



NSP



Gov. Gothic BILL WOHLFORD'S ART HANGS IN REYNOLDS' OFFICE. PAGE 21A



Book Battle champs! PAGE 1B

THE NORTH SCOTT PRESS

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County officials anticipate tax notice confusion

Legislature mandated new disclosures be mailed this month

By Mark Ridolfi
NSP Managing Editor

Eighty-thousand Scott County property taxpayers will be mailed official tax hearing notices this month that local elected officials say will be impossible to understand.

Scott County Treasurer Tony Knobbe and auditor Kerri Tompkins say the



Tompkins



Knobbe

Iowa state legislature's tax reform bill from last year threw a loop to local leaders this year, and is about to confound

thousands of residents.

Lawmakers established new public disclosure laws that require the county to mail notices in March of proposed changes in tax rates before cities, counties and school boards actually approve them in April.

Beginning this week, all property owners will get a notice of tax rate hearing dates by their city, county and school elected boards.

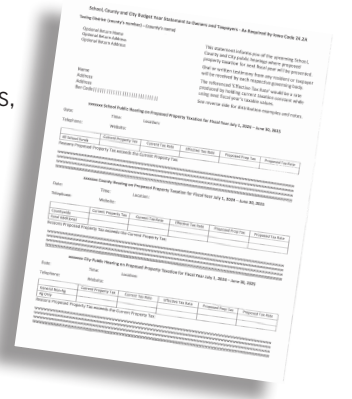
Property owners have always been notified of local tax rate proposals and

NOTICES, continued on page 6A

INSIDE

Here's what the form does, and does not disclose.

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Ada McKibben, Riley Hamann, Levi Zigienhorn, London Schaefer and Lucas Martinez

NSP photo by Erin M. Gentz

Walcott kids' creation tops PizzaThon

Chicken, bacon, strawberries and mashed potato stuffed crust wins ag innovation contest

By Erin M. Gentz
NSP Editor

Mashed potatoes and pizza are popular foods on their own. But a group of students in Jan Garland's fourth-grade class at Walcott Elementary School took a chance and combined the two, winning a statewide agriculture contest in the process.

Ada McKibben, Riley Hamann, Levi Zigienhorn, London Schaefer and Lucas Martinez created Mashed Potato Pizza, which included mashed potatoes, sausage, shredded chicken, bacon, gravy, salami, strawberries, mozzarella cheese and a stuffed crust filled with mashed potatoes, the winning entry in the 2024 PizzaThon, sponsored by the Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation. Students across the state in kindergarten through fifth grade were challenged to create an original pizza focusing on the five My-



Riley Hamann works on her pizza display slides.

Contributed photo

Plate food groups: fruits, vegetables, grains, proteins, and dairy.

"We kind of put random ingredients, and then thought of things that would go together," said Riley Hamann of the process from coming up with the pizza.

"We had to do five slides, to tell where the ingredients come from and we made a design of our pizza," said London Schaefer.

PIZZA, continued on page 2A

P&K brings big green back to Scott County

Purchase of River Valley Turf expands offerings in Deere home community

By Mark Ridolfi
NSP Managing Editor

Sales and service of Deere's biggest products return to Scott County with P&K Midwest's acquisition of River Valley Turf.

P&K bought River Valley Turf Feb. 20 for \$1.3 million, and plans to provide a full array of Deere products at the stores in Mount Joy and Silvis.

It's an opportunity that P&K approaches reverently in the heart of Deere country.

"We feel blessed to represent this brand and support those who engage with the brand in this central eastern Iowa market, home to so many John Deere operations," P&K general manager Jordan Lang said.

The company also is consolidating its Maquoketa and DeWitt dealerships at a new showroom and service shop under construction in Welton.

Together, the expansion brings full sales and service of Deere implements back to Scott County since the last dealer closed.

"As a John Deere dealer, P&K Midwest works with and supports a variety of customer segments, including agricul-



P&K, continued on page 13A



COVERING OUR COUNTY FROM
ELDRIDGE, IOWA SINCE 1968

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- Address changes and new subscriptions: 5 p.m. Thursday prior to publication.
- Club, church and family reports and announcements of scheduled activities: Friday at noon.
- Advertising space reservation: 10:30 a.m. Monday. Advertising materials due: 5 p.m. Friday

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First Place Best Coverage of Local News, National Newspaper Association, 2021

PIZZA: Contest focuses on food origins and creativity

Continued from page 1A

"I think the hardest part was saying where the food is from," added Levi Zigienhorn.

Coming up with Mashed Potato Pizza was a collaborative process, said the students. While they had a few other ideas, Schaefer said their final product was the one they agreed on the most. "We might have disagreed on some things, but we got the recipe done."

One of the things they disagreed on the most was the inclusion of strawberries on the pizza. "It was like, when they put a little bit of strawberries on salads," said Lucas Martinez. "That's kind of what I thought, anyway."

Garland said she first heard about the contest from her daughter, who is an agriculture teacher in Montezuma. "She had told me about the Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation. I have also had Ag in the Classroom for the past several years. After perusing the IALF website, I noticed the contests and that most of the winners came from the same school. I have always liked a challenge, so I decided to have my current class join the competition."

Garland's students created a slideshow in Google Docs. They were judged on ingredient process, showing all the ingredients and describing how at least two were raised or processed; pizza design, with a diagram of how the pizza was made; ingredient location, with a map of where the ingredients came from and providing the distance traveled to make the pizza; nutrition information, showing how at least three of the ingredients are nutritious; media presentation; and accuracy of information.

"The PizzaThon competition allowed cross curricular lessons, especially in science and social studies," said Garland.

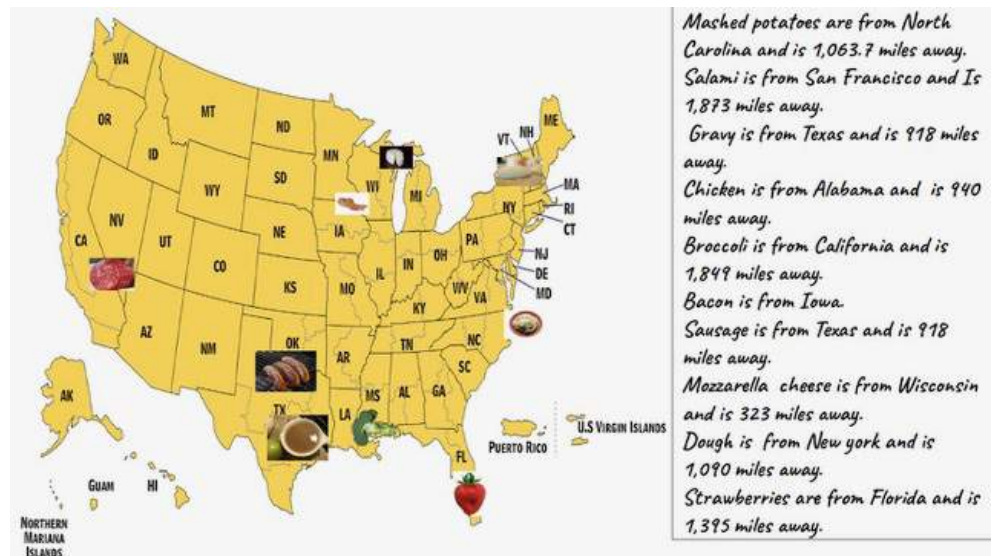
She said she also enjoyed the group format of the project. "Since I have 28 students in my class, the students do quite a bit of group work in social studies and science. They are a creative group, and it's always interesting to listen to their ideas."

The PizzaThon program was originally developed in 1994 by Eldon Weber as part of Iowa State University's "Vision 2020" program and was adopted by the Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation in 2022.

"Understanding how agriculture works lays the foundation for our students' future health," said Kelly Foss, IALF executive director. "When students grasp the process of food production and learn to make balanced choices, they're not just making healthier choices for today, but equipping themselves



Levi Zigienhorn works on a map showing where the ingredients for the pizza came from and how far they would have to travel to get to Iowa. Contributed photos



with lifelong skills for a healthier tomorrow."

This is the first year Garland's classes have participated in the PizzaThon, but earlier this year, teams from her class also placed in the Gobble Up! Turkey Marketing Competition, also sponsored by the IALF. Their food creativity led them to create posters for turkey lasagna and turkey meatloaf, which won second and third place in the contest.

Second and third place in the PizzaThon went to teams from Guthrie Center Elementary in Guthrie Center, and were taught by Amber Wetzel. The project titled The California Pizza earned

second place with a pizza of tomatoes, cheese, potato chips, bacon, snap peas, and turkey pepperoni on a wheat crust. The project titled Beef Stew Pizza earned third place, using potatoes, carrots, mushrooms, beef, tomatoes, cheese on a wheat crust.

As for Mashed Potato Pizza, Garland's students said they would eat it - with a few modifications.

"I'd take off everything, except the mashed potatoes," said Ada McKibben.

"I would take off the strawberries," said Martinez.

And for their prize? Garland's students won - what else - a pizza party.

Local climate vulnerability assessment March 19

The Partners of Scott County Watersheds and Nina Struss present a Quad Cities climate and vulnerability assessment, the first effort to identify environmental factors affecting the region.

Struss is river health and resiliency organizer for Prairie Rivers Network. She'll speak noon - 1 p.m. March 19, meet at the Scott County Administrative Center, room 605B, 600 W. Fourth St., Davenport. A Zoom link can be sent to those who register in advance.

"The plan promises to bolster the Quad Cities' resilience in the face of climate change," according to the Partners group.

Lunch is provided with a \$5 suggested donation.

Find a link to register at partnersofscottcountywatersheds.org

Or contact Liv Humphrey, Watershed Coordinator, at liv@nahantmarsh.org with any questions.

River Action accepts \$1,000 Eddy scholarship applications

In conjunction with its annual Eddy Awards, River Action is offering Eddy Scholarships to students with a commitment to environmental interests. These scholarships were initiated with fund-

ing from a family foundation. This year they are being additionally funded by Janet and Norm Moline.

Created in 2019, the scholarships award students who embody the spirit of the Eddy Awards, going against the current to get things done, and who are majoring or minoring in an environment-related field at a college or university, or if currently a senior in high school, are planning to include a focus on an environment-related field in their college or university studies beginning in the summer or fall of 2024.

Three Eddy Scholarships of \$1,000 each will be granted based on the character, academic standing, school and community involvement, and career goals of applicants.

Preference will be given to those students who will be attending a college or university in the Quad Cities area of Iowa and Illinois.

Application deadline is March 22, 2024. Applicants will be interviewed in the final round of the selection process.

Scholarships will be awarded during the Eddy Award Ceremony at River Action's annual Fish & Fire dinner, May 2, 2024, at the Waterfront Event Center, 2021 State Street, Bettendorf.

Go to www.riveraction.org/scholarship to complete the online scholarship application. Call 563-322-2969 with any questions.

International band to perform at Butterworth March 20

The next *Music at Butterworth* concert is scheduled for 7 p.m. March 20, at Butterworth Center, Moline, with a performance by the internationally known trio Grosse Isle, comprised of Irish uilleann piper Fiachra O'Regan, Quebec fiddler/singer Sophie Lavoie, and guitarist Andre Marchand. Refusing to let an ocean divide their passion for music, these talented artists blend traditional with original compositions from haunting to playful, lively to reflective, leading audiences on an unforgettable journey in song.

The band name Grosse Isle evokes the story of the mass arrival of the Irish in the 19th century on Grosse Isle in the St. Lawrence River, as they fled the Great Famine, bringing two cultures together in the pursuit of survival and prosperity. One result has been the fusion of Irish and Quebecois repertoires that celebrates two distinct, but harmonious, styles. Audiences come away from a Grosse Isle concert drawn to both cultures.

All *Music at Butterworth* free concerts take place in the grand Butterworth Center Library and are followed by complimentary refreshments in the historic dining room. Plenty of parking is located adjacent to Butterworth Center, 1105 8th Street, Moline.

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Bunny at 12:30 p.m.*



Age Groups

1-2; 3-4; 5-6; 7-9



Iowa 80 opens \$20 million center

Expansion of 60-year old family business offers career opportunities

The Iowa80.com Distribution Center celebrated its grand opening on Tuesday, Feb. 27. This \$20 million capital investment includes a state-of-the-art warehouse equipped with advanced technology and an additional 132,921 square feet of available space for lease.

Dave Meier, Director of Real Estate for Iowa 80 Group shared insights into the project, shedding light on its economic impact and the opportunities it brings to the region. He pointed out the strategic importance of Walcott as the flagship location for Iowa 80 Group, serving as the central hub for stocking stores and weekly shipments to other locations. "Walcott has been very supportive of growth at our interchange, and we look forward to further expansions," he said. "We have land for more warehouses here on both the north and south sides of Interstate 80." He noted that leveraging Walcott's tax rebate program was helpful to the project.

The significance of being located in the Quad Cities was also emphasized, with Meier noting the availability of a great local workforce and the area's overall appeal as a desirable place to live. "Being in the Quad Cities is a plus, as there is a great local workforce, and it is a great area to live. Since we are right on I-80 and equidistant from Des Moines and Chicago, we are in the perfect spot."

The Distribution Center's warehouse technology system includes two Vertical Lift Machines that are designed to store items in a compact footprint, enhance efficiency, save space and simplify the order-picking process. The deliberate decision to construct a larger



Iowa 80 staff celebrate the opening of a 133,000 square foot warehouse. Contributed photo

building serves a strategic purpose as well. Meier explained, "We built the building larger on purpose, as most warehouses are in industrial parks far away from the truckstops that are needed to serve the driver and their truck. This will make it a better location for both the operator of the warehouse and the drivers and vehicles that serve them."

"Iowa 80 Group is always looking for talented employees, and we have many opportunities around the complex. I would encourage people to look at all we can offer in many career types." Meier related that the family-owned business is also celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2024.

Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce

Adult crafts Saturday at Eldridge library

Scott County library hosts adult crafts, 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday March 16, at the Eldridge branch.

The day's focus is card class. Participants will make greeting cards. Cost is \$2.50. Please register in advance. Con-

tact dbanta23@yahoo.com.

The library hosts adult crafts through the month. Visit the library's Facebook page or go to bit.ly/scsclscal to see a calendar of all library events.

May 7 deadline for NRCS conservation agreement proposals

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is announcing up to \$5 million to fund agreements that address Iowa-specific conservation issues.

In 2023, Iowa NRCS provided more than \$1.9 million through four Iowa Partners for Conservation (IPC) projects. This year, an estimated \$5 million will be available for IPC agreements, as funding allows. Funding amounts can range from \$75,000 to \$3.2 million through two- to five-year agreements.

Proposals must be submitted electronically at www.grants.gov.

The proposal deadline is May 7, 2024.

The grants go to projects that address local natural resource issues, encourage collaboration, and develop state and community-level conservation leadership.

The purpose of the IPC awards will be to leverage NRCS and partner resources with proposals that address the following goals of the Iowa NRCS Strategic Plan:

- Result in soil health engagement in the agronomic community (private sector) with the help of conservation agronomists.

- Conduct on-site (field) practice certifications and follow-up with producers on conservation seeding establishment.

- Conduct inventory and quantify benefits of conservation practices.

- Provide engineering planning and design for wetland restoration on easements.

Priority will be placed on projects that address soil health/climate smart ag, water quality and quantity, habitat, urban agriculture, and racial equity.

Projects will be executed through providing high quality technical services that help our customers achieve conservation goals, and increasing adoption of conservation in Iowa.

Additional details are available on the Iowa NRCS website, nrcs.usda.gov

Eldridge City-Wide Garage Sale Saturday, May 18, 2024

Ads and map in The North Scott Press Wednesday, May 15! Place your ads by 5 p.m. Friday, May 10 to be on the map.

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TAX NOTICE REMINDER

The second installment of property taxes and mobile home taxes must be received or postmarked by March 31st to avoid interest charges.

Payments may be made online at www.iowatreasurers.org

or

Please mail payments to 600 W. 4th St., Davenport, IA 52801-1003.

Any payments made in person require a scheduled appointment at www.scottcountyiowa.gov/treasurer.

In office payments by debit and credit cards are accepted with a service delivery fee.



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Tony Knobbe
Scott County Treasurer



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City files FOI to see utility board correspondence

Councilman, utility board chairman air differences

By Mark Ridolfi
NSP Managing Editor

Eldridge city council and staff filed Freedom of Information Act requests to compel the city utility board to divulge text, emails, bylaws, and meeting recordings.

Council member Ryan Iossi said the request is to learn how informed utility board members have been about decisions made by the current manager and former board chairman.

Specifically, the FOI request asks if utility board members intended to split the utility from the city when they hired their own attorney to apply for a separate tax identification number.

“...We would like some clarification on whether or not the reasoning for applying for a separate EIN was truthfully communicated to the Utility Board prior to their vote on it,” assistant city administrator Jeff Martens wrote to the utility

board March 6.

Iossi serves as the council liaison to the utility board, and said he’s had “promising” discussions with utility board member James Skadal.

But he said Skadal, and four new utility board members may not have been fully informed.

“I think part of the resistance is the utility manager doesn’t want to report to anybody,” Iossi told *The NSP*, Monday.

“Somebody is driving the bus. I would like to know as a councilman who that is. All of these conversations, the entire utility board should be on board with it. It doesn’t sound like they are,” Iossi said.

Skadal on Monday said the utility board does not want to separate from the city. He said the board is considering legal action if needed to obtain its own employer tax identification number for, “administrative distinction,” involving finance, and insurance.

“The utility board is not separating. All we want is clarification of Iowa code 388 and how we are to operate as a financial entity. It is not separation, it is administrative distinction. We will still help the city with projects, and they will help us,” Skadal said.

Iowa code 388 has rules for establishing and running utility boards.

Skadal said utility manager Jacob Rowe was preparing FOI responses that will be delivered within the 10-business-day limit set by law.

Skadal viewed the city’s FOI request as a vindictive nuisance.

He said Rowe, “is really inundated with paperwork and can’t really do his job. It’s part of the campaign to discredit Jake,” Skadal said.

The city’s FOI seeks emails from Rowe, and utility clerk Jody Coffman to CMPAS/CMPMA. The Central Minnesota Municipal Power Agency and Central Municipal Power Agency/Services are

Attorney fees

Eldridge taxpayers and utility customers are picking up both sides of this municipal dispute. Here are the rates Eldridge council and utility board negotiated for their respective attorneys.

Utility board

- Nicole Proesch, of Dickinson Bradshaw, Des Moines
- Partner rate: \$275 per hour.
- Associates rate: \$195 per hour.
- Research rate: \$100 per hour for staff to use software for research.

City council

- Allison Wright, Pappas Wright PC, Rock Island.
- Partner rate: \$200 per hour.
- Associates rate: \$165 per hour
- Paralegal rate: \$95 per hour

“Somebody is driving the bus. I would like to know as a councilman who that is. All of these conversations, the entire utility board should be on board with it. It doesn’t sound like they are.”



Eldridge council member Ryan Iossi

nonprofits that assist municipal utilities and others negotiate and manage power purchases, and the power charge adjustment, or PCA that affects customers’ bills.

On Monday, Skadal shared a March 8 memo to the utility board where Rowe explains his thoughts on the FOI request.

“On Thursday, March 7th, 2024, the Assistant City Administrator dropped by to talk with me about the FOIA request. In speaking with him, he informed me that the Mayor and City Council have been consulting with previous city administrations. As part of these discussions, they have been made to believe that the board is paying CMPAS to calculate the PCA for them. Furthermore, they believe that I have taken this PCA information from CMPAS and presented it to the Board as my own.

“This is all to further discredit my character. I can assure you that this couldn’t be further from the truth. I have nothing to hide and would never claim someone else’s work as my own. It is very disheartening that this is coming

from a group of individuals who speak of truth and transparency.”

Skadal said Rowe has been instrumental working with those agencies, not just forwarding their recommendations.

He stood by Rowe and said Eldridge is lucky to have him.

“He’s a homegrown young man who came up through the system, and has developed himself to be an integral part of our electric and water utility system,” Skadal said. “We’re lucky we have someone who can manage the administrative side, personnel and tech side.”

Utility manager authority

Both Skadal and Iossi agreed that Rowe and Lemke’s relationship is strained.

“I think part of the resistance is the utility manager doesn’t want to report to anybody,” Iossi said Monday.

On March 4, Mayor King read a memo that accused Rowe of sexist language and insisted he wouldn’t work with Lemke. The memo quoted Rowe calling her, “that woman.”

At that time, Skadal said he recalled the exchange and said he admonished Rowe for it. But on March 8, he told *The NSP* a recording of that meeting showed Rowe didn’t use that phrase. He said Rowe simply referred to Lemke as “her.”

Essential differences

Skadal said a legal ruling may still be needed to address two issues:

- Utility board autonomy. The council approved a handbook that shows Rowe reports to the city administrator. Skadal said the utility manager reports to the utility board.

- Former utility board chairman Brock Kroeger’s ineligibility to serve.

The Eldridge Utility board met March 5 at city hall. Skadal presided as interim chairman, with members Paula Stewart

UTILITY, continued on page 9A



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Upcoming Events

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MARCH 23RD
Dirt Road Rockers
Doors open 6:30pm

MAY 4TH
Jerrod Niemann
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Symphony Day

On Feb. 29, North Scott elementary students joined hundreds of other fourth- and fifth-graders from around the Quad Cities at the Quad City Symphony's annual Symphony Day at the Adler Theatre in Davenport. The event introduces young people to live performance and classical music through a 45-minute program. Prior to the show, the students worked with their teachers to familiarize themselves with the music and composers in their classrooms.

Contributed photos

UTILITY: Debate over extent of utility manager's authority

Continued from page 8A

and Barb O'Brien, who were appointed last year. They were joined by Jeff Hamilton and Craig Gehrls, who were appointed to the board last week by Mayor King.

Kroeger continues to attend and count himself present, but said he is abstaining from votes.

At that meeting, the utility board voted unanimously to seek the separate taxpayer identification number.

Council members Iossi, and Scott Campbell, and Mayor Frank King also attended, along with city administrator Nevada Lemke, and assistant administrator Martens.

Utility board members say the city's revised handbook weakens autonomy.

Rowe passed out copies of three handbooks: A draft he said he prepared with former administrator Rupe; the latest handbook approved this year by the council; and another Rowe drafted after consulting other municipal utilities.

That's when Steward noted rules in the latest handbook allow the city administrator to discipline the utility manager.

"On page 36, it has been inserted, 'may be disciplined by city administrator.' That was told to us Thursday that it was not in the handbook. Now it is. That's just one discrepancy that I'm not com-

fortable approving, and it has nothing to do with the organizational chart," Steward said at the meeting.

Lemke said it was the same as in the 2003 handbook. "Hiring and firing is not within the purview," of the city administrator, Lemke said. "This is strictly oversight to prevent liability."

"But that's not what was said," Steward responded.

