, salsa, Spanish rice; or three cheese grilled cheese sandwich; or chef salad, Italian bread; or bacon cheeseburger on a bun; or bacon turkey avocado club; fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, fresh fruit, cheesy cau-

liflower popcorn, sliced peaches. Tuesday, May 17: Crispy popcorn chicken with focaccia bread; or cobb salad, focaccia bread; or roasted chicken sandwich on a bun; or pizza slices; or pesto chicken pasta salad; fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, baked beans, cheesy bean dip, fresh fruit, applesauce.

Wednesday, May 18: Hamburger steak, hot roll; or breaded chicken patty on a bun; hot roll; or big mack salad, hot roll; or pizza slices; or Thai sweet chili chicken wrap; mashed potatoes and gravy, potato salad, fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, fresh fruit, sliced pears.

Red Oak Jr./Sr. High School Chicken patty, cheeseburger, and pizza are offered daily

Thursday, May 12: BBQ bacon cheeseburger nachos, salsa, diced onions, diced tomatoes, cheese sauce; or BLTE salad, blueberry muffin; or breaded chicken patty on a bun; or pizza slices; or southwest chicken avocado wrap; tater tots, potato salad, fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, fresh fruit, banana/orange mix.

Friday, May 13: Ham and cheedar melt; or beef taco salad, shredded lettuce, shredded cheese, diced tomatoes, diced onions, pickled jalapenos, diced olives, cornbread; or pepper jack grilled cheese sandwich; or pizza slices; or fried chicken salad sandwich; fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, broccoli florets with ranch, fresh fruit, pineapple tidbits.

Monday, May 16: Beef tacos, shredded lettuce, shredded cheese, diced onions, diced tomatoes, salsa, Spanish rice; or three cheese grilled cheese sandwich; or chef salad, Italian bread; or bacon cheeseburger on a bun; or bacon turkey avocado club; fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, fresh fruit, cheesy cau-

liflower popcorn, sliced peaches. Tuesday, May 17: Crispy popcorn chicken with focaccia bread; or cobb salad, focaccia bread; or roasted chicken sandwich on a bun; or pizza slices; or pesto chicken pasta salad; fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, baked beans, cheesy bean dip,

fresh fruit, applesauce. Wednesday, May 18: Hamburger steak, hot roll; or breaded chicken patty on a bun; hot roll; or big mack salad, hot roll; or pizza slices; or Thai sweet chili chicken wrap; mashed potatoes and gravy, potato salad, fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, fresh fruit, sliced pears.

Southwest Valley

Thursday, May 12: Pepperoni pizza slices, lettuce salad with choice of dressing, peas and carrots, dinner

Friday, May 13: Crispy chicken breast on a bun,

lettuce, sliced onions, potato smiles, green beans, Monday, May 16: Jomesie's chicken fajita with

nacho chease sauce, peppers and onions, refried Tuesday, May 17: End of school clear-out, meal consisting of meat or meat alternative, vegetables,

fruit, whole grain. Wednesday, May 18: End of school clear-out, meal consisting of meat or meat alternative, vegetables, fruit, whole grain.

Stanton Thursday, May 12: Meatloaf and gravy, cheesy mashed potatoes, green beans, sliced peaches, mandarin oranges, dinner roll.

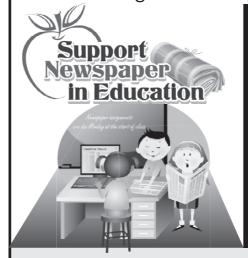
Friday, May 13: Grilled cheese sandwich, creamy

tomato soup, tri tater, pineapple tidbits, mixed fruit, dinner roll. Monday, May 16: Taquito or beef hot dog on a

bun, diced onions, corn, lettuce salad with choice of dressing, mandarin oranges, sliced apples, Goldfish Tuesday, May 17: French bread pizza, lettuce

salad with choice of dressing, steamed cauliflower, fruit medley, applesauce. Wednesday, May 18: Crispy chicken strips, green beans, potato wedges, sliced peaches, ice cream,

Thank You to area businesses and individuals for donating to the newspapers in education program.



Sellergren-Lindell-Demarce Funeral Home James Sage Brian Johnson **Duane Altstadt Pam Boland Kiwanis Club** Optimist Club of Red Oak Altrusa Club of Red Oak

animal crackers.

