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# THE RED OAK Express

WEDNESDAY

May 4, 2022

Red Oak, IA

Volume 155, No. 18

redoakexpress.com

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## Ace pilot from Red Oak escaped POW camp

Tess Nelson

The Red Oak Express

When it comes to World War II, Montgomery County had several astonishing heroes on and off the battlefield. One of the more prominent "flyboys" from the area was John "The Blade" Carder from Red Oak.

John was one of three boys, and was born Feb. 3, 1920, to Nick (N.J.), a World War I veteran, and Ester Marie (Baxter) Carder. The family lived in Shenandoah, where the boys, Tom, John and James, graduated high school; York, Neb.; and Red Oak.

"He was a junior member of the National Rifle Association and won all sorts of awards for marksmanship and sharpshooting while growing up," recalled John's niece, Ann Carder. "He also loved to be outdoors, hunting and fishing."

John attended Wentworth Military Academy in Lexington, Mo., and the University of Iowa before joining the military.

"He was a pilot before World War II, so he was fast tracked through training because they needed pilots so desperately," said Ann. "He enlisted in Omaha on March 30, 1942, and completed training at Luke Air Force Base in Arizona."

A March 15, 1943, article in The Red Oak Express said Carder received his silver wings and Second Lieutenant commission at Air Corps Reserve during graduation at Luke Field in Phoenix. He would then advance to flight school training.

John was trained to fly the quick and nimble P-51 Mustangs in the European Theatre.

The P-51s protected the slower, larger bombers during missions. John's P-51 was named "Taxpayer's Delight."



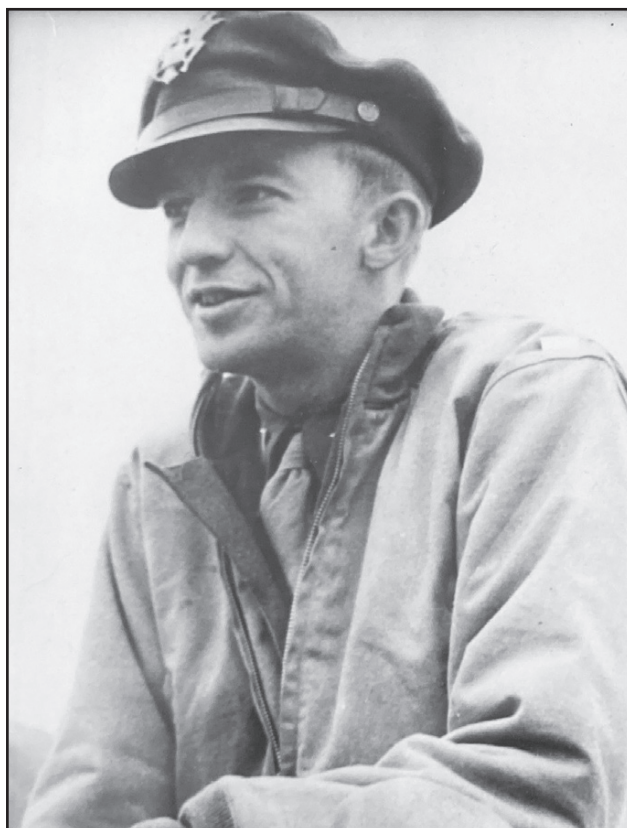
John 'The Blade' Carder of Red Oak was an ace pilot during World War II. He died in 1961 in an airplane crash. (Photo provided)

John arrived in Europe March 18, 1942, as a member of the 364th Fighter Squadron of the 8th Air Force located in Leiston, England, which was only three miles from the North Sea Coast. This location made it ideal as a Fighter Group Air Base as they'd escort bombers across the sea and over occupied Europe. The air base also witnessed the arrival of many very damaged Allied aircraft, which were just grateful to make landfall in Great Britain.

The 358th Fighter Group were replaced by the 357th Fighter Group early in 1944, flying P-51 Mustangs rather than P-47 Thunderbolts. These Mustangs were able to fly greater distances in escorting bombers to eastern German targets like sites in Berlin, Munich, Bremen, Kassel, Hague, Frankfurt, Bernburg, Oberursel, and Leipzig.

In a March 3, 1944, letter to his parents, John wrote, "Dear Folks: I hope you gathered by my last letter that I got a victory on my first long mission. I was flying with the colonel who got two. The Danube River and the Alps were all in sight on that run. It was all quite a thrill I can tell you. Yesterday, the colonel, two others and I flew down the Zuider Zee and down the streets of The Hague. The Dutch sure like to see the White Star and wave their arms to let you know it. Got a good look at the German pillboxes on the coast from an altitude of 10 feet."

In March 1944, an article in The Red Oak Express said his group of three squadrons compiled a record of 73 enemy planes shot down, of which 43 were credited to his squadron, the 364th. John gained attention in several newspapers with a "mark of four German planes on eight missions."



John 'The Blade' Carder of Red Oak was an ace pilot during World War II. He was captured by Germans and escaped. (Photo provided)

"I have no doubt the marksmanship and sharpshooter awards he won growing up helped contribute to his proficiency in the air," said Ann.

Soon, Captain Carder, nicknamed "The Blade" became an ace pilot after shooting down seven enemy aircraft in aerial combat. To become an ace, one had to shoot down at least five enemy aircraft in aerial combat.

In May, Captain Carder would be reported Missing In Action. In a Red Oak Express article, he was reported MIA May 12, 1944, after he'd been promoted to captain and flight leader.

After Captain Carder went MIA, his folks received a letter from his commanding officer John H. Storch. The letter was dated May 15, 1944. The letter explained on May 12, the squadron was escorting bombers to Germany. As they approached the bombers, they were hit once by enemy fighters formation. The fighters went through the bombers and were reforming for another attack when the flight in which Carder was flying reached them and engaged.

"Our flight was outnumbered, and soon it was a big dogfight. When the flight reformed, your son was missing. He was last seen on the tail of an enemy fighter shooting at it."

The letter continued to say John was well liked and well respected, that he was a

loyal, excellent officer and dedicated.

"There is still a chance that he was forced down or parachuted and is alive and well although he may be a prisoner of war," read the letter.

Red Oak and Shenandoah newspapers articles state John and another flier escaped from the enemy while marching from Nuremburg to Moosburg to keep ahead of the Allies.

They were recaptured when a company of retreating Germans soldiers literally stumbled over them as they hid in some underbrush. However the Americans were getting close and "No body wanted us." They were turned over to members of Hitler Youth, who happened to be intoxicated off vermouth and cognac. The two escaped a second time and made it to a Polish farmhouse where they asked for some milk.

"She took us in the kitchen, and there were 25 German soldiers. For a minute it looked like a trap, but they put their hands up and said 'Kamerad,' read a Red Oak Express newspaper article.

Eventually they met American equipment coming down a road, were sent to the rear where there were ambulances, and ended up spending a couple of days in a hospital eating and resting.

After that, Captain Carder received a 60-day

CARDER, Page 2A

## Council approves request to paint planter boxes on square

Nick Johansen  
The Red Oak Express

The Red Oak Arts Destination group is looking to make some visual improvements to the downtown square.

At the Red Oak City Council meeting on May 2, Phillip Lamb spoke before the council, and said he and other members of the group wished to paint the bare concrete planter boxes on the corners of the square.

"The group is made up of citizens of Red Oak who are interested in public art for Red Oak which will also help with tourism for Red Oak," commented Lamb.

Lamb added Red Oak and art have gone hand-in-hand from the beginning, as the community was the known birthplace of the art calendar, which started in the late 1800s in downtown Red Oak.

We believe continuing with artistic expression throughout town will honor our heritage, as well as being a pleasant experience for our residents and visitors," said Lamb. "In other areas where similar types of planter boxes were painted, a year afterwards, traffic had slowed down, and made the area safer for pedestrians and locals. That's not something we knew when we started this, it was just something we found out."

According to Lamb, in preparation for large mural installations in Red Oak, the group has researched paint projects for long lasting murals, and could also be applied to the painting

project on the concrete planters.

"We have murals in Red Oak that are more than a decade old, and you can't even tell they are anywhere close to that age. With the technology that is changing paints, that should go on and on," explained Lamb.

The planter boxes would first be painted with a concrete primer, and the proper appropriate paints for exterior painting. Only the outside perimeter of the planters would be done. Also, no money was being requested.

"We are not asking for funding from the City of Red Oak. We would take full responsibility of the paint and of the upkeep on that portion of the planter," advised Lamb.

Lamb also told the council that multiple building owners and business owners were asked for their opinions on the painting, and all of those asked voiced their approval of doing the painting work.

Councilperson Jeanice Lester thought the project was a good one, but hoped that the group meant what they said.

"I have that little nag, where I hope you do what you say you'll do and maintain them, because five or 10 years down the road, if someone doesn't take responsibility for them, you know what's going to happen. I'm hoping that, truly, you guys and gals will take care of them," commented Lester.

Lamb assured Lester that there would be no problem maintaining

COUNCIL, Page 7A

## Halbert pens autobiography

Nick Johansen  
The Red Oak Express

Red Oak native and retired Air Force pilot Tom Halbert has written an autobiography.

"My journalism background and my wire-service background allowed me to write and be succinct, so I had to overcome that to be able to write the book," commented Halbert.

Halbert's book, "An American Gypsy: Around the World in 32,620 Days" is now available in paperback and Kindle through Amazon.com, and the title reflects the number of days between his birth to when he finished writing the book, including his adoption by his parents, Mary Pilkington-Halbert and Russel Halbert, and his years growing up in Red Oak.

"I lived in Red Oak from first grade until I was in junior high school. At that time, my parents divorced and my mother got a job in Des Moines, so I ended up in Des Moines, which is where I spent my senior year of high school," Halbert said.

The divorce, Halbert said, was due to his father's alcoholism. His mother got a job as a librarian at Drake University, and that simple event had a major impact on his future.

"It was extremely pivotal. I didn't have any real ambitions or any foresight and after it happened, it opened doors for me that I never would have had without it. Her being a university employee meant I could earn a college degree tuition-free," explained



Tom Halbert

Halbert.

While at Drake, Halbert studied journalism and broadcasting, and after graduation, he served as a sports reporter, sports editor and United Press staff writer until 1955, when, as Halbert said, the Korean War caught him.

"My career became double-edged. I was still working in public relations, and I was also flying with the Air Force in addition, so it was the best of both worlds. When I first started out in public relations in Lincoln, Neb., said Halbert. "I worked for a general who turned out to be my mentor. My experience in the news business was that I wrote, people edited it, it was published, but an editor never really talked to me or did anything."

HALBERT, Page 2A





### Melanoma & Skin

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Organization proposing trails throughout county

Nick Johansen  
The Red Oak Express

The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors is looking at ways to fund a request from the Montgomery County Recreational Trails organization. The organization is a 501C3, with a mission to encourage, advocate, and plan for recreational trails throughout the county. Larry Brandstetter, representing the organization, said they developed a plan for the entire county, and are now ready to initiate those actions.

