

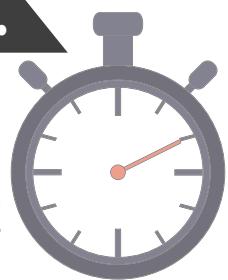
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THE RED OAK Express

WEDNESDAY

May 18, 2022

Red Oak, IA

Volume 155, No.20

redoakexpress.com

DEDICATED TO FREEDOM SINCE 1868

\$1.00



Track and field day

Red Oak Elementary track and field day took place Wednesday, May 11 for fourth through sixth graders. (Tess Nelson/Red Oak Express)

Road construction worker struck, killed at Highway 34 work zone

Tess Nelson

The Red Oak Express

A road construction worker from Harlan, Brian Kelly Parker, was killed after being struck by a vehicle near Red Oak Thursday evening, May 12.

A report from the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office said deputies were called to Highway 34 and Evergreen Avenue on the west side of Red Oak for a vehicle vs. pedestrian accident around 6:45 p.m.

The report said Shawn Dale Kammerer of Red Oak was driving eastbound on Highway 34, approaching a transition area into a construction zone, when he failed to obey a stop sign and struck Parker, who was running a traffic control device.

Parker was taken to Montgomery County Memorial Hospital, where he died from his injuries. The incident remains under investigation. The Red Oak Police Department, Red Oak Fire, Red Oak Rescue, Mills County Sheriff's Office and the Iowa State Patrol assisted at the scene.

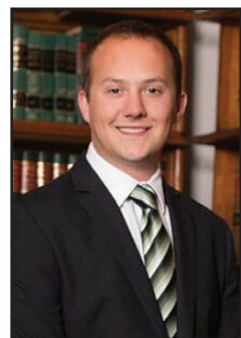
Swanson running for second term

Editor's Note: The primary election for local, state and federal offices is June 7, 2022. Below are the candidate profiles for incumbent county attorney Drew Swanson and incumbent county recorder Carleen Bruning.

Drew B. Swanson
Montgomery County Attorney

Why are you running for office?

I am running for re-election to continue the work I began on Jan. 2, 2019, serving the citizens of Montgomery County, and striving to continue to exercise a common-sense approach to upholding justice within the jurisdiction.



Drew Swanson

Is this a position you've held before?

If yes, when?

If re-elected, this will be my second term as Montgomery County Attorney.

What is your relevant experience?

I have been a licensed and practicing attorney in the State of Iowa since October 2017, and have

served as the Montgomery County Attorney since January 2019.

If elected, what are your top two priorities, and why?

One of my top priorities as Montgomery County Attorney is to continue to take a common-sense

approach to applying the law to each situation, on a case-by-case basis, in such a way that is fair to all concerned, and just and reasonable based on the individual circumstances.

Another top priority is to continue to maintain complete transparency by being readily available to field questions and concerns of my constituents. As an elected official, I believe it is critical to keep an open door with the community to which I am serving.

Are you a member of any local clubs/organizations/boards?

I am involved in a number of local groups, including:

- Red Oak Elks Lodge – Past Exalted Ruler (2021-22), current Trustee
- Red Oak Rotary – Member
- Red Oak Kiwanis – Member
- Montgomery County Memorial Hospital Foundation – Board Member
- Red Oak Country Club – Board Member

Who inspires you?

My constituents inspire me. This position requires a lot of trust and faith from the voters, and I don't take that responsibility lightly. Aside from college, I have been a resident of Montgomery County since birth, and cannot imagine a better community to be a part of and to serve.

Family info: Spouse/children/grandchildren:

My wife is Zoey Swanson, a first grade teacher and Red Oak High School girl's tennis coach. Though we have been together for about 13 years,

INCUMBENTS, Page 2A

Major General (Ret.) Hughes is Memorial Day speaker

Tess Nelson

The Red Oak Express

Members of the Montgomery County Court of Honor will hold the annual Memorial Day program on Monday, May 30. The program begins at 11 a.m. in Evergreen Cemetery in Red Oak. In case of inclement weather, the program will be held in the high school gymnasium.

Retired Major General Christopher P. Hughes, a Red Oak High School graduate, is the guest speaker.

"I'm honored to be asked to speak; this is my second time. I'm not sure I will write a speech this time, I will just talk from the heart and hope I can have a positive impact in some very, very small way," said Hughes.

Growing up, Chris' father, Dr. Patrick Hughes, MSG (Ret), was in the Air Force. Once he was honorably discharged, he attended school to be a chiropractor, eventually moving the family to Red Oak.

After graduating from Red Oak High School, Chris attended Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, where he met his wife, Marguerite. After his sophomore year, despite working as much as he could during winter and summer break, he ran out of money for schooling. It was then he joined the Army as a way to get the remainder of his education paid for.

"I bumped into a ROTC instructor who asked if I'd consider coming into the Army," recalled Hughes. "I went into basic training that summer at Fort Knox and while I was there I earned a two year ROTC scholarship, which made it possible for me to graduate, on time. I went active duty straight in. I left graduation that morning and drove to Fort Benning, Georgia to start infantry training."

Hughes was in the Army from May 1983 until July 2018, 35 years and one month. He said being in the military provided him with countless opportunities. Through the Army he traveled to 92 nations, met several presidents and key leaders around the world, fought in multiple conflicts, served in Congress, completed four tours in the Pentagon, served as the Provost of a university, commanded 357,000 cadets around the world, and worked with 986 universities and 1,790 high schools.

"One of the things the military teaches you is you're only limited by your own imagination," Hughes said. "You may not be able to reach your actual dream, but you can definitely shoot for it."

Not only does Hughes hold a Bachelor of Science degree in political science from Northwest Missouri State University, he has a M.A. in business management from Webster University, M.S. in National Strategic Studies from the National Defense University and has earned an honorary doctorate of laws degree from Northwest Missouri State University.

His military education includes the Infantry Officer Basic Course, Infantry Officer Advanced Course, the Army Command and General Staff College, and the Armed Forces Staff College, and he is a distinguished graduate of the National War College.

Hughes most recently served as the Chief of Staff for United States Army Pacific Command at Fort Shafter, Hawaii.

His prior assignments include service as the Deputy Commanding General, U.S. Army Combined Arms Center – Education (CAC-E) and the Deputy Commandant, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College (CGSC), the 4th Infantry Division, two tours with the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), the 509th Parachute Infantry Regiment and the Joint Readiness Training Center. He has also seen service in the Pacific as a war planner for the United States Army Pacific Command



Major General Christopher P. Hughes

(USARPAC) and with the Deployable Joint Task Force Augmentation Cell at the United State Pacific Command (USPACOM).

His key troop leading assignments include: Battalion and Brigade S3 with the 25th Infantry Division (Light), Commander of 2-327th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, Commander of Joint Task Force Bravo in Honduras and as the Deputy Commanding General (DCG) (Maneuver and Support) for the 3rd Infantry Division and as the DCG Operations for Regional Command South, Afghanistan.

Key Staff Assignments include Executive Officer to the Secretary of the Army, Chief of the Army Liaison Division to the U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., Operations Officer for the J34 Combating Terrorism Directorate Joint Staff Washington, D.C., where he served as the Investigating Officer for the USS Cole Commission and the Chief of Army Current Operations (DAMO-ODO) G-3/5/7, the Pentagon.

Hughes' primary awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (2 OLC), Bronze Star Medal (OLC), Defense Meritorious Service Medal and the Army Meritorious Service Medal (6 OLC), the Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge, Ranger Tab, Master Parachute Badge, Air Assault Badge, Joint Staff Identification Badge, Army Staff Badge and numerous foreign Airborne Wings.

General Hughes is also the author of War on Two Fronts: an Infantry Commander's War in Iraq and the Pentagon. He was awarded the Army Historical Foundation's Distinguished Writing Award for Excellence in U.S. Army History Writing in 2008.

He said he wouldn't have published the book if distinguished colleagues and those above him in rank hadn't pushed him. He added writing the book also served as therapy for what he had experienced in Iraq.

"You really expose yourself when you write about yourself. Of course you want to write about yourself in a positive light, but then to have 1,100 soldiers watch me. If I don't tell the truth, one of them is going to say, 'He didn't do that.' You have to be absolutely brutal and honest."

When reflecting on his experiences in the military, Hughes said there were many moments where irony wasn't lost on him. For example, his first experience in the Army was at Fort Knox, Ky. in 1981. In 2016, he was the Commanding General of Fort Knox.

"Talk about bookending a career," he said. "It was never lost on me walking around my base, my city, that I was 100% accountable for, that I'd remember standing over there or I

HUGHES, Page 2A



Mobile Food Pantry

Wednesday, May 25th

Location:
ROCSF Football Field/Fairgrounds Parking Lot

Distribution Time: 3:30pm

No line up before 2:00 p.m.

The mobile pantry is available to you
free of charge!



Don't forget the polling place changes for June primary

Staff report

Montgomery County voters will be receiving postcards in the mail this week ahead of the Primary Election scheduled for June 7. Montgomery County Auditor and Commissioner of Elections, Stephanie Burke, said the cards will be sent from the Iowa Secretary of State to update voters on their polling locations. "Due to various circumstances, some voting locations will be different from where voters voted during previous elections," Burke said. "The polling places affected are Precinct 2 and Precinct 5."

The new polling location for voters living in Precinct 2 will be at

the Red Oak Gold Fair Building. The new polling location for voters living in Precinct 5 will be at the Elliott Community Building. Auditor Burke reminds the voters that there is absentee voting in the auditor's office. Absentee ballots are available on Wednesday, May 18, at the Auditor's office and may be voted in the office until 5 p.m., Monday, June 6. The auditor's office will also be open Saturday, June 4, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information about the 2022 Primary Election, contact the Montgomery County Auditor's office at 712-623-5127 or visit the county website at montgomerycountyiowa.gov.

Burke answers basic primary election questions

Stephanie Burke
Montgomery County Auditor/Commissioner of Elections

Q. What is the Primary Election?
A. The Primary Election is an election by the political parties to nominate their candidates for the General Election ballot. No one is elected in the Primary Election; candidates are nominated. In order to win a political party nomination, the candidate must receive more votes than anyone else in his/her party for that race and receive at least 35% of votes cast for that office by members of their political party.

Q. Why is the Primary Election different from other types of elections?

A. The difference between Primary Elections and other elections is that a voter's party affiliation must be declared and it must be included on election registers, eligibility slips and absentee ballot requests.

Q. If I am registered as No Party, can I still vote in the Primary Election?
A. Yes. However, you will have to re-register with one of the two parties in order to cast a ballot. Only voters registered with one of the two parties (Democratic or Republican) may vote in the Primary Election.

Q. Can I change my party affiliation at the time that I vote?
A. Yes.

Q. If I declare one party to vote in the Primary Election, can I change back to my previous registration?
A. Yes. However, you may not do so the same day as voting. You will need to complete a new voter registration application. The change will be processed after the Primary Election has been certified and the vote credit has been posted for every voter.

Q. If I vote a Democratic ballot, can I write in a Republican for an office and vice-versa?
A. Primary election voters are making nominations for their own political parties. A write-in vote for a Republican candidate on the Democratic ballot will be tallied as a Democratic vote, not a Republican vote.