In Memory of Curtis Swanson In Memory of Carolyn Allen In Memory of Edmund Larson In Memory of Karlette Hultman In Memory of James Miller In Memory of Linda Porter

Your donations help to enrich the education of students at the following schools:

Red Oak Jr./Sr. High School Red Oak Inman Primary School Essex School

Stanton School Southwest Valley High School Southwest Valley Middle School

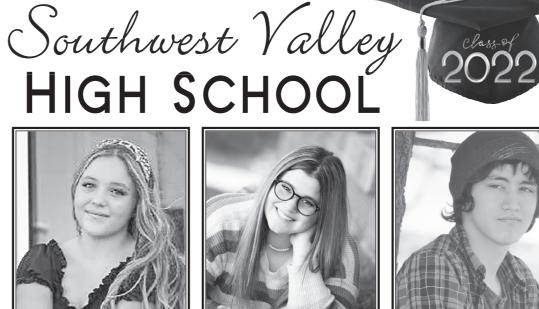
Your donation of \$13.32 will buy newspapers for one student for the entire school year, because the Red Oak Express matches each and every donation! If you would like to contribute to Newspapers in Education, or if you are a teacher who would like to use the Red Oak Express in your classroom, contact Nanny at 712-623-2566

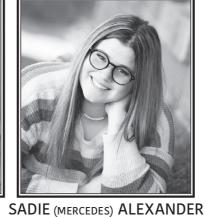
or circulation@redoakexpress.com.

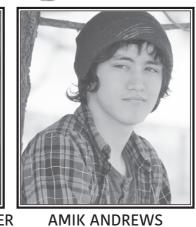
Express

Sunday, May 15, 2022 at 2 p.m. Corning, Lowa, Activity Center <u>CLASS COLORS</u> Black, Teal, Silver & White







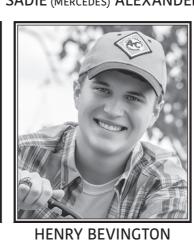




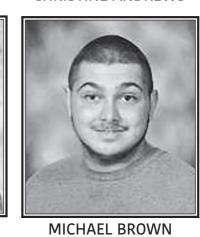








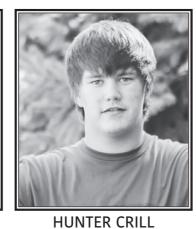


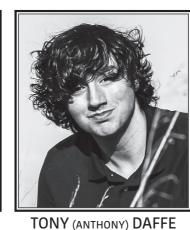




















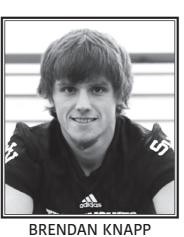














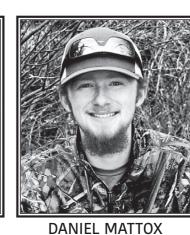


ngratulations, class of 2022!

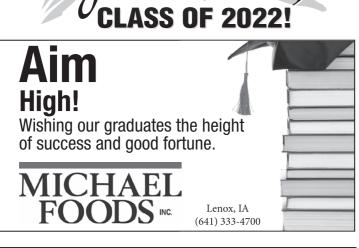
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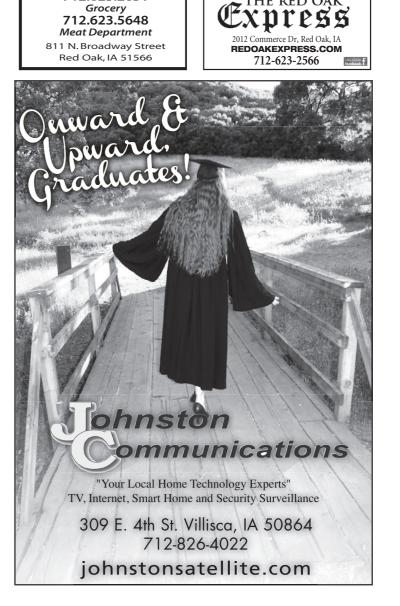


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Family Health Center



Sunday, May 15, 2022, 2 p.m.