The revised handbook includes a three-part procedure for the city administrator to discipline all department heads, including the utility manager.

On Monday, Iossi acknowledged the need for collaboration on discipline since the city and utility share employees and equipment.

"Since utility employees also work for the city, they have dual roles. If they had reasons to be disciplined for behavior while working for the city, the city has a right to discipline. If working under the utility at that time, it's up to the utility board if any discipline is needed," Iossi said.

The utility board on Monday shared copies of emails going back to 2022 that showed internal discussions among Rowe and then-city administrator Tony Rupe over the handbook.

Iossi said the city needs to move forward with the handbook and organizational chart approved by the council. City oversight is intended to be admin-

istrative, and Iossi said he is willing to discuss the scope of that authority, but not open up the whole handbook and chart.

On Monday, Iossi offered an example he said shows the need for city oversight: Rowe's workplace expenses.

"Jake as the utility manager is approving his own travel, and his own reimbursement and it's not being signed off by anybody," Iossi said. "The one we have a copy of was only \$90. But how many times is he doing this without oversight?" Iossi said.

He said neither he nor the council have any indication of improper transfers or expenditures. Iossi said he's willing to work with utility board members to fine-tune administrative oversight.

"What keeps being brought up is the disciplinary side. I talked to the mayor and city administrator, and I think we still need to look at that verbiage one more time, primarily to make the utility board satisfied with it," Iossi said Monday.

"I have confidence this will work its way out. I have confidence that Jim Skadal is moving forward. I'm having good conversations with him," Iossi said.

Kroeger eligibility

Skadal said he's also interested in supporting Brock Kroeger's continued membership on the board.

Mayor Frank King reappointed Kroeger, and King said he did not know Kroeger had moved from the city in 2019.

Kroeger is the third generation of his

"I've talked to citizens. Why not come to compromise; let Brock be grandfathered in and finish his term. That's what I tried to suggest, but never got addressed."

Utility board member Jim Skadal

family to be on the utility board, operates a business in Eldridge and should have been allowed to finish his term, Skadal said.

"It's not if I want him back on the board. It's whether it was a legal, justified move," Skadal said. "I'm not against them having their resolution ... that requires city residency. That's not the issue for me. The issue was the way Brock was appointed, and he should have been allowed to serve the rest of his term."

Skadal and Rowe say neither city nor state code addressed residency for utility board members.

Mayor King said Kroeger's eligibility ended when he moved from the city, regardless of who knew. City staff said utility vacancy notices routinely included the residency requirement.

Skadal urged a compromise. "I've talked to citizens. Why not come to compromise; let Brock be grandfathered in and finish his term. That's what I tried to suggest, but never got addressed," he said.

Correction

Brock Kroeger moved from Eldridge in November 2019, and alerted utility manager Jacob Rowe and former city administrator Lisa Kotter shortly after.

Mayor Frank King said he did not know about the move when he reappointed Kroeger to a six year term on the utility board in 2022.

A story in the March 6 NSP incorrectly said Kroeger moved in 2022.



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Davenport sues to keep \$1.9M settlements secret

By Clark Kauffman
Iowa Capital Dispatch

The City of Davenport is taking the state auditor to court over an investigation into \$1.9 million in settlements paid out to former city employees.

The city is opposing a subpoena that Iowa Auditor of State Rob Sand has issued for records related to conversations that Davenport city officials had with staff attorneys and contracted attorneys over actual or potential litigation related to the settlements.

Sand's subpoena calls for the city to produce closed-session minutes and recordings of five city council or committee-of-the-whole meetings, as well as copies of all emails and memos discussing proposed settlements with former City Administrator Corri Spiegel, and two city assistants, Samantha Torres and Tiffany Thorndike.

The subpoena also demands access to the three individuals' employment agreements and to the final, signed settlements between the city and the three.

Last November, shortly after a city election had taken place, Davenport city officials announced they had agreed before the election to pay Spiegel, who was already planning to leave her job with the city, \$1.6 million due to some form of "prolonged and documented instances of harassment" by unidentified elected officials.

The payouts to Thorndike and Torres, totaling \$297,500, are also tied to allegations of harassment.

Since the settlements were announced, concerns have been raised that some council members may have

supported the use of taxpayer money to dispose of legal claims that stem from their own behavior or the behavior of their fellow council members.

In response to the state auditor's demand for access to records, the city has gone to court and asked a judge to modify the subpoena to exclude all of the recordings and minutes of the closed-session council and committee discussions, arguing they are "absolutely" covered by attorney-client privilege since they involve discussions of settlements with the city's attorneys.

The auditor, in turn, has told the court that Iowa law specifically provides that the office when, conducting any audit or review, "shall at all times have access to all information, records, instrumentalities, and properties used in the performance of the audited or reviewed entities' statutory duties or contractual responsibilities."

The auditor goes on to point out that the law also dictates that if the records at issue are confidential, the auditor's office "shall have access" to them with the understanding that it must "maintain the confidentiality" of the records once it has gained access to them.

A court hearing on the dispute is scheduled for March 25.

Last month, in separate but related court proceedings, the Iowa Freedom of Information Council intervened in litigation over the city's refusal to comply with public-records requests for a letter from Spiegel that allegedly outlines her allegations against the city. The city has asked the court to rule on whether it can make the letter public.

Also responding were the Oxford Junction ambulance, Tipton ambulance, Cedar County sheriff's office and Iowa State Patrol. The cause remained under investigation.

Bechthold worked at Casey's General Store for 30 years. Her services were March 5 at Dawson Funeral Services I Wyoming.

Her husband, Donald P. Bechthold, 79, died unexpectedly Feb. 28. His services were March 9 at Chapman's in Clarence.

was eastbound on 210th Street when it went out of control on the gravel road. The vehicle went into the north ditch, where it landed sideways and rolled over, coming to rest on the passenger side, with the driver side door and tires up in the air.

The juveniles were not wearing seatbelts.

Carson Willey is the first vehicle fatality in Cedar County in 2024.

The Cedar County sheriff, Bennett Fire and Lowden Fire and Tipton police also responded.

Tipton Conservative

REGIONAL NEWS

Fire kills Wheatland woman

A fire in rural Massillon Feb. 27 took the life of a 77-year-old Wheatland woman.

Her husband of 27 years, Donald, who was not injured in the fire, died unexpectedly the next day.

Janet Stafford Bechthold died in a home at 117 Hoover Highway. Cedar County dispatch received a report of a fire at the address at 4:56 p.m., Feb. 27.

Departments from Oxford Junction and Lowden responded to the scene.

UTV wreck kills Wheatland boy

A rural Wheatland boy died of injuries received in a UTV accident, 6:03 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 27 at 2375 210th St., northeast of Bennett in Cedar County.

Iowa State Patrol said Carson Willey, 11, was a passenger in the UTV, a 2017 Polaris Ranger. He was ejected from the vehicle and taken to Genesis East in Davenport by Clarence Ambulance, where he was pronounced deceased.

The UTV was operated by a 10-year-old rural Wheatland boy. He was injured and taken to Genesis East by Bennett ambulance.

The Iowa State Patrol said the UTV

Hay Producers annual meeting Thursday in Welton

All hay producers in the region are invited to attend the annual Eastern Iowa Hay Producers Association Annual Meeting and Conference on March 14 at Buzzy's Bar and Grill, 414 Main St., Welton.

Registration starts at 10 a.m. with the program scheduled to begin at 10:30 a.m.

This year's program will feature two new specialists with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach: Shelby Gruss, assistant professor in forage extension; and Madelynn Wuestenberg, agricultural climatologist specialist. Gruss will present data on alfalfa cutting height and longevity, and Wuestenberg will present on the weather outlook for the 2024 growing season.

Denise Schwab, beef specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach, will dis-

cuss steps to stretch the hay supply; and Virgil Schmitt, field agronomist, will discuss weather outlook implications for planting and managing forages and row crops.

Following lunch there will be a brief annual meeting to elect officers and directors. A drawing for prizes will be held at the end of the day.

Registration for the conference is \$30 and includes the noon meal and Eastern Iowa Hay Producers Association membership. Tickets can be purchased at the door. Certified crop advisor credits are also available. This conference is sponsored by the association, ISU Extension and Outreach, and the Iowa Beef Center.

For more information, contact Kevin Brown at brownfarm10@gmail.com or 563-872-4475.



Walcott kids join the 2023 hunt.

NSP file photo

Egg hunting season opens

First central Egg Hunt in DeWitt, March 23

Join eastern Iowa families once again for the traditional Easter egg hunt in DeWitt.

First Central State Bank and Motion Raceworks will partner to present this year's annual Community Easter Egg hunt in DeWitt. The event will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 23, at the Central DeWitt Community MS/HS outdoor sports complex.

The hunt will be separated into age divisions, with groups featuring 1 and 2; 3 and 4; 5 and 6; and 7 through 9.

Pictures with the Easter Bunny and First Central's mascot Packy Panda will start at 12:30 p.m.

Candy, snacks and drinks will be included in the hunt. Each age group also will have a "Golden Ticket" hidden in their hunt area, which can be redeemed for a larger prize at the event's conclusion.

• **Blue Grass Library, 3 p.m., Friday, March 22**

• **Park View hunt March 23**

The Easter Bunny will hop by 1 p.m., Saturday, March 23 for the annual Park View egg hunt at the Armstrong Elementary playground. Children will be arranged by age groups, Two and younger, three to four, kindergarten to first grade, second to third grade, fourth to sixth grade.

• **Walcott Water Tower Park, noon, March 24.** Water Tower Park at South Main Street and Memorial Road. For kids up through sixth grade. Coffee Oasis and Pit Crew BBQ trucks will be on hand.

• **Maysville Fire Department, 12:30 p.m., Sunday, May 24,** at the fire station. Age groups 5-8, and 7 and up.

• **McCausland, 1 p.m., Sunday, March 24**

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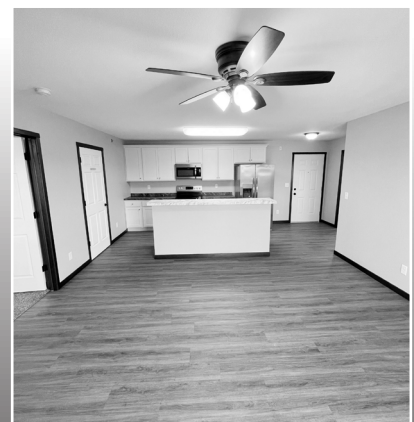
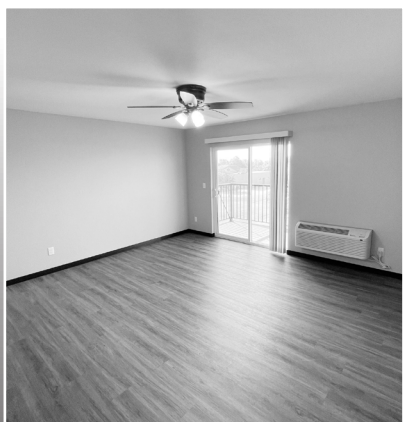
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P&K: New showroom, service shop under construction in Welton

Continued from page 1A

tural equipment, residential and commercial lawn equipment, commercial worksite equipment, as well as governmental equipment. By bringing the River Valley Turf team into the P&K brand and further expanding eastern Iowa and Quad Cities regions, P&K plans to fully support each of these customer segments in the area," the company said in a statement announcing the change.

The store will serve as a purchase and service point of contact for all products, including the biggest ag implements. Some will be displayed in Mount Joy, but a broader range, and service will be performed at the new Welton operation.



12 LOCATIONS IN EASTERN IOWA & NORTH ILLINOIS

Expect to find the home care tools that distinguished River Valley Turf, along with the addition of compact construction

equipment, like skid loaders, excavators and other commercial and industrial equipment. Lang said the addition will serve businesses throughout the region.

"The great customer experience at River Valley is something we can build on, their 25-plus years, but with additional resources, more inventory and a broader scale of services. Plus the team stayed on, so the same great people."

The company is retaining River Valley Turf owners Paul and Patty Seyller, who will be integral to the transition.

"We look forward to welcoming the River Valley Turf team to the P&K organization, and thank the Seyller family for the opportunity to build on the business they've built over the past 20+



A drawing of the P&K outlet under construction in Welton.

Contributed illustration

years," Lang said.

Paul and Patty will remain in the stores to help guide the expansion.

"We're excited for the opportunities this will bring to Quad Cities customers," he said.

Lang said P&K will build on their traditions.

"Like at our existing P&K locations, there is a hometown, family atmosphere at both River Valley Turf stores. We want to foster that and keep building on it," he said.

P&K operates dealers in Keystone, Waverly, Lowden, Sumner and Hiawatha, Iowa. It's a part of P&K Equipment, which operates three stores in Oklaho-

ma.

Lang reports about 250 employees in Iowa, and another 450 in Oklahoma, where P&K was founded in 1985.

The company expanded with P&K Midwest in 2012 with locations across eastern Iowa. The company has over \$20 million in parts inventory, and is get-

Remembering Scott County's dealers

NSP publisher emeritus Bill Tubbs remembers 10 places in Scott County where you could buy a farm tractor in 1971:

- Dean Bassett, Inc., International Harvester, Davenport, then moved to Eldridge.
- Mohr Implement, John Deere, Eldridge (where the YMCA is)
- Lund Implement, Ford, Princeton
- P&W Implement, Allis Chalmers, Donahue
- Dixon Implement, Massey Ferguson, Dixon
- Lund Implement, John Deere, Walcott
- Henning Implement, Allis Chalmers, Walcott
- Ritzie Implement, Massey Ferguson, River Drive in SW Davenport
- Mohr Ford, Ford, State Street in Bettendorf
- Case Equipment, Case, northern Davenport

ting bigger. Lang said the company is recruiting technicians and others looking for careers with a growing company.

"We're eager to bring on those excited about working with an organization like ours," he said.

Find recruitment information online at pkmidwest.com/about-us/careers

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1974: Eldridge residents fight to keep railroad spur

March 13, 1974

The North Scott music department was gearing up for the 1974 Swingphonic Invention show, "This Is Our Bag." The Swing Choir and Stage Band were set to perform popular hit songs, including "Make Your Own Kind of Music," "Angel Eyes," "McArthur Park," "Pieces of April," and "Time in a Bottle."

A group of Eldridge residents said they planned to fight the U.S. Department of Transportation's plan to abandon the Milwaukee Railroad spur from Bettendorf to Mount Joy and Eldridge. "The economic impact of its loss could be very serious," wrote the North Scott Industrial Development Board. The Milwaukee Railroad said it also planned to fight the DOT on the matter.

Our Past

NSP Editor
Erin Gentz

Richard Hagen of Davenport announced his candidacy for Scott County Auditor.

The North Scott basketball season came to an end at the hands of Bettendorf in the District 16 championship game. The Lancers suffered several shooting cold spells at inopportune times and were defeated 75-53. Jeff Miller led the team in scoring, with 22 points.

Mike Fowler and Mike Martin shared the Most Valuable Wrestler award at the team banquet. Randy Lage was named Most Improved Wrestler.

March 14, 1984

The North Scott School Board heard a proposal for a non-profit education foundation that would receive philanthropic donations on behalf of the district. Superintendent Bear Stevens said about 10 districts across the state, including Davenport, had local education foundations.

Cox Cable was asking the Eldridge Cable Commission for a \$1 rate increase, to \$9.95 per month. The company also added three new channels to the service, Music TV, the Nashville Channel, and Nickelodeon.

Candidates for Scott County Pork Queen were Jody Claussen, Denise Ehlers and Wanda Ranson.

Students in North Scott elementary schools were becoming more computer literate, as the district began phasing in more up-to-date technology into classes. While the students were taking to the lessons easily, there were not enough computers to go around yet. Each school had at least one Apple II E Microcomputer, and the district had also purchased 15 VIC-20 computers, that were scheduled to spend six-week blocks at each elementary school. Students were getting about 100 minutes each on a computer per week.

The Lance reported that approximately 65 percent of North Scott students, and 80 percent of student-athletes surveyed, opposed a suggestion that North Scott leave the Mississippi Eight conference. Athletic director Craig Hintz said a review committee was also evenly split on the matter.

March 17, 1999

Members of the Scott County Board of Supervisors expressed support for a new Scott County Library System headquarters in Eldridge, but said they weren't ready to state a financial commitment. "Figure out what you're going to do, and then talk to us," said board chair Ed Winborn.

North Scott was seeing an increase in the number of students who wanted to serve as conflict managers for their peers. Conflict managers listened to each side of the problem and worked to help their peers work to a resolution. The program began in the elementary schools six years earlier.

John Hawley, Spanish teacher and coach at North Scott High School, was honored during commencement exercises at the Milwaukee School of Engineering as a "Very Influential Person" (VIP) by the school and one of his former students, Dan Davis. "I can remember hard nights at MSOE when I wanted to give in and give up," wrote Davis in his nominating essay. "But then I remembered that (Hawley) thought I was better than that. I can remember the hard work that Coach expected, and it's become a habit in my life."

Former North Scott wrestlers Clint Long and Hiram Heysinger were ready to lead the Mount St. Clare College Mounties into action at the NAIA National Wrestling Championships in St. Charles, Mo.

Jill Walters was named first-team



1984: Eldridge Cub Scouts Pack 13 makes posters to promote fun night. Scouts include Todd Harris, John Hall, Andy Straley, Scott Brunson, Brian Harry and Drew Anderson.

all-MAC for girls' basketball. Joy Rasche was a second team selection, and Shea Newmeister was honorable mention.

March 18, 2009

Construction at Lost Grove Lake was on hold as the Iowa Department of Natural Resources had been unable to secure federal funding due to the ongoing economic situation. "Funding has been tight with the state's budget crisis, and we basically need some federal money to help match what the state has provided to move forward," said DNR biologist Chad Dolan. He added it might be several years before work could move forward again.

Trace Adkins, Gary Allan, Kenny Loggins, Big & Rich, Alice Cooper and Tracy Lawrence were announced as the grandstand entertainment for the Mississippi Valley Fair.

More than 110 people from Long Grove and other North Scott communities joined Sheri Leibold at the Nestle Purina Stride & Ride walk to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Her team was formed to support loved ones of people with debilitating neurodegenerative illnesses. Leibold's husband, Joe, had died from Lou Gehrig's disease in 2008.

The Neil Armstrong Elementary team of Griffin Scott, Evan Hundley and Abby Buchanan won the district-wide Battle of the Books, held at the Scott County Library.

Brandon Voss was named third-team all-state for boys' basketball by the Iowa Newspaper Association.

March 13, 2019

The Scott County Secondary Roads department closed soft gravel roads near the Wapsipinicon River, which was pushed to flood stage at DeWitt due to heavy rains. The National Weather Service said the Mississippi River was also likely to reach flood stage shortly, as snowpack melted.

The controlled deer hunt at Scott County Park harvested 10 does and one buck, matching the lowest cull in 14 seasons. The county limited the hunt to 15 archers.

Long Grove was considering a \$151,085 engineering contract with Veenstra & Kimm to design a new water treatment plant, estimated to cost \$1.65 million.

Following their state title, the North Scott girls' basketball team was continuing to rake in honors. TJ Case was named All-Iowa Girls' Basketball Coach of the Year by the Des Moines Register, and Grace Boffeli was selected to the Class 4A first-team all-state. Boffeli was also named MAC girls' basketball Player of the Year.

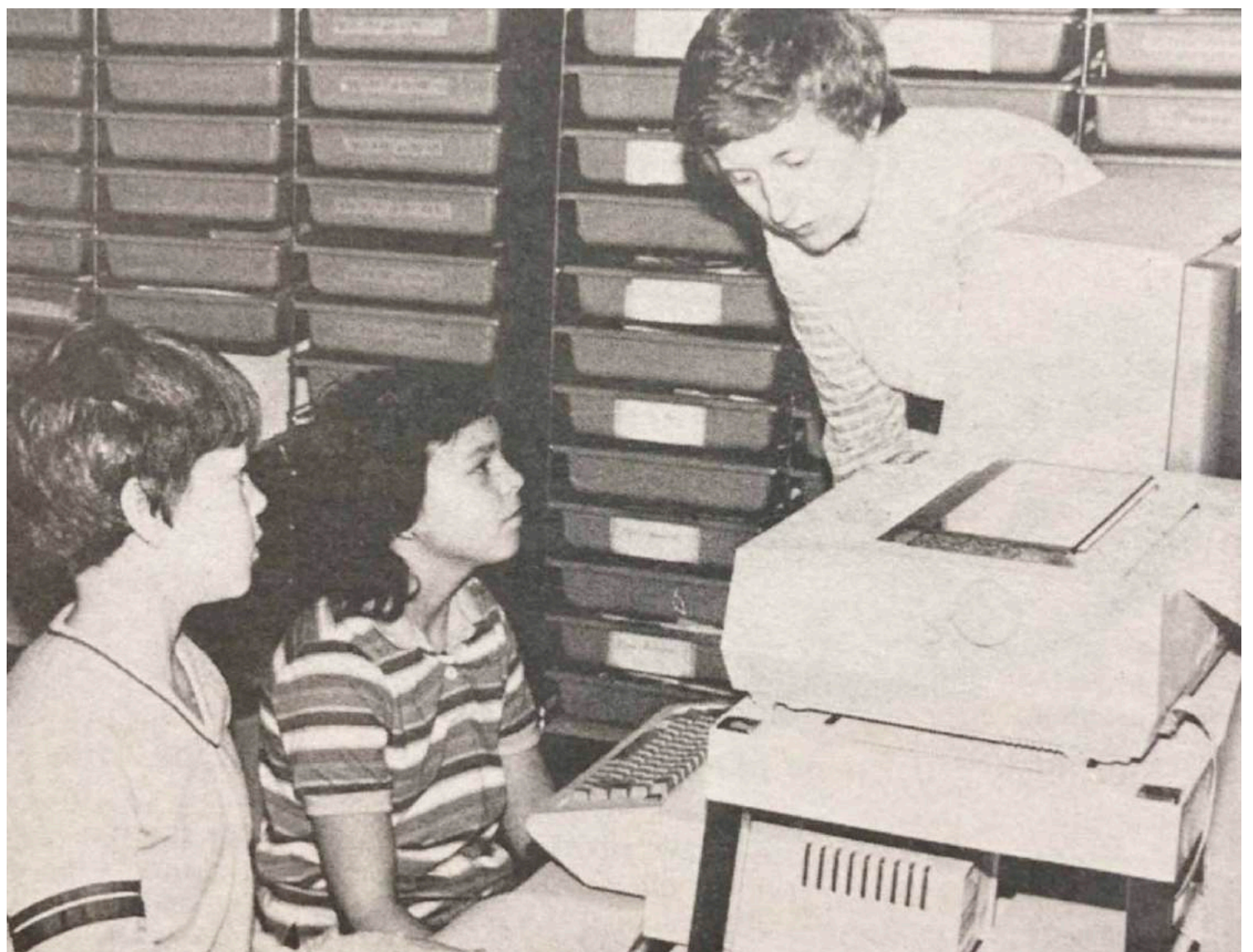
The North Scott boys' basketball team finished fourth at the state tournament, after defeating Ames and falling to Cedar Falls and Waukee. Assistant coach Steffan Nass described the players as "selfless from top to bottom."