Schmid running unopposed for supervisor, district 1

Charla Schmid
District 1
Montgomery County Supervisor

Why am I running for office?
I am running for office because I have been serving in this capacity for the past year and a half. This experience has shown me the importance of this position while serving the people of Montgomery County. I believe it is important for everyone to look at serving as a public servant because we need people who care about our community and can make sound decisions.

Is this a position you have held before?
Yes. I have been filling a 2 year term which was previously held by Rudy Kinard.

What is your relevant experience?
I have been a long time business woman working for AT&T for 23 years, UPS for 9 years and a Mary Kay Consultant for 15 years. I served on the Red Oak Community School Board for 13 years. I also have farming background having been married to a farmer for 39 years.

If elected, what are my two top priorities?
First, I will personally be working on becoming better educated about all aspects of county government, especially the budget, finances, and all the different departments that impact our county. The Iowa State Association of Counties (ISAC) has an educational track for county supervisors to become certified and I will be continuing my journey with that program. Second, be a good listener and work hard for the people of Montgomery County.

Are you a member of any local clubs/organizations/boards?
I am a member of The Red Oak Chamber & Industry Association.

Who inspires you?
Elenor Roosevelt, "Do what you feel to be right in your heart - for you'll be criticized anyway."
My two daughters also inspire me!

Family
Married to my husband Tim for 39 years. Two daughters; Emily and Katie (Justin) and granddaughter, Josephine!



Schmid

Will you have another job while serving on the board?
The County Supervisor position is a full time job. Supervisors meet weekly but represent Montgomery County on other boards, thus there are extra meetings for each supervisor throughout the month. I do not have another full time job, thus I will be able to serve my constituents well.

Lastly, in your words what is the role of the position you're seeking?
The role of a county supervisor is to manage the county and be fiscally responsible with the taxpayers money. The county is a business which takes care of finances, employees, property and grounds, and many important aspects of the county that touch each person who lives in our county. The role of a county supervisor is a very important position.

INCUMBENTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

we just got married last June. We have two wonderful dogs, Shadow and Mona, both of whom are very friendly and very spoiled. While we don't have any children yet, we hope to raise a family in the near future.

Will you have another job while serving on the board? If so, how will this affect your ability to serve your constituents?
The position of Montgomery County Attorney has historically been a part-time position, enabling the elected official to operate a private practice in addition to carrying out the duties of the office. While I am also a partner attorney at Swanson Law Firm, the role of County has, and will always be my first priority, so long as I am entrusted with holding the position.

Lastly, in your words what is the role of the position you're seeking (supervisor, recorder, attorney)?
The County Attorney is responsible for the direction and control of the prosecutorial function in his or her jurisdiction. While the primary responsibility of the prosecutor is to seek and obtain justice, the position also includes the responsibility to represent and advise the County Attorney in all civil matters of which any County department may encounter.

Carleen Bruning
Montgomery County Recorder

Why are you running for office?
Having worked in the Recorder's office for many years, I understand the importance of accurately recording documents that will remain part of the history of Montgomery County forever. I realize how important it is to preserve and maintain these records not only for current property owners but for future generations. I love the various responsibilities we have which make each day different. I want to continue fulfilling these duties to the best of my ability and assist our customers in an efficient and professional manner for the next four years.



Bruning

Is this a position you've held before? If yes, when?
I was appointed in August 2006. I was elected as County Recorder in November 2006 and re-elected in 2010, 2014 and 2018.

What is your relevant experience?
I have been employed in the Montgomery County Recorder's office since July 1998 and have been serving as Recorder since 2006. I am a Certified Recorder and currently serve on the Iowa County Recorders Association Certification Committee. I have also served several terms as President and Vice President of the District IV Recorders Association.

I have an Associate of Arts degree from IWCC in Clarinda and a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Bellevue University in Bellevue, Neb.

If elected, what are your top two priorities, and why?
My top two priorities for the next 4 years are: Complete the digitalization project which will allow 24/7 access to our real estate records and utilize the additional options available through this website. Technology provides so many new opportunities and avenues for recording, researching and retrieving information. Utilizing new technology will allow me and my staff unlimited learning opportunities which will allow us to assist our customers and the public more efficiently.

Are you a member of any local clubs/organizations/boards?

Board, all of Red Oak.

Who inspires you?
My mom - Norma Johnson has always been my inspiration. She not only taught me life skills but showed me- by how she lived her life - the importance of being kind, thoughtful and respectful of others, to continually look for ways to help people, have a great work ethic and always do your best.

Family info: Spouse/children/grandchildren:
My husband Kenny and I live on a farm north of Stanton. We have three children: Amy Sallach, her husband Jeff and their sons Cameron & Caden of Red Oak; Kelly Hill of Austin, Texas; and Kevin Bruning, his wife Jessie and their son Kase of Red Oak.

Anything else you'd like to add:
It is my privilege to serve as Montgomery County Recorder and thank you for your confidence in my knowledge and expertise. I would be honored to continue serving as your County Recorder for the next 4 years.

Will you have another job while serving on the board?
No. The Recorder's position is a fulltime job.

Lastly, in your words what is the role of the position you're seeking?
The main responsibility of the Recorder's office is to record all documents concerning real estate within the county. This includes surveys, cornerstone certificates, deeds, contracts, mortgages, extension, amendments, modifications and releases of mortgages. We also record state and federal tax liens and file military discharge records. We process marriage applications, file birth, death and marriage records and can create certified copies of vital records. We sell hunting and fishing licenses, deer and turkey tags, register and title boats, snowmobiles, ATVs, ORV's (ie: Gators, Rangers, side by side off road vehicles) and off road motorcycles for the DNR (Department of Natural Resources).



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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

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JOAN ANDERSON, 59

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the death of our wonderful sister, Joan Anderson, 59, of Branson West, Mo. Joan passed away on May 12, 2022, in the hospital after a brief illness.

Joan is predeceased by her parents, Dr. Kenneth and Elizabeth "Ibby" Anderson. She is survived by siblings, Christie (Mick) Connor, John (Joanne) Anderson, Barbara Brittan, Jim (Sue) Anderson, Jane Anderson and Jeff (Tami) Anderson; 19 nieces and nephews; and 21 great nieces and nephews.

Joan was raised in Red Oak, where she graduated Red Oak High School. She excelled in academics and was class valedictorian. She enjoyed playing varsity basketball and running cross country and track. She earned her undergraduate degree at the University of Northern Iowa. After holding various jobs in financial services, IT and hospitality, she left the corporate arena and became a successful independent fundraising dealer with Butter Braid Products. She also worked part-time in the Sales Audit office at Silver Dollar City Amusement Park.

She loved living and spending time on Table Rock Lake, playing golf with her Branson friends and hosting her high school friends every summer at "Camp Joan." She also enjoyed carrying on the family tradition of knitting custom Christmas stockings for every new addition to her large family. Joan was an avid Christmas cookie baker. She dedicated time volunteering for the Junior Auxiliary of Taney County where she was a past treasurer and lifetime member. She was passionate about JA and enjoyed being part of a group of women dedicated to helping the children of Taney County. Joan was also a longtime member of Our Lady of the Cove Catholic Church.

Services will be held on Tuesday, May 31, 2022, at Our Lady of the Cove Catholic Church, 20 Kimberling Blvd., Kimberling City, Mo., 65686. Recitation of the rosary will take place at 9:30 a.m. followed by a funeral mass at 10 a.m. Interment will be at Our Lady of the Cove Columbarium.

In lieu of flowers, the family is asking donations be made to Junior Auxiliary of Taney County at POB 862, Hollister, MO 65673.



CLYDE "MARLIN" MCHENRY, 79

Clyde "Marlin" McHenry, 79, Red Oak, passed away Thursday, May 12, 2022, at the Montgomery County Memorial Hospital.

Marlin was born Sept. 1, 1942, in Red Oak, the son of Clyde and Valentine (Schaffer) McHenry. He was raised in Red Oak, attended Wales School, and graduated from Red Oak Community High School in 1961. He worked after graduation until serving in the U.S. Marine Corps during Vietnam.

He met his future wife in California while in the Marines and was united in marriage to Kathleen Creecy on July 2, 1966, in Garden Grove, Calif. From this union three children were born, Mark, Kellie, and Matthew. They made their home in Red Oak. Marlin was later married to Jan Turk and eventually divorced. Over the years, Marlin worked for JD Oil Company, Eveready Battery Company until it closed, Nicholstone Book Bindery, D & L, and Oakland Beef Packing before retiring.

He raced stock cars in his younger years and loved working on cars. Marlin also enjoyed NASCAR, hunting, fishing, traveling, and was an avid Ford fan. He was known to have a great sense of humor and was quite the jokester.

Preceding him in death were his parents; and sister, Beverly White.

Survivors include his faithful companions, his dogs, Kyle and Louisa Mae; children, Mark McHenry of Red Oak; Kellie Jones of Red Oak; and Matthew McHenry and wife Lori of Holdrege, Neb.; grandchildren, Lindsay Cashatt of Red Oak; Tyler Jones of Iowa City; Sarah Jones and fiancé Kody Konz-Figgins of Villisca; Brooklyn Osher and husband Jacob of Hinesville, Ga.; Journee Jones of Red Oak; Lacy, Malachai, Jeremiah, Samuel, and Isaac McHenry of Holdrege, Neb.; Tiffany McHenry of Chattanooga, Tenn.; great-grandchildren, Jaydin, Ashton, Caden, Nolan, Emmitt, Delilah, Elliana, and Remington; sister, Joyce Royston of Ammon, Idaho; aunt, Esther McHenry of Red Oak; and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, May 18, 2022, at the Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel. Burial will be in the Evergreen Cemetery with military honors.

Memorials are suggested to St. Jude Children's Hospital or the Shriners Children's Hospital.

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



DOROTHY HAMMAN, 92

Dorothy Ruth Hamman, 92, Red Oak, passed away Monday, May 9, 2022, at the Montgomery County Memorial Hospital.

Dorothy was born Sept. 2, 1929, on a farm near Nodaway, the daughter of Glen and Ruby (Stalder) Greenfield. She attended school in Stanton.

Dorothy was united in marriage to Floyd Hamman on April 6, 1947, in Villisca. Over the years, employment took the family to Red Oak, Perry, and back to Red Oak. In the early 1960s, Dorothy and Floyd started Hamman Wholesale Candy and Vending and operated it until 1976, when they sold the business. That same year, Dorothy started working in the dietary department at Murphy Memorial Hospital, retiring from the new location of the hospital known as Montgomery County Memorial Hospital after 18 years of service. Dorothy also did the bookkeeping for Floyd's landscaping business.

She was a longtime member of Our Savior Lutheran Church and currently Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church. She was a former Altrusa member and volunteered at the Senior Center. Dorothy enjoyed puzzles, doing crafts, coloring, square dancing, and playing on her tablet. Dorothy and Floyd were very active in the Red Oak Optimist Club for many years.

Preceding her in death were her parents; husband, Floyd Hamman on July 22, 2013; and brothers, Jerry and Ed Greenfield.

Survivors include her children, Kathy Inman and husband Doug of Colorado Springs, Colo.; Karen Beaty and husband Tom of St. Charles, Mo., and Kenny Hamman and wife Bev of Red Oak; grandchildren, Stephanie Jones of Needville, Texas; Kristen Washam and husband Steve of Lycedale, Miss.; Matthew Beaty and wife Ashley of Clayton, N.C.; Jason Hamman and wife Rebecca of Lexington, S.C.; Angela McCoy and husband Josh of Fairmont, Neb.; and Brian Hamman and wife Meredith of Red Oak; 22 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; sister-in-law, Carol Greenfield of Villisca, and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, May 17, 2022, at Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel. Burial was in the Evergreen Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to the Red Oak Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association or the Red Oak Public Library Foundation.