Southwest Valley HIGH SCHOOL



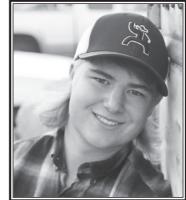




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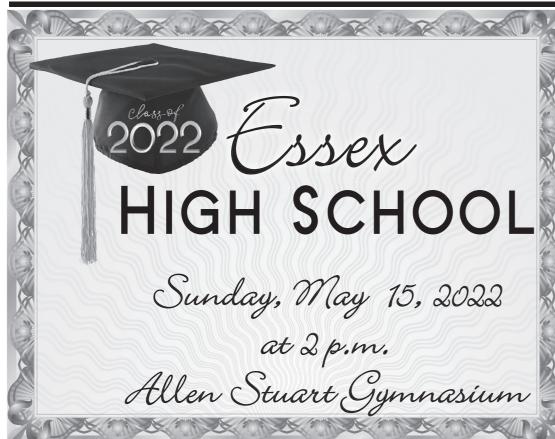
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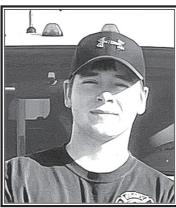




DYLAN BARRETT



ASHLEY BROOKS



GABRIEL FORT

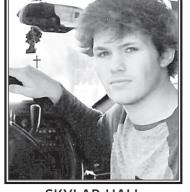


DESIREE GLASGO





RILEY GRAHAM



SKYLAR HALL



RILEY JENSEN





Cold, wet weather slows fieldwork across the state of Iowa

Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig commented on the Iowa Crop Progress and Condition Report released by the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service. The report is released weekly April through November.

"Despite another cold wet week that slowed fieldwork, planting has begun in some areas of the state," said Secretary Naig. "Looking ahead, short-term temperature outlooks suggest a shift toward much needed warmer weather but, unfortunately, with a wetter storm track."

The weekly report is also available on the USDA's website at nass.usda.gov.

Crop Report

Despite rain and cold conditions, Iowa farmers made progress planting corn and soybeans with 2.8 days suitable for fieldwork during the week ending May 1, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Fieldwork activities also included tillage, applying anhydrous and nitrogen, planting oats, and limited spraying.

Topsoil moisture condition rated 3 percent very short, 13 percent short, 68 percent adequate and 16 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture condition rated 8 percent very short, 22 percent short, 63 percent adequate and 7 percent surplus.

Despite continued cool soil temperatures, 9 percent of Iowa's expected corn crop has been planted, 11 days behind last year and 9 days behind the 5-year average. Farmers in the western one-third of the Iowa had at least 3.7 days suitable for fieldwork and made more planting progress than those in the rest of the state. Four percent of the expected soybean crop has been planted, 9 days behind the previous year and 5 days behind the average. Sixty-three percent of the expected oat crop has been planted, almost 2 weeks behind last year and 1 week behind the 5-year average. Eighteen percent of the oat crop has emerged, 10 days behind last year and 6 days behind the average.

Pasture and hay growth were still slow. Livestock conditions were challenging, with muddy feedlots and pastures.

Weather Summary

Provided by Justin Glisan, Ph.D., State Climatologist, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

April ended unseasonably cold and windy with near-normal to above-average rainfall statewide. Portions of southwestern and north-central Iowa reported up to two inches of above-average rainfall as an active weather pattern persisted over the Upper Midwest.

With more clouds and precipitation present, colder than expected conditions continued with departures of up to nine degrees in northern Iowa as the statewide average temperature came in at 48.5 degrees, 5.6 degrees below normal.

Strong westerly winds and cloudy skies blanketed much of Iowa's western half into Sunday (April 24) afternoon with a mix of upper 40s and low 50s north to low 60s in the south. Overcast skies continued into Monday (April 25) morning with temperatures near freezing in northern Iowa and in the low 40s farther south.

A northwesterly wind held daytime highs in the 30s and 40s, well below normal for late April, with a statewide average high of 45 degrees, 18 degrees below normal; Forest City (Winnebago County) observed 35 degrees, 26 degrees below the 30-year climatology. Skies gradually cleared west to east as winds died down and became directionally variable. Tuesday (April 26) morning temperatures dipped into the low 20s northwest to low 30s southeast.

A surface boundary across central Iowa created a spectrum of afternoon temperatures, ranging from the mid-40s northeast to low 70s southwest. Winds shifted to the east through the overnight hours as skies remained cloudless. Morning lows at 7 a.m. on Wednesday (April 27) stayed in the low 50s in southwest Iowa as a weak warm front lifted over the region and shifted winds to a southerly direction; conditions in northern Iowa were colder with temperatures hovering in the mid 30s. Very warm temperatures were observed south of the boundary with afternoon conditions reaching into the upper 70s and low 80s.

An area of light to moderate showers formed in northeastern Iowa around midnight and shifted



into eastern Iowa through early Thursday (April 28) afternoon. Southerly winds helped temperatures rise into the mid to upper 70s in southern Iowa with clouds increasing later in the evening.