“We are to the point where there are a lot of federal dollars coming into the state for transportation alternative programming, which is trails money. The increase was brought about by the enactment of the Federal Recovery Act. The problem we have is that we can’t apply for any of that funding without a plan,” Brandstetter said.

In the interim, Brandstetter said the organization asked two engineering firms for bids on a planning study do the proposed trails in two segments.

“The first segment would be from Red Oak to Stanton, and the second segment would be from Stanton, or Viking Lake, to Villisca, so people could travel the trail from Red Oak to Villisca, or the other way around,” explained Brandstetter.

Of the two bids, Brandstetter said McClure Engineering of Ankeny offered to draft a plan with the most specific information, and the firm also had the lowest bid, at \$15,000. McClure has done other trail work in the past, and is currently in the process of working on a trail from LeMars to Sioux City.

“The initial planning study will look at both potential segments of this, and they will come up with two different recommendations for routes between Red Oak and Stanton, and Stanton and Villisca. They will review aerial mapping, and property owner right-of-way information to determine the two best options,” Brandstetter advised. “They will take that information and have engineers come to Montgomery County and do an on the ground assessment of those routes to determine feasibility, as well as confirm any structures or obstacles not shown on the aerial map. A draft planning study report will be prepared of the findings, and submit it to the Montgomery County Trails organization for review.”

From there, a meeting may be called, and the final plan, with construction cost estimates, and other details, will be submitted upon receipt of comments. Brandstetter also felt the county engineer and county leaders would be looking at the draft and making comments. The project was estimated to take around eight weeks. Brandstetter requested funding to compensate for the cost of the study.

“In order to do this study, we’re asking the supervisors to fund the cost of the study from the American Rescue Plan funds, because it’s an investment in trails, which are an investment in economic development, and will bring a lot of people to the county. We will be able to write grants to get funds to do the development of the trail,” stated Brandstetter.

Supervisor Mike Olson was in agreement that the study would be



Montgomery County Recreational Trails member Larry Brandstetter addresses members of the county supervisors about a county-wide trail system. (Nick Johansen/Red Oak Express)

money well spent, and would be a win for both sides. Supervisors Donna Robinson and Chair Mark Peterson were also in agreement. Robinson’s only hesitation was the use or ARP funds for paying for the study.

“I would like to see us do a little bit of research to see how we could do this through economic development through our general budget, as we have not opened up the ARP funds for external applications, and we recently passed a resolution stating all of that funding would go towards governmental use,” Robinson said.

Brandstetter said the funding need was not immediate, but they wanted to get the study and project rolling in the early summer, as most of the available funding for trails was depleted by the fall.

County auditor Stephanie Burke said the county was going to be scheduling a budget amendment that could allow for the money to find the study from the county’s economic development fund.

The supervisors also made it clear they were in favor of funding the study, it simply came down to finding the appropriate funding source. However, they took no action, and discussion on the funding is planned for a future supervisors meeting.

CARDER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

furlough at home. He received the Distinguished Flying Cross with oak leaf cluster, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, Prisoner of War Medal, and World War II Victory Medal. He would also serve during the Korean Conflict.

Following his military service, Captain Carder returned to Red Oak, where he owned and operated a crop dusting and aerial photography business.

He and a friend, Chet Yeager, 50, of Emerson, were killed in an air crash in a heavily wooded area near the top of Black Fork mountain in the Ouachita range roughly 20 miles northeast of Mena, Ark. on Oct. 1, 1961.

The two were flying to Jasper, Texas to pick up an airplane and return it to Red Oak. The plane, owned by Jerry Anderson of Red Oak, was found in a ravine after a two-day search including 15 aircraft and 36 people from the Red Oak, Creston, Emerson and Corning communities.

“I wish I could have gotten to know him better,” said Ann.

John is laid to rest at Evergreen Cemetery in Red Oak.

Captain’s Collection of Souvenirs Grows

*Editor’s Note: Speaking of heroes from Red Oak on and off the battlefield during WWII with ties to Montgomery County is the following article in the March 13, 1944, edition of The Red Oak Express. It is about Captain Paul Vannordstrand of Red Oak, who was with the 34th Division.*

“But of all the thousands of soldiers in Italy picking up every imaginable kind of souvenir, Captain Vannordstrand probably tops them all.

He’s got practically every type of German weapon but a 170 canon. He’s got a complete German uniform. The collection includes revolvers and machine guns and mortars and knives and shells and whatnots. In Africa the captain’s men knew well of his great interest in souvenirs.

One morning three of them sneaked up beside a German who was asleep. They grabbed a machine gun beside the Jerry. The German woke up. The normal move for the Americans would have been to drop the heavy machine gun and get the hell out of there but they didn’t want to disappoint the captain. So they ran like mad down a hill, one of them with the machine gun under his arm. They didn’t even ditch the ammunition.

Captain Vannordstrand’s chief worry now is how he’s going to get all the stuff home.

HALBERT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

The general officers did, and that impressed me.”

Halbert served in many roles during his time in the Air Force, including the SAC Radio and TV Branch of Offutt Air Force Base from 1958-1961, SAC KC-97 pilot with Westover Air Force Base (Mass.) from 1964-1965, C-130 Pilot, Wing Executive Officer, and Public Information Officer with Sewart Air Force Base (Tenn.) from 1965-1970, and Branch Chief of the Secretary of the Air Force Office of Information at the Pentagon. His last role in the Air Force was as Deputy Public Information Officer of the Allied Air Forces Central Europe at Ramstein Air Base (Germany) from 1975, until his retirement Aug. 31, 1979.

“After 1979, I started teaching journalism and public relations at the University of Maryland, and got pulled back into the Pentagon. My civilian experience was as Assistant Director of Public Affairs, as advisor to four Secretaries of the Air Force, the senior civilian position in Air Force Public Affairs. That was from 1980-87. I traveled with them and was their public relations guy, both in Washington, D.C., and abroad, wherever they went.”

He finished up his career in civil service as the executive manager of Armed Forces Radio Television in Europe, and was responsible for broadcasting operations from Iran to Scandinavia, North Africa and to the Azores.

Halbert said the decision to write the biography was, in part, being an adoptee, a fact that he didn’t find out until he was 14 years old, and put him on a quest to find out who he was, something he pondered for many years. As for writing it, there was a two-pronged reason.

“The first thing I wanted to do was leave a record for my future family as to who I was, and my background, and the second thing was to be able to trace back and recall all of these memories, and let

my family have a history of what it was like when I was growing up. No one else in my family had ever done anything like that before,” Halbert commented.

Halbert also hopes that people who read the book outside of friends and family will be able to gain insight from the autobiography.

“I wanted to give a roadmap to adoptees, and also give them some inspiration and show they what was possible for them if they put their minds to it.”

Putting the autobiography together took a lot of time, and relied on many of the writing techniques he learned over the years.

“My experience in speech writing helped, as speeches have a start, and a middle and an end. I started out collecting my thoughts on half-sheets of paper, putting them aside, and shuffling them to create a format that I could embellish as I ran across them. Using that technique is how I basically spent the COVID-19 pandemic, and allowed me to write the book,” advised Halbert.

Halbert, now 90, said he probably won’t pursue other writing projects, but he does anticipate taking part in an event at the Red Oak Lied Public Library or the Montgomery County History Center in the fall of this year.

Halbert has fond memories of growing up in Red Oak, and has always claimed the community as his hometown.

“That’s where my life got started, and that’s where everything got put together.”

Halbert’s autobiography can be found at amazon.com/American-Gypsy-Around-World-Days/dp/B09XBQPMKR/ref=sr\_1\_1?crid=3OKK9R9WNMQGX&keywords=An+American+Gypsy&qid=1650994755&sprefix=an+american+gyp%2Caps%2C1351&sr=8-1.

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Syphilis is on the  
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Syphilis is a sexually transmitted  
infection. Early numbers show a  
75% increase in syphilis cases in  
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ERIN MUTSCHLER, 51

Erin Cathleen Mutschler, 51, Omaha, Neb., formerly of Red Oak, passed away Tuesday, April 26, 2022, at the Nebraska Methodist Hospital in Omaha, Neb.

Erin was born May 17, 1969, in Davenport, the daughter of Stephen McDonough and Sheila Rejbock.

Preceding her in death were her grandparents.

Survivors include her mother, Sheila Kreuger of Davenport; father, Stephen McDonough of Dover, N.H.; her husband, David Mutschler of Omaha, Neb.; sons, Kevin Mutschler of Omaha, Neb.; Keegan Mutschler of Lincoln, Neb.; and Brady Mutschler of Omaha, Neb.; and two grandchildren.

Catholic funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 4, 2022, at Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel with Father Lazarus Kirigia officiating. Memorials are suggested to Donate Life for organ donation and transplant at University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha.

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

DENNIS JOHNSON, 70

Dennis Wayne Johnson, 70, Red Oak, passed away Tuesday, April 26, 2022, at his home.

Dennis was born May 14, 1951, in Shenandoah, the son of Wayne and Margaret (Grape) Johnson.

Preceding him in death were his parents.

Survivors include his wife, Anita Johnson of Red Oak; son, Jammie Johnson of Council Bluffs; and two grandchildren.

A celebration of life service was held Saturday, April 30, 2022, at the Crossroads Community Church in Red Oak. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the family.

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



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](http://iowacourts.state.ia.us).

REAL ESTATE

WARRANTY DEED

- Harry and Marilyn Marsden to Harry Marsden Revocable Trust and Harry Marsden, Trustee, 6-72-38, 31-73-38, 20-73-38.
- Harry and Marilyn Marsden to Marilyn Marsden Revocable Trust and Marilyn Marsden, Trustee, 29-73-38.
- Jeffrey and Tiffany Vrbta to Micah and Rebecca Swab, Red Oak Northeastern Addition Lts 8-9.
- Connie and Ronald Copley to Duane and Jeanne Horseman and Anstine Larson, 27-72-38.
- Mike Klemme, Manager and Oak Tree Properties LLC to Diane Green, Red Oak Western Addition Blk 3 Lt 12.
- Walker Apartments LLC and Steve Walker, Managing Member to BP Homes LLC, Red Oak Northeastern Addition Lts 13, 4.
- Marcus Rude to Emily Arrick, Red Oak Fairview Addition Lts 24-25.
- Randi Harder and Robert Davis to Julie Wagner, Red Oak Fairview Addition Lts 24-25.
- Scott and Gabrielle Lindburg to Cheri Downing, Villisca N. Villisca Lt 17.
- Shirley Billings to Brian and

- Leah Mensen, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 26 Lt 12.
- Randall and Denise Cooper to Randall Cooper, Trustee, Denise Cooper, Trustee, and Cooper Family Trust, 21-72-38.
  - Randall and Denise Cooper to Randall Cooper, Trustee, Denise Cooper, Trustee, and Cooper Family Trust, 8-72-38 Lt 1.
  - Randall and Denise Cooper to Randall Cooper, Trustee, Denise Cooper, Trustee, and Cooper Family Trust, 29-73-38 Lt 2.
  - Randall and Denise Cooper to Randall Cooper, Trustee, Denise Cooper, Trustee, and Cooper Family Trust, 35-72-38, 26-72-38.
  - Randall and Denise Cooper to Randall Cooper, Trustee, Denise Cooper, Trustee, and Cooper Family Trust, 9-72-38.
  - Randall and Denise Cooper to Randall Cooper, Trustee, Denise Cooper, Trustee, and Cooper Family Trust, 27-72-38.