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



Lois Arlene Perkins, 92, of Hastings, passed away Saturday, May 14, 2022, at the Midlands Living Center in Council Bluffs.

Lois was born Oct. 30, 1929, at the family home near Riverton, the daughter of Orval and Anna (Baker) Jones. She was raised in southwest Iowa and graduated from Tabor High School.

Lois was united in marriage to Jesse Junior Perkins on Oct. 6, 1947, in Tabor. They lived in several southwest Iowa towns before settling in the Hastings area in the late 1950s. Over the years, Lois worked as the Hastings City Clerk, Nishna Valley School Board Secretary, and retired after 25 years at Perkins Service Station in Hastings. She was a longtime member of the Hastings United Methodist Church and was very active in United Methodist Women. Her hobbies include quilting, sewing, gardening camping, fishing, traveling, and cooking. She was known for her famous homemade chicken and noodles.

Preceding her in death were her parents; husband, Jesse Junior Perkins; son, Jay Perkins; and siblings, Wayne Jones, Max Jones, Harry Jones, Virginia Johnston, and Clara Mohatt.


Survivors include her children, Patricia Trainer and husband Jerry of Lincoln, Neb.; Carol Hanssen and husband Randy of Johnston; and Russell Perkins and wife Betty of Hermitage, Mo.; daughter-in-law, Susan Perkins of Hastings; grandchildren, Jennifer Gillman of Elkhorn, Neb.; Brad Trainer of Lincoln, Neb.; Brooke Trainer of Arlington, Texas; Wesley Sowers and wife Allison of Bettendorf; Dustin Sowers and wife Gabby of Johnston; Ryan Hanssen and wife Lynsie of Johnston; Devin Hanssen and wife Sarah of Ankeny; Laura Hatcher and husband Troy of Hastings; Casey Perkins and wife Melanie of Liberty Hill, Texas; Brett Hansen and wife Jessie of Baldwin City, Kan.; Jesse Perkins and wife Deanna of Glenwood; Kristin Perkins of Emerson; and Matt Perkins and wife Ingrid of Emerson; great-grandchildren, Berkeley, Bo, and Bennet Gillman; William, Reagan, Olivia, and Sophia Sowers; Brayden, Jayce, and Elianna Hanssen; Amanda Blok and husband Tim; Austin Hatcher; Josie, Carson and Cole Perkins; Nick Perkins and wife Lulu; Nate Perkins; Isabelle Allen and husband Levi; and Mason and Johnathan Perkins; great great grandchildren, Savannah and Lucas Blok and Jack Allen; and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, May 20, 2022, at the Hastings United Methodist Church. Burial will be in the Hastings Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the Hastings Cemetery Association. There will be a luncheon at the Hastings United Methodist Church immediately following the burial.

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



Law and Order



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

REAL ESTATE

COURT OFFICER'S DEED

- Brian Limbrick Estate and RJ Limbrick, Administrator, to Anita Moore, Red Oak Eastern Addition Blk 3 Lt 10.
- Lavern Ratashak Estate and Shawn Ratashak, Executor, to Shawn Ratashak, Red Oak Willard's Addition Lts 5-6, 14.

WARRANTY DEED

- Brooke Zabokrsky and Brooke Kier to Matthew and Megan Stephens, Red Oak Thompsons Addition Lts 6, 11.
- Max and Gweneth Hossle to Creek Chub Farms LLC, 18-71-38.
- Bill and Sherry Bourlon to Bonnie Norris, Red Oak Quinby Addition Blk 9 Lt 7.
- Dallas Lock to Matthew Sledge, Villisca N. Villisca Lt 25.
- Rodney and Connie McAlpin to RootD 3 LLC, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 29 Lt 11.
- Ivan Craig, President, Manager Member, and IPSC LLC to Scott Brown, Red Oak 3rd Industrial Addition Lt 2.
- Dwayne Adams, Member, and DC LLC to Jean Webb, Red Oak Carper Addition Lt 5.

- Patrick and Kelly Maynes to Jarrett Maynes, Red Oak Oakview Lt 17.
- Kellie Benedict to Dylan Swanson, 28-72-38 Lt 3.
- Mark Lebeck to Patrick Douglas and Corrie Chaddha, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 33 Lts 3-4.

QUIT CLAIM DEED

- Brenda Mutschler to Brenda and Paul Mutschler, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 19 Lt 4.
- Lori and Lon Lathrop to Rodney Vanderhoof, Red Oak Railroad Addition Blk 26 Lt 2.
- Jeffrey Fort, President Member, and DDJK LLC to RR 69 LLC, 21-72-38 Lt 2.
- Jeffrey Fort, President Member, and DDJK LLC to RR 69 LLC, Red Oak 3rd Industrial Addition Lts 2-3.
- Jeffrey Fort and Kelly Fort, to Mau Tikki LLC, 17-72-38, 20-72-38 Lts 1-2.
- Ada Jipsen to Ada Jipsen Trust and Ada Jipsen, Trustee, Red Oak Hillside Addition Blk 2 Lts 4-6.
- Gregory Woods to Greg Woods Revocable Trust and Ryan Woods, Trustee, 6-71-37.
- Phyllis Ratliff and Phyllis Taulborg to Terry Taulborg, 20-72-39.

MORTGAGE

- Bruce and Marsha Jones to Great Western Bank and First Interstate Bank, Stanton Original Plat Lts 152-153.
- Matthew and Megan Stephens to Houghton State Bank, Red Oak Thompsons Addition Lts 6, 11.
- Anita Moore to Bank Iowa, Red Oak Eastern Addition Blk 3 Lt 10.
- Bonnie Norris to Houghton State Bank, Red Oak Quinby Addition Blk 9 Lt 7.
- Candace Tischer, Secretary, John Tischer, President, and TMG

- Patrick and Kelly Maynes to Jarrett Maynes, Red Oak Oakview SD Lt 17.
- Dylan and Dylan D. Swanson to Bank Iowa, 28-72-38 Lt 3.
- Shad and Anita Millikan to Flagstar Bank, FSB, Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., and MERS, 17-73-36 Parcel A.
- Patrick Douglas and Corrie Chaddha to Exchange Bank, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 33 Lts 3-4.

SMALL CLAIMS

- Portfolio Recovery Associates LLC vs. Ryan Fuller, Emerson, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$2,269.41, plus costs.
- Clear Recovery Inc. vs. Sherrie Chapin, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$524.79 with 4.08% interest from May 12, plus costs.
- Montgomery County Sheriff vs. Dylan Griffith, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$90 with 4.08% interest from May 12.
- Montgomery County Sheriff vs. Adam Letts, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$45 with 3.78% interest from May 12.
- Montgomery County Sheriff vs. Damian Barr, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$45 with 4.08% interest from May 12.
- Montgomery County Sheriff vs. Ronald Borden, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$45 with 4.08% interest from May 12.
- Montgomery County Sheriff vs. Billy Leeper, Red Oak, dismissed with prejudice.
- Montgomery County Sheriff vs. Roger Cook, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$45 with 4.08% interest from May 12.
- Montgomery County Sheriff vs. Kristen Hughes, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the

- Plaintiff, \$45 with 4.08% interest from May 12.
- Montgomery County Sheriff vs. Brian Shaver, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$45 with 4.08% interest from May 12.

ARRESTS

- Filed May 9, Ronda Allen, 39, Red Oak, Atchison County, Mo., warrant for failure to appear, \$1,500 bond or extradition to Missouri.

DISMISSED

- State of Iowa vs. Colby Rasmussen, 23, Elliott, failure to affix drug tax stamp, unlawful possession of prescription drugs, dismissed.

CRIMINAL

- Aggravated, State of Iowa vs. Ayden Russell, 21, Red Oak, driving while barred, \$855 fine.
- Aggravated, State of Iowa vs. Jonah Kirsch, 22, Villisca, driving while barred.
- Felony, State of Iowa vs. Colby Rasmussen, 23, Elliott, possession of drug paraphernalia, pled guilty, \$105 fine, one year informal probation, controlled substance violation - accomodation, pled guilty, 180 days jail, suspended, \$430 fine, one year informal probation.
- Felony, State of Iowa vs. Tucker Tepoel, 19, Villisca, theft second degree.
- Felony, State of Iowa vs. Dylan Hanson, 25, Shenandoah, controlled substance violation.
- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Madison Bowling, 33, Red Oak, public intoxication.
- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Dylan Hanson, 25, Shenandoah, interference with official acts.
- Serious misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Phillip Currin, 22, Villisca, possession of a con-

- trolled substance - marijuana, first offense, \$430 fine.
- Serious misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Dyllyn Gonzales, 23, Thornton, Colo., possession of a controlled substance - marijuana, first offense.

OWI

- State of Iowa vs. Aayla Larson, 19, Hinton, probation violation, dismissed.
- State of Iowa vs. Keith Hansen, 63, Stanton, contempt - resist order or process of district court, two days jail.

TRAFFIC

- Dillon Lucas, Council Bluffs, speeding.
- Jedd Sherman, Red Oak, speeding.
- Rachel Shum-McAlpin, Red Oak, speeding.
- Rafael Hernando IV, Omaha, Neb., no valid driver's license.
- Dawn Nelson, Red Oak, no valid driver's license.
- Cassandra Johnson, Blair, Neb., speeding.
- Amanda Horner, Red Oak, operation without registration

- card or plate.
- Louis Zaiger, Essex, speeding.
- Melinda Reynolds, Stanton, registration violation.
- Drake Brown, Red Oak, speeding.
- Larry Kennell, Hamburg, speeding.
- Denise Higgins, Carroll, operating non registered vehicle.
- Katriel Hosford, Red Oak, failure to carry registration card.
- Linda Bradway, Red Oak, operating non registered vehicle.
- James Best, Omaha, Neb., speeding.
- Hannah Gray, Red Oak, speeding.
- Cole Thornton, Red Oak, speeding.
- Jared Meisinger, Corning, trespass, first offense.
- Kevin Santizo Escobar, Omaha, Neb., speeding.
- Maxwell McLroy, Omaha, Neb., speeding.
- Jeffrey Joiner, Red Oak, operation of motor vehicle with expired license.

SUDOKU

				7			
7		2	9		8		3
9		4		2		5	
		7	2		6	8	
			9				6
	1	5					
				3	6		9
	5						
					2		7

Level: Intermediate

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!

7	4	2	5	9	8	3	6	1
3	8	1	2	6	7	9	5	4
6	5	9	3	4	1	8	7	2
4	2	7	6	8	3	5	1	9
9	7	3	4	7	5	6	2	8
5	6	8	9	1	2	7	4	3
8	7	5	1	2	9	4	3	6
1	3	4	8	5	6	2	9	7
2	5	6	2	7	3	4	8	1

ANSWER:

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to baseball.

K S I E R T

Answer: Strike

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to exercise.

T S U A Q

Answer: Squat

Stronger the Press, Stronger the People

FROM THE CAPITOL | U.S. REP. CINDY AXNE

Making sure rural Iowans get their fair share

Over the last few years that I've had the honor of representing the Third District, I've had countless conversations with rural Iowans about the issues they're facing in their everyday lives.