1984 SCHOOL COMPUTERS

"We want students to feel at ease with handling information and to learn from the computers. Later on we hope to prove its problem solving ability, and use it as a vehicle for instruction. Where we now have flash cards, computers may soon take over and provide a tool to handle that type of information.

"A computer basically gives us another pair of hands, eyes and ears in the classroom. One concern that I did have was that computers would take time away from reading good books, but that is no longer a concern of mine."

Assistant superintendent Art Lindaman.



Fifth-grade teacher Kathy Stewvens helps students Angela Cororo, and Matt Brekke on the school's word processor.

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Who is eligible for assistance?

Scott County residents who own a private well or cistern are eligible.

When should you have your private well tested?

Private wells should be tested at least once a year.

In addition, you should also test your well if:

- There are known problems with well water in your area
- You have experienced problems near your well (flooding, land disturbances, and nearby waste disposal sites)
- You replace or repair any part of your well system
- You notice a change in water quality (taste, color, odor)

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Un-needed, un-wanted, and abandoned water wells can contribute to groundwater contamination and pose a hazard for our current drinking water supplies. Well plugging is done by removing the pumping system, filling a well with approved fill and sealing materials, and removal of the upper 4 feet of well casing. Once a well is properly plugged, there should be no further well safety issues of future threat to groundwater.

Learn more!

Interested in finding out more about the Grants to Counties program? Contact the Scott County Health Department at 563-326-8618. Funding for this program is available until it runs out.



Grants to Counties Program

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STATE NEWS

Iowa DNR calls February among warmest, driest on record

By Jared Strong

Iowa Capital Dispatch

February temperatures in Iowa averaged more than 12 degrees above normal this year, which makes it one of the warmest on record, according to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

Whether it ranks as the first- or second-warmest February in the past 150 years awaits analysis by the state climatologist. The month was also among the top three driest with a statewide average of .21 inches of precipitation. That is less than a fifth of what is typically expected.

Widespread drought conditions worsened slightly throughout the month, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor.

“A very dry February has wiped out much of the benefit received from the wet January,” said Tim Hall, hydrology resources coordinator for the DNR. “The encouraging trend that started the winter has not continued.”

January was the 18th wettest on record, with a statewide average of 1.71 inches of precipitation — about 76% more than normal. Two winter storms left record snowfall across southern

Iowa, including a monthly total of 38.7 inches in Ottumwa.

February snowfall averaged about 1.1 inches statewide, or about 5.7 inches less than what is typically expected.

Climate outlooks indicate chances for a spring that is warmer and wetter than normal. The federal Climate Prediction Center projects the drought conditions will improve in the southern half of the state.

About 80% of the state is suffering from some degree of drought, with the driest soil conditions in the northeast quadrant of Iowa. All or parts of 30 counties have extreme drought, the second-worst classification designated by the U.S. Drought Monitor.

Drought has been present in parts of the state since July 2020, which makes it the longest drought in about 70 years. Conditions have improved since a peak of dryness in September, but the state is still by far the driest it has been in recent years leading into the corn and soybean growing seasons.

Ag deer controlled-hunt bill blocked to preserve youth season

A bill that would expand the time period in which deer can be killed to prevent damage to crops and trees did not get support from an Iowa Senate subcommittee on Monday.

House File 2484 passed the House last month but appears unlikely to survive a Friday legislative deadline.

The bill would allow those with special depredation licenses to hunt during the January season — even in counties with low deer populations — and it would create a new season for the licenses in the first two weeks of September.

That new season would precede the youth season, which is held before the popular adult bow and shotgun seasons to increase the likelihood of success for hunters younger than 16.

Sen. Tom Shipley, R-Nodaway, said it is important for deer to be undisturbed before the youth season, for fear of chasing them away.

“Those deer start moving, and they don’t come back to that spot for three or four months,” said Shipley, who led a subcommittee that declined the bill

Monday. “So we’re gonna have this kid who’s got 160 acres lined up to hunt on — it’s already been scoured. He goes out there to hunt and there’s not much there. Is he going to come back?”

Shipley said residents in counties with large deer populations often complain to him that more should be done to deplete their numbers. He said he supports the general concept of the bill but that it will require further discussion — likely next year — to develop a more palatable version.

Those who seek help from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources for wildlife damage can get advice about how to keep deer away, minimize the damage they cause and increase hunting in the area during the existing seasons in the last four months of the year. The DNR can provide extra depredation licenses to be used during those seasons, but it can also issue permits to shoot deer outside of the seasons.

The department issued about 520 of the permits last year, said Todd Coffelt, the DNR’s legislative liaison.

Iowa Capital Dispatch

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CITY NAME: MCCAUSLAND **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - CITY OF MCCAUSLAND - PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY** **CITY #: 82-780**
Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

The City Council will conduct a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year City property tax levy as follows:
Meeting Date: 3/26/2024 Meeting Time: 06:00 PM Meeting Location: 305 N Salina St.

At the public hearing any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of the proposed tax levy. After the hearing of the proposed tax levy, the City Council will publish notice and hold a hearing on the proposed city budget.

City Website (if available) www.cityofmccausland.com City Telephone Number (563) 225-3600

Iowa Department of Management	Current Year Certified Property Tax 2023 - 2024	Budget Year Effective Property Tax 2024 - 2025	Budget Year Proposed Property Tax 2024 - 2025
Taxable Valuations for Non-Debt Service	11,615,316	11,933,279	11,933,279
Consolidated General Fund	99,019	99,019	101,730
Operation & Maintenance of Public Transit	0	0	0
Aviation Authority	0	0	0
Liability, Property & Self Insurance	18,350	18,350	34,579
Support of Local Emergency Mgmt. Comm.	0	0	0
Unified Law Enforcement	0	0	0
Police & Fire Retirement	0	0	0
FICA & IPERS (If at General Fund Limit)	7,896	7,896	9,485
Other Employee Benefits	2,369	2,369	3,754
Capital Projects (Capital Improv. Reserve)	0	0	0
Taxable Value for Debt Service	11,615,316	11,933,279	11,933,279
Debt Service	0	0	16,499
CITY REGULAR TOTAL PROPERTY TAX	127,634	127,634	166,047
CITY REGULAR TAX RATE	10.98851	10.69564	13.91463
Taxable Value for City Ag Land	427,936	435,546	435,546
Ag Land	0	0	0
CITY AG LAND TAX RATE	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
Tax Rate Comparison-Current VS. Proposed			
Residential property with an Actual/Assessed Value of \$100,000	Current Year Certified 2023/2024	Budget Year Proposed 2024/2025	Percent Change
City Regular Resident	601	645	7.32
Commercial property with an Actual/Assessed Value of \$100,000	Current Year Certified 2023/2024	Budget Year Proposed 2024/2025	Percent Change
City Regular Commercial	601	645	7.32

Note: Actual/Assessed Valuation is multiplied by a Rollback Percentage to get to the Taxable Valuation to calculate Property Taxes. Residential and Commercial properties have the same Rollback Percentage at \$100,000 Actual/Assessed Valuation.

Reasons for tax increase if proposed exceeds the current:
 Increases due to added cyber security, IT upgrades and Insurance cost increases.

SUMMER



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& Tumbling Center

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"The Nutcracker Ballet"
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June 4 for ages 6 & up
(both are open to the public & using same uniform)
Register online to try out.

**TDS
Hip Hop
CREW**

**Hip Hop Crew
Clinic & Tryouts**
June 11
Ages 6 & up
(open to the public)
Register online.





Barbie Mini Dance Camp: June 10
Eras Mini Dance Camp: June 12
(open to the public ages 4-10 \$28)
Register online.

**SUMMER
ballet
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June 17 - 19
Ages 6 & Up (Open to Public)
Register online.

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Gymnastics Camp**



June 11 & 27 ages 6 & up

10 am - noon Open to the public

Clinic & Mini Competition
June 11 & 27
Ages 6 & Up (Open to Public)
Register online.



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Scott County Animal Hospital

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563-285-8624

www.scottcountyanimalhospital.com

NSP OPINIONS

Matt and Joe drive 1,400 miles for Beauty & the Beast

I'm working on a story for next month. And it's kind of an unbelievable story, although what I'm about to tell you might seem unremarkable. So you'll just have to trust me for now. But I did want you to meet two characters.

Feb. 29, a big portion of the set and costumes for Lancer Productions' upcoming "Beauty and the Beast" showed up at the stage door. About 25 members of the cast and crew turned up to help unload everything. Producer and troupe director Stacie Kintigh was there too, not only to supervise, but to welcome back two men who helped make the day a reality, drama dads Matt Hodge and Joe Zrostlik.



Work in Progress

NSP Editor
Erin Gentz

You see, just a week earlier, the set and costumes had been in the hands of a private school in Florida.

So Matt and Joe flew down to Punta Gorda, rented a Penske truck, headed

out to the St. Andrew School in Boca Raton, and then drove 1,400 miles back to Eldridge.

The kids were pretty excited, and their excitement grew when the back of the truck flew open and they got to see what they were working with. Technical director Josh Tipsword and his assistant, Justin Walker, jumped in and started unloading things and the kids swarmed the truck, outstretching their



Matt Hodge and Joe Zrostlik on the road.

hands to grab set pieces and boxes as fast as Josh, Justin and Joe could hand them out. They were even excited about taking Styrofoam out to the Dumpster.

About a half an hour later, once everything was unloaded and stacked up backstage, the kids really mobilized. Immediately, three costume racks

rolled in from out of nowhere, accompanied by a box of hangers. They started rounding up scissors to slice open boxes. And that's when the real fun began.

On one side of the stage, props master Haidyn Koberg unloaded a couple of elaborately painted cakes for the "Be

Our Guest" scene. Over by another pile, cast member Eva Lubben, who is also helping with costumes, spied a box labeled "Belle" and opened it up to discover THE Belle Dress, the famous yellow ballgown. She pulled it out and

GENTZ, continued on page 22A

Family feud: I thought we all wanted the same things

In 1975, Eldridge City Council members, recognizing that their meetings which sometimes lasted until 11:30 at night were way too long, made a decision to offload discussion of utility details by creating a separate utility board. The town was a third of its current population then, but growing rapidly.

Among the many hats I wore at *The NSP* in those days was city council reporter, which placed me in the room when that decision was made. Members of the three-member utility board would be appointed by the mayor with approval by the city council.



Impressions

by Bill Tubbs

The minutes of what looks like the first official meeting of the new board, on Jan. 13, 1976, were published in the Jan. 21, 1976 issue of the *The NSP*. At that meeting, members Alvin Starkweather, Jean Baker and Harold Kroeger approved organizational details, adopted the

City Code of Ordinances, and named John W. Miller, the city's public works director, as utility manager. Countless hours have been given by utility board members over the 49 years, much of it unnoticed and unappreciated, for nominal pay. Thank you!

Much has changed in size and scope of the city's utilities in that time, but it was clear at the start that the relationship between the city and the utility board was meant to be collegial and cooperative – as it is with the park board and community center boards, which were subsequently created. The boards operate autonomously, but the mayor and council, the only ones whose names are on a ballot, would have ultimate control.

We are all residents of Eldridge and want the same things. At least that's what I thought until reading recent issues of *The NSP* which reported that the utility board threatened to sue the city over issues of control, including arguing that a non-resident should serve on the board because he owns property in the city. By that logic, I would be eligible to be appointed to any board or commission created by the Jones County board of supervisors in Anamosa because Linda and I own a cabin in the woods at Canton, Iowa. How crazy is that?

Most disturbing is that my tax dollars would be needed to defend a lawsuit financed by my utility payments. I'm not defending every decision of the city

If the utility board sues the city, the most disturbing thing is that my tax dollars would be needed to defend a lawsuit financed by my utility payments . . . the mayor and council members who created the utility board in 1975 would be appalled.

council or utility board. Mistakes have been made all around. It's time to acknowledge those and move forward together – by arbitration if needed – but please, no lawsuits! Mayor Bob Blanche and council members Bob Voelkel, Larry Rauch, Lynn Byers, Gene Schneckloth and Dave Stephens who created the utility board in 1975 would be appalled.

Footnote: 12 years ago the school district had a "family feud" which created divisions and contentious elections about the number, size and location of elementary schools. That issue was settled with no lawsuits and we have moved forward, together.

Eldridge should do the same.

Rotary Opportunities

There are four activities of the very-active 112-member Rotary Club of North Scott coming up shortly in which community input is invited:

YOUTH EXCHANGE: With Covid in the rear-view mirror, the club will be hosting an international student in 2024-25. One home host is already arranged, but others may apply to be part of an experience of a lifetime. Rotary Youth Exchange is one of the most credible programs of its kind, with connections and support here in the local community. Questions can be answered by Paul Kalainoff, of Eldridge, who serves on the district committee: 563-570-7907.

FOUR-WAY TEST: In 1932, Chicago businessman Herb Taylor saved his failing business by applying the 24-word code of ethics which he composed to every decision in his business and personal life. This simple code of the things we think, say or do, has stood the test of time and is recited at meetings by Rotarians world-wide:

FIRST: Is it the TRUTH?

SECOND: Is it FAIR to all concerned?

THIRD: Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

FOURTH: Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

The Rotary Club of North Scott is sponsoring a Four-Way Test Speech Contest with \$300 cash prizes locally and the chance to compete at a regional contest to win \$500. Speeches are 5-8 minutes. The local contest will be 9 a.m. Saturday, March 23 at the NSHS library, and is open to all high school students. Deadline to enter is March 20. Use the QR code at right to learn more, or contact Stacie Kintigh, stacie.kintigh@northscott.org, or Rotarian Jan Touney, 563-508-2313.



COMMUNITY GRANTS: Nonprofit groups are invited to apply for grants up to \$5,000 for civic projects, excluding fund-raisers and capital campaigns. This was announced previously in *The NSP*, and the deadline is March 15. The application form can be accessed at: <https://tinyurl.com/4vwhebtz>.

FINE ARTS: Since 2004, North Scott Rotary, in partnership with *The NSP*, has recognized individuals and groups promoting the arts. Last year, the awards were renamed the Tom Goddall Community Fine Arts Awards.

If you would like to nominate someone in any of the five categories –Vocal Music, Instrumental Music, Drama, Visual Arts and Creative Writing – contact me at btubbs@northscottpress.com by April 5. The awards will be presented the last week of April.

Congratulations, Assumption!

How fun it was to see the Assumption Knights' boys' basketball team win the Class 3A state championship, and to know that our North Scott Lancers won twice in head-to-head competition with the Knights this year. And, to see Bettendorf, which North Scott beat once, advance to the state semis; and Cedar Rapids Kennedy, which beat North Scott by two points in the Sub-State final, advance to the championship game where they lost by four to West Des Moines Valley – which scored four points on technical foul free throws.

Publisher emeritus Bill Tubbs can be contacted at btubbs@northscottpress.com.

OPINIONS **NSP**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

HAVlife hosts say 'thank you'

On behalf of the HAVlife Foundation and our Martini Shake Off team, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for our communities unwavering support. Your generosity and dedication to our mission of preventing lost potential in our area youth is truly inspiring. To our participating venues, sponsors, volunteers, event team and event guests. Thank you!

One hundred percent of all dollars raised at the event will directly support the participation of youth in the areas of arts, music and athletics. By providing these opportunities, we aim to empower the next generation, helping them discover their passions and realize their full potential.

Your support not only makes a dif-

ference in the lives of these young individuals but it also strengthens our community as a whole. The HAVlife Foundation seeks to allow all youth to experience life in the fullest - increasing exposure to positive community influences and enhancing the development of a positive and confident approach to citizenship.

Thank you once again for being an integral part of the HAVlife Martini Shake Off success and for standing by us in our pursuit to prevent lost potential.

With heartfelt appreciation,
Mike Vondran, Founder,
Audra Foley, Board President,
Kim Guy, Foundation CEO

Be careful what you wish/vote for

Our forefathers fought and died to preserve our freedoms, and while our leaders pretend to honor them, some of our legislators want all the power, and wealth to be used for their agenda. This election is not a choice between two parties working toward a common goal to improve democracy based on the Constitution of the United States.

The Republican party is no longer the same conservative Republican party your father or grandfather voted for. The new Republican party has voted to suppress the vote of the people and ideals that do not conform to theirs. They no longer believe that we should, "do unto others as you would have others do unto you." Theirs is a dictatorship!

For the past several years, the Republican party under the leadership of Mitch McConnell has refused to participate in our democracy. They plan to obstruct all legislation proposed by the Democratic party. In the past, the two parties would discuss, debate, revise, and compromise on legislation to benefit their constituents. It takes less effort and much less initiative to just say no.

Our government has been systematically transformed into a virtual dictatorship by our Republican obstructionist Trumpian cult. While former President Trump was in office, he had a mentor in Mr. Putin. Trump thought Putin was a wonderful leader.

As you must have seen during the Russian war on Ukraine, Putin lies to the Russian people, telling them that this was a tactical exercise and not a war.

You may recall that Mr. Trump, while he was running for president, told the American people that he was going to build a wall at our Southern border and have Mexico pay for it. He told us that Covid would go away on its own and we should not get the immunization. He said that we should drink bleach if we got sick and it would cure us. All of these were lies.

He continues to spread false information to the people. People have died because they followed his advice. Do you really want a dictatorship led by Mr. Trump?

I don't want to live in a dictatorship at all! Look at what has happened in Ukraine. Those people previously lived in a dictatorship and in the recent past, they have been living in peace in a democracy. They would rather fight to the death than go back to living in a dictatorship led by Mr. Putin.

Be sure to look at China where people were isolated in their homes when the rate of Covid went up. Those

people have no rights! Look at the Russian people. If they have the nerve to protest any actions that are taken by Vladimir Putin, they are thrown in prison or killed.

I hear Americans saying, "I have the right to do what I want." You will have no rights when you vote for an autocracy led by Donald Trump. He would have you believe that he would strengthen America.

When he was in office, he weakened America's standing in the world. He has said that he doesn't believe in global warming. He did nothing to deal with our crumbling infrastructure, global warming, covid, etc.

The only people he attempts to help are the very wealthy. If you are not a billionaire now, you will never benefit from his power. He did not support the affordable care act and does not support unions. He would love to take social security and Medicare away from the elderly.

Our states led by Republican governors have supported laws that benefit the very wealthy. Do not be fooled, they have shown no concern about Big Pharma raising prices on our drugs or big oil raising prices on oil, because if they vote in their favor, they get kickbacks from the lobbyists working for those businesses. They are in business for themselves, not for us!

Please vote for democracy! Our lives and those of our children depend on it!

JoAnn Goodall
Eldridge



Governor & Gothic

Readers may recall the crisis of Covid and the controversial decisions passed down by governors across the U.S.

Our Rustic Ridge Golf Course would have been ordered to close had we been managed by most governors.

Instead, common sense and application of professional management models worked to preserve the economy of Eldridge and its landmark course.

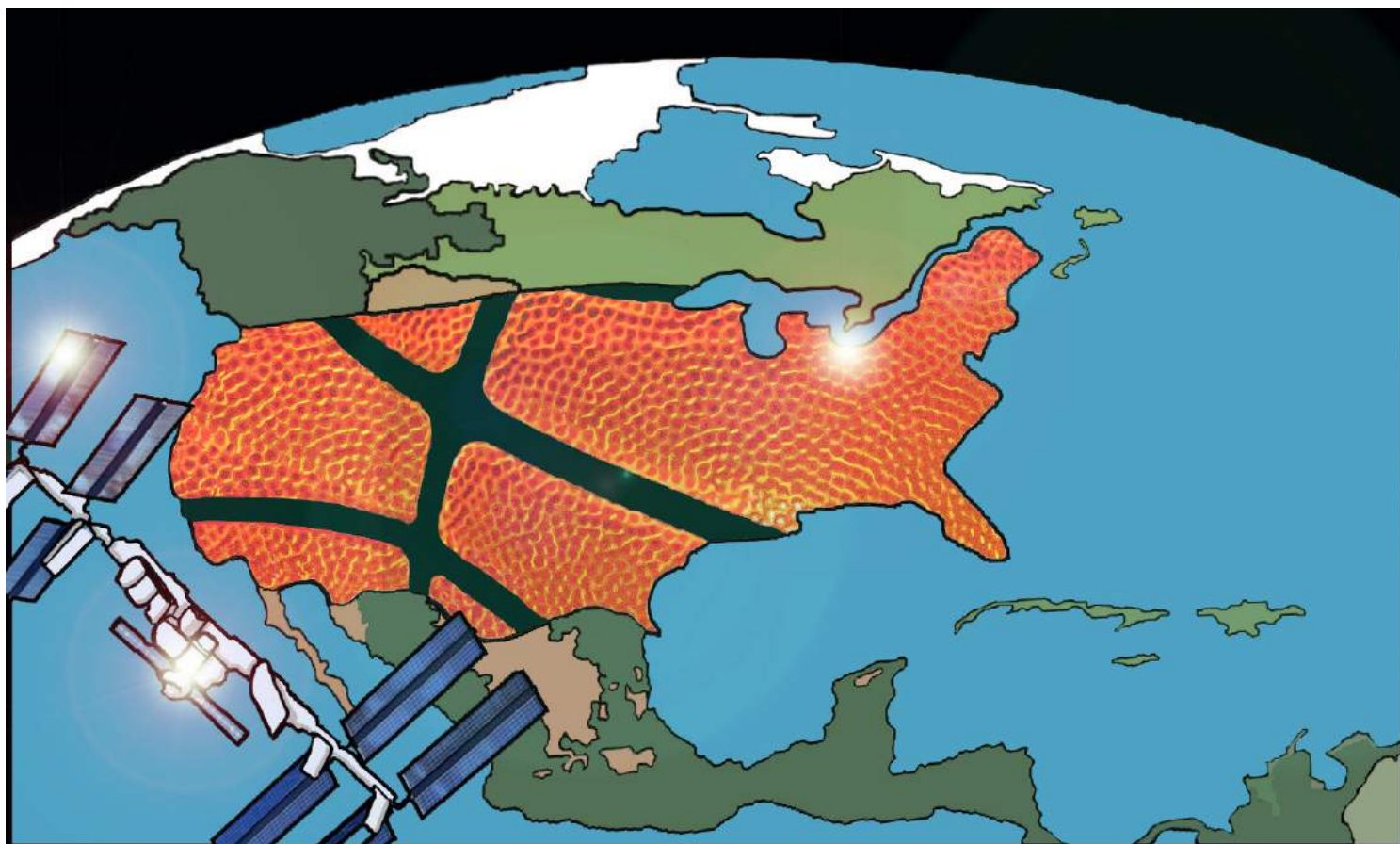
Feeling the obligation to recognize the governor's skills and offer thanks of relief, Bill Wohlford, former course co-owner sharpened his carving tools

and parodied Iowa's iconic artist, Grant Wood, with a version of his "American Gothic."