COURT OFFICER'S DEED

- Janet Hansen, Executor and James Wood Estate to Janet Hansen, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 13 Lt 11.

QUIT CLAIM DEED

- Heather Kesterson and Heather Young, to Heather, Sharon, and Joel Young, Red Oak Hillcrest Addition Lt 8.
- Donald and Marcine Blake to Marcine Blake, Stanton Original Plat Lt 195.
- Rebecca Zavalla to Rebecca and Marcus Rude, Red Oak Fairview Addition Lts 24-25.
- Cheryl Reynolds, Dennis Reynolds, POA, and Dennis Reynolds to Dennis Reynolds, 14-73-37, 13-73-37, Elliott Original Plat Blk 5 Lts 11-12.

SHERIFF'S DEED

- Jon Spunaugle, Anthony Branan, Anthony A. Branan, Denise Branan, Denise Eggleston, Denise R. Branan, and Montgomery County Sheriff to Nationstar

Mortgage LLC and Mr Cooper, Villisca Original Plat Lts 533-534.

MORTGAGE

- Jacob and Annie Klassen to Central Bank Illinois, 33-71-37 Parcel A.
- Duane and Jeanne Horseman and Anstine Larsen to Access Bank, Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., and MERS, 27-72-38.
- Joshua and Rachel Kuipers to Bank Iowa, Red Oak Maplewood Lt 25.
- Heather, Sharon, and Joel Young to Loandepot Com LLC, Red Oak Hillcrest Addition Lt 8.
- Emily Arrick to Logan State Bank, Red Oak Fairview Addition Lts 24-25.
- Jacob Larson to Bank Iowa, Red Oak Thompson's Addition Lts 6, 11.
- Julie Wagner to CMG Mortgage Inc., Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., and MERS, Red Oak Fairview Addition Lts 46-47.
- Benjamin Ingersoll to First Interstate Bank and Great Western Bank, 26-72-36.
- Scott and Gabrielle Lindburg to US Bank National Association, Stanton White City Lt 3.
- Julia Corrao and Julia Jennings to Bank Iowa, Red Oak Pactolus Park Addition Blk 3 Lts 7-8.
- Roger and Jane Brown to Bank Iowa, Red Oak Willard's Addition Lts 9-11.
- James McDaniel to City of Villisca, Villisca Original Plat Lt 66.
- William and Doris Schrier to Bank Iowa, 16-71-38.
- William and Wendy Wolenhaupt to Bank Iowa, Red Oak Northeastern Addition Blk 89.

MOD/AMENDMENT OF MORTGAGE

- Michael McCunn, Member Manager, Jana McCunn, Member Manager, and McCunn Rentals to Houghton State Bank, Red Oak Skyline Addition Lt 2.

SMALL CLAIMS

- Credit Bureau Services of IA Inc. vs. Curtis and Tanya Gaunt, Villisca, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$1,637.68 with 3.78% interest from April 28, plus costs.
- Resurgent Receivables LLC vs. Sherrie Chapin, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$900.04 with 3.78% interest from April 28, plus costs.
- Fred Pilecki vs. Alice and Ricky Nease, Red Oak, dismissed with prejudice.
- Credit Bureau Services of Iowa vs. Frank Burns, Red Oak, dismissed with prejudice.
- Montgomery County Sheriff vs. Randall Barr, Red Oak, dismissed with prejudice.
- Montgomery County Sheriff vs. Dominique Yazzie, Red Oak, dismissed with prejudice.

ARRESTS

- State of Iowa vs. Mildred Douglas, 32, Red Oak, Adams County warrant for failure to appear.

DISMISSED

- State of Iowa vs. James Cruz, 29, Red Oak, forgery, three counts, dismissed, possession of a controlled substance - marijuana, first offense, dismissed.
- State of Iowa vs. Rodney Richardson, Jr., 55, Council Bluffs, contempt - resist order or process of magistrate court, dismissed.
- State of Iowa vs. Sarah Wohlt, 51, Elliott, possession of a controlled substance - marijuana, first offense, dismissed.

CRIMINAL

- Aggravated, State of Iowa vs. Alisha Seyler, 21, Red Oak, interference with official acts inflicting bodily injury, deferred judgment one year, one year informal probation.
- Aggravated, State of Iowa vs. Markus Johnson, 46, Red Oak,

- theft third degree.
- Felony, State of Iowa vs. Summer French, 25, Shenandoah, gathering where marijuana is used, 30 days jail, suspended, \$430 fine, suspended.
  - Felony, State of Iowa vs. James Cruz, 29, Red Oak, forgery, five years prison, suspended, \$1,025 fine, suspended, controlled substance violation, pled guilty, 90 days jail, suspended, \$430 fine, concurrent with other charge.
  - Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. David Strough, 24, Villisca, domestic abuse assault, first offense, two days jail, time served, probation.
  - Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Reginald Slaughter, 57, New Market, domestic abuse assault first offense.
  - Serious misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Jeffery Whitt, 29, Villisca, gathering where marijuana is used, 90 days jail, time served, \$430 fine.
  - Serious misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Sarah Wohlt, 51, Elliott, possession of drug paraphernalia, pled guilty, \$105 fine, unlawful possession of prescription drugs, \$430 fine.
  - Serious misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Kim Trost, 42, Red Oak, eluding, \$430 fine.
  - Serious misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Phillip Currin, 22, Villisca, possession of a controlled substance - marijuana, first offense.
- OWI
- State of Iowa vs. Braden Gray, 19, Villisca, probation violation, dismissed.
  - State of Iowa vs. Dex Jensen, 28, Red Oak, first offense.
- TRAFFIC
- Tiffany Poynor, Davenport, no valid driver's license.
  - Connell Vanderpool, Elliott, failure to obey traffic control device.
  - Destiny Anderson, Red Oak, no valid driver's license.
- Kaden Hansen, Red Oak, failure to maintain or use safety belts.
  - David Million, Jr., Clarinda, fail to obey stop sign and yield right of way.
  - Colette Colvin-Bernard, Council Bluffs, speeding.
  - Aaron Allen, Red Oak, speeding.
  - Alan Faith, Hinton, speeding.
  - Natasha Sutton, Red Oak, speeding.
  - Juan Iniguez, Fort Calhoun, Neb., speeding.
  - Jonathan Avalos, Glenwood, speeding.
  - Kim Trost, Red Oak, speeding, operation without registration card or plate, failure to provide proof of financial liability insurance.
  - Keith Geise, Blair, Neb., speeding.
  - Seth Goertzen, Stanton, failure to maintain registration plate.
  - Joshua Bedsworth, Red Oak, speeding.
  - Kaiden Schooling, Red Oak, person under 21 using tobacco/vapor product, first offense.
  - Debra Hermesen, Elliott, speeding.
  - Aiden Gepner, Corning, person under 21 using tobacco/vapor product, first offense.
  - David Gaunt, Red Oak, registration violation.
  - Cloey Luft, Red Oak, failure to maintain registration plate.
  - Mary Phillips, Carlisle, speeding.
  - Briggs Jenson, Malvern, speeding.
  - Dylan Dalton, Villisca, operating non-registered vehicle.
  - Donna Barry, Council Bluffs, speeding.
  - Saul Aguilar Duran, Omaha, Neb., speeding.
  - Dezirae Kuhl, Glenwood, speeding.
  - Jeffrey Pape, Emerson, driving while license denied, suspended, cancelled, or revoked.

Yard and Garden: Annuals for shade

From ISU Extension

The garden centers and greenhouses are fully-stocked with annuals for spring planting. Annuals are a perfect addition to the landscape to provide color that lasts throughout the summer. Although most annuals prefer several hours of direct sunlight for maximum growth and bloom, there are a few annuals that prefer the darker corners of the garden. In this article, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach horticulturists answer questions about the annual plants that can be grown in the shady spots of the landscape in Iowa.

How much light do shade gardens receive?

Not all shady garden areas are created equal, and not all shade gardens are void of direct sun. In fact, most shaded areas well-suited for growing annuals should receive some direct light during the day. Shade gardens can be classified as shade, part shade or deep shade based on the amount of direct sunlight they receive. A shade garden is any location that receives one to three hours of direct sunlight each day. Many shade-loving annuals prefer dappled shade or those areas that receive direct sunlight in the morning when temperatures are cooler. Plants may respond differently if the direct light comes later in the day. This light in late afternoon and early evening is typically hotter and more intense. Part shade locations receive three to six hours of direct sunlight a day. Deep shade receives no direct sunlight during the day and can be one of the most difficult locations to grow any plants. Annuals can be the perfect plants for these areas because you can try something new each year and experiment to find the best species for that site.

What are the challenges with growing annuals in the shade?

Often the most prevailing challenge in shade gardens is the competition from trees. The roots of established trees can compete with other plants for moisture and nutrients. In addition, it can be difficult to plant around the tree roots. If digging is too difficult or is causing damage to tree roots, consider growing annuals in a container. Nearly all shade-loving annuals do well in containers or hanging baskets. Because of the lower light levels, shade gardens tend to have cooler temperatures and retain soil moisture longer than sunnier garden areas. Cooler temperatures mean these garden areas warm up later in the spring, and moist soils with low light levels can favor pests like slugs and snails. Deep shade created by buildings, overhangs, walls or fences can sometimes create light levels that are so low that even shade-loving annuals cannot thrive. Selecting annuals that prefer cool temperatures, consistently moist soils and/or the appropriate amount of direct sunlight can allow for success despite these challenges.

What annuals are good for shade?

A shade garden receives one to three hours of sunlight a day, ideally in the morning or as dappled light throughout the day. Annuals that can be successfully grown in shady areas include wax begonia

(Begonia x semperflorens-cultorum), impatiens (Impatiens walleriana), coleus (Coleus scutellarioides syn. Solenostemon), wishbone flower (Torenia fournieri), Browallia or silver bells (Browallia speciosa), polka dot plant (Hypoestes phyllostachya), caladium (Caladium bicolor), tuberous begonia (Begonia x tuberhybrida) and pansy (Viola x wittrockiana).