I've heard from police officers and first responders working tirelessly to protect our communities and keep people safe all while having little access to the resources they need to do their jobs.

I've listened to entrepreneurs who were struggling to access the critical support required to open small businesses here in Iowa to create jobs and stimulate our economy. Seventy-one percent of rural small businesses are a low credit risk, but only 49 percent receive the full amount of financing they seek.

Those numbers are unacceptable.

I've spoken to folks who have relied on telehealth services, which more than 28 million Medicare beneficiaries used throughout the pandemic, to access the care they need from home worried about losing those critical services when



the pandemic ends.

I've sat down with families feeling the squeeze from the rising costs of gas prices and goods due to the war in Ukraine and our broken-down supply chains.

There's no question that rural Iowans have felt left behind by the federal government. It's time to say enough is enough and to help make sure no Iowan is

left behind – no matter where they live.

That's why this week, I was proud to join community leaders in Perry to announce my Rural Prosperity Agenda – a package of bipartisan bills that I will be pushing Congress to pass to ensure

that Iowans receive the investments they need to prosper.

This package of 11 bills that I helped introduce would make investments where we need them most.

It will make sure that our first responders and emergency services are fully funded so they can best serve our communities. It will expand affordable housing options, work to combat rural homelessness, and empower local entrepreneurs and job creators.

The Rural Prosperity Agenda will support local farmers as they fight to make ends meet in an unfair cattle market. It will ensure rural Iowans can access the care they need from their homes and cut costs for families.

This agenda will also help make telehealth options permanent and build on legislation that has already passed Congress and been signed into law by President Biden, like my Sgt. Ketchum Rural Veterans' Mental Health Act to help rural veterans

access mental health care.

Most of all, it will cut through the bureaucratic red tape that prevents critical funds from actually being able to be used in the first place.

Let me be clear when I say that each and every one of these bills is an important piece of the puzzle as we work to ensure that rural Iowans – and all rural Americans – can thrive.

I am ready to continue my work making sure that Iowans and folks across the country feel heard and supported by the federal government.

I'm proud to take on this fight for rural Iowans. I'll be working with my colleagues and reaching across the aisle to get things done – because this isn't a Democrat or Republican issue, this is an American issue.

Cindy Axne is currently serving in her second term representing Iowa's Third District in the U.S. House of Representatives. Contact Rep. Cindy Axne at <https://axne.house.gov/contact/email-me..>

GRASSLEY Q/A | U.S. SEN. CHARLES GRASSLEY

Student loan debt

Q: Do you support President Biden's plan to wipe away student debt?

A: When something sounds too good to be true, it usually is. Once again, the Biden administration is operating under the false assumption that money grows on trees. When the economy shut down in 2020, Congress passed a series of pandemic relief programs to help American families, rural hospitals and small businesses stay afloat. One of the financial lifelines was a pause on student loan payments and interest. Despite the economy opening back up and unfilled jobs holding back the recovery and forcing small businesses to cut back on services and hours of operation, the Biden administration unilaterally extended the deferral of payments to student borrowers repeatedly. This action pushes the cost of the student loan payment pause up to \$150 billion. By pressing the pause button, President Biden is allowing high-earners with graduate degrees to defer monthly payments for two years and counting. But even that's still not enough. Big spenders want President Biden to let student borrowers off the hook and walk away scot-free from their debt obligations. Iowans know that debt can't be wiped away with a magic wand and vanish into thin air. I often say Washington, D.C. is an island surrounded by reality. This proposal brings Fantasy Island to the banks of the Potomac River. And the taxpayer will pick up the tab.

Q: What are your initiatives to help prevent borrowers from getting in over their heads?

A: First off, let's be clear why I oppose unilaterally canceling student debt. It's a slippery slope of no return. Once Uncle Sam starts handing out freebies and erasing debts, the demand for get-out-of-debt giveaways would expand to car loans, home mortgages, credit cards and more.

Canceling student debt on today's borrowers makes savers and borrowers who scrimped, saved and sacrificed to pay their own way look like chumps. It also

gives colleges and universities the green light to keep raising tuition because Uncle Sam will eventually forgive the loans. President Biden's proposal does nothing to curb runaway tuition costs. I've written a trio of bills to help families and students navigate the true costs of college before they shoulder a mountain of debt. My Know Before You Owe Federal Student Loan Act would bring transparency into the process and help students understand whether their borrowing is in line with their likely income based on their degree so they fully factor in the cost of college. This has the added benefit of injecting the free market into the process to help bring down the price of higher education. It would also require counseling to show students their student loan payments compared to their likely projected income. The Understanding the True Cost of College Act would create a universal financial aid award letter so students could compare financial aid packages among schools. The Net Price Calculator Improvement Act would provide students with individualized estimates of higher education costs and financial aid options before deciding where to apply. I've also introduced bipartisan legislation with Sen. Joni Ernst that would address skyrocketing loans and tuition by empowering students to understand up front the costs of what they are borrowing. Our Student Transparency for Understanding Decisions in Education Net Terms (STUDENT) Act would provide student loan applicants with an estimate of the total amount of interest they would pay based on a 10-year repayment plan during or prior to accepting a loan. Students seeking to earn an advanced degree will come out ahead if they're smart about not getting in over their heads under a mountain of debt in the first place.

Charles Grassley has served as one of Iowa's U.S. Senators since 1981. Contact Sen. Chuck Grassley at grassley.senate.gov/contact

Roy Marshall's column
"The Time Capsule"
will return to the Express after
he returns from vacation.

LETTER TO | THE EDITOR

Nelson urging for efforts to save Iowa's public schools

To the Editor:

Our legislators, Mark Costello, David Sieck, Cecil Dolecheck, Tom Shipley and Tom Moore and Governor Reynolds are hell-bent on destroying our public schools.

Over the last several years they have systematically underfunded schools, increased the required workload for our school teachers and staff through added requirements, and taken much of our local control away.

The legislature and governor criticize our hard-working teachers and schools for not doing enough to educate our children. They continue to underfund our districts and dictate how and what may be taught, and what policies the locally elected school board must enact. They are financially and regulatorily squeezing our public schools to death.

Why would they do this? It has been happening over several years. Our Republican Governor and legislators get much financial support and "suggested" bills from organizations who want to see education privatized. One such organization is the far-right American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC).

I looked at various 2022 education rankings by states. Three of the groups ranked Iowa's education near the middle of the national rankings at 24, 13, and 20. ALEC ranks Iowa's education system at 41st in the nation.

ALEC doesn't need to justify how they arrived at that ranking. They just need to put it out there as one piece in their campaign to discredit Iowa public schools and push for their money-making privatization of education. Their goal is to take money from our state funds.

Rather than choosing to invest more money in our public schools, one step Governor Reynolds and her legislative caucus are using to strangle our public schools is to enact a big corporate tax cut this year. That is tax money that could go a long way toward an adequate increase in funding for public schools.

The education bill is another public school-killing bill awaiting a vote in the Iowa House. Instead of investing money in Iowa public schools, Governor Reynolds decided it was more important to take money away from public schools and give it to private schools.

This education bill would, among other things, take \$52.2 million dollars away from public schools and make it available to only 2% of the Iowa K-12 students in the form of "scholarships" or vouchers to be used for private schools. Based on the bill that passed the senate, this is how it works:

- The scholarships are funded using 70% of the per-pupil funding that your public school would receive. If your family of four earns up to 400% of the federal poverty guideline, or \$110,000 a year you are eligible for a scholarship. If your child receives one of these "scholarships," \$5630 of the per-pupil funding will be taken away from your local public school and given to a non-public (private) school.

- The money for the "scholarship" is kept in a separate account for your child at the state to be used up until the age of 25.

- Republican leadership let it slip in a public posting that was meant to be a private post seen only by Republican legislators, that with this bill, individuals with the "scholarship" could choose to pay for their child's private school K-12 tuition with their own money and leave the public school's money in the child's state account. That would leave a nice college fund of over \$73,000 to pay toward college tuition, courtesy of the state of Iowa and coming directly from your underfunded local public school.

Students with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) are also eligible to apply for the "scholarship" voucher. If your child has an IEP and receives special education instructional services based on that IEP, the private school will have to provide a teacher who has the special education teaching endorsement for the type of services needed, or your public school will have to provide transportation for your child to receive services at the public school. There are more considerations, all covered by special education law and Iowa State Special Education Administrative Rules.

Please note that private schools can accept or reject any student they choose. If they don't feel like your student is a good fit for them, they can deny enrollment or if enrolled, your student can be expelled. If your child withdraws or is expelled, the money from your public school that went to that private school as a "scholarship" does not come back to your public school. That money goes right back into the state's general fund.

The governor will tell you her plan gives parents a choice. We know parents already have the choice to open-enroll their child to any public school in the state.

The governor and her caucus know that rural areas are NOT in favor of the "scholarship" vouchers, so they are trying to blackmail rural legislators into passing this bill. Incorporated in the bill is the continuation of financial sharing incentives for schools who share certain staff, like school counselors and superintendents, BUT only if the "scholarship" vouchers are approved.

Loss of sharing incentives will hurt our rural schools in the short term, but if we want our public schools to survive and thrive and regain local control, we MUST stem the flow of public funds to non-public schools. We MUST stop underfunding schools.

We MUST fight efforts for private companies to profit from our children's education. Don't be misled by recent radio commercials telling you this legislation is good for Iowa. Follow the money.

Contact the legislators below and ask them to vote NO on the voucher bill. Call the capitol switchboard at (515) 281-3221 and ask to be connected with your state representative or leave a message for Sen. Mark Costello, Sen. Tom Shipley, Rep David Sieck, Rep Tom Moore, and Rep. Cecil Dolecheck.

Barb Nelson
Stanton

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.
Advertising Email: advertising@redoakexpress.com.
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THE RED OAK
Express

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Single copies are \$1.00 each and available at (in Red Oak unless specified): Red Oak Express; Casey's (Red Oak, Stanton,

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

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.

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

19 May

9:30 a.m.: Leadership Red Oak, graduation, Red Oak Public Library.

Noon: SCORE webinar, "Expert Insights for Asian American and Pacific Islander Small Business Owners." 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.

3:30 p.m., Essex: Linda McCann Book signing, Essex Lied Public Library, 508 Iowa Ave.

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.

20 May

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

7 p.m., "The Bad Guys," theatre #1; "Fantastic Beasts: Secrets of Dumbledore," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

21 May

8 a.m., Loess Hills Enduro run in Malvern, 100 km route with mass start format, food and beverages available.

10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Flea Market Saturdays in Shenandoah, The Crave Lot, 1104 W. Thomas Ave.

1 to 6 p.m., Bike Night at the Buck Snort, 322 E. Coolbaugh St., live entertainment with DJ Dave. Food and drinks available.

7 p.m., "The Bad Guys," theatre #1; "Fantastic Beasts: Secrets of Dumbledore," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

22 May

2 and 7 p.m., "The Bad Guys," theatre #1; "Fantastic Beasts: Secrets of Dumbledore," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

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

23 May

11:30-5:30 p.m., Blood-mobile, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 E. Summit St.

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 School Board meeting, Red Oak Jr./Sr. High School, or via Zoom.

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

24 May

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

Noon: SCORE webinar, "You Created a Business Plan, Now What?" 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>.

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.

25 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.

Fostering Hope in Corning spreading word about National Foster Care Month

May is National Foster Care Month, a time to recognize that all can play a part in enhancing the lives of children and youth in foster care.

