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 ROCSD Football Field/Fairgrounds Parking Lot
 Distribution Time: 3:30pm
 The mobile pantry is available
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THE RED OAK Express

WEDNESDAY

May 11, 2022

Red Oak, IA

Volume 155, No.19

redoakexpress.com

DEDICATED TO FREEDOM SINCE 1868

\$1.00



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

Quality over quantity at Vanderholm Cattle Co.

Tess Nelson
The Red Oak Express

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 a young age.

"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 thereof, 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."

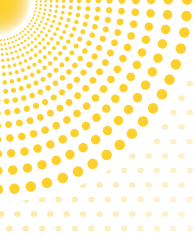
Superintendent Ron Lorenz said there was a definite space crunch at Inman Elementary that needed to be addressed sooner rather than later.

"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





Melanoma & Skin
CANCER AWARENESS
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Free
EVENT
limited time slots available

- 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 reclassifying 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 as a Level C.

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 non-residents 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,” McAlpin said.

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 to a Level C road.

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.

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 Summary Update.

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.

“April was close to normal for rain, and for the year to date the 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

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 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 Management Department.

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.

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 full-time, 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 tests, and then I’m going to try to look at ways to approach the veterans, get their

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, and those guys needed it more than me. My 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.

“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.

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Syphilis is on the rise in Iowa.

Syphilis is a sexually transmitted infection. Early numbers show a 75% increase in syphilis cases in Iowa 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.

Learn more about syphilis:
ashsexualhealth.org/syphilis
Find a testing location near you:
gettested.cdc.gov

IDPH
IOWA Department of PUBLIC HEALTH

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.

KNOW MORE HEPATITIS cdc.gov/knowmorehepatitis **IDPH**
IOWA Department of PUBLIC HEALTH

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



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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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.

WHO WE ARE

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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

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 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.

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 Oak.

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. 4th St.

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

15 May

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

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

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

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 information.

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

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 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

was one of the locations where 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 Malvern.

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.



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

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.

Open House/Card Shower

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, 310 Maple St.

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.

Happy Anniversary!

Celebrating their anniversaries this week are:

Tim and Kate Fridolph – May 14

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, 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, cornbread, sliced peaches, milk/coffee.

Wednesday, May 18: Beef hamburger patty on a wheat bun, roasted red potatoes, baked pinto beans, carnival cookie, hamburger dills, milk/coffee.

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

Please call for reservations by 9:30 a.m. the day before you plan to eat lunch.

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 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. **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, 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 Haynes, 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., evening service 4 p.m.

Strand Evangelical, Rural Villisca, Rev. Marietta Nelson-Bittie, 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 Kutzi, 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 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. 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.

Wesley Chapel UMC, Rev. Carl Phillips, Worship, 8:45 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, Rev. Jenn Van Nostrand, Worship services, 9 a.m. **Online:** 9 a.m. live on Facebook

United Methodist, 203 S. 3rd Ave., Villisca, Rev. Jessica Jacobsen, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m. **Online:** 10:30 a.m. live on Facebook.

Strahan United Methodist, Hastings, Rev. David Kwangki Kim, Worship, 9:30 a.m., Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.

United Church Of Christ

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 lawn chair.

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Sunday, May 15, 2022
at 2 p.m.
Corning, Iowa, Activity Center



CLASS COLORS
Black, Teal, Silver & White

CLASS MOTO
"It is what it is."