What annuals are good for part-shade locations?

Part shade locations receive three to six hours of direct sunlight a day. Often those annuals that tolerate full shade will grow and bloom even better in part shade locations, especially if the direct sunlight comes in the morning hours. There are several sun-loving annuals that will tolerate part shade locations and still bloom and grow, just not as vigorously as they would in more light. Annuals well-suited for part shade locations include, New Guinea impatiens (Impatiens xhawkeri), angel wing begonia (Begonia), nasturtium (Tropaeolum), flowering tobacco (Nicotiana), cupflower (Nierembergia), rose balsam (Impatiens balsamina), bachelor button (Centaurea), pinks (Dianthus), bells of Ireland (Moluccella), bacopa (sutura cordata), forget-me-not (Myosotis), baby blue eyes (Nemophila), perilla (Perilla frutescens), heliotrope (Heliotropium arborescens), Persian shield (Strobilanthes dyerianus), Swan River daisy (Brachycome), fuschia (Fuschia) and elephant ear (Colocasia).

What can I grow in garden areas with deep shade?

Deep shade areas received no direct sunlight and many shade-loving annuals may not thrive in these very low light locations. These areas are usually created by buildings, walls or fences and further shaded by nearby shrubs and trees. If possible, limb up trees or shrubs to allow more light into the area. Despite these very difficult growing conditions, a few annuals can be potentially good, colorful additions to deep shade. Impatiens (Impatiens walleriana), caladium (Caladium bicolor), tuberous begonia (Begonia x tuberhybrida) and most tropical houseplants can be good options for deep shade.

Can I use houseplants in my shade garden?

Yes. Most tropical plants grown as houseplants are native to the shady understory of tropical forests. Their tolerance of low light levels is what makes them good houseplants and can also make them a great way to brighten shady garden areas. Houseplants can be treated just like annuals; purchased from garden centers in spring, planted in the garden and allowed to be killed by frost in fall. Established houseplants from indoors can be moved to full or part shade locations after the danger of frost has passed. Be sure to acclimate the plant to the new light conditions outdoors by transitioning them to more light slowly over seven to 10 days. Bring the houseplant back indoors in the fall once nighttime temperatures start to dip below 50 degrees F at night. Houseplants that are good to grow as annuals in the shade garden include Boston fern (Nephrolepis), pothos (Epipremnum aureum), rex begonia (Begonia), philodendron (Philodendron),

Swiss cheese plant (Monstera), cast iron plant (Aspidistra elatior), dumbcane (Dieffenbachia), peperomia (Peperomia), arrowhead vine (Syngonium podophyllum), inch plant (Tradescantia, Zebina), maiden hair fern (Adiantum), holly fern, (Cyrtomium falcatum), spider plant (Chlorophytum comosum), Swedish ivy (Plectranthus), aluminum plant (Pilea) and snake plant (Dracaena trifasciata syn. Sansevieria).



# SUDOKU

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

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

ANSWER:



## Stronger the Press, Stronger the People

THE TIME CAPSULE | ROY MARSHALL

### Are ducks for you?

A couple of family members joined us for Easter dinner. Wife served a fine roast duck with corn-bread stuffing, Boston baked chickpeas, mashed potatoes, duck gravy and so on.

This was the last duck in the freezer, so if we hadn't already eaten Crazy Otto we did then.

Otto was the only duck we named, doing so because he was even more disgusting than the others.

Ducks are usually butchered at 12-14 weeks. Wife wanted heavy roasters with enough duck fat to render.

She felt 5-6 month, corn-fed ducks would be ideal. Otto reached sexual maturity at about 4 months.

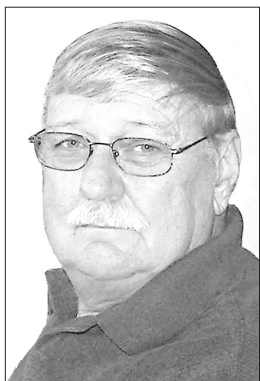
Male Pekin ducks do not quack. Females do. They "wack, wack, wacked" every time they were disturbed, excited, or saw anything unusual.

We bought a dozen; eleven may have been females.

They "wacked" incessantly when wife or I arrived with feed or water. They "wacked" if a cat or dog came into sight. They "wacked" enthusiastically each time Otto became aroused, which was every few minutes.

The sound carries. We had no complaints, but our ducks could be heard at least 1/4 mile away.

I know this, in part, because a neighbor from about that distance called to ask if we knew who



had ducks.

She wasn't unhappy, just curious. She used to have ducks and probably wondered who made the same mistake.

Wife and I weren't new to ducks. We once bought a few as they looked great on the pond (this does not work with chickens).

Our intent was to butcher them in the fall, but 'coons took them sooner.

There was also a pet Muscovy, which a dog carried off. On one occasion wife was in Orscheln's when three-week-old Indian Runners were marked down from \$5 each to \$2.

She offered \$1 each for all of them and came home with 17. This went well. She kept them until the first of July, ran an ad and sold them all.

Most went to 4-H kids wanting something for the fair, which isn't the way 4-H used to work, but they paid \$10 a duck.

Crazy Otto was gross and insatiable; a web-footed Harvey Wienstein with feathers.

I raised rabbits as a teen-ager. Otto made rabbits seem celibate.

### Letters to the Editor

The Red Oak Express supports healthy community discourse and encourages readers to submit a letter to the editor. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification purposes. They can be submitted by mail or dropped off at 2012 Commerce Drive, Red Oak, Iowa, 51566, or emailed to [news@redoakexpress.com](mailto:news@redoakexpress.com), or entered through our website at [redoakexpress.com](http://redoakexpress.com). Letters should be concise and centered on a single topic. All letters are subject to editing for length, taste, accuracy, liability, or other reasons. The Express is under no obligation to print any letter. If you have questions, contact the Express office at 712-623-2566 or [news@redoakexpress.com](mailto:news@redoakexpress.com).

months at SAC Headquarters, Offutt AFB.

Two stories down in the HQ building (I wasn't authorized to go lower, and armed guards were patrolling corridors.)

I had a tiny office cubicle where I spent 12 hours a day, 6 days a week, watching TV and waiting for the phone to ring while playing gin rummy with another MSgt who also had nothing to do.

One day he brought in an acquisition slip showing a quantity of plastic toilet seats purchased for the Air Force at a cost of \$440 each.

Later a book was published listing other overpriced items. Al Gore threw a shoe.

The Pentagon responded by saying abbreviated accounting systems made things appear to be what they were not. You can believe whichever side you prefer.

I copied the toilet seat invoice, took it home, framed and hung it in our second floor bathroom.

A couple of years later my job took me out of town for a few days.

When I returned the bathroom had been repainted and the toilet seat invoice replaced with a picture of white pelicans on a beach

Wife had thrown away my only war souvenir.

Roy Marshall is a local historian and columnist for the Red Oak Express. He can be contacted at [news@redoakexpress.com](mailto:news@redoakexpress.com).

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

### Veterans Honor Flights

#### Q: What are Veterans Honor Flights?

A: Across the United States, a network of local organizations raises money to provide expense-free trips to the nation's capital for veterans to spend a day in remembrance and celebration of their military service to America. Thanks to generous donors and an army of local volunteers, tens of thousands of veterans who served during the eras spanning World War II and the Korean and Vietnam Wars have made the once-in-a-lifetime trip since 2005. Veterans with a terminal illness from any period of service are given priority in the application process. The full-day excursion allows veterans to share their stories with one another and bear witness to the memorials and monuments in Washington, D.C. built in honor of their service and sacrifice for America. Veterans typically receive an early morning bon voyage at their local airport followed by a hero's homecoming at the end of a long and meaningful day. Their loved ones and members of the local community come to express their appreciation and gratitude for the patriotism and service of their local hometown heroes who served in uniform to defend our freedoms at home and abroad. The Honor Flight Network has expanded to 128 hubs located across the country. For the last two decades, a dedicated and generous corps of donors, guardians and volunteers organize, plan and pay for the Honor Flights to make the magic happen. During the month of May, the Honor Flight Network will celebrate an extraordinary milestone of bringing a quarter-million veterans on these missions of tribute in heartwarming salute to their service. It is an extraordinary honor for me and members of my staff to meet up with veterans from Iowa who join the Honor Flights to our nation's capital. In April, my staff welcomed nearly 90 veterans on the first flight of the year from the Eastern Iowa Honor Flight in Cedar Rapids while I was holding county meetings in Iowa. We look forward to welcoming many more veterans to Washington, D.C. in the coming year and beyond.

#### Q: What are some ways you keep in touch with veterans in Iowa?

A: Several years ago, I expanded my office's outreach to keep in touch with Iowa's veteran community by creating a Veterans Fellow position on my staff. I wanted to bring on board a military veteran who works in Iowa and has boots on the ground as a community outreach officer for veterans and their families. My Veterans Fellow helps solve problems and cut red tape veterans may experience to obtain health care, housing or employment in their local communities. Having an ambassador solely focused on connecting with Iowa veterans and their families and to liaison with veterans service organizations, health care providers and employers helps make sure we're doing everything we can to solve problems, address concerns and celebrate the successes of our hometown heroes.

A few years ago, my office started organizing interviews around the state to help preserve the stories of Iowa veterans for the Veterans History Project administered by the Library of Congress. Held the Friday before Veterans Day, we record stories from local veterans so their service and sacrifice aren't lost to history. Since 2018, we have interviewed more than 50 veterans around the state, including the Gold Star Museum in Johnston, the Iowa Veterans Home in Marshalltown, the Veterans Post in Waverly, and the 185th Air Refueling Wing in Sioux City. In November, we've scheduled our fifth annual event to record interviews for the Veterans History Project to take place at the Sullivan Brothers Iowa Veterans Museum in Waterloo. Veterans interested in participating may send an email to [veteransfellow\\_grassley@grassley.senate.gov](mailto:veteransfellow_grassley@grassley.senate.gov).

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

LETTER TO | THE EDITOR

### Carmicheal appreciaton for roads department

#### To the Editor:

I called about the potholes in the deck of the bridge over Little Turkey River on 270th Street. Within just 3 working days, the deck was repaired.

Thanks to our Montgomery County Roads personnel for such a quick response!

Phyllis Carmicheal  
Red Oak

MOORE ON THE ISSUES | IOWA. REP. TOM MOORE

### House passes biofuel bill for E-15

After 2 weeks of not meeting we came in and ran a few bill and then returned home with nothing to do for the rest of the week. Why you may ask aren't we working? We have completed our work to this point. The Senate is not doing their job as it pertains to running the budget bills as well as other House priority bills. It's clear that the House is the chamber most concerned with the budget and that setting targets and caucus discussions are a priority in moving this session to a close. One bill run was of interest.

#### Bio Fuel Bill: Supporting Iowa's Renewable Fuels Industry, House File 2128

The Governor has been working with state legislators and industry leaders for over a year on a plan to increase access to higher-ethanol blends at the pump.