Fostering Hope of Southwest Iowa, a ministry of the First Presbyterian Church in Corning, encourages everyone to find a way to help support foster families and foster children.

Fostering Hope began in 2018. The mission launched in a small determined direction, offering a zero cost closet for area families providing kinship, foster and adoptive care. Today, it serves families over a 10-county area of the state and hopes to continue expanding. The closet enables families in transition or families taking on new foster/adoptive cases to provide the clothing, bedding and items needed without digging into their own pocketbooks. It provides dental care items, toiletries, formula, coats, shoes, clothing, winter gear, backpacks,

suitcases, toys, bicycles, beds, dressers, cribs and other items to help families serve the children in their care.

The organization aims to serve families through outreach and support by helping provide community in an area of the state where many foster and adoptive families may feel isolated. They help make connections for respite, deliver goods, and recommend services to those families in need.

In 2020, it began providing continued education training for foster parents and trauma training for the community, and also plan to expand these services going forward to help create a more trauma-informed community.

In the future, they hope to not only help educate foster families, and the community, but to also provide training and support for biological families that have children in care.

In conjunction with National

Foster Care month, in May, the organization is launching its newest program, Hope Boxes. This program gets community members involved with direct outreach and support to families.

Community members are matched with an area family to provide activities or fun outings/events for the family.

Relationships and support are built while helping alleviate stress for the foster/adoptive family. Hope Box members get to know the families and children and understand the reality of foster and adoptive care in a new light, and plan to expand this program quickly within our surrounding communities.

Monetary and in-kind donations from individuals and organizations help to continue providing programs to the community. These programs and offerings allowed the group to serve over 50 children in 2021.

If anyone is interested in donating, the following is a list

of currently needed items at the foster closet:

Twin size mattresses, twin size waterproof mattress covers, weighted blankets, large backpacks and duffle bags for teenagers, gently used car seats with expiration at least 1 year out, wheeled suitcases in good condition, any size new or gently used boys clothing, new pajamas size newborn to adult medium for both genders, new socks and underwear for both genders – size newborn to adult medium, men's body wash and shampoo.

Monetary donations are also accepted. Donations can be dropped off at the First Presbyterian Church, 907 Grove Ave. in Corning on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Donors can also contact them at 641-322-4917 to schedule a time to drop off items.

Dinville receives Ole Award



The Community of Stanton held its annual Vafest celebration May 14. During the event, Duane Dinville, pictured center, was named the recipient of the Ole Volunteer of the Year award for 2022. Pictured with Dinville are his wife, Janet, left, and son, Matt. (Photo submitted)

Community bike ride next weekend

The Montgomery County Trails organization is hosting its second annual Community Bike Ride May 27-28.

The ride starts at 7 p.m. May 27 at the Villisca Square, and continues at 8 a.m. May 28 at the Fika Hus in Stanton. The

final leg begins at 1 p.m. May 28 at Fountain Square Park in Red Oak.

Historical cemetery tours and community activities are also scheduled. Contact Larry Brandstetter at 623-4053 for more information.

Happy Birthday!

Celebrating birthdays this week are:

Carolyn Laird – May 19
Nick Johansen – May 20
Ruby Godfrey – May 20
Jasmine Elwood – May 22
Neva Slump – May 22
Jeanette Blair – May 22
Fran Olson – May 23
Pat Maher – May 23
Alvin Hayes – May 23
Marjorie Greenfield – May 23
Erin Munns – May 24
Margee Swanson – May 24
Sue Drake – May 24
Will Pollock – May 24
John Mueller – May 25

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.

Happy Anniversary!

Celebrating their anniversaries this week are:

Jake and Jayden Eggleston – May 20
Jim Jr. and Angela Uhlmann – May 23
Robert and Doris Evans – May 23
Braidon and Shana Barkman – May 23

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.

Malvern hosting endurance event Saturday

The City of Malvern is hosting the Loess Hills Enduro, an endurance gravel event at 8 a.m. May 21.

Formerly the Good Life Gravel event, the course will offer a 100-km route, following an unsanctioned, mass-start

format. There will be food and beverages at the start/finish area provided by local caterer, chef Jenn Beebe. Proceeds will support local junior racers at regional and national races.

Senior Menu

Thursday, May 19: Baked chicken breast with tomato basil sauce, baked sweet potato, broccoli florets, wheat bread slice, fresh seasonal fruit, milk/coffee.

Friday, May 20: Polish sausage and sauerkraut on a bun, whipped

potatoes, fresh seasonal fruit, milk/coffee.

Monday, May 23: BBQ chicken sandwich on a bun, oven roasted potatoes, carrot slaw, sliced apples, milk/coffee.

Tuesday, May 24: Chili, baked

potato, corn, saltine crackers, cornbread, baked cookies, milk/coffee.

Wednesday, May, 25: Chicken Alfredo pasta, mixed vegetables, stewed tomatoes, wheat bread slice, berry lemon pudding, 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 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 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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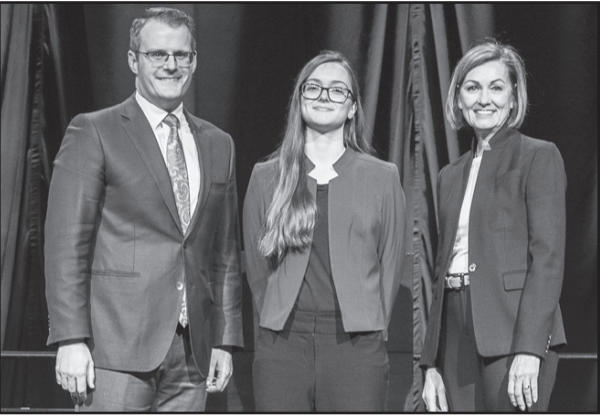
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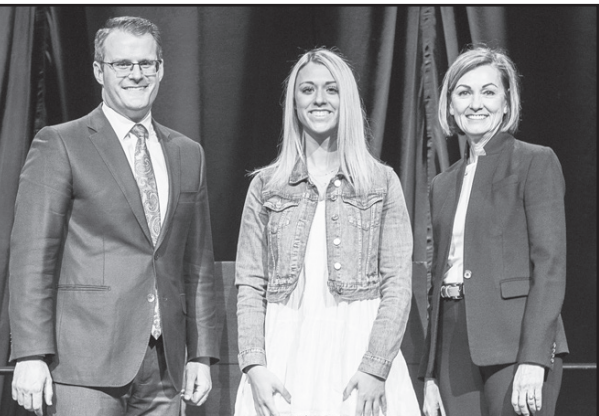
Six area students among those named by Gov. Reynolds as 2022 Iowa Governor’s Scholars



Ashlyn Curts, center, was the recipient for East Mills. Curts is pictured with Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg, left, and Gov. Kim Reynolds. (Photos submitted)



Riley Jensen, pictured center, was the recipient for Essex. Jensen is pictured with Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg, left, and Gov. Kim Reynolds.



Lydia Greiman, center, was the recipient for Griswold. Greiman is pictured with Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg, left, and Gov. Kim Reynolds.



Aedynn Graham, pictured center, was the recipient for Red Oak. Graham is pictured with Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg, left, and Gov. Kim Reynolds.



Samantha Larsen, center, was the recipient for Southwest Valley. Larsen is pictured with Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg, left, and Gov. Kim Reynolds.



Roary Blair, pictured center, was the recipient for Stanton. Blair is pictured with Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg, left, and Gov. Kim Reynolds.

Iowa’s top academic students have been chosen by their member schools for the 2022 Governor’s Scholar Program.

The Governor’s Office, the Iowa High School Athletic Association, and its title sponsor, the Iowa Farm Bureau, presented the award, which began in 2003.

Among the 419 seniors being selected by their high schools as the highest academic achievers were six students from the area. The students are:

- Ashlyn Curts, East Mills School District
- Riley Jensen, Essex School District.
- Lydia Greiman, Griswold School District.
- Aedynn Graham, Red Oak Community School District.
- Samantha Larsen, Southwest Valley School District.
- Roary Blair, Stanton School District.

Students receive a photo plaque from the ceremony and certificate to commemorate their achievement.

Connell a recent graduate of DMACC



DMACC Boone Campus student Sydney Connell (center) of Red Oak receives congratulations from DMACC President Rob Nelson (left) and DMACC Boone Campus Provost Dr. Drew Nelson at the 2022 DMACC Boone Campus commencement ceremony. Connell graduated from DMACC’s Liberal Arts program. (Photo submitted)

School Lunch Menus

<p>East Mills</p> <p>Thursday, May 19: Mini maple pancakes with syrup cups, hash brown patties, sausage patty, baby carrots, applesauce.</p> <p>Friday, May 20: Meatball sub sandwich on a haogie bun, or pepperoni pizza slices, corn, cheesy broccoli florets, mixed fruit.</p> <p>Monday, May 23: Pizza crunchers, breadstick bites, or pepperoni pizza slices, french fries, green beans, applesauce, marinara cup.</p> <p>Tuesday, May 24: Mini corn dogs, corn dog, or pepperoni pizza slices, cheesy broccoli florets, mixed vegetables, mixed fruit.</p> <p>Wednesday, May 25: Pepperoni pizza slices, sliced glazed carrots, California blend vegetables, diced peaches.</p>	<p>Wednesday, May 25: Chili dog on a bun with cheese sauce; or watermelon salad, blueberry muffin; or jalapeno jack cheeseburger on a bun; or pizza slices; or ham and cheese sandwich on a bun; french fries, fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, baby carrots with ranch dressing, fresh fruit, sliced pears.</p>
<p>Essex</p> <p>Thursday, May 19: Cook’s choice.</p> <p>Friday, May 20: Cook’s choice.</p> <p>Monday, May 23: Uncrustable peanut butter and jelly sandwich, string cheese, baby carrots with ranch dip, Goldfish crackers, fruit cup.</p> <p>Tuesday, May 24: Last day of school, no lunch served.</p>	<p>Red Oak Jr./Sr. High School <i>Chicken patty, cheeseburger, and pizza are offered daily</i></p> <p>Thursday, May 19: Italian flatbread; or taco salad, sliced onions, diced tomatoes, shredded lettuce, shredded cheese, pickled jalapenos, salsa, cornbread; or spicy chicken sandwich on a bun; or pizza slices; or roast beef over garlic bread; French fries, fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, broccoli, fresh fruit, orange/pineapple mix.</p> <p>Friday, May 20: George Maher Day of Service, sack lunch.</p> <p>Monday, May 23: Turkey and cheddar melt; or spicy chicken sandwich on a bun; or chicken Caesar salad, Italian bread; or cheddar-toni, Italian bread, or BBQ grain bowl; fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, steamed broccoli florets, baby carrots with ranch dressing, fresh fruit, cinnamon apples.</p> <p>Tuesday, May 24: Super nachos, pickled jalapenos, diced onions, diced tomatoes, salsa; or taco salad, shredded lettuce, shredded cheese, pickled jalapenos, diced onions, diced tomatoes, salsa, cornbread; or cheeseburger on a bun; or pizza slices; or chicken avocado club wrap; fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, refried beans, Italian bean salad, fresh fruit, mandarin oranges.</p> <p>Wednesday, May 25: Chili dog on a bun with cheese sauce; or watermelon salad, blueberry muffin; or jalapeno jack cheeseburger on a bun; or pizza slices; or ham and cheese sandwich on a bun; french fries, fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, baby carrots with ranch dressing, fresh fruit, sliced pears.</p>
<p>Griswold</p> <p>Thursday, May 19: Cook’s choice.</p> <p>Friday, May 20: Last day of school, no lunch served.</p>	<p>Southwest Valley</p> <p>Thursday, May 19: End of school clear-out, meat or meat alternative, vegetables, fruit, whole grain.</p> <p>Friday, May 20: Last day of school, sack lunch consisting of end of school clear-out, meat or meat alternative, vegetables, fruit, whole grain.</p>
<p>Red Oak Elementary/ Preschool Center</p> <p>Thursday, May 19: Italian flatbread; or taco salad, sliced onions, diced tomatoes, shredded lettuce, shredded cheese, pickled jalapenos, salsa, cornbread; or spicy chicken sandwich on a bun; or pizza slices; or roast beef over garlic bread; French fries, fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, broccoli, fresh fruit, orange/pineapple mix.</p> <p>Friday, May 20: George Maher Day of Service, sack lunch.</p> <p>Monday, May 23: Turkey and cheddar melt; or spicy chicken sandwich on a bun; or chicken Caesar salad, Italian bread; or cheddar-toni, Italian bread, or BBQ grain bowl; fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, steamed broccoli florets, baby carrots with ranch dressing, fresh fruit, cinnamon apples.</p> <p>Tuesday, May 24: Super nachos, pickled jalapenos, diced onions, diced tomatoes, salsa; or taco salad, shredded lettuce, shredded cheese, pickled jalapenos, diced onions, diced tomatoes, salsa, cornbread; or cheeseburger on a bun; or pizza slices; or chicken avocado club wrap; fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, refried beans, Italian bean salad, fresh fruit, mandarin oranges.</p>	<p>Stanton</p> <p>Thursday, May 19: Macaroni and cheese, mini corn dogs, corn, potato spudsters, mixed fruit, pineapple tidbits.</p> <p>Friday, May 20: Cook’s choice.</p> <p>Monday, May 23: Cook’s choice.</p> <p>Tuesday, May 24: Cook’s choice.</p>