Rain totals from northern to eastern Iowa were generally around a few tenths of an inch though 10 stations measured an inch or more; Estherville (Emmett County) reported 1.72 inches while Mason City (Cerro Gordo County) observed 1.30 inches.

A secondary cluster of showers and thunderstorms pushed into southwestern Iowa ahead of a low pressure system early on Friday (April 29). Rain showers moved east through the state as temperatures only reached into the low to mid-50s. As the low's attendant cold front propagated into western Iowa during the early nighttime hours, strong to severe thunderstorms fired along the cold front and produced a handful of severe straightline wind reports in the southwest corner. The line of storms stretched into northwestern Iowa and swept across Iowa leaving behind measurable rainfall statewide.

The line dissipated across eastern Iowa after daybreak on Saturday (April 30). Event totals were

above 0.25 inch at most reporting stations with several stations observing at least an inch; Lamoni (Decatur County) measured 1.92 inches while the statewide average rainfall was 0.38 inch. The low center continued to spin along the Iowa-Minnesota border through the day with temperatures hovering in the upper 40s and low 50s.

Overcast conditions persisted overnight as the system moved into the Great Lakes region. Thick stratus clouds held morning temperatures in the low to mid 40s with some lingering light showers reported early Sunday (May 1) morning.

Weekly precipitation totals ranged from 0.29 inch at Jefferson (Greene County) to 2.57 inches at Lamoni Municipal Airport (Decatur County). The statewide weekly average precipitation was 0.95 inch while the normal is 0.86 inch. Little Sioux (Harrison County) and Oakland (Pottawattamie County) reported the week's high temperature of 82 degrees on April 27, on average 16 degrees above normal. Cherokee (Cherokee County) and Sioux City Airport (Woodbury County) reported the week's low temperature of 19 degrees on April26, on average 20 degrees below normal. Four-inch soil temperatures were in the upper 40s

Mills Masquers presents, 'Anne of Green Gables'

The Mills Masquers will present the classic play "Anne of Green Gables" May 13-22 at the Barton-Rowe Theater north of Glenwood.

The show follows the misadventures of a wildly independent orphan with fiery red hair and a temper to match. Anne Shirley is mistakenly sent to live with a plain-spoken farmer and his spinster sister, who thought they were adopting a boy.

She wins over the Cuthberts and all of Prince Edward Island with her irrepressible spirit and imagination and wins over audiences with this warm, poignant story about love, home and family.

Cast members include Olivia Lane, Jason Morrison, Denise Jacobsen, Andrea Morrison, Don Vinkenberg, Elizabeth Kittle, Peyton McCann, Tasha Helms, Ellie Mintle, Cara Phillips, Aubrey Mitchell, Malachi Newman, Elijah Morrison, Aviana Kovamees, Malachi Hardesty, Kathy Bird, Dennis Neff, Isaac Morrison, Anna Morrison, Asa West, Elizabeth Kephart, Dana Cutshall and Tonnie Pedersen.

The show is directed by Rebecca Neff, with assistance from Heather Neff.

Show dates and times are Friday and Saturday, May 13 and 14, at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, May 25, at 2 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, May 20 and 21 at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, May 22, at 2 p.m.

Tickets may be purchased online at millsmasquers.com, or by calling 712-527-3600 and leaving a message. Tickets may also be purchased at the door.

BOARD

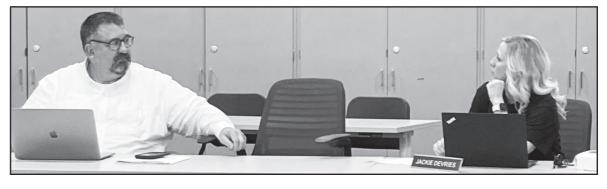
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Of those responses, each is around 40 to 50 pages, and Lorenz said he has just started to preview them.

"The plan is for the facilities committee to come together and limit that list down to three proposals. We've met with several of them, and I believe one firm is going to look at the facilities deeply, and look at the structural integrity of the spaces, the utilities, and the way we're using the spaces to see if there are ways we can be more efficient. I would think within three to six months, we'll have something more finalized, but that's one step from speculation," explained Lorenz.