The Iowa House passed a bill to support Iowa biofuels with overwhelming, bipartisan support and now heads to the Governor's desk.

The House first passed the bill in February, as it was a high priority for the Governor and Iowa House Republicans. After it stalled in the Senate, House members worked on an amendment to help the bill gain both chambers' approval.

E-15 fuel is cheaper, cleaner, and made right here in Iowa. Especially as the Biden Agenda leads to higher gas prices at the pump, we want Iowans to have access to this cheaper fuel option.

This bill is a win for Iowa agriculture and Iowa consumers.

This bill increases Iowans' access to E-15 by ensuring all gas stations that are compatible offer E-15 as an option to consumers.

If a station's equipment is not compatible, and upgrading their infrastructure would come at a great cost to the business, the owners can apply for a waiver from this requirement. This change was made from last year's bill to ensure the bill does not put small fuel retailers out of business.

The amendment passed this week created a third exemption for retailers that sell less than 300,000 gallons of gasoline.

This bill also increases and expands the timeline of fuel retailer tax credits who offer higher-ethanol blends.

Tom Moore has served as Iowa's District 21 State Representative since 2015. Contact Rep. Tom Moore at [tom.moore@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:tom.moore@legis.iowa.gov).



#### 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

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## THE RED OAK Express

Dedicated to Freedom Since 1868

ISSN 0747-3281

Phone 712-623-2566 • Fax 712-623-2568

Email: [news@redoakexpress.com](mailto:news@redoakexpress.com)

2012 Commerce Dr., Box 377, Red Oak, IA 51566

Official Newspaper for City of Red Oak, Montgomery County, and Red Oak Community School District - Published Weekly.

Postmaster: ISSN 0747-3281. Periodicals class postage is paid at Red Oak, IA, 51566, and additional mailing offices.  
Address changes: The Red Oak Express, Box 377, Red Oak, IA 51566.

How to get The Express: SUBSCRIBE by calling 712-623-2566 / BUY SINGLE COPIES at locations listed below

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Villisca, Griswold); Cubby's; Dollar General; E-Stop (Emerson); Fareway; Hy-Vee; Hy-Vee Wine & Spirits; United Farmers Cooperative; Walmart (Shenandoah). Single copy sales are

also available from a coin rack in front of the Red Oak Express.

#### WHO WE ARE

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

5 May

6:30 a.m., National Day of Prayer breakfast, White Fair Building, 1809 N. 4th St. \$12.50 admission. Guest speaker Kathy Beckworth, Best Life Ministries, 7 to 7:45 a.m.

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

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

4 p.m., Community Prayer Time, Fountain Square Park. Call Bonnie at 623-4759.

5 p.m. Cinco De Mayo Ladies Night Out, hosted by the Red Oak Rotary, Stadium 34, 1200 Senate Ave. Dinner at 6 p.m., \$25 per person.

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

7:30 p.m., Lindsay Deutsch Duo, Wilson Performing Arts Center, 300 Commerce Dr.

6 May

1 p.m., Kenya Adventures program at the Coming Opera House, 800 Davis Ave. Admission \$8 per person, \$15 per couple.

2 p.m., Bella Notte Pampered Artist Retreat Open studio begins, ending May 8 at midnight. 504 E. Reed Street. \$40 admission.

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

6 to 9 p.m., Sullivan and Nelson perform at the Five One 8, 518 N. 4th St.

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

7 May

11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Tiger Softball Camp, hosted by the Montgomery County Family YMCA, Red Oak Sports Complex, 11 a.m. to 12:30, first through fourth grades, 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., fifth through seventh grades, \$15 admission.

Noon, 11th Annual Tiger Invitational Golf Classic, sponsored by Houghton State Bank, Red Oak Country Club, lunch and dinner provided.

5-8 p.m., Coin Fire Department fish and chicken fry, Coin Community Building, 506 Depot St. Free will donation.

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

8 May

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

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

9 May

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

5:30 p.m., Red Oak School Board meeting, jr./sr. high school, or via Zoom.

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

10 May

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

Noon, Rotary Club meeting, special guest speaker Jackie Armstrong, Citizen's Climate Lobby. 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.

11 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.



Councilman Brian Bills, Park Board President Bill Drey, and Mayor Shawna Silvius, pictured from left, pose for a photo during the planting ceremony. (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express)

Trees planted for Arbor Day in RO

Several leaders within the Red Oak community took part in a special tree planting ceremony April 29.

The event was in honor of the 150th anniversary of Arbor Day, which was started in 1882 by Julius Sterling Morton of Nebraska City. Since its inception, the event is celebrated on the last Friday in April each year. Red Oak Mayor Shawna Silvius, Red Oak City Councilman Brian Bills, Park Board President Bill Drey, and park superintendent Adam VanDerVliet took part in planting four trees, two Norway

and two Black Hills Spruce north of the Red Oak swimming pool.

Red Oak Mayor Shawna Silvius quoted Morton, "'The cultivation of trees is the cultivation of the good, the beautiful, and the enobling in man, and for one, I wish to see it become universal.' This quote is intriguing as I doubt he ever fathomed his vision and love of trees would be a world-wide celebration," commented Silvius.

Silvius expressed her appreciation to Drey and VanDerVliet for assisting and with the purchase of the trees and mulch. .

Happy Birthday!

Celebrating birthdays this week are:

Chris Baird – May 6  
Elinor Almquist – May 6  
Jennifer Bupp – May 8  
John Sankey – May 9  
Tess Nelson – May 10

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

Submit your Memorial Day service times for the Community page.

Email [news@redoakexpress.com](mailto:news@redoakexpress.com)

by May 18 at 4 p.m.

Senior Menu

Thursday, May 5: Chicken berry almond salad, three bean salad, ranch dressing, pineapple tidbits, milk/coffee.

Friday, May 6: Oven fried chicken, whipped potatoes, brown gravy, peas, dinner roll, strawberry short-

cake, milk/coffee.

Monday, May 9: Spaghetti casserole, seasoned green beans, mixed green salad with dressing, garlic bread, sliced pears, milk/coffee.

Tuesday, May 10: Chicken salaad sandwich on a bun, Pea salad,

potato salad with herbs, pineapple tidbits, milk/coffee.

Wednesday, May. 11: Pork loin, scalloped potatoes, corn, wheat roll, cookie, milk/coffee.

For more information, call the Senior Center at 623-3497 or Caro-

lyn at 402-926-8683.

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

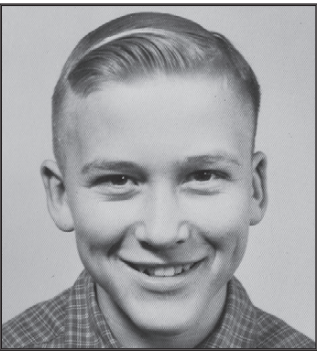
Card Shower

OLSON 80TH BIRTHDAY

Lyle Olson will celebrate his 80th birthday on Saturday, May 7.

In honor of the occasion, a card shower has been requested by his family.

Send cards to him at 110 Oak St, Red Oak, IA 51566.



Happy Anniversary!

Celebrating their anniversaries this week are:

Bob and Sally Wingert – May 6

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](mailto:news@redoakexpress.com), mail to P.O. Box 377, Red Oak, IA 51566, or drop by our office at 2012 Commerce Dr.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Advent Christian

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

Assembly Of God

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

Baptist

The Bridge (First Baptist Church), 406 N. 3rd St., Red Oak, Rev. Len Taylor, Worship, 11 a.m.

Grace Baptist, 1510 N. 6th St., Red Oak, Gary D. Walters, Bible class, 10 a.m., Worship, 11 a.m., Worship, 6 p.m.; Wednesday, Prayer, 7 p.m. Grace Baptist, 525 Main St., Griswold, Victor Maxson, Bible study, 10 a.m., Worship, 11 a.m. **Online:** 11 a.m. livestream.

Southern Baptist

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

Catholic

St. Joseph's, 131 W. High, Villisca, Father 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

Hitchcock House open for tours

The Reverend George B. Hitchcock House is now open for guided tours.

The house was built in 1856 and was used to assist in the safe passage of fugitive slaves through southwestern Iowa on their way east and north to Canada during the mid-19th century.

The house now serves as an interpretive center of the life of an early pioneer and the escaping slaves who traveled the Underground Railroad to freedom. The house was designated a National Historic Landmark in February of 2006. Less than 3,000 historic properties in the United States have this designation.

The Cass County Conservation Board and the Friends of Hitchcock House will sponsor the 30th annual Pioneer Skills Festival from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 7, to open the events of the 2022 season. Visitors will be able to see and participate in skills used by the pioneers in everyday life. Hand dip candles, butter making, tin punch, and rope making, among other skills, will be available to try. These free activities are especially enjoyed by children.

David Connon, an Iowa Humanities speaker, will return on Sunday, June 26 at 2 p.m. Connon is a Humanities Iowa

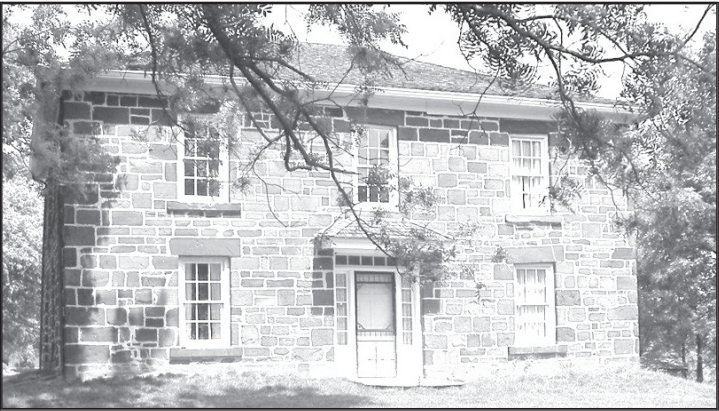
speaker and will continue his stories of Confederates Who Served in the Civil War – Not to condemn but to understand.

He stumbled upon these stories while researching the Civil War, and they are now published in his book of the same name. He will have copies of the book for sale after the program if anyone is interested. Refreshments will be available. There is no charge for the event.

A Griswold singing group, Sweet Harmony, will be the last special program in August. The Friends of Hitchcock House will also provide a free-will offering meal. The times and date will appear on its web site, [hitchcockhouse.org](http://hitchcockhouse.org).

The Hitchcock House will also be open for guided tours after the programs. Fee for the tour is \$5 per person for those entering ninth grade next September and older.

During the season, the Hitchcock House is open for tours beginning at 1 p.m. on Thursdays through Sundays May 1 through Sept. 4. The same fee schedule listed above applies. The last tour each day begins at 4:15 p.m. Tours at other times and groups of 10 or more are encouraged to schedule a tour time by calling 712-769-2323.