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School Activities

<p>Thursday, May 19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Griswold: Last day of preschool• Essex: Middle school field trip.• Griswold: open gym• 3:25-5:55 p.m., Griswold: High school track practice, middle school gym• 5-8 p.m., Griswold: weightlifting, weight room• 6 p.m., Southwest Valley: Eight grade graduation transition meeting, auditorium	<p>Monday, May 23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• East Mills: Late start, 90 minutes• Southwest Valley: Teacher inservice• 3:25-5:55 p.m., Griswold: High school track practice, middle school gym• 5-8 p.m., Griswold: weightlifting, weight room
<p>Friday, May 20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Griswold: Last day of school, four hour early dismissal• Griswold: Middle school career fair/awards day• 8:30 a.m., Red Oak: Graduation rehearsal, junior/senior high school orange gym• Southwest Valley: Last day of school, noon dismissal• 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 room	<p>Tuesday, May 24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Southwest Valley: Teacher inservice• Essex: Last day of school. 10 a.m. dismissal• Stanton: Last day of school, 11 a.m. dismissal• 9-11:30 a.m., Southwest Valley: Vacation Bible school, Villisca Wellness Center• 10:30 a.m., Essex: Eighth grade graduation ceremony• 3:25-5:55 p.m., Griswold: High school track practice, middle school gym• 5-8 p.m., Griswold: weightlifting, weight room• 7 p.m., Red Oak: Junior high school variety show, junior/senior high school auditorium
<p>Saturday, May 21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 7 p.m., Stanton: Graduation ceremony at Stanton school.	<p>Wednesday, May 25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Southwest Valley: Teacher inservice• 9-11:30 a.m., Southwest Valley: Vacation Bible school, Villisca Wellness Center• 3:25-5:55 p.m., Griswold: High school track practice, middle school gym• 4 p.m., Red Oak: Tumbling, junior/senior high school auditorium• 5-8 p.m., Griswold: weightlifting, weight room
<p>Sunday, May 22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 p.m., Red Oak: Graduation, junior senior high school orange gym• 5:30-p.m., Griswold: High school basketball open gym, high school gym	

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THE RED OAK Express

*Saturday May. 21, 2022
at 7 p.m.
Stanton High School Gymnasium*

CLASS COLORS
Purple & White

CLASS FLOWER
Carnation

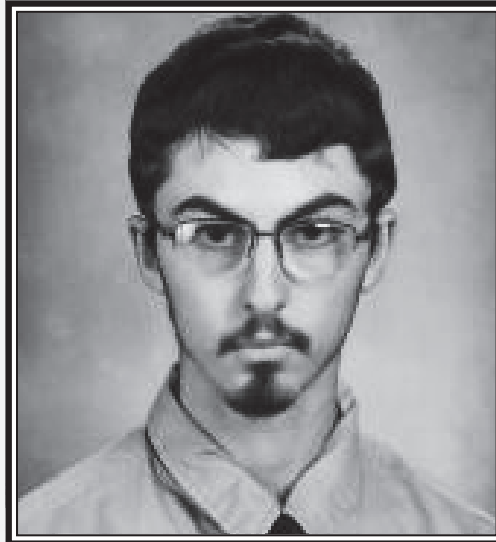
CLASS MOTO
"Chase your dreams but always know
the road that'll lead you home again."
-Tim McGraw



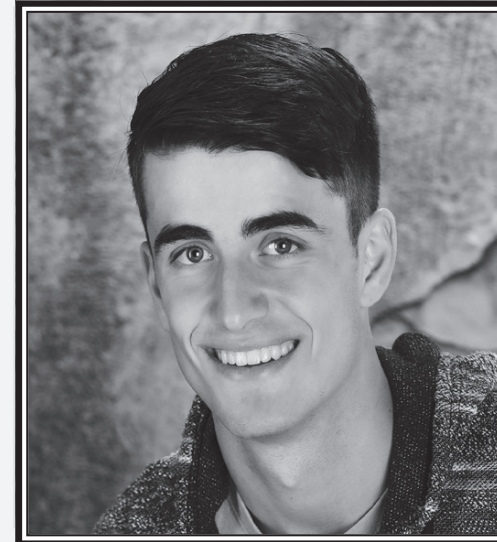
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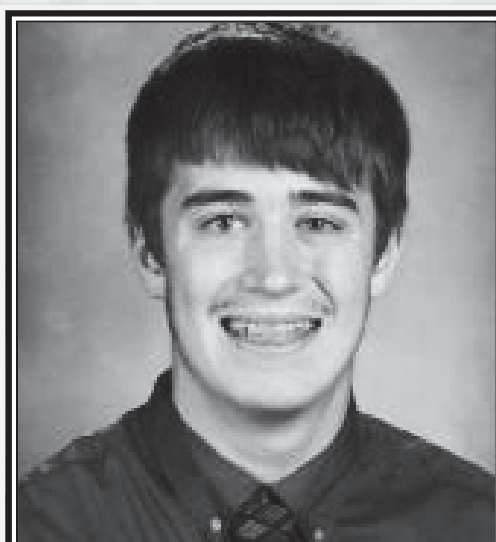
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*Saturday May. 21, 2022
at 7 p.m.
Stanton High School Gymnasium*

CLASS COLORS
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CLASS FLOWER
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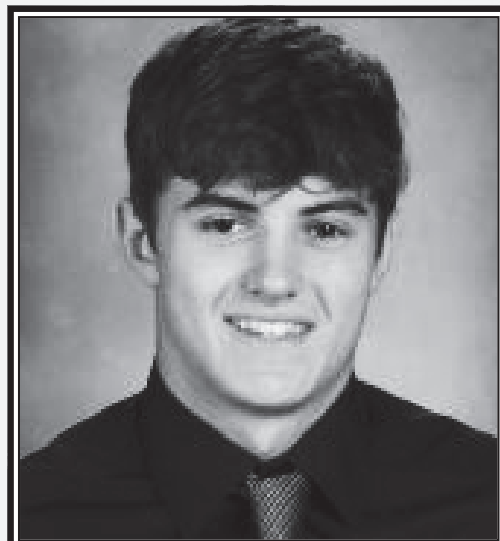
CLASS MOTO
"Chase your dreams but always know
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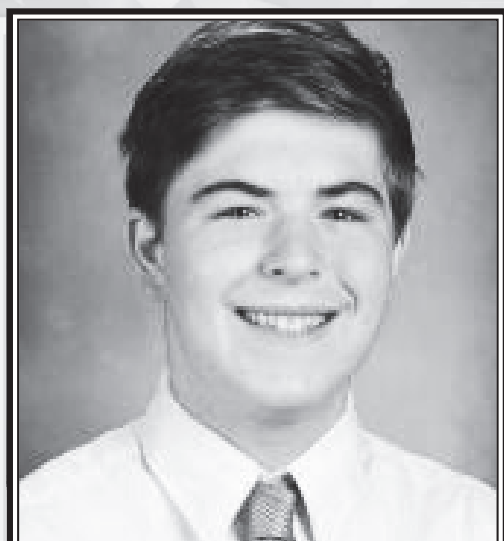
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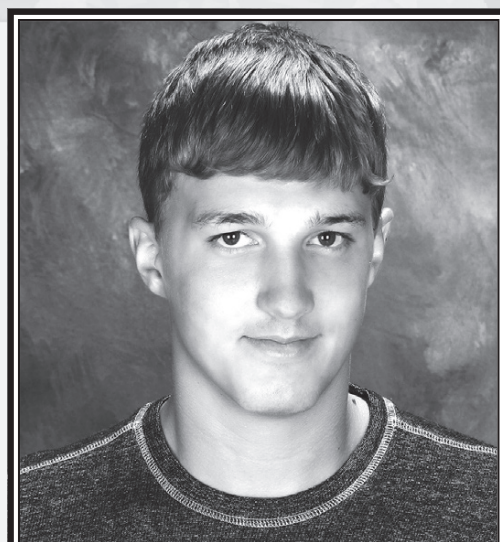
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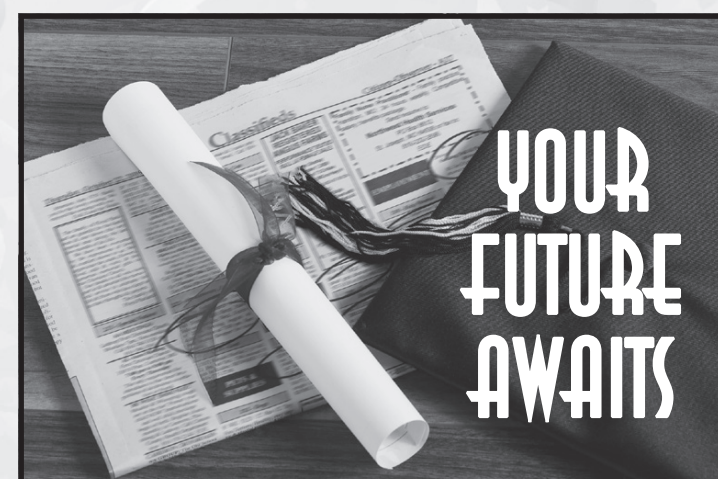
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May is mental health month

May is Mental Health Awareness Month and The Iowa Departments of Public Health and Human Services, soon to be the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), are urging Iowans to prioritize their mental health. After the last two years of pandemic living, many people are realizing that stress, isolation, and uncertainty have taken a toll on their well-being. To coincide with Mental Health Awareness Month, the state is launching a multi-platform, multi-audience suicide prevention messaging campaign. The campaign targets Iowa youth as well as adults who are influential in the lives of young Iowans.