CLASS FLOWER
Pink Rose

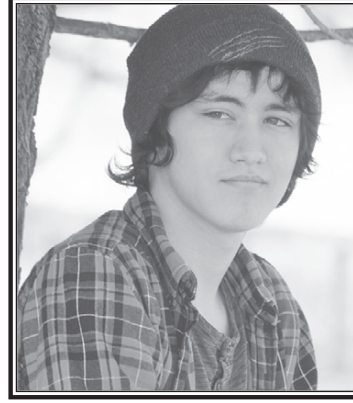
Southwest Valley HIGH SCHOOL



KYLI ALDRICH



SADIE (MERCEDES) ALEXANDER



AMIK ANDREWS



CHRISTINE ANDREWS



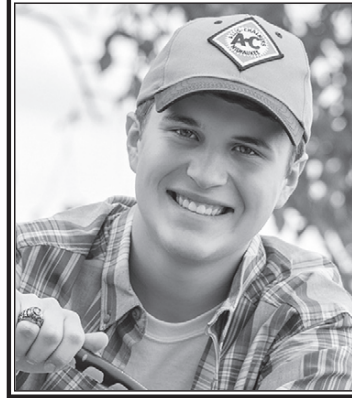
DMITRI ANDREWS



MOLLY BAGBY



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HENRY BEVINGTON



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ALANA DRAKE



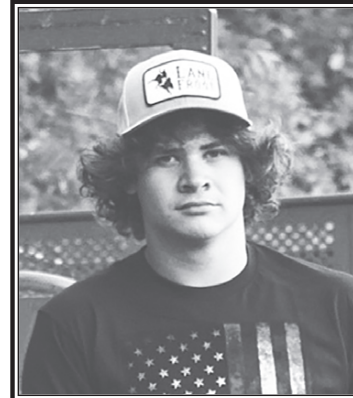
BRIAR FISHER



GABE (GABRIEL) FULLER



MADDY (MADISON) GOTTO



KALE HAFFNER



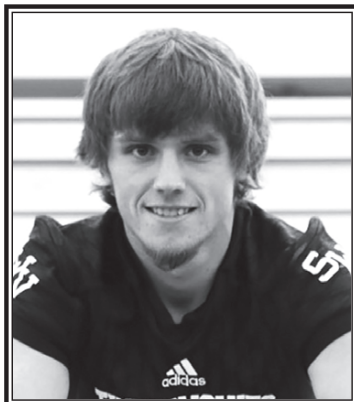
JESSE HIGGINS



REBECCA INMAN



CAMRYN JOHNSTON



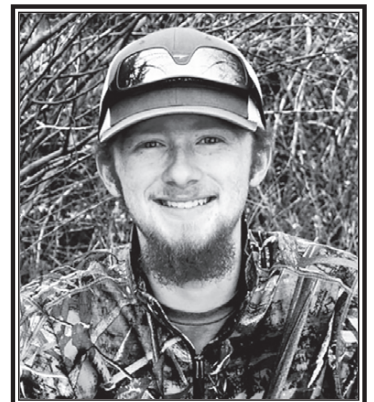
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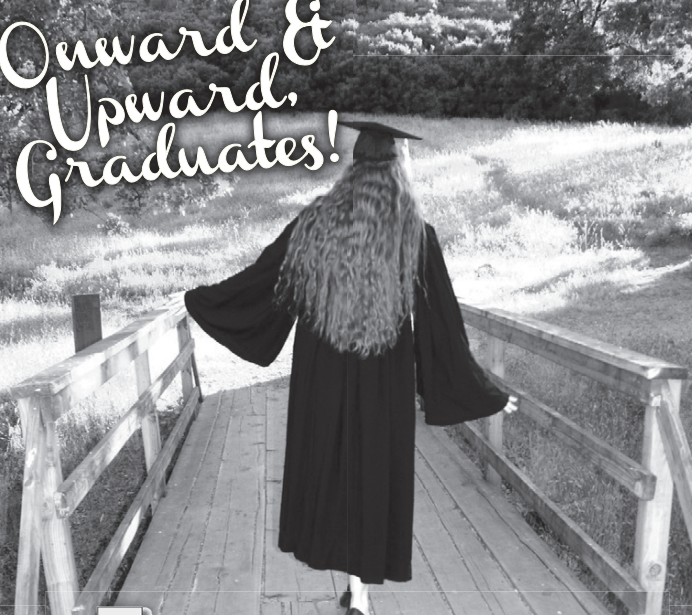
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*Sunday, May 15, 2022, 2 p.m.
Corning, Iowa Activity Center*

Southwest Valley HIGH SCHOOL



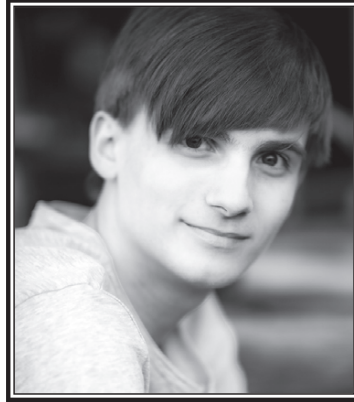
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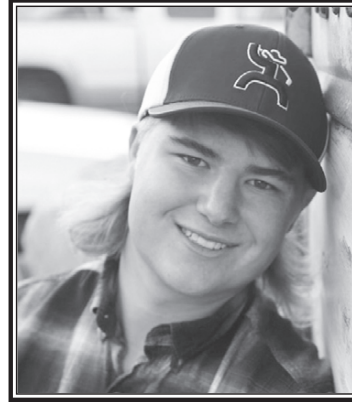
KAYLA MITCHELL



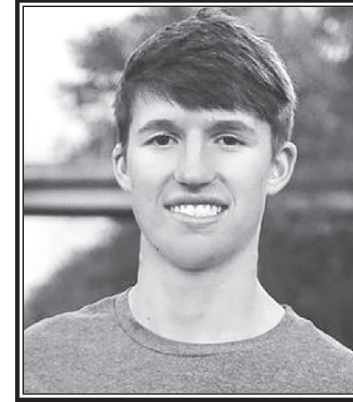
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Class of 2022 Essex HIGH SCHOOL
*Sunday, May 15, 2022
at 2 p.m.
Allen Stuart Gymnasium*

CLASS COLORS
Light Blue and White

CLASS SONG
"Here I Go Again"
by White Snake

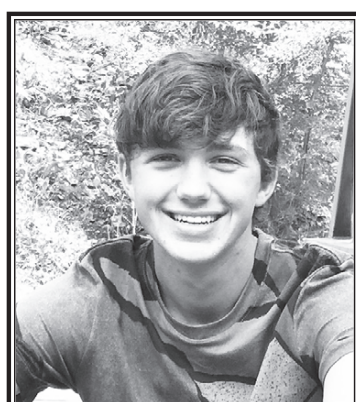
CLASS FLOWER
Daisy

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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 straight-line 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 April 26, 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 Vinkenber, 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

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

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 teachers.

“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 lim-

ited 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, but 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 ADA-compliant 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.



Red Oak Senior Center
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Sun., May 15th 11:00 am to 1:30 pm
2700 N 4th Street ~ Red Oak
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Questions call 712-623-3497
Proceeds go to the Red Oak Senior Center
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KNOW THE DATES

MAY 18:

FIRST DAY OF ABSENTEE VOTING

MAY 23:

DEADLINE TO REQUEST ABSENTEE BALLOTS TO BE MAILED

JUNE 7:

PRIMARY ELECTION DAY

The Iowa Secretary of State wants you to BE A VOTER in the June 7th primary election.

Learn more at VoterReady.Iowa.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 Shawwna Silvius' resignation, and the interim period before a new director was hired.

"I think when Shawwna 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 no.

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,

impact on housing in the community 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.



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THEATRE #2 capacity is 107

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