Board member Kathy Walker said she had been contacted by parents about the possibility of moving the sixth grade class to the junior/senior high school. Lorenz said he didn't see that as a feasible option without hiring more teach-

"I've been contacted by people as well, and when I start explaining the teacher requirements, the staffing requirements, and other details,



Superintendent Ron Lorenz, pictured left, and Board Member Jackie DeVries converse during the Monday, May 9 meeting of the School Board. (Nick Johansen/Red Oak Express)

they see the difficulty. I feel that we have to educate people. They want what's best, and they want to find solutions, and on the surface, it seems like a great idea, and an easy fix, but it's a lot harder than it seems. I'm not saying it couldn't be done, but it would be challenging," Lorenz said.

One of the items on the agenda to address the lack of classroom space at Inman was the lease of a two-room portable modular classroom with a 39-month lease at

\$136,902. Lorenz said the board was limited in options.

"The unit is available from a company named WillScot in Fremont, Neb. We called several other companies, and no one else had anything. One company offered to build one, bit it wouldn't be ready until October or November," stated Lorenz.

While his preference was for a three-classroom unit, they weren't available. A two-classroom unit would allow them to create a resource center to provide special education services, extended learning opportunities, and since it was adjacent, there would not be a need for plumbing to be installed. The building also came with ADAcompliant ramps.

"I think this will help us out, and if nothing else, it will help us see where things are as we move forward," said Lorenz. "I know people aren't crazy about portables, and if we do nothing, I don't think the board will be satisfied with the outcome."

The board approved the lease from WillScot for the portable classroom.

Pay extra attention in work zones

Thousands of Iowa family members, friends, and neighbors are hard at work to make Iowa's roads the safest, most efficient system possible. But to get that work done, they need your help.

When anyone sees a "Work zone ahead" sign, pay extra attention to what is coming up.

Work zones come in all shapes and sizes and the traffic patterns can change from day to day. Since rear-end crashes are the most common type of crash in a work zone, watch for the traffic ahead of you, slow down, and leave plenty of space between vehicles in case there is a sudden stop ahead.

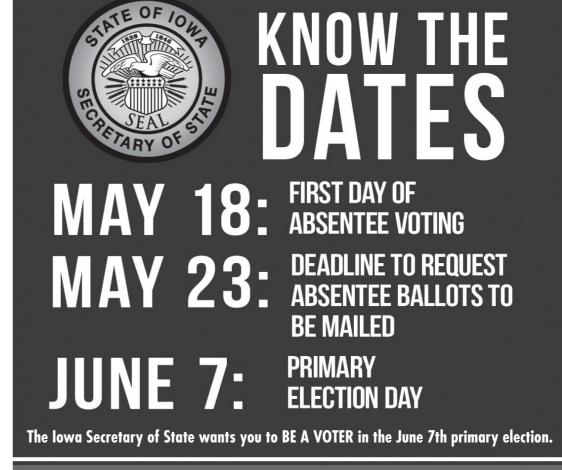
In Iowa in 2021, there were 497 crashes in work zones where seven people lost their lives and 158 people were injured.

Last year in our state, all seven of those who died were motorists, but in 2020, there were 636 total crashes and eight fatalities that included four motorists and four workers.

In 2022, there have been 76 deaths in traffic crashes. To see statistics published daily by the Office of Driver Services, go to the daily fatality report at iowadot.gov/mvd/stats/daily.pdf.







Learn more at VoterReady.lowa.gov

Funding requests approved for MCDC and trails group

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors is splitting funding between the Montgomery County Development Corporation and the Montgomery County Recreational Trails group.

County Auditor Stephanie Burke said in 2021, \$20,000 was not submitted to MCDC, as a result of a lack of invoices from MCDC.

"In 2021, we budgeted \$30,000 for MCDC, and we only paid \$10,000 due to a lack of invoices, which are required by the State Auditor before we can submit payment. It was brought to my attention by MCDC Board chair Ann Carder. The money was budgeted by not paid out. We also budgeted \$30,000 for MCDC for this year, and we've received one invoice from MCDC for \$15,000, which we paid, and hopefully, by July 1, we'll get another invoice,' Burke explained.

Additionally, Burke said she was looking at the budget funding due to a suggestion to fund the trails request for a study with another source other than the suggested American Rescue Plan Act funding.

"I'm needing guidance for what to put into the budget amendment, and a decision on a funding source for the trails request, and a consensus on whether we're going to make up the difference to MCDC. If we do both, we'd need a budget amendment totalling \$35,000 for both organizations," commented Burke.

Since the leftover \$20,000 was budgeted, but not spent, it remained as part of the county's ending fund balance. Olson said it appeared the \$20,000 wasn't paid simply because it slipped through the cracks.