There Are People Who Care was developed for younger Iowans who might be experiencing thoughts of suicide or self-harm. Messages will run on platforms frequently used by a younger demographic, including TikTok, Snapchat, gaming apps and streaming television.

Say Something About Suicide is targeted to an older audience, encouraging them to say something if they notice the young person in their life is struggling. These ads will be placed on broadcast and streaming television as well as social media sites with an older audience demographic.

"Much of our work in mental health service delivery and suicide prevention is about reducing stigma. The first step is to reach out for support when you or someone you care about is struggling. You may not always know the exact right thing to say or do, but there are resources available through Your Life Iowa and others that help guide the process. Mental Health is part of our overall health, and is just as important as taking care of your physical health. We want Iowans to prioritize both," said Kelly Garcia, Director of the Departments of Health and Human Services.

The call to action for both campaigns is to reach out to Your Life Iowa. Your Life Iowa provides free, 24/7 support available for anyone dealing with mental health concerns, thoughts of suicide, substance use, problem alcohol use, or problem gambling. In FY21, Your Life Iowa provided 31,089 contacts (phone text and chat), a 126% increase over fiscal year 2020. Adult mental health was the leading cause of the contacts, accounting for just over 30 percent of all contacts.



Approximately 470,000 adults in Iowa have a mental health condition, including 128,000 adults with a serious mental illness. More than half of people nationwide with a mental health condition do not receive treatment; cost was the deterrent for almost one third of Iowans who did not receive mental health care. There is no cost to contact Your Life Iowa and speak with a trained crisis counselor. Beginning July 16, call 988 for matters of mental health crisis. Calling 988 will connect you directly to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, which is staffed by trained crisis counselors 24/7, 365 days a year.

Visit YourLifeIowa.org for more information.

These are some common signs of mental illness in adults and adolescents.

- Excessive worrying or fear
 - Feeling excessively sad or low
 - Feelings of confusion or difficulty concentrating and learning
 - Extreme mood changes, including uncontrollable "highs" or feelings of euphoria
 - Prolonged or significant feelings of irritability or anger
 - Avoiding friends and social activities
 - Difficulty understanding or relating to other people
 - Changes in sleeping habits or feelings of fatigue and low energy
 - Changes in eating habits, such as increased hunger or lack of appetite
 - Changes in sex drive
 - Difficulty perceiving reality (delusions or hallucinations, in which a person experiences and senses things that don't exist in objective reality)
 - Inability to perceive changes in one's own feelings, behavior or personality. Some individuals experience a lack of insight known as anosognosia, which NAMI describes as unawareness of one's own mental health condition.
 - Overconsumption of substances such as alcohol or drugs
 - Multiple physical ailments without obvious causes, such as headaches, stomach aches and vague and ongoing aches and pains
 - Suicidal thoughts
 - Difficulties handling daily life, including an inability to carry out activities or handle problems and stress that arises each day
 - An intense fear of weight gain or concern with appearance
- Pre-adolescent children also can experience mental illness, which can manifest itself through these symptoms:
- Changes in academic performance
 - Excessive worry or anxiety. Some children may fight with parents to avoid going to bed or school.
 - Hyperactive behavior
 - Frequent nightmares
 - Frequent disobedience or aggression
- Individuals who are experiencing any of these symptoms are urged to contact a health care professional,

Wright updates board on several courthouse improvements, repairs

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors received an update from maintenance supervisor Dan Wright on a number of projects at the courthouse and at various county buildings.

The first major update was the replacement of windows around the courthouse. Wright said Red Oak Glass has completed all the windows earmarked for replacement.

"I have started using a lift to begin the scraping, priming and caulking around the windows, and hopefully, after a couple of coats of paint, everything will be completed," Wright said.

Wright said another project soon to begin is the repair of wind damage to the courthouse turret.

"I've been in contact with the roofer, and they seem to think it won't be a big problem to fix. The biggest piece of the project will be to get the crane and work basket in here," Wright said. "Also, they suggested that we get some more drone pictures of the whole roof, as the contractor believes that there might be other storm damage beyond the damage to the turret, and I've been in contact with the adjustor we worked with to repair the hail damage on the other buildings."

Wright said all the trusses have been set for the new garage/storage building at the law enforcement center, and most of the concrete has been poured. However, Wright said he looked at the concrete bid, and discovered two approaches were not bid for.

"I'm wondering if we have



Maintenance supervisor Dan Wright, center, shows Supervisors Chair Mark Peterson, left, and Supervisor Mike Olson the proposed locations for additional concrete approaches to the new LEC garage/storage building. (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express)

the American Rescue Plan funds for those additional approaches. One is for \$3,500 and the other is \$3,300. Also, our driveway going through to the street is falling apart and has potholes, and concrete work for it would come out to \$15,900," commented Wright.

Wright added it made sense to get the projects approved and completed while the concrete contractor was on-site, as once they moved to another project it would be difficult to secure a return. County Auditor Stephanie Burke advised Wright to send a combined funding request for the three projects to be potentially approved by the supervisors using ARP funds.

The supervisors also approved moving the June 7 supervisors meeting to June 8 at 8:30 a.m., due to the Montgomery County

Primary Election on June 7, and scheduled the Primary Election canvass at 8:30 a.m. June 14, prior to the regular supervisors meeting.

In other business, the supervisors:

- Approved the sheriff's report of fees for April, 2022, in the amount of \$26,582.
- Approved the recorder's report of fees for April, 2022, in the amount of \$23,660.
- Approved the treasurer's ending fund balance for April, 2022, in the amount of \$12,533,282.
- Approved a tax transfer from rural services basic to secondary roads, in the amount of \$15,837.
- Approved a tax transfer from general service basic to secondary roads, in the amount of \$1,986.

Scott resigns as IT director

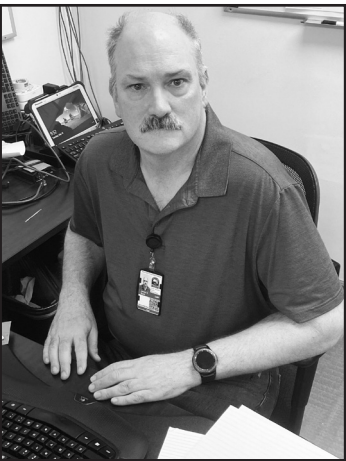
Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

After less than six months on the job, Montgomery County IT Director, Jim Scott, turned in his resignation to supervisor at a special May 10 meeting.

Members of the board approved his resignation, effective May 20. Scott started in the position on Dec. 13, 2021, and said the decision to leave the position was based on an opportunity to move closer to home.

"I received an offer of a job that took me closer to home, back to the Des Moines area. It also gave me the opportunity to do something I've done before. It's a heavy-duty truck dealership that I'm going to work for, and I worked for another dealership before, so this is an opportunity to go back to something that I know and excelled at," Scott explained.

Even though Scott is excited about the opportunity, he said the decision to leave his current position was not easy, and there are a number of things he'll miss.



Scott

"Montgomery County has, by far, given me one of the best jobs I've ever had. Everyone has been so friendly. I've made many friends here professionally, and I have several department heads that I truly call my friend," explained Scott. "Also, I come from a law enforcement background, and it was a great opportunity for me to work with the sheriff's office, the police department, and the fire department, and see the back end. I've done law enforcement from the officer's side of things, and now I've done it from the IT side of things, which was very enlightening, but I'd say this was the hardest decision I've ever had to make."

At the special meeting, the supervisors made plans to advertise for the position through newspapers. The prior posting listed the salary starting at \$80,000. Scott said it was important to list a salary, and not make it too low.

"If it's too low, you'll get people who feel it isn't even worth their time, whereas if you put a starting salary, and include verbiage that there's a chance to increase due to experience and knowledge, that would be the way to go," Scott advised. "In all honesty, from a personal standpoint, if the starting salary had been lower than \$80,000, it probably wouldn't have been on my radar," Scott commented.

Scott also suggested highlighting the fact that the IT position also served the county law enforcement agencies, and said

he visited the county's website frequently while making a decision to accept the position.

The supervisors were in agreement to leave the salary at \$80,000, and noted that the salary was flexible based on experience.

Scott also suggested that the county offer relocation expenses for potential candidates located outside Montgomery County.

"That was a big thing for me, and it's beneficial to anyone who might consider the position who lives away from Montgomery County. Having that benefit allowed me to quickly establish residence here," Scott said.

County Auditor Stephanie Burke felt relocation expenses would be a good benefit to offer, contingent on the new employee being on the job for at least six months.

Another option, Scott suggested, was to contact area schools with IT programs to let graduating seniors know the position was available, as they may not be aware before moving out of the county. Supervisors Chair Mark Peterson confirmed Southwestern Community College had an IT program for students, and would be worth contacting.

Scott said it would also benefit the supervisors to contact the schools as they would have an alumni list of students that had graduated with IT experience and may was to return to the county.

"I think a key is going to be to fill the position with someone from the area, or someone who has left, and is wanting to return to the county, and using the schools can get that information out to people who lived in this area but have moved away. In the case of SWCC, I'd suggest contacting their graduate services people," advised Scott.

Burke said the application process would be open until the position was filled, and that after updating the job posting, she would have the ad reviewed by the Iowa Counties Information Technology organization.

Park and tree board continue with plans to replace stage

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

The Red Oak Park and Tree Board has taken a step further in plans to replace the Fountain Square Park Stage.

The board discussed approval of a resolution for a rebid of phase one of the stage project, the final plans, and specifications.

"With this resolution, if approved, Snyder will publish on June 7, at which time the City of Red Oak will receive bids for said work. This is just giving Snyder and Associates the go ahead to start seeking bids," commented Chairman Bill Drey.

Drey said he was hopeful for a better outcome than the last time, due to the fact they were seeking to build a stage lower to the ground.

"Hopefully the bids will come in reasonable this time, otherwise we're probably not going to have the money to proceed with the project," Drey said.

The board approved a resolution authorizing Snyder and Associates to rebid for the final project.

The board then discussed a resolution for the bidletting and a public hearing through the Red Oak City Council.

"For bidletting, the bids have to go through the Red Oak City Council on that process. We can't do that part, but we're in charge of coordinating the rest of it," explained Drey.

The board approved the resolution authorizing the bidletting and setting a public hearing for review of the bids for phase one of the Fountain Square Park stage project.

In other business, the board:



Members of the Red Oak Park and Tree Board meet May 12. Pictured are, from left: Amy Strebe, Anna Boeye, Alex McFarland, Chairman Bill Drey, Cliff Owen, and park superintendent Adam VanDerVliet. (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express)

- Approved a request from the Red Oak swim team to use the pool for practice. Usage times were to be coordinated through park superintendent Adam VanDerVliet.
- Approved a proposal for nannies/babysitters to be added to the family pool pass at the Red Oak Municipal Pool.
- Approved a request from the Red Oak Chamber and Industry Association for use of Fountain Square Park, the Red Oak Trails, and equipment/assistance of staff

to facilitate the upcoming Junction Days celebration in June. Elaine Carlson, representing the ROCIA, said there were no surprises this year.