Getting it in shape for gubernatorial exposure and past the security protocol took some time and finally the help of the Americans for Prosperity group.

Finally, on Feb. 28, together with an entourage of Quad City folks "Iowa Gothic" found its way into the Governor's office. It will remain on view there for several weeks.

Bill Wohlford
Bettendorf



TURLEYtunz CONTACT NSP CARTOONIST JIM TURLEY AT turleytunz@yahoo.com

Signed letters to the editor are welcome.
 Send to: North Scott Press, P.O. Box 200,
 Eldridge, IA 52748, or e-mail: mridolfi@
 northscottpress.com. Include your name,
 address and phone number for verification.

NSP OPINIONS

STATE LEGISLATOR GUEST COLUMNS

House bill creates Class A felony for fentanyl deaths

Last week, the House of Representatives had a busy week of debate.

We passed House File 2576, a bill that increases punishment for fentanyl deaths, on Monday. The state of Iowa is facing a fentanyl crisis. Overdoses are up by more than 34%, and in 2021, illicit fentanyl was involved in over 80% of all Iowa's opioid-related deaths, compared to just 31% five years ago.

Mass production of falsely marketed prescription pills from criminal drug networks is killing unsuspecting Iowans. Often, people who take or sell these drugs are unaware they are laced with fentanyl.

House File 2576 protects Iowans by preventing the distribution of this deadly drug and makes the provision of illegal fentanyl products that result in death a class A felony.

Voting access

Another bill passed by the Iowa House on March 5 is House File 2610, focusing on enhanced election integrity and ensuring safe and secure elections in Iowa by removing ballot



Rep. Norlin Mommsen

drop boxes, prohibiting ranked-choice voting, and strengthening the Safe at Home program. It also creates an affidavit envelope for absentee voters to sign and verify their identification, and it requires absentee ballots to be received by the Monday before Election Day. Voters should check with their county auditor for verification their absentee ballots were received by Monday before Election Day.

Other big bills that passed in a bipartisan manner from this week include Senate File 574 and House File 2255.

Senate File 574 will spur economic growth across Iowa by establishing a major economic growth attraction (MEGA) program under IEDA and appropriating \$300,000 to the Iowa Economic Development Authority for certification costs of certified sites in rural Iowa.

House File 2255 requires parental permission before anyone under 18 can create an account on social media apps. This bill makes it illegal for social media companies to gather data on kids without parental permission. These are a few bills out of several that passed in the House.

House District 70 Rep. Norlin Mommsen, R-DeWitt, represents Jackson, Clinton and part of Scott County. Contact him at norlin.mommsen@legis.iowa.gov.

Unanimous House vote updates Iowa One-Call excavation system

The Iowa House unanimously passed House File 2581, a bill to make changes to the Iowa One Call system. Iowa One Call is the 8-1-1 phone number that Iowans call before they dig to ensure that underground utilities are not



Rep. Mike Vondran
R-Bettendorf

harmed. The Iowa One Call system currently processes over 540,000 tickets and coordinates more than 2.7 million locate requests per year throughout Iowa.

The bill:

- Revises the 48-hour notice period and the notice timeline from 20 days to 25 days.
- Requires two excavators and two locators on the board as non-voting members.

- Requires IUB to receive records upon request when they are involved in a case with the AGs office and allows the IUB to investigate complaints. Allows the AG to issue civil penalties (\$100-\$5,000) against the locator if a complaint is filed.
- Allows for a warning letter from the AGs office instead of the civil penalty.

- Requires locators to accurately complete locates and to notify One Call when a locate cannot be completed.
- Requires One Call to establish a

communication system to allow for notice to be provided to utilities, locators, and excavators.

- Requires the flag used to include the name of the utility.

This bill has passed the Senate Commerce Committee and awaits floor action in the Senate.

\$7 million for underground tank owners

On March 6 the Iowa House Appropriation Committee passed House File 2588 by a unanimous vote. HF 2588 transfers all unencumbered and unobligated moneys (just under \$7 million) in the Iowa comprehensive petroleum underground storage tank (UST) fund on the effective date of the bill to a Department of Natural Resources (DNR) managed storage tank management account.

The bill provides that moneys transferred to the storage tank management account shall be used by DNR to reimburse tank owners for the costs associated with a corrective action for a petroleum release, with at least \$3 million to be used for the permanent closure of underground storage tank systems, for actions arising from sites where certificates of no further action have been issued, and for tank operator training.

Mental health legislation advances

The legislature has advanced seven bills to address mental health care in Iowa. These bills build on the work the legislature has done over the last six years to expand access to mental health care, increase workforce, increase Medicaid rates, create sustainable long-term funding of the mental health regions, and provide an emphasis on children's mental health care. Here is the status of bills as of March 6.

Children's Mental Health – House File 2402 provides for an enhanced rate for psychiatric medical institutions that care for children with specialized needs, and makes regulatory changes to PMICs based on feedback from providers. This bill passed the Iowa House and has been assigned to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee.

Behavioral Health System – House File 2509 comes from the Governor to transition the current county run mental health and disability services regional system to a state behavioral health service system with state contracted administrative service organizations governed by the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services. This bill is in the House Appropriations Committee.

-DHHS will divide the state into behavioral health districts with ASOs to oversee each district and its behavioral health services. ASOs will be selected through RFP. Each district will have a district behavioral health advisory council.

-The bill directs the funds from the federal community health mental health services block grant and the federal substance abuse prevention and treatment block grant to DHHS.

-This bill requires DHHS to designate aging and disability resource centers to establish a coordinated system of providing assistance to persons with disabilities and the elderly.

Timeline:
Sept. 30 – DHHS must post transition plan online and update quarterly

April 1, 2025 – DHHS will designate the districts and their ASOs

July 1, 2025 – the behavioral health system and ADRCs are implemented

Rep. Mike Vondran, R-Davenport, represents House District 94, including Eldridge and rural Scott County. Contact him at mike.vondran@legis.iowa.gov.

GENTZ: Every new box opens a wardrobe discovery

Continued from page 19A

the group of girls near her cheered, as it unfurled to reveal sparkles and swags and everything you'd expect Belle's ballgown to be. They took a few minutes to examine it, checking out all the details, and admiring how big the skirt will be once all the petticoats and hoops are underneath it. And then they attempted to hang it up, only to discover that it takes three hangers to support its weight. Seriously, this dress is major.

Watching the kids make new discoveries with every new box was a treat. They'd seen photos of what the set and costumes looked like, but it was obvious that they were delighted to actually get hands on. As Justin and cast member Emma Zrostlik uncovered the Lumiere costume and examined the wiring, Josh wandered over and started thinking out loud about ways to improve it.

Back in Stacie's office, she breathed an audible sigh of relief. "This is such a huge weight off my shoulders," she said. She didn't just mean having the costumes and set in Eldridge; she was also glad Matt and Joe were back safe and sound. Between the flying and the driving, and the fact that they ran into some weather in Alabama on the way home, Stacie had been doing quite a bit of fretting.

She sat at her desk and took just a second to relax before printing off a bunch of lists so the kids could start doing inventory. Then she mentioned something Matt told her about their visit to St. Andrew School. Apparently, their contact in the theatre department told Matt and Joe that he couldn't imagine any of the parents at his school flying halfway across the country to pick up something for the kids. And that kind of bummed me out, because it made their program sound kind of dispassionate. I guess it's easy to take having a professional set and

costumes for granted when tuition, room and board cost the equivalent of a brand-new Tesla, but you can't trade the joy those kids out on the North Scott stage felt for anything.

Stacie's been doing some extra magic over the last few months, and the day wouldn't have happened without Matt and Joe, but there were some other special helpers, too. The North Scott Drama Boosters paid for the flights, hotels, gas and food, and the North Scott Optimist Club kicked in \$3,000 to help pay for the truck.

I'll tell you more later, but I wanted to mention one other magical moment first.

As the kids started to file out, many of them to get ready for that night's choir concert, Hannah Noonan, who plays Belle, showed up. When she heard her costumes were on the racks, she hurried over and started looking. She found the ballgown and just sort of stared in wonder at it for a moment before

pulling it off the rack and hugging it to her chest. Then she asked quietly, "Can I try it on?"

Assistant producer and PR head Emily Hintze helped her into the gown. Hannah beamed and teared up as Stacie exclaimed, "It fits you like a glove!"

And it did. It will need just a few minor tweaks, and it didn't have all the petticoats and whatnot, but as she stood there, it looked like it was made to be on her.

Back on stage, Eva Lubben surveyed the scene. "This looks like Christmas morning," she said. Someone ran by and shouted, "It's better than Christmas!"

"And this is all ours," breathed Stacie. "It's ours."

There will be more details in the weeks to come, including an ad today on page 5A with dates and ticket information, but on that somewhat cryptic note, I'll just say ... stay tuned.

She found the ballgown and just sort of stared in wonder at it for a moment before pulling it off the rack and hugging it to her chest. "Can I try it on?"






Bella Suarez hangs costumes.



A North Scott actor will wear this wardrobe costume.

**SCOTT COUNTY
DEMOCRATS**

 Scott County Democrats
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WE SUPPORT UKRAINE



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DEMOCRATS	REPUBLICANS
<i>People</i>	<i>Politics</i>
Listen to lowans	Listen to special interests
Defend reproductive freedom	Ban abortion & birth control
Make Iowa a welcoming state	40 anti-LGBTQ bills
Invest in public schools	Shift public \$ to private schools
Expand mental health services	Eliminate AEA mental health & special education services
Lower costs for lowans	Reward corporate interests
Freeze tuition at state universities	Raise college tuition
Keep kids safe in school	Arm teachers
Raise wages for lowans	Cut taxes for corporations & bust unions
Legalize marijuana	Legalize discrimination
Trust lowans	Politicians know best

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 AMERICANS for PROSPERITY

100%

 national RIGHT TO LIFE

100%



83%



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 AFL-CIO

9%

 HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN

20%

 LCV

14%

Christina Bohannon is dedicated to fighting for everyday lowans,



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THE NORTH SCOTT PRESS | Wednesday, March 13, 2024

Book Battle Royale

By Riley Johnson
NSP Intern

Anticipation buzzed through the Scott County Library as the steady sound of pencils scraping paper reverberated through the room. Fifteen students murmured in concentration as teams clustered, ready to tackle question after question.

Saturday, March 2, marked the annual North Scott District Battle of the Books competition. From 10 a.m. to noon, five teams from North Scott Elementary schools convened at the Eldridge library, ready to put their literary knowledge to the test.

Battle of the Books is an academic competition where students are tested on their knowledge of a selection of books chosen from the list of 21 titles from the Iowa Children's Choice Awards. This year's battle was made even more special, as it officially marked the 20th year that North Scott elementaries have participated in the Battle of the Books, showing the enduring love for books among the district's youth. Each of the North Scott Elementary schools, Alan Shepard, Ed White, John Glen, Neil Armstrong, and Virgil Grissom, brought a three-student team to the district competition.

The team representing Neil Armstrong Elementary had a particularly buzzing enthusiasm for books, The B.E.E.s, including Brooke Squires, Emmy Schryver, and Graceland Pilcher.

From Alan Shepard Elementary, the Book Street Boys—Cael Moss, Canon Strom, and Elijah Abdon—even made custom T-shirts for the competition.



Battle of the Books winners are the Ed White Blazers: Violet Kroger, Brooklyn Osborn, and Isabel Jones.

The Ed White Blazers were Violet Kroger, Brooklyn Osborn, and Isabel Jones. Ray'Leauna Ramey, Rylie Fierce, and Kinsey Luckritz represented Virgil Grissom Elementary.

The Besties from John Glenn Elementary, were Brynlee Berger, Haylee Mose, and Elena Skadal.

Throughout the competition, each team faced 100 questions divided into 10 rounds, with each round consisting of

10 questions. Questions are crafted to assess the teams' comprehension and recall of the selected novels.

As the competition unfolded, Emily Haage, the youth services coordinator at Scott County Library System, announced each question, maintaining a steady pace until the final round. At 11:58 a.m., the teams had answered all 100 questions, and Haage signaled for the participants to submit their final

answers.

After the scores were tallied, Ed White Elementary emerged victorious, securing first place in the competition. Taking second place were the B.E.E.s from Neil Armstrong Elementary.

Ed White's victory at districts means the Ed White Blazers will advance to the Eastern Iowa Regional Battle of the Books, 10 a.m., April 6 at the Davenport Public Library Eastern Branch.



The B.E.E.s of Neil Armstrong write down an answer.



John Glenn's team, The Besties, enjoys the competition.



The Virgil Grissom team puts their heads together.



The Bookstreet Boys of Alan Shepard.

OBITUARIES

Craig Ohl

Craig Alan Ohl, age 53, of Eldridge, passed away unexpectedly on March 3, 2024, at his home. A memorial service was held at 6 p.m. Friday, March 8, at Halligan-McCabe-DeVries Funeral Home, Davenport. The family greeted friends from 4:30 p.m. until the time of the service. Memorials may be made to the family to be used for the Ohl Family North Scott Wrestling Scholarship.

Craig was born on June 11, 1970, to Steven and Linda (Lenser) Ohl. He graduated from North Scott High School in 1989, where he wrestled and placed sixth at the Iowa State Meet. Craig graduated from Luther College in 1993, where he majored in business, wrestled and played golf. He worked at Grainger in Davenport for 20 plus years.

Even though Craig lived with physical challenges and adversity, he never complained and used it to draw strength. Craig was a wrestling fan of the Lancers and Hawkeyes. He enjoyed fishing,



hunting ducks from his camouflaged chair, and golf. He always caught the largest fish when out with others. He even skipped a final exam at Luther to land a big trout he saw earlier in the stream.

Craig had a big heart, and was a great brother, son, uncle, nephew and friend. He is survived by his father, Steven (Sonya) Ohl; sister-in-law, Peggy Ohl; nephews, Tom Ohl and Charlie Ohl; aunt, Carol (Dave) Davis; uncle, Rick (Wendy) Ohl; and several cousins, and friends.

Craig was preceded in death by his brother Brent Ohl; his mother Linda Ohl; grandparents Twila and Jack Ohl, Violet and Ralph Lenser; and aunt and uncle Gordon and Jackie Hull; and his very favorite cat, General Patton.

Online condolences may be made to the family by visiting his obituary at www.hmdfuneralhome.com.

Custom obituary

Franklin 'Ed' Nett

Franklin "Ed" Nett, 79, passed away on Feb. 25, 2024, at Genesis East Medical Center. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, March 19, at Grace Evangelical Free Church in Davenport. Visitation will begin at 10 a.m. and conclude at the time of service. Ed will be laid to rest alongside his beloved wife at Rock Island National Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Habitat for Humanity ReStore. Online, condolences and fond memories may be expressed at www.weerts-fh.com.



On Dec. 2, 1944, in Davenport, Ed was born to parents Anna (Vance) and Donald Nett. Following high school, he went on to obtain his associate's degree. Ed worked as a mechanical designer until he retired in 1999. On Sept. 7, 1968, Ed married the love of his life, Jill Sloan. Together they had nearly 50 years in each other's company before Jill passed in 2017.

Ed loved all things wood, old, and repurposed. Using wood (often found at

the ReStore), he could make anything in his workshop. It's not just the "thing" that he made which was special, it was the love and time he put into the piece that his loved ones cherished most.

Family and faith was of utmost importance to Ed. He was a member of Grace Evangelical Free Church, where some of his woodworking pieces can be found to this day. Ed would set up for women's Bible study every week, even after Jill's passing. His love was a constant and will always be a constant.

Survivors include his children, Penny (Brian) Bonifant, John (Ivana) Nett; sister, Pat (Lynn) Snyder; grandchildren, Madeline, Elena, Caroline, Cameron, Anna (Harry), Jacob, Emma; cousin, Jim Vance; and an honorary family member, Ellen Burris.

Ed was preceded in death by his wife, Jill, and his parents.

Custom obituary

STUDENT NEWS

CENTRAL COLLEGE

Hailey Glover of Eldridge is studying at the University of Roehampton in London, England. Glover is a philosophy major in the Class of 2026 at Central College, Pella.

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Andrew Skinner of Eldridge is ranked in the top two percent of in his college at Iowa State University.

Skinner is a sophomore in the Ivy College of Business.

FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY

David Buchholz of Eldridge was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2023 semester at Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kan. Eligible students must have earned a GPA of 3.6 or higher for the semester.

BIRTHS

LENA KRAMER

Greg and Lindsay Kramer of Durant are the parents of a daughter born at 1:57 a.m. March 1, 2024, at Genesis East Medical Center, Davenport.

Lena Ann weighed 6 lbs., 9 oz., and

was 18½ inches long.

Grandparents are Duane and Lisa Kramer of Walcott, and Connie Stecher and Joe Stecher, both of Stockton.

Great-grandmother is Alice Goodell of Humboldt.

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CLUB NEWS

BLUE GRASS SR. SUNSHINE WORKERS 4-H

The March 3 meeting of the Blue Grass Sr. Sunshine Workers was called to order by President Rachel Ehlers at 10 a.m. at the Walcott Legion. Eleven members were present. Faith Bohling led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. The roll call response was "What is your favorite holiday?" The January minutes were read and approved by Madeline Paustian and seconded by Emmalynn Golinghorst.

New Business included that there will be a dog project kickoff at the Extension office on April 7 at 3 p.m. There is a rabbit workshop on Sunday, April 7, from 12:30-4 at the Muscatine Agriculture Learning Center. Scott County 4-H Community Scholarships are due March 31. State Fair sheep and meat goat weigh in will be April 28 from 8-10 a.m. at the North Scott FFA shop.

Sydney Westerhof and Madeline Paustian volunteered to do a demonstration or talk at our meeting in April.

Meeting was adjourned by Maya Westerhof and seconded by Addison Golinghorst. The 4-H pledge was led by Maya Westerhof.

Kylie Daily talked on how to manage

money. Maya Westerhof gave a demonstration on how to make a Dutch braid.

The members worked on fidget lap blankets for seniors suffering from dementia. They will be donated to Compassus Hospice and Palliative Care in Davenport. We will use this for our group project at the fair this year.

ELDRIDGE LIONS CLUB

The Club met on Monday, March 4, at 6 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church and via Zoom. The Monarch Memorials are displayed in March at the Eldridge Library. The Club purchased diabetic glucose tabs for NS Schools; diabetes is one of the Lions Clubs International Global Causes. Global Membership Assessment (GMA) discussion highlights was shared by District Governor Rick Baughman, the next step for our Club is to build an action plan. 2024-25 Club Officers and Board will be presented for election at the April Club meeting. District Governor Rick Baughman also reminded Club members to attend the District 9 EC Spring Convention at Anamosa on Saturday, March 16. If anyone is interested in learning more, please contact EldridgeLionsClub@gmail.com.

Dixon Cemetery meeting

The Dixon Cemetery will hold its annual meeting at 6 p.m. March 26 at the Dixon Fire Station.

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LEGAL NOTICES

Public Notice
IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT
FOR SCOTT COUNTY
 NO. SPCE137302
 SEIZING AGENCY NO. 23-11584 QM
 PUBLICATION NOTICE OF
 IN REM FORFEITURE COMPLAINT

IN THE MATTER OF
PROPERTY SEIZED
FROM
JEREMIAH J. DORSETT
DEFENDANT
 TO: JEREMIAH JAMES DORSETT
 1307 LECLAIRE ST., DAVENPORT, IA 52801
 Pursuant to the requirements of Section 809A.8 of the Code of Iowa, each of the above named persons is notified of the following
 An IN REM FORFEITURE COMPLAINT was filed in the Scott County District Court on JANUARY 30, 2024.
 On or about 9/26/2023, certain property as shown on the inventory or schedule attached to said In Rem Forfeiture Complaint was seized from JEREMIAH JAMES DORSETT.
 X Property which was illegally possessed.
 X Property which was acquired as or from the proceeds of a criminal offense or series of offenses.
 X Property which was used or intended to be used to facilitate the commission of a criminal offense or to avoid detection or apprehension of a person committing a criminal offense.
 You are hereby notified that if you wish to contest this forfeiture, you must file with the Clerk of District Court a Motion or Answer within twenty days after publication of this notice. Failure to do so will result in a judgment by default rendered against you and the loss of any ownership rights you may have in this property.

The State of Iowa
 Kristina K. Lyon
 Assistant County Attorney

Public Notice
IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT
FOR SCOTT COUNTY
 NO. SPCE137417
 SEIZING AGENCY NO. 22-77211 DPD
 PUBLICATION NOTICE OF
 IN REM FORFEITURE COMPLAINT

IN THE MATTER OF
PROPERTY SEIZED
FROM
TANNER H. ESMOIL
DEFENDANT
 TO: TANNER HAINES ESMOIL
 212 SHERIDAN ST, MUSCATINE, IA 52761
 Pursuant to the requirements of Section 809A.8 of the Code of Iowa, each of the above named persons is notified of the following
 An IN REM FORFEITURE COMPLAINT was filed in the Scott County District Court on FEBRUARY 26, 2024.
 On or about 10/10/2022, certain property as shown on the inventory or schedule attached to said In Rem Forfeiture Complaint was seized from TANNER HAINES ESMOIL.
 X Property which was illegally possessed.
 X Property which was acquired as or from the proceeds of a criminal offense or series of offenses.
 X Property which was used or intended to be used to facilitate the commission of a criminal offense or to avoid detection or apprehension of a person committing a criminal offense.
 You are hereby notified that if you wish to contest this forfeiture, you must file with the Clerk of District Court a Motion or Answer within twenty days after publication of this notice. Failure to do so will result in a judgment by default rendered against you and the loss of any ownership rights you may have in this property.

The State of Iowa
 Kristina K. Lyon
 Assistant County Attorney

Scott County Board of Supervisors
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND INTENTION TO ISSUE PRIVATE SCHOOL FACILITY REVENUE NOTES (ST. JOAN OF ARC SCHOOL PROJECT) SERIES 2024

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be conducted before the Board of Supervisors of Scott County, Iowa (the "County") at the Scott County Administration Center at 600 West Fourth Street, Davenport, Iowa 52807, at 5:05 o'clock p.m., on March 28, 2024, on a proposal to issue qualified 501(c)(3) bonds in an amount not to exceed \$8,400,000 aggregate principal amount of the County's Private School Facility Revenue Notes (St. Joan of Arc School Project), Series 2024 (the "Notes"), pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 419 of the Code of Iowa, as amended, and Sections 103 and 147 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, for the purpose of (i) financing the construction, improving and equipping of a new 79,990 square foot co-educational, regional Catholic school known as the St. Joan of Arc School located on land located at the Northwest corner of Hopewell Avenue and Criswell Street in Bettendorf, Iowa (altogether, the "School"); (ii) refunding debt previously issued to purchase land where the school will be built; (iii) paying capitalized interest; and (iv) paying costs of issuance (altogether, the "Project"). Our Lady of Lourdes Church of Bettendorf, Iowa and St. John Vianney Church of Bettendorf, Iowa (collectively, the "Borrowers") will own and operate the Project.