Supervisor Donna Robinson speculated that part of the reason the money wasn't paid out at the time was due to former MCDC director Shawnna Silvius' resignation, and the interim period before a new director was hired.

"I think when Shawnna was in, we got the invoices in a timely fashion, and when she resigned, they simply didn't get sent, and while they had an interim director for a time, there was also a period where a salary wasn't being paid that had been allotted for the past director as well," said Robinson.

Burke said that the county still had not received an invoice for the leftover \$20,000 budgeted from 2021, and reiterated that she couldn't issue any funds until invoices were received.

Robinson was in favor if paying out the remaining \$15,000 budgeted for this year, but that the \$20,000 that wasn't paid in 2021 shouldn't be amended.

"Since the \$20,000 wasn't spent, and since we have a request for \$15,000 from the trails group for a project that will be beneficial county-wide, I would say we go that route and use the \$20,000 for that," commented Robinson.

Supervisor Charla Schmid agreed with the sentiment to a point, but wasn't sure the money shouldn't be paid out due to a mistake.

Supervisor Randy Cooper was in favor of Robinson's suggestion unless the MCDC Board could show there would be a hardship by not receiving that \$20,000, since they weren't paying a salary for a director during that time.

Supervisor Mike Olson said the money was put into the budget and approved, but felt that the county made a pledge to match the city's funding, and wasn't sure he would be comfortable going back on that commitment due to this oversight.

Supervisor's Chair Mark Peterson suggested a compromise approving \$15,000 for the trails, and paying \$10,000 out to MCDC.

Cooper was in favor of Peterson's suggestion, and the supervisors approved a budget amendment amount of \$25,000, with \$10,000 to be paid to MCDC after an invoice was received, and \$15,000 to fund the request from Montgomery County Recreational Trails, by a 4-1 vote, with Robinson voting page.

The supervisors also approved the funding request from Montgomery County Recreational Trails.

Stanton receives downtown housing project funding

Governor Reynolds recently announced a total of nearly \$20 million in investments to support downtown housing projects in 61 communities, which will create 466 new homes for Iowans.

Awards were made through the Downtown Housing Grant program, which provides support for downtown revitalization through new housing opportunities in communities with populations of 30,000 or below.

One of the awards was granted for an upper story conversion at 312 Broad Ave., in Stanton. The grant is for \$100,000.

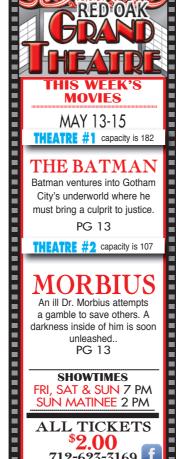
"An adequate housing supply is the lynchpin to attracting and retaining a healthy and flourishing workforce," said Gov. Reynolds. "The investments will not only provide 466 Iowans the opportunity to live near where they work but they will breathe new life into dozens of underutilized facilities in our communities."

The program had \$20 million available for awards and received 94 applications requesting \$31 million in funding. Projects were scored on a competitive basis on criteria including project appropriateness, funding and partnerships,



Governor Reynolds recently impact on housing in the comnounced a total of nearly \$20 munity and population size.

The Downtown Housing Grant Program is a part of Gov. Reynolds' \$100 million investment to increase the supply of housing options and protect and expand housing opportunities for Iowans to live in or near the communities where they work. The funds are made available through Federal American Rescue Act State and Local Fiscal Relief Funds.



IT'S HERE!

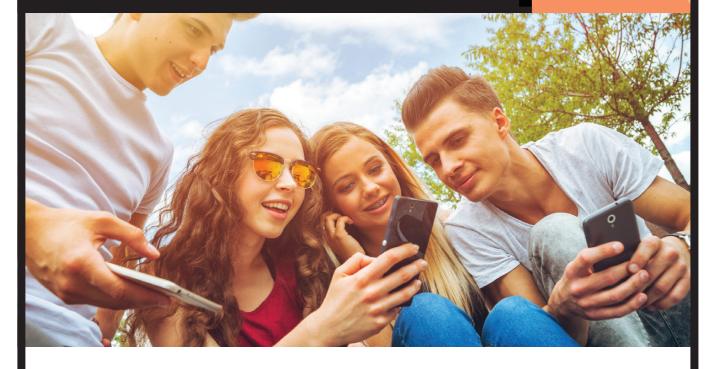
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