"We're pretty much doing what we have done in the past. That may change next year, as we continue to research ways to change things up, but for this year, we're just excited to host the event again," Carlson said.

Nominations wanted for ISF Iowan of the Day award

The Iowa State Fair Blue Ribbon Foundation and Cookies Food Products are currently seeking the next group of outstanding Iowans for the 2022 Iowan of the Day award.

They look for individuals across the state that exemplify leadership, citizenship, have a passion for volunteering, are involved in their community, and have made a positive impact on those around them. For 25 years they have celebrated these amazing Iowans and need help finding the next Iowan of the Day.

Iowan of the Day winners receive:

- A day of recognition at the 2022 Iowa State Fair
- Accommodations at the Des Moines Marriott Downtown
- An introduction on the Anne & Bill Riley Stage
- Gate admission for four
- Four Grandstand show tickets on his or her day of honor



- \$200 cash
 - Use of golf cart for his or her day at the Fair
 - VIP Parking
- They encourage people to nominate the outstanding Iowans in their communities. Nomination forms are available at BlueRibbonFoundation.org/IOTD.
- All Iowan of the Day nominations must be received no later than July 1. All nominees must currently reside in Iowa.

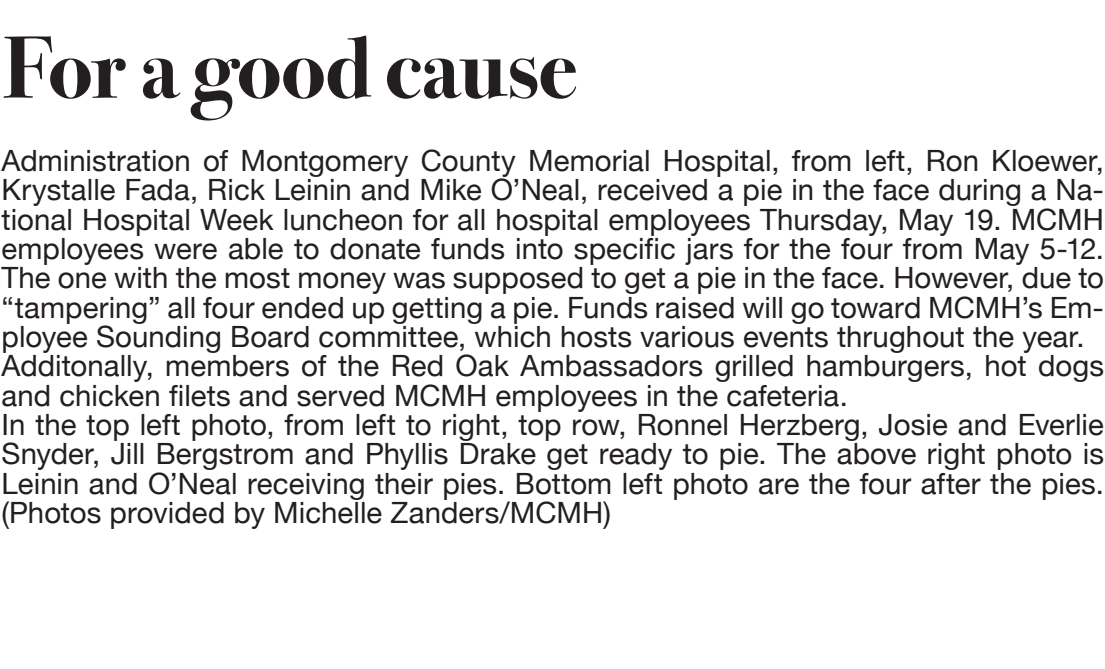
REX THEATRE
COMING TOGETHER BAND
A Musical Celebration OF THE BEATLES
May 21 8pm
414 1st St. • Glenwood | \$4 Admission



Playing catch up

After a cold and wet start to planting season, farmers are making up for lost time. (Tess Nelson/Red Oak Express)

THE EXTENDER SHOPPER
THE RED OAK EXPRESS
• RETAIL & CLASSIFIED DISPLAY May 25 Wednesday 10 a.m.
• CLASSIFIED LINE May 25 Wed. 10 a.m.
• LEGALS May 26 Thursday - Noon
OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY
Monday, May 30



For a good cause

Administration of Montgomery County Memorial Hospital, from left, Ron Kloewer, Krystalle Fada, Rick Leinin and Mike O'Neal, received a pie in the face during a National Hospital Week luncheon for all hospital employees Thursday, May 19. MCMH employees were able to donate funds into specific jars for the four from May 5-12. The one with the most money was supposed to get a pie in the face. However, due to "tampering" all four ended up getting a pie. Funds raised will go toward MCMH's Employee Sounding Board committee, which hosts various events throughout the year. Additionally, members of the Red Oak Ambassadors grilled hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken filets and served MCMH employees in the cafeteria. In the top left photo, from left to right, top row, Ronnel Herzberg, Josie and Everlie Snyder, Jill Bergstrom and Phyllis Drake get ready to pie. The above right photo is Leinin and O'Neal receiving their pies. Bottom left photo are the four after the pies. (Photos provided by Michelle Zanders/MCMH)

Council approves street asphalt project payments, wages for non-union employees

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

The City of Red Oak has almost wrapped up the final details of the 2021 street asphalt project.

At the regular meeting May 16, the council discussed change order number two for Omni Engineering, in the amount of \$12,189 for additional asphalt work.

"The company did some additional asphalt patching in multiple locations. One of the locations was in front of the post office," said City Administrator Brad Wright.

The council approved the change order, and also approved pay request number six, a subfinal payment to Omni

Engineering, in the amount of \$24,983.

The council also approved a resolution setting wages for non-union employees for the 2022-23 fiscal year.

Wright also shared with the council that there were going to be some changes to the set up of the fire department's meeting room, as they converted the rear portion of the room into additional bunk space.

While he didn't yet share the names of the new hires, Wright said the fire department had hired its additional staff, and one of the new hires was female.

"By the next council meeting we'll have the room converted, and the new hires are going through their additional training. We've hired our first full-time

female emergency responder, and so we are making some adjustments to the sleeping barracks," Wright explained. "Part of this back room will be isolated for a female barracks, and we'll set up for around two to three beds, so we're prepared if we continue down that path and continue to hire additional female staff."

Also, Wright said he had heard good news regarding Prairie Fire's work at the old middle school building.

"They will be going through a rebranding for the complex which will be announced very soon, and they are hoping to have the first of the units available to lease by November. The project is moving along, and there has been some positive



Red Oak City Council members Pete Wernhoff, Scott Keith, and Tim Fridoph, pictured from left, at the regular Red Oak City Council meeting on May 16. (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express)

- change there," said Wright
- In other business, the council:
- Approved an agreement between the City of Red Oak and the Rural Fire Protection Association for services from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025.
 - Approved a new cigarette/tobacco/vapor license for the Family Dollar.
 - Approved the final pay request to McCarthy Trenching for work on the 8th Street project, in the amount of \$4,884.
 - Approved hangar lease agreements for Brianna Hill and Kevin McGrew, per the Red Oak Airport Commission's recommendations.

Peterson, Bruce vying for district 4 board of supervisors

Editor's note: In the Montgomery County District 4 Board of Supervisors race, George Bruce is running against incumbent Mark Peterson. The primary election is June 7.

George A. Bruce
Outside Lumberyard
Foreman at UFC

Why are you running for office?

I have lived around the Red Oak area for a while and have recently seen things happening that I do not agree with. I believe that if elected, I may be able to have a positive impact on my surroundings.

Is this a position you've held before? No

What is your relevant experience?

If you are asking if I'm a politician or held office before, that would be no. I believe we need someone that isn't a politician and is willing to listen.

If elected, what are your top two priorities, and why?

These country roads are top of my list. I see too many things that are happening too frequently and when asking questions get shot down, hung up on, or ignored. My second priority is to make sure that money is not getting spent past the need of spending.

Are you a member of any local clubs/organizations/boards?

I do talk to several of the farmers and community mem-



Bruce

bers both during work and after. This will be my first official board and I will say once again I am no politician.

Who inspires you?
Family

Family info: Spouse/children/grandchildren:

I have been married for 37 years to my wife, Carrie. I have two kids, George and Cassie. I have five grandchildren.

Anything else you'd like to add:

I can't say I will always know what is right, but if you call me about issues that this position will grant me jurisdiction over, I will listen to what you have to say. I will ask others that might know more than myself and I will get back to you with what I have found out.

Will you have another job while serving on the board?

I currently work at the UFC in the lumber yard. I plan on

keeping that job and asking them to work with me while I serve the district.

If so, how will this affect your ability to serve your constituents?

I don't think it will. There have been times in my life where I have worked two jobs. I believe that this will be no different.

Lastly, in your words what is the role of the position you're seeking?

From what I have heard, read, and seen, this board sets policies for the county. It looks over and approves budgets. Most importantly, I have said it before we need to listen to the concerns of each citizen in the district and understand how our choices can affect them.

Mark L. Peterson
Montgomery County
Supervisor District 4

Why are you running for office?

I would like to continue to serve all of the taxpayers in District 4

Is this a position you've held before? If yes, when?

Yes. I was first elected in 2014 and reelected in 2018

What is your relevant experience?

Of course my seven years as a supervisor along with many decades in this county, knowing a lot of the folks and territory that I represent. Various work experiences dealing with and

supervising people in assorted environments.

If elected, what are your top two priorities, and why?

Continue to work to upgrade the infrastructure of Montgomery County with several bridges at the top of the list while balancing that with being fiscally responsible.

Protect the property rights of my constituents.

Are you a member of any local clubs/organizations/boards?

Vice chair of Waubonsie Mental Health Board
Member of Southwest Iowa Regional Mental Health Board
Golden Hills Resource Conservation and Development Board
Hungry Canyons Board

Who inspires you?

I am inspired by anyone with a good can do attitude, past and present.

Family info: Spouse/children/grandchildren:

Spouse, Melanie; children Matt, Mitch, Magnum, Monroe, and Myles; grandchildren Addie and Zak.

Anything else you'd like to add:

Remember to vote for me on June 7 in the Republican Primary if you live in District 4 which includes the cities of Stanton, Elliott and Coburg along with almost everything west and north of Red Oak.

If your voting location is a problem, check with the



Peterson

Auditor's office for absentee options.

Will you have another job while serving on the board? If so, how will this affect your ability to serve your constituents?

I farm and drive truck. I give my supervisor position priority since the good people of District 4 have entrusted me with working for them. If needed, I "farm" out some of my personal workload to others to give my Supervisor role top priority.

Lastly, in your words what is the role of the position you're seeking?

I really enjoy working as a Supervisor in Montgomery County. While roads are important it is so much more than just dealing with the rural roads.

There are so many ways to interact with people for the betterment of the county in general. We need to strive to make our area a great place to live and work.



RED OAK GRAND THEATRE

THIS WEEK'S MOVIES

MAY 20-22

THEATRE #1 capacity is 182

THE BAD GUYS
To avoid a prison sentence, the animal outlaws set out to fool the world that they're turning good. PG

THEATRE #2 capacity is 107

FANTASTIC BEASTS: SECRETS OF DUMBLEDORE
Albus Dumbledore and the magizoologist must lead a team to stop a dark wizard. PG-13

SHOWTIMES
FRI, SAT & SUN 7 PM
SUN MATINEE 2 PM

ALL TICKETS \$2.00
712-623-3169