Such Notes, if issued, and the interest and premium, if any, thereon will be payable solely out the revenues derived from the Loan Agreement between the County and the Borrowers. The Notes shall be limited obligations of the County payable solely from revenues received by the County under the Loan Agreement, and secured by a pledge of the amounts received by the County under and pursuant to the Loan Agreement. The Notes will represent and constitute, solely and exclusively, limited obligations of the County and will not represent, constitute or create an obligation, general or special, indebtedness, or moral obligation of the County within the meaning of any state constitutional provision or statutory limitations, and shall not constitute nor give rise to a pecuniary liability of the County or a charge against its general credit or taxing powers.
 All local residents who appear at said public hearing shall be given an opportunity to express their views for or against the proposal to issue the Notes, and at said hearing, or any adjournment thereof, the Board of Supervisors of the County shall adopt a resolution determining whether or not to proceed with the issuance of the Notes. Written comments may also be submitted to the Issuer at 600 W. 4th Street, Davenport, Iowa 52801. Written comments must be received by the above hearing date.

COUNTY OF SCOTT, IOWA
 Kerri Tompkins, County Auditor

Notice of Forfeiture of Real Estate Contract

TO: State of Iowa (Attorney General), 1305 E. Walnut St., Des Moines, IA 50319, City Davenport, 226 W. 4th St., Davenport, IA 52801, Scott County, 400 W. 4th St., Davenport, IA 52801, Patrick Colbrese, 1142 Kirkwood Blvd., Davenport, IA 52804, Katonma N Paul, 1142 Kirkwood Blvd., Davenport, IA 52804, Long Phuong Properties, LLC, 429 30th Ave., Moline, IL 61265, Eugene A. Delpreore, 4504 Rockingham Rd., Davenport, IA 52802 and Dorey Ruth Colbrese, 1803 E 14th St., Viola, IL 61486 and anyone claiming an interest in the described real

estate.
 You and each of you are hereby notified:
 1. The written contract dated May 13, 2021, and executed by T.K. Williams and Sharon H. Williams as vendors, recorded on May 14, 2021; in the office of the Scott County Recorder, recorded as document reference number 2021-00016698, for the sale of the following described real estate:
 The East 39 feet of Lot 3 and West 6 feet of Lot 2 in Block 2 in A.F. Cutter's Kirkwood Boulevard Addition to the City of Davenport, Scott County, Iowa.
 Locally known as: 1142 Kirkwood Blvd., Davenport, IA 52803
 has not been complied with in the following particulars:

- a) Missed Payments \$3,310.00
 - b) Unpaid Sewer \$400.00
 - c) Insurance \$474.00
 - d) Damage to Building \$8,000.00
 - Total \$12,184.00
2. The contract shall stand forfeited unless the parties in default, within 30 days after the completed service of this notice, shall perform the terms and conditions in default, and in addition pay the reasonable costs of serving this notice.
3. The amount of attorney fees claimed by the Vendors pursuant to Section 656.7 of the Code of Iowa is \$50.00 (not to exceed \$50.00). Payment of the attorney fees is not required to comply with this notice in order to prevent forfeiture.

Robert T.K. Williams
 Sharon H. Williams,

By: Paul J. Bieber, Attorney
 ICIS#: AT0000959
 Gomez May LLP
 2322 E. Kimberly Rd., Ste. 120W
 Davenport, IA 52807

Note: If the Fair Debt Collection Practice Act, 15, U.S.C. §§ 1692 et seq., applies to this communication.

Probate
THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT
FOR SCOTT COUNTY
CASE NO: ESPR082590
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF
THE ESTATE OF
STEVEN E. PEHOWSKI, Deceased.
 To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Steven E. Pehowski, deceased, who died on or about January 26, 2024.

You are hereby notified that on February 28, 2024, the Last Will and Testament Steven E. Pehowski, deceased, bearing date of December 10, 1994, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and that Susan K. Highland and Jamie Struif-Pehowski were appointed Co-Executors of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.
 Dated this 29th day of February 2024.

/s/ Susan K. Highland
 Executor of the Estate
 607 Barley Ridge Court North
 St. Peters, MO 63376

Attorney for the Executor
R. Charles Bottenberg AT0011669
Brick Gentry, P.C.
6701 Westown Parkway, Suite 100
West Des Moines, IA 50266
Phone: (515) 274-1450
Facsimile: (515) 274-1488
Email:
Cbottenberg@brickgentrylaw.com

/s/ Jamie Struif-Pehowski
 Executor of the Estate
 3862 Cobblestone Drive
 Bettendorf, IA 52722

Attorney for the Executor
R. Charles Bottenberg AT0011669
Brick Gentry, P.C.
6701 Westown Parkway, Suite 100
West Des Moines, IA 50266
Phone: (515) 274-1450
Facsimile: (515) 274-1488
Email:
Cbottenberg@brickgentrylaw.com
 Date of Second Publication
 13th day of March 2024

Probate
THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT
FOR SCOTT COUNTY
CASE NO: ESPR082560
NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL,
OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR,
AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF
THE ESTATE OF
CYNTHIA C. DAVIS, Deceased.
 To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Cynthia C. Davis, Deceased, who died on or about January 23, 2024:

You are hereby notified that on February 26, 2024 the Last Will and Testament of Cynthia C. Davis, deceased, bearing the date of June 10, 2019 and the First Codicil to the Last Will and Testament of Cynthia C. Davis, bearing the date of October 18, 2022, were admitted to probate in the above-named court and that Bridgette M. Davis and Margaret E. Davis were appointed as Co-Executors of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.
 Dated: February 26, 2024

Bridgette M. Davis
 Co-Executor of Estate
 105 Middle St.
 Hadley, MA 01035
 Margaret E. Davis
 Co-Executor of the Estate
 118 N. 9th St.
 Eldridge, IA 52748

Kelli M. Golinghorst, ICIS#: AT0013766
 Attorney for Executor
 Brooks Law Firm, P.C.
 202 N. 2nd St., Ste. A
 Eldridge, IA 52748
 Date of second publication
 13th day of March 2024

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 officemanagerum@esteldridge.com

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 In-Person Sunday 9 a.m.
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 Sunday Services: 8 & 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.
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 www.pvlcms.org

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 www.stannslonggrove.org
 email: secretary@stannslonggrove.org
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 Sunday 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9 a.m.
Fellowship 9:40 a.m.
Worship Service 10 a.m.

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SCOTT COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

SUNDAY, FEB. 25

2:53 a.m. — Dillon Manuel Lopez, 26, Clinton, was charged with OWI — 1st offense, following a traffic stop on North Cody Road, LeClaire.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28

5:52 p.m. — Michelle Ann Gardner, 31, Park View, was charged with 2nd degree burglary, following an incident in the 100 block of South Park View Drive, Park View.

THURSDAY, FEB. 29

8:16 a.m. — Genna Elizabeth Weigand, 43, Davenport, was charged with simple assault, following a report of an assault in the 2300 block of West Locust Street, Davenport.

2:43 p.m. — Kelsey Lashae Holladay, 25, New Liberty, was charged with disorderly conduct (fighting/violent behavior) and aggravated domestic assault with injury; and Mark Allan Schnell, 30, Muscatine, was charged with disorderly conduct (fighting/violent behavior) and contempt (violation of a no contact or protective order), following a report of a domestic disturbance in the 800 block of Main Street, New Liberty.

6:50 p.m. — Michael David Gerdts, 31, Davenport, was charged with possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia and cited for operation without registration and improper rear lamps, following a traffic stop near State Street and Zimmerman Drive, Bettendorf.

FRIDAY, MARCH 1

1:54 a.m. — Gabriel Michael Riojas, 30, Clinton, was charged with felon in possession of a firearm, persons ineligible to carry dangerous weapons, and possession of a controlled substance (marijuana) — 3rd or subsequent offense, and cited for failure to have a valid license or permit while operating a motor vehicle, following a traffic stop near Great River Road and 280th Street, Princeton.

10:25 a.m. — Deputies responded to a report of a domestic disturbance in the 700 block of Perry Street.

3:10 p.m. — Deputies responded to the scene of an accident with personal injury near 53rd and Falcon avenues.

3:35 p.m. — Deputies responded to the scene of an accident with property damage near 300th Street and North Cody Avenue.

4:26 p.m. — Chris Warren Foster, 59, Bettendorf, was cited for a burn ban violation, following an incident in the 24700 block of 260th Avenue, LeClaire.

7:34 p.m. — Deputies responded to a report of a disturbance in the 4400 block of West Central Park Avenue.

9:26 p.m. — Deputies responded to a report of a disturbance in the 400 block of South 14th Avenue.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

12:30 a.m. — Deputies responded to the scene of a one-vehicle accident near mile marker 131 on Highway 61 South. A vehicle driven by Carson G. Massey, 19, Silvis, Ill., was southbound on Highway 61. The vehicle went off the roadway to the left, and Massey overcorrected, causing the vehicle to flip into the median. Massey was transported by Medic to Genesis East Medical Center.

3:23 a.m. — Deputies responded to a report of a domestic disturbance in the 1400 block of Jones Street.

3:23 a.m. — Jacob Dean Stroyan, 23, Bettendorf, was charged with OWI — 1st offense, following a traffic stop on Brady Street, Davenport.

6:38 a.m. — Deputies began a death investigation in the 11500 block of 108th Avenue.

7:13 a.m. — Deputies responded to the scene of an accident with personal injury.

9:53 a.m. — Deputies responded to a harassment complaint in the 600 block of North Highway 67.

10:32 a.m. — Deputies responded to a report of a domestic disturbance in the 1400 block of Jones Street.

1:06 p.m. — Deputies responded to a report of an animal problem in the 18800 block of 270th Street.

9:05 p.m. — Deputies responded to the scene of an accident with hit-and-run damage near West 67th Street and Northwest Boulevard, Davenport. A vehicle driven by Brody Charles Nordenson, 19, Davenport, was southbound on Northwest Boulevard. His vehicle was side-swiped by another vehicle. The other vehicle did not stop at the scene.

10:07 p.m. — Deputies responded to a report of a domestic disturbance in the 400 block of West James Street.

SUNDAY, MARCH 3

1:44 a.m. — Kallie Carlene Kealey, 24, Davenport, was charged with OWI — 1st offense, and cited for speeding following a traffic stop near East Locust Street and Grand Avenue, Davenport.

3:01 a.m. — Deputies responded to the scene of a one-vehicle accident in the 10200 block of New Liberty Road. A vehicle left the roadway and crashed into a utility pole. The vehicle was abandoned at the scene, and deputies were unsuccessful in attempts to reach the registered owner.

8:59 a.m. — Deputies responded to a report of theft in the 700 block of West Iowa 80 Road, Walcott. Two individuals were reportedly caught attempting to shoplift items. The individuals were served lifetime notices of no trespassing for the property.

10:43 a.m. — Deputies responded to a shots fired call in the 28000 block of 286th Street.

11:42 a.m. — Deputies responded to a report of an animal problem.

1:38 p.m. — Deputies responded to a report of an animal problem in the 21000 block of Brady Street.

3:35 p.m. — Deputies began a death investigation in the 8200 block of Northwest Boulevard.

4:52 p.m. — Deputies performed a welfare check on Park View Drive.

5:22 p.m. — Deputies performed a welfare check in the 26700 block of Scott Park Road.

5:32 p.m. — Deputies responded to a report of a disturbance in the 800 block of Middle Road.

8:55 p.m. — Deputies responded to a report of a disturbance near West 61st Street and Western Avenue.

MONDAY, MARCH 4

9:59 a.m. — Deputies responded to a report of theft on Lincoln Avenue.

11:07 a.m. — Deputies responded to a report of theft in the 2900 block of Devils Glen Road, Bettendorf. An individual was caught shoplifting from the store. The individual was served a lifetime notice of no trespassing for the property.

12:13 p.m. — Deputies responded to a vandalism complaint in the 400 block of West 4th Street.

1:21 p.m. — Deputies responded to a fraud complaint in the 15900 block of 106th Avenue.

3:24 p.m. — Deputies responded to a harassment complaint in the 2600 block of North Clark Street.

4:16 p.m. — Deputies responded to a report

of an animal problem near North Neisse and East Lotte streets.

7:40 p.m. — Deputies responded to the scene of a one-vehicle accident in the 18500 block of 270th Street, where a vehicle driven by Jason Lee Anderson, 48, Long Grove, struck a deer that entered the roadway.

8:02 p.m. — Deputies responded to a report of a domestic disturbance in the 1000 block of Carriage Place Drive.

9:52 p.m. — Deputies responded to the scene of an accident with personal injury.

TUESDAY, MARCH 5

12:21 a.m. — Deputies responded to a report of a domestic disturbance in the 600 block of West 53rd Street.

1:00 a.m. — Matthew Troy Whitney, 39, Davenport, was charged with domestic assault with injury and interference with official acts, after deputies responded to a report of a domestic disturbance in the 6300 block of Brady Street, Davenport.

6:23 a.m. — Deputies responded to the scene of a two-vehicle accident near West 65th and Brady streets, Davenport. A vehicle driven by Jake Allen Kudelka, 38, Davenport, attempted to make a left turn from Highway 61 (Brady Street) to West 65th Street and was struck by a vehicle driven by Brittany Danielle Hart, 34, Davenport, that was westbound on 65th Street. Hart had the right of way at the time of the accident. Kudelka was cited for failure to yield on a left turn.

10:17 a.m. — Deputies responded to a harassment complaint in the 1800 block of East Kimberly Road.

11:00 a.m. — Kentrell Eugene Arrington, 31, Davenport, was charged with 3rd degree criminal mischief, following an incident in the 400 block of West 4th Street, Davenport.

12:29 p.m. — Deputies performed a welfare check in the 600 block of 3rd Street.

9:54 p.m. — Deputies responded to a report of a disturbance in the 2700 block of East 53rd Street.

10:48 p.m. — Deputies responded to a harassment complaint in the 100 block of South Park View Drive.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

12:33 a.m. — Tina Lee Mullanack, 54, Davenport, was charged with failure to appear on a warrant; and Troy Vernon Franklin, 54, Davenport, was charged with driving while barred (habitual offender) and cited for operation without registration, following an incident in the 13800 block of 118th Avenue, Davenport.

12:39 a.m. — Daniel Jason Linehart, 24, Davenport, was charged with driving while license denied, suspended, cancelled or revoked, following a traffic stop near Northwest Boulevard and West 56th Street, Davenport.

2:37 a.m. — Deputies responded to a harassment complaint in the 20600 block of 90th Avenue.

9:06 a.m. — Deputies responded to a report of an assault in the 200 block of Brady Street.

9:20 a.m. — Deputies responded to a report of a burglary/home invasion in the 18500 block of 110th Avenue.

10:02 a.m. — Deputies responded to a report of a domestic disturbance in the 1700 block of Arlington Avenue.

10:38 a.m. — Deputies responded to a report of a domestic disturbance near West Locust and Harrison streets.

10:57 a.m. — Deputies responded to a harassment complaint in the 20600 block of 90th Avenue.

12:53 p.m. — Deputies responded to a trespassing complaint in the 2700 block of Magnolia Drive.

1:27 p.m. — Deputies responded to a fraud complaint in the 100 block of Crest View Drive.

1:49 p.m. — Deputies performed a welfare check in the 2600 block of North Clark Street.

2:02 p.m. — Deputies responded to a report of a domestic disturbance in the 3200 block of West 48th Place.

3:03 p.m. — Deputies responded to a report of theft in the 4600 block of Cheyenne Avenue.

6:27 p.m. — Deputies responded to a report of a disturbance in the 400 block of East LeClaire Road.

7:03 p.m. — Deputies responded to the scene of an accident with property damage.

10:10 p.m. — Deputies responded to a report of a disturbance in the 7500 block of Volquardsen Avenue.

10:40 p.m. — Deputies responded to a report of an assault in the 1000 block of West 5th Street.

11:51 p.m. — Deputies responded to a harassment complaint in the 20600 block of 90th Avenue.

THURSDAY, MARCH 7

1:11 a.m. — Deputies responded to a report of a domestic disturbance in the 1700 block of Emerald Drive.

9:46 a.m. — Deputies responded to a drug complaint in the 3200 block of South 16th Avenue.

11:49 a.m. — Deputies responded to a report of theft in the 13500 block of 118th Avenue.

11:54 a.m. — Deputies responded to a report of a disturbance in the 100 block of East 3rd Street.

12:10 p.m. — Deputies responded to a drug complaint in the 3400 block of Washington Street.

2:26 p.m. — Deputies responded to the scene of an accident with property damage in the 700 block of West Iowa 80 Road.

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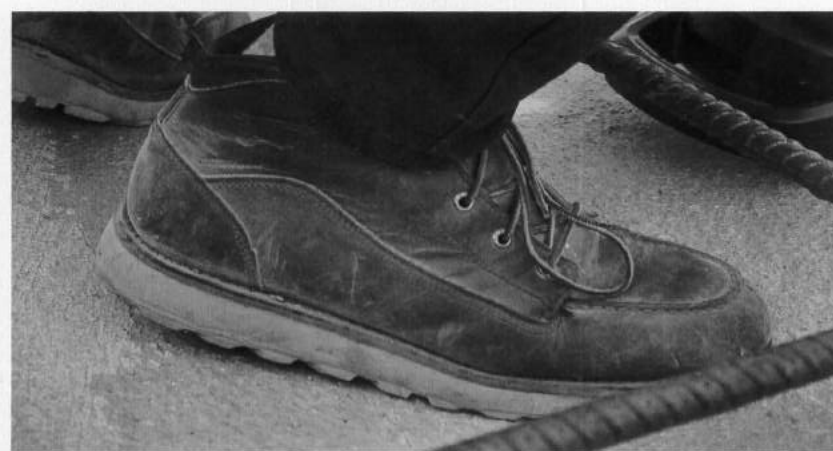
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ELDRIDGE POLICE REPORT

SUNDAY, MARCH 3

12:36 p.m. — Report taken for a death investigation in the 300 block of Country Club Court.

3:45 p.m. — Complaint of railroad crossing arms malfunctioning in the 3200 block of South Buttermilk Road. Handled by officer.

3:50 p.m. — Complaint of a subject in the 400 block of South 16th Avenue being harassed. Handled by officer.

5:32 p.m. — Complaint of a suspicious subject in the 800 block of North 1st Street. Unable to locate. Handled by officer.

6:30 p.m. — Stand by for child custody exchange in the 700 block of South 5th Street. Handled by officer.

6:43 p.m. — Complaint of a reckless driver on Highway 61. Unable to locate. Handled by officer.

7:05 p.m. — Complaint of a subject walking on Highway 61. Handled by officer.

MONDAY, MARCH 4

1:04 p.m. — Complaint of a ladder in the roadway near South 1st Street and East Blackhawk Trail. Unable to locate. Handled by officer.

1:48 p.m. — Report taken for fraudulent activity in the 100 block of South 4th Avenue.

5:31 p.m. — Complaint of a suspicious vehicle in the 3500 block of South 11th Avenue. Handled by officer.

6:41 p.m. — Complaint of a disabled vehicle near East LeClaire Road and North 16th Avenue. Handled by officer.

7:22 p.m. — Patrick Johnson, 59, of Davenport, was arrested for driving while barred, following a traffic stop near East LeClaire Road and Highway 61.

TUESDAY, MARCH 5

6:13 p.m. — Louis Alcala, 40, of Long Grove, was arrested for driving under suspension and cited for no insurance, following a traffic stop near South 1st Street and Slopertown Road.

8:21 p.m. — Chad Selby, 43, of Donahue, was arrested for driving under suspension and cited for no insurance and operating a non-registered vehicle, following a traffic stop near Slopertown and South Buttermilk roads.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

12:35 a.m. — Aleecia Braet, 26, of Davenport, was cited for operating a non-registered vehicle, following a traffic stop in the 600 block of North Scott Park Road.

9:45 a.m. — Complaint of a reckless driver near South Buttermilk and West Lincoln roads. Unable to locate. Handled by officer.

11:29 a.m. — Complaint of a suspicious subject in the 700 block of West Sheridan Drive. Unable to locate. Handled by officer.

3:16 p.m. — Report taken for an accident between two vehicles in the 500 block of South 5th Street.

6:27 p.m. — Complaint of a disturbance in the 400 block of East LeClaire Road. Handled by officer.

7:03 p.m. — Report taken for a single vehicle accident on Highway 61.

THURSDAY, MARCH 7

3:40 a.m. — Complaint of suspicious activity in the 2000 block of East LeClaire Road. Handled by officer.

12:22 p.m. — Barking dog complaint in the 200 block of West LeClaire Road. Handled by officer.

3:59 p.m. — Complaint of a dog running

loose in the 500 block of South 3rd Street. Animal control was contacted. Handled by officer.

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

11:22 a.m. — Luis Garcia, 17, of Eldridge, was arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of alcohol under the legal age, following a traffic stop in the 500 block of West Prairie Vista Drive.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

4:51 a.m. — Complaint of a suspicious vehicle in the 600 block of East LeClaire Road. Handled by officer.

10:10 p.m. — Report of a noise complaint in the 700 block of North 1st Street. Handled by officer.

11:50 p.m. — Jerry Perrin, 83, of Eldridge, was cited for driving on the wrong side of a two-way highway, following an incident on Highway 61.

SUNDAY, MARCH 10

3:20 a.m. — Lane Walker, 21, of Maquoketa, was arrested for reckless driving

and speeding, following a traffic stop on Highway 61.

7:35 a.m. — Complaint of suspicious activity in the 1100 block of Fox Ridge Road. Handled by officer.

10:14 a.m. — Performed a welfare check in the 3200 block of South 16th Avenue. Handled by officer.

2:02 p.m. — Assisted a juvenile who was lost in the 700 block of North Cody Road. Handled by officer.

4:49 p.m. — Complaint of a disturbance in the 400 block of East LeClaire Road. Handled by officer.

9:39 p.m. — Daniel Jones, 42, of Eldridge, was arrested for driving under suspension and cited for no insurance, following a traffic stop near 210th and Harrison streets.

10:20 p.m. — Carlos Terrell, 21, of Davenport, was cited for improper rear lamps, following a traffic stop near East LeClaire Road and North 9th Avenue.

11:33 p.m. — Assisted Medic with an EMS call in the 200 block of West Central Drive.