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RO students compete in special Job Olympics



A number of Red Oak students recently competed at the Job Olympics competition at Iowa School for the Deaf. Pictured are, from left: Camren Rourke, Eric Lindsey, Taelin McRae, Ethan Hummel, Hayden Foster, Brian Hanson, Chris Ranney, Joey Bingham, AJ Pappas, Kailynn Frazee, and Rachel Stacy. (Photo submitted)

Fenster reflects on upcoming end of the school year

Chris Fenster

Superintendent, SWV Schools

It seems like the school year has gone by quickly with just a handful of weeks remaining until school is out for summer break.

As we begin the home stretch, there will be many events like field trips, spring sports, and graduation. Our last day of school will be on May 20, and we will have a noon dismissal on that day.

Earlier this month, we administered the ISASP test to students in grades 3-11. These tests have had many names over the course of the past four decades, but you most likely remember them as the Iowa Test of Basic Skills. I remember taking them every year in school, filling in the ovals, and trying to do my best on them. I know one of our incentives was an extra recess and that was enough for me! Now, we administer these tests online and they continue to serve the same purpose as they did back when I took the test. Our district will analyze the scores to help us determine if our core instruction is meeting the needs of our students and what skills each child may need extra help with as we begin the next year. The information flows from one grade to the next so we can make data-driven decisions. I stress to our administrators, staff, and parents that while it is important that we take these tests seriously, it is still only a snapshot of what our students can do as a person. I want to emphasize that we need to keep educating the whole child and find their path that is going to make them a success in society.

Our goal continues to be searching for ways to engage students in the skills and work they are interested in and want to pursue as a career. Not all of our students will continue on to four-year colleg-



es, and that is perfectly fine. Some may attend two-year colleges and pursue degrees in welding, nursing, technology, etc. Others may join the workforce following high school and find a career they enjoy. All of these options are great opportunities for our students. I want to continue to provide

more opportunities in the future.

I have discussed with other members of the staff the opportunity of expanding our school-to-work programs to include paid apprenticeships. I have had discussions with neighboring superintendents about using one of our campus buildings to house a career academy that could include welding, electrician, nursing, HVAC, or plumbing classes and other trades; an academy where students from not only Southwest Valley but also neighboring districts could come and learn a trade. They would graduate with a degree allowing them to step right into the workforce.

The climate around public schools is that we are failing our kids. We are teaching them topics that they are not interested in and therefore do not put in the effort. I want to think outside that box, move our plans forward, and dare to be different.

Make sure to come out and support our Timberwolf students in the variety of activities taking place in the closing weeks.

Free/reduced lunch applications accepted

Free and reduced lunch applications must be filled out every school year, and the application can be filled out at any time during the school year.

If the household income decreases at any time, an adult from the household can come and fill out an application at that time.

Families are encouraged to print off the application and fee waiver forms. The completed forms will need turned in to the Central Office located at 604 S. Broadway.

For the free and reduced meal application, visit [redoakschooldistrict.com/vimages/shared/vnews/stories/59f20e9d3bc28/How To Apply For Free and Reduced Price School Meals.pdf](http://redoakschooldistrict.com/vimages/shared/vnews/stories/59f20e9d3bc28/How To Apply For Free and Reduced Price School Meals.pdf).

For the free and reduced lunch application, visit [redoakschooldistrict.com/vimages/shared/vnews/stories/59f20e9d3bc28/2021-2022\\_Ia\\_Application\\_for\\_Free\\_and\\_Red\\_Meals\\_Milk-with\\_3\\_fillable\\_cells\\_508.pdf](http://redoakschooldistrict.com/vimages/shared/vnews/stories/59f20e9d3bc28/2021-2022_Ia_Application_for_Free_and_Red_Meals_Milk-with_3_fillable_cells_508.pdf)

For the fee waiver form, visit [redoak-schooldistrict.com/vimages/shared/vnews/stories/59f20e9d3bc28/waiver form.pdf](http://redoak-schooldistrict.com/vimages/shared/vnews/stories/59f20e9d3bc28/waiver form.pdf).

Free and reduced lunch applications from the previous school year are good for 30 operating days after school starts; however, after this 30 day period, regular meal prices will be charged if a new application has not been completed.

School Lunch Menus

East Mills

Thursday, May 5: Spaghetti with meat sauce or pepperoni pizza slices, romaine lettuce with dressing, California blend vegetables, apricot halves, garlic knot.

Friday, May 6: Philly cheesesteak sandwich or pepperoni pizza slices, baked beans, mini sweet potato puffs, sliced pears.

Monday, May 9: Crispy chicken strips or popcorn chicken, green beans, mixed vegetables, tropical fruit cup, chocolate chip cookie.

Tuesday, May 10: Cheese quesadilla or pepperoni pizza slices, corn, fiesta black beans, pineapple tidbits.

Wednesday, May 11: Beef hamburger on a bun, sliced red and green peppers, apple slices, Doritos.

Essex

Thursday, May 5: Meatball sub sandwich on a bun, corn, sliced peaches, cookie.

Friday, May 6: Ham, cheese, and vegetable salad bowl, hard boiled egg, crackers, applesauce cup.

Monday, May 9: Pizza slices, peas, garden salad with dressing, pineapple tidbits.

Tuesday, May 10: Hamburger on a bun, sliced tomatoes, sliced onions, tater tots, mandarin oranges, graham crackers.

Wednesday, May 11: Sliced turkey, green bean casserole, mashed potatoes and gravy, sliced peaches.

Griswold

Thursday, May 5: Crispy popcorn chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, biscuit, Sidekick fruit slushie.

Friday, May 6: Hoagie sandwich on a bun, tortilla chips with nacho cheese sauce, carrot sticks and ranch dip, mixed fruit.

Monday, May 9: Hamburger on a bun, lettuce, sliced tomatoes, sliced onions, cheese, hamburger dill slices, chips, baked beans, rosy applesauce.

Tuesday, May 10: Mini corn dogs, tater tots, garden spinach salad, mandarin oranges.

Wednesday, May 11: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, dinner roll, fruit cup.

Red Oak Elementary/ Preschool Center

Thursday, May 5: Roast turkey and gravy, hot roll; or chicken patty sandwich on a bun, hot roll; or cheeseburger on a bun, sliced tomatoes, sliced onions, lettuce, hamburger dills; or chicken bacon ranch salad, hot roll; or Santa Fe grain bowl; mashed potatoes and gravy, green bean salad, fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, fresh fruit, pineapple tidbits.

Friday, May 6: Chicken nachos with white queso, diced tomatoes, diced onions, pickled jalapenos, salsa; or hot dog on a bun; or chicken Caesar salad, Italian bread; or roasted chicken sandwich; or pizza munchables; Mexican corn salad, fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, Texas pintos, fresh fruit, pears.

Monday, May 9: Crispy chicken nuggets, Italian bread; or meatball sub on a bun; or watermelon salad; Italian bread; or spicy chicken sandwich on a bun; or Thai grain bowl; cucumber slices, fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, fresh fruit, applesauce.

Tuesday, May 10: Cheeseburger on a bun, sliced tomatoes, sliced onions, lettuce, hamburger dills; or popcorn chicken salad, focaccia bread; or baked potato station, focaccia bread; or pizza slices; or club stacker; fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, BBQ bacon beans, black bean dip, mandarin oranges.

Wednesday, May 11: Chicken patty on a bun, hot roll; or fish patty on a bun, hot roll; or chef salad,

hot roll; or three cheese grilled cheese sandwich; or turkey and cheese sandwich; mashed potatoes and gravy, glazed carrots, fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, fresh fruit, sliced peaches.

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

Thursday, May 5: Roast turkey and gravy, hot roll; or chicken patty sandwich on a bun, hot roll; or cheeseburger on a bun, sliced tomatoes, sliced onions, lettuce, hamburger dills; or chicken bacon ranch salad, hot roll; or Santa Fe grain bowl; mashed potatoes and gravy, green bean salad, fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, fresh fruit, pineapple tidbits.

Friday, May 6: Chicken nachos with white queso, diced tomatoes, diced onions, pickled jalapenos, salsa; or hot dog on a bun; or chicken Caesar salad, Italian bread; or roasted chicken sandwich; or pizza munchables; Mexican corn salad, fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, Texas pintos, fresh fruit, pears.

Monday, May 9: Crispy chicken nuggets, Italian bread; or meatball sub on a bun; or watermelon salad; Italian bread; or spicy chicken sandwich on a bun; or Thai grain bowl; cucumber slices, fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, fresh fruit, applesauce.

Tuesday, May 10: Cheeseburger on a bun, sliced tomatoes, sliced onions, lettuce, hamburger dills; or popcorn chicken salad, focaccia bread; or baked potato station, focaccia bread; or pizza slices; or club stacker; fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, BBQ bacon beans, black bean dip, mandarin oranges.

Wednesday, May 11: Chicken patty on a bun, hot roll; or fish patty on a bun, hot roll; or chef salad, hot roll; or three cheese grilled cheese sandwich; or turkey and cheese sandwich; mashed potatoes and gravy, glazed carrots, fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, fresh fruit, sliced peaches.

Southwest Valley

Thursday, May 5: Cheesy Italian dippers, marinara sauce, lettuce salad with choice of dressing, vegetable Sidekick, fruit.

Friday, May 6: Cattleman burger on a bun, bacon, cheese slice, lettuce, sliced onions, sliced tomatoes, hamburger dills, tri tater, fruit.

Monday, May 9: Beef chili dog on a bun, cheese sauce, waffle fries, vegetable Sidekick, fruit, dinner roll.

Tuesday, May 10: Meatball sub sandwich on a hoagie bun, marinara sauce, lettuce salad with choice of dressing, cascade vegetables, fruit.

Wednesday, May 11: Anthony's beef and noodles, mashed potatoes, corn, dinner roll, fruit.

Stanton

Thursday, May 5: Sausage breakfast pizza slices, hash brown potatoes, fruit juice, tropical fruit, sliced pears.

Friday, May 6: Walking taco, shredded lettuce, shredded cheese, diced tomatoes, diced onions, jalapenos, salsa, corn, lettuce salad with choice of dressing, apple slices, mixed fruit, Goldfish crackers.

Monday, May 9: Pepperoni stuffed crust pizza slices, lettuce salad with choice of dressing, celery sticks, applesauce, sliced pears.

Tuesday, May 10: Hamburger on a bun, sliced onions, sliced tomatoes, hamburger dills, tater twist-ers, baked beans, sliced apricots, mixed fruit.

Wednesday, May 11: Chicken patty on a bun, mixed vegetables, tomato juice, strawberries, sliced pears.

School Activities

Thursday, May 5

- Griswold: Spring FAST testing
- 6-7 a.m., Griswold: Softball practice, middle school gym
- 6:30-7:45 a.m., Griswold: High school boys throwers, middle school gym
- 6:45-7:45 a.m., Southwest Valley: High school baseball practice, new high school gym
- 1 p.m., Stanton: Scholarship and awards program
- 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. Red Oak: First and second grade music program, Inman elementary

Friday, May 6

- East Mills, Stanton: High school band State Large Group contest
- Southwest Valley: School Lunch Hero/ School Nurse's Appreciation Day
- Essex, Stanton: ACT registration deadline
- 7 a.m., Essex: Senior breakfast and awards ceremony
- 8:15 a.m., Griswold: Third grade field trip to Anderson Conservation Area
- 8:30 a.m., Griswold: Fourth grade field trip to Hitchcock House
- 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
- 

Saturday, May 7

- Essex: Senior trip
- Red Oak: Large Group District Music contest
- 9 a.m., Griswold: Kindergarten-seventh grade softball camp
- 10:30 a.m., Red Oak: YMCA softball

Sunday, May 8

- Essex: Senior trip
- 5:30-p.m., Griswold: High school basketball open gym, high school gym
- 7 p.m., East Mills: Baccalaureate, high school auditorium
- 7 p.m., Southwest Valley: Middle school band and choir concert, middle school gym

Monday, May 9

- East Mills: Late start, 90 minutes
- 3:25-5:55 p.m., Griswold: High school track practice, middle school gym
- 5-8 p.m., Griswold: weightlifting, weight room

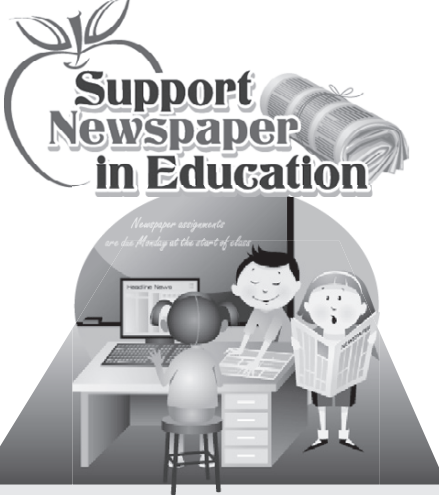
Tuesday, May 10

- 6:30-7:45 a.m., Griswold: High school boys throwers, middle school gym
- 6:45-7:45 a.m., Southwest Valley: High school baseball practice, new high school gym
- 7:15 a.m., Griswold: Teammates meeting, board room
- 10:30 a.m., East Mills: Senior awards ceremony, high school gym
- 12:15 p.m., Red Oak: Military recruiter, junior/senior high school
- 3:25-5:55 p.m., Griswold: High school track practice, middle school gym
- 5-8 p.m., Griswold: weightlifting, weight room
- 6:30 p.m., East Mills: Elementary concert, elementary gym
- 6:30 p.m., Stanton: Yearbook end of year party
- 7:30 p.m., High school spring concert and awards night, auditorium

Wednesday, May 11

- East Mills: Senior trip
- Griswold: Fourth grade field trip to Hacklebarney Park
- Griswold: One hour early release, teacher work time
- 6:15-7:15 a.m., Southwest Valley: High school softball pitching, new high school gym
- 1:15 p.m., Stanton: Early dismissal
- 3:25-5:55 p.m., Griswold: High school track practice, middle school gym
- 5-8 p.m., Griswold: weightlifting, weight room
- 5-6:15 p.m., Southwest Valley: High school AAU volleyball, new high school gym
- 7 p.m., Essex: Senior celebration
- 7 p.m., Griswold: Baccalaureate, high school auditorium
- 7 p.m., Southwest Valley: Scholarship night, high school auditorium

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



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In Memory of Edmund Larson  
In Memory of Karlette Hultman  
In Memory of James Miller  
In Memory of Linda Porter

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

Red Oak Jr./Sr. High School  
Red Oak Inman Primary School  
Essex School  
Stanton School  
Southwest Valley High School  
Southwest Valley Middle School

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

THE RED OAK  
Express



# Supervisors continue discussions on pipeline inspection options

Nick Johansen  
The Red Oak Express

The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors is still seeking input from other area counties regarding inspection services for the proposed Summit Carbon Solutions pipeline project.

Questions were raised by Supervisors Chair Mark Peterson, as well as Peterson's constituents, as to whether the county would be left to foot the bill for any inspection services rendered prior to the project, should it not come to fruition.

Supervisor Donna Robinson reached out to other area supervisors to find out what their plans were for the inspections. Robinson said she contacted members from two supervisors boards, Crawford County and Page County, and received one reply from Alan Armstrong with the Page County Board of Supervisors.

"They signed a letter of intent with a group when the pipeline was planned, and are going to wait to actually hire the team until construction and the actual hands-on work starts. So they rectified the issue by issuing a letter of intent for services from a specific company," Robinson explained.

Robinson added she would continue to reach out to the supervisor from Crawford County to get information with how they are handling inspection services.

Supervisor Mike Olson he also recently discovered that a farm he farms in Mills County will be impacted if the project comes to fruition.



Newly-selected VA director Curtis White and outgoing VA director Harry Rossander share a laugh during the supervisors meeting following Rossander's announcement that White will replace him. (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express.)

"According to what we discovered, I think we would have to destroy a bit more than six acres of land on this farm to allow them to do their construction," advised Olson.

Supervisor Randy Cooper said based on information he'd received, only about 20% of the counties in Iowa that will be impacted by the

pipeline are in favor of it, and around 80% of the counties impacted are opposed to the project.

The supervisors also met with outgoing Montgomery County Veterans Affairs Commission director Harry Rossander, who had big news regarding the search for his replacement.

"The Montgomery County Veterans Affairs Commission met on April 21 to consider the two candidates who had applied and were seeking interviews. We selected Curtis White, a 15-year Air Force veteran who has done a multitude of different things. I look forward to him taking over my position on May 2," Rossander said.

White also spoke briefly before the supervisors, and said he is excited to serve as a leader for the county's veterans.

"I'm looking forward to the opportunity. I've done a lot of customer service work in my past and have spent a lot of time working with the Boy Scouts, and I think I'll be able to do very well in this role," White explained.

The supervisors approved the Montgomery County Veteran's Affairs Commission's selection of White as the new director for Montgomery County. An interview with White will be published in a future May edition of the Red Oak Express.

The supervisors also heard comments from county engineer Karen Albert, who advised she had submitted the necessary information to U.S. Rep.Cindy Axne's office for potential funding for the 250th Street bridge in the Grant Township.

Albert said she received confirmation from Axne's office that the documents were received, and she was expecting to receive further information in the next few weeks.

## Extension office collecting pop can tabs for 4-H fundraiser

For the past five years, people across Iowa have been collecting the tabs off their pop cans in honor of former 4-H member Jacy McAlexander, who passed away after a courageous battle with cancer in 2018.

Each State Council group since then has chosen to continue Jacy's legacy with a statewide service effort encouraging Iowans to save their pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. The 2021-22 State Council has a goal to collect 1,000 pounds of pop tabs or 10 pounds from each Iowa county extension district by the 2022 Iowa 4-H Youth Conference, June 28-30 at Iowa State University in Ames.

Anyone wishing to donate pop tabs on Jacy's behalf can drop them off at the Montgomery County Extension office at 400 Bridge St. Ste. 2. Every year more than \$10,000 is raised from the tabs through this program.

"Jacy was a 2017-18 State 4-H Council member with a big heart and was passionate about serving others through the Ronald McDonald House," said Haley Jones, 4-H State Council advisor and 4-H program specialist with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.

Before his passing, Jacy had a goal to collect one ton of pop

tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. To honor their fellow council member, the 2017-2018 State 4-H Council members organized a statewide pop tab drive in all of Iowa's 100 county extension districts on Jacy's behalf, calling it "Pop Tabs for Jacy," and were successful in collecting 1,000 pounds of pop tabs.

"We love to know that people remember Jacy, and we also love that new people are hearing his story and learning about the things he cared about," Earl McAlexander said. "We will forever be heartbroken from Jacy's loss, but projects like this help heal that. We are very happy that places such as the Ronald McDonald House are still being helped in his name."

"When we all donate pop tabs, this not only represents how much he [Jacy] meant to our organization but how we can use his name to help give back and help people in need," explained Noah Johnson, a 2021-22 State 4-H Council member from Taylor County. "As someone who had a family member spend time in the Ronald McDonald House, I appreciate the impact that this service project can have on those kids and families in need. By continuing Jacy's legacy of collecting pop tabs, we are just a small part of improving the lives of those who need it."



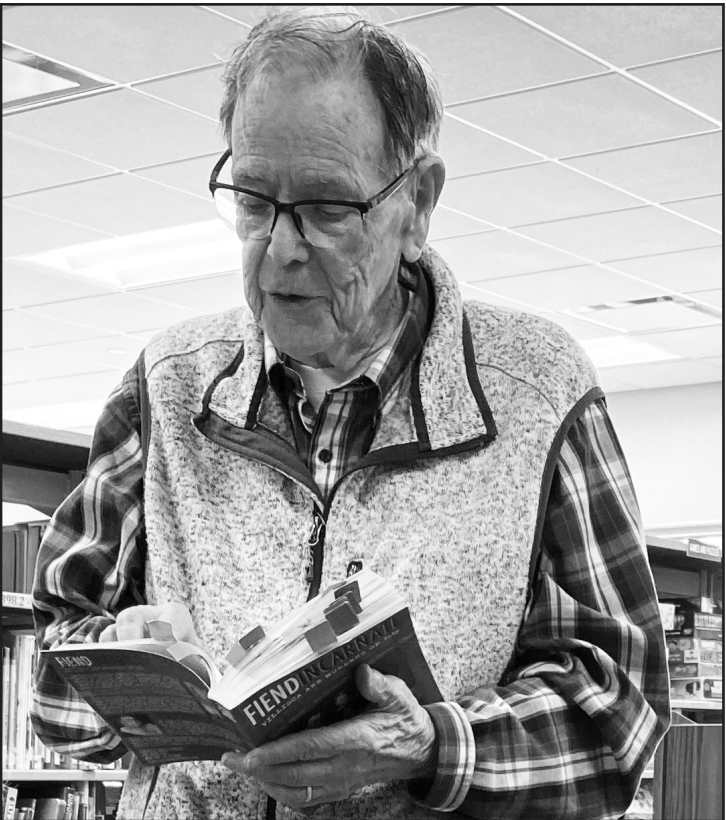
## Farm Environmental Leader Award nominations wanted

Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds, Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig and Department of Natural Resources Director Kayla Lyon are reminding Iowans to nominate individuals or families in their communities for the 2022 Farm Environmental Leader Award.

Farmers and landowners who invest in conservation practices, like cover crops or wetlands, and incorporate best management, practices into their operations to improve and protect the state's natural resources are eligible for the award. They must also actively serve as leaders in the agriculture community.