LEGAL NOTICES

Probate

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT
FOR SCOTT COUNTY
CASE NO: ESPR082562
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
OF ADMINISTRATOR
AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF
THE ESTATE OF
Ruthie Thomas, Deceased

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Ruthie Thomas, Deceased, who died on or about December 10, 2023:

You are hereby notified that on 02/27/2024, the undersigned was appointed administrator of the estate.

Notice is hereby given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of the mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.
Dated on March 6, 2024.

Warren Thomas
Administrator of the Estate
1328 Christie Street
Davenport, IA 52803

Paul J. Bieber, ICIS#: AT0000959
Attorney for the Administrator
Gomez May LLP
2322 E. Kimberly Rd. Ste. 120W
Davenport, IA 52807
Date of second publication
13th day of March 2024

the same rate regardless of the location where wastewater is treated.

Rate	Usage
\$0.91/100 gallons	0 to 90,000 gallons
\$0.79/100 gallons	Over 90,000 gallons
\$40.55	Minimum billing

The bill, as determined by the average consumption described above, shall become effective with the April 1st billing of each year, and remain in effect until April 1st of the following year. Prior to April 1st of each year, average consumption shall be recalculated to determine if the residential customer's bill should be adjusted. Properties connected to sewer, but without metered water consumption, shall be subject to the minimum billing amount.

Section Two. The portions of Section 3.01, Chapter Two, Title C, of the Eldridge City Code are repealed and the following portion of Section 3.01 is hereby adopted.

3.01 Commercial and Industrial Rates. Sewer Rates for non-residential users, including schools, shall be based upon monthly water consumption. All non-residential rates shall be charged the same rate regardless of the location wastewater is treated.

Rate	Usage
\$0.91/100 gallons	0 to 90,000 gallons
\$0.79/100 gallons	Over 90,000 gallons
\$40.55	Minimum billing

Section three. Repealer. All ordinances, resolutions, and parts of ordinances and resolutions in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section four. Effective date. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication as provided by law and become effective on April 1st, 2024.
PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 4TH DAY OF MARCH, 2024.

Attest:
Mayor, Frank King
Martha Nieto, City Administrator

City of Eldridge

ORDINANCE 2024-05
AN ORDINANCE REPLACING SECTIONS OF TITLE C, CHAPTER TWO OF THE ELDRIDGE CITY CODE, AND ADOPTING NEW SECTIONS 3.00 AND 3.01 ESTABLISHING NEW SEWER RATES, REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT WITH THIS ORDINANCE AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Section One. The portions of Section 3.00, Chapter Two, Title C, are hereby repealed and the following new language for Section 3.00 is hereby adopted.

3.00 Residential rates. Sewer rates for all single residential properties including property owned by any religious organization and used as a church, synagogue, or other place of worship, shall be based upon average water consumption as billed in the months of January February and March according to the schedule below. A single residential property is defined as a single-family home, an individual townhouse or row house, an apartment within a larger building, a mobile home or any grouping of rental rooms using a common bathroom. All residential users shall be charged

North Scott Community School District

Board Minutes - March 4, 2024
NOTE: These minutes are unofficial until approved by the board at the next board meeting.

A board meeting/work session of the North Scott Board of Directors was held on March 4, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. at the Administration Office. Members present: Tracy Lindaman, Molly Bergfeld, Frank Wood, Carrie Keppy, and Joni Dittmer. Absent - Mark Pratt and Stephanie Eckhardt.

Vice President Tracy Lindaman called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Finance Work Session
The presentation included changes to the Budget Process for FY25, a timeline and key dates for the adoption of the budget, and the proposed district budget for the fiscal year.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Submitted by:
Jill Van Roekel, Acting Secretary



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LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S
LEVY AND SALE**

1st Ad – 03-06-2024
2nd Ad – 03-13-2024

Iowa District Court
COURT CASE #EQCE136868
Special Execution

STATE OF IOWA
vs.
SCOTT COUNTY
Gitsit Solutions, LLC, PLAINTIFF
VS

All Known or Unknown Heirs, Devisees, or Claimants with an interest in the Property of Imogene C. Ashby; State of Iowa, Department of Revenue; Unknown Spouse, if any, of Imogene C. Ashby; Parties in Possession, et al. DEFENDANT (Judgment Debtor)

As a result of the judgment rendered in the above referenced court case, an execution was issued by the court to the Sheriff of this county. The execution ordered the sale of the defendant(s) real estate to satisfy the judgment. The property to be sold is: Lot Two, Block Five Replat of a portion of Ridgeview Park, a subdivision in Scott County, Iowa, in the Northwest Quarter of Section 3, Township 78 North, Range 3 East of the 5th P.M., now in the City of Davenport, Iowa, commonly known as 7107 Volquardsen Ave, Davenport, IA 52806-1169 (the "Property"); 7107 Volquardsen Ave., Davenport, Iowa.

The described property will be offered for sale at public auction for cash only as follows:
Date and Time of Sale: 04/02/2024 11:30
Place of Sale: Scott County Courthouse
This sale not subject to redemption.
Judgment Amount: \$135,238.74
Accruing Cost: \$12,396.58
Interest: \$106,832.97 from: 11/16/2009

Attorney: Southlaw PC
Date Filed: 01/18/2024

Sheriff Tim Lane
Scott County, Iowa
Chief Deputy Shawn Roth
Chief Deputy Bryce Schmidt

For additional information, visit the Sheriff's Office at <http://www.scottcountyiowa.com/sheriff>

**NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S
LEVY AND SALE**

1st Ad – 03-06-2024
2nd Ad – 03-13-2024

Iowa District Court
COURT CASE #EQCE135550
Special Execution

STATE OF IOWA
vs.
SCOTT COUNTY
Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, PLAINTIFF
VS

Unknown heirs, devisees, creditors, and other claimants with an interest in the property of David L. Shreve, deceased; Mark Shreve; State of Iowa, Department of

Revenue; Unknown Spouse, if any, of David L. Shreve; Unknown spouse, if any, of Mark Shreve; Parties in Possession, et al, DEFENDANT (Judgment Debtor)

As a result of the judgment rendered in the above referenced court case, an execution was issued by the court to the Sheriff of this county. The execution ordered the sale of the defendant(s) real estate to satisfy the judgment. The property to be sold is: Lot 14, block 4, replat of a portion of Ridgeview Park, a subdivision in Scott County, Iowa in the northwest quarter of section 3, township 78 north, range 3 east of the 5th P.M. now in the city of Davenport, IA, commonly known as 7315 Cedar St, Davenport, IA 52806 (the "Property"); 7315 Cedar St., Davenport, Iowa.

The described property will be offered for sale at public auction for cash only as follows:
Date and Time of Sale: 04/02/2024 11:30
Place of Sale: Scott County Courthouse
This sale not subject to redemption.
Judgment Amount: \$59,947.46
Accruing Cost: \$3,180.54
Interest: \$5,104.57 from: 06/01/2022

Attorney: Southlaw PC
Date Filed: 01/17/2024

Sheriff Tim Lane
Scott County, Iowa
Chief Deputy Shawn Roth
Chief Deputy Bryce Schmidt

For additional information, visit the Sheriff's Office at <http://www.scottcountyiowa.com/sheriff>

**NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S
LEVY AND SALE**

1st Ad – 03-06-2024
2nd Ad – 03-13-2024

Iowa District Court
COURT CASE #EQCE136293
Special Execution

STATE OF IOWA
vs.
SCOTT COUNTY
Pennymac Loan Services, LLC, PLAINTIFF
VS

Crystal Woods F/K/A Crystal Chavis Spouse of Crystal Woods F/K/A Crystal Chavis Toni Woolard, H&R Accounts Inc., et al, DEFENDANT (Judgment Debtor)

As a result of the judgment rendered in the above referenced court case, an execution was issued by the court to the Sheriff of this county. The execution ordered the sale of the defendant(s) real estate to satisfy the judgment. The property to be sold is: The West ½ of Lot 6 of Sturdevant's map of town Lots in the City of Davenport, Scott County, Iowa; 1522 W. 13th St., Davenport, Iowa.

The described property will be offered for sale at public auction for cash only as follows:
Date and Time of Sale: 04/02/2024 11:30
Place of Sale: Scott County Courthouse
This sale not subject to redemption.
Judgment Amount: \$91,376.56
Accruing Cost: \$7,407.04

Interest: \$2,318.84 from: 06/23/2023
Attorney: Dentons Davis Brown PC
Date Filed: 01/17/2024

Sheriff Tim Lane
Scott County, Iowa
Chief Deputy Shawn Roth
Chief Deputy Bryce Schmidt

For additional information, visit the Sheriff's Office at <http://www.scottcountyiowa.com/sheriff>

**NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S
LEVY AND SALE**

1st Ad – 03-06-2024
2nd Ad – 03-13-2024

Iowa District Court
COURT CASE #EQCE136506

Special Execution
STATE OF IOWA
vs.
SCOTT COUNTY
HSBC Bank USA, National Association as Indenture trustee of the Fieldstone Mortgage Investment Trust, Series 2005-1, PLAINTIFF
VS

Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Bonnie J. Farren a/k/a Bonnie Farren; Camelot of Kimberly Village Condominium Association; Kimberly Village Homes Association, Inc.; Iowa Department of Revenue; Ronita Farren, Individually and as Administrator of the Estate of Bonita Jo Farren a/k/a Bonita J. Farren a/k/a Bonnie Farren; Estate of Bonita Jo Farren a/k/a Bonita J. Farren a/k/a Bonnie Farren; Unknown Spouse (if any) of Ronald S. Farren a/k/a Ronald Farren a/k/a Ronald Sherman Farren; and Parties in Possession, et al, DEFENDANT (Judgment Debtor)

As a result of the judgment rendered in the above referenced court case, an execution was issued by the court to the Sheriff of this county. The execution ordered the sale of the defendant(s) real estate to satisfy the judgment. The property to be sold is: UNIT NO. 2 in the horizontal property regime known as Camelot of Kimberly Village, a condominium situated in the east 125 feet of lot 181 Kimberly Village third addition to the City of Davenport, Iowa, except the north 10 feet thereof, (which unit and regime are more particularly described in that certain declaration of submission to a horizontal property regime dated October 8, 1974 and filed for record in The Office of the Recorder of Scott County, Iowa on October 8, 1974 as document no. 16069-74) including as an appurtenance to said unit, an undivided 9.21 percentage interest in the land described above land in the other common elements and facilities of said condominium regime; situated in the County of Scott and State of Iowa; 4606 Warren St., Davenport, Iowa.

The described property will be offered for sale at public auction for cash only as follows:
Date and Time of Sale: 04/02/2024 11:30
Place of Sale: Scott County Courthouse
This sale not subject to redemption.
Judgment Amount: \$75,266.78

Accruing Cost: \$9,769.66
Interest: \$1,888.89 from: 01/01/2023
Attorney: Wirbicki Law Group LLC

Sheriff Tim Lane
Scott County, Iowa
Chief Deputy Shawn Roth
Chief Deputy Bryce Schmidt

For additional information, visit the Sheriff's Office at <http://www.scottcountyiowa.com/sheriff>

**NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S
LEVY AND SALE**

1st Ad – 03-06-2024
2nd Ad – 03-13-2024

Iowa District Court
COURT CASE #EQCE136617
Special Execution

STATE OF IOWA
vs.
SCOTT COUNTY
Allied First Bank, SB DBA Servbank, PLAINTIFF
VS

Keith A. Shrum II, Amanda M. Shrum, United States of America and Parties in Possession, et al, DEFENDANT (Judgment Debtor)

As a result of the judgment rendered in the above referenced court case, an execution was issued by the court to the Sheriff of this county. The execution ordered the sale of the defendant(s) real estate to satisfy the judgment. The property to be sold is: Lot 17 in Faircroft Third Addition to the City of Davenport, Scott County, Iowa; 2731 N. Zenith Ave., Davenport, Iowa.

The described property will be offered for sale at public auction for cash only as follows:
Date and Time of Sale: 04/02/2024 11:30
Place of Sale: Scott County Courthouse
Redemption: After sale of real estate, defendant may redeem the property within 1 YEAR USA
Judgment Amount: \$102,570.35
Accruing Cost: \$26,293.43
Interest: \$2,380.19 from: 11/01/2023

Attorney: Petosa Law LLP
Date Filed: 01/11/2024

Sheriff Tim Lane
Scott County, Iowa
Chief Deputy Shawn Roth
Chief Deputy Bryce Schmidt

For additional information, visit the Sheriff's Office at <http://www.scottcountyiowa.com/sheriff>

**NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S
LEVY AND SALE**

1st Ad – 03-06-2024
2nd Ad – 03-13-2024

Iowa District Court
COURT CASE #EQCE135094
Special Execution

STATE OF IOWA
vs.
SCOTT COUNTY
U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for RCF2 Acquisition Trust, PLAINTIFF
VS

Clarence Tony McNeal, et al, DEFENDANT (Judgment Debtor)

As a result of the judgment rendered in the above referenced court case, an execution was issued by the court to the Sheriff of this county. The execution ordered the sale of the defendant(s) real estate to satisfy the judgment. The property to be sold is: All that portion of Block 4 of the Resurvey of Churchill's Addition to the City of Davenport, Iowa, filed for record July 27, 1870, and recorded in Book 27 Town Lot Deeds at pages 584 and 585, of the records of the office of the Recorder of Scott County, Iowa, and particularly described as follows, to-wit: Commencing at a point in the East line of said Block distant 316 feet South from the Northeast corner of said Block as shown on the map of said Resurvey; running thence West on a line parallel with the North line of said Block to a point in the West Line of said Block about 256 feet; thence South along said West line of said Block, 64 feet; thence East on a line parallel with the North line of said Block about 256 feet to the East line of said Block; thence North on and along said East line of said Block, 64 feet to the place of beginning.

Subject to a sewer easement to the City of Davenport, filed for record on February 23, 1940, and recorded in Book 146 T.L.D. page 218, in the office of the Recorder of Scott County, Iowa.

The Southerly 4 feet only of the real estate particularly described as: All that portion of Block 4 of the Resurvey of Churchill's Addition to the City of Davenport, Iowa, filed for record July 27, 1870 and recorded in Book "27" Town Lot Deeds, at pages 584 and 585, or the records of the office of the Recorder of Scott County, Iowa, and particularly described as follows: Commencing at a point in the East line of said Block distant 252 feet South from Northeast corner of said Block as shown on Map of said Resurvey; running thence West on a line parallel with the North line of said Block to a point in the West line of said Block about 256 feet; thence South along said West line of said Block 64 feet; thence East on a line parallel with the North line of said Block about 256 feet; to the East line of said Block; thence North on and along said East line of said Block, 64 feet to the place of beginning; 1110 Oneida St., Davenport, Iowa.

The described property will be offered for sale at public auction for cash only as follows:
Date and Time of Sale: 04/02/2024 11:30
Place of Sale: Scott County Courthouse
Redemption: After sale of real estate, defendant may redeem the property within 60 DAYS
Judgment Amount: \$8,421.26
Accruing Cost: \$25,278.66
Interest: \$330.79 from: 10/31/2023

Attorney: Petosa Law LLP
Date Filed: 01/11/2024

Sheriff Tim Lane
Scott County, Iowa
Chief Deputy Shawn Rot
Chief Deputy Bryce Schmidt

For additional information, visit the Sheriff's Office at <http://www.scottcountyiowa.com/sheriff>

**NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S
LEVY AND SALE**

1st Ad – 03-06-2024
2nd Ad – 03-13-2024

Iowa District Court
COURT CASE #EQCE136255
Special Execution

STATE OF IOWA
vs.
SCOTT COUNTY
Newrez LLC D/B/A Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, PLAINTIFF
VS

Kelsey S. Mannhardt; Unknown spouse, if any, of Kelsey S. Mannhardt; Parties in Possession, et al, DEFENDANT (Judgment Debtor)

As a result of the judgment rendered in the above referenced court case, an execution was issued by the court to the Sheriff of this county. The execution ordered the sale of the defendant(s) real estate to satisfy the judgment. The property to be sold is: Al that part of the Northwest Quarter of Section 30, Township

Continued on page 13B

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NSP SPORTS



Landen Lyon (left) and David Foster (right) take aim at targets in the John Glenn Elementary School gymnasium.

Gym class target practice



John Glenn sixth-graders took a shot at archery last week in solo and team competitions.

Left: Sophia Oliver releases her arrow and watches it fly.

Bottom left: Marc Orcutt (orange shirt) and Troy Bendickson (crouching), the organizers of this early morning event, help to score arrows during the team competition.

Bottom right: Cora Engler and Corrine Henzen reach for an arrow to load into their bow.

NSP Photos by Ross Shinberg



NORTH SCOTT BOWLING

Lighting up the awards lists

Four Lancers are all-MAC; Persson makes second-team all-state.

By Ross Shinberg

NSP Sports Editor

Even though the Lancer boys' and girls' bowling teams didn't make the state meet, they still came away rich in postseason awards.

Sophomore Lucas Persson made it a sweep by being named to the all-conference, all-district and all-state teams for his efforts.

He made the Class 2A 2nd team all-state, Class 2A 2nd team all-district and MAC 1st team all-conference in his first season on the varsity bowling team.

This year, he led North Scott in total pins (4,341), high game (289) and high series (504).

His teammate, senior Josh Estell, was named an honorable mention for the conference team after knocking down 3,539 pins this season, scoring a high game of 205 and a high series of 381.

On the girls' side, senior Kennedy Rupp took home 2nd-team all-MAC honors with senior Soren Hundertmark earning an honorable mention.

Rupp knocked down 3,858 pins this season with a high game of 216 and a high series of 395. Hundertmark scored 3,403 pins, a high game of 191 and a high series of 361.

Lancer coach Marie Tharp was also named the Mississippi Athletic Conference Coach of the Year. She has coached North Scott's bowling teams in each of its 15 seasons of existence.

In postseason action last month at Cadillac XBC in Waterloo, Clinton won the boys' Class 2A team title with a come-from-behind victory against LeMars in the championship.

In the individual competition, Kendall Bell of Council Bluffs Jefferson emerged victorious.

Keokuk made it a sweep for the girls by claiming both championships.

Jaelynn Ketterer won the individual title while helping her team to sweep LeMars in the team competition's championship round.



Lancer seniors Soren Hundertmark (left) and Kennedy Rupp (right).

Photos Courtesy of Marie Tharp.

INDOOR TRACK RESULTS

Girls' Track and Field

SAU High School Girls Classic

Wednesday, March 6 at St. Ambrose University

Team Scoring

1. North Scott (84); 2. East Moline United (76); 3. Davenport Central (54); 4. Rock Island (38.5); 5. Geneseo (36.5); 6. Sherrard (34); 7. Bettendorf (34); 8. Moline (32); 9. Pleasant Valley (28); 10. Port Byron Riverdale (27); 11. Chillicothe Illinois Valley Central (20); 12. Davenport Assumption (17); 13. Davenport North (10); 14. Orion (10); 15. Davenport West (5); Taylor Ridge Rockridge (1).

Varsity Results

60m Dash: 1. Ty-Asia Wiggins 8.04 (EMU); 13. Kendall Behm 8.67 (NS); 14. Jayda Neiber 8.70 (NS); 28. Ainsley Haedt 8.88 (NS). **200m Dash:** Ty-Asia Wiggins 27.53 (EMU); 10. Parker Ward 29.51 (NS); 13. Emily Stutting

29.71 (NS); 21. Lana McCoy 30.41 (NS). **400m Dash:** 1. Makenna Bode 1:03.10 (PBR); 5. Olivia Graham 1:04.89 (NS); 10. Emily Stutting 1:09.43 (NS); 34. Alyssa Schroeder 1:20.50 (NS). **800m Run:** 1. Mattea Wuest 2:31.94 (PBR); 4. Madison Wilshusen 2:41.47 (NS); 14. Khloe Hamilton 2:51.71 (NS); 22. Emma Reif 2:57.66 (NS). **1600m Run:** 1. Dylan Moeller 5:29.61 (DC); 6. Peyton Madison 5:41.49 (NS); 23. Ava Duncan 6:33.91 (NS). **3200m Run:** 1. Dylan Moeller 11:19.73 (DC); 2. Kaitlyn Jacob 12:28.02 (BET); 3. Annabelle Everding 12:53.98 (BET). **60m Hurdles:** 1. Sydney Skarich 9.49 (NS); 8. Addison Allen 10.72 (NS); 16. Chloe Morrison 11.34 (NS). **4x200 Relay:** 1. East Moline United (1:51.16); 2. North Scott (1:53.1); 3. Davenport Central (1:54.48). **4x400 Relay:** 1. North Scott (4:15.91); 2. Sherrard (4:16.89); 3. Rock Island (4:25.34). **4x800 Relay:** 1. Sherrard (10:28.2); 2. Pleasant Valley (10:28.2). 4. North Scott (10:34.41). **Shot Put:** 1. Olivia Marshall 42-08.50 (GEN). 6. Madison Andrews 32-03.50 (NS); 18.

Chevelle Kingsley 27-09.75 (NS); 23. Reese Crain 27-03.75 (NS). **High Jump:** 1. Sydney Skarich 5-04 (NS); 2. Alyssa Schroeder 5-02 (NS); 3. Natalie Nwachock 5-00 (NS). **Long Jump:** 1. Ty-Asia Wiggins 5.27 (EMU); 2. Adalynn Johnson 4.97 (NS); 6. Sopi Schneckloth 4.83 (NS); 10. Emily Stutting 4.62 (NS). **Pole Vault:** 1. Aliza Dominique 10-06 (SHE); 2. Johanna Shoemaker 10-06 (GEN); 3. Jocelyn Cechowicz 10-06 (GEN). **Triple Jump:** 1. Anna Davis 9.97m (GEN); 2. Teresa Harris 9.59m (TRR); 3. Rakia Ouro-Gnao 9.50m (EMU).

Dash: 1. Quentin Nauman 51.88 (EWD); 148. Jaydon Wiggins 1:00.32 (NS); 149. Jack McCarthy 1:00.36 (NS). **800m Run:** 1. Quentin Nauman 1:55.25 (EWD); 2. Carson Van Sickle 1:59.40 (OGD); 3. Canaan Dunham 2:00.32 (PEL). **1600m Run:** 1. Moustafa Tiewa 4:19.89 (ICW); 39. Yorton Hagedorn 4:57.87 (NS). **3200m Run:** Keegan Decker 9:43.34 (ICL); 2. Evan McClinton 9:48.25 (WDM); 3. Joseph Lawry 9:55.06 (WAU). **60m Hurdles:** Jaden Damiano 7.94 (IFA); 14. Lowen Krueger 8.85 (NS); 71. Jesse Eller 9.48 (NS); 96. Evan Kruse 9.94 (NS). **4x200 Relay:** 1. ADM Adel 1:32.08; 2. Waukee Northwest 1:32.87; 4. North Scott 1:34.12 (Voss, Johnson, Smith, Krueger). **4x400 Relay:** 1. Iowa City West 3:32.15; 2. Valley West Des Moines 3:33.12; 3. Dowling Catholic 3:34.22. **4x800 Relay:** 1. Dubuque Hempstead 8:18.38; 2. Pella 8:22.70; 41. North Scott 9:30.90 (Unwin, McCarthy, Wiggins, Schaack). **Shot Put:** 1. Nathan Rotherham 55-09.00 (DOW); 15. Zach McMillian 45-07.25 (NS); 21. Luke Belken 44-06.00 (NS); 37. Hayden DeCook 42-06.25 (NS). **High Jump:** 1. Traven Wheeler 6-07 (SH); 50. Jesse Eller 5-06 (NS). **Long Jump:** 1. Micah LeLaCheur 6.75 (WDM); 2. Jack Miller 6.73 (JES); 3. Tristan Rheingans 6.48 (CDW).

Boys' Track and Field

Dickinson Relays

Monday, March 4 and Tuesday, March 5 at the UNI-Dome

Team Scoring

N/A

Varsity Results

60m Dash: 1. Luke Sayonkon (SCE); 10. Colton Voss 7.06 (NS); 95. Conner Baetke 7.57 (NS); 181. Ryan Stickler 8.02 (NS). **200m Dash:** Uriah Allen 22.45 (WAU); 21. Chase Smith 23.79 (NS); 61. Conner Baetke 24.72 (NS). **400m**

BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

BOYS' STATE SUMMARY

Class 4A State Championship: (#2) West Des Moines Valley defeated (#1) Cedar Rapids Kennedy, 63-59.

Class 3A State Championship: (#4) Davenport Assumption defeated (#2) Waverly-Shell Rock, 46-45.

Class 2A State Championship: (#1) Western Christian defeated (#2) Hudson, 78-51.

Class 1A State Championship: (#1) North Linn defeated (#2) Marquette Catholic, 57-56.

Mr. Iowa Basketball: MOC-Floyd Valley senior Jesse Van Kalsbeek

Season Stat Line: 26.0 PPG, 10.8 RPG, 2.1 APG, 2.0 SPG, 1.5 BPG, 61.6 FG%, 76.1 FT%, 63.6 eFG%

Miss Iowa Basketball: Solon senior Calie Levin.

Season Stat Line: 22.0 PPG, 6.9 RPG, 4.5 APG, 4.8 SPG, 43.4 FG%, 37.1 3P%, 76.5 FT%

CLASS 4A ALL-STATE TEAMS

First Team: Luke Winkel, Ankeny Centennial, SR; Carson Johnson, Ankeny, SR; Redek Born, Norwalk, SR; Davis Kern, Linn-Mar, JR; Caden Wilkins, Bettendorf, SR; Curtis Stinson, West Des Moines Valley, JR; Trey McKowen, Cedar Rapids Kennedy, JR; Mason Costello, Waukee, SR.

Second Team: Calix Cahill, Dallas Center-Grimes, SR; Jacob Williams, Dubuque Senior, SR; Jack McCaffery, Iowa City West, JR; Joe Bean, Cedar Rapids Kennedy, SR; Fitzzy Grant, Sioux City East, SR; Coy Kipper, Pleasant Valley, SR; Zay Robinson, West Des Moines Valley, JR; Grant Tigges, Waukee Northwest, SR.

Third Team: Joe Broderick, West Des Moines Valley, SR; Trovary Cavil, Johnston, SR; Cade Courbat, Cedar Falls, SR; Micah Schlaak, Cedar Rapids Kennedy, SR; Reid Burkler, Cedar Rapids Prairie, SR; Tevin Schultz, Dubuque Senior, SO; Anthony Galvin, Cedar Falls, JR; Jack Wynter, Ames, SR.

SPRING SPORTS — SAVE THE DATE

Girls' Track, First Meet: Thursday, March 21 at Muscatine High School

Boys' Track, First Meet: Tuesday, March 19 at Bettendorf High School

Girls' Soccer, First Game: Tuesday, March 26 at Iowa City West

First Home Game: Tuesday, April 2 vs. Pleasant Valley

Boys' Soccer, First Game: Tuesday, March 26 vs. Dubuque Senior at The Pitch

Girls' Tennis, First Meet: Tuesday, April 2 vs. Pleasant Valley at NSHS Courts

Boys' Tennis, First Meet: Tuesday, April 2 at Pleasant Valley High School

First Home Meet: Thursday, April 4 vs. Bettendorf

Girls' Golf, First Meet: Monday, April 8 at Valley Oaks Golf Club

First Home Meet: Thursday, April 11 at Glynn's Creek Golf Course

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563-386-6933 (Assisted Living)

LEGAL NOTICES

78 North, Range 4 East of the 5th P.M. in the City of Davenport, Iowa, bounded and described as follows: Beginning at the point of intersection of the East line of said Northwest Quarter with the North line of McClellan Boulevard, which point is the Southwest corner of Lot 12, Block 1 of McClellan Park Addition to the City of Davenport, thence South 74° 51' 20" West along the North line of McClellan Boulevard 180.85 feet to the Easterly line of Jersey Ridge Road; thence North 25° 53' 40" East along the East line of Jersey Ridge Road 186.5 feet to the Southwest corner of Lot 11, Block 1 of McClellan Park Addition to the City of Davenport; thence East along the South line of said Block 11, 94.54 feet to the East line of the said Northwest Quarter of Section 30 at a point which is which is the Northwest corner of Lot 12, Block 1 of said McClellan Park Addition; thence South along the West line of said Lot 12, 121.7 feet to the place of beginning, excepting thereout the portion thereof conveyed by Warranty Deed to Levi T. Naugle, filed for record on the 20th day of March, 1920, in Book 102, T.L.D. page 68, records of the Recorder's Office of the Scott County, Iowa, subject to the certain easement referred to in said Warranty Deed to the said Levi T. Naugle

More Correctly Known As:
All that part of the Northwest Quarter of Section 30, Township 78 North, Range 4 East of the 5th P.M. in the City of Davenport, Iowa, bounded and described as follows: Beginning at the point of intersection of the East line of said Northwest Quarter with the North line of McClellan Boulevard, which point is the Southwest corner of Lot 12, Block 11 of McClellan Park Addition to the City of Davenport, thence South 74° 51' 20" West along the North line of McClellan Boulevard 180.85 feet to the Easterly line of Jersey Ridge Road; thence North 25° 53' 40" East along the Easterly line of Jersey Ridge Road 186.5 feet to the Southwest corner of Lot 11, Block 11 of McClellan Park Addition to the City of Davenport; thence East along the South line of said Block 11, 94.54 feet to the East line of the said Northwest Quarter of Section 30 at a point which is the Northwest corner of Lot 12, Block 11 of said McClellan Park Addition; thence South along the West line of said Lot 12, 121.7 feet to the place of beginning, excepting thereout the portion thereof conveyed by Warranty Deed to Levi T. Naugle, filed for record on the 20th day of March, 1920, in Book 102, T.L.D. page 68, records of the Recorder's Office of Scott County, Iowa, subject to the certain easement referred to in said Warranty Deed to the said Levi T. Naugle, commonly known as 1407 Jersey Ridge Rd, Davenport, IA 52803 (the "Property"); 1407 Jersey Ridge Rd., Davenport, Iowa.

The described property will be offered for sale at public auction for cash only as follows:
Date and Time of Sale: 04/02/2024 11:30
Place of Sale: Scott County Courthouse
This sale is not subject to redemption.
Judgment Amount: \$27,902.20
Accruing Cost: \$5,041.26
Interest: \$3,190.02 from: 07/01/2022

Attorney: South Law PC
Date Filed: 01/17/2024

Sheriff Tim Lane
Scott County, Iowa
Chief Deputy Shawn Rot
Chief Deputy Bryce Schmidt

For additional information, visit the Sheriff's Office at <http://www.scottcountyiowa.com/sheriff>

Dixon City Council

March 6, 2024

The City Council of the City of Dixon, Iowa met Wednesday March 6, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at Dixon City Hall. Mayor Waters presided. Roll Call: Present: Manrique, Phares and Moeller. A motion was made by Phares to approve the consent agenda and was seconded by Moeller. Roll Call: All Ayes. MC.

OLD BUSINESS:
The council discussed possible website companies to create a City of Dixon official website. The council agreed a website is a must for the city and more quotes are necessary.

The council discussed the proposed Urban Hen Ordinance. Council Manrique asked what the steps would be for repeat offenders, Council Phares stated they would be fined based on the rate scale in the ordinance. Council Phares asked other council members to make changes or notes to the rough draft before the next meeting. Council Manrique stated he would like to make it public knowledge as a proposed notice.

The council discussed the damaged culvert issue at Muscatine St and Lynn St with public works employees. Council Phares stated the city should wait until it gets warmer to repair. Public Works Foreman Dave Olive stated he would like to build a 3x4 6-inch-thick cement cap to fix it. Mayor Waters shared he purchased the public works department tools to get started and they have done a great job organizing.

NEW BUSINESS:
The council discussed the resignation of permanent part-time public works employee and how to move forward. Council Manrique stated his recommendation is to hire someone on a permanent basis and up the hours from 10/week to 15/week. Council Manrique also stated he does not think the city needs to have a backup employee and that the city could revisit the idea of a winter seasonal backup employee in the fall. Mayor Waters stated it would be smart to have a permanent employee and a back-up all year to be safe and prevent the need to go through the hiring process all over again. Council Phares stated he thinks for liability reasons the city needs to have two employees. Council Moeller agreed having a back-up employee all year is the safest decision for the city. The council agreed to post the open job starting on 3/11/24 and leave open until filled. The council agreed to start interviews after 10 days of the job being open and have hopes of hiring an employee by the April 3 meeting.

The council discussed adding heat to the public works building to allow the employees a comfortable working environment when working on equipment. Council Manrique voiced concerns with cost and suggested that the employees heat the space with "torpedo heaters" to save on propane cost. Fire Chief Miller stated that was a health and fire hazard and that is not an option. Public Works Foreman Dave Olive stated he will not be working in the cold. Mayor Waters stated he will work on getting more quotes. Council Phares stated it doesn't need done this season, it just needs to be completed by next winter but moving forward with quotes needs to happen. Council Moeller stated she agreed that it needs done and she can assist in getting more quotes. Council Manrique asked if there are any other major repairs that will need to be done to the public works building. Council Phares stated some areas of concern would be the roof, address numbers on the building, and siding but nothing is major this year. Council Manrique motioned to donate \$300 to Lib-

erty 4-H for the annual easter egg hunt and was seconded by Phares. Roll Call: All Ayes.

The council discussed the annual clean-up day. The council agreed on April 27. Council Manrique stated he would like the city clerk to send out bulk mail to all residents sharing mowing ordinances and the city clean-up day and information. Mayor Waters stated he would contact a scrapper for metal to come on the clean-up day.

The council discussed the Fireworks will be held on June 29 this year due to the 75th anniversary celebration.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:
Mayor Waters shared his expectations and committees for all future city business. The committees will help the city run smoothly and give the residents a specific person to contact when an issue arises. The committees/Points of Contact are as follows:

- Parks/City Wide Clean-up - Nicholas Manrique
- Sewer - Nicholas Phares
- Policy & Administration - Leigh Moeller
- Mayor Pro-Tem - Leigh Moeller
- Streets/Street Lights - Nicholas Manrique
- Buildings/City Abatement - Nicholas Phares

MAYOR AND COUNCIL CLOSING COMMENTS:
Council Manrique shared his update on legal services for the city. Manrique stated he would get more information for council members for the next meeting. With nothing further to discuss Mayor Waters adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

ANNUAL BUDGET DISCUSSION:
The city discussed raising the amount paid to the fire department annually. Fire Chief Miller stated the agreed upon amount has been the same for a minimum of 8 years, probably longer. Clerk Tweed shared that the other city she works for pays 30% of the fire department's annual budget, if the City of Dixon followed suit, they would raise their budget from \$3,200 to \$7,200. Council Manrique did not agree with raising the amount to \$7,200 but was willing to raise the amount to \$5,000 and rediscuss every year during budget discussions. Council Phares and Council Moeller stated they agree the amount needs to be raised and they are open to discussing. Council Manrique also stated he would reach out to the townships and get information on their budgeted amounts for the fire department.

Approved:
Cole Waters, Mayor

Attest:
Kisa Tweed, City Clerk/Treasurer
Vendor Checks: 2/01/2024 - 2/29/2024
Alliant Energy\$2,082.30
Bush, Motto, Creen, Koury4,283.69
Central Scott Telephone Co602.50
Dixon Fire Department.....3,200.00
EFTS, fed/fica tax.....229.52
Iowa American Water19.10
Iowa One Call7.20
IPERS, ipers.....235.96
JJJ Enterprises, Inc.....300.00
Lonny Sievers.....450.00
Mulgrew Oil & Propane.....672.55
Republic Services.....1,766.91
Roto Rooter517.90
Scott County Sheriff520.00
Accounts Payable Total14,887.63
Payroll Checks1,290.88
Report Total\$16,178.51
Claims Fund Summary

General\$11,823.79
Road Use Tax.....1,122.55
Sewer.....1,465.26
Landfill/Garbage1,766.91
Total Funds.....\$16,178.51

Donahue City Council

March 4, 2024

Mayor Schoenthaler called the regular meeting of the Donahue City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Looney Ganzer, Arp, Cronkleton and Kelley. Also present was Terry Busch, Liz Meeks, Sarah Ganzer, Clayton Schoenthaler, Burke and Karen Strand and Jan Lindstrom.

Minutes of the previous meeting held 2/4/24 were considered.

Kelly made a motion and seconded by Cronkleton to approve the previous minutes as written. Ayes: Ganzer, Arp, Kelley, Cronkleton and Looney. No nays, motion carried.

Donahue City Receipts for February 2024
Road Use Tax.....\$1,904.27
General Fund.....7,298.79
Water Fund.....1,689.96
Sewer Fund175.50
Total Receipts\$11,068.52

Expenses Presented for Review
Alliant Utilities, electricity\$776.92
First Trust, ftd606.68
Central Scott, phone210.26
Brooks Law Firm, September billing12,567.78
MCI, long distance29.96
IPERS, retirement353.72
North Scott Press, publications.....90.10
IMEG, engineer430.00
Becky Schoenthaler, flowers31.40
Republic Services, reguse pick-up2,297.50
Iowa American Water, water/sewer utilities98.15
TCM Bank/Visa, supplies80.58
River Valley Coop., l.p. city hall392.54
Martin Equipment, skid loader work3,876.91
Cedar County Coop., fuel1,509.71
Quad City Times, publications.....127.19
Gold Star F.S., salt1,852.20
First Central, penalty on cd's/cd purchase ..215,042.29
Donahue Fire Dept., annual payment.....11,171.00
Iowa One Call, fax/e-mail3.60
First Trust, purchase cd's107,645.69
State of Iowa, sales tax8,837.50
Payroll.....935.28
Total368,966.96

A motion was made by Arp, seconded by Looney, the expenses be allowed and paid. Ayes: Ganzer, Arp, Kelley, Cronkleton and Looney. No nays, motion carried.

Additions to the agenda were that if the mesh stays in the ground where we seeding down a ditch. It is fine if it stays there. We will put on April agenda about a purchase of a sprayer.

Various correspondences were read, and the sheriff's report was handed out.

The Sportsmen paid their lease for the year. Some improvements being made this year are roof edging on shelter, cement that is cracked will be repaired and the equipment shed by diamond 2 needs to be replaced. Some picnic tables need to be redone. Their

Continued on page 14B

COUNTY NAME: SCOTT COUNTY	NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING -PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025	COUNTY NUMBER: 82	
The County Board of Supervisors will conduct a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year County tax asking as follows: Meeting Date: 3/28/2024 Meeting Time: 05:00 PM Meeting Location: Scott County Administration Board Room; 600 West Fourth Street, Davenport, Iowa At the public hearing any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of the proposed tax levy. After the hearing of the proposed tax levy, the Board will publish notice and hold a hearing on the proposed county budget.			
County Website (if available) www.scottcountyiowa.gov County Telephone Number (563) 326-8702			
Iowa Department of Management			
Taxable Valuations-General Services	9,809,102,879	10,320,876,303	10,320,876,303
Requested Tax Dollars-Countywide Rates	58,532,811	58,532,811	61,582,860
Tax Rate-Countywide	5.95000	5.67130	5.95000
Taxable Valuations-Rural Services	1,204,549,610	1,253,056,740	1,253,056,740
Requested Tax Dollars-Additional Rural Levies	3,415,717	3,415,717	3,483,598
Tax Rate-Rural Additional	2.83568	2.72591	2.78008
Rural Total	8.78568	8.39721	8.73008
Tax Rate Comparison-Current VS. Proposed			
Residential property with an Actual/Assessed Valuation of \$100,000	Current Year Certified Property Tax FY 2023/2024	Budget Year Proposed Tax FY 2024/2025	Percent Change
Urban Taxpayer	325	276	-15.08
Rural Taxpayer	480	405	-15.62
Tax Rate Comparison-Current VS. Proposed			
Commercial property with an Actual/Assessed Value of \$100,000	Current Year Certified Property Tax FY 2023/2024	Budget Year Proposed Tax FY 2024/2025	Percent Change
Urban Taxpayer	325	276	-15.08
Rural Taxpayer	480	405	-15.62
Reasons for tax increase if proposed exceeds the current: Taxes are a component to balance the budget based on estimated costs of staffing, supplies, capital and strategic priorities.			

LEGAL NOTICES

for eligible residents, and posting a survey online to gauge interest in the proposed program and preferable camp weeks. Survey results will be shared with the City Council during the March 18th meeting.

2024 CIPP Sewer Lining Project. Stagg reported five bids were received on the 2024 CIPP Sewer Lining Project. He stated the bids are close and has requested additional information/clarification from the two low bidders. His recommendation is to table action on the project until the March 18th meeting. Koberg moved and Mengler seconded to table action on the project until the next regular meeting. Motion carried.

Ordinance 545-24, Amending Chapter 74 Pertaining to Golf Carts. Koberg moved and Bieri seconded to waive the requirement for the second reading of Ordinance 545-24, Amending Chapter 74 Pertaining to Golf Carts. Roll call ayes: Koberg, Bieri, Mengler, and Puck. Motion carried. Puck moved and Bieri seconded to approve the third and final reading of Ordinance 545-24, Amending Chapter 74 Pertaining to Golf Carts. Roll call ayes: Puck, Bieri, Mengler, and Koberg. Motion carried.

Public Works Department Report. Stagg questioned if the City Council is interested in applying dust control on the gravel portions of Memorial Road and W. Cedar Lane Drive this year. He presented cost estimates for the dust control applications and consensus was to schedule the spring application.

City Clerk's Report. Rickertsen reported on a proposed lease between the City and Walcott Unified Fund (WUF) for use of the concession stands. The lease is expected to be listed on the next agenda for council approval, which is needed in order for WUF to obtain liquor licenses at the parks.

Koberg moved and Mengler seconded to adjourn at 6:30 p.m. Motion carried. All votes on motions were unanimous, unless noted.

John Kostichek Mayor	Lisa Rickertsen City Clerk
Walcott City Expenditures 4-Mar-24	
424 Warning Systems LLC, parts/graphics-new squad	
	\$10,388.27
Alliant Energy, services	9,713.65
Amazon Capital Services, parts & supplies	813.85
Arp Insurance, annual premiums	140,089.00
Comdata, cc charges	1,289.69
Dearborn Life Insurance Co, qrtly premiums	410.40
Hawkins Inc, chemicals	2,156.69
Humane Society of Scott Co, trip fees	50.00
Iowa 80 Group, fuel	280.97
Iowa Firefighters Assoc., annual membership	306.00
Lighting Maintenance Inc., remove & install scoreboard	1,506.82
Mellen & Associates Inc, parts - plant maintenance	114.39
Menards, supplies	180.34
Newell's Automotive, durango repairs	442.96
Panther Uniforms Inc., uniforms	207.39
River Valley Co-Op, diesel	537.86
Seller Instrument & MFG Co, gps batteries	250.00
Stagg, Paul, mileage & med reimb	186.04
Treasurer, State of Iowa, sales & water excise taxes	2,987.64
U.S. Cellular, services	404.81
UPS, shipping	33.14
Subtotal	172,349.91
Payroll, 3/1/24	29,326.44
Total Expenditures	\$201,676.35
Fund Totals	
General	\$128,405.84
Police Reserve - Vehicle	10,388.27
Water Utility	36,552.58
Sewer Utility	26,329.66
Total	\$201,676.35

Probate
THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR SCOTT COUNTY
CASE NO: ESPR082606
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DAVID CHARLES LEAMER, Deceased.

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of David Charles Leamer, Deceased, who died on or about October 4, 2023:

You are hereby notified that on March 5, 2024, the undersigned was appointed administrator of the estate.

Notice is hereby given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above-named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid), a claim is thereafter forever barred.

Dated on March 5, 2024.
Cheryl Leamer
Administrator of the Estate
1012 W. Donahue Court
Eldridge, IA 52748

Jennifer L. Condon
Attorney for the Administrator
Condon & Condon
610 9th Street
DeWitt, IA 52742
Date of second publication
20th day of March, 2024

Probate
THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR SCOTT COUNTY
CASE NO: ESPR082364
NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF PAUL R. NEWMARCH, Deceased.

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Paul R. Newmarch, Deceased, who died on or about November 5, 2023:

You are hereby notified that on November 9, 2023, the Last Will and Testament of Paul R. Newmarch, deceased, bearing date of October 7, 2008, was admitted to probate in the above named court and that Kimberly Newmarch was appointed Executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above-named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid), a claim is thereafter forever barred.

Dated on March 4, 2024.
Kimberly Newmarch

Executor of Estate
4325 South Atlantic Avenue
Unit 5
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169

Daniel J. Condon
Attorney for the Executor
Condon & Condon
610 9th Street
DeWitt, IA 52742
Date of second publication
20th day of March, 2024

City of Eldridge
ORDINANCE 2024-01
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE D, CHAPTER THREE, FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT OF THE ELDRIDGE CITY CODE MAKING THE FOLLOWING CHANGES, REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT WITH THIS ORDINANCE AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Section One.
Title D, Chapter Three, Section 3.02 ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICIAL FLOODPLAIN ZONING MAP is amended by removing the following language:

The Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for Scott County and Incorporated Areas, City of Eldridge, Panels 19163C0200G, 0215G, 0220G, 0335G, 0355G, and 0360G, dated March 23, 2021, which were prepared as part of the Flood Insurance Study for Scott County, is (are) hereby adopted by reference and declared to be the Official Floodplain Zoning Map. The Scott County Flood Insurance Study is hereby adopted by reference and is made a part of this ordinance for the purpose of administering floodplain management regulations.