An appointed committee representing both conservation and agricultural groups will review the nominations and select the winners. The recipients will be recognized on Wednesday, Aug. 17, at the Iowa State Fair. Gov. Reynolds, Secretary Naig and Director Lyon will present the winners with an Iowa Farm Environmental Leader Award and a yard sign donated by Bayer.

Since the creation of the award in 2012, more than 700 farm families have been recognized. The nomination form and a list of previous awardees can be found at [iowaagriculture.gov/farm-environmental-leader-awards](http://iowaagriculture.gov/farm-environmental-leader-awards). Nominations for the 2022 awards will be accepted until Monday, May 2.



## Epperly speaks at library

Dr. Edgar Epperly, author of *Fiend Incarnate*, was the guest speaker at the Stanton Public Library on Wednesday, April 27. Epperly spoke about the Villisca ax murders, which is the topic of his book. He was available for autographs following the presentation. (Charm Carpenter/The Red Oak Express)



## New addition at LEC

Work is underway on the new garage at the law enforcement center. In addition to holding additional vehicles, the extra storage space will also be used by the law enforcement center. Estimated cost of the project is \$80,000, to be paid from American Rescue Plan funds. The project's completion date is dependent on availability of construction materials. (Tess Nelson/The Red Express)

### COUNCIL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

the boxes.

Councilperson Brian Bills asked if there would be some local approval for what was painted on the boxes. Lmb assured Bills that the art would be done by local artists.

"It will come to the ROAD group, and we're the ones that would approve. Nothing will be painted on the boxes that is not politically correct. All the planters will have a slightly different design, but all of it will be appropriate for Red Oak. We're not doing anything wild, we're not doing anything like old advertising, we're just keeping things simple," Lamb stated.

Bills asked if the designs would be permanent. Bills said it could be changed if necessary.

"If we start having a fading issue 15 years or so down the road, we can simply paint white over it and paint over it again. It takes time to do it, but it can be done," Lamb said.

Bills said he had been to several seminars that focused on public art and murals, and did agree that public art and murals were a known draw to the community.

City administrator Brad Wright asked if the benches adjacent to the planters would need to be moved. Lamb said he didn't anticipate a need to move the benches, and the paint behind them would be a simpler design due to the

fact that the planter would be obscured by the benches.

David McFarland, President of the Historic Commission, said the city had entered into a grant agreement to revitalize the town as a historic place, and asked whether the painting went against that vision.

"There's some question on who's the authority to approve this, and I think typically, in most communities, the Historic Commission approves or disapproves this type of thing. I also question whether the planters can hold the paint. I think it will become a serious maintenance issue," McFarland commented.

Lamb reiterated the ROAD group would take care of maintenance and repainting. Also, Lamb felt the planters, and the surrounding bricks, were not historically designed, and therefore were not historic to the Red Oak downtown.

Bills and other members of the council were in agreement, that the planters were separate from other historical landmarks in the downtown.

"I appreciate Dave McFarland's point, but if we stuck with everything historic we'd be parking horses and buggies down there," stated Bills.

The council unanimously approved allowing the ROAD group to paint the boxes.



One of the planter boxes on the Red Oak downtown square that will be painted by Red Oak Arts Destination Group later this year. (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express)

## Living with Serious Illness?

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THE OFFICIAL KID SCOOP

# OUTDOOR BILL OF RIGHTS

The Constitution of the United States has a Bill of Rights that lists the rights all Americans enjoy. *Kid Scoop* believes in a Bill of Rights for children that gives them the right to enjoy nature, spend time outdoors and have a fit and fun summer vacation.

### CHART YOUR PROGRESS

Give yourself a star each time you complete one of the 10 outdoor activities listed here. Give yourself a cool reward for completing them all.




### DISCOVER THE PAST

Your state, city, town or community has a rich heritage. Do some research to discover some local history and visit locations that have evidence of a rich cultural past. Take a photo of an old building, statue or tree and do a rubbing or a sketch.

### SPLASH IN THE WATER

Visit a local lake, river, stream or a nearby ocean. Observe the wildlife around you and list them in your notebook with notes on *where*, *when* and *what* was happening.



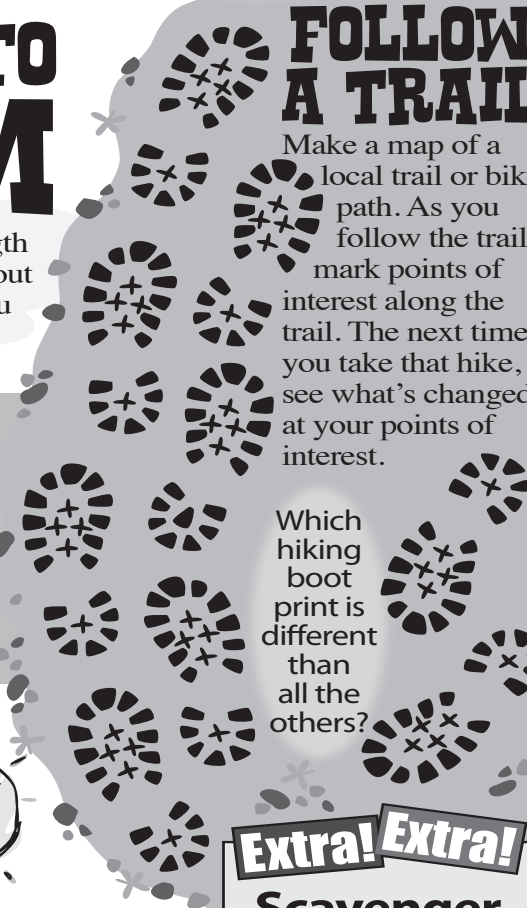
### LEARN TO SWIM

Swimming is great exercise and will improve muscle strength and flexibility. Your local pool will provide lessons throughout the summer months. If you can't swim, sign up now. If you can swim, enjoy some time at a pool.

### FOLLOW A TRAIL

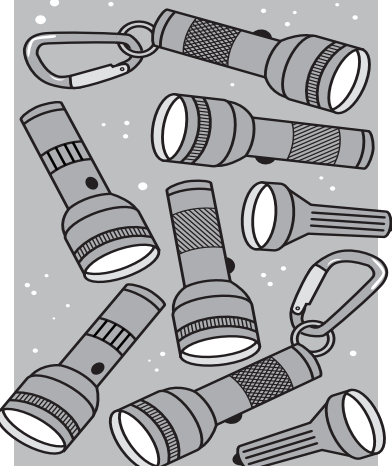
Make a map of a local trail or bike path. As you follow the trail, mark points of interest along the trail. The next time you take that hike, see what's changed at your points of interest.

Which hiking boot print is different than all the others?



### CAMP UNDER THE STARS

Camping out takes organization. If you are going to a campground, you probably need to book your space. Make a list of the things you'll need to take. If you can't go away, camp in your backyard. Take time to look at the stars. Can you spot the North Star and the Big Dipper?




### GO FISHING

Sit quietly on the banks of a river, lake or stream. You may not catch a fish but what do you see? Are there tadpoles or frogs, water striders, dragonflies?

### PLAY ON A TEAM

Playing on a team is a good way to make new friends and get some exercise. If there are no organized sports in your area, make your own team and create a game of Frisbee or catch.




### PLAY IN A SAFE PLACE

Find a local park with playground equipment. Take a picnic and enjoy the sunshine.

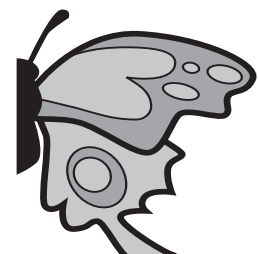
### CELEBRATE SUMMER

Pick one feature of your outdoor summer and draw a picture showing the event. Mail it to a friend.



### EXPLORE NATURE

Be a nature detective. Look at a field guide or go online to identify birds, wild flowers, insects and trees. List them in your notebook.



### Scavenger Hunt

Look through the newspaper to find:

- ☐ A picture of someone playing a sport
- ☐ A place to exercise
- ☐ A local park
- ☐ A fun place for the whole family to visit together

**Standards Link:** Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

## Kid Scoop FIT&FUN™

### Can You Do That?

Clip the coupons below and put them in a hat. Without looking, pull one coupon from the hat and read it to your friend. Can they perform that activity? If so, they get 1 point. If not, YOU have to do it to earn a point. (For even more fun, gather more friends and form two teams.)

- Run in place for 60 seconds while loudly singing your favorite song.
- Stand on one foot while saying the alphabet backwards.
- Walk on your hands and feet like a dog or cat for at least 60 seconds.
- Stand perfectly still like a statue. Do not giggle or smile if your friend tries to make you laugh.
- Kick a ball as far as you can. Leave a marker where the ball stopped. Have your friend try.
- Do jumping jacks as you call out as many state capitols as you can.
- Fill a plastic cup to the brim with water. Balance it on your head and try to walk 10 feet.
- Use a laundry basket and throw rolled up socks into it from as far away as you can.
- Hop backwards while counting backwards from 50.
- Dribble a basketball with your left hand for 30 seconds, then your right hand for 30 more.
- Try to roll an orange across the room without using your hands or feet.

**Standards Link:** Physical Education: Understand the health benefits of physical exercise.

**Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS**

This week's word: **OBSERVE**

The verb **observe** means to see or notice something especially when watching carefully.

By sitting quietly near the edge of the pond, I was able to **observe** a frog catching an insect.

Try to use the word **observe** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

**Kid Scoop Puzzler**

The answer is "sunburned zebra!"

To find the question, cross out the words that ...

☐ start with the letter i

☐ rhyme with sips

☐ are the name of an insect

☐ contain the letter m

INK	TRIPS	WHAT'S
BLACK	SWIM	IGLOO
AND	CHIPS	TIME
WASP	WHITE	BEE
AND	RAM	GNAT
NIPS	INCH	RED
ANT	ALL	RIPS
INTO	STEM	OVER

**Standards Link:** Reading Comprehension: Follow written directions.

**Double Double Word Search**

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

SWIMMING  
NATURE  
FISHING  
GAME  
FIELD  
CAMP  
PARK  
BIKE  
BIRDS  
TRAIL  
STAR  
POOL  
HIKE  
PAST  
NOTEBOOK

S F P V W G L O L G  
T T B A A N C F N K  
S T A M R Y A I A O  
A R E R T K M E T O  
P A G K B M P L U B  
F I S H I N G D R E  
J L U W R B V H E T  
K Q S B D L O O P O  
H I K E S K P L Z N

**Standards Link:** Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

**FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY**

**Nature Journal**

Collect articles from the newspaper about local parks and recreation areas in your area. List any special events and plan your summer vacation to include those activities.

**Standards Link:** Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.



What do you get when you cross an elephant and a fish?

ANSWER: Swimming trunks.

**Write On!**

**Junkyard Sports**

Invent a game using something you would normally throw away. Turn trash into fun!

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