Section Two.
Title D, Chapter Three, Section 3.02 ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICIAL FLOODPLAIN ZONING MAP is amended by adding the following language:

The Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM for Scott County and Incorporated Areas, City of Eldridge, Panels 19163C0200G, 0251G, 0215G, 0220G, dated March 23, 2021, and Panels 19163C0335H, 0355H, 0360H,

dated April 11, 2024, which were prepared as part of the Flood Insurance Study for Scott County, is (are) hereby adopted by reference and declared to be the Official Floodplain Zoning Map. The Scott County Flood Insurance Study is hereby adopted by reference and is made a part of this ordinance for the purpose of administering floodplain management regulations.

Section Three.
Title D, Chapter Three, Section 6.02 (D) ALL NEW AND SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVED STRUCTURES is amended by removing the following language:

3. New and substantially improved structures shall be constructed with electrical, heating, ventilation, plumbing, air conditioning equipment and other service facilities (including ductwork) elevated or floodproofed to a minimum of one (1) foot above the base flood elevation.

Section Four.
Title D, Chapter Three, Section 6.02 (D) ALL NEW AND SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVED STRUCTURES is amended by adding the following language:

3. New and substantially improved structures shall be constructed with electric meter, electrical service panel box, hot water heater, heating, air conditioning, ventilation equipment (including ductwork), and other similar machinery and equipment elevated (or in the case of non-residential structures, optionally floodproofed to) a minimum of one (1) foot above the base flood elevation.

Section Five.
Title D, Chapter Three, Section 6.02 (D) ALL NEW AND SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVED STRUCTURES is amended by adding the following language:

4. New and substantially improved structures shall be constructed with plumbing, gas lines, water/gas meters and other similar service utilities either elevated (or in the case of non-residential structures, optionally floodproofed to) a minimum of one (1) foot above the base flood elevation or designed to be watertight and withstand inundation to such a level.

Section Six.
Title D, Chapter Three, Section 6.02 (K) ACCESSORY STRUCTURES TO RESIDENTIAL USES is amended by removing the following language:

Detached garages, sheds and similar structures that are incidental to a residential use shall comply with the elevation requirements as outlined in Section 6.02 (B).

Section Seven.
Title D, Chapter Three, Section 6.02 (K) ACCESSORY STRUCTURES TO RESIDENTIAL USES is amended by adding the following language:

Detached garages, sheds and similar structures that are incidental to a residential use shall comply with the elevation requirements as outlined in Section 6.02 (C).

Section Eight.
This ordinance shall take effect upon April 11, 2024.
PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 5TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2024.

Attest:
Mayor, Frank King **Martha Nieto, City Clerk**

City of Walcott
ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WALCOTT, IOWA, BY AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO GOLF CARTS

Summary of Ordinance 545-24, enacted by the City Council of Walcott, Iowa, on the 4th day of March 2024.

This ordinance amends Chapter 74, Golf Carts, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Walcott, Iowa, pertaining to definitions, limited operation of golf carts, permits, and violations and penalties.

A copy of Ordinance 545-24 is on file for public inspection in the office of the City Clerk of Walcott, Iowa, and online at www.cityofwalcott.com.

Lisa Rickertsen
City Clerk

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This institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

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SALE PENDING! CEDAR CO. - NEW LISTING! 157.84 Acres located ½ mile south of Clarence. 152.38 cropland acres with a 5.46 CSR2. **\$14,500/acre.**

SALE PENDING! CEDAR CO. - PRICE REDUCED! 39.61 Acres located 1½ miles north of Mechanicsville on a hard-surfaced road. 36.85 cropland acres with a 55.70 CSR2. **\$9,500 \$8,500/acre.**

SALE PENDING! JACKSON CO. - 68.04 Acres located 8 miles north of Spragueville. 63.35 cropland acres with a 46.50 CSR2. **\$10,950/acre.**

JACKSON CO. - 482.70 Acres located 3 miles north of Spragueville. 467.09 cropland acres with a 44.80 CSR2. A rare opportunity to own a large tract of contiguous farmland. **\$10,850/acre.**

JOHNSON CO. - 105.56 Acres located 3 miles east of Iowa City. 107.30 cropland acres with a 70.00 CSR2. A well-cared-for and productive farm. **\$11,950/acre.**

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March 23 & 24, 2024 • Starting at 8:00 AM
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 Saturday 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
 or by appointment
 No late consignments will be accepted

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March 23 - Hwy 64 Auction - Starts at 8:00 AM
March 24 - Hwy 64 Timed Auction - Lots Start Closing at 8:00 AM

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 Office: 608-439-5760 - Email: sold@powersauction.com
 Website: www.powersauction.com - Facebook: Powers Auction Service

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PENDING - 253 Acres MOL, productive farmland, improved cattle operation & grain setup.

PENDING - 218 Acres MOL, productive farmland, almost all tillable, row crop & CRP.

85.77 Acres, located within Camanche City limits. Hwy 30 frontage, potential development land, Asking \$8,000/A.

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Primitive & Vintage items; John Deere Collectibles, toys & pedal tractors; Advertising Oil signs, cans & bottles; Swarovski Crystals; 20 Quality Art Glass paperweights; 6 pcs. of salt glazed decorated stoneware (2 are P. Muggles & Sons – rare); Crocks; Kerosene lamps; Railroad lanterns; Neon Beer lights, trays & signs; Nice collection of adv. signs; GREAT selection of antique furniture; This is a large auction something for everyone; Plus, much more.

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Project Share is a plan, created by your municipal utility, to assist needy households in paying their wintertime energy bills.

You can help by adding a regular "PS" contribution to your monthly utility payment, or by making a direct donation to Project Share. These funds will then be distributed to neighbors in need for wintertime energy costs.

Those qualifying for help will be carefully identified by an area social service agency. A local committee will oversee Project Share to guarantee all contributions will be handled equitably and efficiently.

So please, add a "PS" — Project Share — to your utility payment each month. It's a simple way to share some warmth with those who need it.

ELDRIDGE MUNICIPAL UTILITIES
 305 N. 3rd Street
 Eldridge, Iowa
 285-4841

Dear Eldridge Utilities,

PS I'd like to help a neighbor in need with a tax-deductible contribution to Project Share

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 Phone: _____

I will contribute \$ _____ per month to Project Share. I understand this contribution will be billed to me monthly.
 I have enclosed a \$ _____ donation to Project Share.

Advertise your Vehicle to a HUGE audience for just \$35 until it sells!
 Call your local paper to learn more!

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Spring Machinery Consignment Auction

Saturday, March 23rd, 2024 • 8:30 A.M.

Five Star Auction Lot - 2530 Hwy 22 • Riverside, IA

Tractors, Skidsteers, Vehicles, Trailers: Minneapolis Moline Z, Gas, NF, Runs OK; Beneche 2019 Side by Side, 388 Miles, 4 Seater; '03 Ford Ranger Pickup, V6, Auto, 2WD, 90K Orig Miles; Diamond GN Livestock Trailer, 32 Ft, 12K GVWR, 2-6K Axles; '02 Ford F550, 7.3 Dsl, 11 Ft Bed w/Ladder Rack, 209K Miles; '08 Kia SUV, 190K Miles; PJ 20 Ft BH Trailer, 8K Axles; Jon Boat, 18' w/Trailer; GN Tire Trailer, HD w/Framing to Haul Tile; F150 1/2T Pickup, 4x4, Runs & Drives.

Attachments: NEW 72" Skidsteer Rotary Mower; NEW 78" Grass Fork Grapple; HD 3 Pt Blade, 8 Ft; Arps 3 Pt 6 Ft Blade; SMC 3 Pt 9 Ft HD Blade; Fork Extensions; 3 Pt Blade; NEW 72 in skidsteer rotary mower, NEW 78 in grass fork grapple, HD 3pt blade 8ft, fork extensions, 3pt blade, 2- NEW beast tree pulleys, NEW boss goose do all farm receiver, New attach plates, JD weldable brackets new and more new attachments.

Planting & Tillage Equipment: Buffalo Scout 3 Pt Guidance System; 9 JD No Till Coulters; 2 DMI Anhydrous Applicators Set Up for 60" Side Dressing; IH 183 8R Wide 3 Pt Cult, Rolling Shields; JD 8R Wide or 13R 19" Rear Mount Cult; Rolling Shields; JD 7000 6R Narrow, No Till Coulters, Monitor, Works Good; JD 980 44 Ft Field Cult; JD 980 32 Ft Field Cult; JD 7000 8R Wide, Center Fold, Planter, Works Good; Bush Hog 14 Ft Adj Disc; Ford 138 9 Ft Disc Chisel; JD 1010 24 Ft Field Cult; JD T4 4R Front Mount Cult; Hinkler 22 Ft Field Cult; AC 4-18 4 Btm Plow; JD 7000 6R30, Bean & Corn Meters, Monitor; Kewanee Cultmulcher; Case 6 Btm Plow; 4 Section Harrow, Cart; IH Rotary Hoe; CIH 181 20 Ft 3 Pt Folding Rotary Hoe; Hinkler 16 Ft 3 Pt Rotary Hoe.

Hay Equipment: CIH 8312 Disc Mower, Rubber Rolls; 7 Wheel Hay Rake; Vermeer R8L Hyd Driven Bar Rake; Round Bale Unroller; Kuhn Disc Mower, 3 Pt; H&S 12 Wheel HI-Capacity Wheel Rake; NH 1411 10 Ft Disc Mower, Rubber Rolls, Cutter Bar Rebuilt, Works Good.

Equipment: Portable Grain Bin Sweep Auger, 24 Ft; Artsway 450 Grinder, Sales; 2-61"x15" Rail Steel Spring Wheels; Kuhn Knight 8114 Manure Spreader; Starline Rota Side Slinger Spreader; JD 350 Manure Spreader; Gravity Wagon 125 Bu, Feed Auger; 2-18.4x34 Tires, JD Rims, 75%; 11 Skidsteer Tires, Rims; MF Quick Attach; Jet Post Pounder, Hyd; Endgate Seeder Cart; Heider 150 Bu Auger Wagon; 200 Gal 3 Pt Sprayer, Folding Boom; 8'x26" Truck Auger, Elec Motor; 10x61 Westfield Auger; 4-20 Ft New Storage Containers; 1-40 Ft New Storage Container; Kelly No. 40 3 Pt Backhoe; JD Category 3, 3 Pt Arms; 500 Gal Pull Type Sprayer, 60 Ft Booms, Controller & Pump, Works Good; Planter Seed Boxes; Grizzly 3 Pt Backhoe, 2 Ft Bucket; JD 227 5.5 Ft Rotary Mower; JD 2R Corn Planter; NI 200 Bu Manure Spreader, Top Beater, Web Drive; Koyker 500 Loader Off of 3020 JD; Westfield 10x51 Auger, New Flighting in Swing Hopper; Mayrath 8x40 Auger, Newer Single Phase Elec; Westcott 8x30 Truck Auger, Newer Single Phase Motor; H&S 235 Manure Spreader, Single Beater; Mayrath 8x34 Truck Auger, Elec Motor; Command 7 Ft Rotary Mower; 6x10 Barge Wagon; Spring Hack; 2 Older Buggies.

Lawn & Garden: Bachtald Weed Mower; Lawn Trator 3 Pt Garden Tiller; JD 730 Rider Mower, 62" Deck, Gas; Troy Bilt Horse Tiller, Works Good; Troy Bilt Horse Tiller; JD 212 Rider Mower; JD 214 Rider Mower; JD FM Snowblower; Craftsman Pushmower; Green House; New Sump Pump; Dolly Cart; Gambles Rear Time Tiller Parts, Yamaha Engine; Honda G30 Enine; Stepladders; Walk Behind Snowblower; Walk Behind Sickle Mower; Bachtald Weed Mower, Honda Engine; Sparrow Trap; Asst Engines.

Livestock Equipment: Stock Rack x2; 2 Hog Mirafont Waterers; Schulte 3T Bulk Bin; Ritchie Cattle Waterer; PTO Water Pump; Cattle Panels; Gates; Calf Puller; Apache Double Sided Portable Creep Feeder; 2 Poly Cattle Waterers; Foremost Cattle Chute, Exc; Foremost Cattle Chute; 3 Poly Calf Bunks; 18T Bulk Bin; New T Posts.

Building Materials: 29-34 Ft Trusses; Mini Barn Trusses; White Metal; Green Metal; Asst Trims; 5 Steel I-Beams; R Panel Steel; Asst Doors; Dimensional Lumber; 29 – 34ft trusses, mini barn trusses, white metal, green metal, assorted trims, 5 steel I beams, R panel steel, assorted doors, dimensional lumber, creosoted bridge beams

Shop & Hayrack: 400 Lb Asst Machice Bolts; No. 32 Meat Grinder, Hyd Drive, Works Good; Hyd Power Pack; 2-7 1/2 Horse Elec Motors; 1-2 Horse Elec Motor; 1-3 Horse Motor; 1-1 Horse Elec Motor; Asst Elec Motors; LP Heater & Stove; Grizzly 10" Tablesaw, Hyd Drive; 7" Jointer, Hyd Drive; Sawhorses; Woodmaster Planer, Hyd; Grizzly Combo Sander, Air Power; Grizzly Wood Lathe, Air Power; Bull Dog Power Washer; Grizzly Drill Press on Stand, Air Power; Air Powered DeWalt Skilsaw & Sawsall; Rolling Work Benches; 2 Metal Welding Tables, NEW; Aluminum Break; Rollaway Scaffolding; StackOn Scaffolding; Storage Shelves; Air Powered Drill Press; Metal Shacks; Trash Pump & Hose; Rockwell Bandsaw; Asst Arm Saws; Honda Engines; Numerous Hay Racks of Small Tools.

Accepting Items Monday, March 11th - Thursday, March 21st, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Select Items on EquipmentFacts. Internet Items Need to be In by Tuesday, March 19th.
Bring Items Early for More Exposure!

All Items Entered into the Spring Machinery Consignment Will Sell to the Highest Bidder With NO SELLERS RESERVE.

ABSOLUTE NO RESERVE AUCTION All Items Removed in 2 Weeks

Auctioneers Note: This is a Very Early Listing!! Check Website for Pictures & Updates Often. Items Coming in Daily. Many More Items No in Listing. Selling w/Multiple Rings Throughout the Day. 8:30 AM Hayrack Items, 9:00 Farm Smalls & Livestock Equip, 10:00 Shop Tools & Building Supplies, 11:00 Online Equipment & Farm Equipment, 1:00 Lawn & Garden.

Terms: Cash or Check w/proper ID. Not Responsible for accidents or theft. All announcements day of auction supersede previous advertising.

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 Lonnie Miller 319-461-0019
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EST. 2016
IOWA

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Saturday, March 16th

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Open to the Public
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- ADVERTORIAL -

L&W Bedding Follows Time-Tested Recipe for Success

The factory-direct keeps the good old days of mattress making and personalized selling alive in the Quad Cities area



ABOVE: FOUNDATIONAL MATTERS John Wheatley started L&W Bedding in 1988 after learning how to make beds during a stint at another mattress producer in the area.



LEFT: TALE OF THE TAPE Jose Beltran, co-owner of L&W Bedding, operates the tape-edge machine at the factory in Moline. The company's three full-time employees make and sell all the beds.

FAR LEFT: SHOW AND TELL Vintage photographs and accessories lend a sense of history and interest to L&W Bedding's showroom in Bettendorf, Iowa.

By DAVID PERRY
Photography by TODD MIZENER/QUAD-CITY TIMES

L&W BEDDING, with its factory that time forgot, could be in the running for the title of the nation's smallest retailer. And it's doing just fine, thank you. Some newer ways of producing and selling mattresses are overrated, according to this factory-direct operation.

A few qualifications are necessary as we relate the story of L&W Bedding, which has a 33-year history of serving customers as a manufacturer-retailer in the Midwest.

John Wheatley, the company's founder, doesn't know for certain but he thinks he just might be the nation's smallest mattress retailer. True, he does have two stores, which puts him ahead of the single-store owners out there, but his stores are open by appointment only Monday through Friday, and for just four hours — from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. — on Saturdays. And Wheatley has a lean operation, with just three full-time employees, including himself. The trio makes the beds, and sells them, too.

If L&W Bedding isn't the smallest mattress retailer in the nation, Wheatley allows, it's certainly one of the smallest. He also asserts he's the best mattress retailer in his area — the Quad Cities corner of Iowa and Illinois, where he has a factory and showroom in Moline, Illinois, and a store in Bettendorf, Iowa.

The L&W way

The way L&W Bedding builds mattresses, Wheatley proudly acknowledges, is rooted in the 1970s and 1980s, when most mattresses still were made with two functional sides.

Back then, typical box-spring foundations really were full of springs, and they worked with innerspring mattresses as shock absorbers to provide long-lasting comfort and support for sleepers.

Those were the good old days of the mattress business, Wheatley says, when he learned how to make mattresses, and those are the good modern days at L&W Bedding today.

"We haven't changed the way we've done business in more than 30 years," Wheatley says. "The quality of and education about our product is the same as it was when we started the business. We do things the old-fashioned way and that resonates with our customers."

"Our strategy," he continues, "has been to provide education on the craftsmanship and what's going inside the mattresses."

But don't think that Wheatley disdains other advancements in the industry. Far from it.

"We have adapted a digital marketing strategy to reach a targeted audience in-market for mattresses and we focus our messaging around key benefits for the customer," he says. "Also, I recently had our website (LWBeddingqca.com) redeveloped to be more user friendly and easy to navigate."

The internet plays a key role in educating L&W Bedding's customers about mattresses. "We receive inquiries and many consumers are doing their homework online before calling us for an appointment," Wheatley says. "I think having a strong brand presence and longevity in the market with a good reputation has helped our business be successful. Additionally,

I do tap into our existing customer base for testimonials and referrals to their friends and colleagues. I actually designed a Chiro's Choice product, which has been

tested by a few chiropractor buddies of mine, and we've leveraged those relationships with messaging."

When it comes to mattress designs, the customer is king at L&W Bedding, which offers customized designs for humans and also their four-legged friends. "We're able to build any mattress to specs or whatever the customer needs," Wheatleysays. "We do RV, boat, pet, youth or any custom-size order. Basically, if you can sleep on it, we can build it."

While most of the beds made by L&W Bedding are for the residential consumer market, the company does have a few contract and wholesale accounts, including the Salvation Army, and offers wholesale pricing for those larger orders.

Two-sided mattresses are tops

What's selling at L&W Bedding these days? "Our two-sided, flippable pillow-top mattresses represent 85% of our mattress sales today," Wheatley says. "The price points range from \$699 to \$3,000. Also, half of our pillow-tops are sold with foundations and the other half with coiled box springs. The coiled box springs provide extra longevity with the mattress."

Those coiled box springs, a staple of bed designs decades ago when two-sided mattresses were the norm, are a point of particular pride for Wheatley. "I'm probably the only person in the Midwest who still sells box springs," he says. "You could drive from here to Chicago, here to St. Louis, here to Kansas City, and not find a traditional box spring."

Wheatley says his company's traditional box springs are designed to work in tandem with its mattresses to provide comfort and support.

A rigid foundation that doesn't offer any give to the mattress will cause the mattress to wear out more quickly, and single-sided mattresses don't have the springiness and resilience of two-sided models, he says. That combination of factors leads single-sided mattresses to break down faster and that leads to more mattress sales, which, Wheatley contends, is why many mattress producers no longer use those traditional box springs with two-sided mattresses.

In contrast, Wheatley says, he would rather sell fewer but better beds. "Why are we trying to make beds last for a long time?" he asks. "Because we can still do it. If other manufacturers wanted to, they could make a bed that would last for a long time without a problem, but they don't do that because they want to make more money that way, so that instead of buying two or three beds in a lifetime, you're going to buy possibly six or seven more.

Our beds are designed to last and keep their shape for a long time. They not only outdistance the competition on quality, but they also beat the competition on price and customer service."

L&W Bedding is able to offer excellent customer service, Wheatley says, because "we are a local mom-and-pop shop so we deal directly with any potential problems. We deal with the customers directly."

He recalls a time when a customer complained about a mattress breaking down. Wheatley made a house call and discovered the customer was regularly walking on the mattress to dust the ceiling fan that hung above it. Mattresses are not designed for that type of abuse, he says.

Wheatley's customer connections pay big dividends for the business. He has long-standing relationships with many of his customers, and even knows the families of others. Repeat customers are part of his business model,

a strategy he recommends to other retailers. Consumers will pay for quality beds, he says.

"Start selling two-sided mattresses," he advises. "The consumer wants a bed that lasts longer than four to five years. They want a product that can be flipped, with a real box spring, and is built to last." Wheatley says L&W Bedding's premium two-sided mattresses with box springs can provide comfort and support for about 20 years.

Special attention, not special pricing

The sales process at L&W Bedding is highly interactive and often led by Wheatley.

"We ask lots of questions to understand what customers' needs are and we provide recommendations that align with what they are looking for," he says. "The fact that we're a manufacturer allows us to really customize products for them because there isn't a one-size-fits-all solution for mattresses."

Wheatley says his business has been able to navigate the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic by relying on the trust he's built up over decades with his customers.

"We have been fortunate to earn our customers' trust over the years," he says, "and we've kept their safety in mind during the pandemic by offering private in-store appointments, which has been mutually beneficial.

They have trusted us to provide a safe shopping environment and the appointments give us the ability to spend more time in a one-on-one setting getting to know their needs before recommending a product solution."

Promotional sales, a staple at most mattress retailers, are nonexistent at L&W Bedding.

"We often get asked if we have sales coming up or special pricing, and that's never been part of our business model," Wheatley says. "We try and price things right and build everything to order, which has given us a niche in our market."

A legacy

Wheatley is proud of the business that he's built, one bed at a time, over the years.

"I love my customers — the new ones and the ones I've been serving for decades," he says. "I guarantee they're happy with the product we make here because it's my life's work."

Ask him how many beds he's made during his career and he pauses, as if images of thousands upon thousands of mattresses are flashing through his mind. "A lot," he says finally, chuckling. That's his best answer.

At 59, Wheatley still loves what he's doing, especially making some of the higher-end mattresses that he calls "masterpieces." "We claim we make the best beds in the world," he says. They are filled with high-resilience foams, natural cotton batting, latex, and high quality springs and support systems, including extra support for the vital center portion of the bed, he says.

Wheatley still operates the quilt machines, preparing the panels that go on the tops and bottoms of his two-sided beds. Jose Beltran, who is co-owner, and his son, Owen Beltran, who serves as quality control manager, fill out the L&W Bedding staff. The three can make about five beds in a day.

"I enjoy working with my dad and with John, and I learn something new each day," Owen Beltran says.

Perhaps someday, Wheatley says, he could turn the business over to the Beltrons, but he has no immediate plans to step aside. "I don't know if I have a retirement bone in my body," he says. "I do enjoy this job."

Call for an appointment at L&W Bedding today and come home to comfort every night!

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